

Data Analysis in **Opioid** **Addictions Topics**

Examine available data, incorporate analysis into quant-based teaching and research

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Plan for today

- Opioids addictions primer & possible topics
- Types of data
- Where to find them
- Typical steps for data processing
- Software easily accessible for students

By 4:50pm, you should be able to..

1) If new to this area:

...incorporate opioid addictions topics data and analysis into teaching/research

2) If not a newbie:

...learn a broader range of data sources, tools & tips

How familiar are we with Data
Analysis?

[**https://pollev.com/scrivnerpoll**](https://pollev.com/scrivnerpoll)

First, what are the salient facts
and the context?

What is an Opioid?



- Drug derived from the opium poppy
- Reacts with receptors in the body/brain
- Alleviates pain, slows breathing (overdose deaths from this), euphoria
- Very addictive, withdrawal symptoms difficult

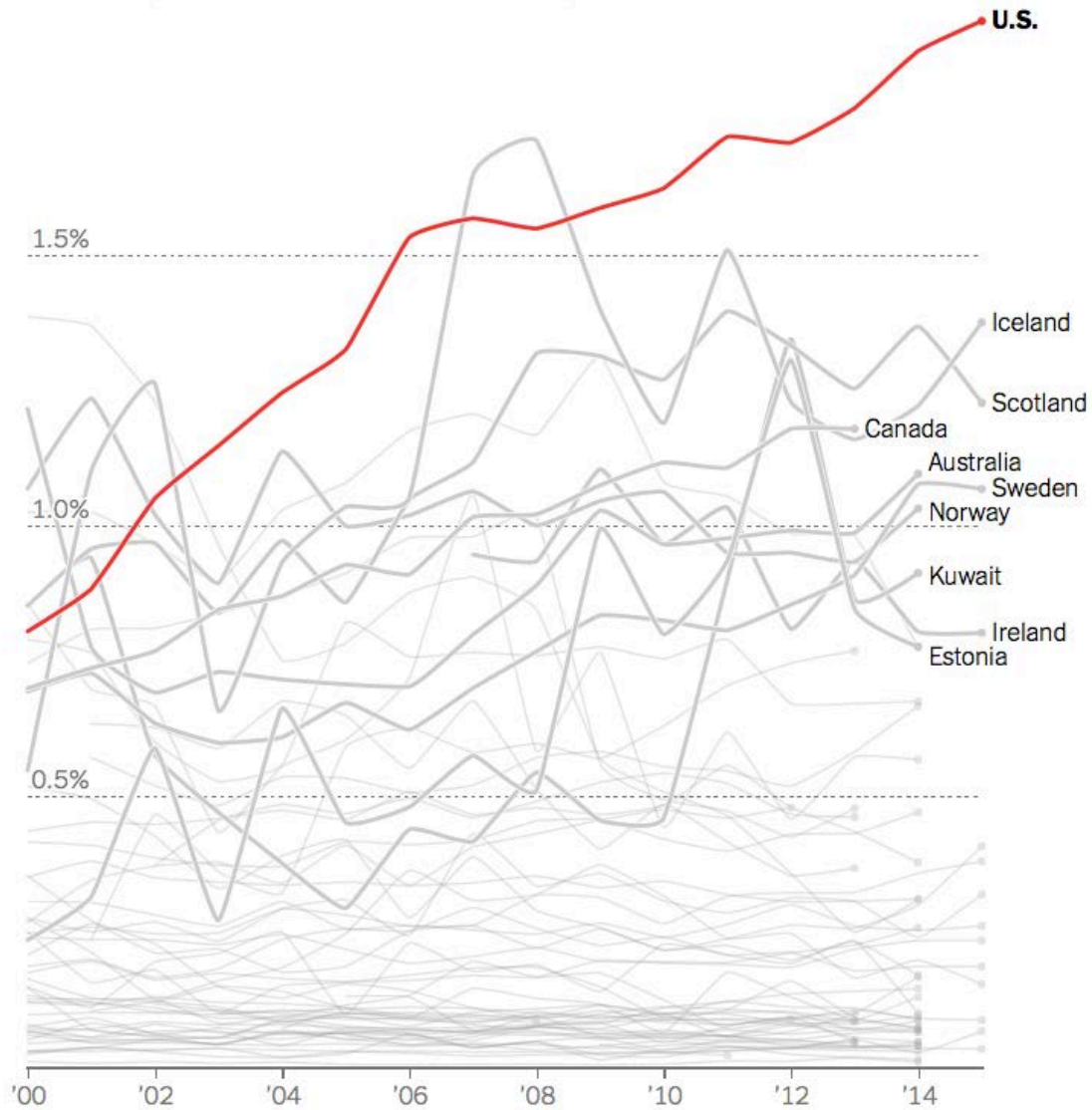
Equivalency of Opioids



- Morphine (oral) – derived from poppy plant (1803)
- Hydrocodone – same strength as morphine, often mixed with other drugs (e.g., acetaminophen)
- Oxycodone – 50% stronger than morphine (e.g., Oxycontin, Percocet)
- Heroin - 2X to 5X stronger than morphine
- Fentanyl – 50X to 100X stronger than morphine
- **Carfentanil – 10,000 to 100,000X stronger than morphine**

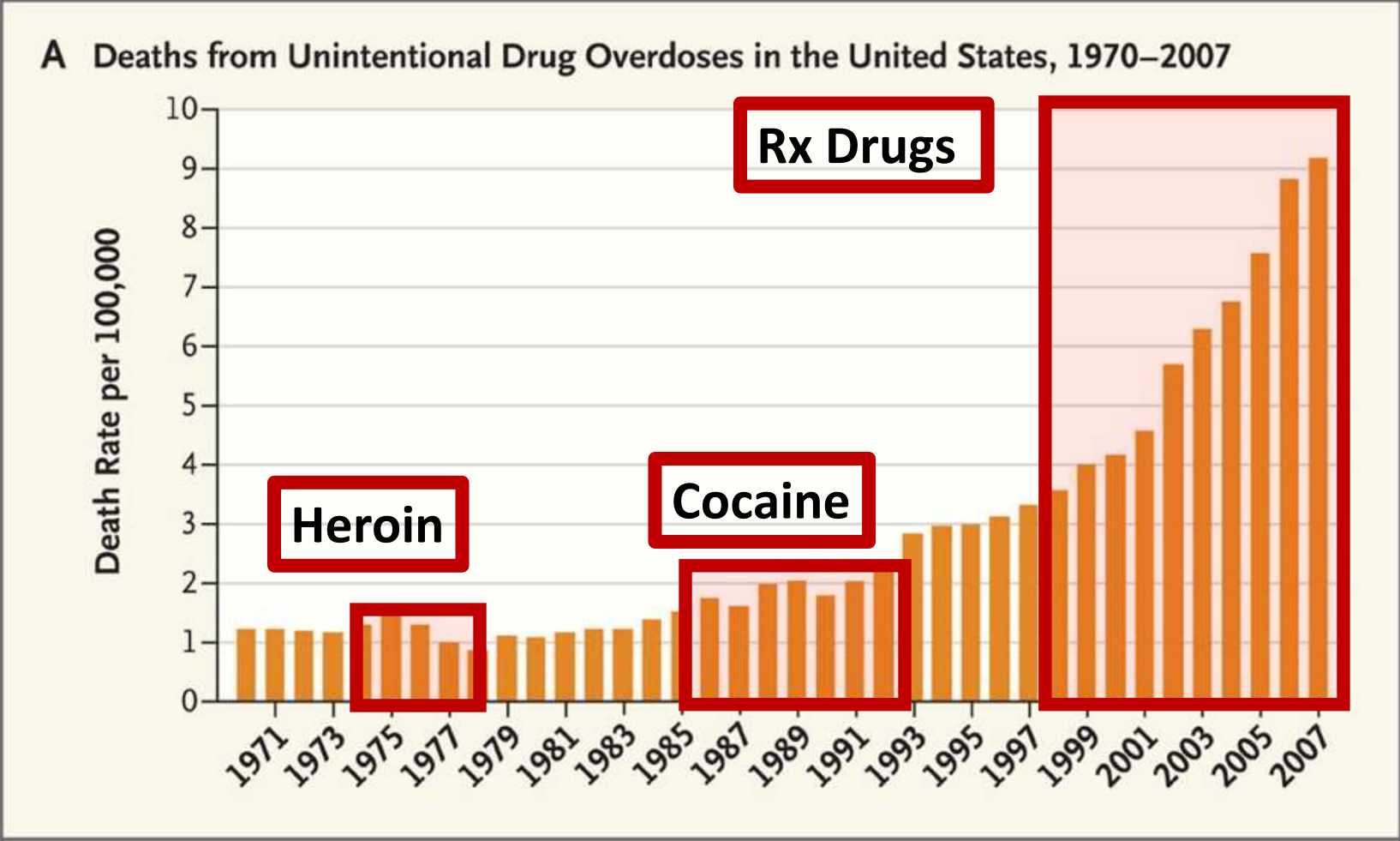
How Bad
Are Drug
Addictions
related
Mortality rates
in the US?

Percentage of deaths classified as drug-related



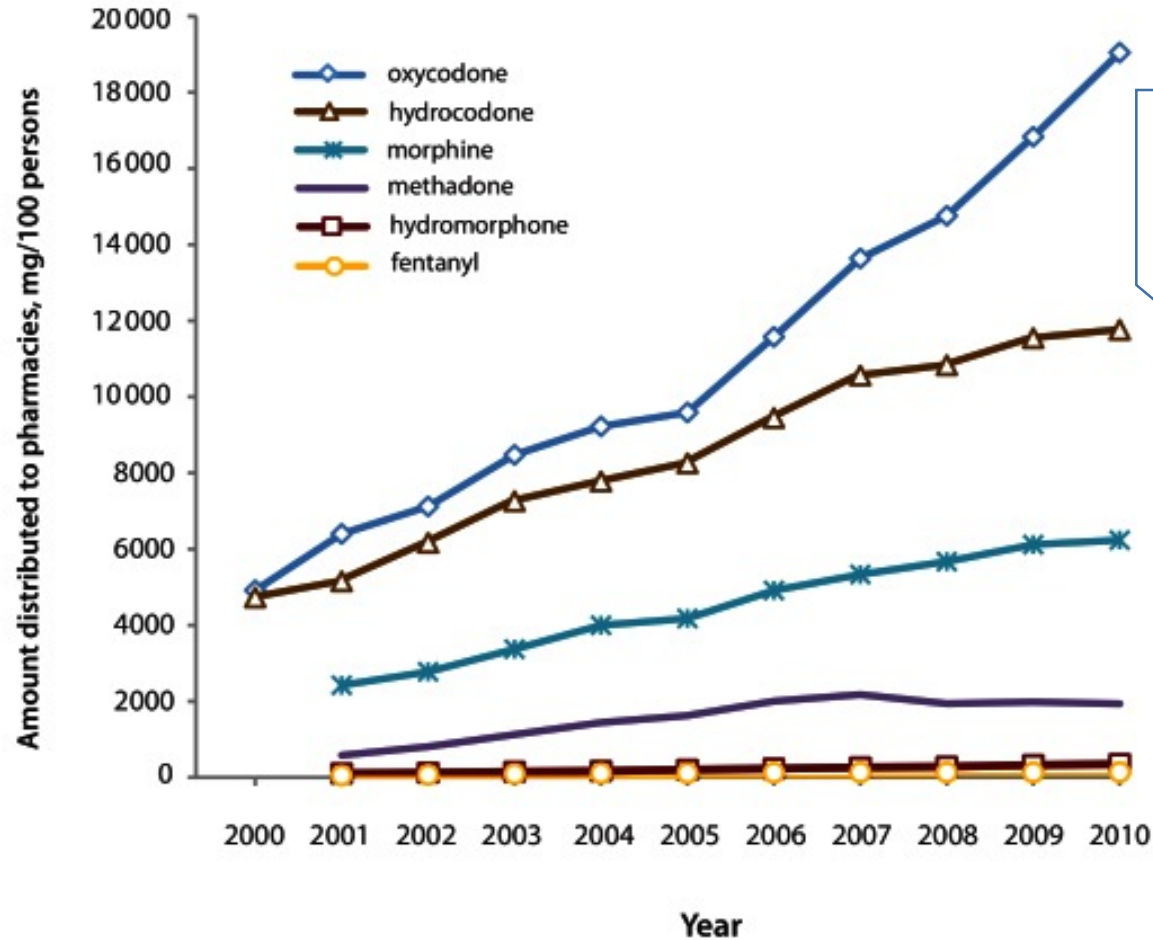
The chart includes both deaths from drug poisoning and those caused by drug-related mental disorders.

Historic Scope of the Drug Epidemic



Source: Okie, NEJM 2010

Increased prescribing of opioids



About 22 high doses of medication for every person in 2010

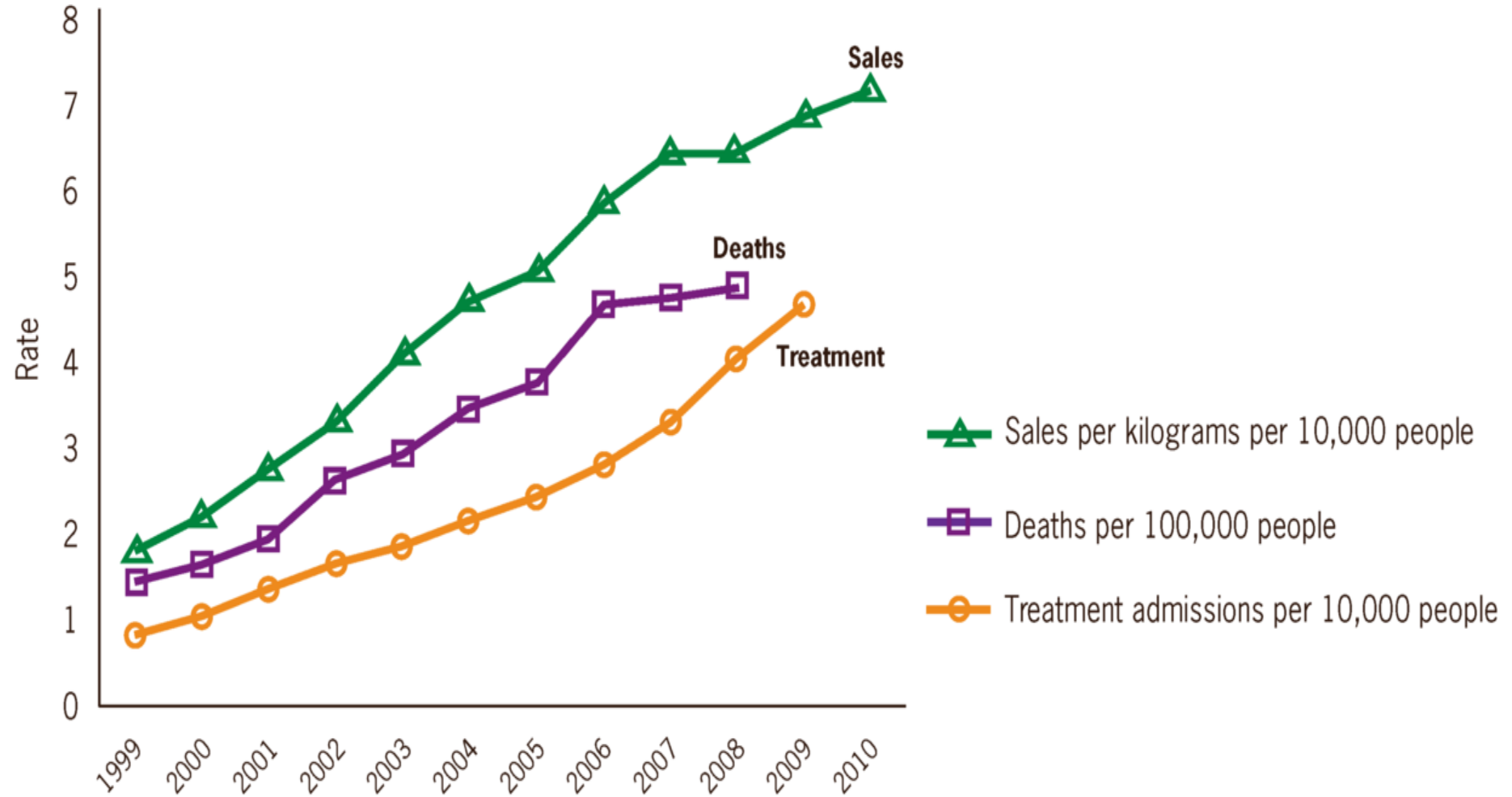
Figure 1
Distribution of selected opioids to US pharmacies (in milligrams per 100 persons). Based on data from the Automation of Reports and Consolidated Orders System, 2000–2010.

Open Med. 2012; 6(2): e41–e47. Published online 2012 Apr 10.

PMCID: PMC3659213, Trends in prescriptions for oxycodone and other commonly used opioids in the United States, 2000–2010

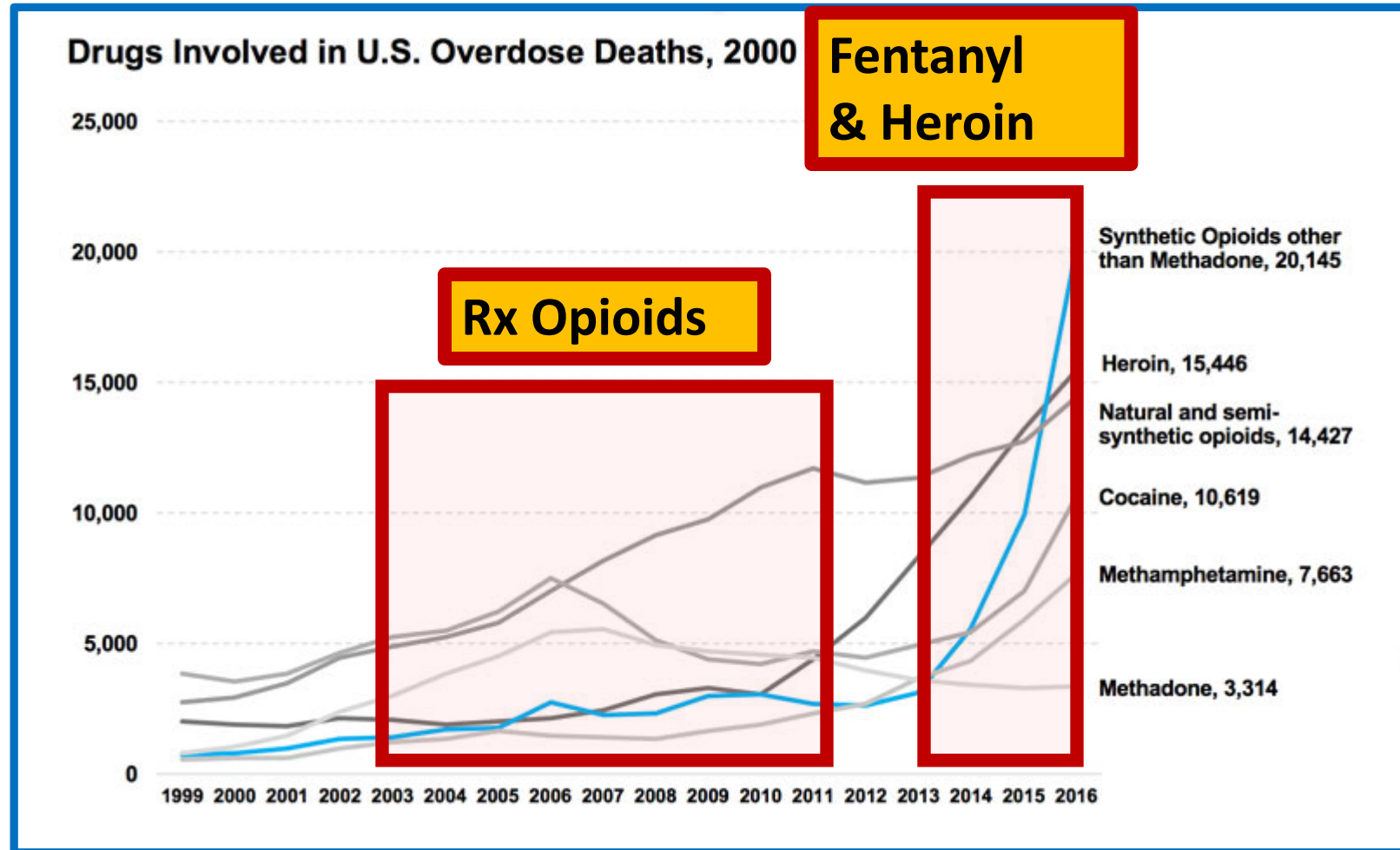
[Kristen Kenan](#),* [Karin Mack](#),* and [Leonard Paulozzi](#)*

Rates of prescription painkiller sales, deaths and substance abuse treatment admissions (1999-2010)



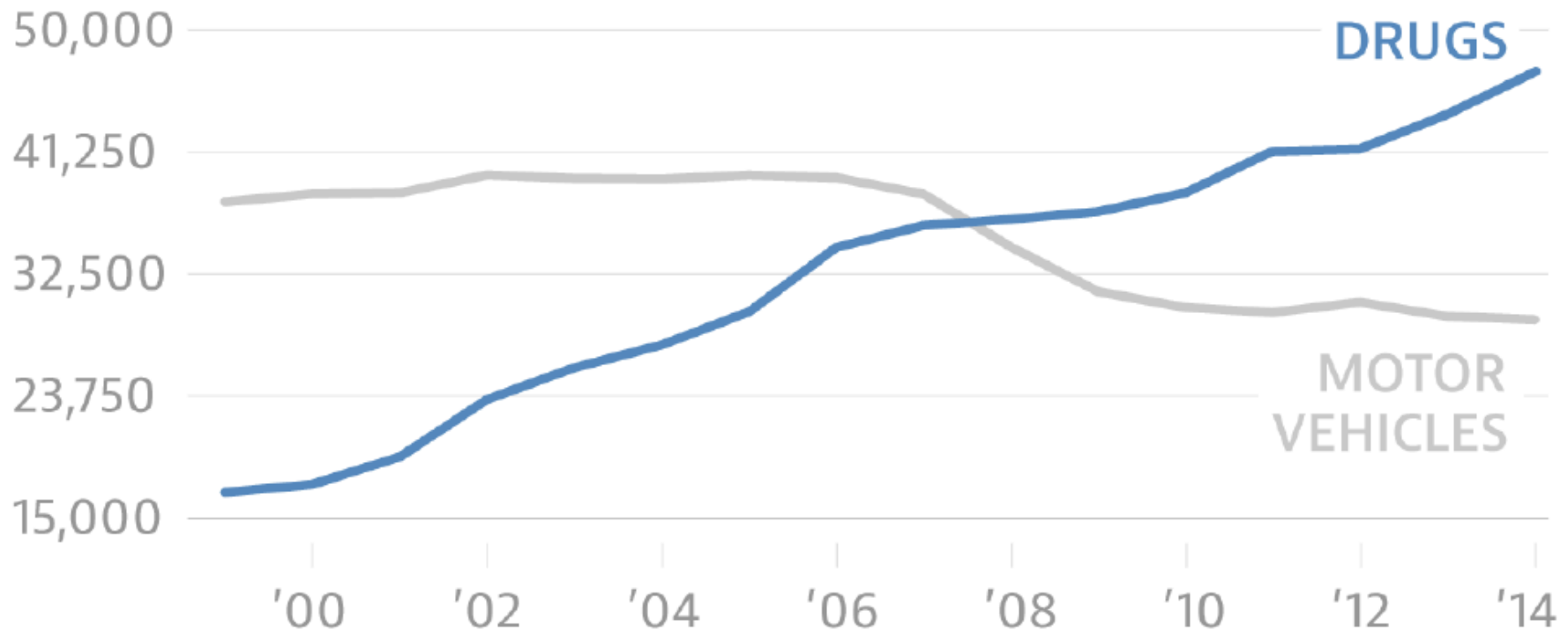
SOURCES: National Vital Statistics System, 1999-2008; Automation of Reports and Consolidated Orders System (ARCOS) of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), 1999-2010; Treatment Episode Data Set, 1999-2009

Recent Trends in Drug-related Mortality



Source: NIDA, <https://www.drugabuse.gov/related-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>

Drug Overdose & Motor Vehicle Accident Deaths



Data: CDC



About Buprenorphine (Naloxone / **Narcan**)

- Narcan is to be administered to a patient when they are undergoing an overdose.
- It knocks out the opioid from the μ receptors in the brain with a process called "competitive inhibition".
- However it does not remove the opioid from the brain, and if the opioid goes again into a μ receptors then there is a chance of overdosing again. Hence a quick medical treatment is a necessity.
- As a result fentanyl due to its high potency though taken in small quantities require multiple shots of Narcan.
- There will be some side effects of naloxone similar to the individual going into withdrawal instantly.



How Can **Data** Help?

- Analyze to **UNDERSTAND** trends & know which govt. policies are **EFFECTIVE**
- Integrate to make health/social services more **EFFICIENT**
- Harness to make individuals & societies more **RESILIENT**, and treatments more **SUCCESSFUL**

Ideas to consider - Data Integration / Analytics

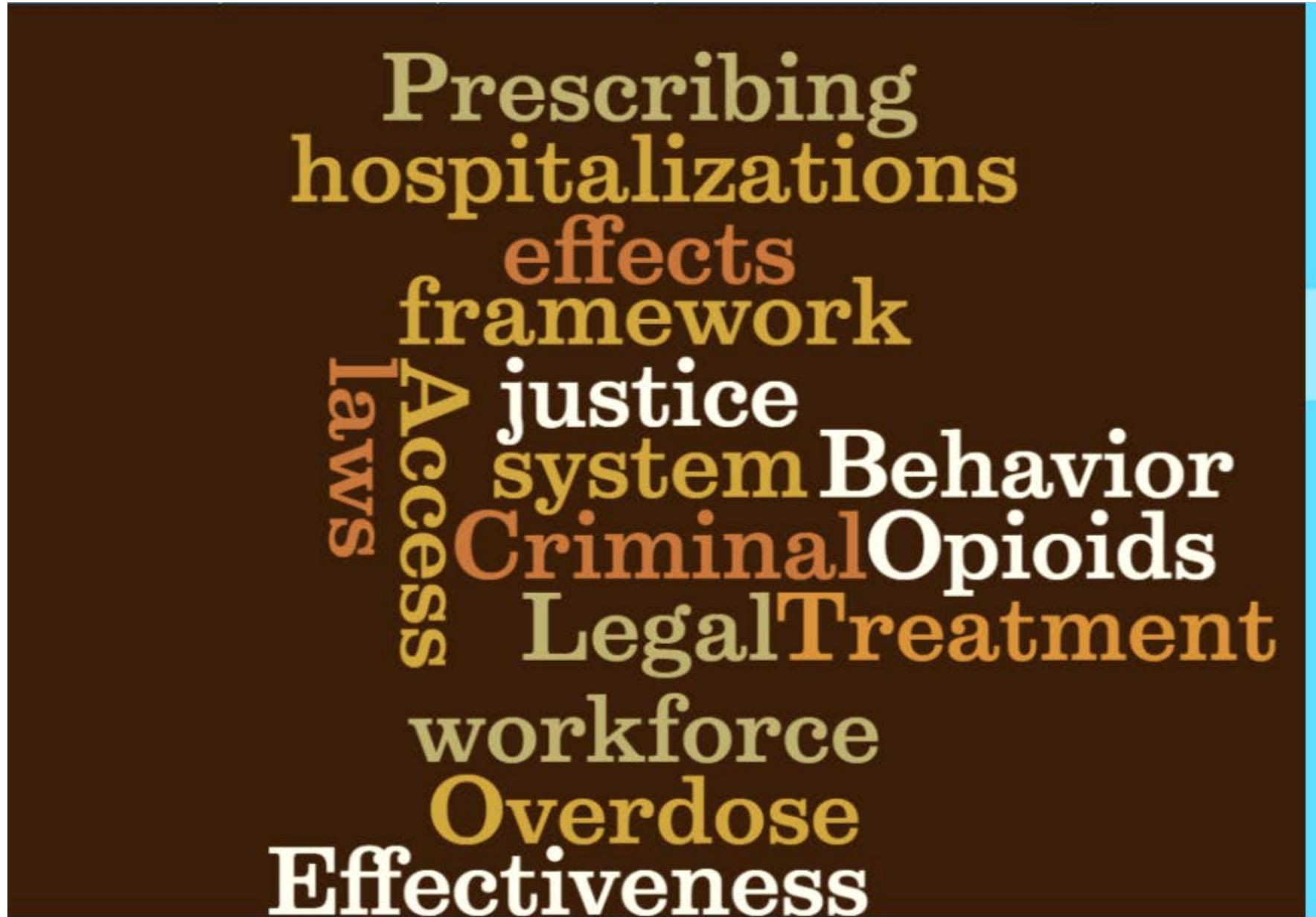
Significant challenge:

- Fragmented (healthcare system, social services, police, etc.);
 - Silos (not easily connected);
 - Difficult to interpret and navigate;
 - Time-delayed
- E.g. Oct. 2, 2017 - University of Pittsburgh's CTSI held national workshop on computational modeling and the opioid epidemic
 - Focus on constructing dynamic models, map trajectories

Ideas to consider - Technology for Prevention

- Smartphone apps to provide training in overdose prevention,
- Apps to identify treatments and harm-reduction programs in close proximity
 - (e.g.Indiana “Open Beds”)
- Social media, gaming, GPS and other real-time technologies
- Virtual Reality for Pain Management

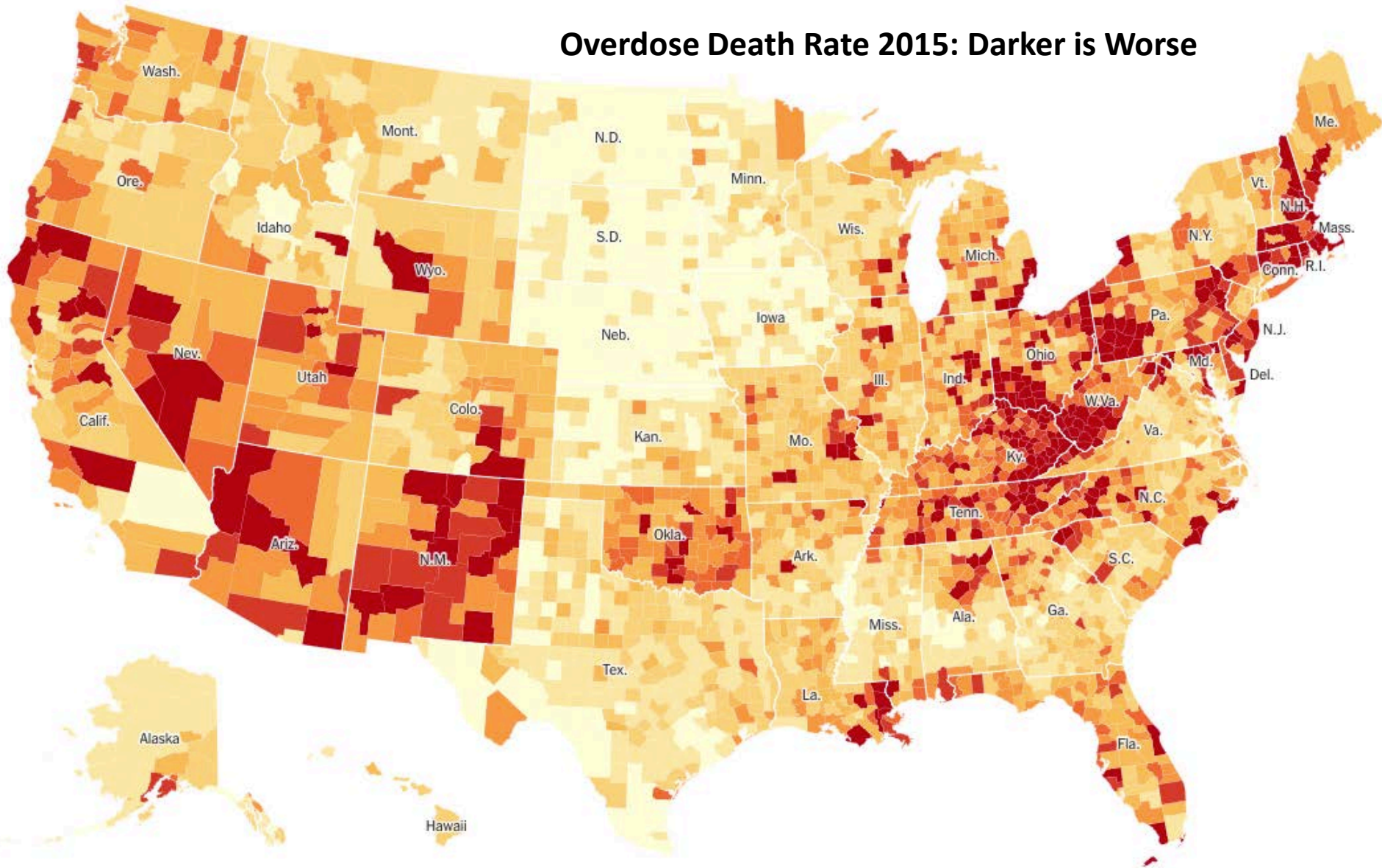
Topics



Types of Data

Many fancy graphics available
online, but where we get the
microdata?

Overdose Death Rate 2015: Darker is Worse



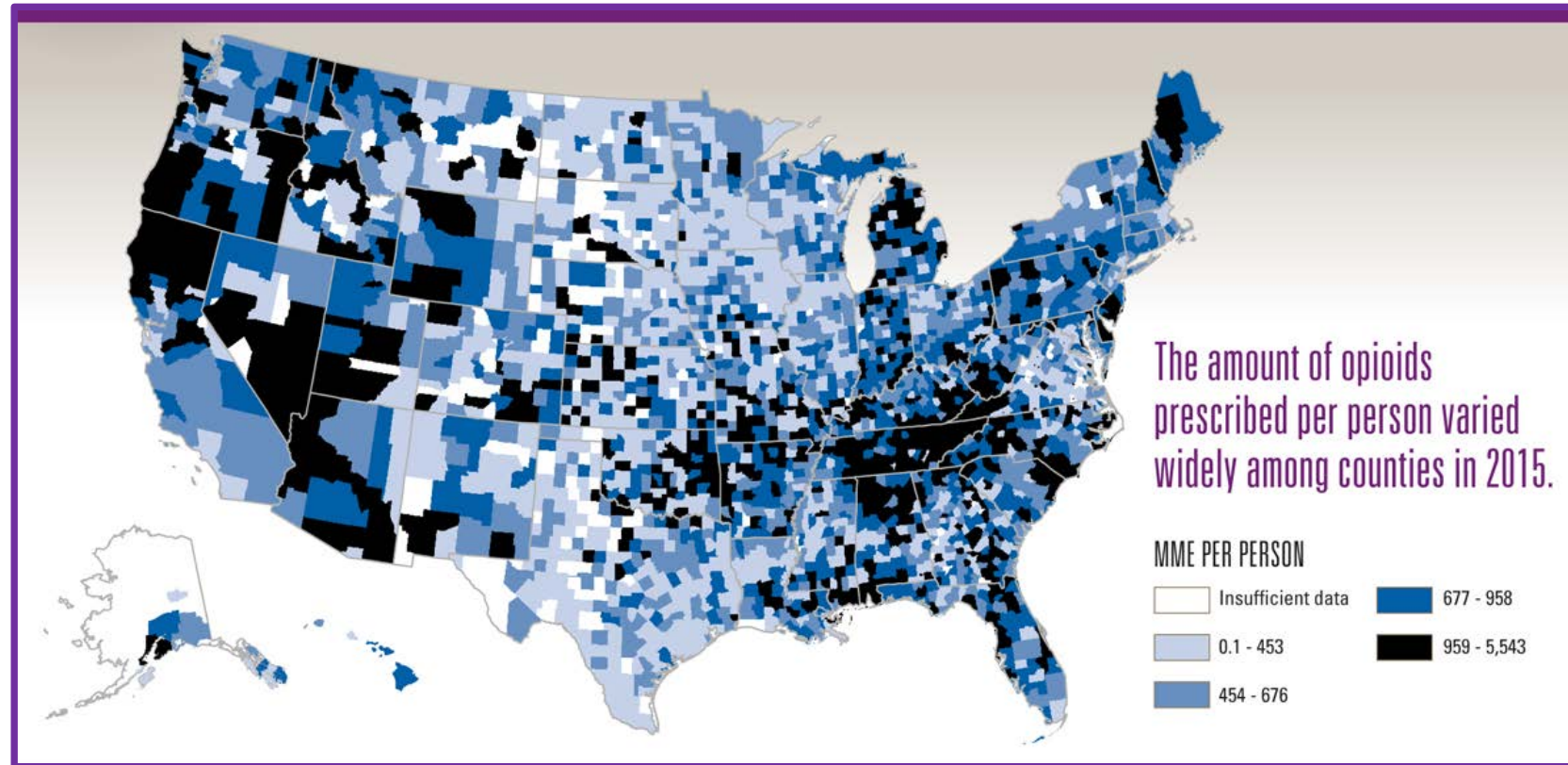
2015 drug overdose deaths per 100,000 residents

6	9	12	15	18	21	24
---	---	----	----	----	----	----

In counties with fewer than 20 drug overdose deaths, the map combines observed totals with modeled estimates.

Source: National Center for Health Statistics, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Prescribing rates (Source: CDC.gov & New York Times)

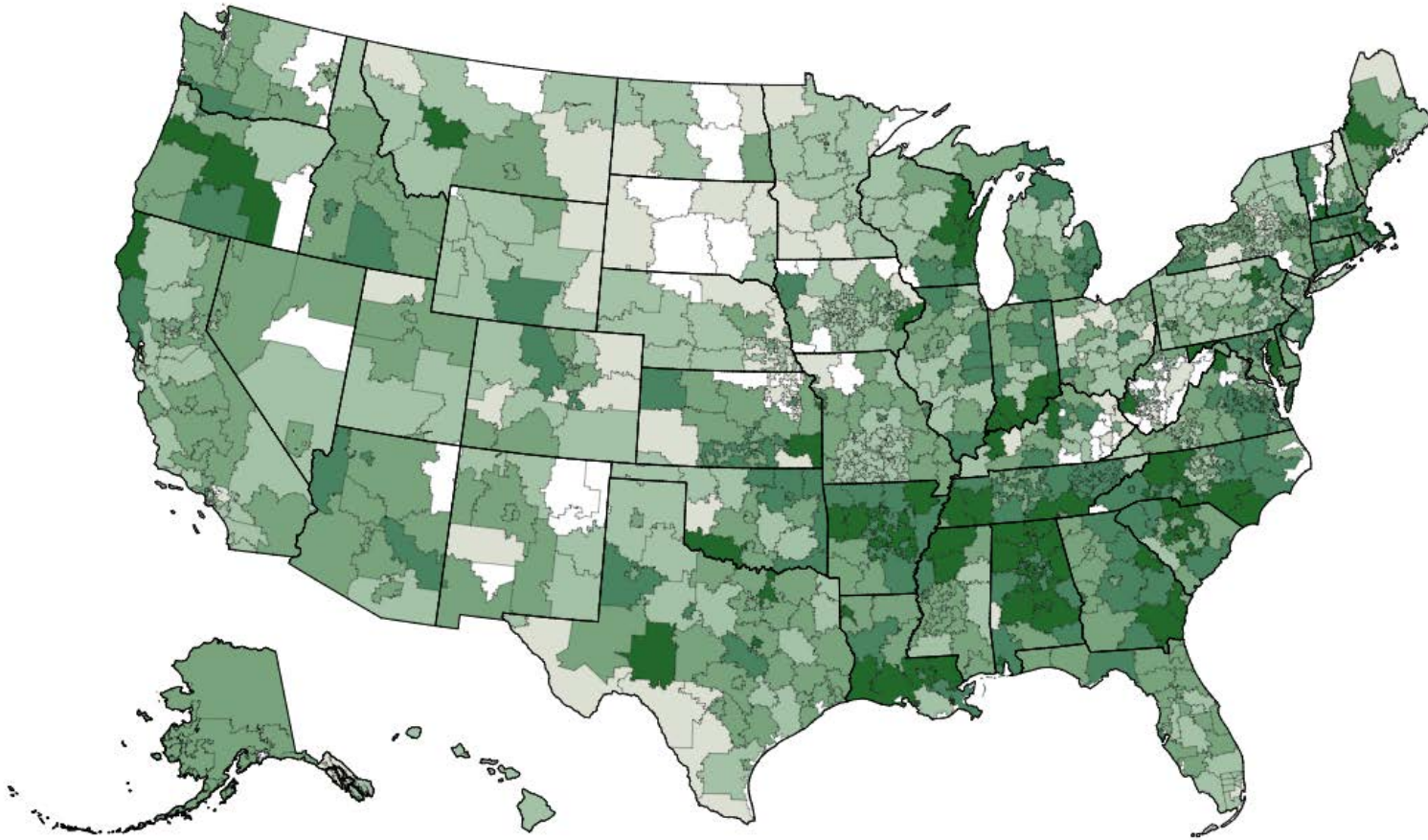


Variability in Drug Testing Rates

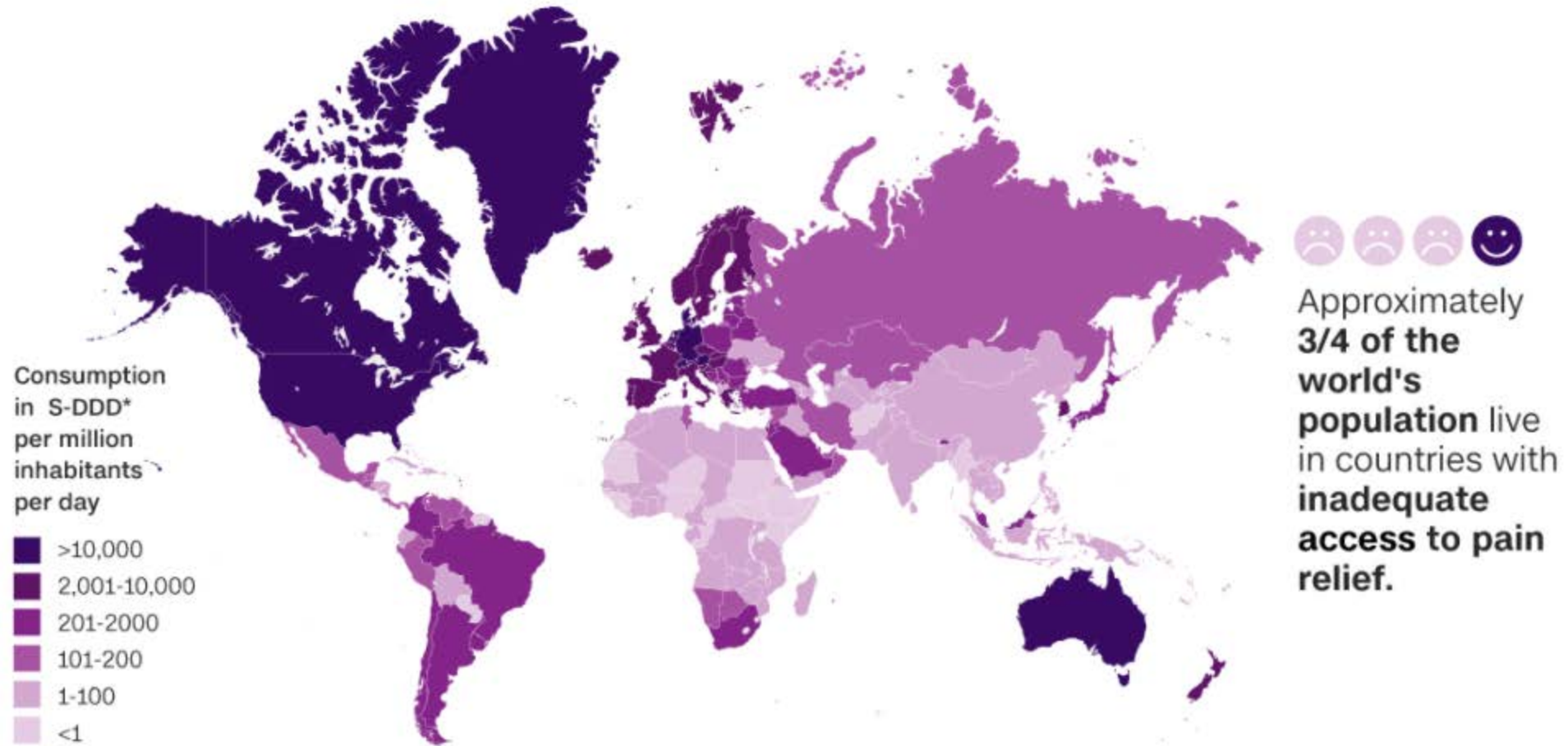
Overall positivity rate in 2016

This interactive map shows urine drug test positivity by 3-digit zip code in the United States.

. The Quest Diagnostics Drug Testing Index™ is a comprehensive analysis of workforce drug use trends.



Global access to opioids for pain relief (2011—2013 average)



Sources: United Nations, International Narcotics Control Board

Note: Opioids defined as codeine, dextropropoxyphene, dihydrocodeine, fentanyl, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, ketobemidone, morphine, oxycodone, pethidine, tilidine and trimeperidine.

*Sold Defined Daily Doses

Govt National Surveys

Govt Administrative
Data

Data Types

Non-publicly available

Commercial Data

Versions of data

- Public-use vs DUA (data use agreement)-bound
 - State or substate geography
 - Small cells suppressed (eg less than 10 deaths per county)
- Aggregated (eg at state level) vs micro data (at person level)
- Online dashboards vs downloadable csv files
- Scrape vs download

Individual level national surveys

- Ongoing, publicly available, usually 2 yr lag
 - Sample sizes from ~20k to 2 mil respondents/yr
- Well organized, with codebooks and data dictionaries
- Can learn from previously published research

Example Survey: Physician Visits (NAMCS)

National Center for Health Statistics

Ambulatory Health Care Data

Meaningful Use and The Merit-based Incentive Payment System

About NAMCS/NHAMCS +

What's New

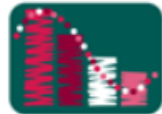
Questionnaires, Datasets, and Related Documentation +

Research Tools +

Survey Results and Products +

Ambulatory Care Listserv

NAMCS Survey Participants +



Ambulatory Health Care Data

[CDC](#) > > [NCHS](#)

Ambulatory Health Care Data




The National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NAMCS) is designed to meet the need for objective, reliable information about the provision and use of ambulatory medical care services in the United States. Findings are based on a sample of visits to nonfederally employed office-based physicians who are primarily engaged in direct patient care and, starting in 2006, a separate sample of visits to community health centers.

The National Hospital Ambulatory Medical Care Survey (NHAMCS) is designed to collect data on the utilization and provision of ambulatory care services in

What's New

Data Products

- [2015 NHAMCS Emergency Department summary tables](#)
 [PDF - 676 KB] (3/2018)
- [2015 NHAMCS Emergency Department public use data file](#)
(11/2017)
- [NAMCS - Community Health Centers Summary Tables](#)

NATIONAL AMBULATORY MEDICAL CARE SURVEY 2015 PATIENT RECORD

Form Approved: OMB No. 0920-0234; Expiration date 12/31/2017

NOTICE – Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 14 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing burden to: CDC/ATSDR Information Collection Review Office, 1600 Clifton Road, MS D-74, Atlanta, GA 30333, ATTN: PRA (0920-0234).

Assurance of confidentiality – All information which would permit identification of an individual, a practice, or an establishment will be held confidential; will be used for statistical purposes only by NCHS staff, contractors, and agents only when required and with necessary controls; and will not be disclosed or released to other persons without the consent of the individual or establishment in accordance with section 308(d) of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 242m) and the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act (PL-107-347).

PATIENT INFORMATION

Patient medical record No.		Age <input type="text"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Years 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Months 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Days		Ethnicity 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic or Latino 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Not Hispanic or Latino		Expected source(s) of payment for THIS VISIT – Mark (X) all that apply. 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Private insurance 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Medicare 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Medicaid or CHIP or other state-based program 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Workers' compensation 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Self-pay 6 <input type="checkbox"/> No charge/Charity 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Other 8 <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown		Tobacco use 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Not current 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Current 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown Prior tobacco use 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Never 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Former 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown	
Date of visit		Sex 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Female – Is patient pregnant? 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes - Specify gestation week – Gestation week refers to the number of weeks plus 2 that the offspring has spent developing in the uterus → <input type="text"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/> No 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Male		Race – Mark (X) all that apply. 1 <input type="checkbox"/> White 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Asian 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander 5 <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaska Native					
Month	Day	Year							
		201							
ZIP Code Enter "1" if homeless.									
Date of birth									
Month	Day	Year							

BIOMETRICS/VITAL SIGNS

Height <input type="text"/> ft <input type="text"/> in	Weight <input type="text"/> lb <input type="text"/> oz	Temperature <input type="text"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> °C 2 <input type="checkbox"/> °F	Blood pressure – If multiple measurements are taken, record the last measurement. Systolic <input type="text"/> Diastolic <input type="text"/>
OR	OR		

Lists all drugs prescribed

MEDICATIONS & IMMUNIZATIONS				
Were any prescription or non-prescription drugs ORDERED or PROVIDED (by any route of administration) at this visit? <i>Include Rx and OTC drugs, immunizations, allergy shots, oxygen, anesthetics, chemotherapy, and dietary supplements that were ordered, supplied, administered, or continued during this visit. Include drugs prescribed at a previous visit if the patient was instructed at THIS VISIT to continue with the medication.</i>				
1 <input type="checkbox"/> Yes				
2 <input type="checkbox"/> No				
List up to 30 medications.		<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>New</th><th>Continued</th></tr></thead></table>	New	Continued
New	Continued			
(1)		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		
(2)		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		
(3)		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		
(4)		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		
(5)		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		
		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		
		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		
		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		
(30)		1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2 <input type="checkbox"/>		

Codebook gives tons of details of the survey

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B. DRUG ENTRY CODES AND NAMES IN NUMERIC ORDER













00002	TAMIFLU	00169	KETOROLAC TROMETHAMINE
00004	LIDODERM PATCH	00175	PEDIA-POP
00008	VIActiv	00176	PREDNISOLONE ACETATE
00009	BICILLIN L-A	00177	SALT WATER
00012	IPOL	00184	KEPPRA
00013	MYCOPHENOLATE MOFETIL	00187	OPHTHALMIC DROPS
00019	HAWTHORN	00192	SPECTRAVITE
00022	PREVNAR	00195	TEMOZOLOMIDE
00032	EXCEDRIN MIGRAINE	00198	ENOXAPARIN SODIUM
00036	MAALOX PLUS	00206	ACTONEL
00039	SONATA	00208	CELECOXIB
00040	SOY	00209	GLUCOVANCE
00042	PROTONIX	00213	PANTOPRAZOLE SODIUM
00047	DONNATAL ELIXIR	00216	REGAIN MEDICAL NUTRITION BAR
00048	MOBIC	00217	TEMODAR
00052	SILDENAFIL CITRATE	00218	CARBAMIDE PEROXIDE

Note: Formal Data Definitions

- How are opioids defined?
 - NDC codes, drug classes, molecule names, brand names, mme
 - E.g. CDC, CMS, has list of opioids
- What are death codes to identify overdose in Mortality data?
 - CDC and data appendices of previous papers show ICD10 codes
 - <http://www.icd10data.com/ICD10CM/Codes/S00-T88>
- For GIS data
 - FIPS codes, zipcode to county crosswalks, lat & lon

Index of /pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/Datasets/NAMCS

 [\[parent directory\]](#)

	Name	Size	Date Modified
	NAMCS00.EXE	1.3 MB	4/4/02, 7:00:00 PM
	NAMCS01.EXE	1.2 MB	8/28/03, 8:00:00 PM
	NAMCS02.EXE	1.5 MB	9/29/04, 8:00:00 PM
	NAMCS03.exe	1.6 MB	7/18/05, 8:00:00 PM
	NAMCS04.exe	1.6 MB	3/19/06, 7:00:00 PM
	NAMCS05.exe	1.8 MB	5/16/07, 8:00:00 PM
	NAMCS06.exe	2.1 MB	3/14/11, 8:00:00 PM
	NAMCS07.exe	2.5 MB	3/14/11, 8:00:00 PM
	NAMCS08.exe	2.2 MB	3/13/12, 8:00:00 PM
	NAMCS09.exe	2.5 MB	3/13/12, 8:00:00 PM
	NAMCS2010.exe	2.5 MB	6/28/12, 8:00:00 PM
	namcs2011.zip	2.5 MB	12/16/15, 7:00:00 PM

Stata Documentation and Datasets

- [NAMCS](#)

 [namcs2014.d00](#)

 [namcs2015-stata.zip](#)

Undergrad class data integration

- Iuanyware-Stata
 - Demo in class, provide quickstart guide
- Provide students with dataset on Box
- Handout to get started

Example from undergrad health econ

Instructions for opening the data file in Stata & completing answers to HW

(these are the same steps I will show in class)

Please download the data set directly using the link on Canvas. You can then open Stata from an IU computer OR use IUanyware. If you would like to use IUanyware follow the instructions below. If not, skip to the Stata commands.

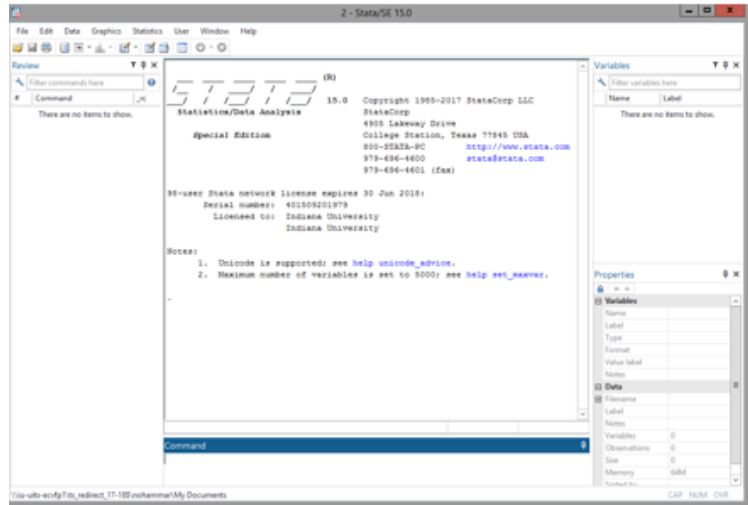
Once you have downloaded the “.dta” file, you will go to IUanyware and open up the Stata program

To do that, go to <https://iuanyware.iu.edu>. There are descriptions of what this is on the left hand side of that screen if you have never used IUanyware, as well as buttons on the right side if you need any questions answered by IU’s IT (UITS). A message will pop up asking to install a citrix client server, the typical types of things that happen when you log into a cloud application.



After you have logged into IUanyware, go to Stata under Apps

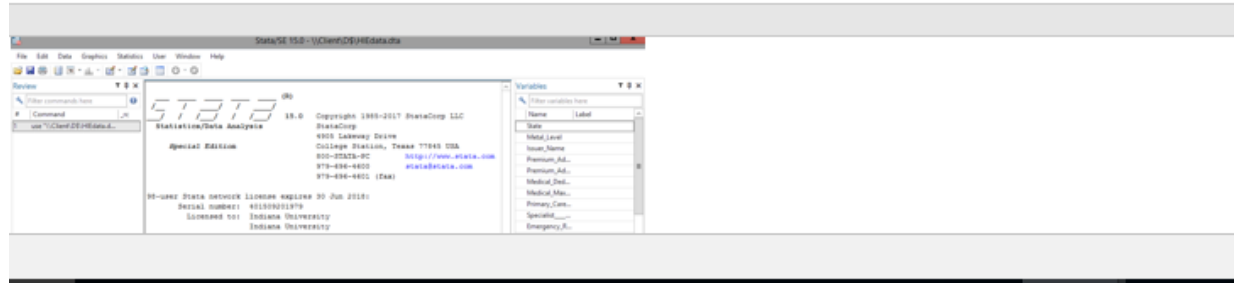
screen like this



To open the file, go to "File", "Open" and open the saved ".dta" data file.

For opening files in IUanyware: please see <https://kb.iu.edu/d/bbcl>

Once you have opened the .dta file, it will show up with variable names on the right hand side.





Stata Commands

Now, you are ready to do type in the commands needed to answer the questions # a-e.

1) To see how many plans are in Indiana, you can type `sum` (hit enter afterwards, and do not put the quotes into see the number of observations in the data set. One row in the data set represents one plan.

2) To see how many plans in each metal level, type `tab` and then click on the variable name `"Metal_Level"` (or just type the variable name) and hit enter. Do not enter the quotes into Stata. i.e. copy and paste the words in green and then hit enter:

`tab Metal_Level`

then describe what you see}

3) To see how many insurers are offering coverage, type `tab` and then click on the variable name `"Issuer_Name"` (or just type the variable name) and hit enter.

`tab Issuer_Name`

describe what you see}

Administrative data

- Harder to find
- More limited sample, need to know context more
- Has improved a lot in recent years
- Usually free
- Usually at county level (good for mapping)
- (sometimes there is free version and restricted or costly version)

Example Administrative data: Death Records

About Multiple Cause of Death, 1999-2016

[Request Form](#) [Results](#) [Map](#) [Chart](#) [About](#)

[Multiple Cause of Death Data](#) [Dataset Documentation](#) [Other Data Access](#) [Data Use Restrictions](#) [How to Use WONDER](#)

Note: Any use of these data implies consent to abide by the terms of the data use restrictions.

The Multiple Cause of Death database contains mortality and population counts for all U.S. counties. Data are based on death certificates for U.S. resident. Each death certificate contains a single underlying cause of death, up to twenty additional multiple causes, and demographic data. The number of deaths, crude death rates, age-adjusted death rates and 95% confidence intervals for death rates can be obtained by cause of death (4 digit ICD-10 codes, 113 selected causes of death, 130 selected causes of infant death, drug and alcohol related causes of death, injury intent and injury mechanism categories), place of residence (national, region, division, state, and county), age (single-year-of age, 5-year age groups, 10-year age groups and infant age groups), race (American Indian or Alaskan Native, Asian/Pacific Islander, Black or African American, White), Hispanic ethnicity, gender and year. Data are also available by urbanization categories for county of residence, place of death, month and week day of death, and whether an autopsy was performed.

Multiple Cause of Death, 1999-2016 Results

HWmarch27

[Request Form](#) [Results](#) [Map](#) [Chart](#) [About](#)

[Multiple Cause of Death Data](#) [Dataset Documentation](#) [Other Data Access](#) [Help for Results](#) [Printing Tips](#) [Help with Exports](#) [Save](#) [Export](#) [Reset](#)

[Quick Options](#) [More Options](#) [Top](#) [Notes](#) [Citation](#) [Query Criteria](#)

State ↓	Year	Deaths ↑↓	Population ↑↓	Crude Rate Per 100,000 ↑↓
Indiana (18)	1999	65	6,044,969	1.1
Indiana (18)	2000	53	6,080,485	0.9
Indiana (18)	2001	71	6,127,760	1.2
Indiana (18)	2002	64	6,155,967	1.0
Indiana (18)	2003	128	6,196,638	2.1

(The Currently selected box displays all current request items.)

[Finder Tool Help](#) [Advanced Finder Options](#)

Browse Search Details

UCD - ICD-10 Codes

- + X10-X19 (Contact with near and hot substances)
- + X20-X29 (Contact with venomous animals and plants)
- + X30-X39 (Exposure to forces of nature)
- X40-X49 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to noxious substances)
- X40 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to nonopioid analgesics, antipyretics and anti-inflammatories)
- X41 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to antiepileptic, sedative-hypnotic, antiparkinsonian, or tranquilizing drugs, and combinations thereof, except opiates, opium derivatives, or synthetic opiates)
- X42 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics (hallucinogens), except opiates, opium derivatives, or synthetic opiates)
- X43 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other drugs acting on the autonomic nervous system)
- X44 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified drugs, medicaments and biological substances)
- X45 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol)

Currently selected:

- X40 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to noxious substances)
- X41 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to nonopioid analgesics, antipyretics and anti-inflammatories)
- X42 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to narcotics and psychodysleptics (hallucinogens), except opiates, opium derivatives, or synthetic opiates)
- X43 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other drugs acting on the autonomic nervous system)
- X44 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to other and unspecified drugs, medicaments and biological substances)
- X45 (Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol)

Open Open Fully Close Close All

Browse the list by opening and closing items.
Use Ctrl+Click to multiple select, Shift+Click for a range.

Next week's homework from

SPEA V550 Spring 2018

**America's Opioid Crisis:
Data Analytics and Policy**

**Tuesdays 4pm-6:30pm
Professor Kosali Simon**

Example: Dashboard with Download Option

← → ↻ Secure | https://www.hcup-us.ahrq.gov/faststats/landing.jsp

HCUP
HEALTHCARE COST AND UTILIZATION PROJECT

HCUP Fast Stats

HCUP Fast Stats provides easy access to the latest HCUP-based statistics for health information topics. HCUP Fast Stats convey complex information at a glance. Fast Stats will be updated regularly (quarterly or annually, as newer data becomes available).

[HCUP Home](#) [Databases](#) [Tools & Software](#) [Reports](#) [Fast Stats](#) [News & Events](#) [Purchase HCUP Data](#) [Technical Assistance](#)

State

State Trends in Hospital Use by Payer

- [Inpatient Stay Trends by Payer](#) (Updated Nov. 2017)
- [Emergency Department Visit Trends by Payer](#) (Updated Nov. 2017)

Additional

Opioid-Related Hospital Use

- [Trends in Opioid-Related Inpatient Stays and Emergency Department Visits, National and State](#) (Updated Dec. 2017)



HCUP Fast Stats - Opioid-Related Hospital Use

HCUP Fast Stats provides easy access to the latest HCUP-based statistics for health information topics. This section provides trends in opioid-related hospital use at the national and State levels.

[HCUP Home](#)[Databases](#)[Tools & Software](#)[Reports](#)[Fast Stats](#)[News & Events](#)[Purchase HCUP Data](#)[Technical Assistance](#)[Innovation](#)

Opioid-Related Hospital Use

Initial Selection:

National Level or State:

National * ▼

* ED data available

Characteristic:

All stays or visits - rate ▼

Hospital Setting:

Inpatient Stays ED Visits

Compare to:

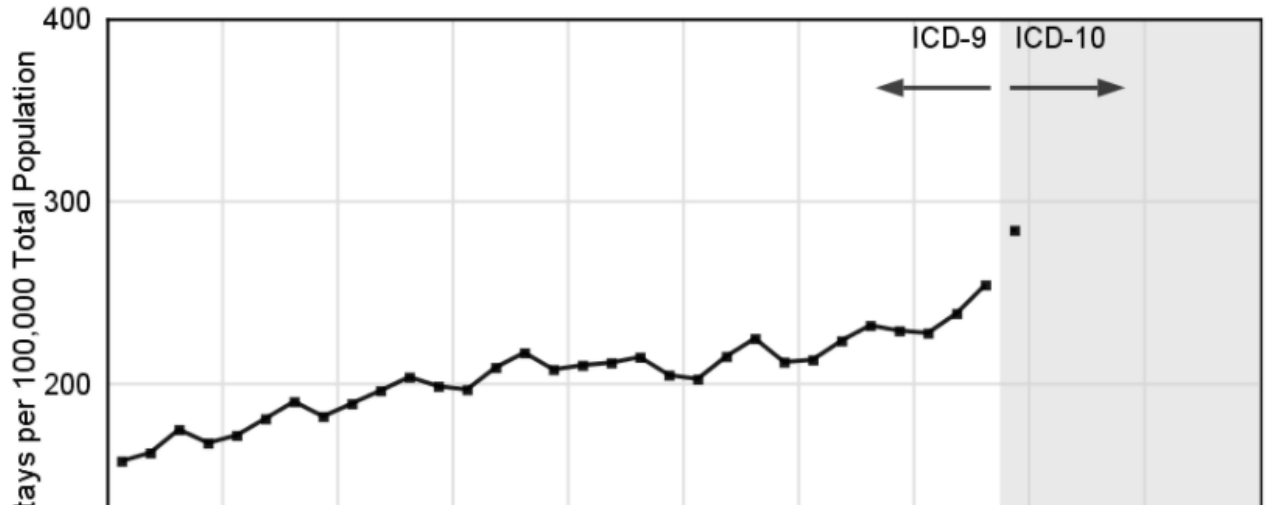
National Level or State:

Characteristic:

Hospital Setting:

Refresh

U.S. National: Opioid-Related Hospital Use
Rate of Inpatient Stays





Source: Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ), Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project (HCUP), National (Nationwide) Inpatient Sample (NIS), 2008-2015 (all available data as of 12/11/2017). Inpatient stays include those admitted through the emergency department.

- [+ Show Underlying Data Tables](#)
- [+ Show Data Notes & Methods](#)
- [+ Show Data Export Options](#)
- [● HCUP Fast Stats FAQs](#)

1. Click this [Excel Export](#) link to request the download.
2. Follow the prompts to save a copy of the Excel file to vo

Commercial data

- Usually expensive, but maybe very detailed, very current
- Lots more to say on data types but..

Will skip to software because of limited time

Implement good workflow
concepts to get from source to
working version of data, then...

Tableau

SAS/Stata/SPSS

Tools

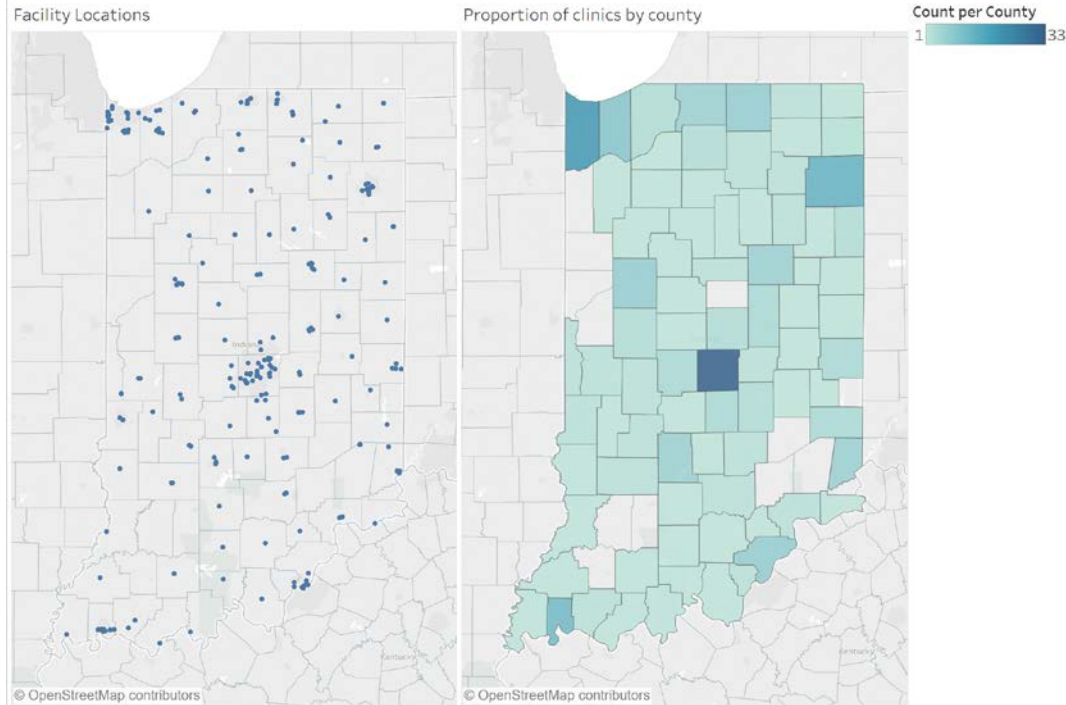
Excel (yes..)

R+Shiny

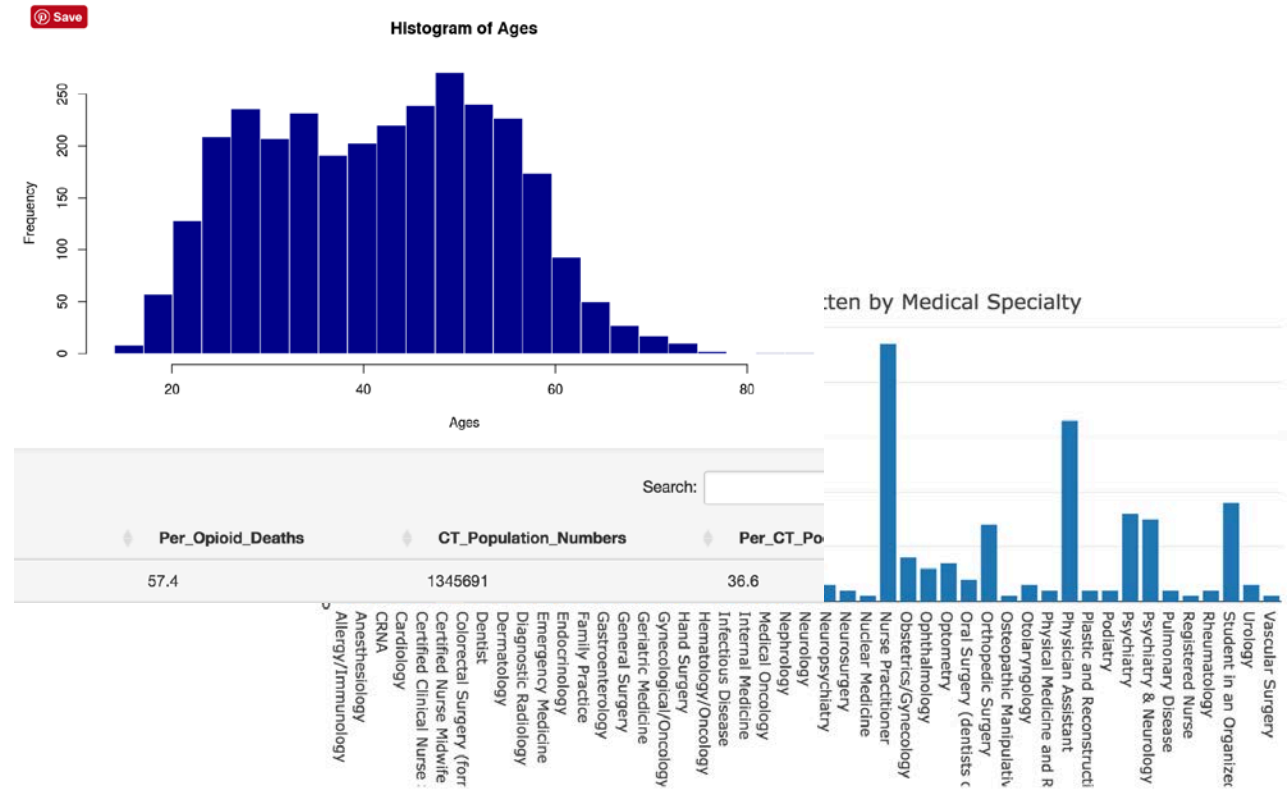
TABLEAU

SHINY + R

Substance Abuse Facilities



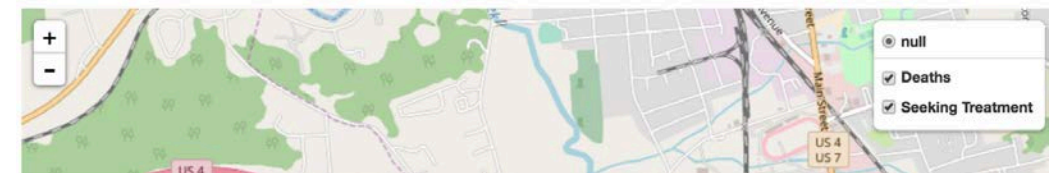
Deaths from Opioid Use by Age



<https://public.tableau.com/profile/jvitesh.poojary1464#!/vizhome/Opioidaddictionmedicationcentermap/Dashboard1?publish=yes>



Overlap Between Treatment Centers and Locations of Death in 2016



https://kcritelli.shinyapps.io/Shiny_Project/

Example of integration into research

Journal of Health Economics 56 (2017) 222–233



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Journal of Health Economics

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/econbase



Macroeconomic conditions and opioid abuse

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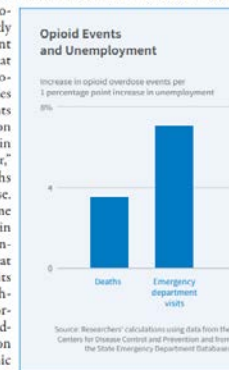
Are Opioid Deaths Affected by Macroeconomic Conditions?

The rate of drug overdose deaths involving opioids tripled between 2000 and 2014, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). One theory that has recently garnered significant attention posits that a decline in economic opportunities for some segments of the population has led to a rise in "deaths of despair," including deaths related to drug use. The fact that some of the recent rise in drug deaths coincides with the Great Recession and its aftermath highlights the importance of understanding the connection between economic conditions and drug deaths.

Researchers Alex Hollingsworth, Christopher Ruhm, and Kosali Simon take up this question in their working

paper **Macroeconomic Conditions and Opioid Abuse** (NBER Working Paper No. 23192). The researchers examine how deaths and emergency department (ED) visits due to opioids and other drugs are related to shocks to the local unemployment rate.

The researchers use data on drug poisoning deaths derived from the CDC's Multiple Cause of Death files for the period 1999 to 2014. These data cover all deaths in the U.S. and include state and county of residence. They also use information from the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project of the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality to compile data on drug-related ED visits at the county and state level. While comprehensive national ED visit data



(continued on page 2)

NBER
Bulletin on Aging and Health

NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH

2017, No. 3

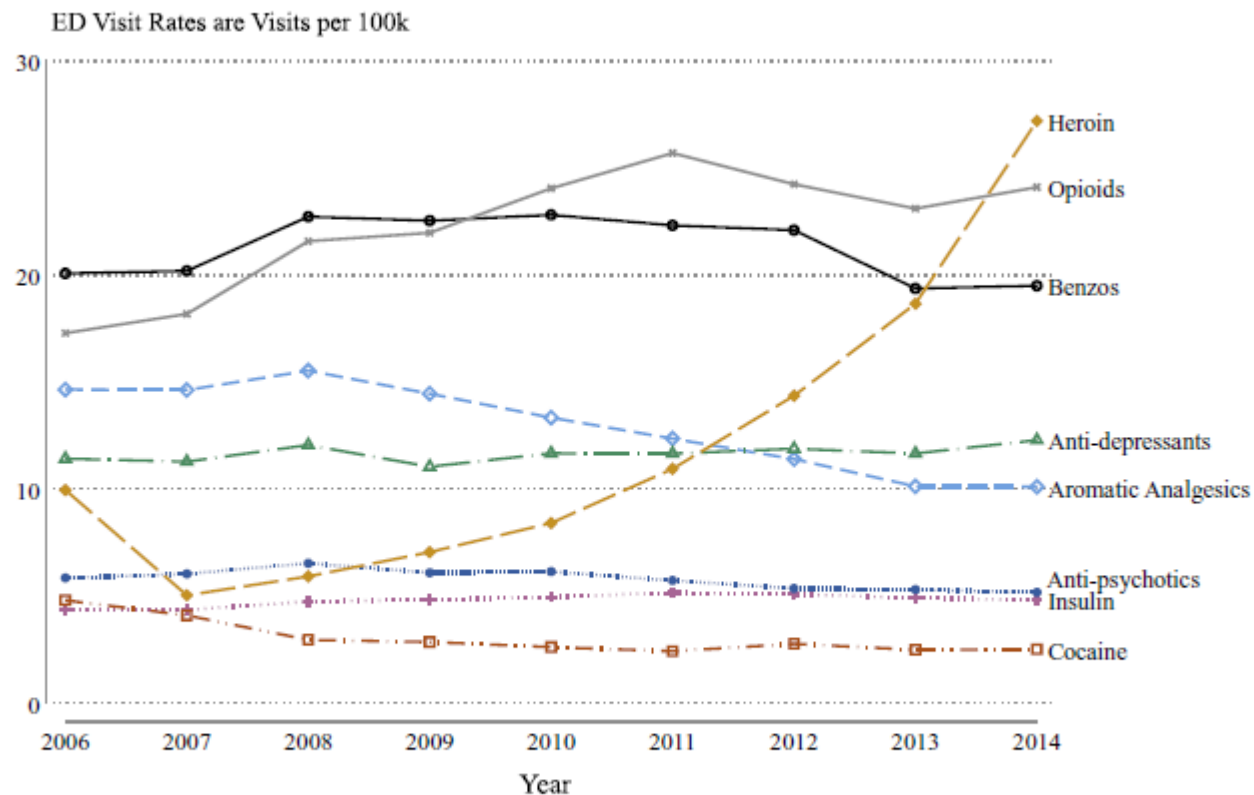


Fig. 4. Drug overdose ED visit rate by major drug type, 2006–2014.

tions using the Healthcare Cost and Utilization Project’s Nationwide Emergency Department Sample for 2006–2014.

Table 3

The estimated effect of county-level unemployment on the rate of opioid/drug mortality and emergency department visits across multiple specifications.

	(1)	(2)	(3)
<i>Opioid death rate per 100k</i>			
Unemployment rate [0–100]	0.22*** (0.05)	0.19*** (0.04)	0.19*** (0.05)
Mean of dependent variable	5.35	5.35	5.35
Observations	50,148	50,148	50,148
<i>Drug death rate per 100k</i>			
Unemployment rate [0–100]	0.29*** (0.08)	0.18*** (0.05)	0.36*** (0.07)
Mean of dependent variable	10.77	10.77	10.77
Observations	50,148	50,148	50,148
<i>Opioid overdose ED visit rate per 100k</i>			
Unemployment rate [0–100]	0.57** (0.26)	1.10*** (0.30)	0.95*** (0.28)
Mean of dependent variable	13.54	13.54	13.54
Observations	1873	1873	1873
<i>Drug overdose ED visit rate per 100k</i>			
Unemployment rate [0–100]	0.71 (0.88)	1.54 (1.04)	1.19 (1.20)
Mean of dependent variable	97.52	97.52	97.52
Observations	1873	1873	1873
County fixed-effects	Yes	Yes	Yes
Year fixed-effects	Yes	Yes	Yes
County specific time trends	No	Yes	No
State-by-year fixed-effects	No	No	Yes

Note: Robust standard errors clustered at the county level in parentheses. Each regression is weighted by total county population.

* $p < 0.1$.

** $p < 0.05$.

*** $p < 0.01$.

Arriving soon..



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[Faces of the opioid crisis](#)

[Tipsheet: "Covering opioids with data"](#) (Charles Ornstein, ProPublica)

Indiana

[Indiana Data Hub](#)

National

["Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States, 1999-2016"](#)  (NCHS Data Brief, December 2017)

["Opioid Data Analysis"](#) (CDC)

[Researched Abuse, Diversion and Addiction-Related Surveillance \(RADARS\) System](#)

["Overall positivity rate in 2016"](#) (Quest Diagnostics)

["Quest Diagnostics Drug Testing Index: Full year 2016 tables"](#)  (Quest Diagnostics)

[Data USA](#)

Policy and the Opioid Epidemic

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Upcoming Event and Call for Proposals: 2nd Annual South Central Opioid Summit (September 18-19, 2018)

THURSDAY, MARCH 22, 2018

The 2nd Annual South Central Opioid Summit will be held on

Summary & Take-away

- Pressing social problems need data analysis for understanding and moving towards solutions
- Much publicly available data to easily integrate into teaching and research