

## West Virginia Board of Pharmacy Prescription Opioid Indicators Report

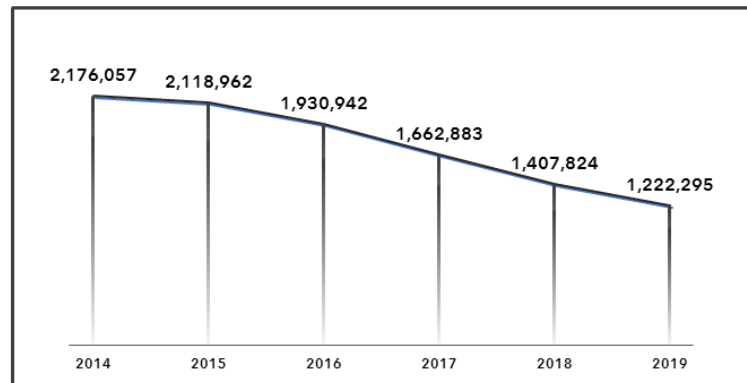
# Grant County - 2019



The West Virginia Violence and Injury Prevention Program (WV VIPP), in collaboration with the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy and the West Virginia University Injury Control Research Center (ICRC), under the direction of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), continue to work to address prescription drug misuse, diversion, and overdose within the state of West Virginia. Prescription drug overdose continues to be a major issue in West Virginia. Preliminary data from the West Virginia Health Statistics Center shows that in 2018, over 900 people died in association with drug misuse (including prescription and illicit drugs) with a rate of 52.2 per 100,000 population. This is nearly three times the national average. To help combat this epidemic, CDC provided specific indicators to identify high-risk areas within the state to allow for intervention and community education.

There was a  
**44% decrease**  
in opioid prescriptions  
filled from 2014-2019...

Source: West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program



...with over **15 million** fewer  
opioid pills dispensed from 2018  
to 2019 in West Virginia.

## Indicator 1: Number and rate of opioid analgesics per 1,000 state residents

This indicator includes all opioid prescriptions that are classified as either Schedule II, III, IV, or V. The figures below show the total number of opioid prescriptions for Grant County and the rate per 1,000 population compared to the state. Census data was used to obtain demographic information and population sized.

Figure 1.  
Number of Opioid  
Analgesics Dispensed,  
Grant County, 2014-  
2019

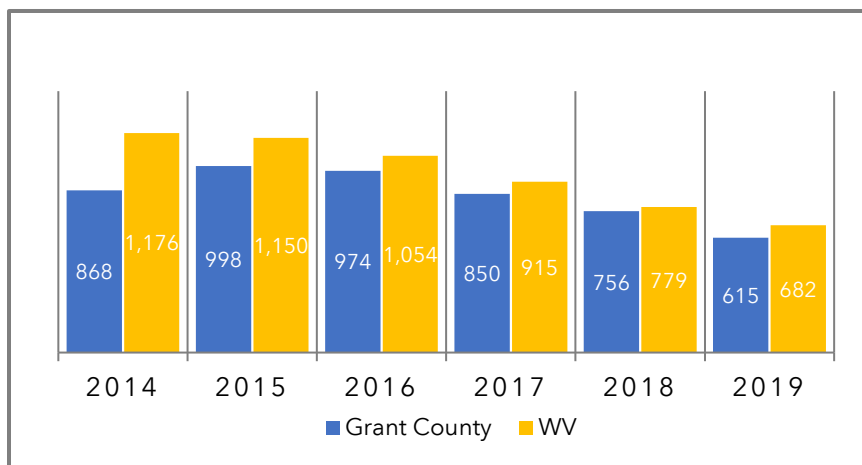
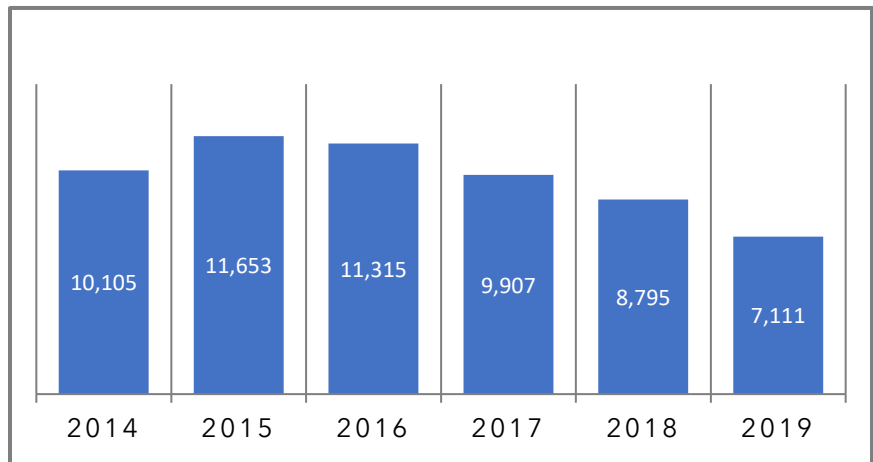


Figure 2.  
Rate of Opioid  
Analgesics per 1,000  
Population in Grant  
County and WV,  
2014-2019

Source: West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program

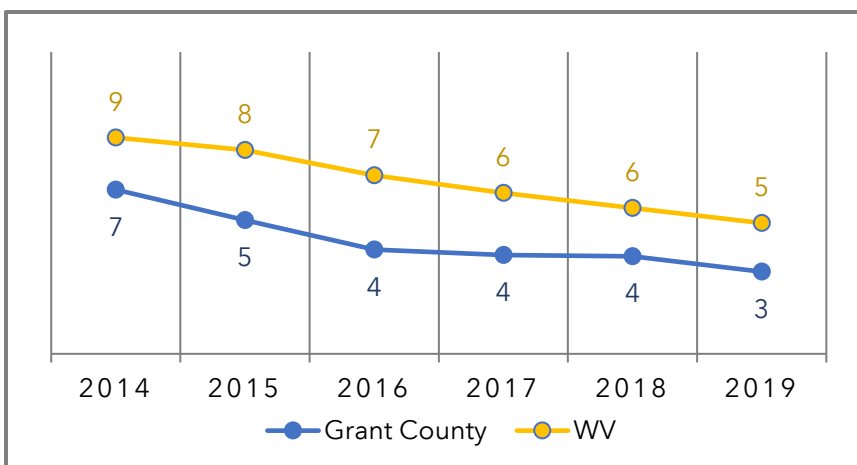
## What Does This Mean?

This indicator is important because it provides information about prescription opioid use for each county. These data will help determine areas where high prescribing/dispensing are occurring around the state and allow for education on responsible opioid prescribing. High rates of opioid dispensing mean large quantities of opioids that are out in the community. Grant County had lower rates of opioids being prescribed compared to the state from 2014-2019 and there was an overall decrease in the rate during this time.

## Indicator 2: Percent of patients receiving more than an average daily dose of 90 morphine milligram equivalents (MME).

This indicator shows the total average daily dose of MMEs that a patient is taking. It includes all opioid prescriptions that are classified as either Schedule II, III, IV, or V. MMEs are used as a measure to describe the potency of an opioid. Calculating MMEs is important to determine which patients may be at risk for an overdose. The figure below shows the percent of patients with greater than an average daily dose of 90 MMEs in Grant County compared to the state during 2014-2019.

Figure 3.  
Percent of Patients  
Receiving More than an  
Average Daily Dose of 90  
MME, Grant County and  
WV, 2014-2019



Source: West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program

## What Does This Mean?

This indicator is important because it provides information for prescribers about how much morphine equivalent drug the patient is receiving. MMEs help determine the amount of morphine an opioid dose is equal to when prescribed, often used as a gauge of the abuse and overdose potential of the amount of opioid that is being given at a particular time. It is also a useful tool to identify high-burden areas in the state, which is important for public health surveillance at the county level. From 2014-2019, Grant County's percent of patients receiving more than an average daily dose of 90 MMEs was lower than the state and decreased during this time.

### Indicator 3: Rate of multiple provider episodes for prescription opioids (5 or more prescribers and 5 or more pharmacies in a 6-month period) per 100,00 residents.

This indicator shows the rate of patients who went to 5 or more prescribers and 5 or more pharmacies within a 6-month period, or multiple provider episode (MPE). The rate is calculated per 100,000 population. It includes all opioid prescriptions that are classified as either Schedule II, III, IV, or V.

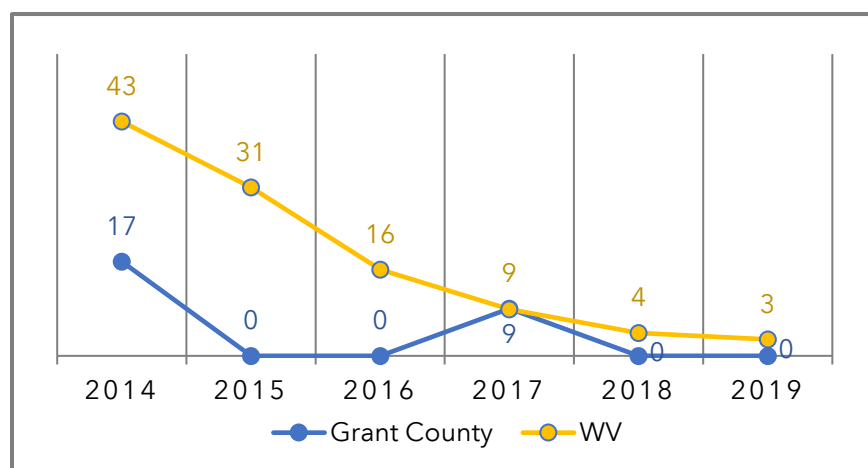


Figure 4.  
Rate of Multiple Provider  
Episodes (MPE) for  
Prescription Opioids per  
100,000 Population,  
Grant County and WV,  
2014-2019

Source: West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program

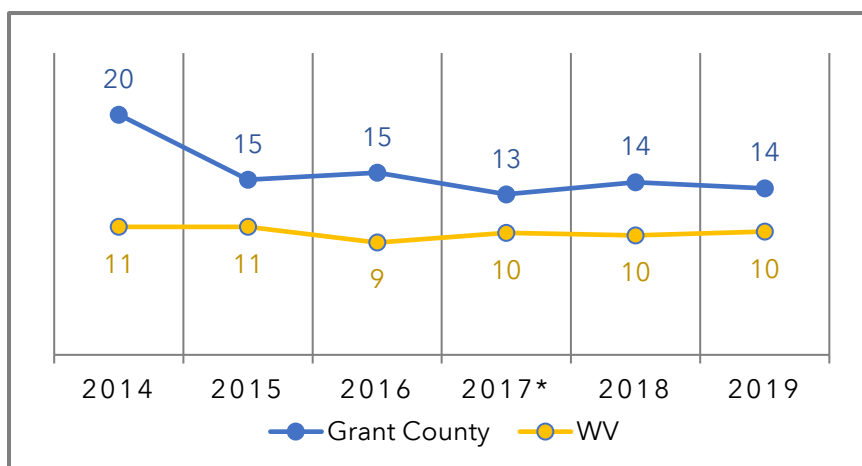
## What Does This Mean?

This indicator is important because provides valuable information on prescription filling behaviors. Patients who receive prescriptions from more than five doctors and who fill at more than five pharmacies are at greater risk of drug overdose. This indicator helps determine patients who may have drug seeking habits (i.e., "doctor shopping"). During 2014-2019, Grant County had lower rates of patients who qualified as having an MPE and had a decrease in rates during this time period.

## Indicator 4: Percent of patients prescribed long-acting/extended release opioids among opioid-naïve patients

This indicator represents the percent of patients with no prescribed opioid prescriptions in the previous 45 days\* who were prescribed at least one long acting/extended release (LA/ER) opioid, among all patients with LA/ER opioid prescriptions. It includes all opioid prescriptions that are classified as either Schedule II, III, IV, or V.

Figure 5.  
Percent of Patients  
Prescribed Long Acting/  
Extended Release  
Opioids among Opioid-  
Naïve Patients, Grant  
County, 2014-2019



Source: West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program

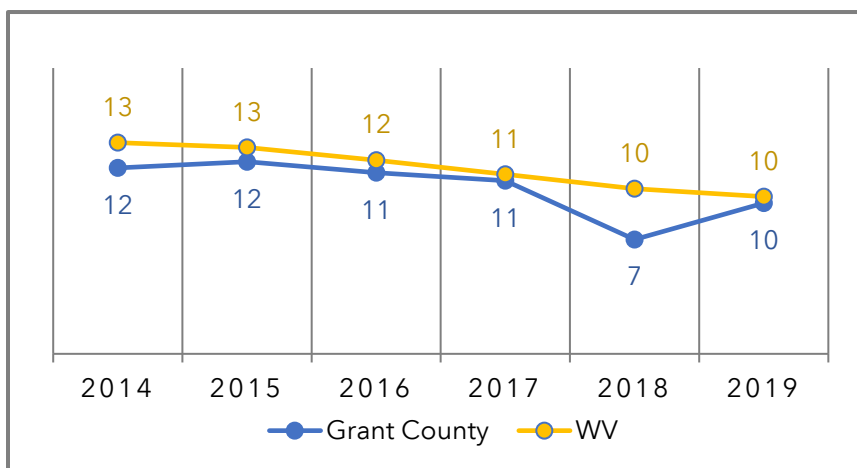
## What Does This Mean?

This indicator is important to understand because it provides information about individuals who are not accustomed to opioid medications, which may potentially increase the risk of opioid dependence, misuse, or overdose. CDC opioid prescribing guidelines recommend using immediate release (IR) opioids before taking LA/ER. During 2014-2019, Grant County had a higher percentage of patients who were opioid-naïve compared to the state average, however, there was an overall decrease during this time.

*\*Note that CDC changed the definition of "opioid-naïve" from 60 days to 45 days in 2017.*

## Indicator 5: Percent of patient prescription days with overlapping opioid prescriptions

This indicator shows the percent of days in which more than one prescribed opioid prescription during the same time-period were dispensed, among all prescription days. It includes all opioid prescriptions that are classified as either Schedule II, III, IV, or V.



**Figure 6.**  
Percent of Patient  
Prescribed Days  
Overlap Between  
Opioid Analgesics,  
Grant County and WV,  
2014-2019

Source: West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program

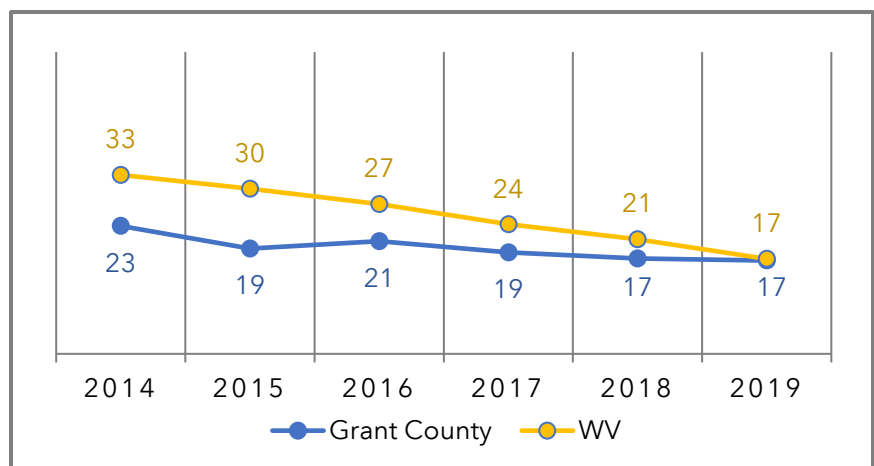
## What Does This Mean?

This indicator represents the patients who may potentially be using their opioid prescriptions not as prescribed or may show areas where drug diversion is occurring. Using multiple opioid prescriptions during the same time-period increased the risk for drug dependency and overdose. It is important to understand this because a considerable number of drug overdose deaths include more than one opioid. During 2014-2019, Grant County had a lower percentage of prescription overlap compared to the state average and there was an overall decrease during this time period.

## Indicator 6: Percent of patient prescriptions days with overlapping opioid and benzodiazepine prescriptions.

This indicator represents the percent of patients who have an opioid and a benzodiazepine (i.e., Lorazepam, Diazepam) prescription on the same day among all opioid prescription days. It includes all opioid prescriptions that are classified as either Schedule II, III, IV, or V.

Figure 7.  
Percent of Patient Prescribed Opioid Days that Overlap with Benzodiazepine Prescriptions, Grant County and WV, 2014-2019



Source: West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program

## What Does This Mean?

This indicator is important because it shows areas in the state where patients are using both opioids and benzodiazepine drugs at the same time. Taking an opioid with a benzodiazepine increases the risk for drug overdose and death, as both classes of medication depress the central nervous system. From 2014-2019, Grant County had a lower percent of days where there was an overlapping opioid and benzodiazepine prescription than the state average and decreased over this time period.

## County Rankings By Indicator

| Patient County | Indicator 1 | Indicator 2 | Indicator 3 | Indicator 4 | Indicator 5 | Indicator 6 |
|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| BARBOUR        | 34          | 26          | 38.5        | 42          | 24          | 32          |
| BERKELEY       | 37          | 2           | 19          | 40.5        | 2           | 48          |
| BOONE          | 2           | 48          | 2           | 36.5        | 51          | 3           |
| BRAXTON        | 43          | 24          | 38.5        | 40.5        | 18          | 26          |
| BROOKE         | 25          | 17          | 38.5        | 17          | 11          | 14.5        |
| CABELL         | 10          | 44          | 16          | 9           | 36          | 18.5        |
| CALHOUN        | 46          | 38          | 38.5        | 22          | 52.5        | 47          |
| CLAY           | 5           | 32          | 38.5        | 25          | 37          | 53          |
| DODDRIDGE      | 54          | 10          | 38.5        | 27          | 10          | 46          |
| FAYETTE        | 15          | 37          | 38.5        | 14.5        | 42          | 41          |
| GILMER         | 50          | 20          | 38.5        | 31          | 30.5        | 6           |
| <b>GRANT</b>   | <b>39</b>   | <b>51</b>   | <b>38.5</b> | <b>11</b>   | <b>14.5</b> | <b>7</b>    |
| GREENBRIER     | 13          | 15          | 15          | 28.5        | 29          | 26          |
| HAMPSHIRE      | 41          | 3           | 38.5        | 28.5        | 4           | 44.5        |
| HANCOCK        | 11          | 14          | 38.5        | 47          | 8           | 12          |
| HARDY          | 49          | 31          | 6           | 43          | 7           | 33.5        |
| HARRISON       | 14          | 13          | 20          | 51.5        | 20          | 5           |
| JACKSON        | 45          | 53          | 38.5        | 31          | 38          | 39.5        |
| JEFFERSON      | 44          | 4           | 13          | 31          | 3           | 51.5        |
| KANAWHA        | 18          | 50          | 14          | 24          | 43.5        | 37          |
| LEWIS          | 12          | 21          | 38.5        | 49          | 14.5        | 29.5        |
| LINCOLN        | 4           | 34          | 8           | 53          | 34          | 4           |
| LOGAN          | 1           | 43          | 4           | 45          | 49          | 2           |
| MARION         | 31          | 36          | 12          | 7           | 30.5        | 16          |
| MARSHALL       | 22          | 9           | 38.5        | 5           | 32.5        | 13          |
| MASON          | 29          | 45          | 11          | 10          | 50          | 35          |
| MCDOWELL       | 7           | 16          | 38.5        | 18          | 26          | 18.5        |
| MERCER         | 23          | 19          | 18          | 23          | 24          | 23.5        |
| MINERAL        | 40          | 18          | 38.5        | 34          | 5.5         | 14.5        |
| MINGO          | 20          | 47          | 38.5        | 6           | 55          | 1           |
| MONONGALIA     | 55          | 12          | 21          | 19          | 16          | 38          |
| MONROE         | 51          | 6           | 38.5        | 20.5        | 13          | 11          |
| MORGAN         | 26          | 1           | 38.5        | 44          | 1           | 49          |
| NICHOLAS       | 8           | 35          | 10          | 54.5        | 24          | 26          |
| OHIO           | 35          | 7           | 38.5        | 3           | 17          | 21.5        |
| PENDLETON      | 36          | 5           | 38.5        | 54.5        | 5.5         | 21.5        |
| PLEASANTS      | 33          | 41          | 38.5        | 36.5        | 39          | 51.5        |
| POCAHONTAS     | 42          | 11          | 38.5        | 16          | 19          | 39.5        |
| PRESTON        | 38          | 8           | 38.5        | 50          | 12          | 18.5        |
| PUTNAM         | 28          | 46          | 17          | 26          | 41          | 18.5        |
| RALEIGH        | 30          | 30          | 38.5        | 12          | 45          | 28          |
| RANDOLPH       | 24          | 23          | 38.5        | 35          | 27          | 42          |
| RITCHIE        | 16          | 49          | 3           | 8           | 47.5        | 36          |
| ROANE          | 17          | 52          | 5           | 4           | 32.5        | 33.5        |
| SUMMERS        | 9           | 25          | 38.5        | 48          | 22          | 23.5        |
| TAYLOR         | 27          | 27          | 38.5        | 46          | 43.5        | 10          |
| TUCKER         | 47          | 33          | 38.5        | 14.5        | 28          | 50          |
| TYLER          | 48          | 42          | 38.5        | 1           | 46          | 29.5        |
| UPSHUR         | 53          | 29          | 38.5        | 33          | 21          | 54          |
| WAYNE          | 52          | 39          | 38.5        | 38          | 35          | 8           |
| WEBSTER        | 3           | 22          | 1           | 51.5        | 9           | 43          |
| WETZEL         | 19          | 54          | 38.5        | 2           | 52.5        | 9           |
| WIRT           | 21          | 55          | 38.5        | 39          | 54          | 55          |
| WOOD           | 32          | 40          | 9           | 13          | 40          | 44.5        |
| WYOMING        | 6           | 28          | 7           | 20.5        | 47.5        | 31          |

\*Each county is ranked from 1 to 55, where a rank of 1 is assigned to the county with the highest (worst) rate or percentage and a 55 to the county with the lowest (best) rate or percentage. Counties with a ".5" in the rank had the same rank as another county and the average rank was returned.



Percent of Grant County  
with a controlled  
substance prescription

21%

Percent of Grant  
County with an opioid  
prescription

13%

Percent of Grant County  
with a benzodiazepine  
prescription

8%

Source: West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program

For more information regarding this county profile or the West Virginia Controlled Substance Monitoring Program (CSMP), please see contact information below.

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