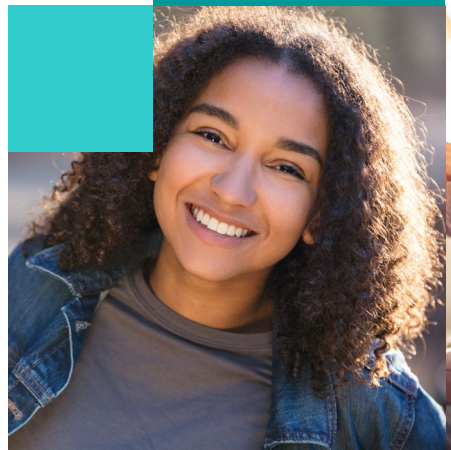


2024 Annual Report

July 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024

March 16, 2025

Department of
HEALTH &
HUMAN SERVICES





Agenda

- Highlights for SFY 2024
- Opioids
- Stimulants
- Other Drugs of Interest
- Prescription Auditing
- User Registration
- Upcoming PDMP Initiatives

Highlights for SFY 2024

Utilization

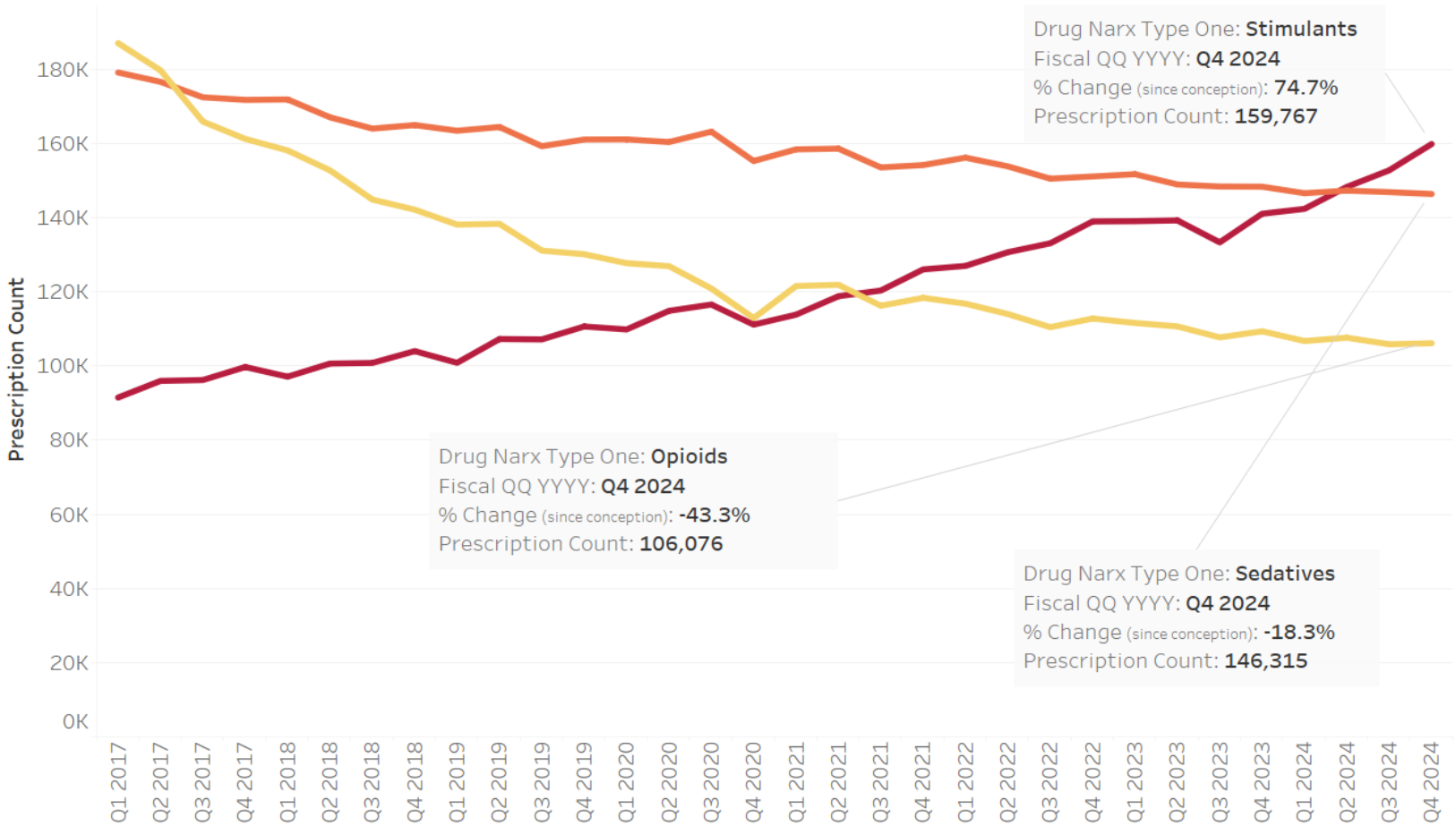
- Registrant count is 20,291
- Patient queries have increased by 18% year over year (YoY)
  - Nearly 2.1 million queries were made in State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2024 (1.7 million in SFY 2023)
- 7,768 registrants made patient queries
  - 2,225 registrants who made queries were prescriber delegates
  - Delegates made more than 38% of all patient queries

Prescribing Trends

- **Opioids**: Filled prescription counts for opioids have continued to *decrease*
- **Stimulants**: Filled prescription counts for stimulants have continued to *increase*
  - In Q2 SFY 2024 stimulant prescription counts overtook sedative prescription counts as the highest count of these three drug types
- **Sedatives**: Filled prescription counts for sedatives have continued to *decrease*

Filled Prescription Counts (SFY 2017- SFY 2024)

*NH Residents Only



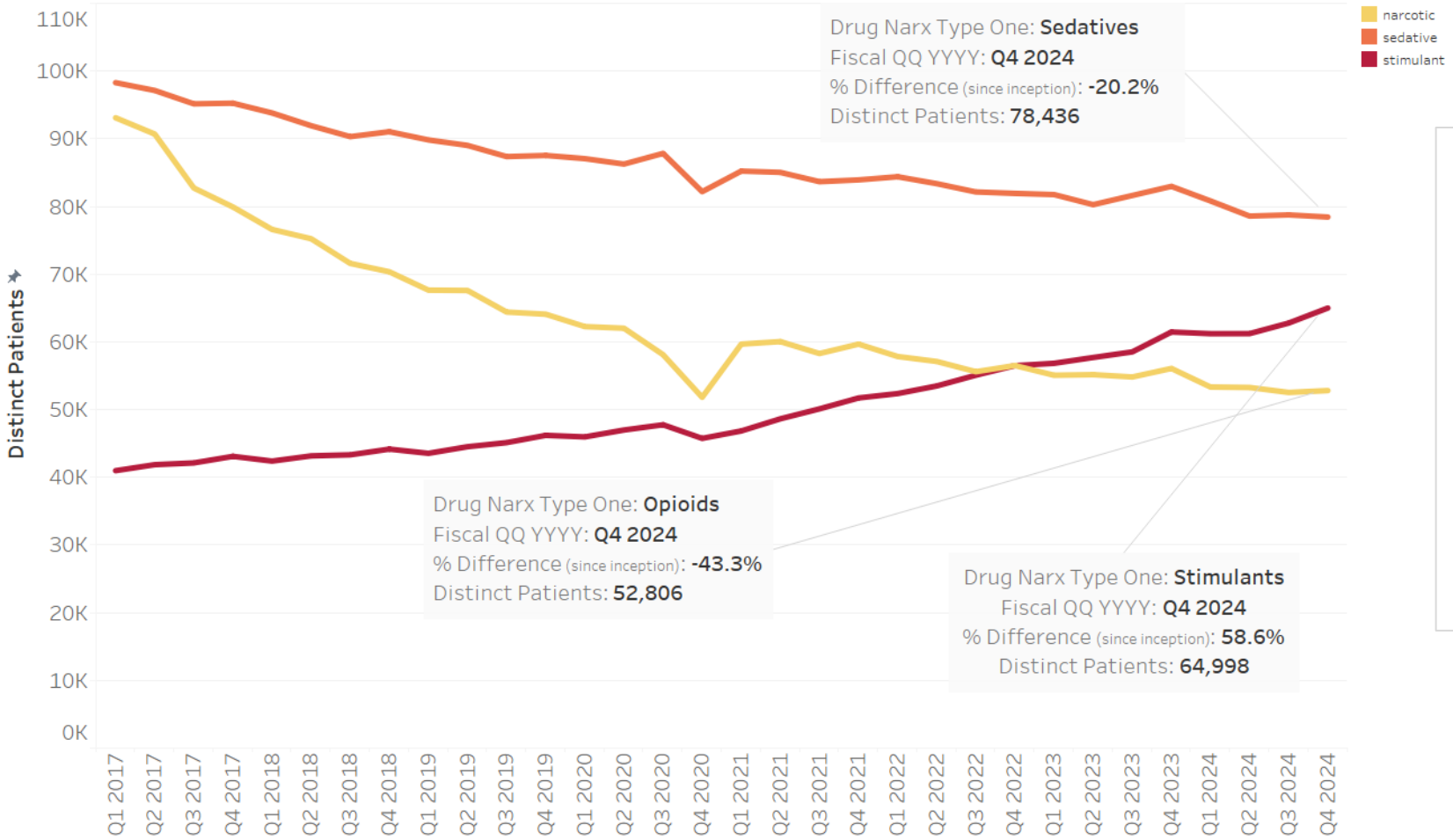
YoY Change in Rx Count
(SFY 2023-2024)

- Opioid Rx ↓ 3%
- Stimulant Rx ↑ 13.3%
- Sedative Rx ↓ 1.3%

The trend of sum of Prescription Count for Fiscal QQ YYYY. Color shows details about Drug Narx Type One. The data is filtered on Prescription Unit, Prescriber PDMP Role, Current Pharmacy State Abbr, Current Prescriber State Abbr, Generic Name, Fiscal Year and Current Patient State Abbr. The Prescription Unit filter keeps each (tablets, kits, etc.). The Prescriber PDMP Role filter excludes 6 members. The Current Pharmacy State Abbr filter excludes Null. The Current Prescriber State Abbr filter keeps NH. The Generic Name filter excludes 8 members. The Fiscal Year filter has multiple members selected. The Current Patient State Abbr filter keeps NH. The view is filtered on Drug Narx Type One and Fiscal QQ YYYY. The Drug Narx Type One filter keeps narcotic, sedative and stimulant. The Fiscal QQ YYYY filter excludes 9 members.

Distinct Patients (SFY 2017- SFY2024)

*NH Residents Only



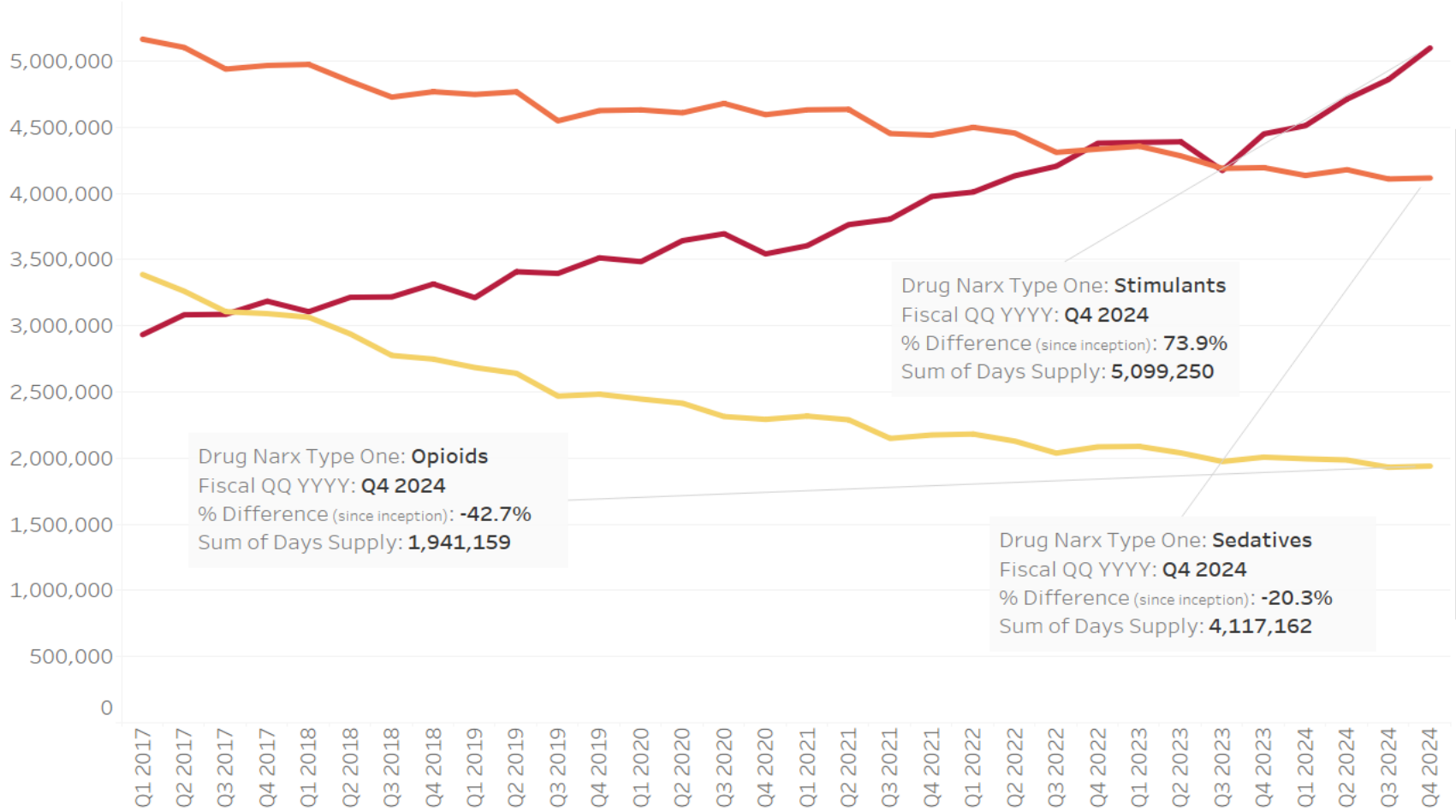
The trend of Distinct Patients for Fiscal QQ YYYY. Color shows details about Drug Narx Type One. The marks are labeled by Distinct Patients and % Difference in Distinct Patients. The data is filtered on Prescription Unit, Current Pharmacy State Abbr, Prescriber PDMP Role, Generic Name, Fiscal Year and Current Patient State Abbr. The Prescription Unit filter keeps each (tablets, kits, etc.). The Current Pharmacy State Abbr filter keeps 48 of 48 members. The Prescriber PDMP Role filter excludes 6 members. The Generic Name filter excludes 8 members. The Fiscal Year filter has multiple members selected. The Current Patient State Abbr filter keeps NH. The view is filtered on Drug Narx Type One and Fiscal QQ YYYY. The Drug Narx Type One filter keeps narcotic, sedative and stimulant. The Fiscal QQ YYYY filter excludes 9 members.

YoY Change in Distinct Patients
(SFY 2023-2024)

- Opioid DP ↓ 5.8%
- Stimulant DP ↑ 5.8%
- Sedative DP ↓ 5.5%

Days' Supply (SFY 2017- SFY 2024)

***NH Residents Only**



YoY Change in Days' Supply
(SFY 2023-2024)

- Opioid DS ↓ 3%
- Stimulant DS ↑ 15%
- Sedative DS ↓ 2%

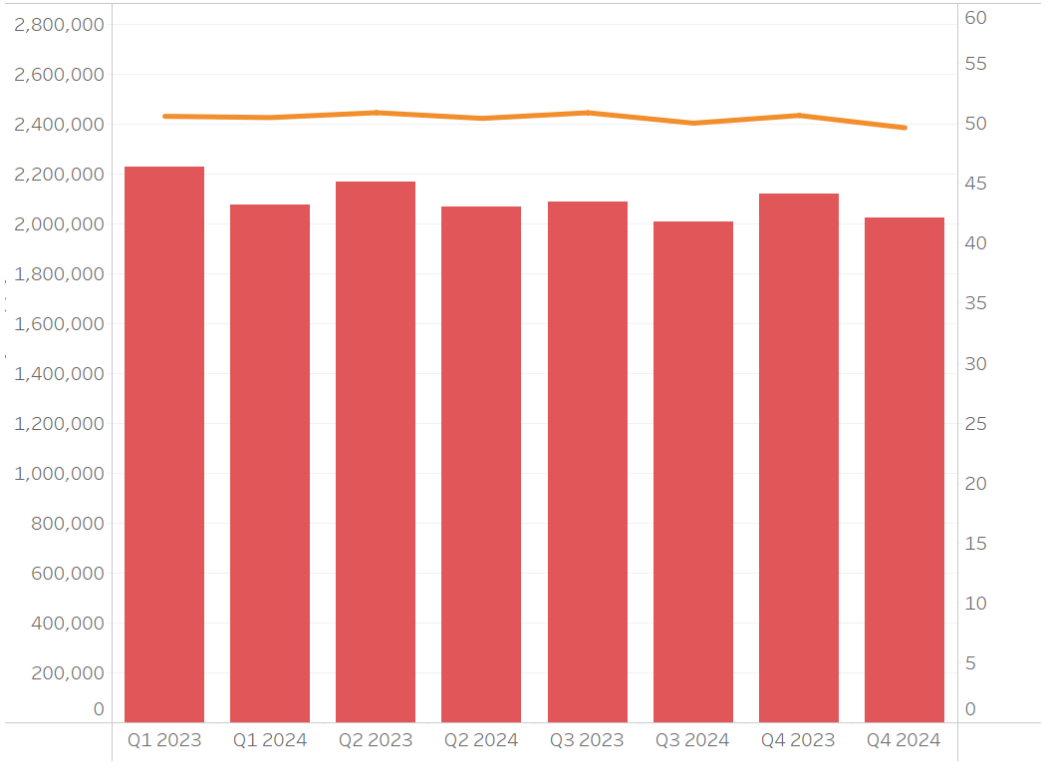
The trend of sum of Days Supply for Fiscal QQ YYYY. Color shows details about Drug Narx Type One. The data is filtered on Prescription Unit, Current Pharmacy State Abbr, Current Prescriber State Abbr, Prescriber PDMP Role, Generic Name and Fiscal Year. The Prescription Unit filter keeps each (tablets, kits, etc.). The Current Pharmacy State Abbr filter excludes Null. The Current Prescriber State Abbr filter keeps NH. The Prescriber PDMP Role filter excludes 6 members. The Generic Name filter excludes 8 members. The Fiscal Year filter excludes 2015 and 2025. The view is filtered on Drug Narx Type One and Fiscal QQ YYYY. The Drug Narx Type One filter keeps narcotic, sedative and stimulant. The Fiscal QQ YYYY filter excludes 9 members.

Opioids

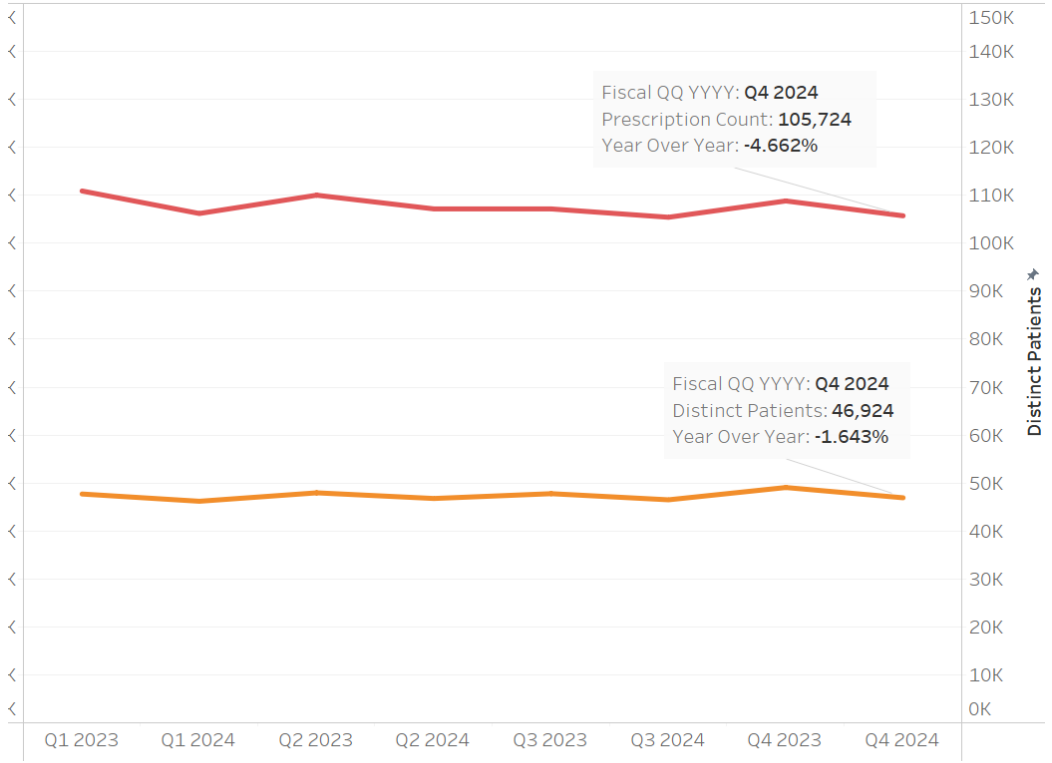
March 16, 2025

Opioid Prescription Counts, Days' Supply, and Average Daily MME (SFY 2017- SFY 2024)

***NH Residents Only**

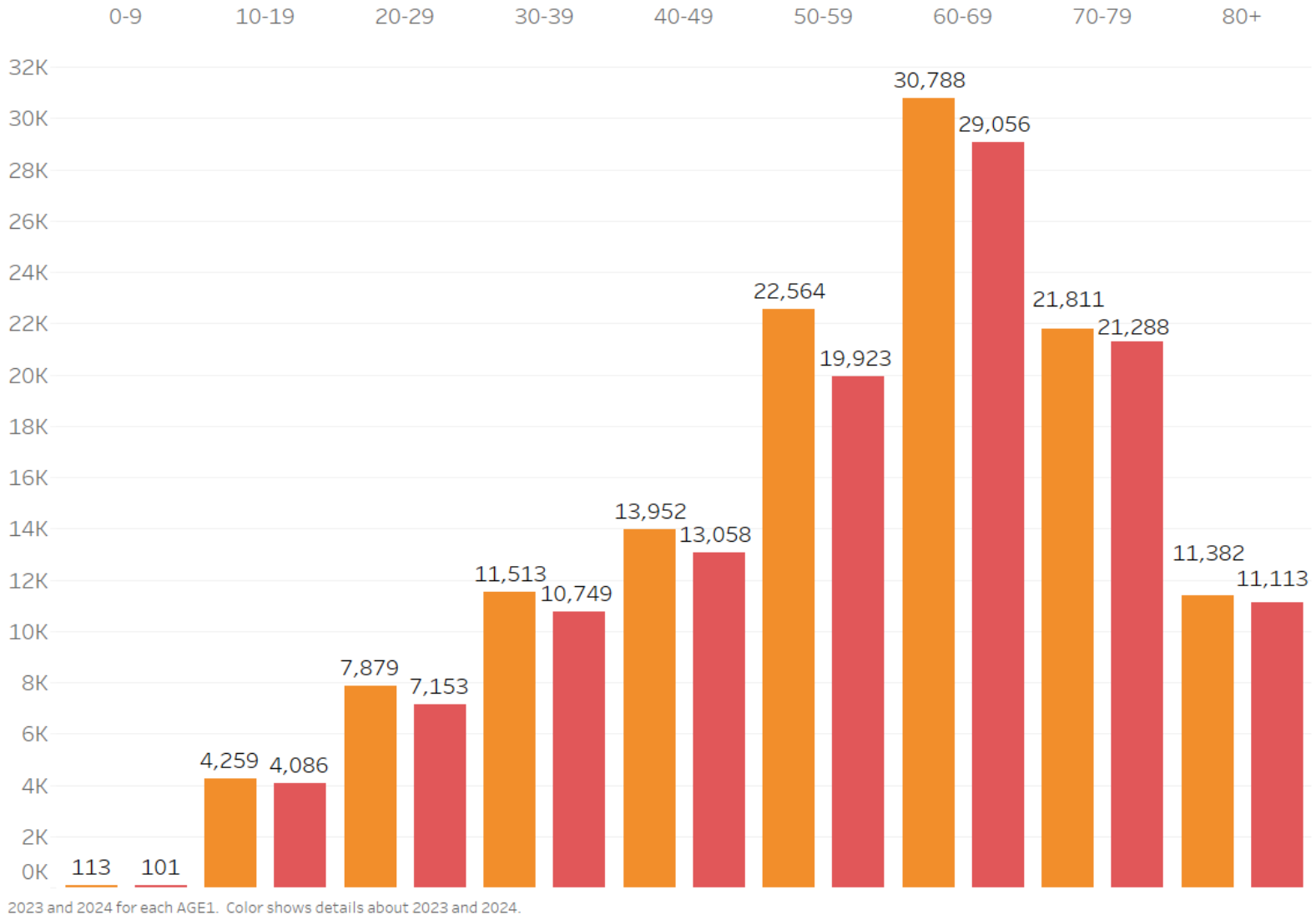


- Total days' supply of opioid prescriptions <u>decreased</u> by 9.15%
- Total daily MME <u>decreased</u> by 1.89%



- Opioid prescription counts for NH residents <u>decreased</u> by 4.6% over the reporting period
- The number of patients being prescribed opioid medications <u>decreased</u> by 1.6%

NH Resident Age at Date of Opioid Dispensation



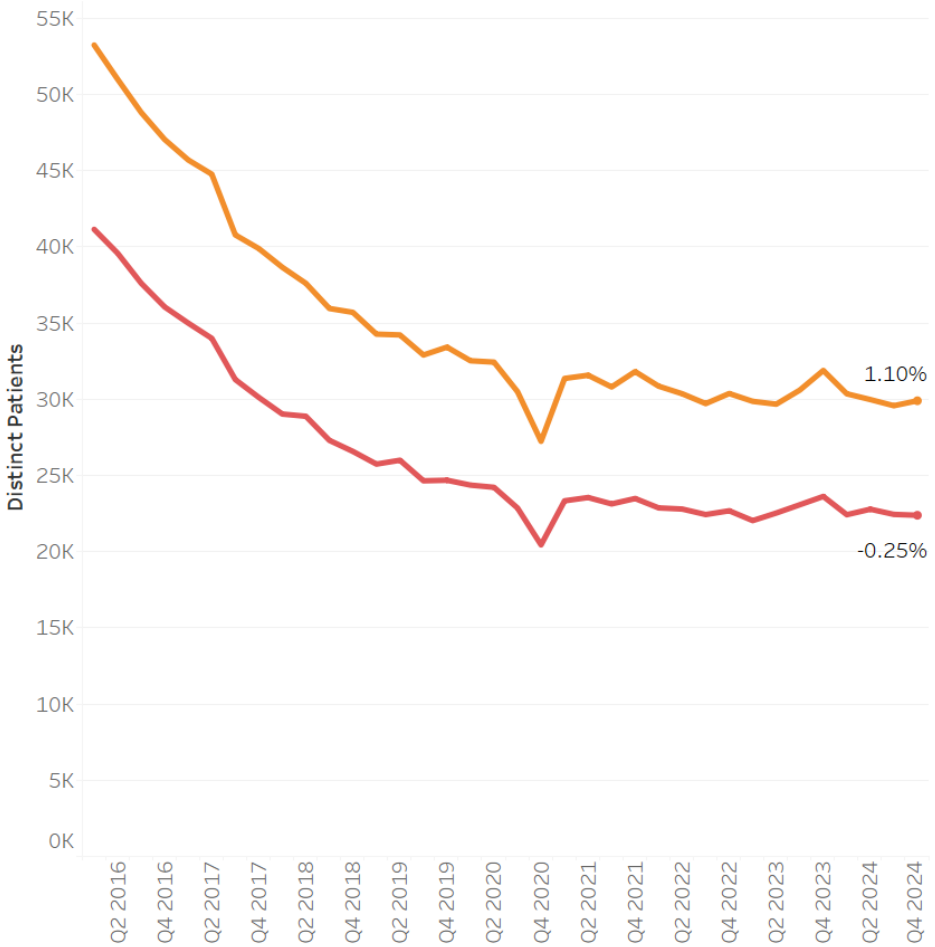
SFY 2023

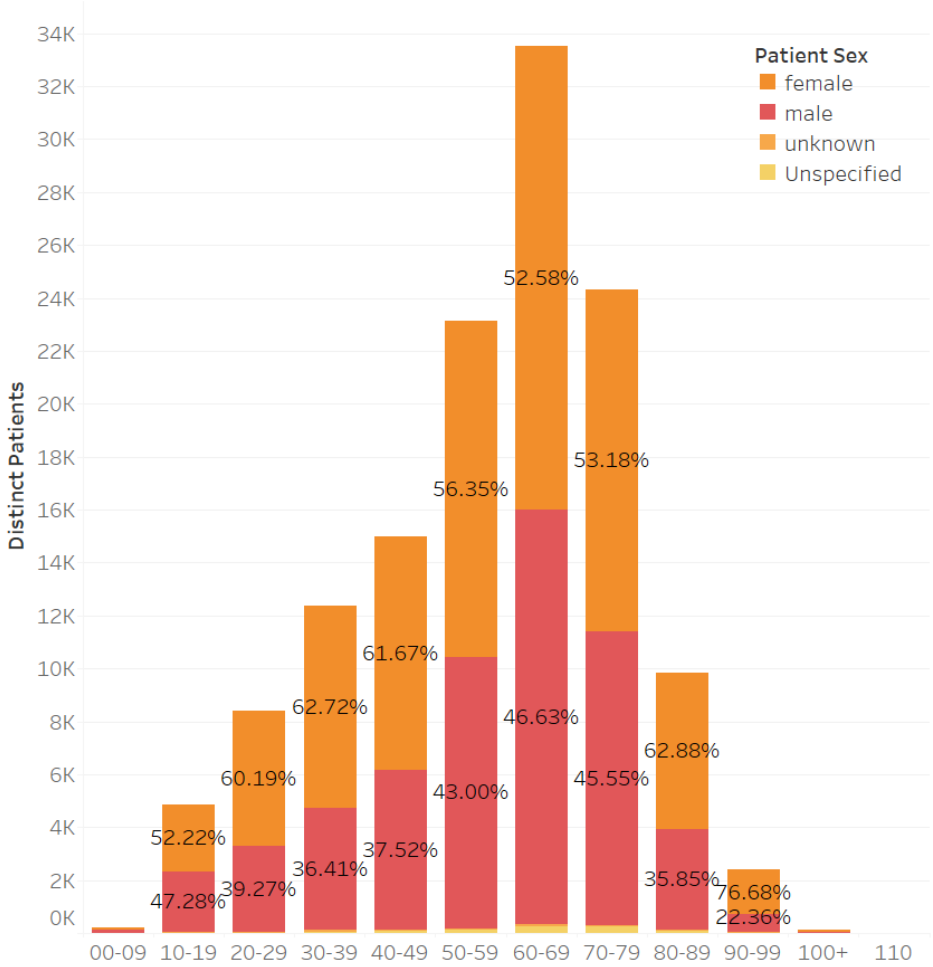
- 124,311 residents (all ages) with an opioid prescription from a NH prescriber
- 8.9% of all residents

SFY 2024

- 117,050 residents (all ages) with an opioid prescription from a NH prescriber
- 8.3% of all residents

NH Residents with an Opioid Rx by Age and Sex

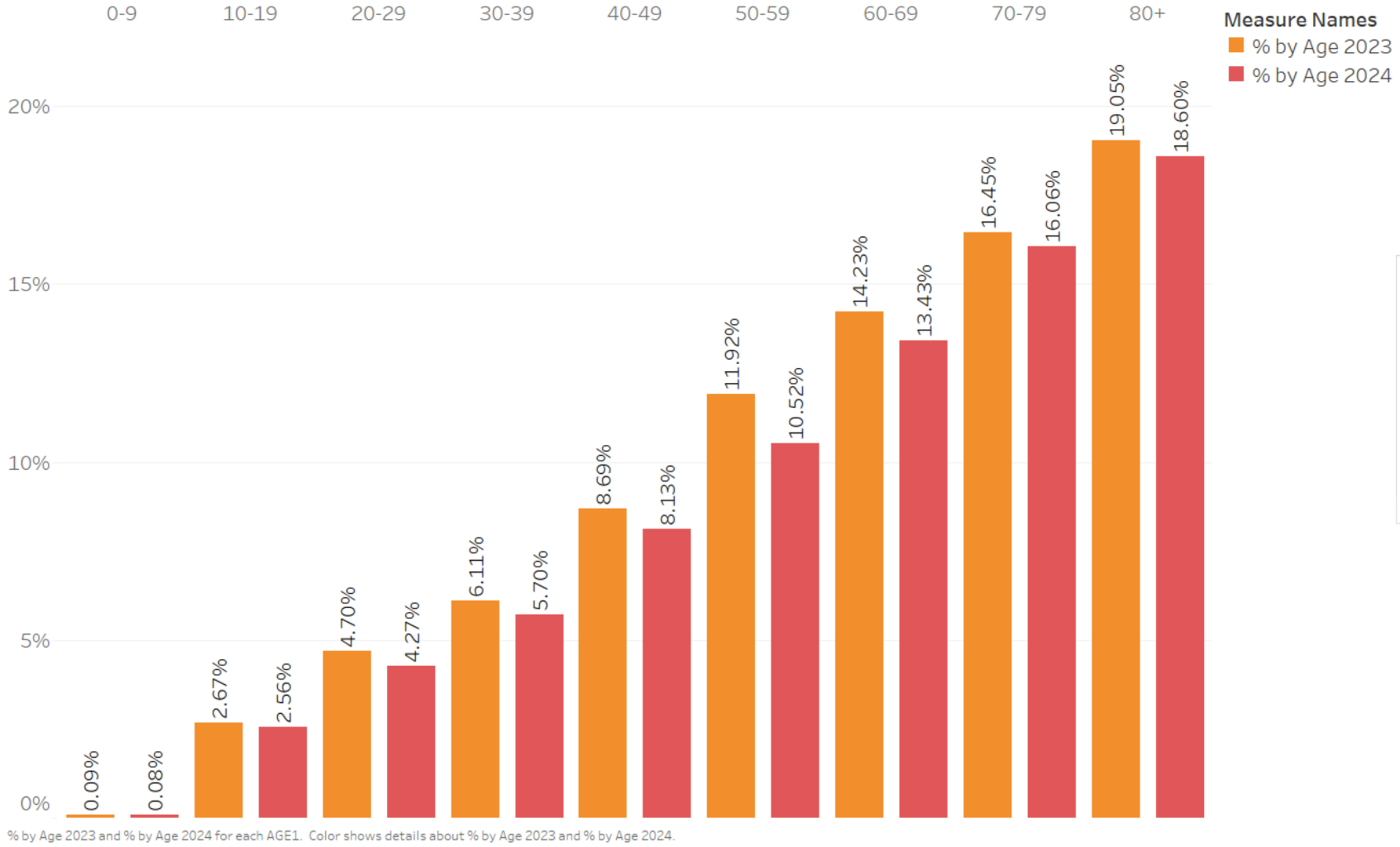




SFY 2024

- There was slight increase in the percentage of female residents with an opioid Rx in SF Q4 of 2024 though the overall trend continues to decline
- Since 2016, the rate of male and female NH residents with an opioid prescription has decreased 43.8% and 45.6% respectively

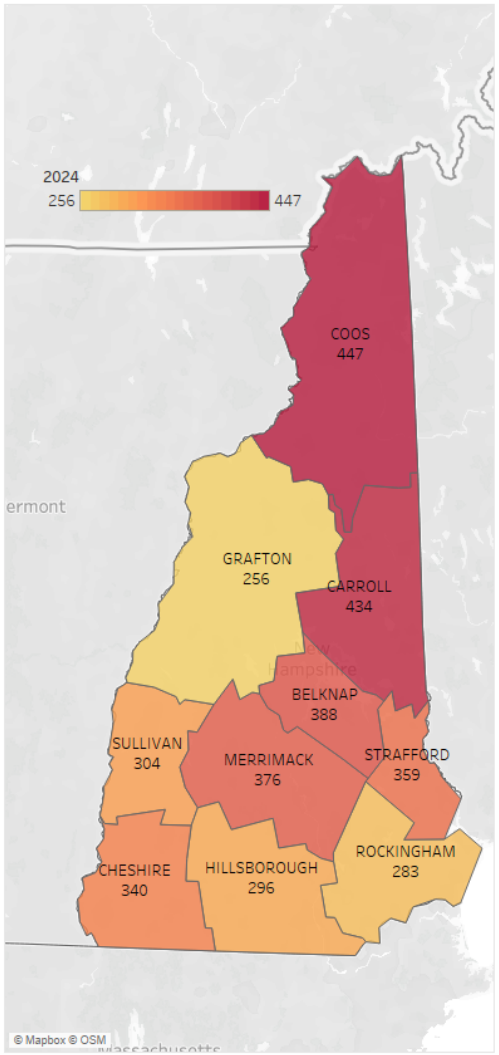
Percent of NH Residents by Age Group at Date of Opioid Dispensation

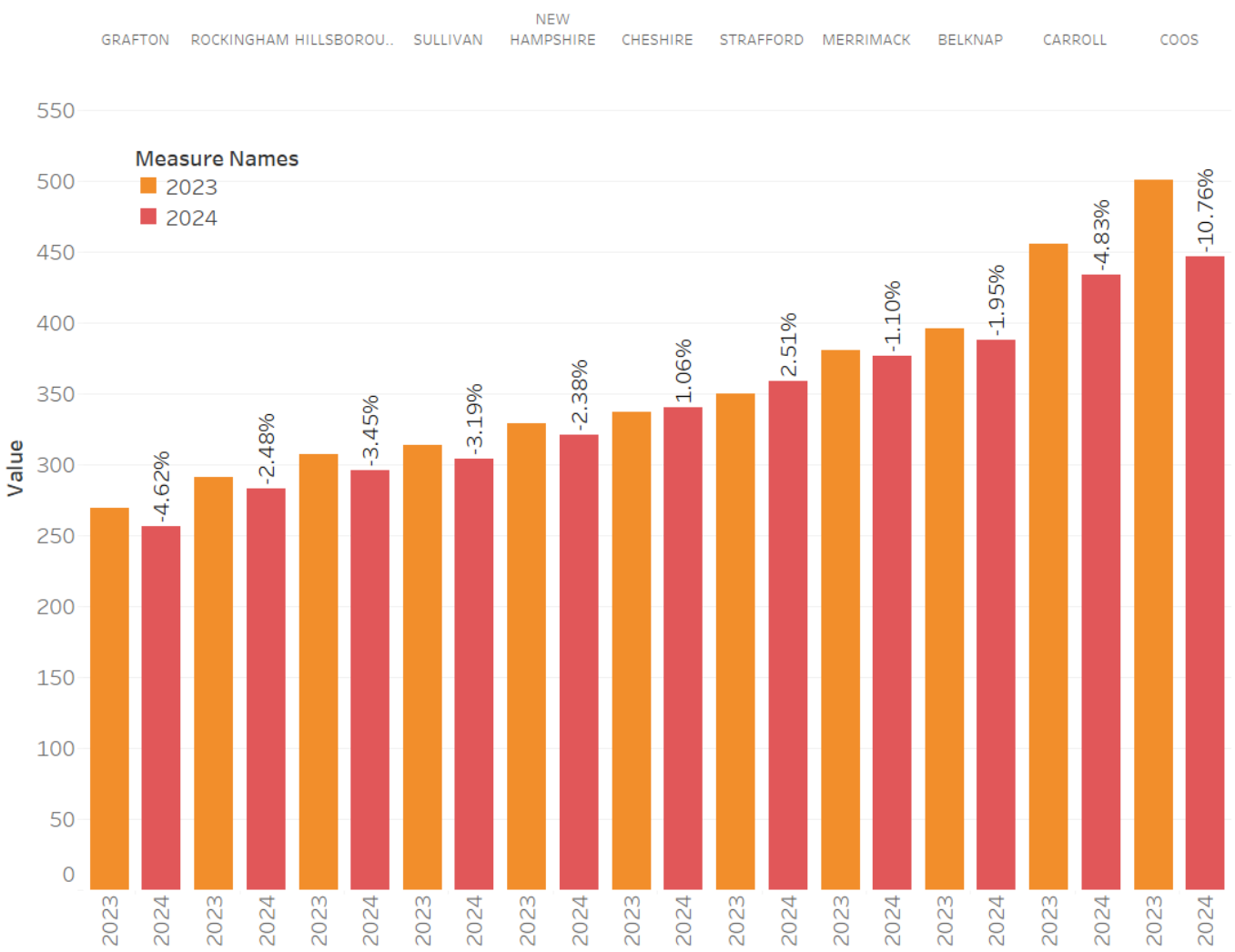


SFY 2023 – SFY 2024

- There was a decrease in the number of opioid prescriptions among NH residents in all age groups

Opioid Prescription Counts *per 1,000

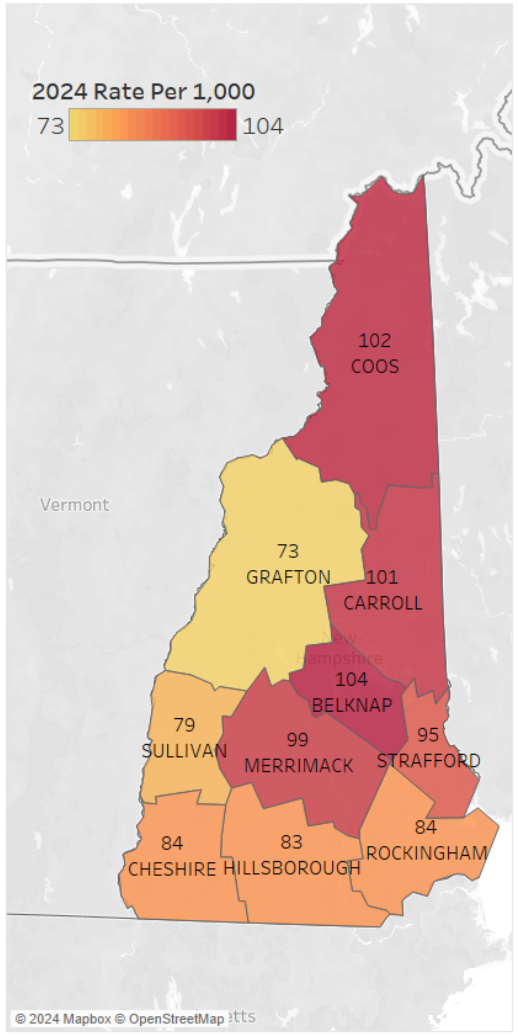


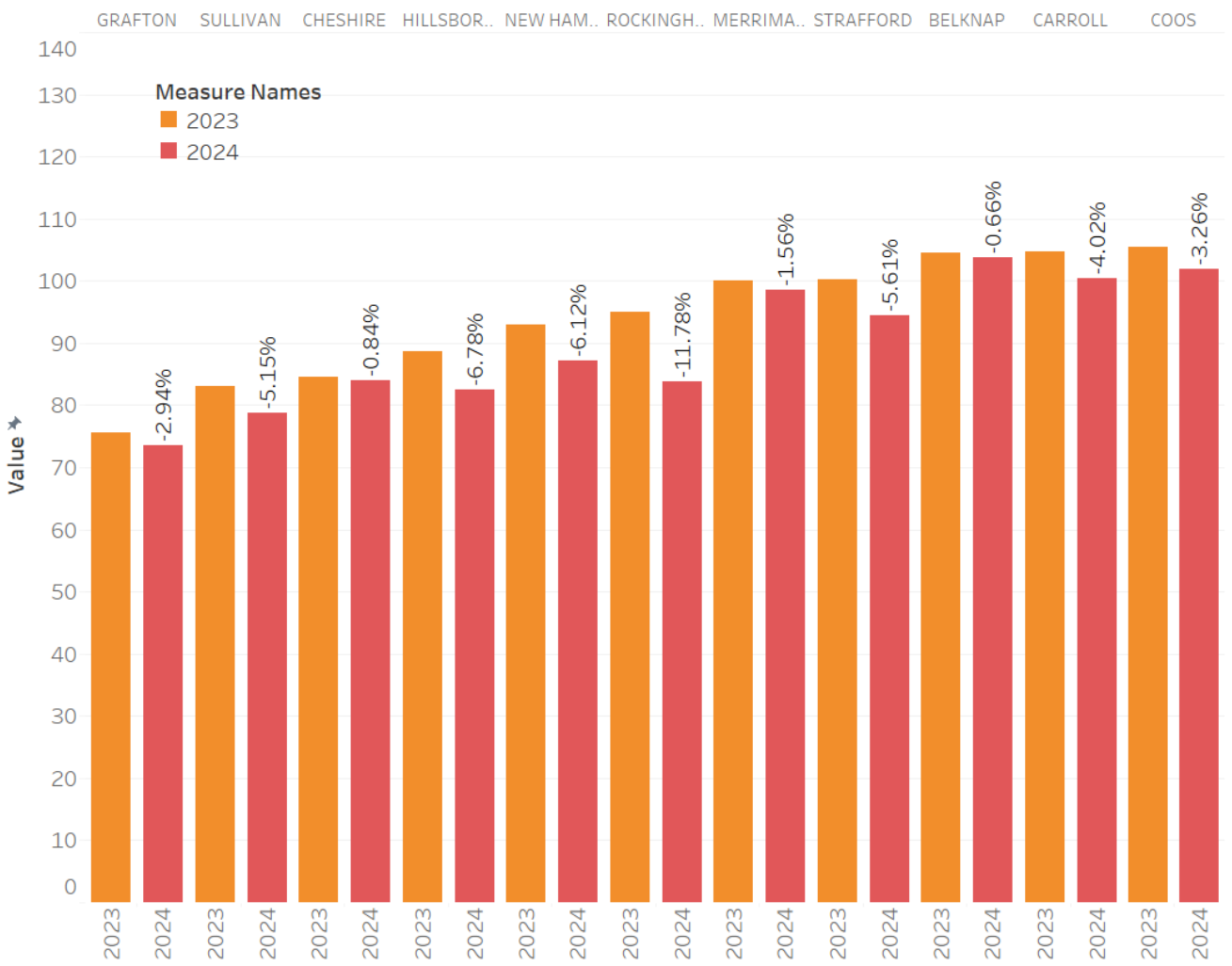


SFY 2024

- Statewide opioid prescription counts decreased by 2.38% YoY
- All counties had a decrease in opioid prescription counts

Residents with an Opioid Rx *per 1,000

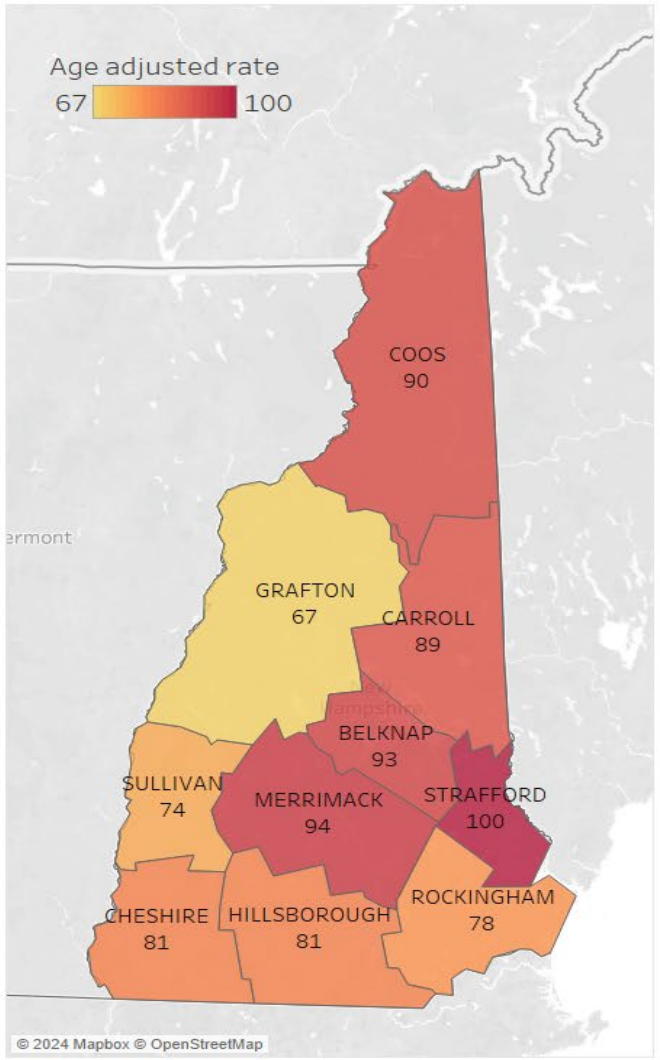




SFY 2024

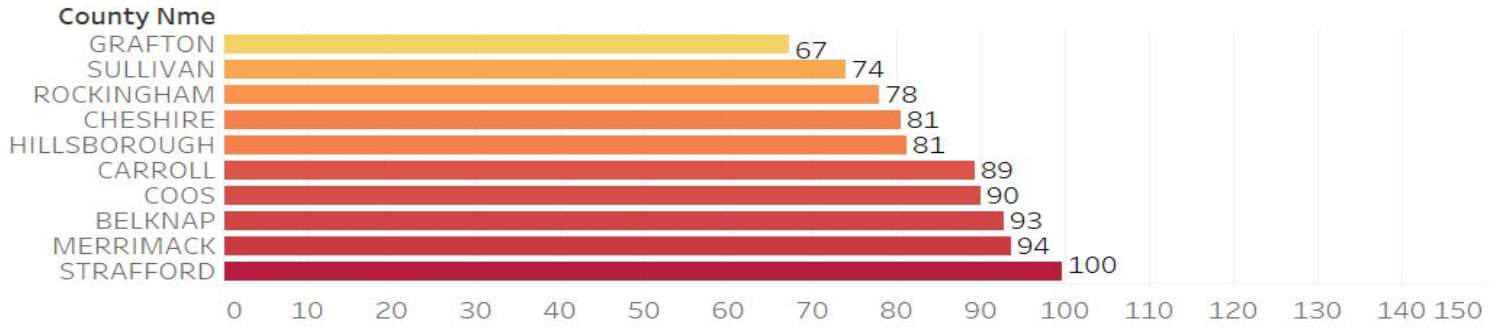
- There was a 6.1% decrease in the number of persons with an opioid Rx from SFY23 to SFY24
- All ten counties had decreases. Rockingham County had the greatest decrease of 11.8%

Age Adjusted Rate of NH Residents with an Opioid Rx *per 1,000



SFY 2024

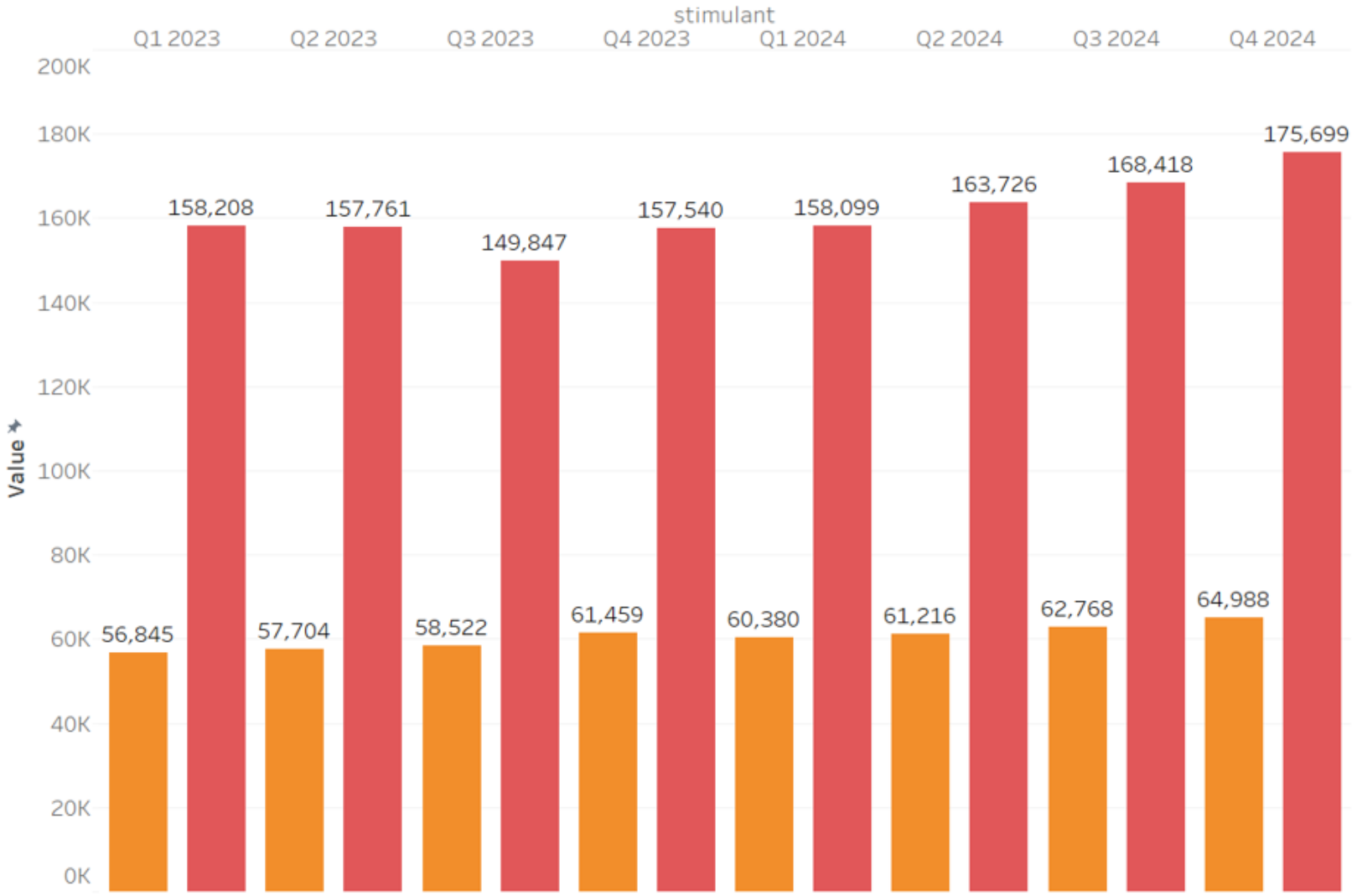
- Age adjusted rates allow communities with different population age profiles to be compared as though they were the same
- Coos county had the highest raw and age adjusted rate of residents with an opioid prescription. Once accounting for age, Strafford, Merrimack, and Belknap Counties had higher rates of residents with an opioid prescription as Coos



Stimulants

March 16, 2025

Filled Stimulant Prescription Counts (SFY 2023-2024) *NH Residents Only



SFY 2023 – SFY 2024

- Stimulant prescription counts for NH residents increased by 11.0% over the reporting period
- The number of patients being prescribed stimulant medications increased by 14.3% over the reporting period

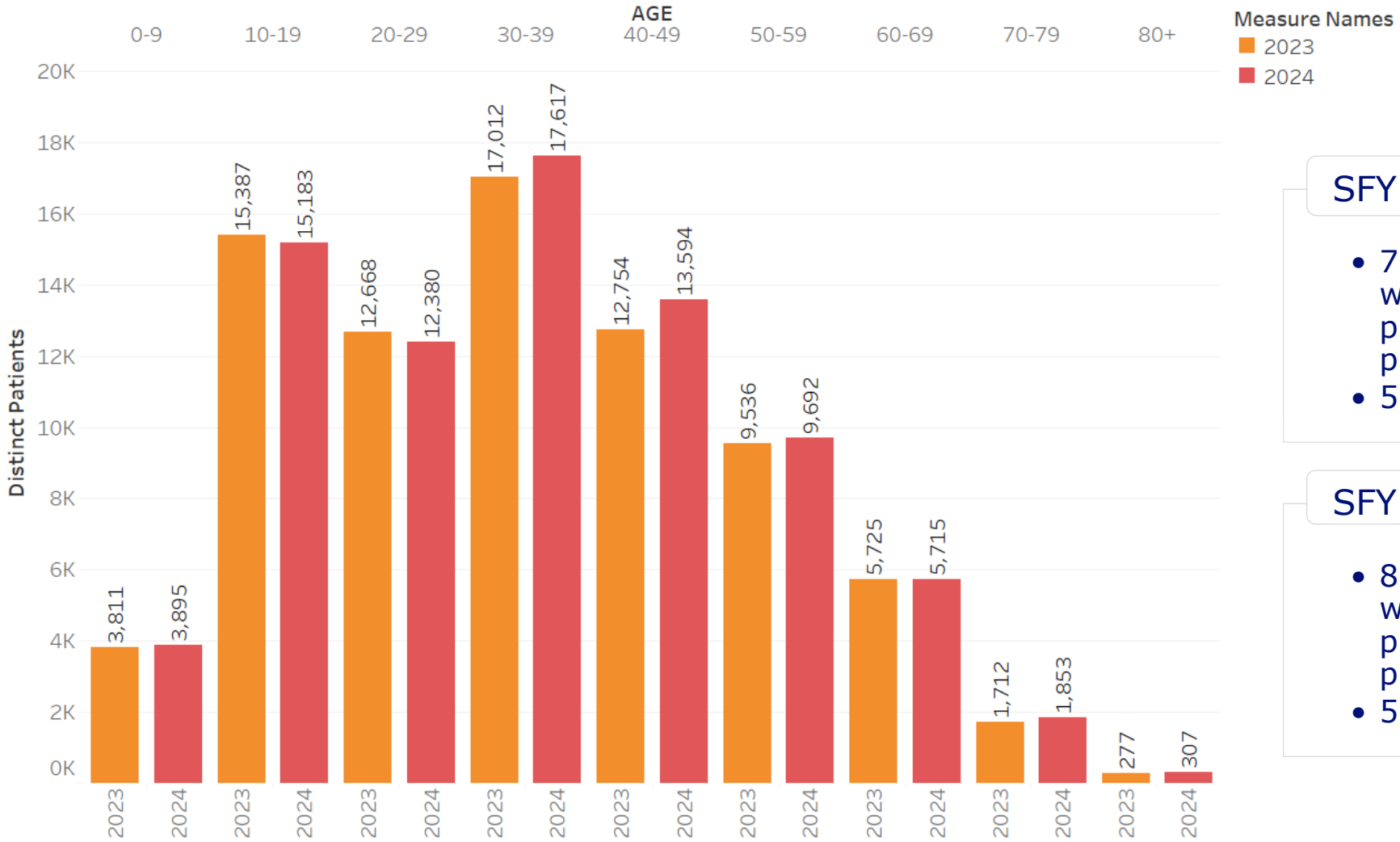
Sum and Average Days' Supply of Stimulant Prescriptions
(SFY 2023-2024) *NH Residents Only



SFY 2023 – SFY 2024

- Stimulant prescription counts for NH residents increased by 11.0% over the reporting period
- The number of patients being prescribed stimulant medications increased by 14.3% over the reporting period

NH Resident Age at Date of Stimulant Dispensation



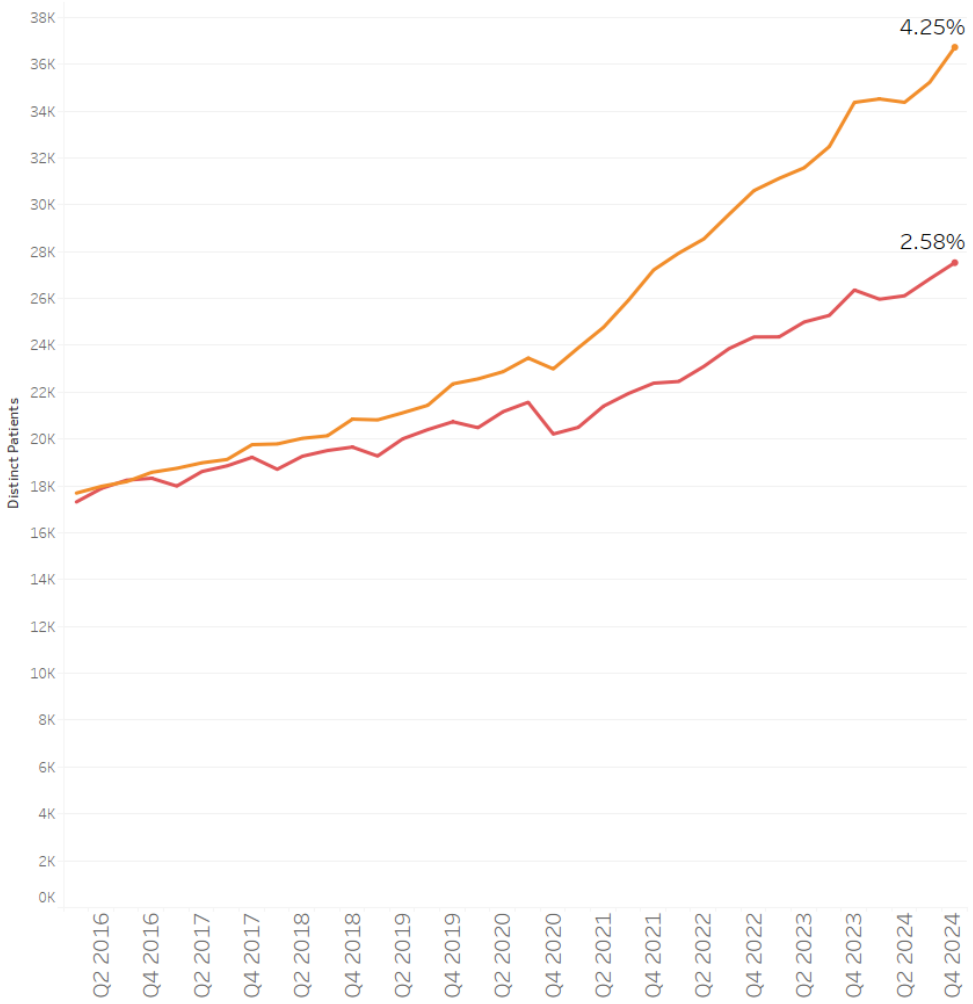
SFY 2023

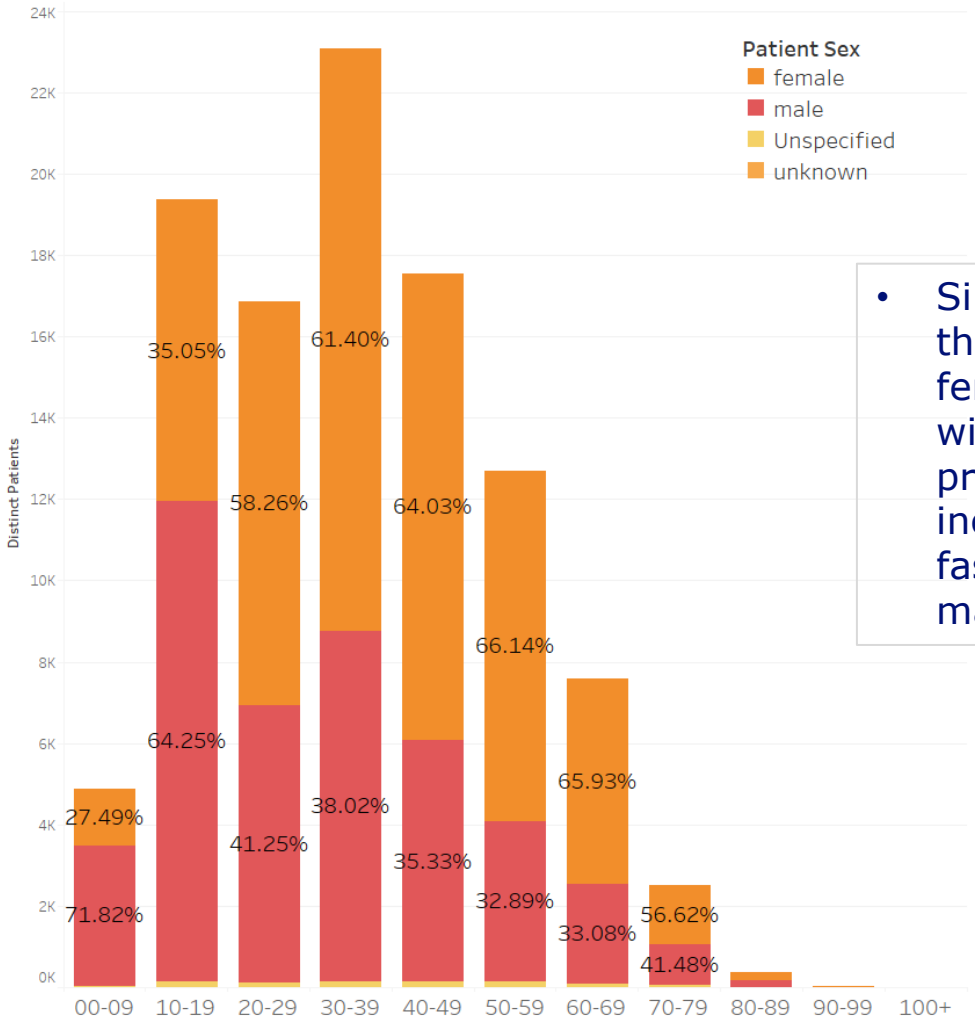
- 78,882 residents (all ages) with a stimulant prescription from a NH prescriber
- 5.6% of all NH residents

SFY 2024

- 80,236 residents (all ages) with a stimulant prescription from a NH prescriber
- 5.7 % of all residents

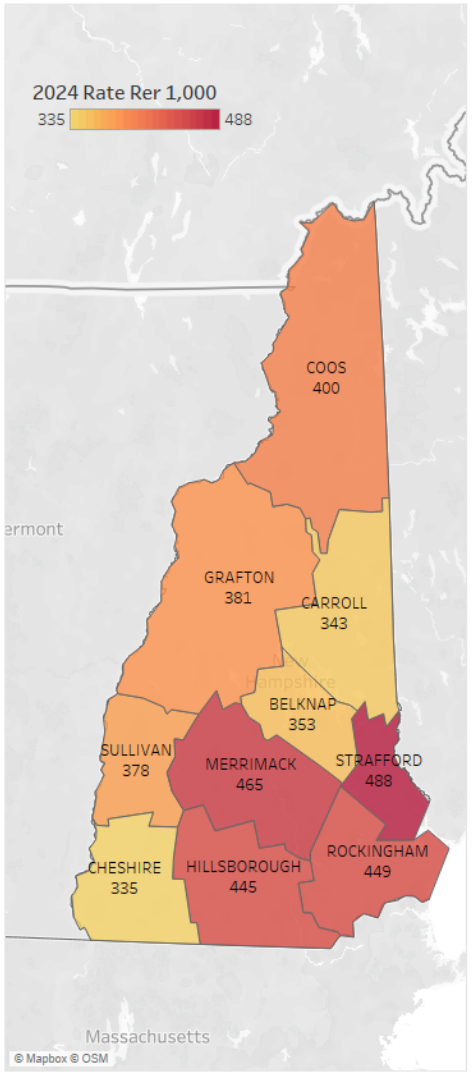
New Hampshire Residents with a Stimulant Rx by Age and Sex
(SFY 2024)

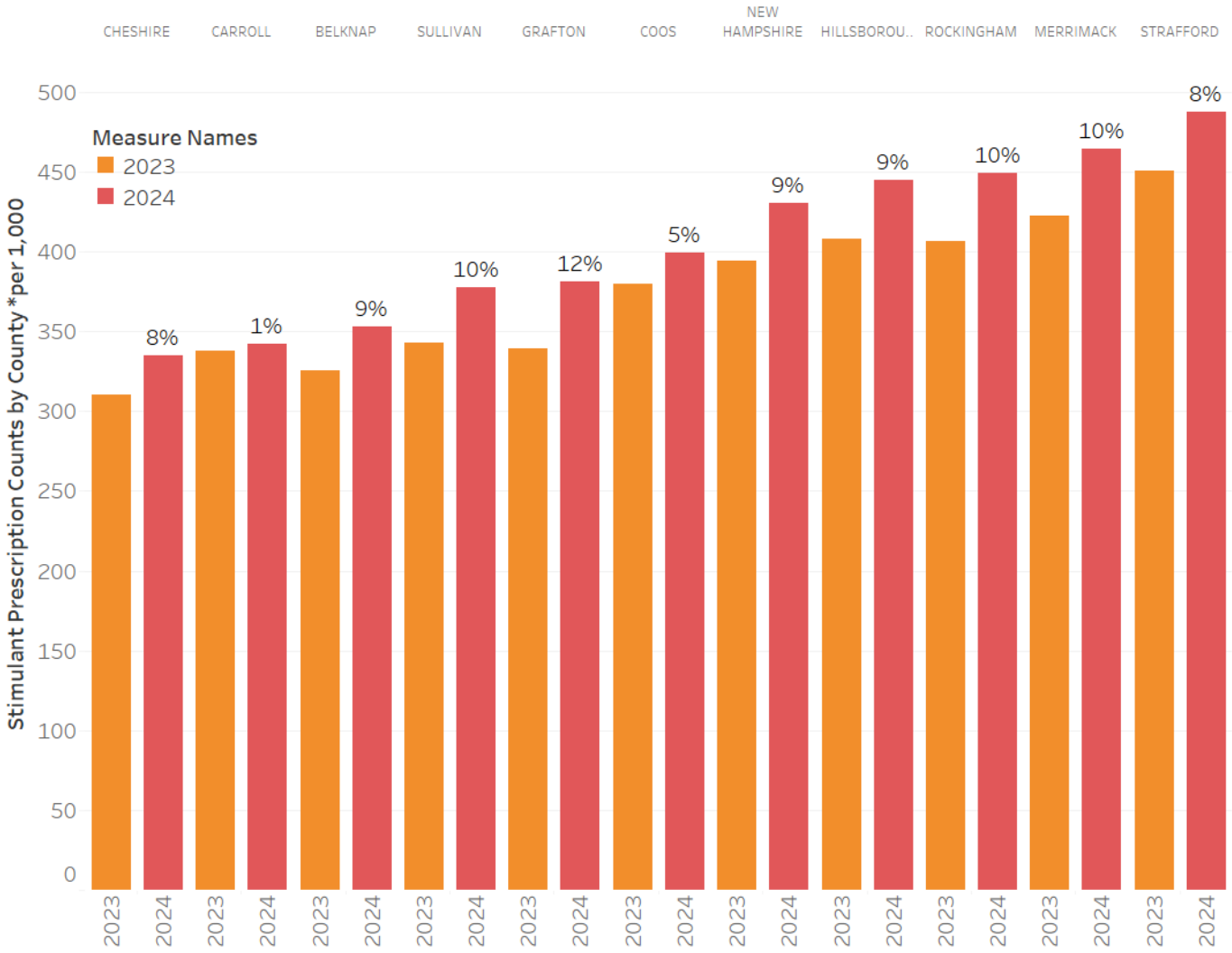




- Since mid 2020, the average rate of female residents with a stimulant prescription has increased 1.8 times faster than that of males

Stimulant Prescription Rates by County *per 1,000

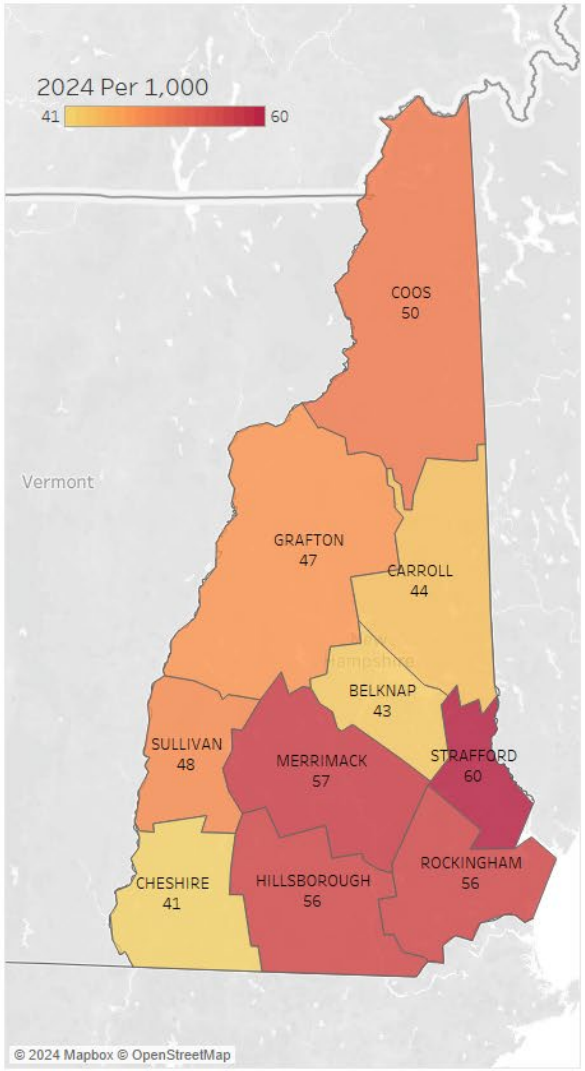


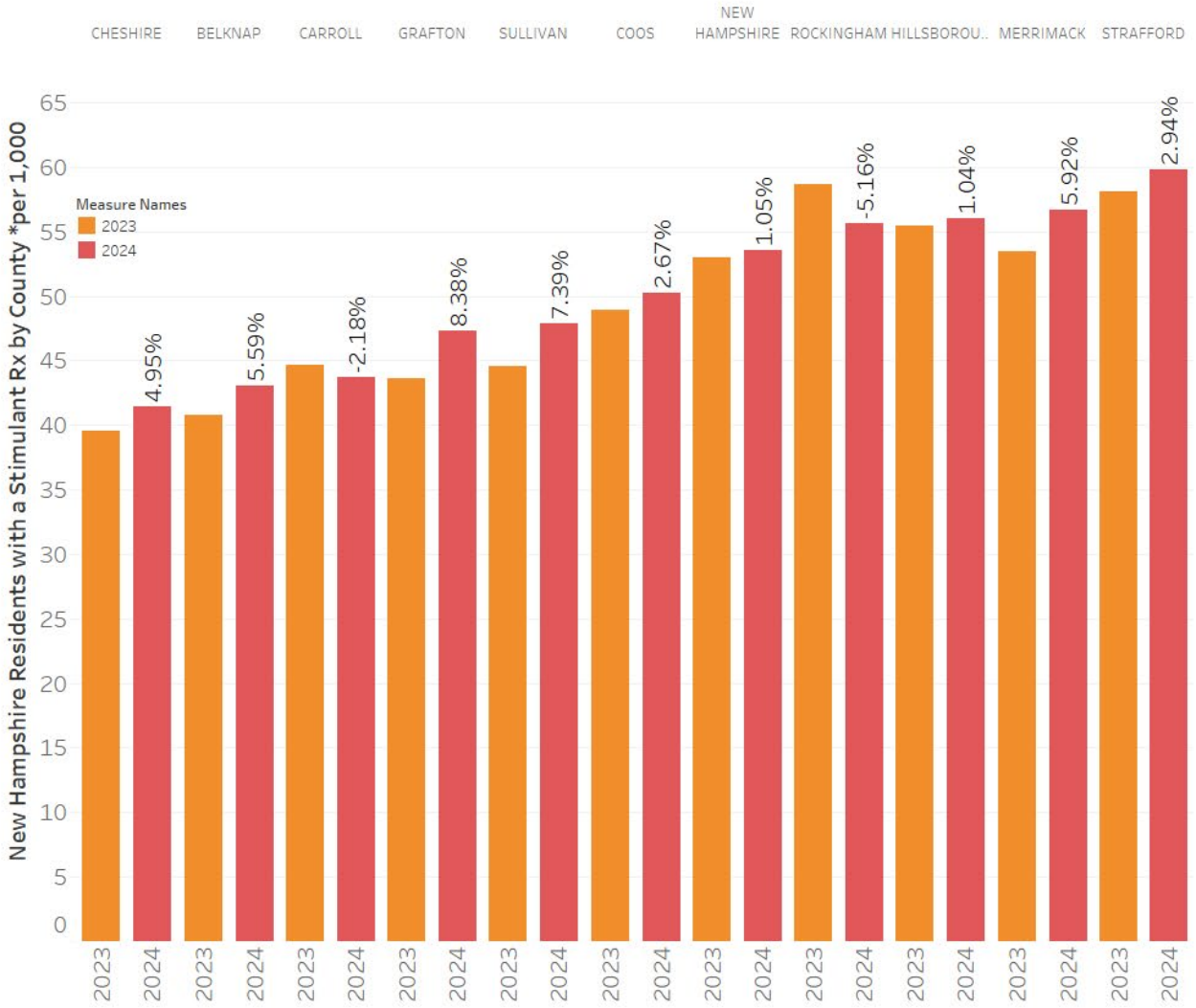


SFY 2024

- Statewide stimulant prescription rate increased by 9% YoY
- All counties had an increase in stimulant prescription rates

New Hampshire Residents with a Stimulant Rx by County *per 1,000

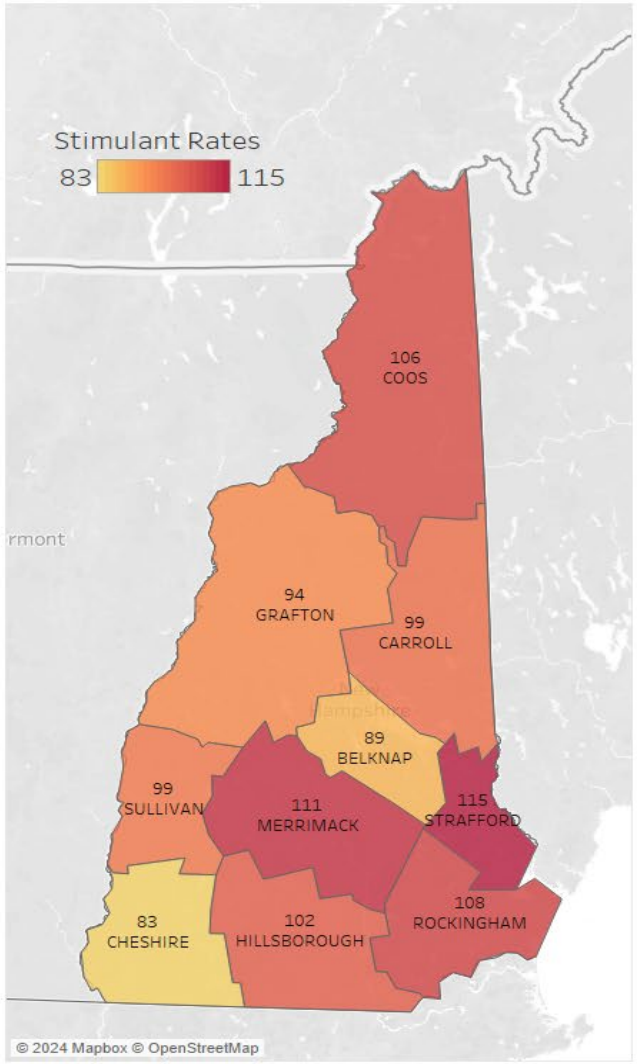




SFY 2024

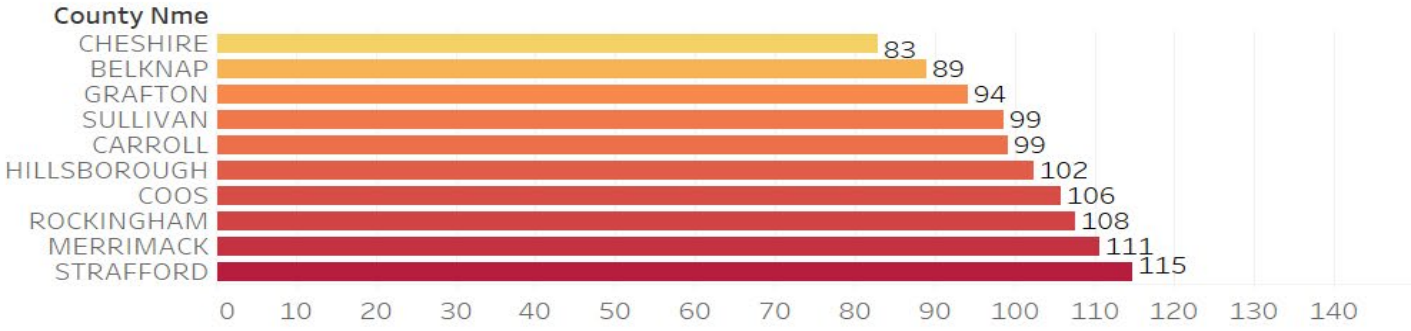
- There was a 1.05% increase in the number of persons with a stimulant Rx from SFY 2023 to SFY 2024
- 8 counties had an increase. Rockingham and Carroll Counties had a decrease

Age Adjusted Rate of NH Residents with a Stimulant Rx *per 1,000



SFY 2024

- Strafford County had the highest raw and age adjusted rates of residents with a stimulant prescription
- Once accounting for age, Strafford County's Age Adjusted Rate remained the highest in New Hampshire, but there were increased rates of residents with a stimulant prescription in Coos, and Carroll Counties
- There was also a slight decrease in the rate of residents with a stimulant prescription in Hillsborough County

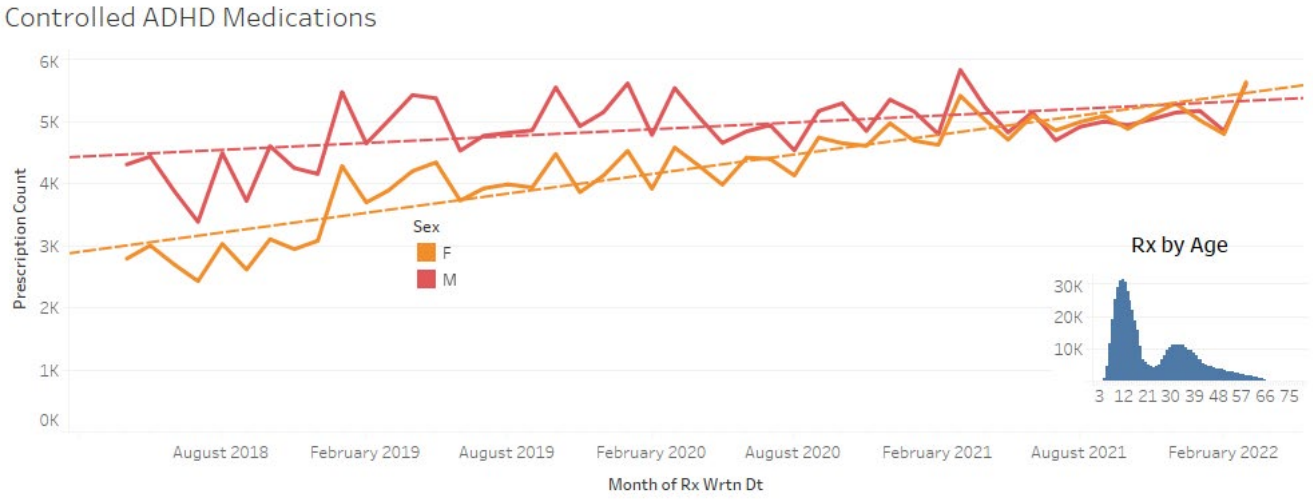


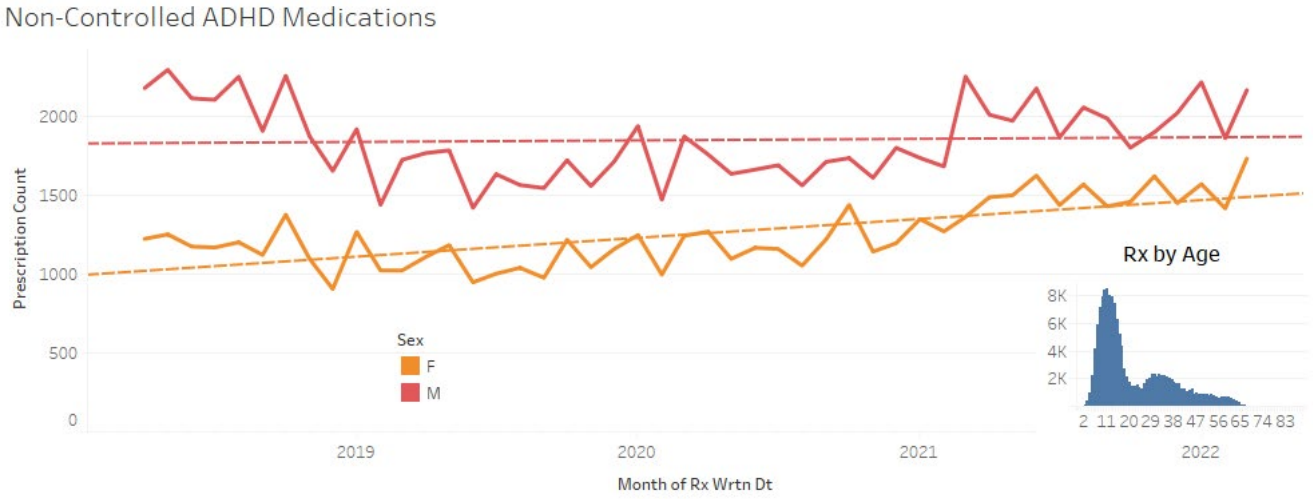
Trends in Incident Prescriptions for Behavioral Health Medications

- A recent JAMA article posed the question of how the COVID-19 pandemic was associated with trends in medication treatment initiation across various behavioral health conditions in the US.
- A key finding of that study found that "…prescriptions dispensed between April 2018 and March 2022 obtained from a US prescription database, trend in the number of incident prescriptions dispensed nationally for Schedule II (C-II) stimulant and nonstimulant medications for attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) significantly increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, exceeding prepandemic rates, notably in young adults and women. Incident prescription trends for antidepressants, benzodiazepines, and buprenorphine for opioid use disorder did not significantly change."
- The differential changes in prescription trends for ADHD cited the need for robust policies to address unmet needs while balancing public health concerns.

Chai G, Xu J, Goyal S, et al. Trends in Incident Prescriptions for Behavioral Health Medications in the US, 2018-2022. *JAMA Psychiatry.* 2024;81(4):396–405. doi:10.1001/jamapsychiatry.2023.5045

Trends in New Hampshire Incident Prescriptions for Behavioral Health Medications





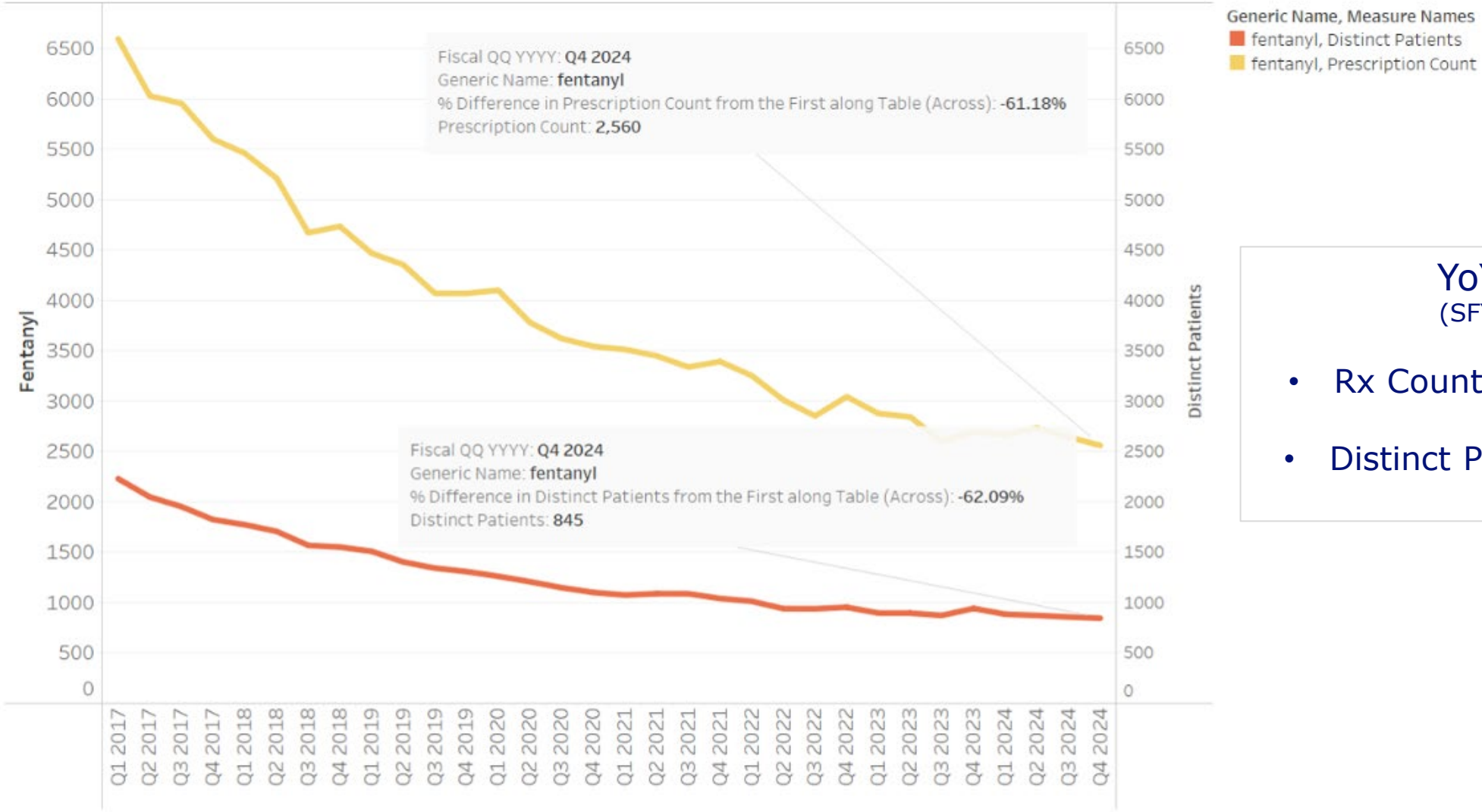
- We sought to duplicate this analysis using New Hampshire Medicaid data.
- We found that that both controlled and non-controlled dispensations for ADHD medications increased during the COVID-19 pandemic, exceeding prepandemic rates.
- It was also notable that we found the same trends in young adults and women in accordance with national numbers.

	Controlled		Non-Controlled	
Male	30%	↑	Male	slight decrease
Female	100.2%	↑	Female	42% ↑

Other Drugs of Interest

March 16, 2025

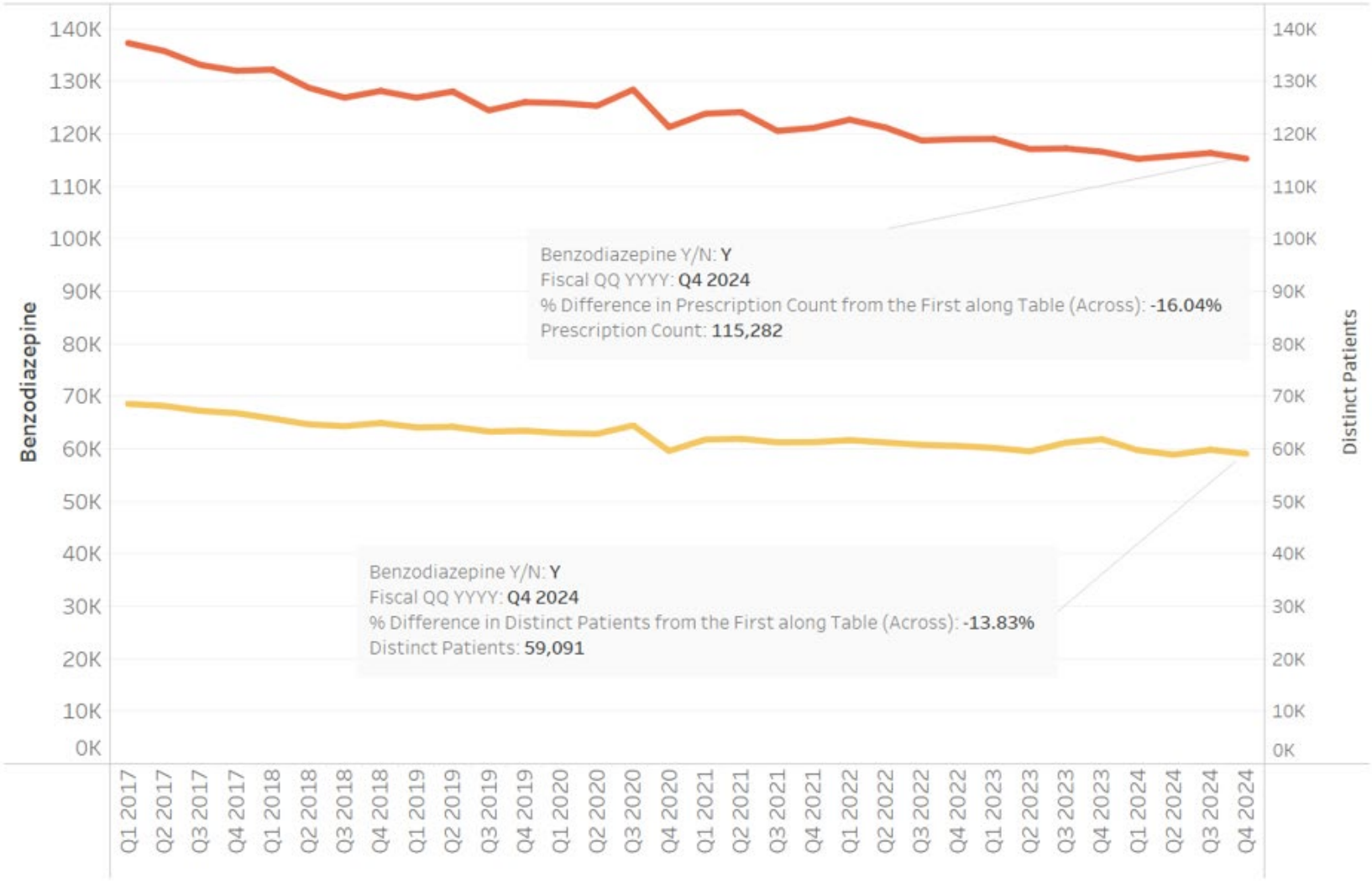
Fentanyl *NH Residents Only



YoY Change
(SFY 2023-2024)

- Rx Count ↓ -5.2%
- Distinct Patients ↓ -10.4%

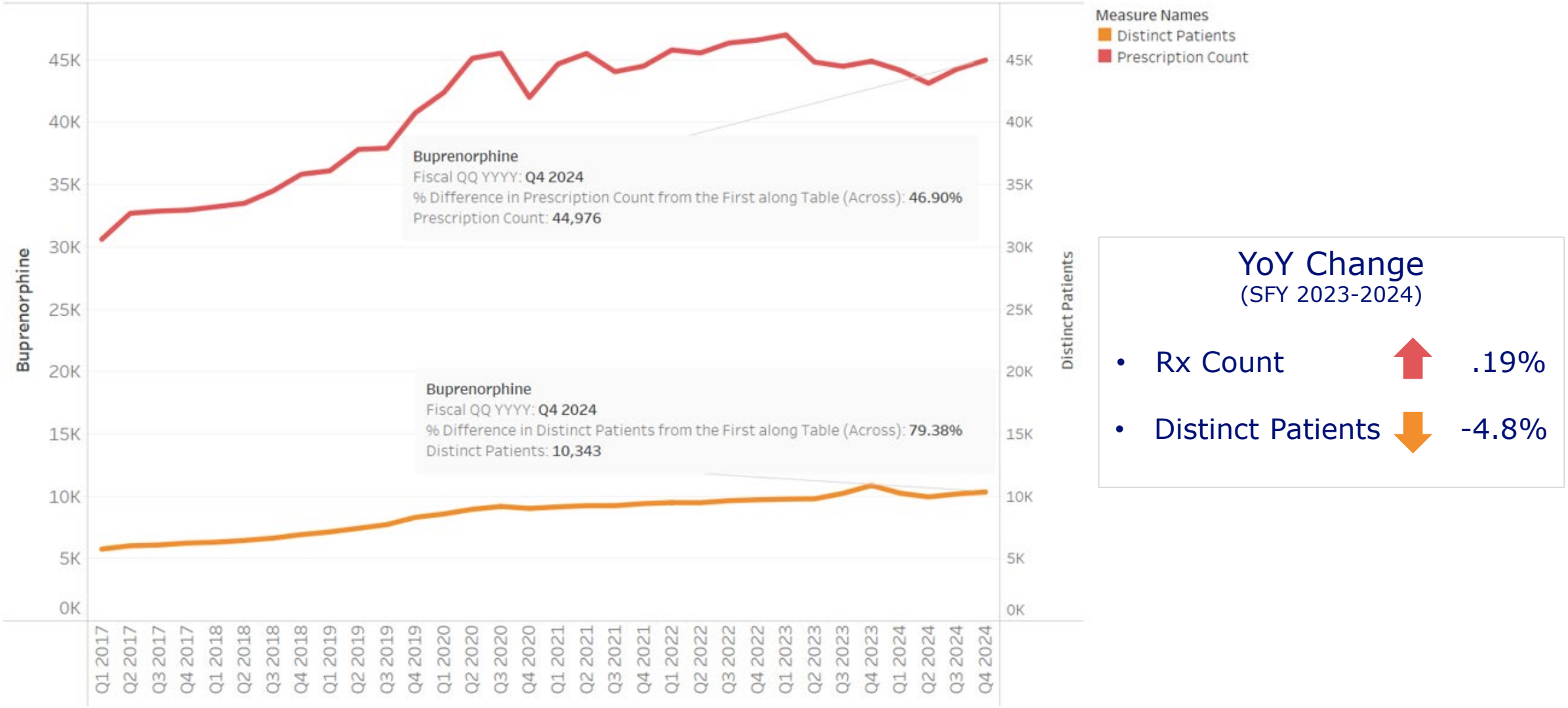
Benzodiazepine *NH Residents Only



YoY Change
(SFY 2023-2024)

- Rx Count ↓ -1.2%
- Distinct Patients ↓ -4.5%

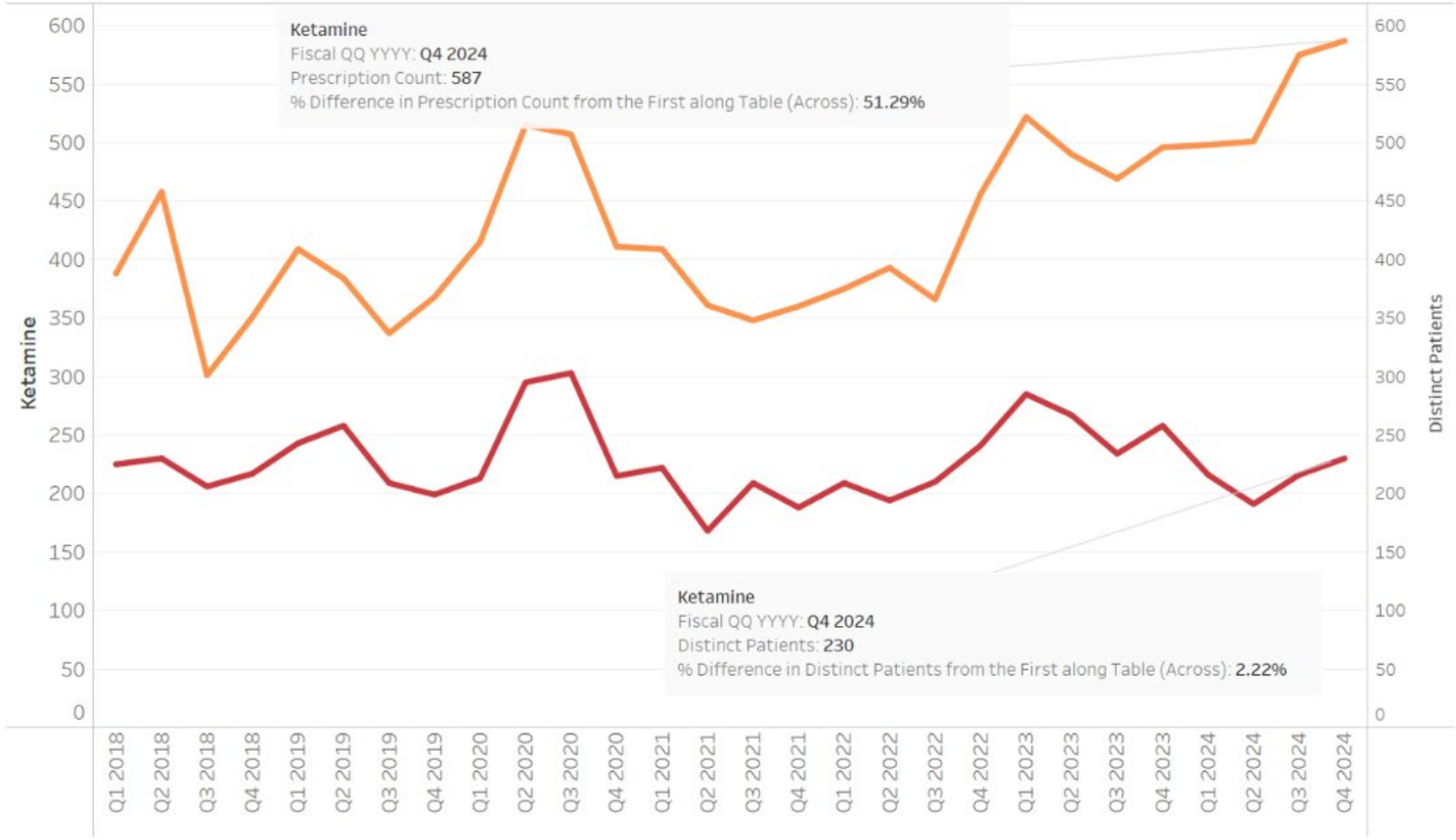
Buprenorphine *NH Residents Only



YoY Change
(SFY 2023-2024)

- Rx Count ↑ .19%
- Distinct Patients ↓ -4.8%

Ketamine/Esketamine *NH Residents Only



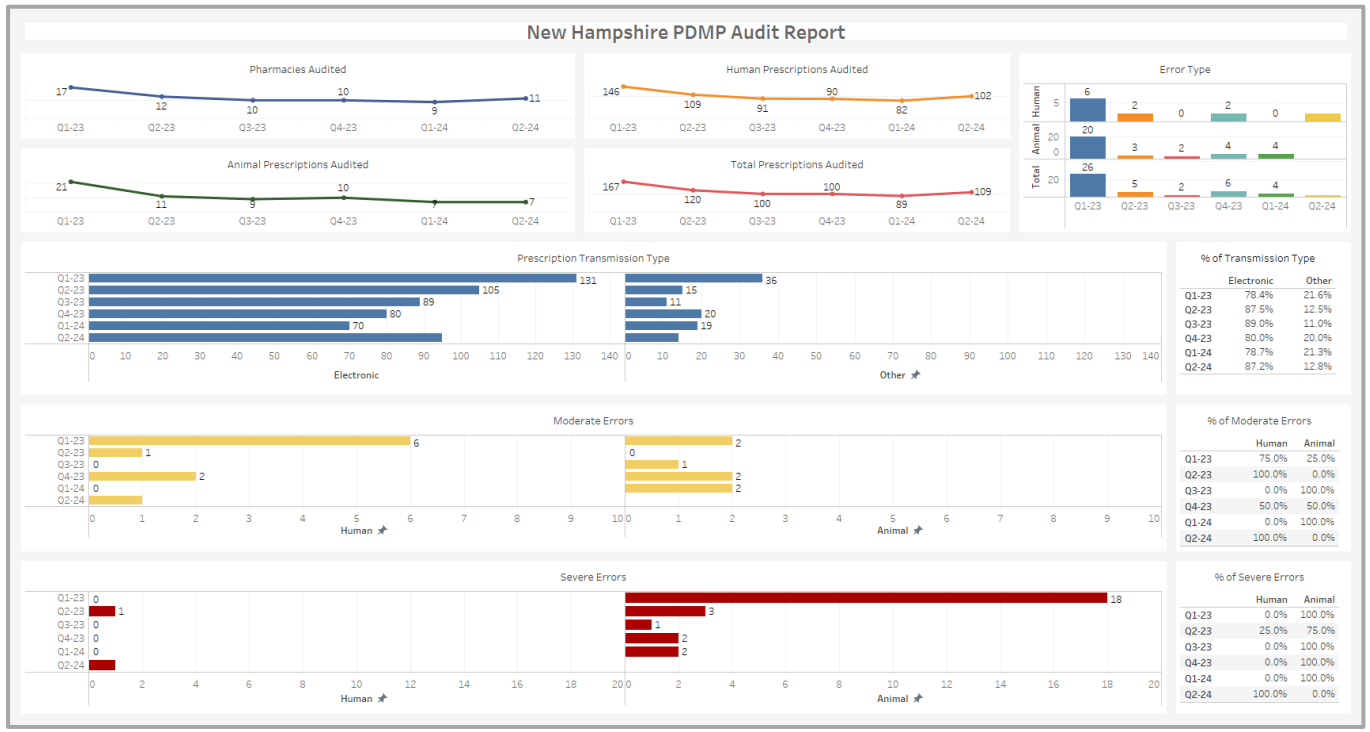
YoY Change
(SFY 2023-2024)

- Rx Count ↑ 1.8%
- Distinct Patients ↓ 10.4%

Prescription Auditing

March 16, 2025

Prescription Auditing – Error Type and Severity SFY 2024



Human

Error Type	Count of Errors	% of error type
Moderate	3	75%
Severe	1	25%
Total	**4**	**100%**

Animal

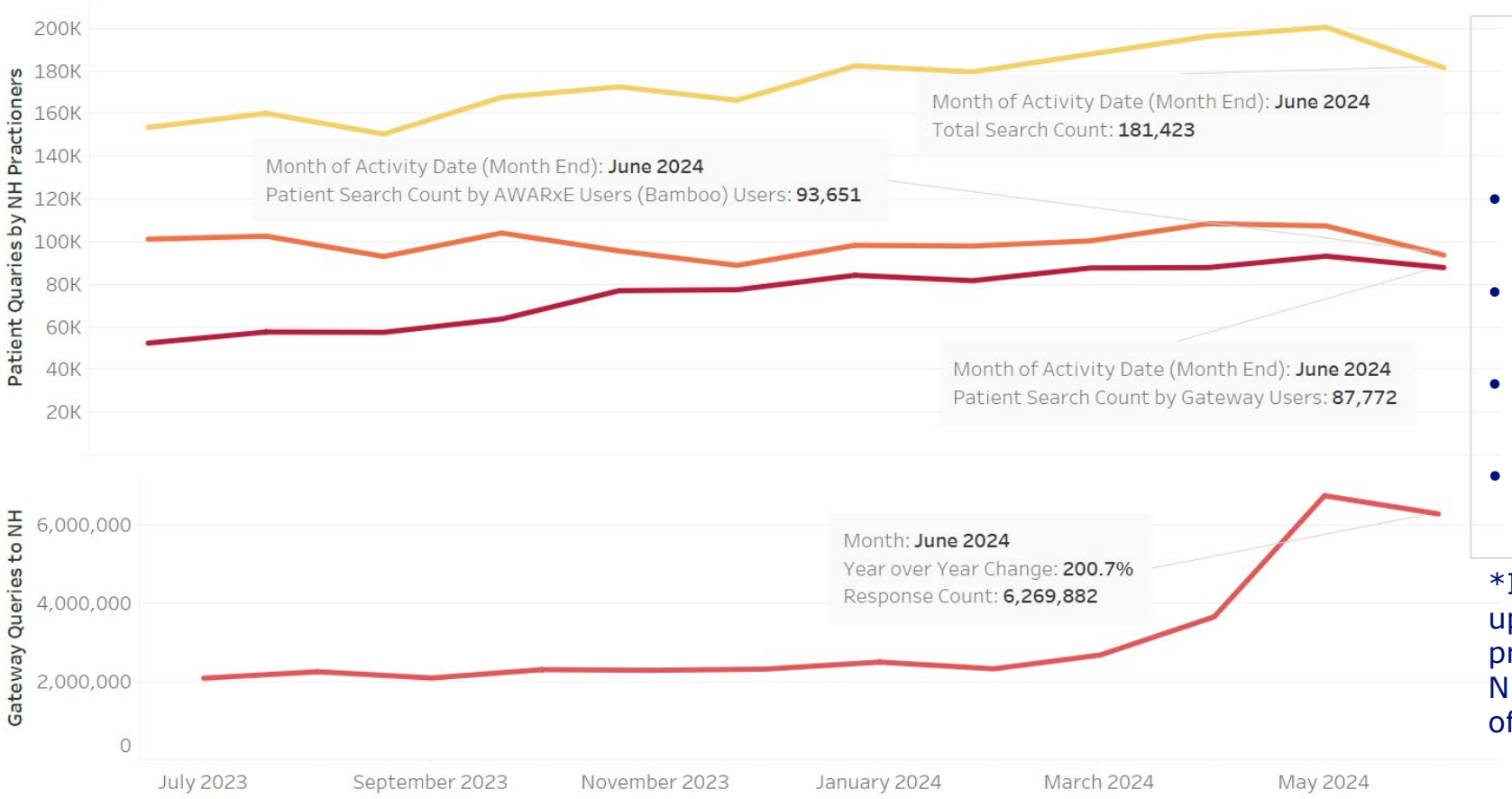
Error Type	Count of Errors	% of error type
Moderate	5	50%
Severe	5	50%
Total	**10**	**100%**

Prescription recipient	Number of Rx audited	Fields per Rx	Potential error fields	Fields with errors	Field error rate
Human	365	17	6,205	4	0.06%
Animal	33	18	594	10	1.68%
Totals	**398**	**n/a**	**6,799**	**14**	**0.21%**

User Registration

March 16, 2025

Patient Queries by NH Practitioners and Gateway Queries to NH



YoY Change in Patient Queries (SFY 2023-2024)

- Total ↑ 18%
- AWARxE ↓ 7%
- Gateway ↑ 68%
- To NH ↑ 200%

*In April of 2024, a Gateway update allowed out of state practitioners to more easily query NH residents from the EHR at time of care.

PDMP User Roles and Patient Request Activity (SFY 2024)

User Role	
Grand Total	2,097,888
Pharmacist	786,968
Prescriber Delegate - Unlicensed	630,645
Nurse Practitioner / Clinical Nurse Specialist	208,148
Physician (MD, DO)	197,396
Prescriber Delegate - Licensed	164,619
Physician Assistant	53,389
Dentist	13,252
Medical Resident with Prescriptive Authority	10,658
Pharmacist's Delegate - Unlicensed	9,702
Pharmacist's Delegate - Licensed	7,211
VA Prescriber	6,631
VA Dispenser	5,147
Pharmacist in Charge	1,694
Podiatrist (DPM)	1,337
COVID19 Prescriber Out of State	465
COVID19 Pharmacist Out of State	452
Naturopathic Physician	67
Medical Examiner/Coroner	65
Veterinarian	29
Optometrist	7
Medical Examiner - Delegate	6

SFY 2024

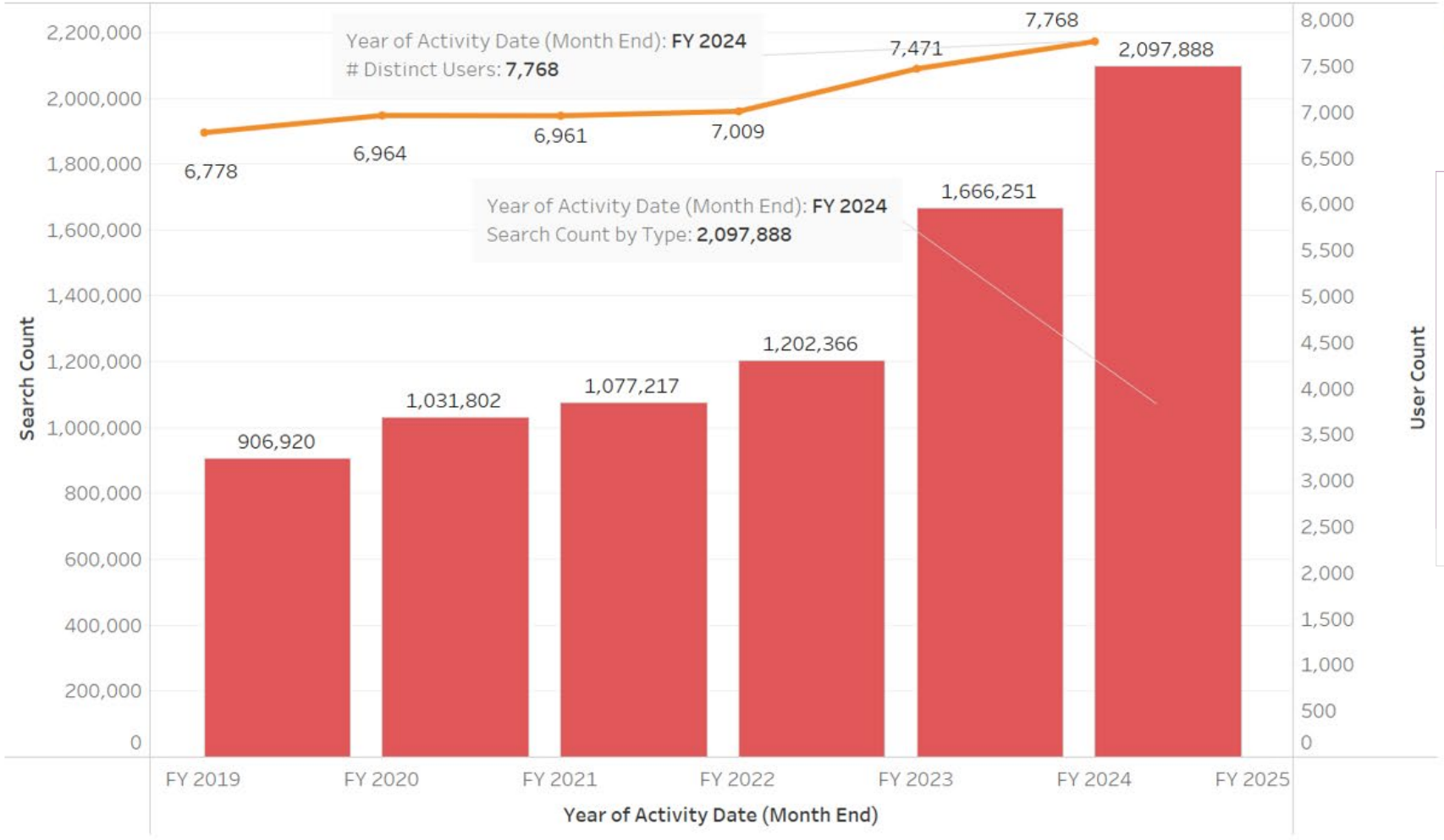
- Prescriber delegates (licensed and unlicensed) accounted for the highest amount of patient searches



SFY 2024

- Patient searches have increased roughly 18% between SFY 2023 and SFY 2024

Patient Search Counts and Count of Users Making the Searches



SFY 2023 – SFY 2024

- Patient searches have increased each year since inception.
- The average number of searches per user has increased from 134 in SFY 2019 to 270 in SFY 2024

Upcoming PDMP Initiatives

Every Patient Every Appointment Campaign

- Increase utilization of PDMP for non mandatory appointments to prevent unwanted medication interactions
  - Buprenorphine interacts with common non-controlled prescriptions like Lisinopril, erythromycin, ciprofloxacin, albuterol
  - Academic detailing to be performed by OD2A partner Alosa Health

Complimentary Treatment Referrals Campaign

- Increase referrals to complementary interventions when prescribing opioids.
  - Physical activity programs for those with chronic musculoskeletal conditions like Enhance Fitness, Tai Ji Quan, Walk With Ease
  - Behavioral health interventions for chronic non-musculoskeletal pain conditions like Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, Chronic Pain Self-Management Program
  - Partnership with Alosa Health and NH Arthritis Program



Thank you. Questions?

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