

Appalachian Diseases of Despair Report

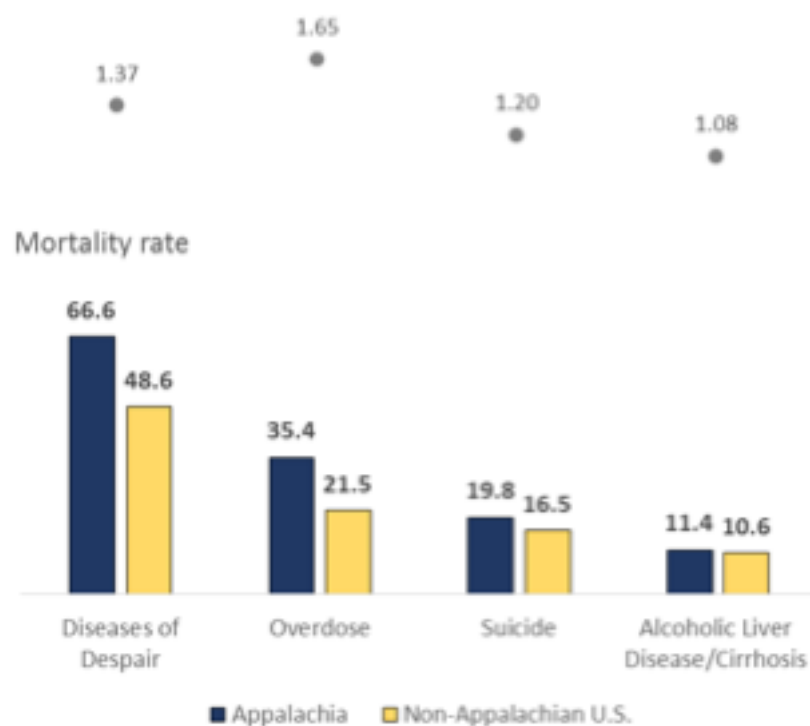
- In 2017, NORC conducted a study on behalf of ARC titled “Appalachian Diseases of Despair”¹
- Study included an analysis of 2015 mortality data among individuals ages 15 to 64 for the following causes of death (“diseases of despair”):
 - **Overdose** (Alcohol poisonings and overdoses of prescription and illegal drugs – accidental and intent-underdetermined deaths)
 - **Suicide**
 - **Alcoholic liver disease/cirrhosis**

¹https://www.arc.gov/assets/research_reports/AppalachianDiseasesofDespairAugust2017.pdf

Findings – Appalachia vs. Non-Appalachian U.S.

*Diseases of despair mortality rates, ages 15–64, by disease and region (2015)‡**

Mortality Ratio: Appalachia to Non-Appalachian U.S.



‡Rates are presented as deaths per 100,000 population. Rates are age adjusted.

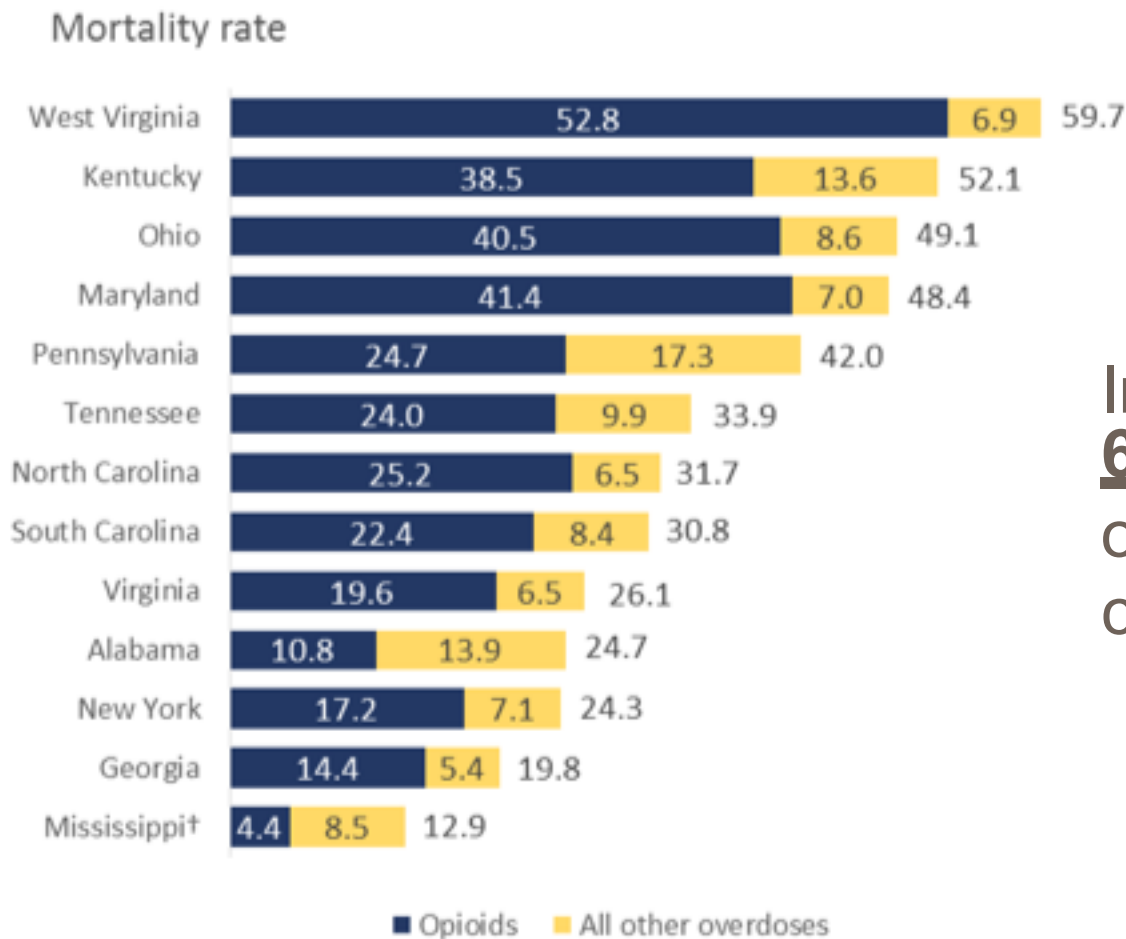
*For all diseases, the Appalachian rate is significantly different from the non-Appalachian U.S. rate, $p \leq 0.05$

Source: Mortality Rates and Standard Errors provided by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd-icd10.html>

- In 2015, **11,187** deaths in Appalachia among 15 to 64 year olds were attributable to diseases of despair:
 - **5,594** overdose deaths
 - **3,297** suicide deaths
 - **2,296** liver disease deaths
- Combined mortality rate from diseases of despair was **37% higher** in Appalachia than the rest of the nation.
- Overdose mortality rate was **65% higher** in Appalachia than the rest of the nation.

Findings – Overdose Deaths

Overdose mortality rates, ages 15-64, by state[^] and type of overdose (2015)[‡]



In 2015, in Appalachia, **69%** or **3,859** of the overdose deaths were caused by opioids.

[^]For states within Appalachia, only the mortality rates for the Appalachian counties are shown.

[‡]Rates are presented as deaths per 100,000 population. Rates are age adjusted.

[†]Due to small number of deaths, opioid mortality rate is unreliable and not age adjusted.

Source: Mortality Rates and Standard Errors provided by Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, National Center for Health Statistics. Accessed at <http://wonder.cdc.gov/mcd-icd10.html>

Appalachian Overdose Mapping Tool

- In partnership with ARC, NORC developed the Appalachian Overdose Mapping Tool – overdosemappingtool.norc.org

Drug Overdose Deaths in Appalachia

SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC

- Race / Ethnicity
- Age
- Educational Attainment
- Disability Status

ECONOMIC

- Median Household Income
- Poverty Rate
- Unemployment Rate
- Accident-prone Employment

← LIST OF COUNTIES

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To better understand the Appalachian opioid crisis and inform effective conversations and interventions...

NORC at the University of Chicago and the Appalachian Regional Commission have created this tool to allow users to map overdose hotspots and overlay them with data that provide additional context to opioid addiction and death - including the strength and diversity of local economies, ethnicity, educational attainment, and disability status of residents.

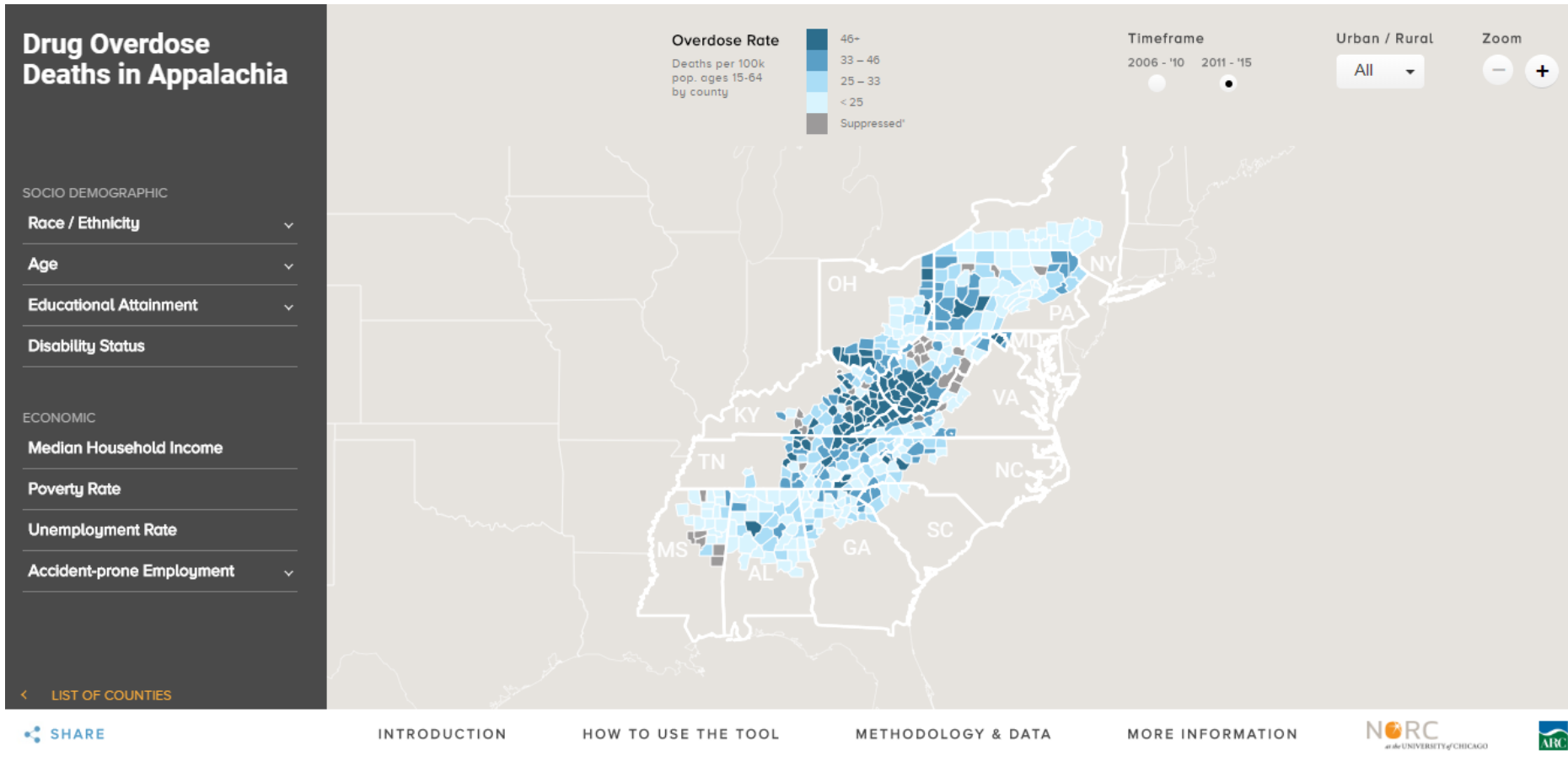
Greenbrier County, WV
44.7
Overdose Mortality Rate
Deaths per 100k pop. ages 15-6
VIEW DETAILS

EXPLORE

INTRODUCTION | HOW TO USE THE TOOL | METHODOLOGY & DATA | MORE INFORMATION

NORC at the UNIVERSITY of CHICAGO | ARC

Appalachian Overdose Mapping Tool



Appalachian Overdose Mapping Tool

Drug Overdose Deaths in Appalachia by Disability Status

SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC

Race / Ethnicity ✓CLEAR ×

Age ▼

Educational Attainment ▼

Disability Status

ECONOMIC

Median Household Income

Poverty Rate

Unemployment Rate

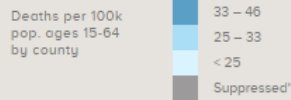
Accident-prone Employment ▼

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Disability Rate



Overdose Rate



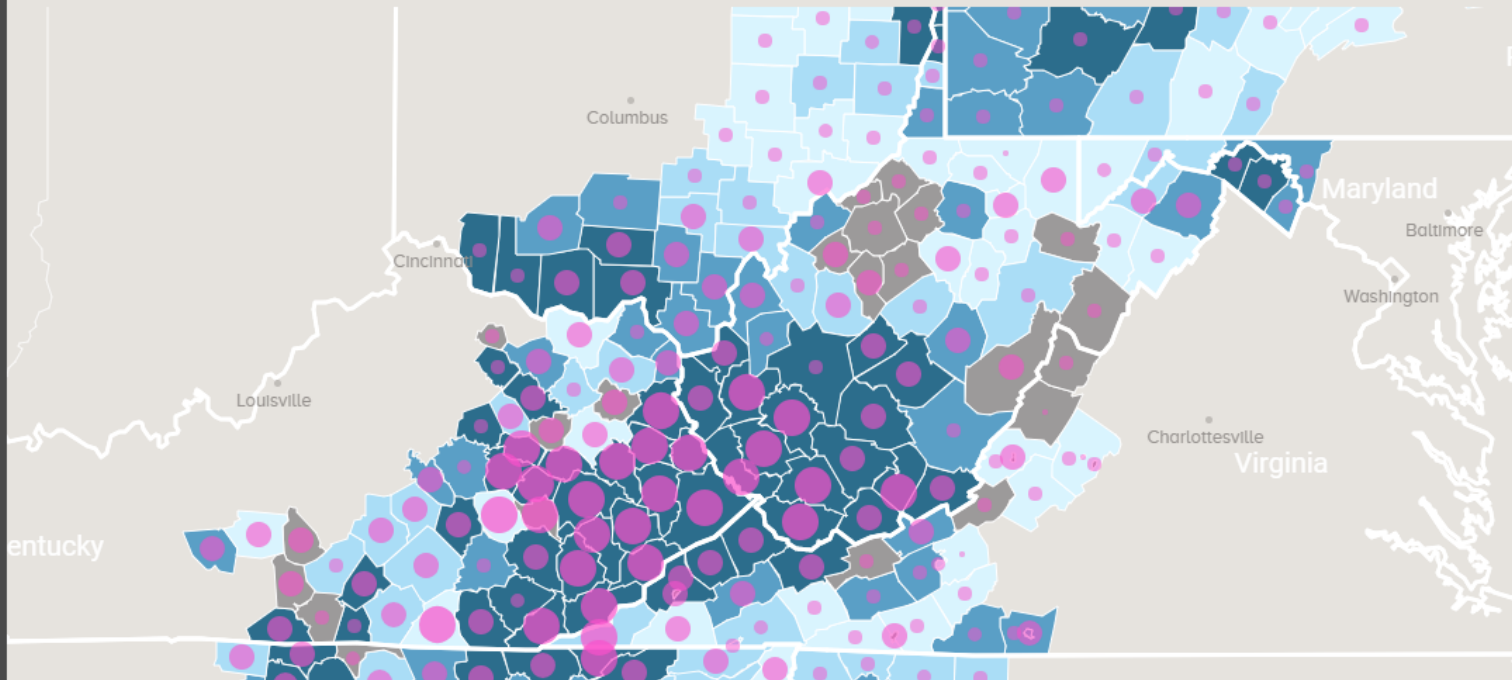
Timeframe

2006 - '10 2011 - '15

Urban / Rural

All ▼

Zoom



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INTRODUCTION

HOW TO USE THE TOOL

METHODOLOGY & DATA

MORE INFORMATION

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Appalachian Overdose Mapping Tool

County Profile : 2011-2015

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Logan County, WV

Drug Overdose Mortality Rate

89.4 Deaths per 100k population
(Ages 15-64)

30.6 Appalachian Region Drug Overdose Mortality Rate

20.6 U.S. Drug Overdose Mortality Rate

102

Total Deaths

35.8k

Population

Rural

Urban / Rural

SOCIO DEMOGRAPHIC

Race / Ethnicity

	Logan County	Appalachian Region	U.S.
White (non-Hispanic)	95.8%	82.5%	62.3%
African American (non-Hispanic)	2.1%	9.4%	12.3%
Hispanic	0.9%	4.6%	17.1%
Other	1.1%	5.1%	10.5%

Age

	Logan County	Appalachian Region	U.S.
Under 15	17.2%	17.9%	19.0%
15-64	66.5%	65.8%	66.2%
65+	16.3%	16.3%	14.9%

Educational Attainment

	Logan County	Appalachian Region	U.S.
At least High School Diploma	76.4%	85.5%	86.7%
Bachelor's Degree or more	8.1%	22.6%	29.8%

Disability Status

	Logan County	Appalachian Region	U.S.
% Residents with a disability	29.1%	13.9%	12.4%

ECONOMIC

	Logan County	Appalachian Region	U.S.
Median Household Income	\$36,763	\$44,744	\$53,889

	Logan County	Appalachian Region	U.S.
Poverty Rate	19.7%	17.1%	15.5%

	Logan County	Appalachian Region	U.S.
Unemployment Rate	10.9%	8.3%	5.2%

Accident-prone Employment

	Logan County	Appalachian Region	U.S.
Construction	2.0%	4.0%	4.4%
Mining	15.6%	1.3%	1.5%
Manufacturing	4.6%	13.0%	8.9%
Trade, Transportation, & Utilities	21.5%	19.8%	19.1%

For more information, please contact:
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Thank You!



NORC⁷⁵
at the UNIVERSITY of CHICAGO

 **insight for informed decisions™**