2017-18 Buprenorphine County prescriber counts and mean monthly census and buprenorphine treatment episode duration for North Dakota

County	State	Buprenorphine Patient Months- All Prescribers	Buprenorphine Episode- Primary Prescribers	Buprenorphine Episode Primary Prescriber Mean Patient Census	Buprenorphine Episode Mean Days' Supply
Bowman	ND	<10	<10	1	10
Burleigh	ND	3,511	10	40	320
Cass	ND	8,904	16	66	211
Grand Forks	ND	1,090	<10	22	236
Mercer	ND	1,976	<10	59	111
Pierce	ND	224	<10	48	54
Stark	ND	113	<10	10	574
Towner	ND	96	<10	12	21
Ward	ND	59	<10	3	65

Table notes:

Table data was generated from IQVIA Longitudinal Prescription Data which captures approximately 90% of all prescriptions filled at retail pharmacies in the U.S. IQVIA web site accessible at: https://www.iqvia.com/solutions/realworld-evidence/real-world-data-and-insights.

Patient months: For every active buprenorphine prescriber, we calculated the total patient-months of care for 2017-2018. An active buprenorphine patient for one month contributed one patient-month of care. A patient possessing buprenorphine from a prescription in a month was considered an active patient; for example, a patient filling a 30-day prescription on September 15th was defined as an active patient in both September and October.

Episode and episode days' supply definition: Episodes that were active in 2017 and 2018 started with the first observed fill date of any buprenorphine prescription following a clean period, defined as at least a 90-day period after the day's supply of any prior buprenorphine prescription had run out. An episode lasted through the last day of the supply of medication for the last filled buprenorphine prescription, with no more than a 30-day gap between the last day's supply of one prescription and the filling of the subsequent prescription. Episode days' supply is the cumulative days' supply from the first filled prescription to the last day of supply of the last filled prescription. Overlapping buprenorphine prescriptions filled on the same day were treated as being taken concurrently; overlapping buprenorphine prescriptions not filled on the same day were treated as early refills and were treated as being take sequentially.

Episode primary prescriber: Episodes active in 2017 and 2018 as defined above in which the patient filled buprenorphine prescriptions from 2 or more prescribers were attributed to the prescriber (the primary prescriber) who wrote the majority of buprenorphine days of supply during the episode. Note that not all active prescribers were primary prescribers for an episode; examples include a prescriber who may have written one prescription during an episode to cover for the primary prescriber or a prescriber who started the episode but then transfrerred care of the patient to a primary prescriber who was responsible for more of the days supply than the initial prescriber.

Primary prescriber patient census: For each prescriber, the number of patients with an active episode in 2017 or 2018 for which the prescriber was the primary prescriber.