The data for this DDATAGram comes from the Delaware Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). Delaware’s PMP is a system that collects daily information on all controlled substance (schedules II-V) prescriptions within the State. All practitioners who hold an active Delaware Controlled Substance Registration (with the exception of veterinarians) are required, by Delaware law, to register with the PMP.

The map shown in this DDATAGram highlights the differences in opioid prescription rates by census tract. A census tract is a small, neighborhood level subdivision measured every 10 years. Census tracts are smaller than zip codes and contain between 2,500 to 8,000 people. Between 2013 and the 1st quarter of 2015, Delaware neighborhoods averaged 2,113.8 opiate prescriptions per 1,000 residents. Residents can receive more than one prescription per year. These opiate prescription rates were not evenly distributed across Delaware’s neighborhoods, though. The map shows 3% of the neighborhoods – shaded red- where opiate prescription rates were 50% to 300+% larger than the state average.