

# FLASH Pharmacy: Data Visualization

**Mercer Government**  
Ready for next. Together.



## **Data visualization improves pharmacy utilization monitoring**

There is a growing need to have a more robust connection with health care costs and utilization — particularly in pharmacy where costs are increasing, drug mix is moving toward specialty drugs, drug utilization policies change regularly, and new therapies are being approved with record-breaking seven figure prices.

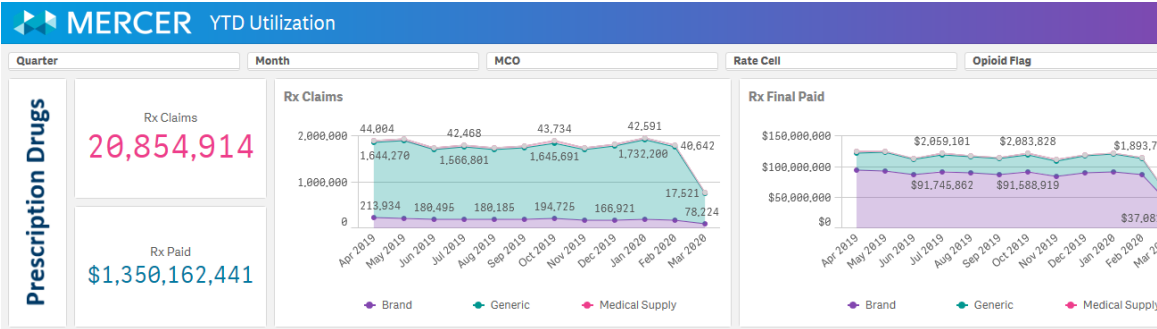
Many states are looking for improved ways to monitor pharmacy utilization. Data visualization is an ideal tool to help states keep up with rapid changes to the market and provide the ability to monitor and achieve goals. With data visualization, you have the ability to review the data at a global level and drill down to the drug-specific granular level. Mercer Government's Pharmacy sector provides clients with more efficient and interactive access to pharmacy spend and utilization data through this visualization.

---

# Benefits and value of monitoring

Mercer Government’s approach to data visualization is focused on delivering an enhanced client experience and enabling the client to:

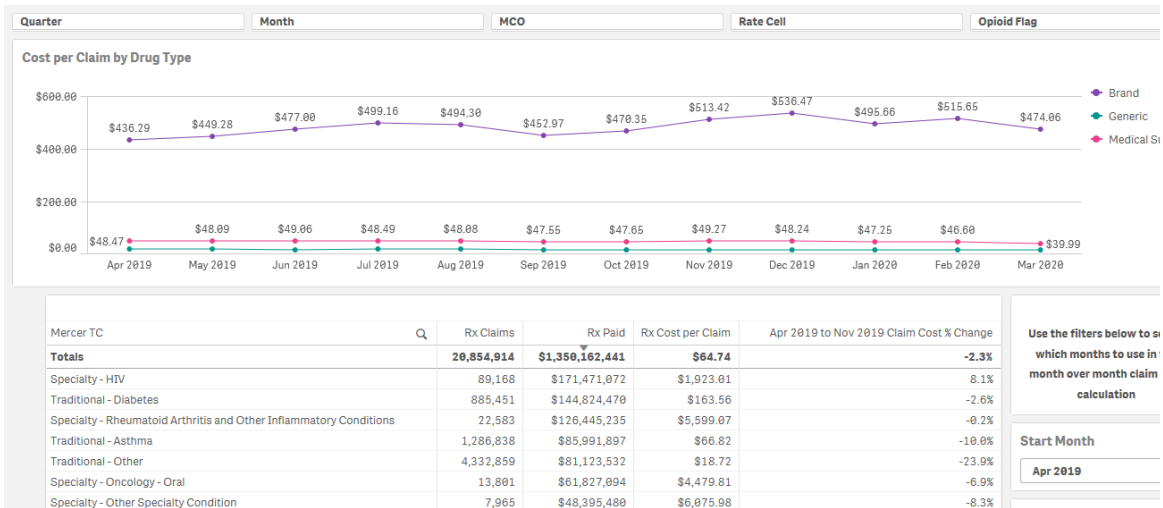
- Manipulate and interact with their data
- Gain insights into trends (example below):



- Explore key areas of interest such as opioid or HIV utilization
- Turn insights into actionable outcomes

## Value of utilization monitoring

- Visualization allows for monitoring of cost and utilization trends by displaying the changes across time
- Clients are able to “drill down” from high level class information to individual drug products
- Changes in costs or utilization within therapeutic classes or individual drug products can be identified for policy considerations (example below):



## Who benefits from enhanced monitoring?

- A state already receiving static utilization reporting
- A state concerned about pharmacy utilization and/or cost
- A state already receiving information through a dashboarding software

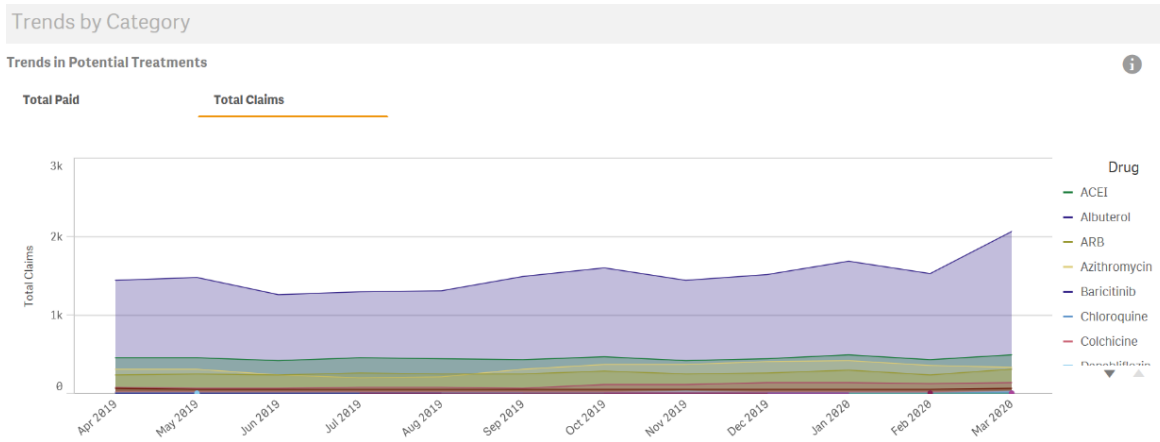
## New COVID-19 monitoring tool

Medicaid state pharmacy programs implemented several policy and operational changes to ensure members received access to chronic and life-saving treatments in response to the current pandemic. Mercer Government utilizes a tool that provides invaluable visualization of the direct COVID-19 impact on the pharmacy benefit related to drugs used in the treatment of COVID-19, as well as the indirect impact related to access and other factors.

## Dashboard Details

- A stand-alone monitoring tool or a complete utilization-monitoring package

- Visualization of COVID-19 impacts on financial and utilization trends for the pharmacy benefit (including historical comparisons):



- Visualization plus “drill down” capability on pharmacy benefit data to identify areas requiring additional investigation and/or improvement
- Monitoring of medication adherence for chronic disease states

## Value of COVID-19 Utilization Monitoring



Assess current COVID-19 financial picture and impact of COVID-19 related pharmacy policy and operational changes



Evaluate both clinical and financial outcomes related to new benefit flexibilities enacted in response to the pandemic



Review of temporary policy and operational changes impacting pharmacy



Pharmacy mail order or community dispensing



Virtual Visits and/or Telehealth



COVID-19 testing frequency



Highlight areas needing prioritization to monitor cost and improve health outcomes

Mercer Government helps ready our clients for what's next:

the next policy, the next budget, the next administration, the next opportunity

Our website has additional information and resources important to states [www.mercer-government.mercer.com](http://www.mercer-government.mercer.com)

Need assistance or to ensure you are included in future correspondence?

Contact your Mercer Government client leader or email us at [mercergovernment@mercergov.com](mailto:mercergovernment@mercergov.com)

Follow us on Twitter @MercerGHSC to keep updated and for upcoming webinar announcements

**Not Peer Reviewed**

---

© 2020 Mercer LLC, All Rights Reserved  
1166 Avenue of the Americas, New York NY 10036  
[www.mercer-government.mercer.com](http://www.mercer-government.mercer.com)



To stop receiving Mercer emails, [unsubscribe here](#).  
[Terms of Use](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)