

# Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System: Using National, State, and County-level Prevalence Data



## MODERATED SESSION



### **Session Moderator:**

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NORC at the University of Chicago



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The Ohio State University College of Optometry



**THE VISION AND EYE HEALTH  
SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**

A national data system for vision and eye health

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Vision and Eye Health  
Surveillance System  
Overview and update

John Wittenborn

NORC at the University of Chicago

# Background of the VEHSS project

- Consensus statements on need for surveillance
  - CDC Surveillance Expert Panel (2012)
  - National Academies of Science, Engineering & Medicine (2016)
- CDC/NORC cooperative agreements
  - 2015-2019
    - “Establish a Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System for the Nation”
  - 2019-2022
    - “Research to Enhance Vision and Eye Health Surveillance”



# Major Goals of VEHSS

- Create a single platform to summarize prevalence information from multiple new and important data sources
- Create a framework to identify and organize vision and eye health indicators
- Review and validate vision and eye health indicators
- Generate new prevalence estimates for vision loss and major eye diseases that can identify trends and disparities by demographic group, risk factors, and geographic area





# THE VISION AND EYE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

A national data system for vision and eye health

- Expert panel
- VEHSS partner group:



# 1. Identify and summarize data sources

- Reviewed potential data sources
  - 16 National Surveys
  - 6 Administrative claims databases
  - 2 Electronic health records registries
  - 100 Published population based studies



# Analyze Summary Prevalence Estimates

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## Survey Data

American Community Survey (ACS)

Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS)

National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES)

National Survey of Children's Health (NSCH).

## Claims

Medicare 100% Fee-For-Service RIF

VSP Global managed vision plan insurance

Medicaid MAX

MarketScan private commercial insurance

## EHR/Registry

IRIS Registry

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## 2. Define indicators

- Created an indicator categorization schema to organize over 240 specific indicators across 3 topic areas:
  1. Eye health conditions
    - Diagnosis code categories, self-reported diagnoses
  2. Visual function
    - Measured visual acuity, self-assessed vision and functional limitations
  3. Service utilization
    - Eye exams, medical treatments, low vision services, vision correction



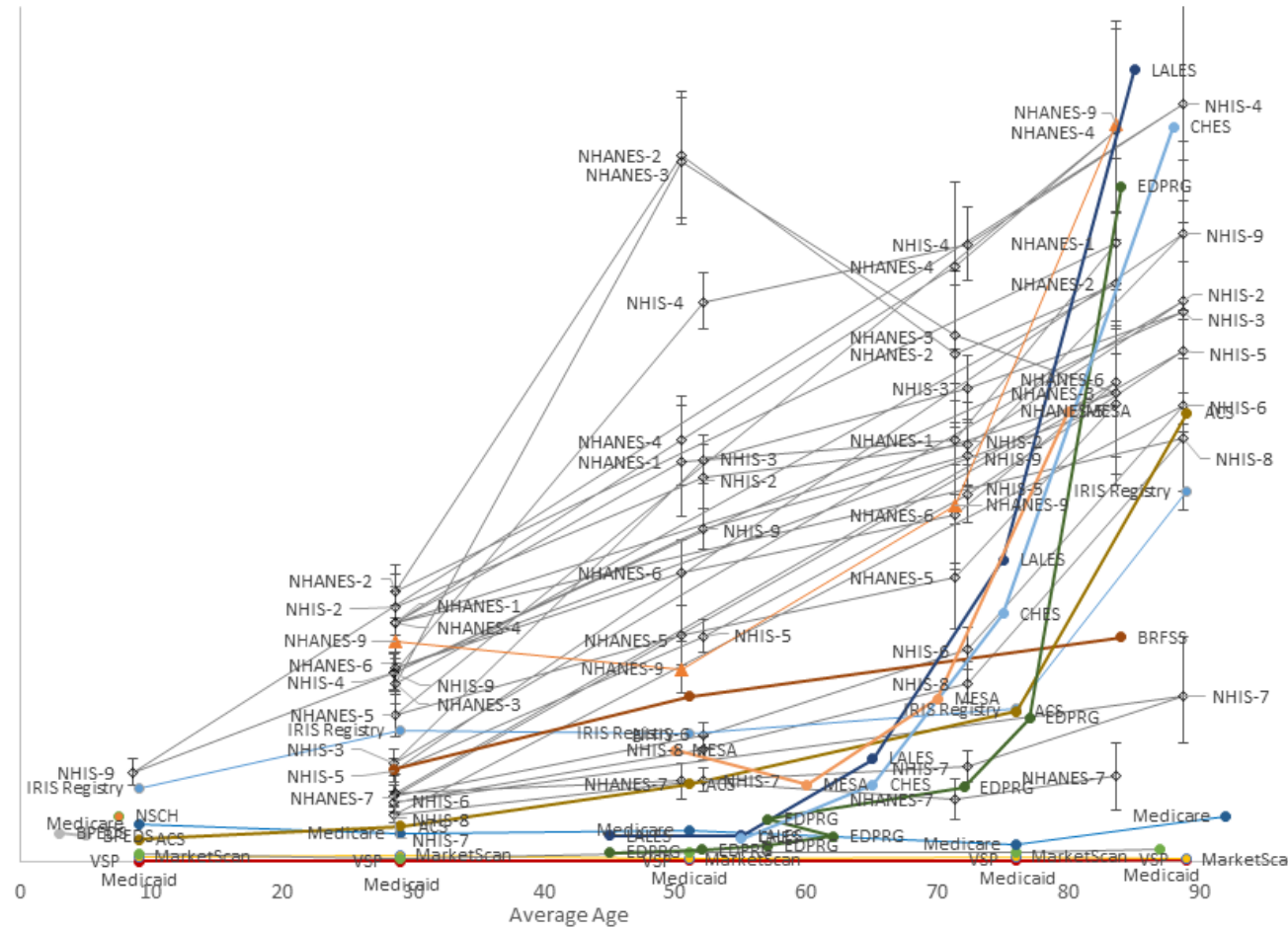


# 3. Analyze VEHSS Data Sources

- Calculated prevalence of indicators from a single source
  - Uniform methodologies across data sources
  - Cross stratification by
    - demographic group (age group, race/ethnicity, sex/gender)
    - Location (national, state, county)
    - Risk factor (diabetes, hypertension, diagnosed eye disease)
- Summary estimates available on VEHSS website



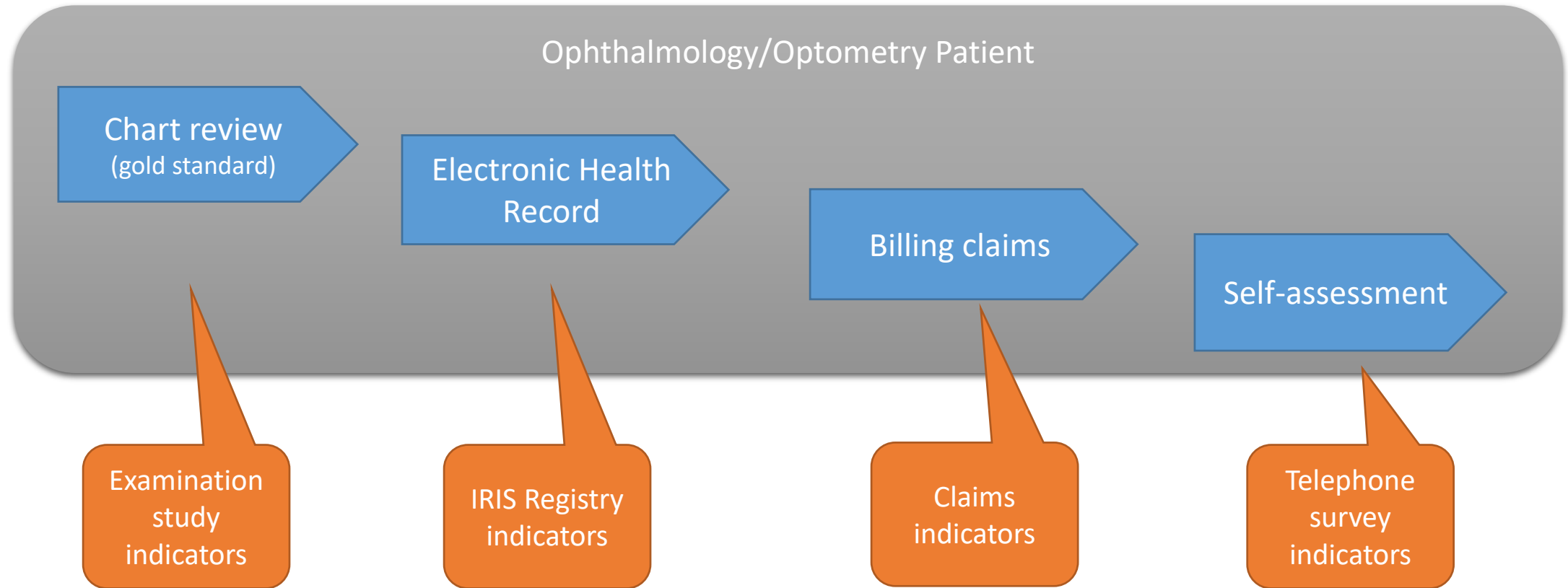
# Many data sources give you many answers:



**VEHSS - THE VISION & EYE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**

# 4. Indicator Validation

- Assess concordance between different VEHSS indicators measured at different points of information flow in one patient population



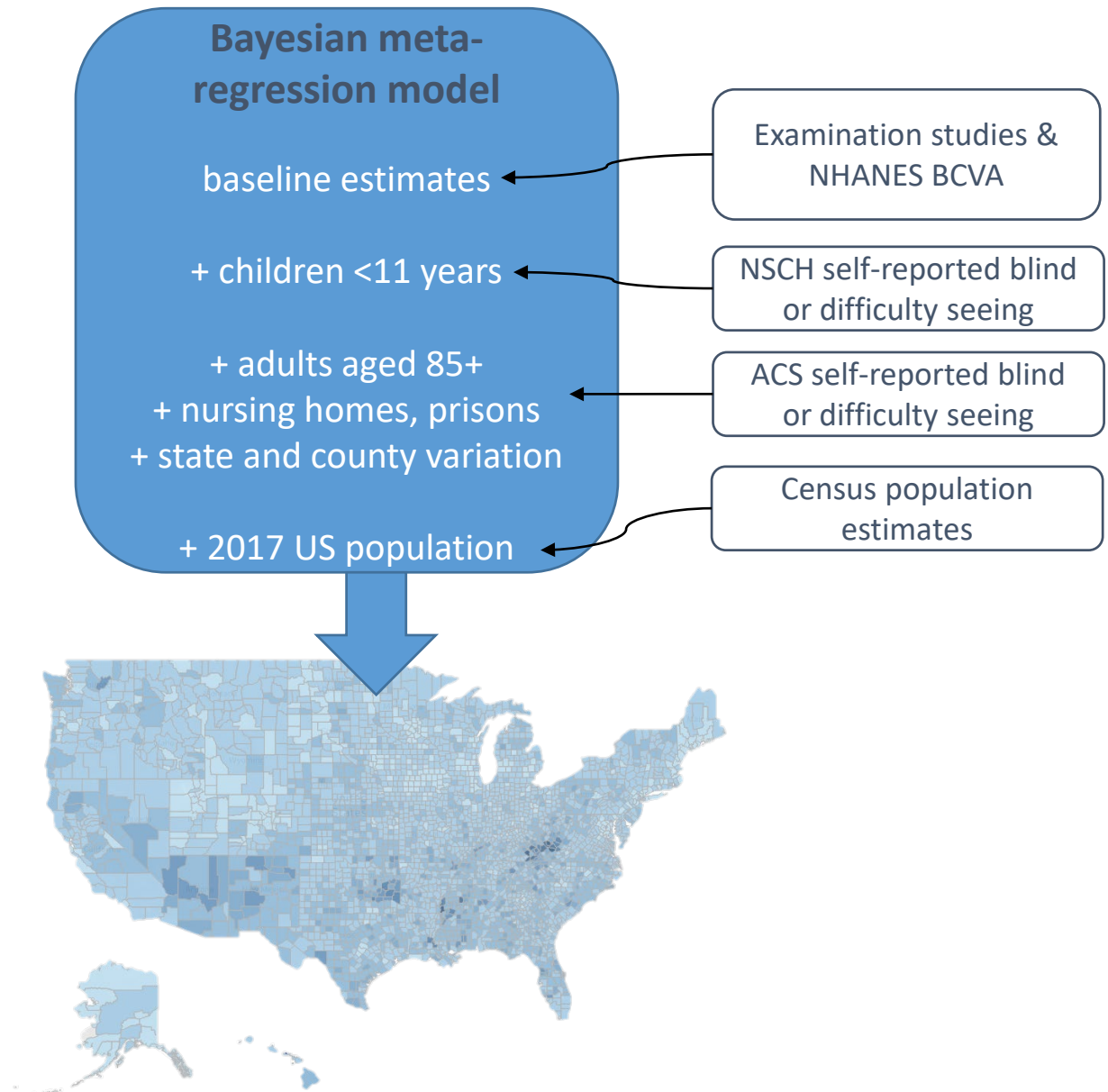
## 5. Composite Estimates

- Integrating information from different indicators and data sources to produce more comprehensive estimates
- Visual Acuity Loss released in May 2021
- AMD, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma in-progress



# Composite Estimates model for prevalence of uncorrectable visual acuity loss

- Self-reported blind or difficulty seeing is a biased but highly correlated predictor of BCVA
- Variation in self-reported vision indicators used to predict prevalence of BCVA in unmeasured populations



\*BCVA = best corrected visual acuity in better-seeing eye





**THE VISION AND EYE HEALTH  
SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**

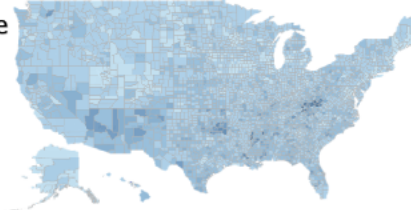
A national data system for vision and eye health

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VEHSS Website

## VISION & EYE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

**Now Available:**  
Composite Estimates of the  
Prevalence of Vision Loss  
and Blindness



VEHSS integrates multiple data sources into composite estimates of the prevalence of vision loss and blindness.

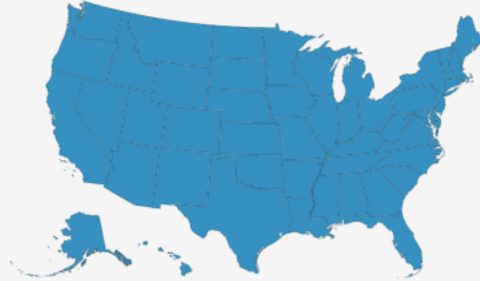
[Click for more information and to explore the estimates.](#)

Quick access to the Composite Estimates

Data Explorer: shows all data available for any location

Location Explorer: shows all data available for a state or national location

### Explore VEHSS Data for One Location



Territories: [GU](#) [MH](#) [MP](#) [PR](#) [VI](#)

Select an Item

[National Data](#)

### Composite Estimates

[VEHSS Integrated Prevalence Estimates](#)

### Data Sources

[Review of Examination-Based Studies](#)  
A review of published examination studies on vision loss and major eye disorders

[National and State Surveys](#)  
Nationally representative survey indicators for vision and eye health

[Electronic Health Records Registries](#)  
Vision, eye health, and healthcare services data extracted from medical records

[Administrative Claims Databases](#)  
Medical services and treated eye health conditions

Data Documentation

### Explore VEHSS Data for All Locations

Type:    
Claims Database:    
Topic:    
Category:    
Indicator:

### About VEHSS

[Project Overview](#)

[Reports and Papers](#)

[Data Indicators \(Case Definitions\)](#)

[Help](#)

### Use the Data Portal

Need to work with the Vision & Eye Health data directly?

Go to the Vision & Eye Health Data Portal to create your own filtered dataset, customize visualizations, download data, and more.

[Vision & Eye Health Data Portal](#)

Indicator Documentation and Help pages

Access the data portal for back-end data access, PUFs and APIs

# Data Documentation Pages

Data overview

Analytic methods

Indicators analyzed

Limitations

VEHSS Data access

VEHSS Data Portal PUF access

PDF reports

The screenshot displays the VEHSS website interface. At the top, the title is "Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System (VEHSS)". Below the title, there is a breadcrumb trail: "Vision Health Initiative > VEHSS Home > Information on Data Sources > Administrative Claims Records". On the left side, there is a navigation menu with options: "VEHSS Home", "Project Description", "Case Definitions & Data Indicators", "Information on Data Sources" (which is expanded to show "National Surveys", "Examination-Based Studies", "Electronic Health Records and Registries", and "Administrative Claims Records"), "Reports and Publications", "Prevalence Estimates", and "Help". Under "Administrative Claims Records", there is a sub-menu with "Medicare" selected, along with "Medicaid", "MarketScan", "VSP Global", and "Military".

The main content area is titled "Medicare" and contains a section "Medicare Claims at a Glance" with a table:

	Medicare Part B Fee for Service Claims
<b>Data type</b>	100% Medicare Part B Fee for Service Medical claims
<b>Sample</b>	Convenience sample of Medicare beneficiaries, including nearly 89% of the US population aged 65 years and older, as well as 3.3% of the US population younger than 65, including persons disabled due to blindness
<b>VEHSS Topics Included</b>	Service Utilization Eye Health Conditions
<b>Years Analyzed</b>	2014, 2015, 2016, 2017
<b>Approximate Size</b>	30 million persons per year

Below the table, there are three paragraphs of text describing the Medicare claims analysis. The first paragraph states that the analysis includes beneficiaries who were fully enrolled in Medicare Part B Fee-for-Service (FFS) for the duration of 2014, 2015, 2016, or 2017. The second paragraph explains that Medicare claims represent a convenience sample that includes approximately 30 million individuals annually, but excludes Medicare managed-care plans. The third paragraph details Medicare coverage for ophthalmologic services for nearly the entire US population aged 65 and older, with specific eligibility criteria for younger individuals.

On the right side of the page, there are three main sections: "Explore Summary Data" with a map of the United States titled "Medicare Claims"; "Download Summary Data" with a preview of a data table and a download icon; and "Additional documentation and reports" with links to "Download the full Medicare Data Documentation Report [PDF - 1.5 MB]" and "Download the Claims and Registry Data Analysis Plan (DNE - 570)".

Access data explorer

Data portal

Additional documentation and reports



# VEHSS - THE VISION & EYE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM



# Indicator Documentation Pages

Overview

Datasets represented

Variables included

Disorders of Optic Nerve and Visual Pathways +

Disorders of Refraction and Accommodation +

**Glaucoma**

VEHSS includes indicators for Glaucoma from examination-based data including NHANES and published studies, self-reported diagnosis history from NHANES, treated cases from claims databases, and diagnosed cases from IRIS Registry.

**Examination-based**  
Examination-based glaucoma indicates the respondent had graded probably or definite glaucoma in either eye based on retinal imaging.

**Examination Surveys**

Dataset	Description	Variable name(s)	Years available	Years analyzed	Response options
NHANES	Percentage of people with glaucoma, based on examination	OPASCST2 – Exam status; OPXDGLAU – Glaucoma, right eye; OPXSGLAU – Glaucoma, left eye	2005, 2008	2005, 2008	2 – Probable 3 – Definite

**Published Examination Studies**

Study	Years	Location	Citation
Eye Diseases Prevalence Research Group (EDPRG)	1985-2000	Multi-national	Friedman DS, Wolfs RC, O'Colmain BE, et al. Prevalence of open-angle glaucoma among adults in the United States. <i>Arch Ophthalmol.</i> 2004;122(4):532-538.
Los Angeles Latino Eye Study (LALES)	2000-2003	California	Kim E, Varma R. Glaucoma in Latinos/Hispanics. <i>Curr Opin Ophthalmol.</i> 2010;21(2):100-105.
Salisbury Eye Evaluation Glaucoma Study	2001-2003	Maryland	Friedman DS, Jampel HD, Munoz B, West SK. The Prevalence of Open-Angle Glaucoma Among Blacks and Whites 73 years and Older: The Salisbury Eye Evaluation Glaucoma Study. <i>Arch Ophthalmol.</i> 2006;124(11):1625-1630.

Click + to open indicator details



1. Selector Box: Complete all 6 dropdowns and click GO

1. Location: Georgia  
 2. Type: Claims  
 3. Claims Database: Medicare Claims  
 4. Topic: Service Utilization  
 5. Category: Eye Exams  
 6. Indicator: Annual examination rate  
 GO

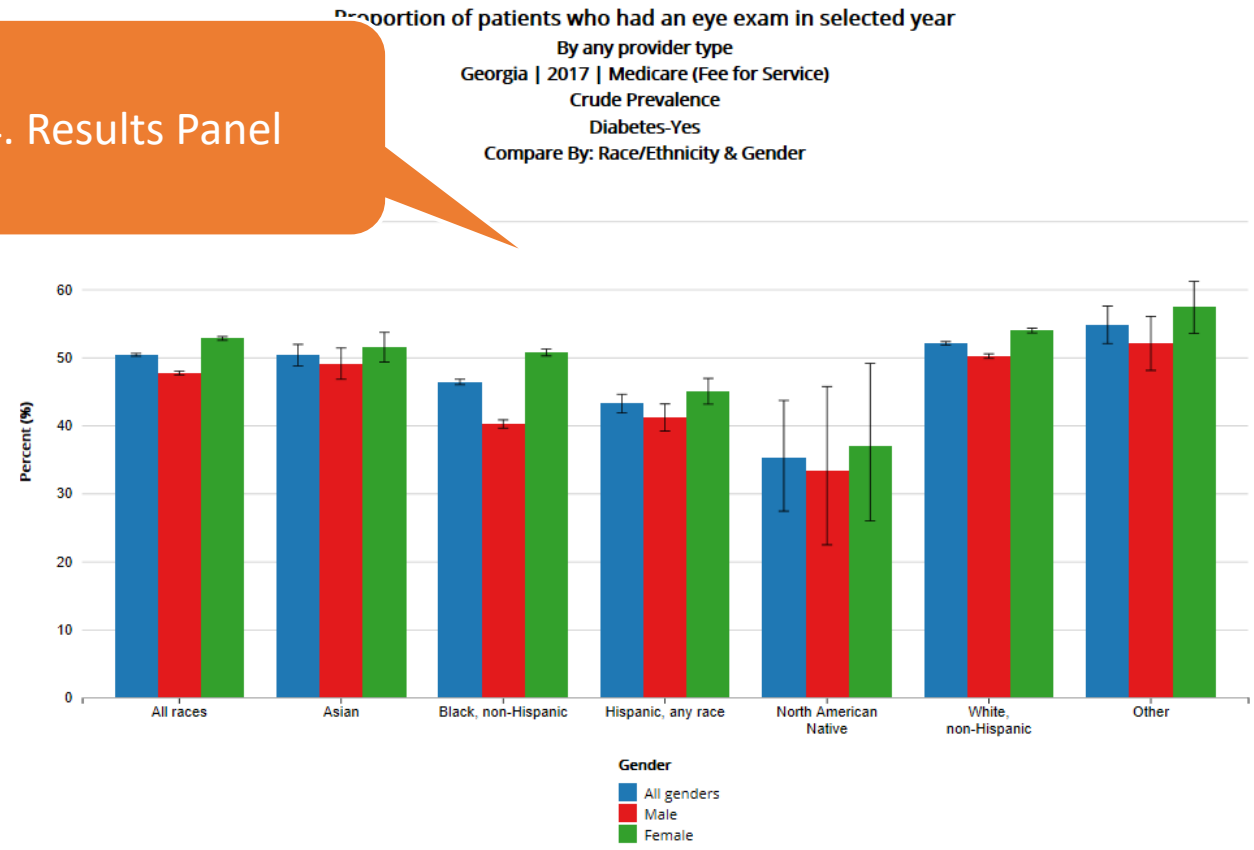
2. Compare Box: Compare 1-2 stratification factors and click Compare

View one year (selected)  
 View all available years  
 Compare variable 1: Race/Ethnicity  
 Compare variable 2: Gender  
 Compare

3. Filter Box: Filter data to selected groups and click Apply Filters

Apply Filters (selected) | Reset  
 Year: 2017  
 Subgroup: By any provider type  
 Age Group: All Ages  
 Gender: Compare All  
 Race/Ethnicity: Compare All  
 Risk Factor: Diabetes  
 Risk factor response: Yes

4. Results Panel



	All genders	Male	Female
All races			
Percent (%)	50.37	47.71	52.78



# VEHSS - THE VISION & EYE HEALTH SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

# 1. Selector Box

Selecting All available locations defaults to state level map

Selecting National or any state defaults to chart+table with compare box

The screenshot shows the CDC Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System (VEHSS) interface. At the top, the CDC logo and text "Centers for Disease Control and Prevention" and "CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™" are visible. Below this is the title "Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System (VEHSS)". The main content area contains several selector boxes:

- 1. Location:** A dropdown menu with options: National, All available locations, National (highlighted), Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado.
- 2. Type:** A dropdown menu with the text "Select one".
- 3. Data Source:** A dropdown menu with the text "Select one" and a link labeled "Data Source Information" below it.
- 5. Category:** A dropdown menu with the text "Select one" and a link labeled "Category Definition" below it.
- 6. Indicator:** A dropdown menu with the text "Select one", a "GO" button, and a "Clear" button.

Click Data Source Information to open documentation page for selected data source

Click Category Definition to open documentation page for selected indicator category



## 2. Compare Box:

Not available in map views

Select all years of data for trend line analyses

## 3. Filter Box:

Filters get reset when Compare changes

### Explore VEHS Data for Georgia

View one year  
 View all available years

Compare variable 1  
Years

Compare variable 2  
Diabetes

Compare

Apply Filters [Reset](#)

Year  
Compare All

Response  
Yes

Age Group  
All Ages

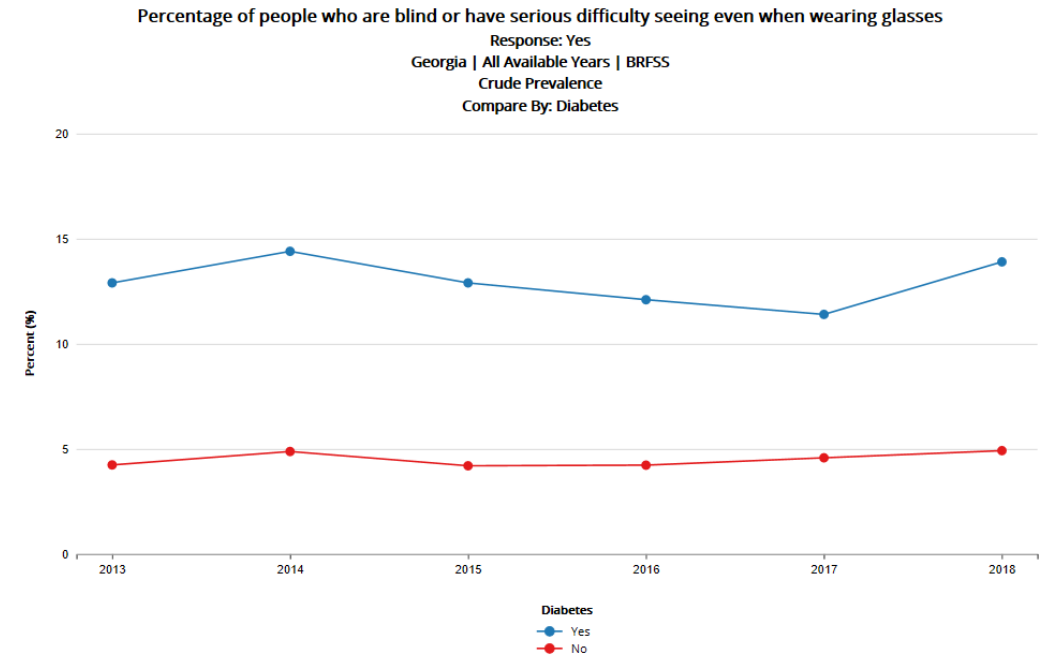
Gender  
All genders

Race/Ethnicity  
All races

Risk Factor  
Compare All Diabetes

Data Type  
Crude Prevalence

Apply Filters [Reset](#)



	Yes	No
<b>2018</b>		
Percent (%)	13.90	4.92
95% CI	11.70 - 16.50	4.35 - 5.56
n	136,000	333,000
<b>2017</b>		
Percent (%)	11.40	4.58
95% CI	8.71 - 14.80	3.94 - 5.33
n	99,000	310,000
<b>2016</b>		
Percent (%)	12.10	4.23
95% CI	9.53 - 15.10	3.52 - 5.07
n	111,000	283,000
<b>2015</b>		
Percent (%)	12.90	4.20



# 4. Results Panel

[Share Link](#) [Data Portal](#) [Help](#)

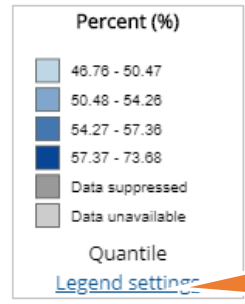
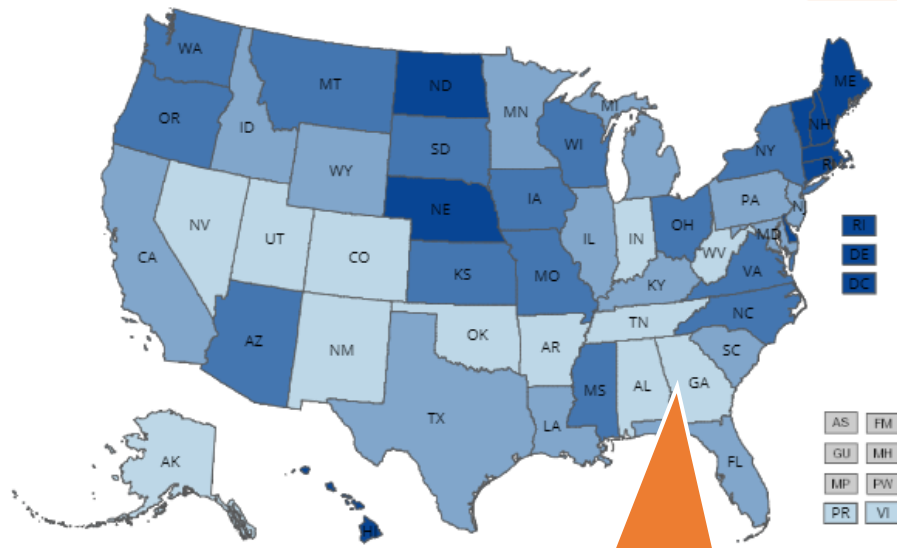
Share Link, Data Portal and Help pages

[Map](#) [Chart](#) [Table](#)

Switch view from Map, Chart or Table (if available)

Proportion of patients who had an eye exam in selected year  
By any provider type  
All available locations | 2017 | Medicare (Fee for Service)  
Crude Prevalence  
65-84 years | Female | Hispanic, any race | Diabetes-Yes

National: 53.21%  
95% CI (53.02 - 53.40)  
N = 263,400



Click Legend Settings to change gradient scales

Click a state to zoom, or explore all data for location



Zoom or reset map

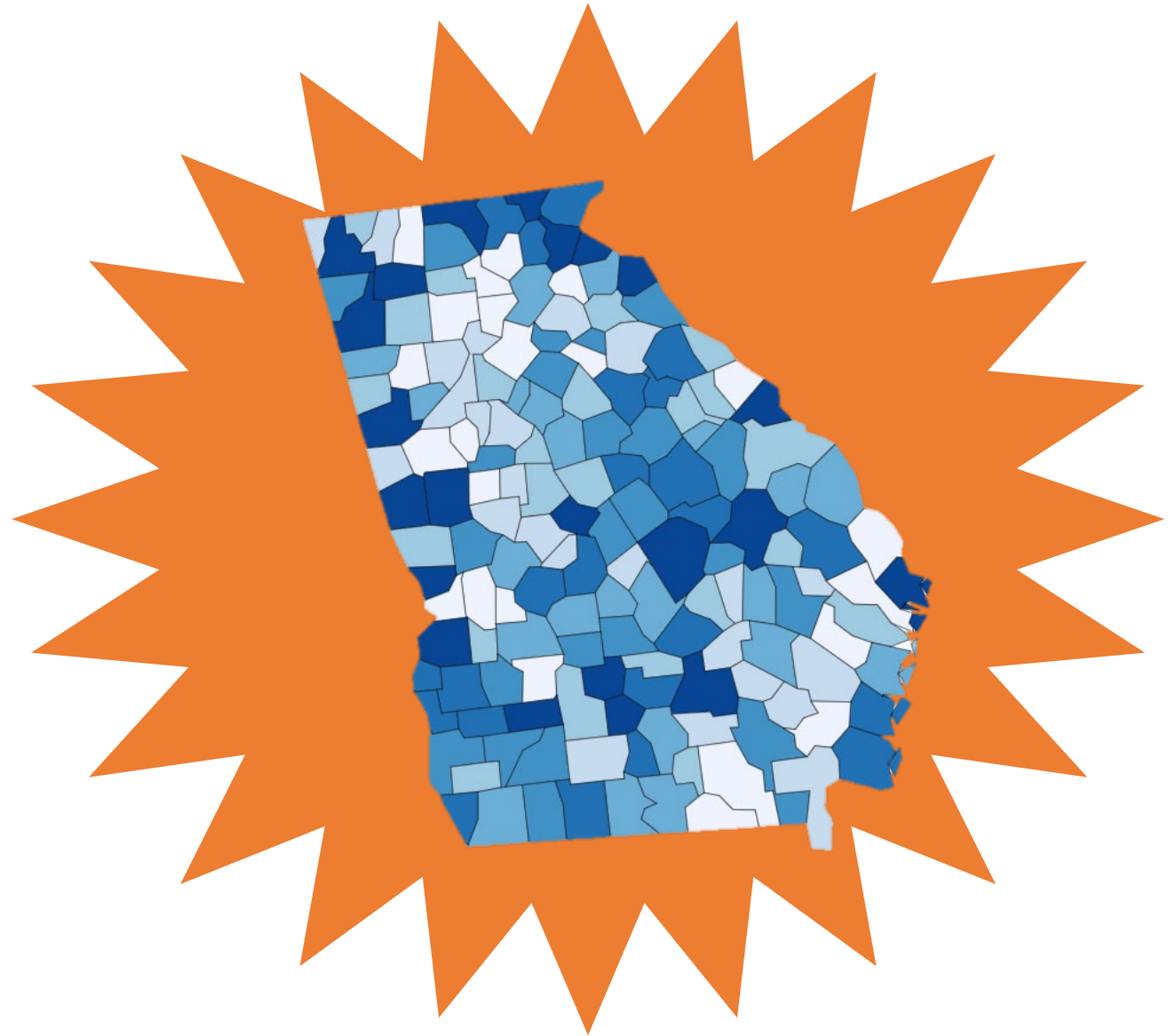
Data Source: [Medicare Claims](#)

[Save as PDF](#) [Export CSV](#)

Export formatted PDF report, or CSV table

# New for 2021:

- Composite estimates of the prevalence of visual acuity loss
- County-level mapping:
  - ACS
  - Medicare claims
  - Composite estimates of vision loss



1. Location

North Carolina

2. Type

Composite Estimates

3. Composite Estimates

Prevalence Estimates

View as county map

[Data Source Information](#)

4. Topic

Visual Function

5. Category

Measured Visual Acuity

[Category Definition](#)

6. Indicator

Prevalence of Vision Loss, by major age groups

GO [Clear](#)

County map option is shown if user selects a state and a data source that has county-level results

Explore VEHSS Data for North Carolina

[help](#)

Apply Filters [Reset](#)

- Year: 2017
- Subgroup: Any vision loss
- Age Group: All Ages
- Gender: All genders
- Race/Ethnicity: All races
- Risk Factor: All persons
- Risk factor response: Total
- Data Type: Prevalence Estimates

Apply Filters [Reset](#)

Map Chart Table

Map view selected

State totals in header

Prevalence of Vision Loss, by major age groups

Any vision loss

North Carolina | 2017 | Prevalence Estimates

Prevalence Estimates

North Carolina: 2.25%

95% CI (1.89 - 2.58)

N = 10,273,419

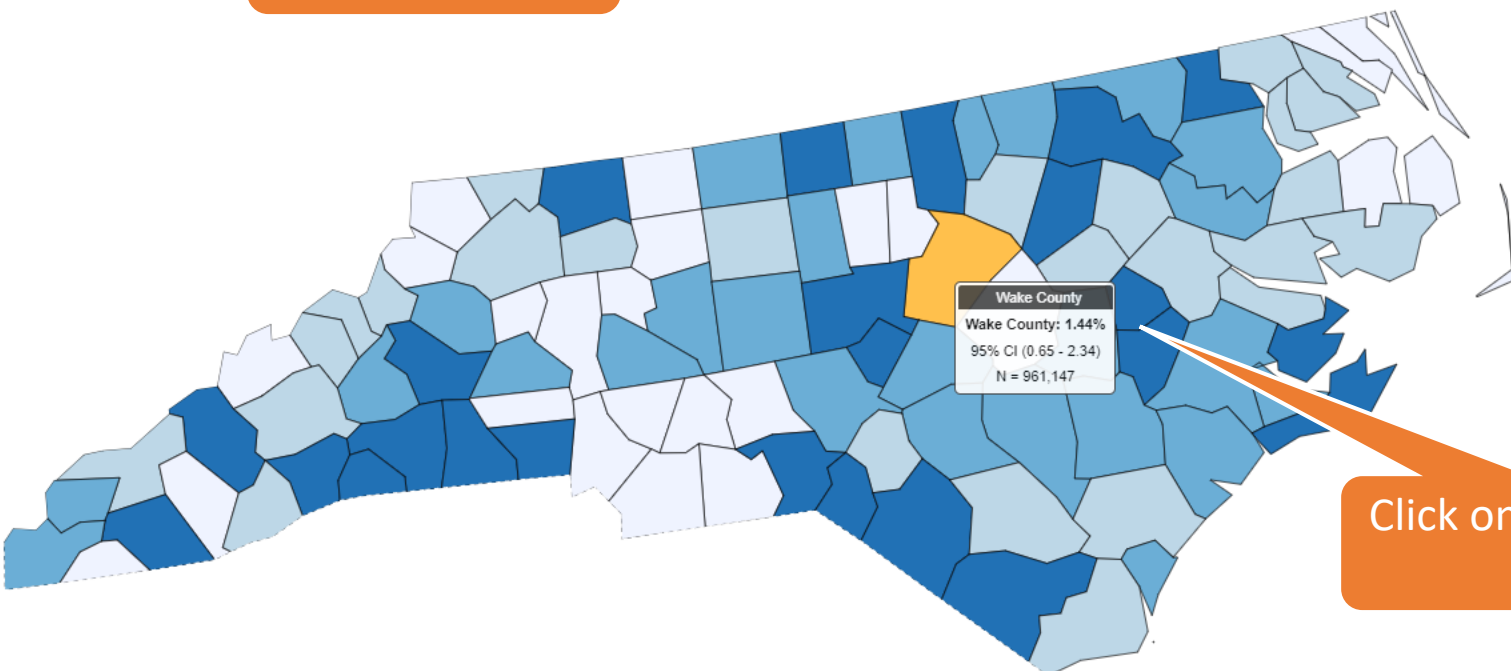
Search county

**Percent (%)**

- 01.89 - 03.11
- 03.12 - 03.62
- 03.63 - 04.08
- 04.09 - 05.66

Quantile

[Legend Settings](#)



Click on a county for detail

1. Location: North Carolina

2. Type: Composite Estimates

3. Composite Estimates: Prevalence Estimates  View as county map  
[Data Source Information](#)

4. Topic: Visual Function

5. Category: Measured Visual Acuity [Category Definition](#)

6. Indicator: Prevalence of Vision Loss, by major age groups  [Clear](#)

## Explore VEHSS Data for North Carolina

[Share Link](#) [Data Portal](#) [Help](#)

View one year

Compare variable 1: Race/Ethnicity

Compare box available in Chart and Table views

[Reset](#)

Year: 2017

Subgroup: Any vision loss

Age Group: 65-84 years

Gender: Female

Race/Ethnicity: Compare All

Risk Factor: All persons

Risk factor response: Total

Data Type: Prevalence Estimates

Prevalence of Vision Loss, by major age groups  
Any vision loss  
North Carolina | 2017 | Prevalence Estimates  
Prevalence Estimates  
65-84 years | Female  
Compare By: Race/Ethnicity

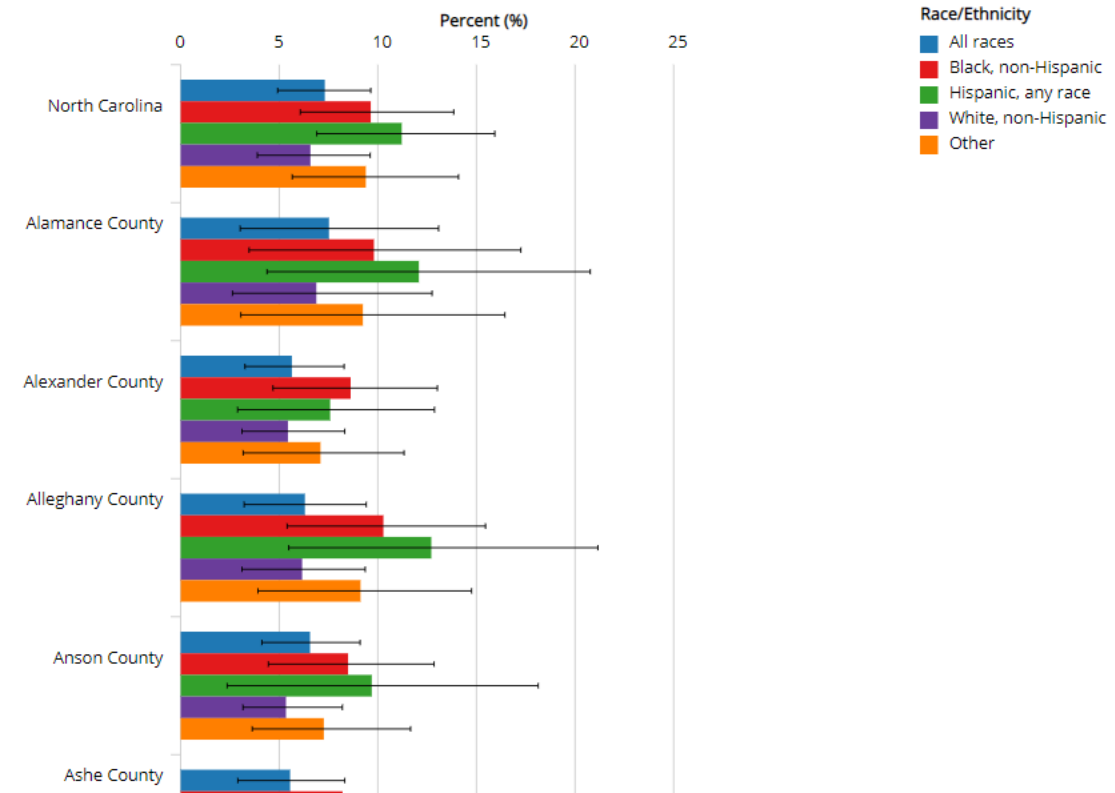


Chart view selected





# Prevent Blindness

Focus on Eye Health  
National Summit



**Our Changing Vision**

Focus on Eye Health Summit:  
Our Changing Vision



# Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System Applications

**Dean A. VanNasdale, OD, PhD, FAAO**  
Ohio State University College of Optometry



# Demonstrating Differences Across Different Data Sources

- Public Health and Environmental Vision
  - Research clearly demonstrates significant vision health disparities

## Disparities in Adult Vision Health in the United States

APRIL ZAMBELLI-WEINER, JOHN E. CREWS, AND DAVID S. FRIEDMAN

Zambelli-Weiner A, Crews JE, Friedman DS. Disparities in adult vision health in the United States. Am J Ophthalmol. 2012 Dec;154(6 Suppl):S23-30.e1. Epub 2012 May 24. PMID: 22633355.

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Public Health and Environmental Vision - VISSCI 7620
  - To make some of these disparities less abstract and to get students to use available epidemiology data, I give them multiple assignments over the course of the semester, using the VEHSS
  - As a teaching tool, I use the VEHSS to
    - Demonstrate vision impairment prevalence rates based on different demographic characteristics
    - Demonstrate geographic disparities in the prevalence of vision impairment using interactive mapping
    - Provide opportunities to work with data from different vision health surveillance sources and understand how those data are collected
    - Demonstrate the strengths and limitations of different types of epidemiology data
    - Learn to use data to advocate for vision health as a public health priority

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Data sources available in the VEHSS
  - Survey Data
    - American Community Survey, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, National Health Interview Survey, National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey, National Survey of Children's Health
  - Electronic Health Records Registry Data
    - IRIS Registry
  - Claims Databases
    - Commercial Medical Insurance, Managed Vision Care, Medicaid MAX, Medicare Claims
  - Composite Estimates (new)
- Each may have different topics with different data that are collected through different collection methods and may be collected at different times

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - Find the Electronic Health Records and Registries section of the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance Section of the CDC's Vision Health Initiative.
    - <https://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/vehss/data/ehr-registries/index.html>
  - Using information on this page, what EHR registries are currently included in the CDC VHI's VEHSS and what EHR registries might be included in the future?

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - Find the Electronic Health Records and Registries section of the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance Section of the CDC's Vision Health Initiative.
    - <https://www.cdc.gov/visionhealth/vehss/data/ehr-registries/index.html>
- Using information on this page, what EHR registries are currently included in the CDC VHI's VEHSS and what EHR registries might be included in the future?
  - Of the sources identified in our review, the IRIS® Registry is the only data source currently included in the VEHSS, although data from MORE may be included in the future.

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - The background for the surveillance data is thoroughly explained for those interested in more detail.

## Review of Administrative and Registry Data on Eye Health Vision & Eye Health Surveillance System

DATE  
MARCH 26 2018

PRESENTED TO:  
Jinan Saaddine,  
Division of Diabetes Translation,  
Centers for Disease Control and  
Prevention

PRESENTED BY:  
John Wittenborn,  
Emily Phillips,  
David Rein,  
NORC at the University of Chicago



# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - Click on the IRIS Registry link at the top of the table to access IRIS registry specific information.

	<a href="#">IRIS® Registry</a>	<a href="#">MORE</a>
Nationally Representative	No	No
<b>Demographics</b>		
Age/Sex/Race	Yes	Yes
<b>Geographic Representation</b>		
State Representation	Partial	Partial
County Representation	Partial	Partial



# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - What year(s) are data available in the VEHSS for the IRIS Registry (described as Years Analyzed)?
  - As of 2018, what percentage of ophthalmologists participated in the IRIS Registry?
  - As of 2019, how many patients were contained in the IRIS Registry?
  - At the bottom of the page is a list of limitation on population surveillance using the IRIS Registry. List one potential limitation listed.

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - What year(s) are data available in the VEHSS for the IRIS Registry (described as Years Analyzed)?
    - 2016, 2017, 2018
  - As of 2018, what percentage of ophthalmologists participated in the IRIS Registry?
    - In 2018, the IRIS® Registry collected data from more than 90% of ophthalmologists nationally
  - As of 2019, how many patients were contained in the IRIS Registry?
    - More than 50 million patients (230 million encounters)
  - At the bottom of the page is a list of limitation on population surveillance using the IRIS Registry. List one potential limitation listed.
    - Rates from data are not representative of the overall population

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

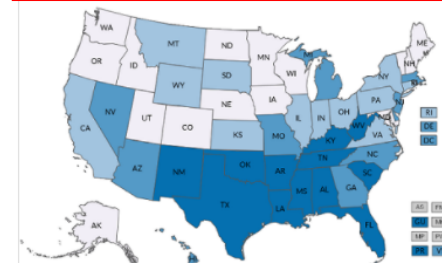
- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - At the top of the IRIS Registry page, click on the Explore Summary Data Link above the map of the United States. This will direct you to an interactive mapping tool that will allow you to visualize the geographic distribution of ocular disease in the United States from IRIS Registry data.

## IRIS® Registry

### IRIS® Registry at a Glance

	IRIS Registry
Data Type	Health registry compiled from participating ophthalmology practices' electronic medical records systems
Sample	Convenience sample consisting of patients visiting IRIS-participating ophthalmology practices, representing approximately 95% of US ophthalmology practices

Explore Summary  
Data



IRIS® Registry

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - From the drop down menus at the top of the page, make sure
    - All Available Locations is selected under the Locations dropdown menu
    - EHR Registry is selected under the Type dropdown menu
    - IRIS Registry is selected under the EHR Registry dropdown menu
    - Eye Health Conditions is selected under the Topic dropdown menu
    - Age Related Macular Degeneration is selected under the Category dropdown menu
    - Annual Prevalence of Diagnosed is selected under the Indicator dropdown menu
    - Click the GO button
    - With these selections, what is the national prevalence rate of age-related macular degeneration based on IRIS Registry data?

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance

## Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System (VEHSS)

1. Location

All available locations



2. Type

EHR Registry



3. EHR Registry

IRIS® Registry



[Data Source Information](#)

4. Topic

Eye Health Conditions



5. Category

Age Related Macular Degenera

[Category Definition](#)

6. Indicator

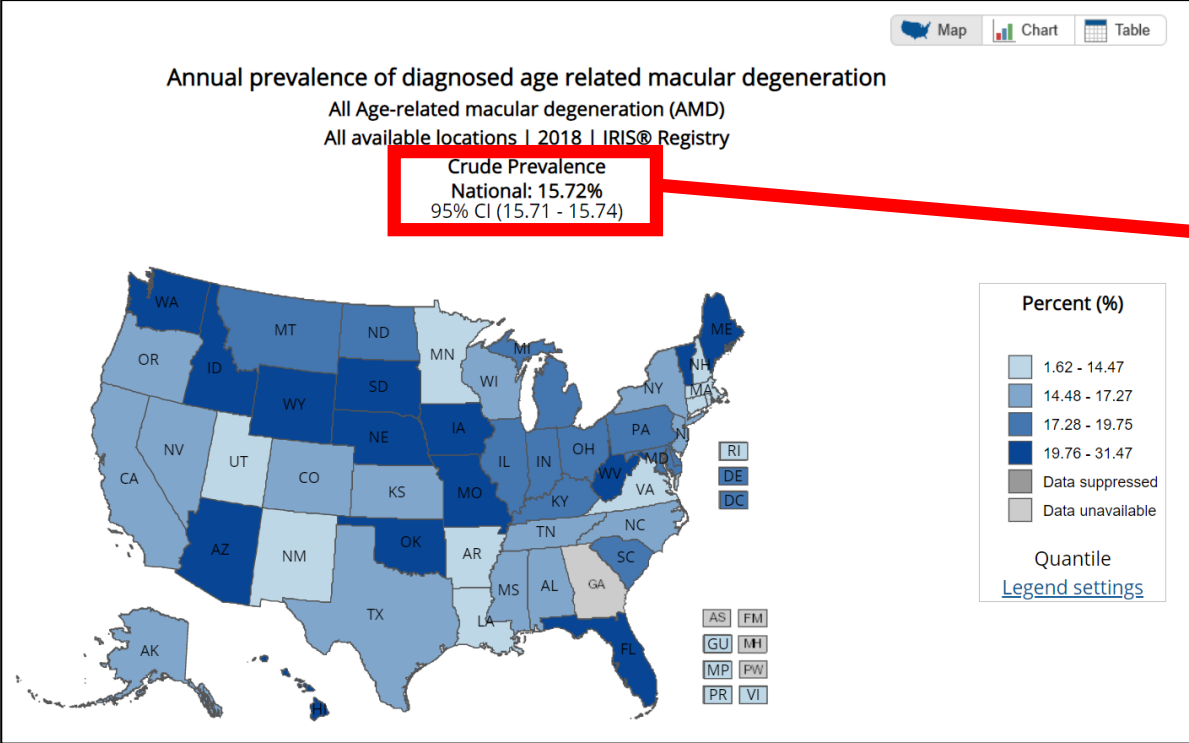
Annual prevalence of diagnosed age

**GO**

[Clear](#)

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance

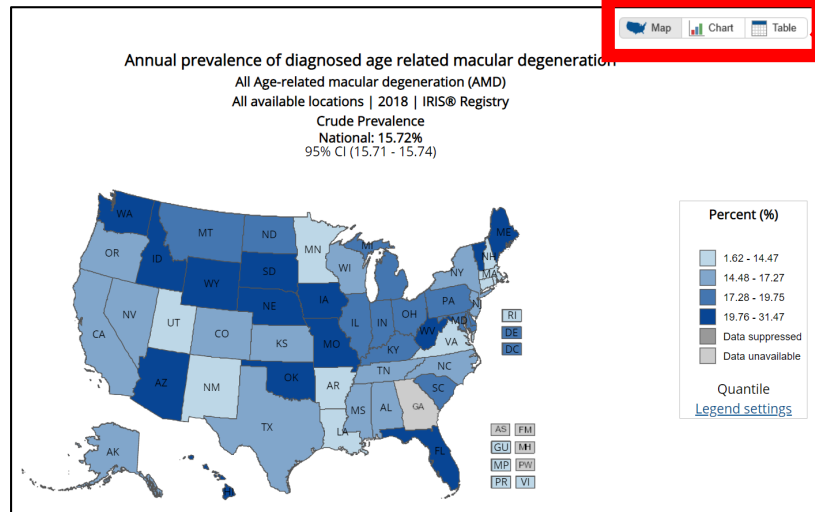


**Crude Prevalence**  
**National: 15.72%**  
**95% CI (15.71 - 15.74)**



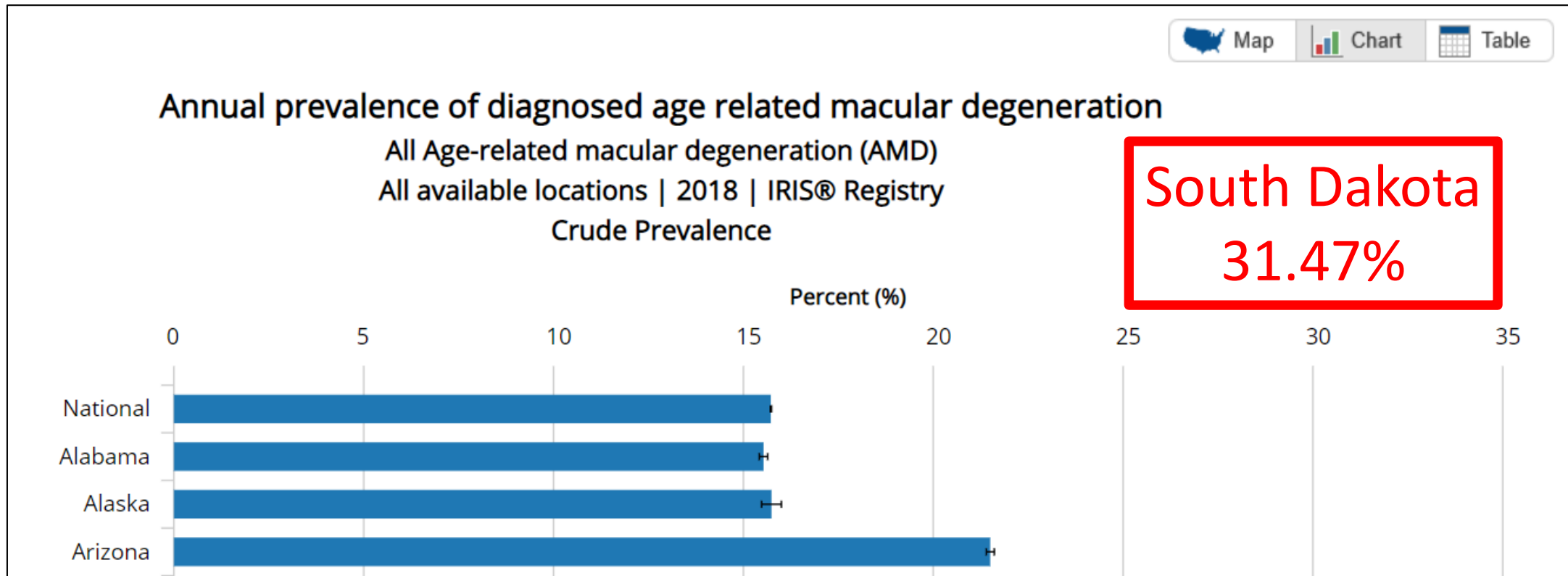
# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - A state map of the United States is the default display for the IRIS Registry on the VEHSS. You can also visualize the data in a chart or a table. Click on the Chart button to display a bar graph of state-specific AMD prevalence rates. Which state has the highest prevalence of vision impairment from AMD?



# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance



# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - You can also perform a more in-depth analysis that provides some insight into health disparities in ocular disease.
    - Under the Gender dropdown menu, select Male.
    - Click on the Apply Filters button.
    - What is the prevalence rate for AMD in males nationally?

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance

**Apply Filters** [Reset](#)

Year  
2018

Subgroup  
All Age-related macular

Age Group  
All Ages

**Gender**  
Male

Race/Ethnicity  
All races

**Annual prevalence of diagnosed age related macular degeneration**  
All Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)  
All available locations | 2018 | IRIS® Registry  
Crude Prevalence  
Male

**National: 15.32%**

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - Research has shown gender disparities in vision impairment. Are data from the IRIS registry consistent with those findings?
    - Change the selection from the Gender dropdown menu to Female.
    - Click on the Apply Filters button.
    - What is the prevalence rate for AMD in females nationally?

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance

**Apply Filters** [Reset](#)

Year  
2018

Subgroup  
All Age-related macular

Age Group  
All Ages

**Gender**  
Female

Race/Ethnicity  
All races

Annual prevalence of diagnosed age related macular degeneration  
All Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)  
All available locations | 2018 | IRIS® Registry  
Crude Prevalence  
Female



**National: 16.02%**

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - We have seen evidence that there are racial/ethnic disparities with respect to ocular disease. Does this hold true in the VEHSS IRIS Registry?
    - In the Category dropdown menu, change Age-related Macular Degeneration to Diabetic Eye Disease.
    - Click on the GO button.
    - What is the overall national prevalence of diabetic eye disease?

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

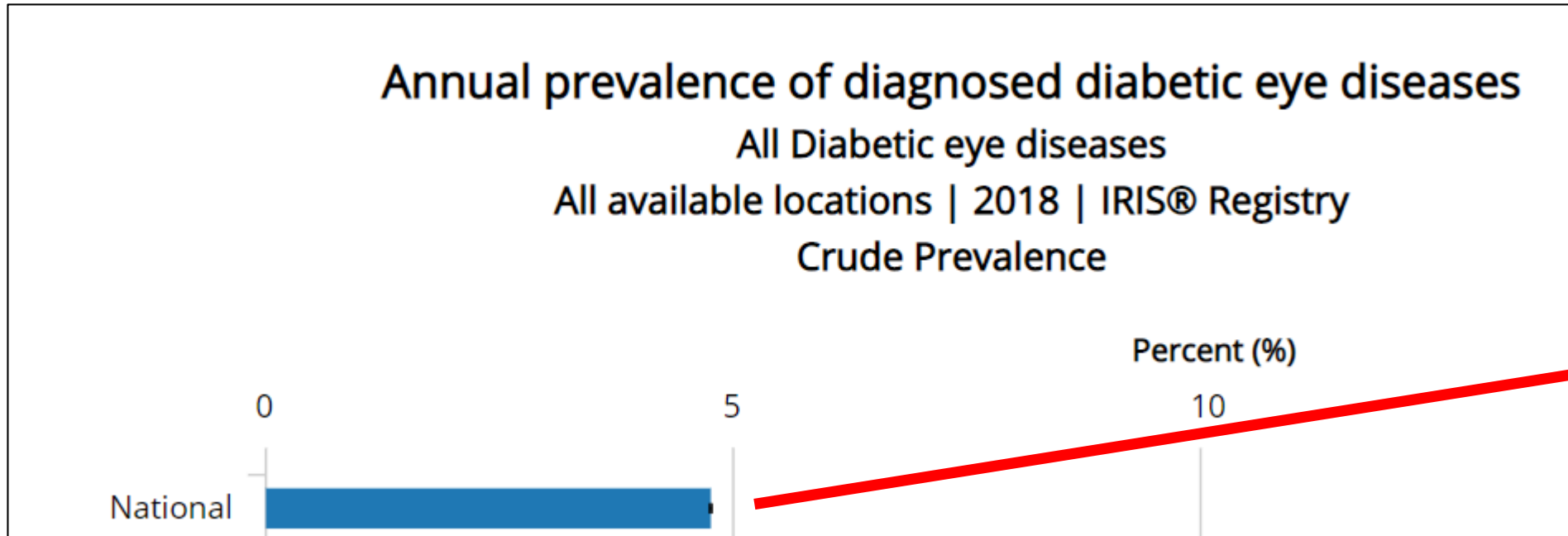
- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance

1. Location	2. Type	3. EHR Registry
All available locations	EHR Registry	IRIS® Registry
		<a href="#">Data Source Information</a>
4. Topic	5. Category	6. Indicator
Eye Health Conditions	Diabetic Eye Diseases	Annual prevalence of diagnosed diabetic eye diseases, 
	<a href="#">Category Definition</a>	 <a href="#">Clear</a>



# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance



**National  
4.76%**

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - We have seen evidence that there are racial/ethnic disparities with respect to ocular disease. Does this hold true in the VEHSS IRIS Registry?
    - Under Race/Ethnicity, select White, non-Hispanic.
    - Click the Apply Filters button.
    - What is the crude prevalence of diagnosed diabetic eye disease in the IRIS Registry for the White, non-Hispanic population in the United States?

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance

**Apply Filters** [Reset](#)

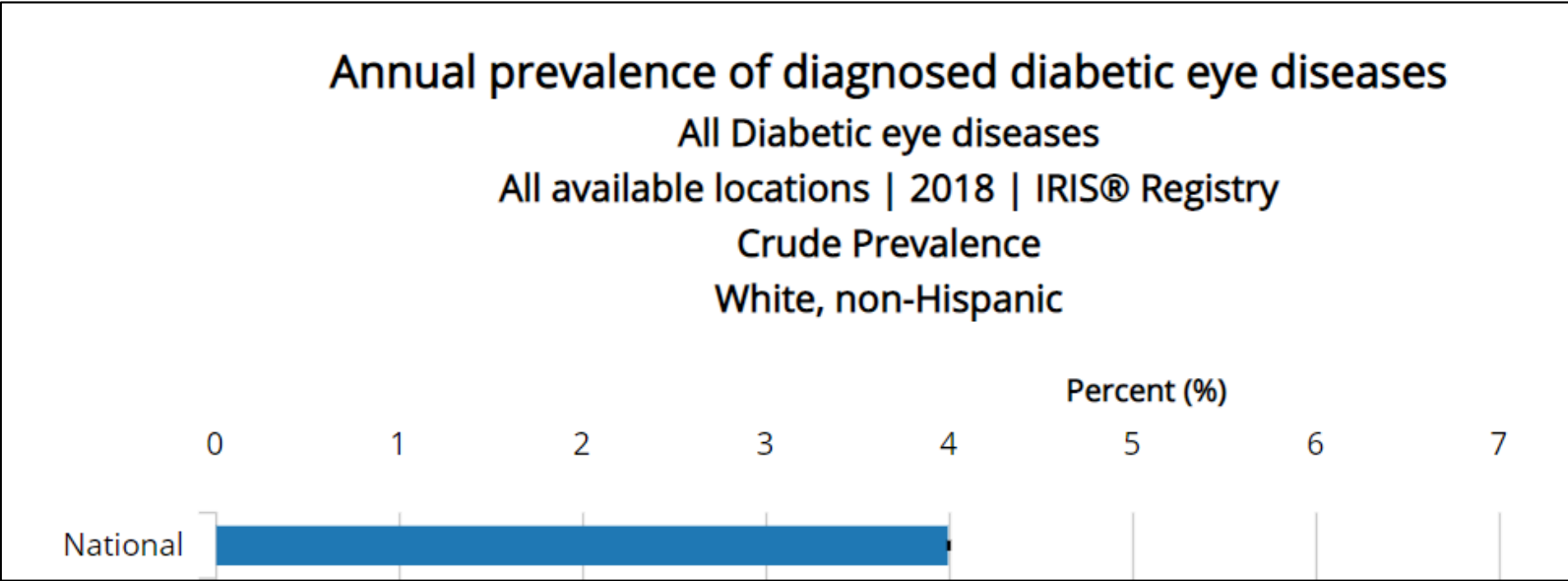
Year  
2018

Subgroup  
All Diabetic eye diseases

Age Group  
All Ages

Gender  
All genders

**Race/Ethnicity**  
White, non-Hispanic



**National: 3.99%**

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance
  - We have seen evidence that there are racial/ethnic disparities with respect to ocular disease. Does this hold true in the VEHSS IRIS Registry?
    - Under Race/Ethnicity, select Hispanic, any race.
    - Click the Apply Filters button.
    - What is the crude prevalence of diagnosed diabetic eye disease in the IRIS Registry for the Hispanic, any race category?

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance

**Apply Filters** [Reset](#)

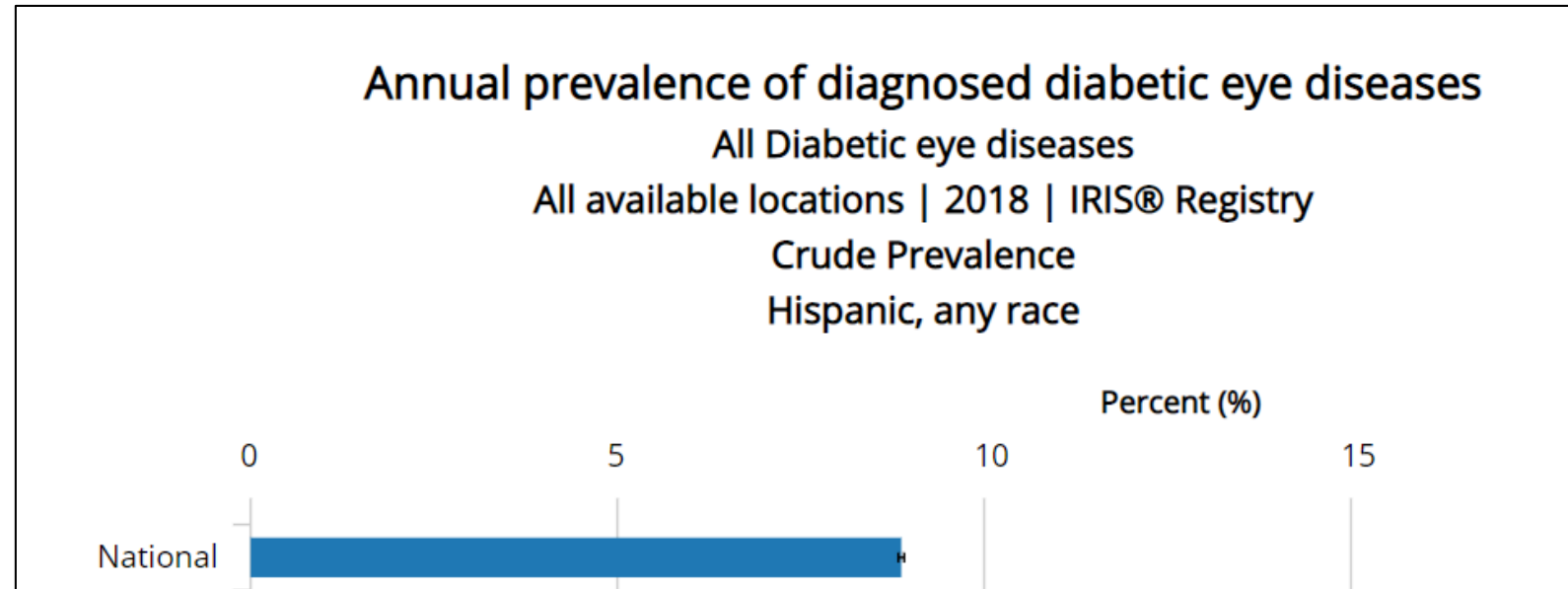
Year  
2018

Subgroup  
All Diabetic eye diseases

Age Group  
All Ages

Gender  
All genders

**Race/Ethnicity**  
Hispanic, any race



**National: 8.87%**

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Electronic Health Records and Population Health Surveillance

- View one year
- View all available years

Compare variable

Age Groups

Compare

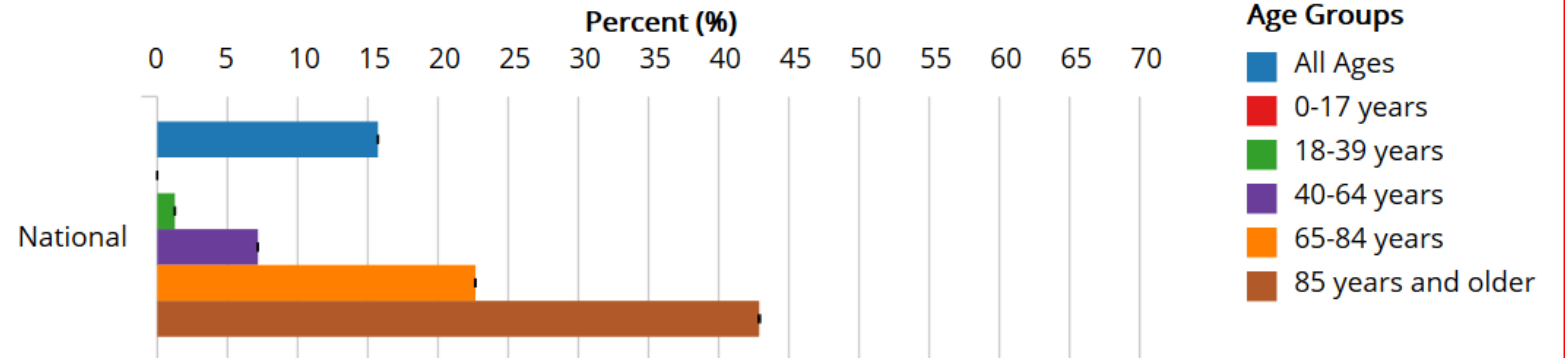
## Annual prevalence of diagnosed age related macular degeneration

All Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)

All available locations | 2018 | IRIS® Registry

Crude Prevalence

Compare By: Age Groups



# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Seeking Conceptual Clarity
  - Not all prevalence estimates will be the same from all of the data sources.

## The Variability of Vision Loss Assessment in Federally Sponsored Surveys: Seeking Conceptual Clarity and Comparability


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JOHN E. CREWS, DONALD J. LOLLAR, ALEX R. KEMPER, LISA M. LEE, CYNTHIA OWSLEY, XINZHI ZHANG,  
AMANDA F. ELLIOTT, CHIU-FANG CHOU, AND JINAN B. SAADDINE


Crews JE, Lollar DJ, Kemper AR, Lee LM, Owsley C, Zhang X, Elliott AF, Chou CF, Saaddine JB. The variability of vision loss assessment in federally sponsored surveys: seeking conceptual clarity and comparability. *Am J Ophthalmol*. 2012 Dec;154 (6 Suppl):S31-44.e1.

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Seeking Conceptual Clarity
  - Not all prevalence estimates will be the same from all of the data sources.

 Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System (VEHSS)

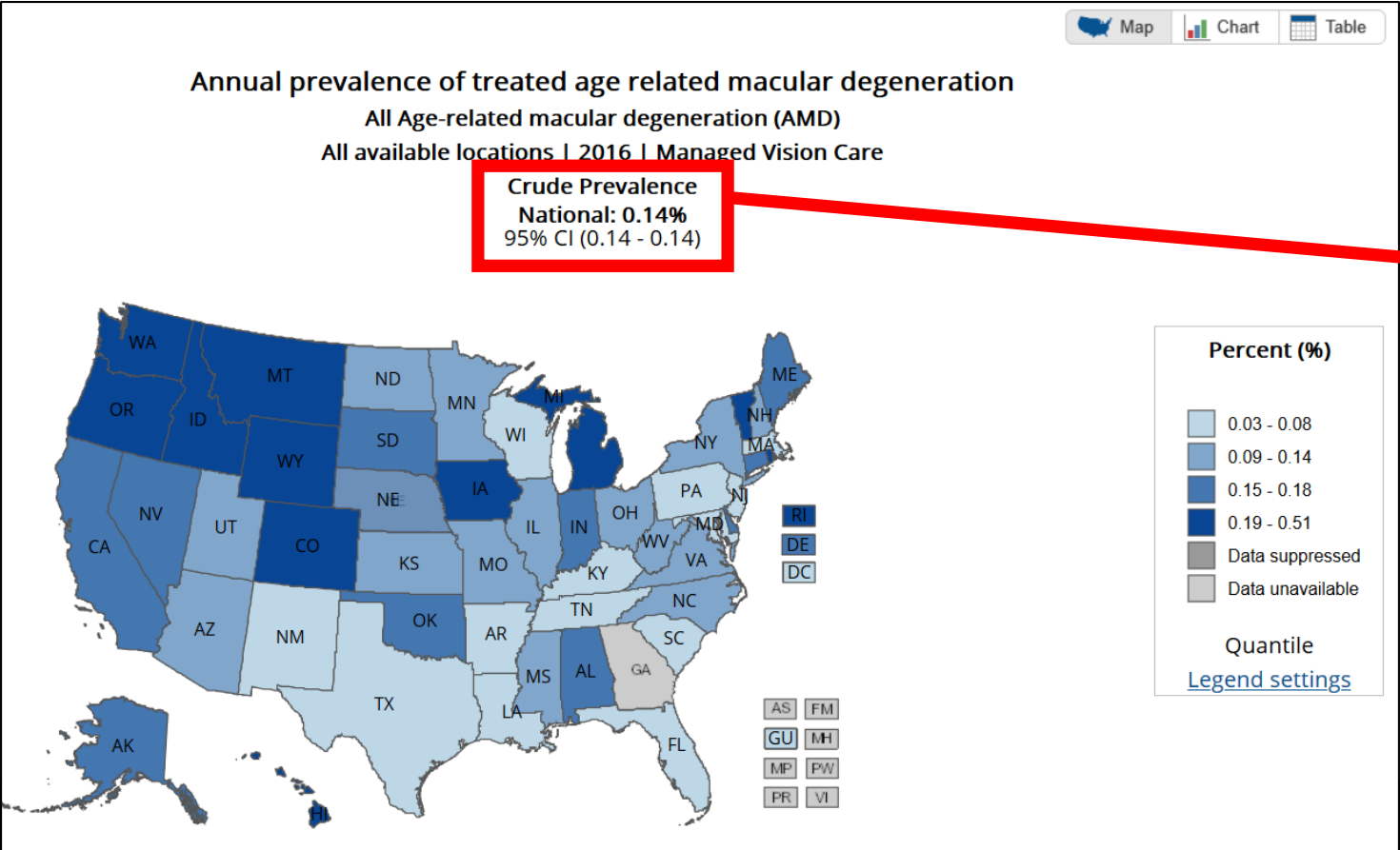
<b>1. Location</b> All available locations ▾	<b>2. Type</b> Claims ▾	<b>3. Claims Database</b> Managed Vision Care ▾ <a href="#">Data Source Information</a>
<b>4. Topic</b> Eye Health Conditions ▾	<b>5. Category</b> Age Related Macular Degene▾ <a href="#">Category Definition</a>	<b>6. Indicator</b> Annual prevalence of treated age related macular degeneration ▾

 [Clear](#)



# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Seeking Conceptual Clarity



Crude Prevalence  
National: 0.14%  
95% CI (0.14 - 0.14)

# Demonstrating Vision Health Disparities Using the Vision and Eye Health Surveillance System

- Using the VEHSS, we have been able to
  - Demonstrate vision impairment prevalence rates based on different demographic characteristics
  - Demonstrate geographic disparities in the prevalence of vision impairment using interactive mapping
  - Provide opportunities to work with data from different vision health surveillance sources and understand how those data are collected
  - Demonstrate the strengths and limitations of different types of epidemiology data
- Now, I hope everyone will use data from the VEHSS to advocate for vision health as a public health priority.

Thank you.

Questions?



# Prevent Blindness

Focus on Eye Health  
National Summit



**Our Changing Vision**