### Recent Medication Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Region</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pain</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>Mainly older women in urban settings across all income levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cough</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>Mainly middle-aged women in urban settings across all income levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addiction</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>Mainly younger men in urban settings within lower income levels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Who also recently used:**
- Benzodiazepines
- Stimulants

### Healthcare System Use

- **People dispensed an opioid for:**
  - **Pain:** 1 in 8 (1.7 million)
  - **Cough:** 49
  - **Addiction:** 55%
- **Median age:**
  - Pain: 55 years
  - Cough: 49 years
  - Addiction: 63 years

### Geographic Variation

- **Pain or Addiction**
  - Concentrated in northwestern and rural regions in Ontario
- **Cough**
  - Clustered in southern and urban areas

### Opioids to Treat...

- **Cough**
  - Seasonal use in winter months, as expected.
  - Average daily dose was low.
- **Addiction**
  - The number of Ontarians accessing opioids to treat addiction is increasing. In 2016:
    - 71% received Methadone
    - 23% received Buprenorphine/Naloxone
    - 6% received both

### Geographical Differences

- **Pain ≠ Addiction**
  - Some regions with high addiction treatment had only moderate prescribing for pain.
  - This suggests illicitly obtained opioids may be contributors to addiction in these areas.