

# PQRS eRx Experience Report Data Brief

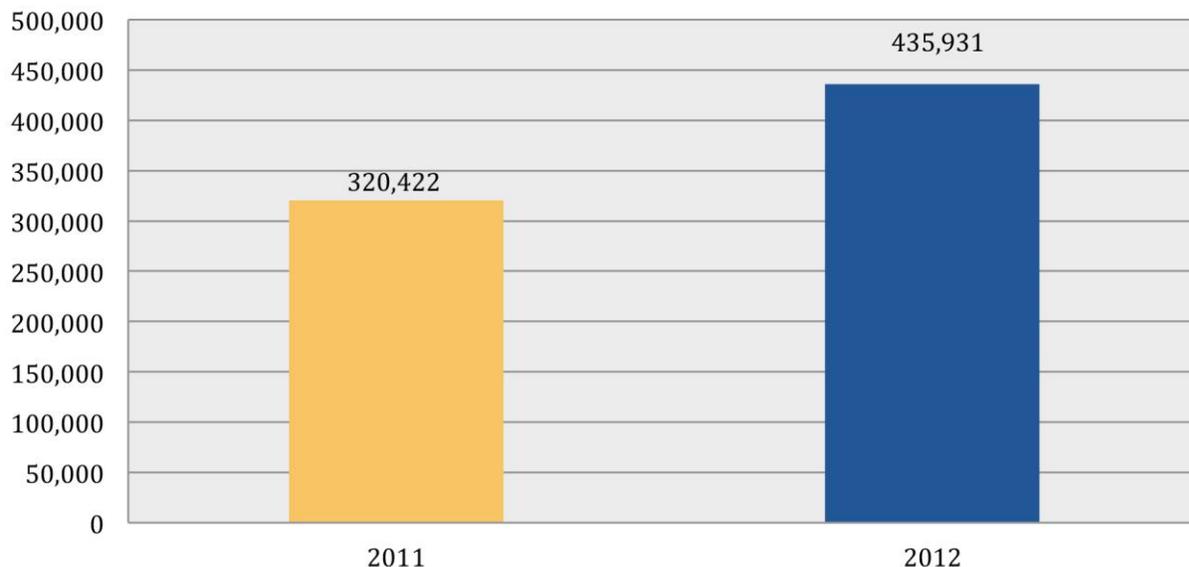
March 2014

## 2012 Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) and Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program

The Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS) has been using incentive payments, and will begin to use payment adjustments in 2015, to encourage eligible health care professionals to report on designated quality measures. The Electronic Prescribing (eRx) Incentive Program used a combination of incentive payments and payment adjustments to encourage electronic prescribing by eligible professionals. This brief shows trends in participation, incentive eligibility, and incentive payments for these two programs in 2012.

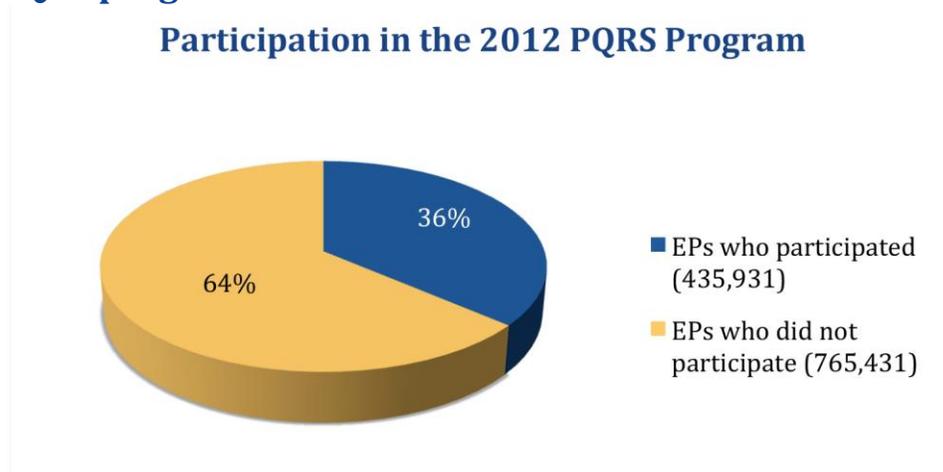
**Participation in the PQRS program increased by 36% from 2011.**

### EPs Who Participated in PQRS



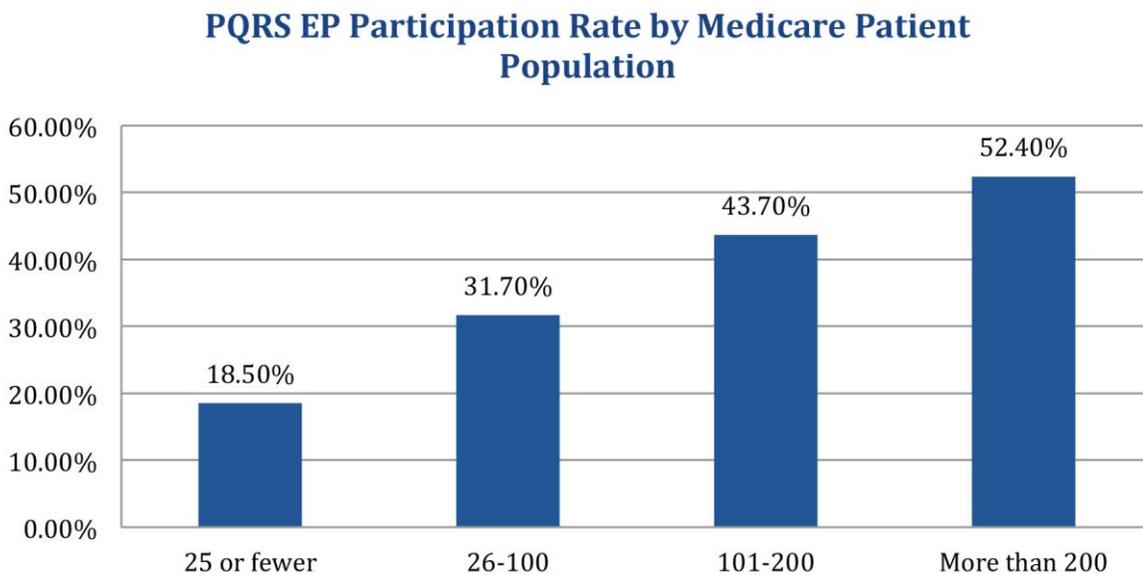
**Figure 1:** Number of EPs who participated in PQRS as individuals and part of group practices.

**Of 1,201,362 eligible professionals, 435,931 participated in the 2012 PQR program.**



**Figure 2:** Participation in the PQR program: 2012.

**PQR participation is highest among eligible professionals who see the most Medicare patients.**



**Figure 3:** Percent of EPs who participated in the PQR by the number of Medicare beneficiaries: 2012.

Participation in the eRx program is up by 22% from 2011.

### Participation in the eRx Program: 2011-2012

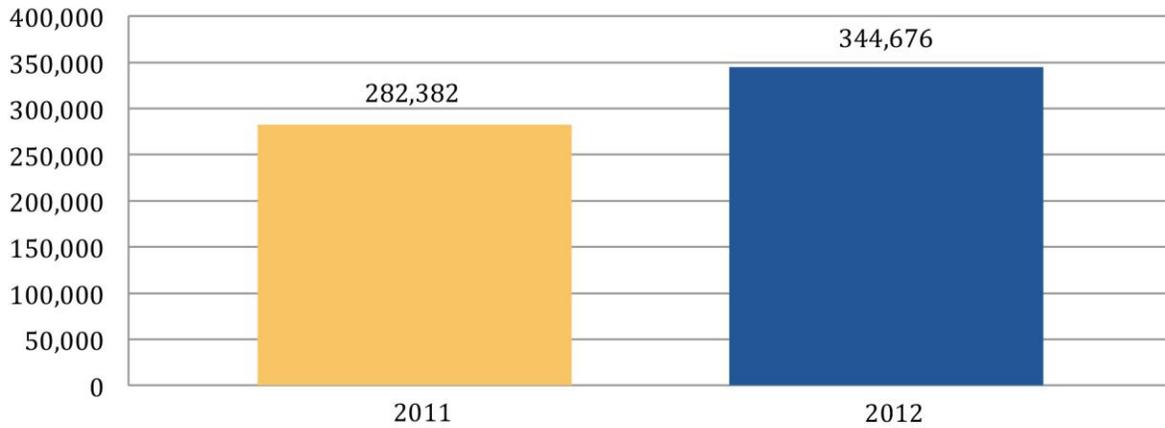


Figure 4: EPs who participated in the eRx program: 2011-2012.

Of 778,904 eligible professionals, 344,676 participated in the 2012 eRx program.

### Participation in the 2012 eRx Program

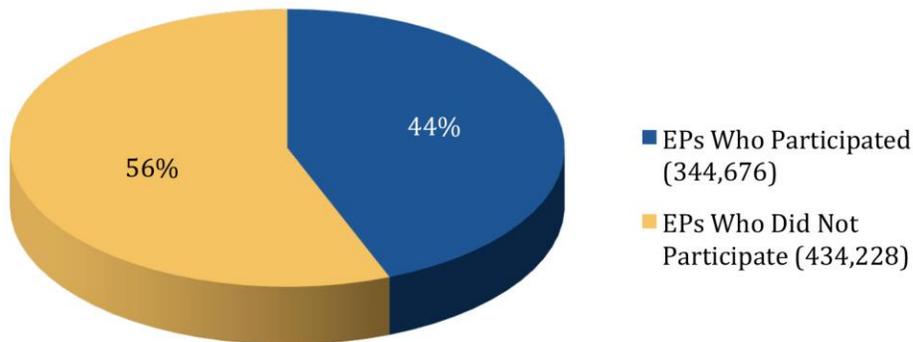
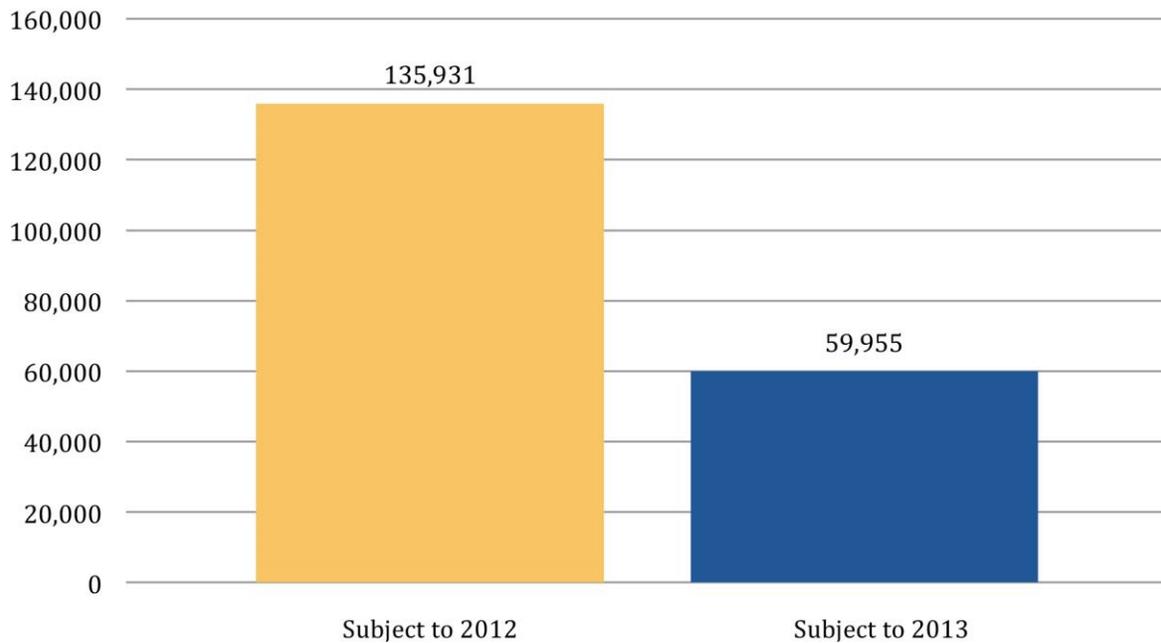


Figure 5: Participation in the eRx program: 2012.

**eRx and EHR alignment helped reduce eRx payment adjustments by half.**

**EPs Subject to Payment Adjustments**



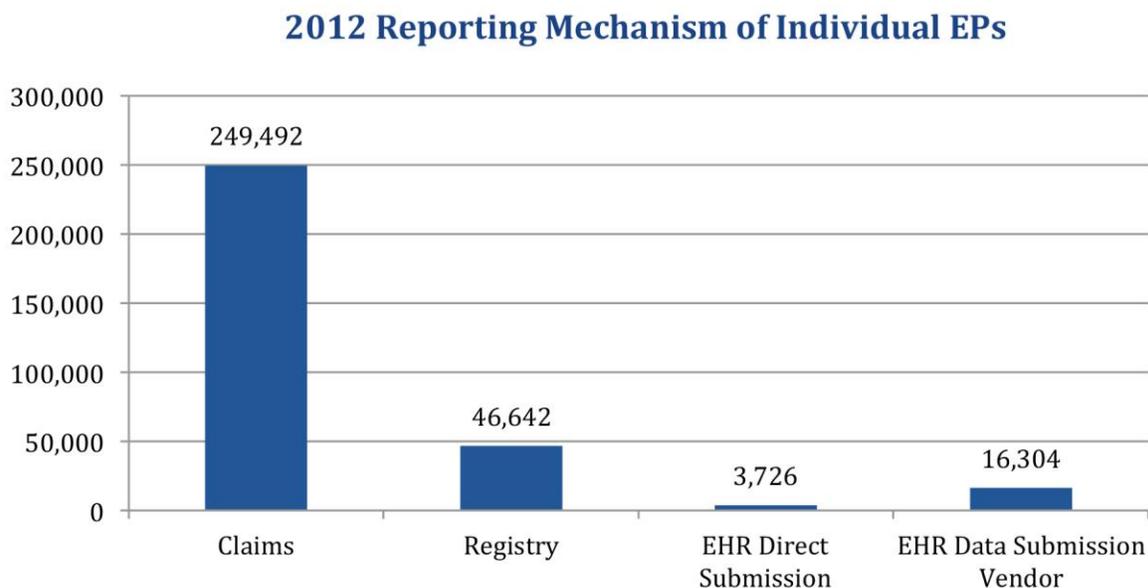
**Figure 6:** EPs who were subject to eRx payment adjustments.

**Measure #124, “Health Information Technology (HIT): Adoption/Use of Electronic Health Records (EHRs)” was the top measure reported in the 2012 PQRS.**

<b>Top 5 PQRS Measures Reported by EPs in 2012</b>	
<b>Measure ID</b>	<b>Measure Name</b>
#124	Health Information Technology (HIT): Adoption/Use of Electronic Health Records (EHR)
#226	Preventive Care and Screening: Tobacco Use: Screening and Cessation Intervention
#130	Documentation of Current Medications in the Medical Record
#111	Preventive Care and Screening: Pneumonia Vaccination for Patients 65 Years and Older
#54	Emergency Medicine: 12-Lead Electrocardiogram (ECG) Performed for Non-Traumatic Chest Pain

**Figure 7:** The top five measures reported by the largest number of EPs in the PQRS: 2012.

## Claims-based was the most popular reporting mechanism by individual EPs in 2012 for PQRS.



**Figure 8:** Reporting mechanism of individual EPs: 2012.

## Summary

In 2012, 1,201,362 eligible professionals were eligible to participate in the 2012 PQRS program for all reporting methods including GPRO and ACO, compared to 1,101,773 eligible professionals in 2011. 435,931 (36.3%) eligible professionals participated in the 2012 PQRS program through at least one reporting method, including GPRO and ACO, compared to 29.1% of eligible professionals in 2011 and 25.8% in 2010. This represents a 36% increase in participation from 2011 to 2012. In 2012, PQRS incentive payments totaled \$167,815,193 (excluding MOCP payments).

Overall, 778,904 eligible professionals were eligible to participate in the 2012 eRx program, compared to 748,355 in the 2011 eRx program. In 2012, eRx incentive payments totaled \$335,331,216, compared to \$285,049,103 in 2011.