

CT PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPENSATIONS – 2019 QUARTER 4

The CT Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System (CPMRS) collects prescription records for Schedule II – V controlled substances, mandated by CT General Statutes Sec. 21a-254.



Controlled substances are classified into **5 drug schedules** which are determined by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and state regulations. The classification is based on a drug's medical use and potential for misuse and dependency.



56%

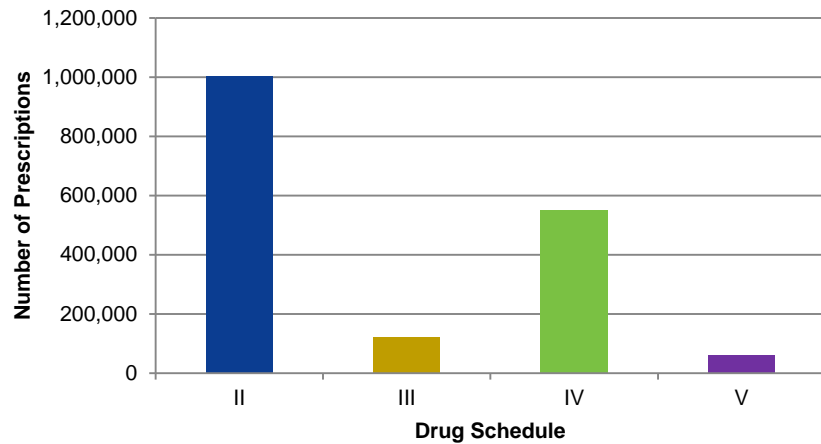
of controlled substances dispensed to CT residents this quarter are benzodiazepines, stimulants, opiate partial agonists, and opiate agonists.

Controlled Substance Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

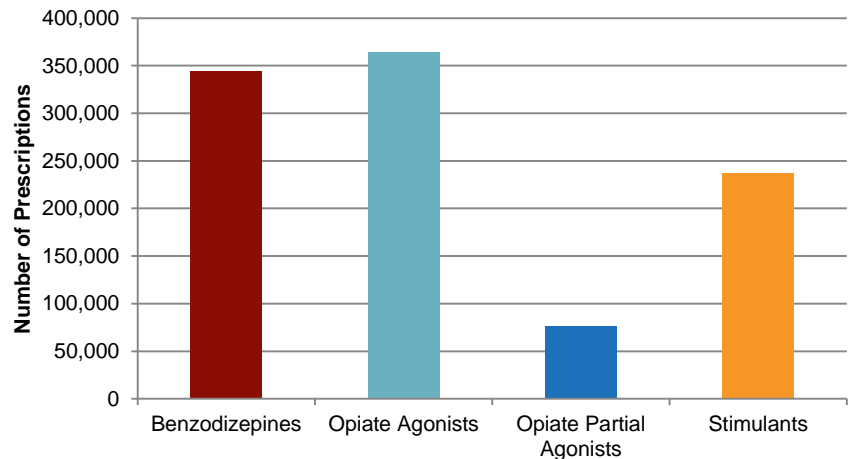
Patient Residence	Prescription Count
Fairfield County	387,074
Hartford County	433,714
Litchfield County	113,046
Middlesex County	98,101
New Haven County	463,475
New London County	178,751
Tolland County	78,733
Windham County	65,172
Connecticut	1,818,475

*Since county information is not available for all prescriptions, the county totals will not add up to the state total

Number of Controlled Substance Prescriptions by DEA Drug Schedule



Most Common Controlled Substances Dispensed to CT Residents



Opiate Agonist Prescriptions

Opiate agonists are generally used to treat moderate to severe pain; typically associated with injury, surgery, or various health conditions.

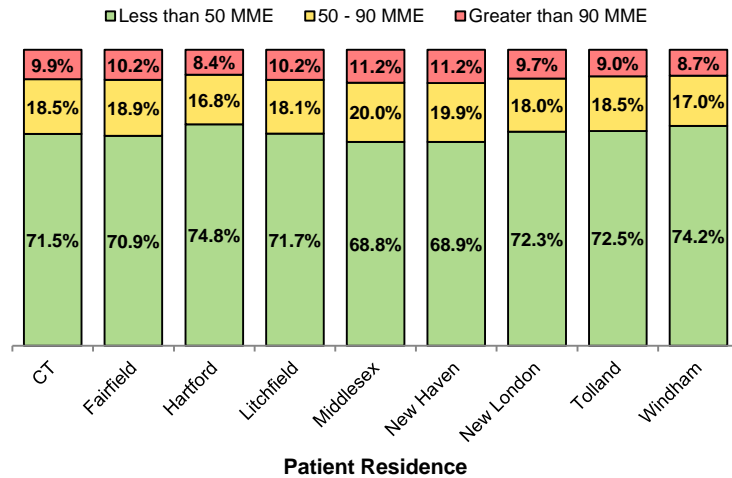
Top 5 Opiate Agonist Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Oxycodone HCl	93,957
Tramadol HCl	73,109
Oxycodone HCl/APAP	68,659
Hydrocodone bitartrate/APAP	54,304
Morphine Sulfate	18,334

¹APAP = acetaminophen

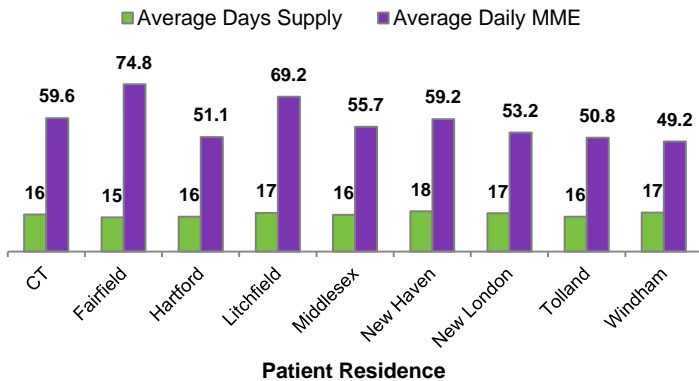
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that when starting a patient on opioids that the lowest effective dosage (<50 MME/day) should be prescribed in order to reduce the risk for overdose. Prescribing dosages of ≥50 MME/day increases the chances of an overdose ([CDC Guideline for Prescribing Opioids for Chronic Pain](#)).

Proportion of Opiate Agonists per MME Category



The longer a person is exposed to opioids the risks of opioid dependency increases.

Average Days Supply and Daily Morphine Milligram Equivalent



Benzodiazepine Prescriptions

Benzodiazepines are often used to treat a variety of health conditions such as anxiety, seizures, and insomnia.

Top 5 Benzodiazepine Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Alprazolam	121,491
Clonazepam	91,370
Lorazepam	84,161
Diazepam	33,028
Temazepam	7,101

Stimulant Prescriptions

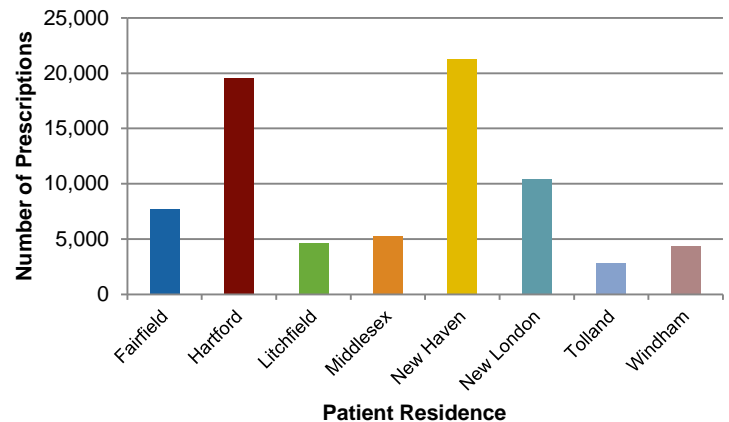
Stimulants are most often used to treat attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). It is also used to treat narcolepsy.

Top 5 Stimulant Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Dextroamphetamine sulf-saccharate/amphetamine sulf-aspartate	98,107
Methylphenidate HCl	47,307
Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate	45,140
Phentermine HCl	16,191
Dexmethylphenidate HCl	13,979

Opiate Partial Agonist Prescriptions

Drugs in this classification include medications that contain substances such as buprenorphine, butorphanol, and pentazocine.



Data Source: Connecticut Prescription Monitoring and Reporting System (CPMRS)

