

# CT PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPENSATIONS – 2020 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.



**90%**

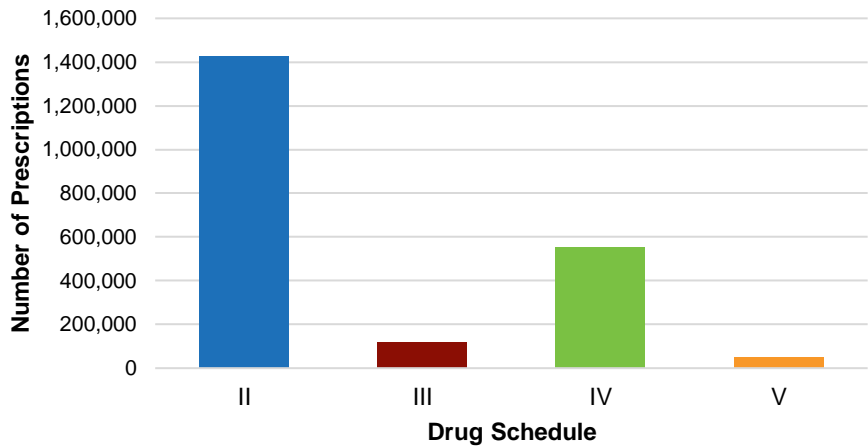
of controlled substances dispensed to CT residents this quarter are benzodiazepines, medical marijuana, opiate partial agonists, opiate agonists, and stimulants.

## Controlled Substance Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

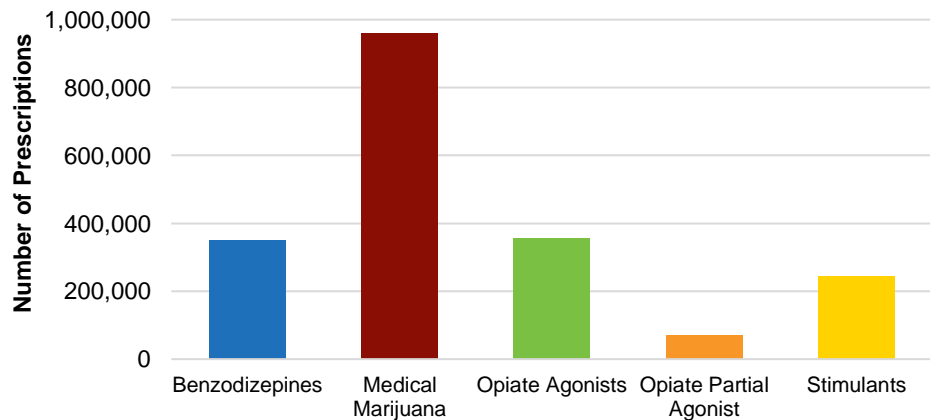
Patient Residence	Prescription Count
Fairfield County	490,155
Hartford County	481,853
Litchfield County	131,573
Middlesex County	121,720
New Haven County	583,968
New London County	222,417
Tolland County	87,285
Windham County	76,274
Connecticut	2,196,134

\*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

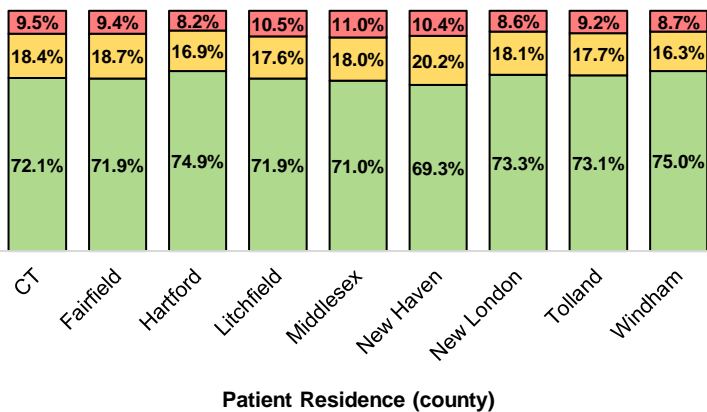
Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Oxycodone HCl	96,834
Oxycodone HCl/APAP	64,868
Hydrocodone bitartrate/APAP	50,077
Tramadol HCl	44,050
Hydromorphone HCl	19,533

\*APAP = acetaminophen

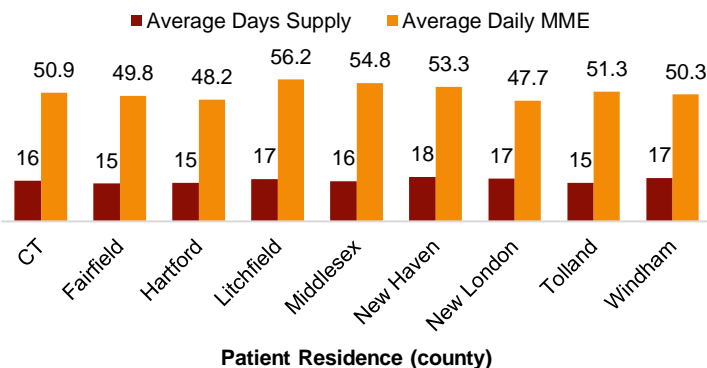
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that when starting a patient on opioids that the lowest effective dosage (<50 MME/day) should be prescribed in order to reduce the risk for overdose. Prescribing dosages of ≥50 MME/day increases the chances of an overdose ([CDC Guideline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

### Proportion of Opiate Agonists per MME Category

■ Less than 50 MME ■ 50 - 90 MME ■ Greater than 90 MME



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



## 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	65,473
Lorazepam	45,286
Clonazepam	44,591
Diazepam	15,257
Temazepam	3,242

## Stimulant Prescriptions

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

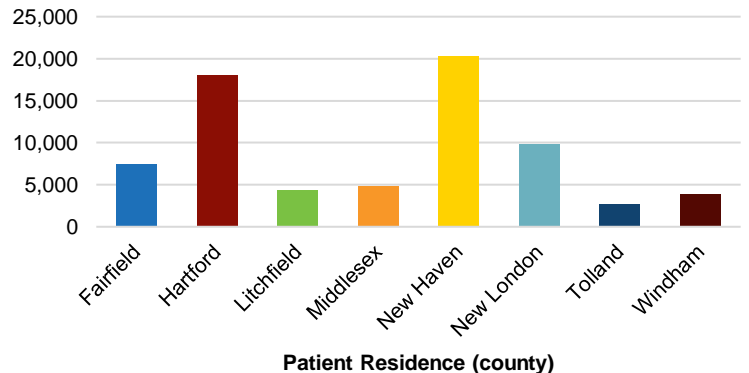
### Top 5 Stimulant Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Dextroamphetamine sulf-saccharate/amphetamine sulf-aspartate	107,274
Methylphenidate HCl	45,211
Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate	45,140
Dexmethylphenidate HCl	13,147
Phentermine HCl	9,150

## Opiate Partial Agonist Prescriptions

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

### Number of Opiate Partial Agonist Prescriptions



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

