

CT PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPENSATIONS – 2019 QUARTER 2

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 the CT Drug Control Division. The classification is based on a drug's medical use and potential for misuse and dependency.



59%

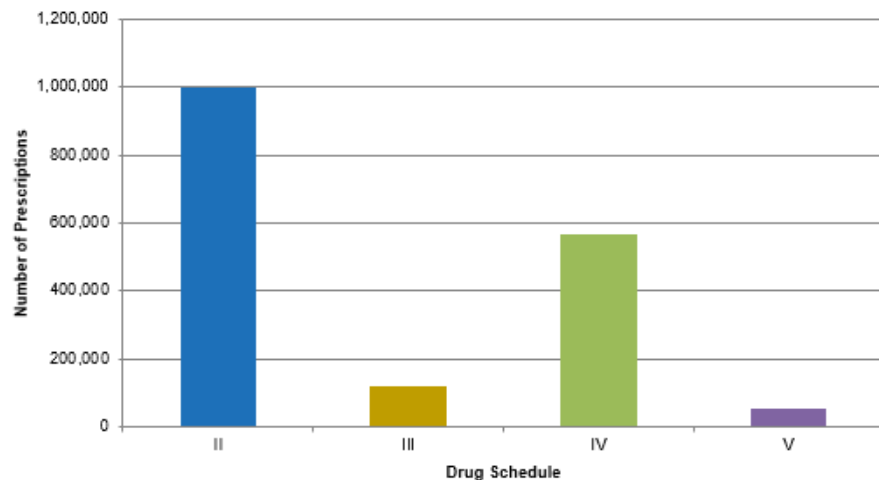
of controlled substances dispensed to CT residents this quarter are benzodiazepines, stimulants, opiate partial agonists, and opiate agonists.

Controlled Substance Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

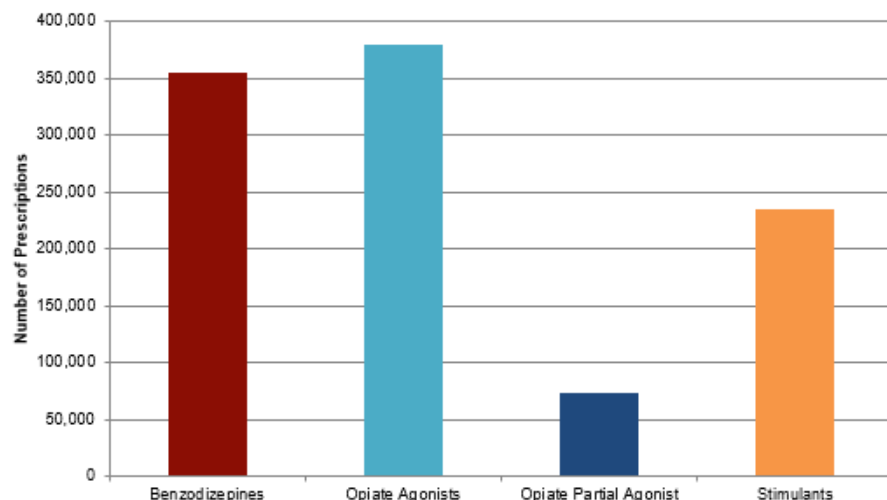
Patient Residence	Prescription Count
Fairfield County	382,511
Hartford County	413,631
Litchfield County	106,042
Middlesex County	94,763
New Haven County	449,210
Tolland County	73,371
New London County	176,469
Windham County	60,950
Connecticut	1,757,438

*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.

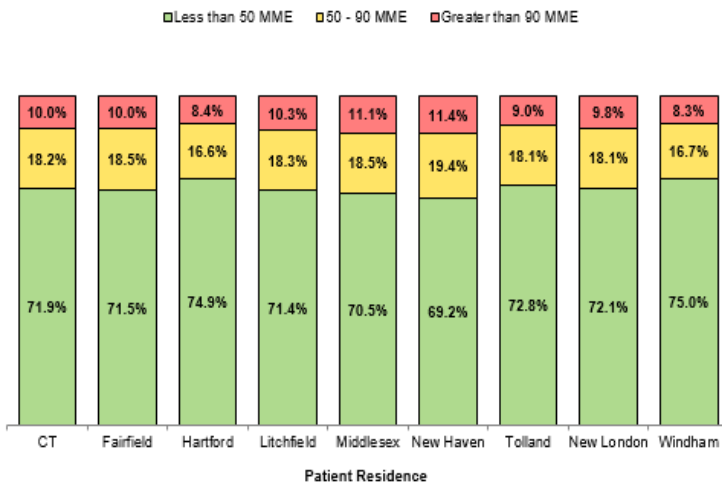
Top 5 Opiate Agonist Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Oxycodone HCl	94,286
Tramadol HCl	75,575
Oxycodone HCl/APAP	72,589
Hydrocodone bitartrate/APAP	59,032
Morphine Sulfate	18,570

¹APAP = acetaminophen

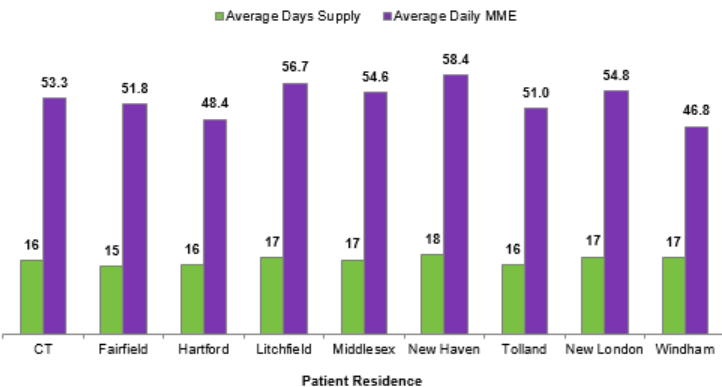
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that when starting a patient on opioids that the lowest effective dosage (<50 MME/day) should be prescribed in order to reduce the risk for overdose. Prescribing dosages of ≥50 MME/day increases the chances of an overdose ([CDC Guideline 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	127,940
Clonazepam	92,603
Lorazepam	85,181
Diazepam	34,563
Temazepam	7,233

Stimulant Prescriptions

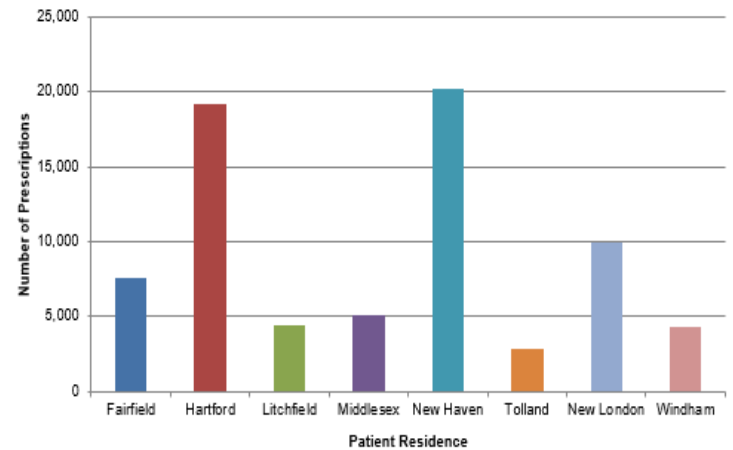
Stimulants are most often used to treat attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). It is also used to treat narcolepsy.

Top 5 Stimulant Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Dextroamphetamine sulf-saccharate/amphetamine sulf-aspartate	95,281
Methylphenidate HCl	46,589
Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate	44,817
Phentermine HCl	17,628
Dexmethylphenidate HCl	13,510

Opiate Partial Agonist Prescriptions

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



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

