

CT PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPENSATIONS – 2021 QUARTER 1

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. Effective January 1, 2021, insulin drugs, glucagon drugs, diabetes devices, diabetic ketoacidosis devices, gabapentin, and naloxone are required to be uploaded into the CPMRS.



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.



80%

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

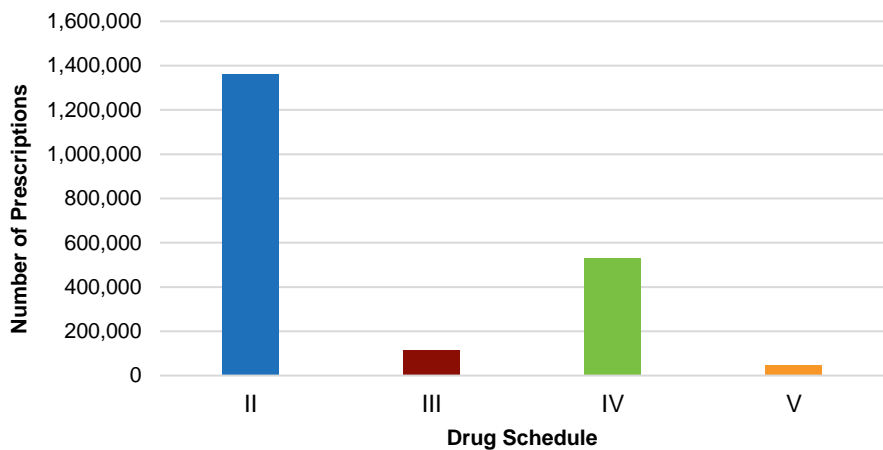
Prescriptions¹ Dispensed to CT Residents

Patient Residence	Prescription Count
Fairfield County	519,762
Hartford County	536,029
Litchfield County	146,607
Middlesex County	126,786
New Haven County	623,340
New London County	236,835
Tolland County	94,074
Windham County	84,843
Connecticut ²	2,369,080

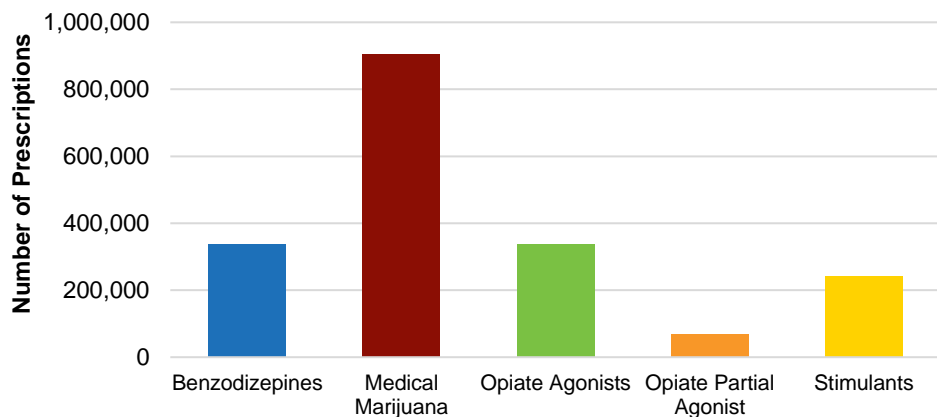
¹ This includes non-controlled and controlled prescriptions

² 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

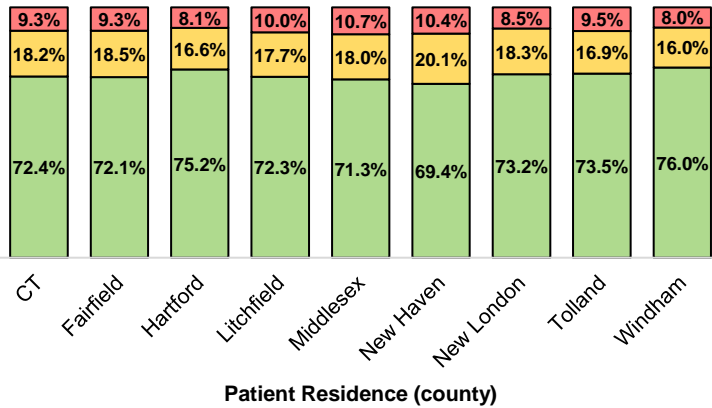
Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Oxycodone HCl	91,803
Tramadol HCl	66,886
Oxycodone HCl/APAP	61,525
Hydrocodone bitartrate/APAP	47,174
Morphine Sulfate	18,506

*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

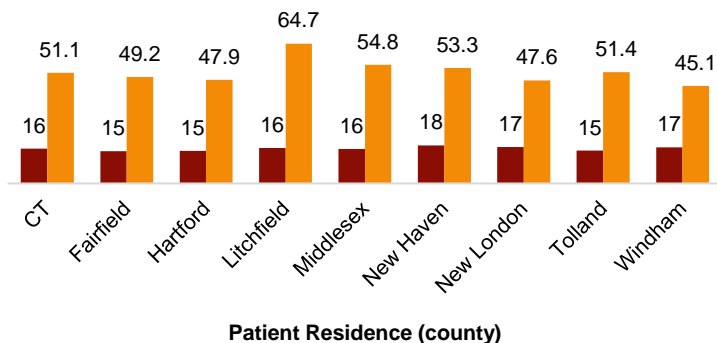
■ Less than 50 MME ■ 50 - 90 MME ■ Greater than 90 MME



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

Average Days Supply and Daily Morphine Milligram Equivalent

■ Average Days Supply ■ Average Daily MME



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	119,956
Lorazepam	83,767
Clonazepam	89,402
Diazepam	31,188
Temazepam	6,238

Stimulant Prescriptions

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

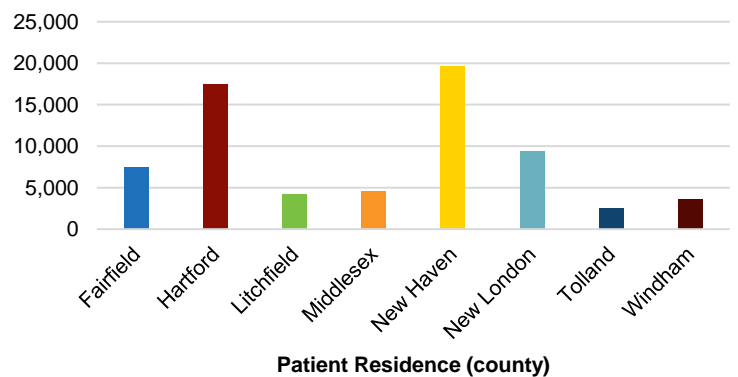
Top 5 Stimulant Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Dextroamphetamine sulf-saccharate/amphetamine sulf-aspartate	107,225
Methylphenidate HCl	45,839
Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate	44,243
Dexmethylphenidate HCl	13,425
Phentermine HCl	11,024

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)

