

# CT PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPENSATIONS – 2019 QUARTER 3

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.



**57%**

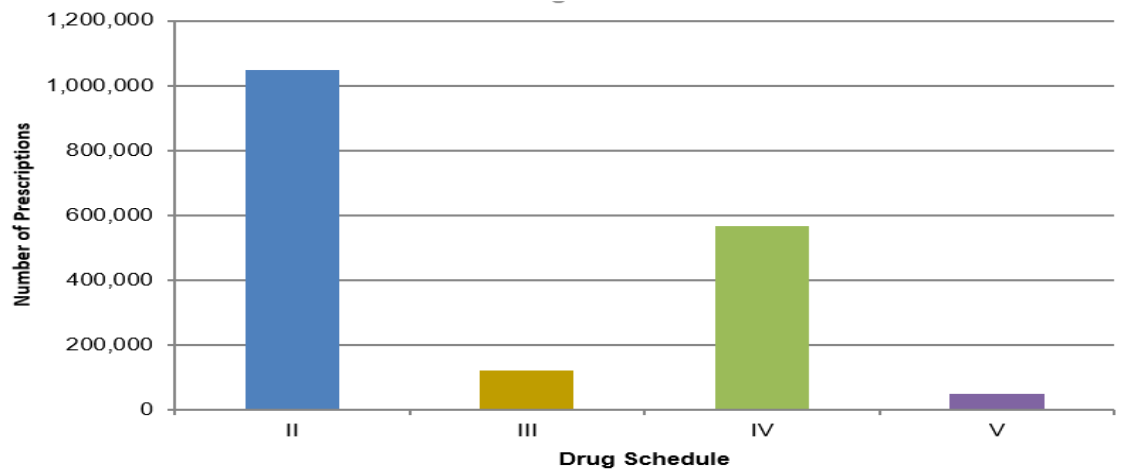
of controlled substances dispensed to CT residents this quarter are benzodiazepines, stimulants, opiate partial agonists, and opiate agonists.

## Controlled Substance Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

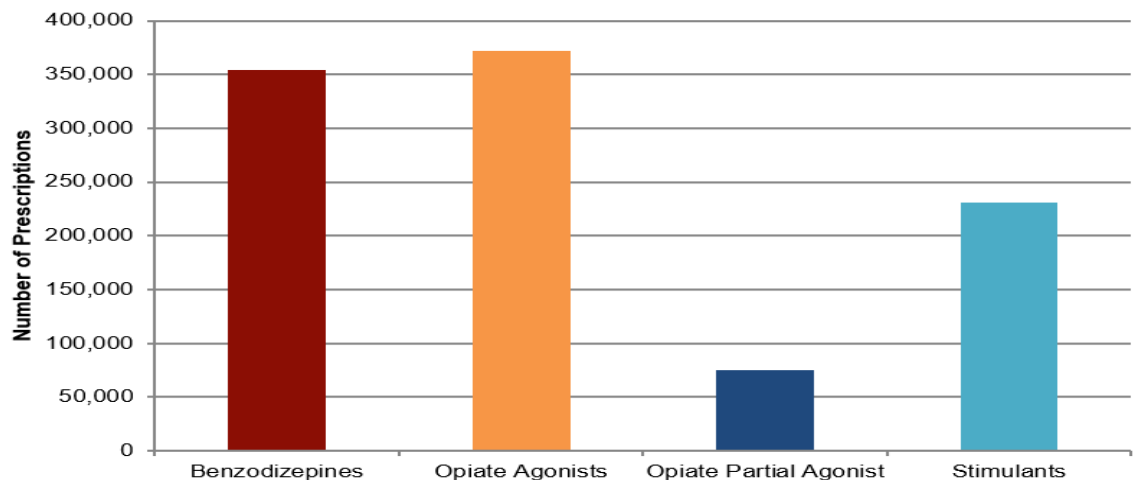
Patient Residence	Prescription Count
Fairfield County	390,046
Hartford County	422,648
Litchfield County	109,912
Middlesex County	96,478
New Haven County	463,972
Tolland County	76,330
New London County	177,863
Windham County	62,092
Connecticut	1,799,792

\*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.

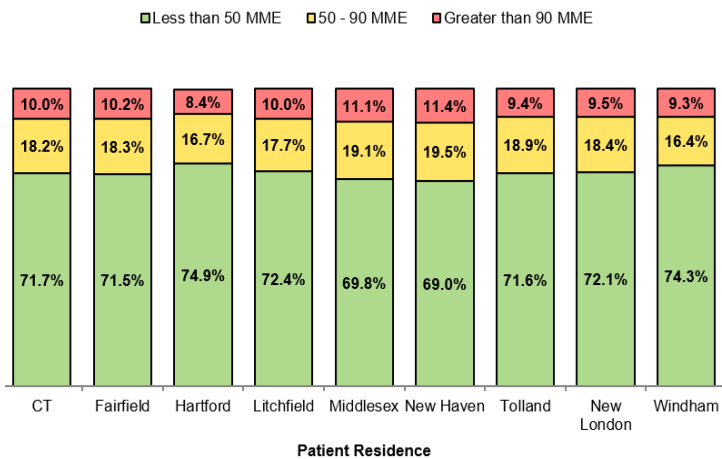
### Top 5 Opiate Agonist Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Oxycodone HCl	92,691
Tramadol HCl	75,428
Oxycodone HCl/APAP	70,472
Hydrocodone bitartrate/APAP	56,962
Morphine Sulfate	18,352

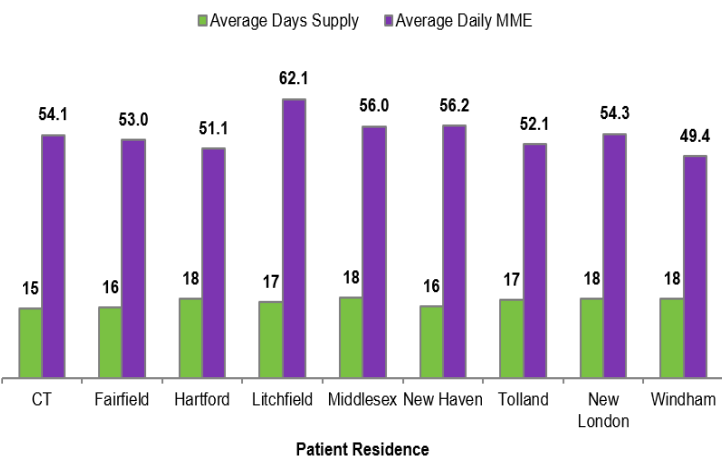
<sup>1</sup>APAP = acetaminophen

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



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	128,084
Clonazepam	92,489
Lorazepam	84,861
Diazepam	34,199
Temazepam	7,218

## Stimulant Prescriptions

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

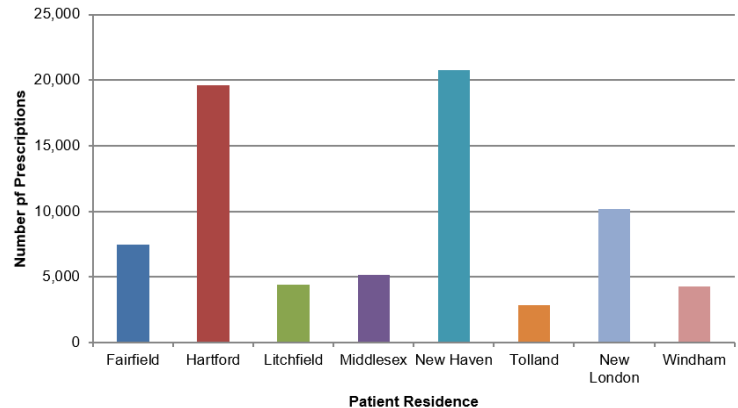
### Top 5 Stimulant Prescriptions Dispensed to CT Residents

Generic Drug Name	Prescription Count
Dextroamphetamine sulf-saccharate/amphetamine sulf-aspartate	97,031
Methylphenidate HCl	44,428
Lisdexamfetamine Dimesylate	43,257
Phentermine HCl	17,270
Dexmethylphenidate HCl	12,336

## Opiate Partial Agonist Prescriptions

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

### Number of Opiate Partial Prescriptions



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

