



**Louisiana Board of Pharmacy**  
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## Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

July 1, 2024

## Mission

Created by the Louisiana Legislature in 1888, the mission of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy remains unchanged over a century later: to regulate the practice of pharmacy in such a manner as to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Louisiana. Toward that goal, the Louisiana Pharmacy Practice Act specifically authorizes the Board to restrict the practice of pharmacy to qualified persons as well as regulate all persons and sites that sell prescription drugs or devices or provide pharmacy care services to consumers in this state.

## Licensure

In order to facilitate the restriction of practice to qualified persons, the Board has established educational, experiential, and examination requirements for the initial credentialing of pharmacists and pharmacy technicians. As authorized by the legislature, the Board has contracted its high-stakes examination procedures with professional testing services.

### *A. Examinations for Pharmacists*

The North American Pharmacist Licensure Examination (NAPLEX) and the Multistate Pharmacy Jurisprudence Examination (MPJE) are administered by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP). Initial licensure as a pharmacist requires completion of both tests; a pharmacist licensed elsewhere seeking transfer of licensure to Louisiana need only complete the MPJE. These computer adaptive tests are administered in continuous window opportunities at multiple sites throughout the state.

### *B. Examinations for Pharmacy Technicians*

The Board has approved two pharmacy technician certification examinations – the Pharmacy Technician Certification Examination (PTCE) administered by the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board and the Examination for Certified Pharmacy Technicians (ExCPT) administered by National Healthcareer Association (NHA). Initial certification as a pharmacy technician requires completion of one of these two tests. Both examinations are computer adaptive tests which are administered in continuous window opportunities at multiple sites throughout the state.

### *C. New Credentials*

During Fiscal Year 2023-2024, the Board issued 4,587 new credentials in the Pharmacy Program and 2,867 new credentials in the CDS Program. Of note within the Pharmacy Program, we issued 494 new pharmacist licenses, 666 new pharmacy technician certificates, and 1,123 new pharmacy technician candidate registrations during the past fiscal year. Of note within the CDS Program, we issued new CDS licenses to 1,654 physicians, interns and residents, as well as 557 advanced practice registered nurses, and 165 dentists.

#### ***D. License Transfer (Reciprocity)***

Persons already licensed as a pharmacist by any other state who wish to obtain a license in Louisiana must complete the required application form, submit to a criminal background check and successfully complete the MPJE test. Of the 494 new pharmacist licenses issued this past fiscal year, 323 were issued subsequent to completion of the reciprocity process.

#### ***E. Census Data***

At the close of the fiscal year on June 30, 2024, a review of our credential records yielded the following census information:

<b>Pharmacy Program</b>	<b>FY2021</b>	<b>FY2022</b>	<b>FY2023</b>	<b>FY2024</b>
<b>Pharmacists (PST)</b>				
Number of PST in Louisiana	5,925	5,937	5,939	5,963
Number of PST Nonresident	3,392	3,550	3,682	3,757
<b>Total Number of PST (Active)</b>	<b>9,317</b>	<b>9,487</b>	<b>9,621</b>	<b>9,720</b>
<b>Pharmacy Interns</b>				
Number of Active Registrations	1,233	1,159	1,073	920
<b>Pharmacy Technicians</b>				
Number of Active Certificates	7,406	7,449	6,899	7,166
<b>Pharmacy Technicians Candidates</b>				
Number of Active Registrations	1,752	1,861	1,565	1,638
<b>Pharmacies (Active)</b>				
Community - Independent	622	629	623	637
Community - Chain	577	579	572	541
Hospital	174	174	171	166
Hospital - Satellite	9	8	11	13
Institutional	21	21	21	21
Nonresident	624	672	696	731
Charitable	8	9	9	9
Nuclear	10	10	10	10
Correctional	4	4	4	4
Remote Processor	1	1	0	0
Telepharmacy	1	2	3	3
Marijuana	9	9	9	10
Marijuana Satellite	0	0	1	7
Special Event	0	0	1	0
<b>Total Number of Permits</b>	<b>2,060</b>	<b>2,118</b>	<b>2,131</b>	<b>2,152</b>

**Equipment Permits**

Emergency Drug Kit (EDK)	417	423	415	368
Automated Medication System	464	160	170	172
Durable Medical Equipment	665	659	670	690

**Special Activity Credentials**

CDTM Registrations	98	103	109	111
Medication Administration	4,041	3,393	1,257	0
Special Work Permits	102	121	124	134
TM Designation	182	236	223	0
PMP Access Registrations	22,420	23,258	24,242	25,269
Pharmacy Benefit Manager	0	13	25	35

<b>Pharmacy Program TOTAL</b>	<b>50,157</b>	<b>50,440</b>	<b>48,524</b>	<b>48,375</b>
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<b>CDS Program</b>	<b>FY2021</b>	<b>FY2022</b>	<b>FY2023</b>	<b>FY2024</b>
Automated Medication System	47	53	64	77
Advanced Practice Registered Nurse	4,244	4,621	5,073	5,469
Dentist	2,287	2,270	2,258	2,324
Drug Detection Canine - Private Agency	6	5	5	4
Drug Detection Canine - Law Enforcement	0	0	1	0
Distributor	256	260	239	238
Podiatrist	171	167	169	174
Veterinarian	1,260	1,285	1,300	1,356
Animal Euthanasia Tech - Cert	2	1	4	4
Animal Euthanasia Tech - Lead	20	18	19	18
Hospital	313	318	316	315
Hospital - Exempt	5	5	5	5
Intern or Resident	1,831	1,728	1,892	2,063
Analytical Laboratory	8	8	8	6
Analytical Laboratory - Exempt	5	5	5	5
Physician	13,581	13,679	13,790	14,067
Physician via Telemedicine	24	28	39	37
Manufacturer	37	38	37	41
Medical Psychologist	96	98	97	101
Optometrist	373	371	364	377
Physician's Assistant	1,119	1,195	1,302	1,402
Pharmacy - Exempt	25	24	24	26
Pharmacy	1,269	1,269	1,256	1,235
Researcher	114	111	107	107
APRN via Telehealth	1	4	14	13
Registered Outsourcing Facility	19	23	23	23
Substance Abuse Clinic	9	9	10	10

Substance Abuse Clinic - Exempt	0	0	0	0
Therapeutic Marijuana Pharmacy	0	10	10	16
Third Party Logistics	45	51	49	58
Withdrawal Management Clinic	0	0	5	7
<b>CDS Program TOTAL</b>	<b>27,167</b>	<b>27,654</b>	<b>28,485</b>	<b>29,578</b>

#### Total Active Credentials Under Board Management

	<b>FY2021</b>	<b>FY2022</b>	<b>FY2023</b>	<b>FY2024</b>
Pharmacy Program	50,157	50,440	48,524	48,375
CDS Program	<u>27,167</u>	<u>27,654</u>	<u>28,485</u>	<u>29,578</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,324</b>	<b>78,094</b>	<b>77,009</b>	<b>77,953</b>

## Compliance

### A. Enforcement

In order to control and regulate the practice of pharmacy in Louisiana, the Board employs seven pharmacist compliance officers to perform routine inspections and special investigations throughout the year in all places under the Board's jurisdiction. In addition to pharmacies, the compliance officers also inspect healthcare facilities to monitor compliance with controlled substance requirements. The compliance officers visited 1,510 pharmacies and other facilities during the year to perform routine inspections, site visits for permit changes, and other calls for assistance. The compliance and administrative officers began the fiscal year with 139 cases from the previous fiscal years, received 407 new cases, and closed 401 cases, leaving 145 cases for the next fiscal year. Of the 401 cases closed during the fiscal year: 12 of the original complaints were withdrawn, 16 resulted from closing of previously imposed probationary periods, 143 were determined to be without violation, 9 cases were referred to other agencies, 66 resulted in field corrections, 9 cases were handled administratively, and 144 cases were referred to the Board's committees. Those committees took no action in 19 of their cases, issued non-disciplinary letters of non-compliance in 34 cases, and then recommended voluntary consent agreements for 91 cases. Of that number, all but six accepted the proposed Board decision; those six respondents were referred for formal administrative hearings. The decisions from the formal administrative hearings resulted in suspension and assessments in the six cases. The Board also rescinded two previously issued orders.

Compliance officers coordinate other investigative activities with a wide range of agencies, including local police departments, parish sheriff departments, other state regulatory and law enforcement agencies, and federal agencies such as the Drug Enforcement Administration and the Food and Drug Administration. Though the compliance officers utilize the educational approach as the preferred mechanism to achieve compliance, certain circumstances warrant formal Board action.

## **B. Adjudications**

During the past fiscal year, the Board conducted six formal administrative hearings and levied formal disciplinary action against several credentials. A summary of all the Board's disciplinary decisions is presented here:

Sanction	Pharmacist	Intern	Technician	Candidate	Pharmacy	CDS
Letter of Warning with Assessment	1	0	0	0	0	0
Letter of Reprimand with Assessment	9	0	14	0	6	0
Probation with Assessment	6	0	2	1	1	0
Fine plus Costs (No Other Sanction)	1	0	0	0	15	0
Revocation	0	0	3	1	0	0
Denial	0	0	0	0	0	0
Suspension (May or May Not Include Assessment)	0	0	6	2	0	0
Surrender resulting in Indefinite Suspension	8	0	2	1	0	0

## **C. Disciplinary Restrictions**

From time to time, the Board imposes disciplinary restrictions on various credentials, including probation, suspension, and other practice restrictions. Probationary periods are typically imposed for defined periods of time, whereas suspensions may be imposed for defined or indefinite periods of time. As of July 1, 2024, there were several credentials on probation, including 33 pharmacist licenses, nine pharmacy technician certificates, one pharmacy intern registration, and three pharmacy permits. The number of credentials on active suspension include 105 pharmacist licenses, four pharmacy intern registrations, 123 pharmacy technician certificates, 36 pharmacy technician candidate registrations, three special work permits, 13 pharmacy permits, and 10 controlled substance licenses for pharmacies.

## **D. Practitioner Recovery Program**

The Board established its program in 1988 to assist practitioners to obtain treatment for their impairment, maintain their recovery, and assist their re-entry into professional practice. As of July 1, 2024, there were 26 pharmacists, one pharmacy intern, and five pharmacy technicians actively engaged in the recovery program. They typically surrender their credentials prior to or while in treatment; following treatment and upon favorable recommendation by board approved addiction medicine specialists, they applied for the reinstatement of their credentials. The Board reinstated their credentials on probation, and the licensees practice under various restrictions designed to monitor their re-entry to professional practice.

## **Board Activity**

### **A. Legislative**

During the 2024 regular session, the Board sponsored two bills:

- *HB 204 (Act 110)* – the purpose of this legislation was to update the state list of controlled substances consistent with recent federal controlled substance scheduling actions. The legislature passed the bill and Governor Landry signed the measure as Act 110 of the 2024 Louisiana Legislature with an effective date of August 1, 2024.

- *HB 193 (Act 205)* – the purpose of this legislation was to authorize the transfer of a prescription or prescription information for controlled substances between pharmacies in conformance with federal regulations. The legislature passed the bill and Governor Landry signed the measure as Act 205 of the 2024 Louisiana Legislature with an effective date of August 1, 2024.

## **B. Regulatory**

The Board's Regulation Revision Committee is tasked with the continuous review of the Board's rules and their recommendation for revision as appropriate. The Board completed 10 regulatory projects during the fiscal year:

- *Project 2023-01 ~ Prescriptions* - the Board initiated this regulatory project to amend Sections 2511 and 2519 of its rules relative to prescriptions. The changes in Section 2511 clarify the definition of an electronic prescription, define practitioner, add a description of patient authority to acquire a prescription drug or device, add a requirement for pharmacies to transfer filled and unfilled prescriptions when requested by the patient, address clarification of information required on prescriptions, and allow prescription adaptation by the pharmacist. The changes in Section 2519 prohibit a pharmacy from requesting refill authorization from a prescriber in the absence of a patient request and clarify that a pharmacy may offer their patient an auto-refill service to facilitate refill requests.
- *Project 2023-02 ~ Temporary Closure of Pharmacy* – the Board initiated this project to amend Section 1107 of its rules relative to pharmacy operations in the aftermath of COVID-19 and hurricane related events. The rule amendment addressed prepared prescriptions affected by the temporary closure of a pharmacy pursuant to a state of emergency declared by the governor or a need determined by the pharmacist-in-charge during an emergency or Act of God. The change allows for the storage of those prescriptions in a secure area and the delivery of those prescriptions to the patient, or an agent or caregiver of the patient, regardless of whether a pharmacist is on duty.
- *Project 2023-03 ~ Pharmacy Benefit Managers* – the Board initiated this project to amend Sections 3003 and 3005 of its rules relative to pharmacy benefit managers to remove the requirement for a pharmacy benefit manager applicant to include copies of governance documents and the standard generic contract template used by the applicant with the initial permit application. Additionally, the board re-promulgated Chapter 30 in its entirety due to Act 536 of the 2022 regular session which clarified legislative intent to mandate licensure of pharmacy benefit managers by the Board of Pharmacy.

- *Project 2023-04 ~ Healthcare Workplace Violence Prevention* – the Board initiated this project to amend Section 1103 of its rules relative to prescription department requirements to address workplace violence against healthcare workers, in response to Act 461 of the 2022 Legislative Session. The rule amendment requires pharmacies to comply with the provisions of R.S. 40:2199.11 through 40:2199.19 including but not limited to signage, prevention plans, and reporting.
- *Project 2023-05 ~ Pharmacy Change of Ownership* – the Board initiated this project to amend Section 1135 of its rules relative to pharmacy change of ownership procedures. The rule changes limit the circumstances under which pharmacy owners must obtain a new permit when ownership of the pharmacy is transferred by requiring that an application for a new pharmacy permit is to be filed and a new permit obtained only when there is a change in the identity of the natural person, partnership, or business entity which directly holds the permit or when there is a change in the person or entity's Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN). The rule changes require a new application to be filed at least 15 days before closing the transfer of ownership interests, require the application to include the direct and first indirect level of ownership information, and require any change in the first indirect level of ownership of 20 percent or more to be reported to the board within 30 days of the change. The rule changes clarify that nothing prohibits an entity from applying for a new pharmacy permit in order to separate itself from actions of the previous ownership. The changes also clarify that operation of a permit subsequent to a change of ownership without submission of a new permit application may violate R.S. 37:1221.
- *Project 2023-06 ~ Staffing Ratios* – the Board initiated this project to amend Sections 709 and 907 of its rules relative to pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians. The rule changes in Sections 709 and 907 provide that the ratio of pharmacy interns, certified pharmacy technicians, and pharmacy technician candidates to pharmacists on duty shall not exceed four to one in any variable at any given time, of which the ratio of pharmacy technician candidates to pharmacists may not exceed two to one. The rule change in Section 709 also limits the ratio of pharmacy interns on rotation with a board approved college of pharmacy to pharmacist to no more than three to one.
- *Project 2023-07 ~ Marijuana Pharmacy* – the Board initiated this project in response to Acts 444 and 491 of the 2022 regular session and in an effort by the Board to reduce the number of regulations on marijuana pharmacies.
- *Project 2023-08 ~ DATA-Waiver Registration Elimination* – the Board initiated this project to amend Section 2745 of its rules relative to prescriptions. The rule change eliminates certain requirements concerning prescriptions of Schedule III, IV, or V controlled substances for detoxification or maintenance treatment. Previously, practitioners were required under federal law to obtain a special identification number from the DEA prior to prescribing or dispensing these drugs, or were required to submit a written notice of intent to obtain such a number. The Board's rules



required that such prescriptions be accompanied by this identification number or written notice. The rule change eliminates this requirement because federal law no longer requires practitioners to obtain this identification number. The rule change also corrects the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) reference for exemption of registration for certain military personnel engaged in certain controlled substance activities.

- *Project 2023-10 ~ Prescription Monitoring Program* – the Board initiated this project to amend Sections 2901 and 2914 of its rules relative to the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). The rule change in Section 2901 amends the definition of drugs of concern. The rule change in Section 2914 addresses record retention of PMP information by the Board.
- *Project 2023-11 ~ Pharmacists Application* – the Board initiated this project to amend Section 501 of its rules relative to pharmacists application. The rule change removes the requirement to submit an application for initial pharmacist licensure to the Board at least 30 days prior to any examination.

### **C. *Prescription Monitoring Program***

The Board continued its operation of Louisiana's Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). The vendor contract to operate the program is held by Bamboo Health, based in Louisville, KY. The vendor's operating platform is PMP AWARe. Further, through its PMP InterConnect portal, the Louisiana PMP connects to prescription monitoring programs in 37 state and federal jurisdictions to allow for seamless interstate data inquiries. The number of prescribers and dispensers authorized to access the program's database continues to increase, with more than 28,000 providers using the system as of June 30, 2024. The downward trend for the dispensing of opioid medications has continued. Since the program is required to file an annual report to the legislature, we have appended that report to this one to facilitate its separation.

### **Board Office**

The Board currently employs 24 people on a full-time basis in a variety of professional, technical, and clerical roles. The physical and mailing address of the Board office is:

Louisiana Board of Pharmacy  
3388 Brentwood Drive  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809-1700

The Board's website address is [www.pharmacy.la.gov](http://www.pharmacy.la.gov) and general email is received at [info@pharmacy.la.gov](mailto:info@pharmacy.la.gov).

## Conclusion

The Board has had an active year on several fronts, and all of these activities have contributed to the overall mission of the board. The officers and members of the Board, as well as the entire office staff, are committed to achieving our goal of protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare through appropriate regulation of the practice of pharmacy in this state. We understand that public service is a privilege, and we endeavor to render that service honorably.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Fontenot  
Executive Director



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# Prescription Monitoring Program Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2023-2024

July 1, 2024

## Introduction

The Louisiana Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) is an electronic database used to collect and monitor prescription data for all Schedule II, III, IV, and V controlled substances, marijuana recommendations, as well as certain drugs of concern, dispensed by pharmacies in Louisiana or to a Louisiana resident from pharmacies located in another state. The PMP provides a mechanism for prescribers and pharmacists to monitor their patient's prescription history.

Act 676 of the 2006 Louisiana Legislature authorized the development, implementation, and operation of an electronic system for the monitoring of controlled substances and other drugs of concern that are dispensed within the state or to state residents by pharmacies located in other states. The goal of the program is to improve the state's ability to identify and inhibit the diversion of controlled substances and drugs of concern in an efficient and cost-effective manner that shall not impede the appropriate utilization of these drugs for legitimate medical purposes.

The PMP was implemented in August 2008. Pharmacies and dispensing prescribers were instructed how and when to transmit their dispensing transactions to the program vendor for assimilation into the PMP database. Prescribers, dispensers, and other persons authorized to access PMP information were instructed how to secure their access privileges. The web portal to the PMP database was opened to queries on January 1, 2009, and the program remains fully operational.

## Advisory Council

The enabling legislation created the PMP Advisory Council to assist the Board in the development and operation of the program. The council consists of the following members, each of whom may appoint a designee:

1. The president of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners;
2. The president of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry;
3. The president of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing;
4. The president of the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners;
5. The president of the Louisiana Academy of Physician Assistants;
6. The president of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy;
7. The superintendent of the Louisiana State Police;
8. The administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration;
9. The speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives;
10. The president of the Louisiana Senate;
11. The chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare;
12. The chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare;
13. The secretary of the Department of Health;
14. The president of the Louisiana State Medical Society;
15. The president of the Louisiana Dental Association;
16. The president of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners;
17. The president of the Optometry Association of Louisiana;
18. The president of the Louisiana Pharmacists Association;
19. The president of the Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association;
20. The president of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores;
21. The president of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association;

22. The president of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association;
23. The president of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America;
24. The president of the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists.

During Fiscal Year 2023-2024, the council convened a quorum of members on February 7, 2024. The program staff presented data concerning the number of prescription transactions reported to the program database as well as the number of queries to the database by prescribers, dispensers, law enforcement, prosecutorial officials, and specialty courts. The staff also reported on the PMP InterConnect interstate network, as well as the increased utilization by the private sector of the PMP Gateway service, which integrates the PMP access portal into existing practice information systems in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics, practitioner offices, and pharmacies. During the previous fiscal year, the council recommended a change to the PMP law reducing the frequency of mandatory advisory council meetings from quarterly to at least once annually and the ability to meet by electronic means. The 2023 Legislature passed that bill and Governor Edwards signed that measure as Act 14 of the 2023 Legislature and it became effective August 1, 2023.

## Program Highlights

- **August 9, 2023** – an Invitation to Bid (ITB) through the Office of State Procurement was open for the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) software.
- **October 11, 2023** – the Office of State Procurement approved a purchase order for the PMP software through Bamboo Health.
- **January 1, 2024** – a new contract for the PMP software through Bamboo Health began.
- **March 20, 2024** – the Board of Pharmacy amended Sections 2901 and 2914 of its rules relative to the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP). The rule change in Section 2901 clarifies intent in regards to butalbital containing products being reported to the PMP and removes naloxone as a drug of concern. The rule change in Section 2914 addresses record retention of PMP information by the Board.
- **June 7, 2024** - Louisiana began sharing PMP information through PMP InterConnect with the state of Kentucky.
- **June 11, 2024** – the Louisiana Department of Health's Office of Public Health, Bureau of Community Preparedness provided grant funds to cover the costs associated with the PMP statewide integration project for the period October 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.
- **June 30, 2024** – as of this date, the Louisiana PMP is sharing with 37 PMPs: Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, D.C., Military Health System – Dept. of Defense (MHS-DOD), Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Puerto Rico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

## Louisiana PMP Statewide Integration Project

On January 1, 2019, the Board partnered with the Louisiana Dept. of Health's Office of Public Health, Bureau of Community Preparedness (LDH-OPH-BCP) and Appriss Health (Bamboo Health) to provide a statewide PMP integration option to all healthcare providers in Louisiana utilizing a service called PMP Gateway®. Gateway offers healthcare providers an option to integrate PMP data within the provider's electronic health record (EHR) or pharmacy information system to provide a streamlined clinical workflow for providers. The integration eliminates the need for providers to log in separately to the PMP web portal; instead, the EHR automatically initiates a patient query and returns the patient's PMP information directly within the provider's EHR or pharmacy information system.

The statewide initiative has been funded through grants obtained from LDH-OPH-BCP which has covered the costs from January 1, 2019 through June 30, 2024.

As of June 30, 2024, the Louisiana PMP was interoperable with 654 licensees (EHRs and pharmacy management systems) across the state. The 654 licensees represent more than 3,100 facilities in Louisiana and were responsible for 3,674,705 PMP requests in the month of June 2024.

## Program Metrics

The data on the following pages provide summary data for the operational aspects of the program for Calendar Year 2023. The first graphic presents information about the use of the information by authorized prescribers, pharmacists, and their delegates. Data for the different roles of users are presented, including the number authorized to obtain PMP access privileges, the number with active access privileges, and the number of queries to the PMP database through the PMP website (AWARxE) and through the integration component (Gateway). The graphic also contains information about the use of the information by other authorized users, including law enforcement, prosecutorial officials, specialty courts, regulatory agencies, and other roles.

The second graphic presents information concerning the numbers of controlled substance prescriptions dispense in the state, including summary data for different types of drugs like opioids and benzodiazepines. Just over 13.4 million prescriptions for controlled substances and drugs of concern were dispensed in the state during Calendar Year 2023, with an average of 2.839 prescriptions per Louisiana resident. Specifically looking at opioid prescriptions, the state saw a reduction in the number of opioid prescriptions dispensed by 4.2% compared to Calendar Year 2022.

## Calendar Year 2023 PMP User Statistics

PMP User Stats for 2022 (01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023)				
PMP Healthcare Provider Role	Number of Providers <u>Eligible</u> for PMP Access (as of 12/31/2023)	Number of Providers <u>with</u> Active PMP Access Privileges (as of 12/31/2023)	Number of PMP Requests by Providers through <b>AWARxE®</b> During 2023	Number of PMP Requests by Providers through <b>Gateway®</b> During 2023
Physician (MD, DO)	13,684	9,552	2,170,861	26,634,608
Nurse Practitioner (APRN)	5,257	4,178	968,926	2,483,143
Dentist (DDS)	2,252	1,469	24,170	16,747
Physician Assistant (PA)	1,370	1,082	176,586	304,387
Optometrist (OD)	366	153	11	0
Podiatrist (DPM)	169	120	8,365	0
Medical Psychologist (MP)	99	94	34,365	43,744
Medical Intern/Resident	1,725	1,181	42,595	803,479
Prescriber's Delegate	N/A	3,915	755,125	0
Pharmacist (PST)	9,307	5,402	5,120,883	8,667,792
Pharmacist's Delegate	N/A	1,709	543,000	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>34,229</b>	<b>28,855</b>	<b>9,844,887</b>	<b>38,953,900</b>

Law Enforcement, Prosecutorial Officials & Specialty Courts	CY 2023 Searches
DEA (Patient Requests)	540
Specialty Court	67
FBI	13
Homeland Security	1
Local Law Enforcement	116
Multijurisdictional Task Force	0
State Attorney General	3
State Police	16
<b>Totals</b>	<b>756</b>

Regulatory Agencies	CY 2023 Searches
Board of Pharmacy	3800
Board of Dentistry	8
Board of Medicine	762
Board of Nursing	4
Board of Optometry Investigator	0
DEA (Licensee/Registrant Request)	695
<b>Totals</b>	<b>5269</b>

Other Roles	CY 2023 Searches
Medical Examiner/Coroner	48
Louisiana Medicaid Program	307
<b>Totals</b>	<b>355</b>

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## Calendar Year 2023



State Rx per Capita  
**2.839**



Prescriptions  
**13,412,102**

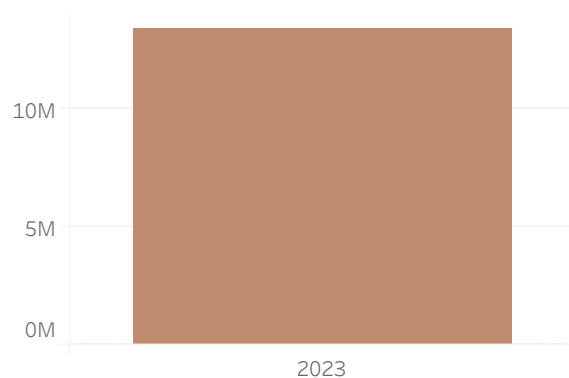
Quantity  
Dispensed

each (tablets, kits, etc.)	586,664K
grams (solids)	5,406K
milliliters (liquids)	89,542K
Unspecified	5,808K



Days Supply  
**312,054,073**

YoY Prescriptions (#)



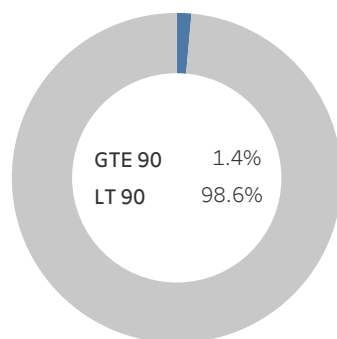
YoY Prescriptions (#) by Drug Schedule

2	2023	4,624,564
3	2023	844,621
4	2023	3,755,876
5	2023	468,746
*	2023	3,718,295

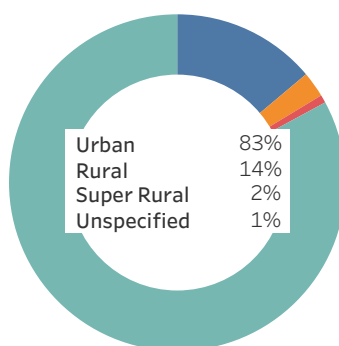
YoY Prescriptions (#) by Drug Classes

Opioid	2023	3,572,920
Benzo	2023	2,123,746
Anxiolytic, Hypnotics, Se..	2023	903,836
Other	2023	6,811,600

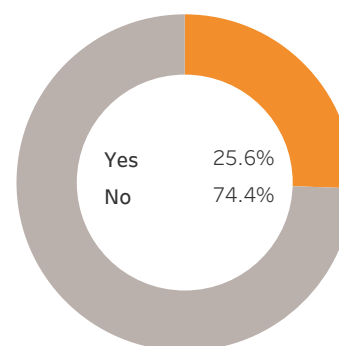
Prescriptions >= 90 MME vs. All



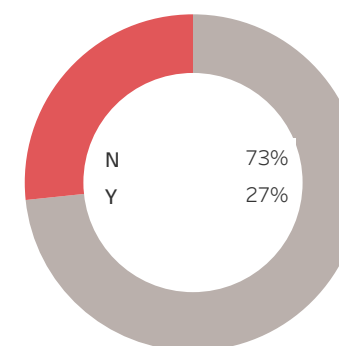
Rx by Prescriber Environment



New vs. Refill Prescriptions



Opioids vs. Non Opioids (%)





## Conclusion

The program has completed 15 years of operation. Based on feedback from authorized users, it appears to represent an efficient and cost-effective use of resources. Data from the program suggests we have made some progress in the reduction of diversion of controlled substances.

We value and appreciate the contributions from and collaboration with our partners on the Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Council. We also acknowledge the contributions from our administrative coordinators, Ms. Reshmi Ravindranath, Ms. Christina Howland, Ms. Amy Hammon, and Ms. Nerissa Montgomery for their assistance with the development of this report and administrative oversight of the program.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Fontenot  
Executive Director