

Louisiana Board of Pharmacy 3388 Brentwood Drive

3388 Brentwood Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809-1700
Telephone 225.925.6496 ~ E-mail: info@pharmacy.la.gov



Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

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 state-specific MPJE. These examinations utilize computer-adaptive testing and are offered year-round at various testing centers across 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 (PTCB) 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 utilize computer-adaptive testing and are offered year-round at various testing centers across the state.

C. New Credentials

During Fiscal Year 2024-2025, the Board issued 4,569 new credentials in the Pharmacy Program and 3,019 new credentials in the Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) Program. Of note within the Pharmacy Program, we issued 460 new pharmacist licenses, 577 new pharmacy technician certificates, and 1,051 new pharmacy technician candidate registrations during the past fiscal year. Of note within the CDS Program, we issued new CDS licenses to 1,813 physicians, interns and residents, as well as 597 advanced practice registered nurses, and 175 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 state-specific MPJE test. Of the 460 new pharmacist licenses issued this past fiscal year, 287 were issued subsequent to completion of the reciprocity process.

E. Census Data

At the close of the fiscal year on **June 30, 2025**, a review of our credential records yielded the following census information:

| Pharmacy Program | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---------------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | | | |
| Pharmacists (PST) | | | | |
| Number of PST in Louisiana | 5,937 | 5,939 | 5,963 | 6,000 |
| Number of PST Nonresident | 3,550 | 3,682 | 3,757 | 3,885 |
| Total Number of PST (Active) | 9,487 | 9,621 | 9,720 | 9,885 |
| Pharmacy Interns | | | | |
| Number of Active Registrations | 1,159 | 1,073 | 920 | 856 |
| Pharmacy Technicians | | | | |
| Number of Active Certificates | 7,449 | 6,899 | 7,166 | 7,390 |
| Pharmacy Technicians Candidates | | | | |
| Number of Active Registrations | 1,861 | 1,565 | 1,638 | 1,784 |
| Pharmacies (Active) | | | | |
| Community - Independent | 629 | 623 | 637 | 622 |
| Community - Chain | 579 | 572 | 541 | 528 |
| Hospital | 174 | 171 | 166 | 166 |
| Hospital - Satellite | 8 | 11 | 13 | 14 |
| Institutional | 21 | 21 | 21 | 20 |
| Nonresident | 672 | 696 | 731 | 786 |
| Charitable | 9 | 9 | 9 | 8 |
| Nuclear | 10 | 10 | 10 | 10 |
| Correctional | 4 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Remote Processor | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Telepharmacy | 2 | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Marijuana | 9 | 9 | 10 | 0 |
| Marijuana Satellite | 0 | 1 | 7 | 0 |
| Special Event | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Number of Permits | 2,118 | 2,131 | 2,152 | 2,161 |

| Equipment Permits | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Emergency Drug Kit (EDK) | 423 | 415 | 368 | 378 |
| Automated Medication System | 160 | 170 | 172 | 177 |
| Durable Medical Equipment | 659 | 670 | 690 | 696 |
| Special Activity Credentials | | | | |
| CDTM Registrations | 103 | 109 | 111 | 112 |
| Medication Administration | 3,393 | 1,257 | 0 | 0 |
| Special Work Permits | 121 | 124 | 134 | 135 |
| Therap. Marijuana Designation | 236 | 223 | 0 | 0 |
| PMP Access Registrations | 23,258 | 24,242 | 25,269 | 26,574 |
| Pharmacy Benefit Manager | 13 | 25 | 35 | 55 |
| Pharmacy Program TOTAL | 50,440 | 48,524 | 48,375 | 50,203 |

| CDS Program | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Automated Medication System | 53 | 64 | 77 | 90 |
| Advanced Practice Registered Nurse | 4,621 | 5,073 | 5,469 | 5,898 |
| Dentist | 2,270 | 2,258 | 2,324 | 2,378 |
| Drug Detection Canine - Private Agency | 5 | 5 | 4 | 2 |
| Drug Detection Canine - Law Enforcement | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Distributor | 260 | 239 | 238 | 255 |
| Podiatrist | 167 | 169 | 174 | 171 |
| Veterinarian | 1,285 | 1,300 | 1,356 | 1,410 |
| Animal Euthanasia Tech - Cert | 1 | 4 | 4 | 3 |
| Animal Euthanasia Tech - Lead | 18 | 19 | 18 | 18 |
| Hospital | 318 | 316 | 315 | 312 |
| Hospital - Exempt | 5 | 5 | 5 | 1 |
| Intern or Resident | 1,728 | 1,892 | 2,063 | 2,303 |
| Analytical Laboratory | 8 | 8 | 6 | 5 |
| Analytical Laboratory - Exempt | 5 | 5 | 5 | 4 |
| Physician | 13,679 | 13,790 | 14,067 | 14,395 |
| Physician via Telemedicine | 28 | 39 | 37 | 36 |
| Manufacturer | 38 | 37 | 41 | 40 |
| Medical Psychologist | 98 | 97 | 101 | 108 |
| Optometrist | 371 | 364 | 377 | 377 |
| Physician's Assistant | 1,195 | 1,302 | 1,402 | 1,520 |
| Pharmacy - Exempt | 24 | 24 | 26 | 16 |
| Pharmacy | 1,269 | 1,256 | 1,235 | 1,216 |
| Researcher | 111 | 107 | 107 | 108 |
| APRN via Telehealth | 4 | 14 | 13 | 18 |
| Registered Outsourcing Facility | 23 | 23 | 23 | 22 |
| Substance Abuse Clinic | 9 | 10 | 10 | 11 |

| CDS Program TOTAL | 27,654 | 28,485 | 29,578 | 30,786 |
|---------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Withdrawal Management Clinic | 0 | 5 | 7 | 10 |
| Third Party Logistics | 51 | 49 | 58 | 59 |
| Therapeutic Marijuana Pharmacy | 10 | 10 | 16 | 0 |
| Substance Abuse Clinic - Exempt | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Total Active Credentials Under Board Management

| | FY 2022 | FY 2023 | FY 2024 | FY 2025 |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Pharmacy Program | 50,440 | 48,524 | 48,375 | 50,203 |
| CDS Program | <u>27,654</u> | <u>28,485</u> | <u>29,578</u> | <u>30,786</u> |
| Total | 78,094 | 77,009 | 77,953 | 80,989 |

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 1,489 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 145 cases from the previous fiscal years, received 306 new cases, and closed 371 cases, leaving 80 cases for the next fiscal year. Of the 371 cases closed during the fiscal year: 8 of the original complaints were withdrawn, 13 resulted from closing of previously imposed probationary periods, 132 were determined to be without violation, 20 cases were referred to other agencies, 45 resulted in field corrections, 13 cases were handled administratively, and 140 cases were referred to the Board's committees. Those committees took no action in 10 of their cases, issued non-disciplinary letters of non-compliance in 38 cases, and offered consent agreements for 92 cases. Of the consent agreements offered, all but three accepted the proposal; those three respondents were referred for formal administrative hearings. The decisions from the formal administrative hearings resulted in suspension and assessments in the three cases.

Compliance officers actively collaborate with a diverse array of investigative entities, including municipal police departments, parish sheriff offices, state regulatory and law enforcement agencies, as well as federal organizations such as the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). While an educational approach remains the preferred strategy for fostering regulatory adherence, specific circumstances necessitate formal intervention by the Board.

B. Adjudications

During the past fiscal year, the Board conducted three 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 | PBM |
|--|------------|--------|------------|-----------|----------|-----|-----|
| Letter of Warning with Assessment | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Letter of Reprimand with Assessment | 8 | 0 | 17 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 |
| Probation (May or May Not Include Assessment) | 5 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Fine plus Costs (No Other Sanction) | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 16 | 0 | 4 |
| Revocation | 0 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Denial | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Suspension (May or May Not Include Assessment) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Surrender Resulting in Indefinite Suspension | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 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, 2025, the following credentials were subject to probationary status: 29 pharmacist licenses, 8 pharmacy technician certificates, and 2 pharmacy permits. The total number of credentials currently under active suspension includes: 107 pharmacist licenses, 4 pharmacy intern registrations, 122 pharmacy technician certificates, 39 pharmacy technician candidate registrations, 3 special work permits, 13 pharmacy permits, and 9 controlled substance licenses issued to 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, 2025, there were 25 pharmacists and 6 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 2025 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the Board sponsored two bills:

- ➤ Act 121 (HB 15), effective August 1, 2025, updates the state's controlled substance schedules to align with recent federal scheduling actions taken since the last regular legislative session. Three substances were added to Schedule I—two opiates and one stimulant.
- Act 159 (HB 210), effective August 1, 2025, establishes provisions for the retention, archiving, and destruction of audit trail information within the state's Prescription Monitoring Program.

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 11 regulatory projects during the fiscal year:

- Project 2023-09 ~ Product Integrity the Board amended Sections 1103 and 2501 of its rules relative to prescription department requirements and prescription drugs. The rule change in Section 1103.A adds a requirement for a prescription department to be maintained in a clean and orderly condition. The rule change in Section 1103.E and Section 2501 add environmental condition requirements for all areas where drugs are stored. This rule became effective on August 20, 2024.
- ➢ Project 2024-01 ~ Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) Licensing the Board amended Sections 2707 and 2711 of its rules relative to CDS licensing procedures and actions on CDS licenses. The rule change in Section 2707 streamlines the CDS license reinstatement process, updates the facility CDS license change of ownership procedures, and adds a new subsection to address changes to CDS license status. The rule change in Section 2711 repeals Subsection M and moves that language in a modified version to Section 2707. This rule became effective on September 20, 2024.
- ➤ Project 2024-02 ~ Open Meeting via Electronic Means the Board amended Section 105 of its rules relative to board procedures. Pursuant to Act 393 of the 2023 Regular Session, the rule change in Section 105 provides for participation in open meetings via electronic means for people with disabilities. This rule became effective on August 20, 2024.
- Project 2024-03 ~ Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Advisory Council Open Meetings via Electronic Means – the Board adopted Section 2905 relative to the Prescription Monitoring Program. Pursuant to Act 393 of the 2023 Regular Session, the adopted rule provides for conducting open public meetings via electronic means and participation in open meetings via

- electronic means for people with disabilities. This rule became effective on August 20, 2024.
- ➢ Project 2024-04 ~ Automated Medication Systems (AMS) the Board amended Sections 1217 and 1509 of its rules relative to Automated Medication Systems (AMS). The rule change in Section 1217 and Section 1509.B remove references to "human intervention" due to the ambiguity of phrase which has led to different interpretations. The rule change in Section 1217 also describe the requirements of stocking and restocking of an AMS, differentiating between pharmacies that employ electronic product verification procedures and those that do not, and adds the accountability of the pharmacist-in-charge for the accuracy of all drug distribution activities. This rule became effective on December 20, 2024.
- ▶ Project 2024-05 ~ Pharmacy Technicians the Board amended Sections 901, 903, and 905 of its rules relative to pharmacy technicians. The rule change in Section 901 removes the definition of Training Program and instead defines Pharmacy Technician Educator. The rule change in Section 903 expands the eligibility criteria for obtaining a pharmacy technician candidate registration, modifies the language under exceptions to provide clarity, describe actions to be taken in the event the pharmacy technician candidate is no longer training, and describe requirements of the training to be provided by the pharmacy technician educator. The rule change in Section 905 corrects a typographical error and clarifies that the notification of a change of employment must include the pharmacy name. This rule became effective on November 20, 2024.
- Project 2024-06 ~ Durable Medical Equipment (DME) Permit Change of Ownership the Board amended Section 2403 of its rules relative to Durable Medical Equipment (DME) permit change of ownership procedures. The rule change requires a new application to be filed and a new permit obtained when a change in the identity of the natural person, partnership, or business entity which directly holds the DME permit has occurred or when there is a change in the person or entity's Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN). The rule change indicates that a DME permit is not transferrable, and require the application to be submitted at least 15 days prior to closing the transfer of ownership. The rule change clarifies that nothing prohibits an entity from applying for a new permit in order to separate itself from actions which may have been committed by previous ownership. This rule became effective on December 20, 2024.
- ▶ Project 2024-07 ~ Prescription Transfers the Board amended Sections 2523 and 2747 of its rules relative to prescription transfers. The rule change in Section 2523 and Section 2747 simplify the requirements of transferring prescriptions for controlled substances by allowing the transfer if in conformance with federal requirements in 21 CFR Part 1306. The rule change in Section 2523 relative to transferring prescriptions for drugs other than controlled substances allow the transfer for initial filling or refill dispensing; list the actions required of the transferring pharmacist, intern, or technician; list

the information required to be recorded by the receiving pharmacist, intern, or technician; change the prescription maintenance requirements to reference the requirements in Chapter 11, and repeals Section 2523.B. This rule became effective on December 20, 2024.

- Project 2025-01 ~ Pharmacist-in-Charge (PIC) Requirements the Board amended Section 1105 of its rules relative to Pharmacist-in-Charge (PIC). The rule change in Section 1105.A reduces the minimum experience requirement for a pharmacist to qualify for a PIC privilege from two years of active pharmacy practice to one year. The rule change in Section 1105.C adds the authority and accountability of the owner of the pharmacy permit to the existing responsibility of the PIC for the complete supervision, management, and compliance with laws and regulations pertaining to the practice of pharmacy of the entire prescription department. This rule became effective on June 20, 2025.
- ➤ Project 2025-02 ~ Marijuana Pharmacy the Board repealed Chapter 24, Subchapter E of its rules relative to Marijuana Pharmacy, pursuant to Act 693 of the 2024 Regular Session of the Legislature which transferred regulatory authority for therapeutic marijuana from the Board of Pharmacy to the Department of Health. This rule became effective on May 20, 2025.
- ➤ Project 2025-04 ~ Emergency Drug Kit (EDK) Permit the Board amended Section 1711 of its rules relative to Emergency Drug Kit Permits. The rule change removes the requirement for the administrator of the applicant facility to sign the application for the EDK permit, and require a copy of the online permit verification to be readily retrievable, since the board no longer issues paper permits. This rule became effective on June 20, 2025.

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 AWARxE®. Further, through its PMP InterConnect® portal, the Louisiana PMP connects to prescription monitoring programs in 38 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 29,000 providers using the system as of June 30, 2025. 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 23 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 and general email is received at 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



Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

3388 Brentwood Drive
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809-1700
Telephone 225.925.6496 ~ E-mail: info@pharmacy.la.gov



Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Annual Report

Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Introduction

Act 676 of the 2006 Louisiana Legislature authorized the development, implementation, and operation of an electronic system for the monitoring of controlled substances and 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 Louisiana Prescription Monitoring Program (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 by law to access PMP information were instructed how to secure their access privileges. The web portal to the PMP database was opened to searches and requests 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 2024-2025, the council convened a quorum of members on February 5, 2025. The program staff presented a variety of statistical information including the number of prescription transactions reported to the program database as well as the number of searches and requests for information to the database by prescribers, dispensers, law enforcement, prosecutorial officials, and specialty courts. The staff also reported on the PMP InterConnect[®] interstate data sharing network, as well as the increased utilization by the private sector of the PMP Gateway[®] service, which offers interoperability of the PMP with existing practice information systems in a variety of settings, including hospitals, clinics, practitioner offices, and pharmacies.

Program Highlights – FY25

- August 20, 2024 In accordance with Act 393 of the 2023 Louisiana Legislature, the Board of Pharmacy completed the rulemaking process and adopted LAC 46:LIII.2905 to provide for conducting open public meetings via electronic means and participation in open meeting via electronic means for people with disabilities.
- October 1, 2024 Act 246 of the 2024 Louisiana Legislature places all
 mifepristone and misoprostol containing products in Louisiana Schedule IV.
 Pharmacies and other dispensers of mifepristone and misoprostol
 prescriptions are required to report their eligible prescription transactions to
 the PMP due to the scheduling action.
- December 3, 2024 Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) provided additional federal grant money to continue funding the Gateway[®] PMP Statewide Integration Project for the time period October 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.
- January 1, 2025 Act 693 of the 2024 Louisiana Legislature transferred the Board of Pharmacy's regulatory authority for therapeutic marijuana to LDH. Marijuana pharmacy permits transitioned to marijuana retail permits and with that transition the Act removed the requirement to report sales information to the PMP.
- **February 3, 2025** Louisiana PMP began interstate data sharing of PMP information through PMP InterConnect® with the New York Prescription Monitoring Program.
- June 30, 2025 as of this date, the Louisiana PMP participates in interstate data sharing of PMP information with 38 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, New York, 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 Department of Health's Office of Public Health, Bureau of Community Preparedness (LDH-OPH-BCP) and 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, 2025.

As of June 30, 2025, the Louisiana PMP was interoperable with 789 licensees (EHRs and pharmacy management systems) across the state. The 789 licensees represent more than 3,100 facilities in Louisiana and were responsible for 3,908,565 PMP requests in the month of June 2025.

Program Metrics

The data on the following pages provide summary data for the operational aspects of the program for Calendar Year 2024. 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 dispensed in the state, including summary data for different types of drugs like opioids and benzodiazepines. Just over 14.4 million prescriptions for controlled substances and drugs of concern were dispensed in the state during Calendar Year 2024, with an average of 2.776 prescriptions per Louisiana resident. Specifically looking at opioid prescriptions, the state saw a reduction in the number of opioid prescriptions dispensed by 3% compared to Calendar Year 2023.

Calendar Year 2024 PMP User Statistics

| PMP User Stats for 2024 (01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024) | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|--|--|
| | Number of Providers | Number of | Number of | Number of | | |
| | Eligible for PMP | Providers with | PMP Requests | PMP Requests | | |
| | Access (as of | Active PMP | by Providers | by Providers | | |
| | 12/31/2024) | Access Privileges | through | through | | |
| | | (as of | AWARxE® | Gateway ® | | |
| | | 12/31/2024) | During 2024 | During 2024 | | |
| PMP Healthcare Provider Role | | | | | | |
| Physician (MD, DO) | 13,956 | 9,661 | 2,277,321 | 27,799,392 | | |
| Nurse Practitioner (APRN) | 5,666 | 4,565 | 1,081,564 | 2,707,411 | | |
| Dentist (DDS) | 2,318 | 1,518 | 21,341 | 8,495 | | |
| Physician Assistant (PA) | 1,480 | 1,178 | 215,872 | 404,853 | | |
| Optometrist (OD) | 374 | 149 | 29 | 17 | | |
| Podiatrist (DPM) | 167 | 122 | 8,002 | 0 | | |
| Medical Psychologist (MP) | 99 | 91 | 28,546 | 37,011 | | |
| Medical Intern/Resident | 1,860 | 1,379 | 62,530 | 980,395 | | |
| Prescriber's Delegate | N/A | 3,050 | 719,195 | N/A | | |
| Pharmacist (PST) | 9,952 | 5,588 | 5,290,356 | 14,694,451 | | |
| Pharmacist's Delegate | N/A | 1,500 | 369,498 | N/A | | |
| Totals | 35,872 | 28,801 | 10,074,254 | 46,632,025 | | |

| Law Enforcement, | Calendar |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Prosecutorial Officials & | Year 2024 |
| Specialty Courts | Searches |
| DEA (Patient Requests) | 308 |
| Specialty Court | 270 |
| FBI | 23 |
| Homeland Security | 0 |
| Local Law Enforcement | 93 |
| Multijurisdictional Task Fo | 0 |
| State Attorney General | 0 |
| State Police | 52 |
| OIG | 7 |
| Totals | 753 |

| Regulatory Agencies | CY 2024 |
|----------------------------------|----------|
| | Searches |
| Board of Pharmacy | 3656 |
| Board of Dentistry | 9 |
| Board of Medicine | 864 |
| Board of Nursing | 16 |
| Board of Optometry Investigator | 0 |
| DEA(Licensee/Registrant Request) | 401 |
| Totals | 4,946 |

| Other Roles | Searches |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Medical Examiner/Coroner & | 728 |
| Delegates | |
| Louisiana Medicaid Program | 121 |
| Totals | 849 |



Calendar Year 2024







State Rx per Capita

2.776



Prescriptions

14,481,690

Quantity Dispensed

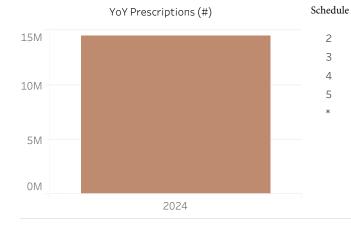
each (tablets, kits, etc.)
grams (solids)
milliliters (liquids)
UNSPECIFIED

585,300K 4,098K 102,797K

(C)

Days Supply

316,812,567



Prescriptions (#) by Drug Schedule 2024 4,658,053 2024 911,531

 2024
 911,531

 2024
 3,663,161

 2024
 498,299

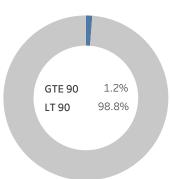
 2024
 4,750,646

Prescriptions (#) by Drug Classes

| Opioid | 2024 | 3,463,270 |
|---------------------------|------|-----------|
| Benzo | 2024 | 2,089,039 |
| Anxiolytic, Hypnotics, Se | 2024 | 1,260,617 |

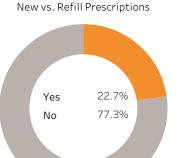
Anxiolytic, Hypnotics, Se.. 2024 1,260,617
Other 2024 7,668,764

Prescriptions >= 90 MME vs. All

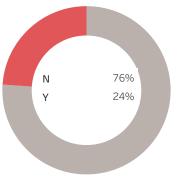




Urban 84%
Rural 13%
Super Rural 2%
Unspecified 1%







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Conclusion

On December 31, 2024, the program completed sixteen years of operation, marked by significant improvements and sustained functionality. Feedback from authorized users indicates that the program is a resource-efficient and cost-effective solution. Consistent trends in the data suggest measurable progress in reducing the diversion of controlled substances.

We are grateful for the continued partnership and meaningful contributions from members of the Prescription Monitoring Program Advisory Council. We also acknowledge the contributions from our administrative coordinators, Ms. Reshmi Ravindranath, Ms. Amy Hammon, Ms. Christina Howland, 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