

Louisiana Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Advisory Council

MINUTES

A meeting of the Louisiana Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Advisory Council was held on **Wednesday, February 5, 2025** at the office of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy located at 3388 Brentwood Drive in Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70809.

1. *Call to Order*

Chairman McKay called the meeting to order at approximately 1:30 p.m.

2. *Quorum Call*

Chairman McKay asked Mr. Fontenot to call the roll of members to establish a quorum.

Members/Designees Present:

- Marty McKay, Council Chairman, President of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy
- Lauren Bailey, Council Vice-Chair, Designee for the President of the Louisiana State Medical Society
- Monique Calmes, APRN, Designee for the President of the Louisiana State Board of Nursing
- Lieutenant Jay Donaldson, Designee for the Superintendent of the Louisiana State Police
- Cleveland "Glen" Michaud, Designee for the Speaker of the Louisiana House of Representatives
- Traci Perry, Designee for the Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Health
- Annette Droddy, Designee for the President of the Louisiana Dental Association
- Lisa Bayhi, APRN, Designee for the President of the Louisiana Association of Nurse Practitioners
- Jonathan Bowman, Designee for the President of the Optometry Association of Louisiana
- J. Scott Black, President of the Louisiana Pharmacists Association
- Jeff Gaude, Designee for the President of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores
- Jacqueline Sanchez, Designee for the President of the Louisiana District Attorneys Association

Members Absent:

- The President of the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners
- The President of the Louisiana State Board of Dentistry
- The President of the Louisiana State Board of Optometry Examiners
- The President of the Louisiana Academy of Physician Assistants
- The Administrator of the United States Drug Enforcement Administration
- The President of the Louisiana Senate
- The Chairman of the House Committee on Health and Welfare
- The Chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare
- The President of the Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association
- The President of the Louisiana Sheriffs' Association
- The President of the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America
- The President of the Louisiana Academy of Medical Psychologists

Others Present:

- M. Joseph Fontenot, Jr., Executive Director, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy
- Carlos M. Finalet, III, General Counsel, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy
- Nerissa I. Montgomery, Administrative Coordinator 3, PMP-Staff, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy
- Reshmi Ravindranath, Administrative Coordinator 4, PMP-Staff, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy
- Christina A. Howland, Administrative Coordinator 3, PMP-Staff, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy
- Amy Hammon, Administrative Coordinator 3, PMP-Staff, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

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- Sarah Perkins, Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, LLP
- Becky Parker, Compliance Officer, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

Mr. Fontenot certified 12 of 24 members were present, constituting a quorum for the conduct of official business.

3. Call for Additional Agenda Items & Adoption of Agenda

No additional agenda items introduced; agenda adopted.

4. Consideration of Draft Minutes from Previous Meeting: February 7, 2024

Mr. McKay reminded the members they had received the draft minutes from the council meeting held on February 7, 2024 with the meeting notice, as well as copies in their meeting packet. With no objections, he waived the reading of the minutes. With no requests for amendments or corrections, and with no objection, Mr. McKay declared the minutes were approved as presented.

5. Opportunity for Public Comment

Mr. McKay stated the council provides an opportunity for public comment at all meetings, and for each agenda item upon which a vote is to be taken. Prior to each vote, the chair will solicit public comments. He solicited public comments for any topic not already listed on the posted agenda; none were offered.

6. Election of Council Officers: Chair and Vice Chair

The only nomination for the office of Chair was Mr. Marty McKay (LABP). Mr. McKay was elected by acclamation and assumed the office immediately.

The only nomination for the office of Vice Chair was Ms. Lauren Bailey (LSMS). Ms. Bailey was elected by acclamation and assumed the office immediately.

7. Review of Program Operations

Joe Fontenot, Executive Director, presented statistical information regarding the program to the council. **(Attachment 1)**

Mr. Fontenot noted that the Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) has been operational for 16 years. Mr. Fontenot explained, the increase in the number of eligible prescription transactions reported to the program since 2021 was due to the addition of two new drugs of concern and therapeutic marijuana dispensing. There has been a leveling effect of the reporting of controlled dangerous substances (CDS) in the years of 2023 and 2024. Mr. Fontenot stated there has been a significant increase in the number of stimulant prescriptions reported to the PMP since 2016. Contrastingly, there has been a decrease in the number of benzodiazepine prescriptions reported to the PMP. Mr. Fontenot reviewed the findings from Bamboo Health's Dispensation Dashboard for the 2024 calendar year. Hydrocodone bitartrate/acetaminophen (generic drug name) remains the number one controlled substance prescription dispensed to Louisiana patients since the program began in 2009.

We continue to see a downward trend for Hydrocodone/APAP dispensing by the number of prescriptions as well as the number of dosage units dispensed to Louisiana residents. The number of therapeutic marijuana recommendations, patients, and prescribers has continued to significantly increase. Pursuant to Act 693 of the 2024 Regular Session, the therapeutic marijuana program will be transferred to the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), effective January 1, 2025. Therapeutic marijuana transactions will no longer be reported to the PMP. LDH will use the METRC system as a means of tracking therapeutic marijuana transactions.

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Mr. Fontenot reported that the number of PMP user searches through both the AWARxE© and Gateway© continue to increase with the greatest number of searches being performed via the PMP integration component, Gateway©. Mr. Fontenot reminded the Council in November 2023 the PMP program had to make the difficult decision to discontinue supporting the cost associated with the NarxCare application and choose to provide funding only for the Gateway© integration component due to the significant decrease in funding provided by the LDH - Office of Public Health - Bureau of Community Preparedness grant.

Mr. Fontenot stated that we continue to send periodic Mandatory Use Non-Compliance Reports based on the State's requirements. Mr. Fontenot reviewed Prescriber Report Cards which are sent quarterly to prescribers and emphasized the Prescriber Report Cards are an educational tool for the prescribers. Mr. Fontenot explained per the request of LDH, the Opioid Consecutive Days Alert has been added to the existing alerts and reiterated that the Clinical Alerts go directly to the prescribers.

Mr. Fontenot explained there are three areas of pharmacy compliance review: PMP staff performance of compliance reviews, onsite audits completed by the compliance officers, and error reports. Due to these, the data quality has improved greatly. Mr. Fontenot recognized the efforts of the four PMP staff members.

We now share data with 38 PMP's. Louisiana began sharing with Kentucky through the PMP interconnect in June 2024 and with New York February 2025.

8. Review of Legislative and Regulatory Activity

Mr. Fontenot discussed the Board of Pharmacy's intention to amend and reenact R.S. 40:1006.G relative to retention, archiving, and destruction of PMP records. Current law does not address "audit trail information" and a legislative proposal will be introduced to address this issue. (**Attachment 2**).

9. New Agenda Items Added During Meeting

No new agenda items were added.

10. Calendar Notes

Mr. McKay stated staff will send notice when the necessity for a meeting arises or the next annual meeting date is finalized.

11. Adjourn

Having completed the tasks itemized on the posted agenda, with no further business pending before the council and without objection, Chairman McKay adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:18 p.m.

I certify that the foregoing are true and accurate minutes.

Joe Fontenot
Executive Director
Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

Minutes Prepared by: Reshmi Ravindranath and Nerissa Montgomery, Administrative Coordinators, Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

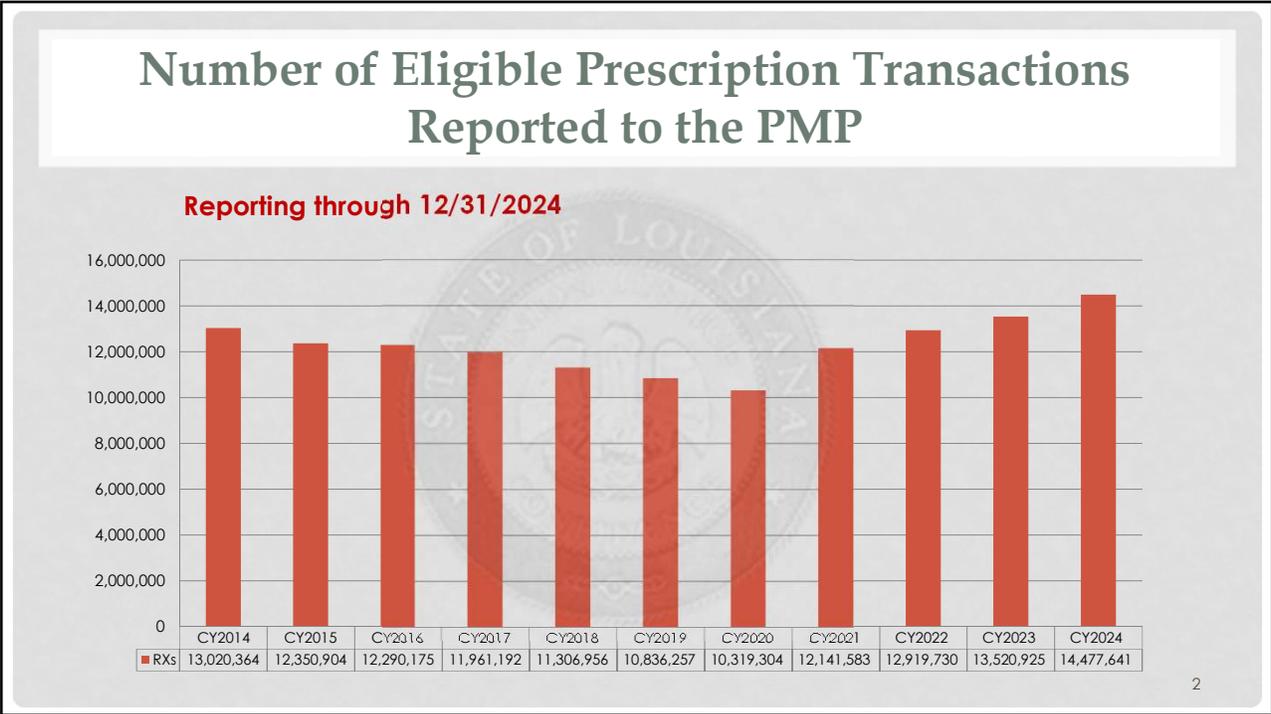


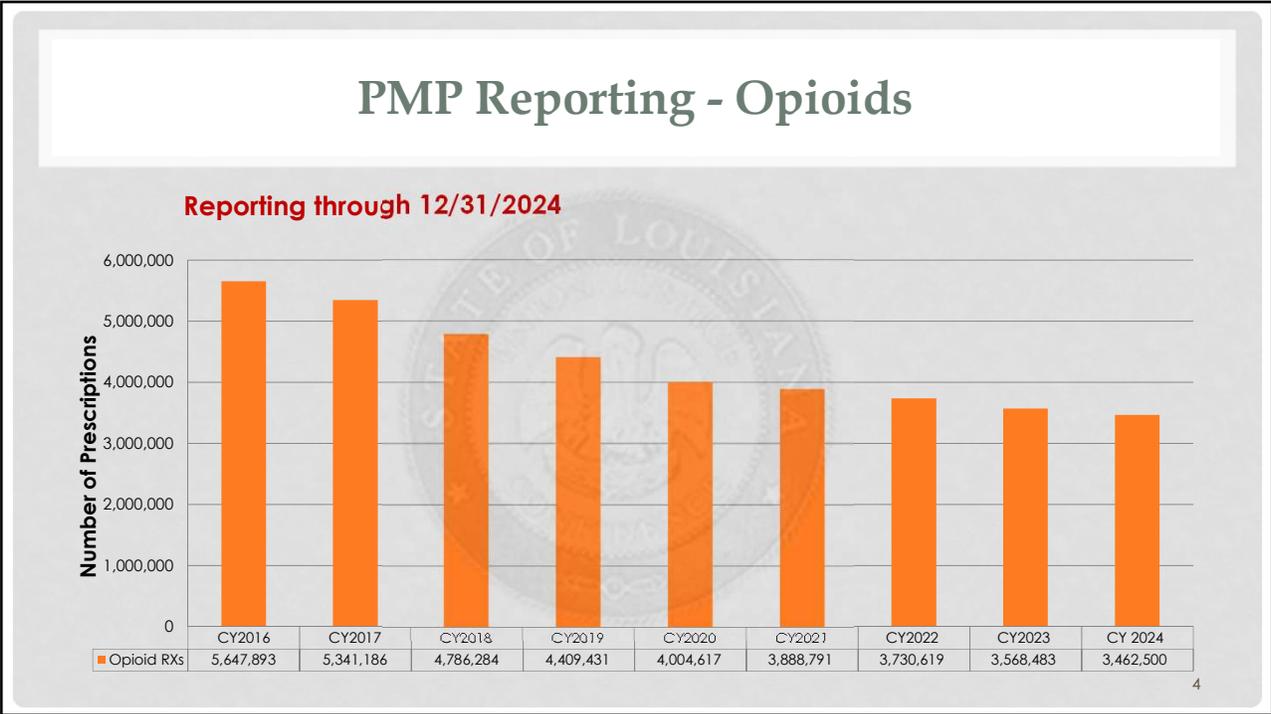
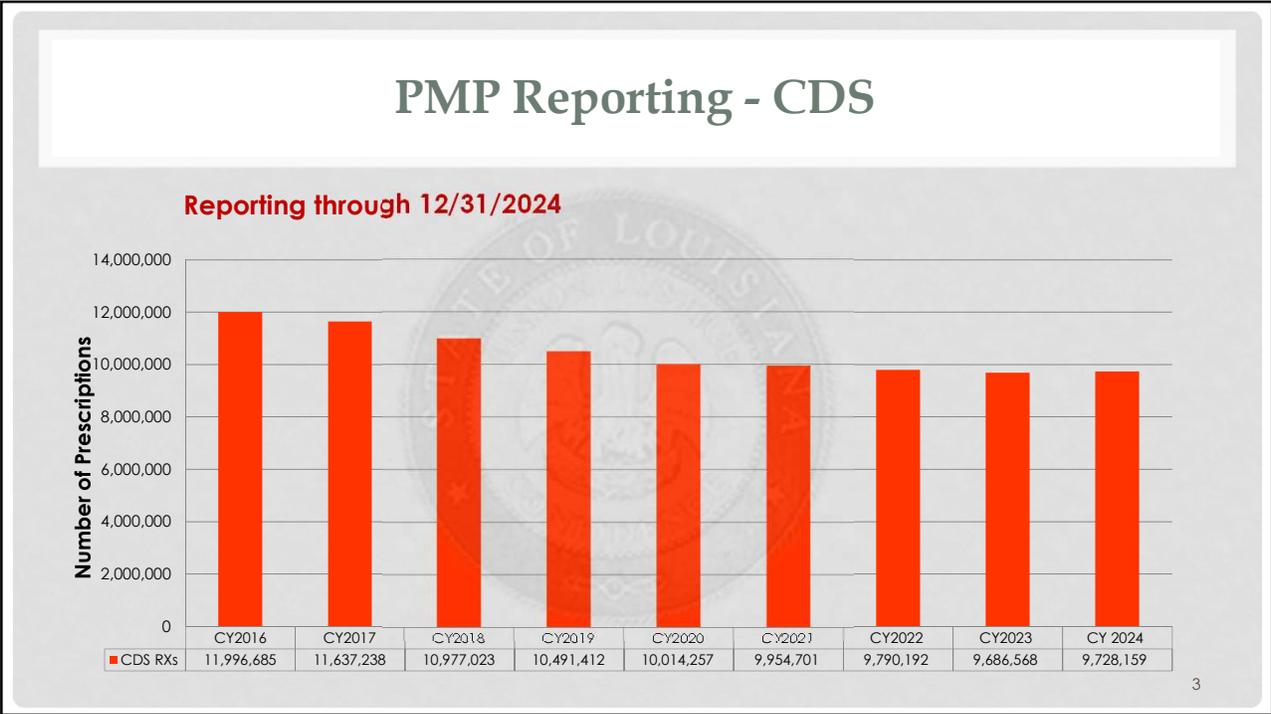
LOUISIANA BOARD of PHARMACY

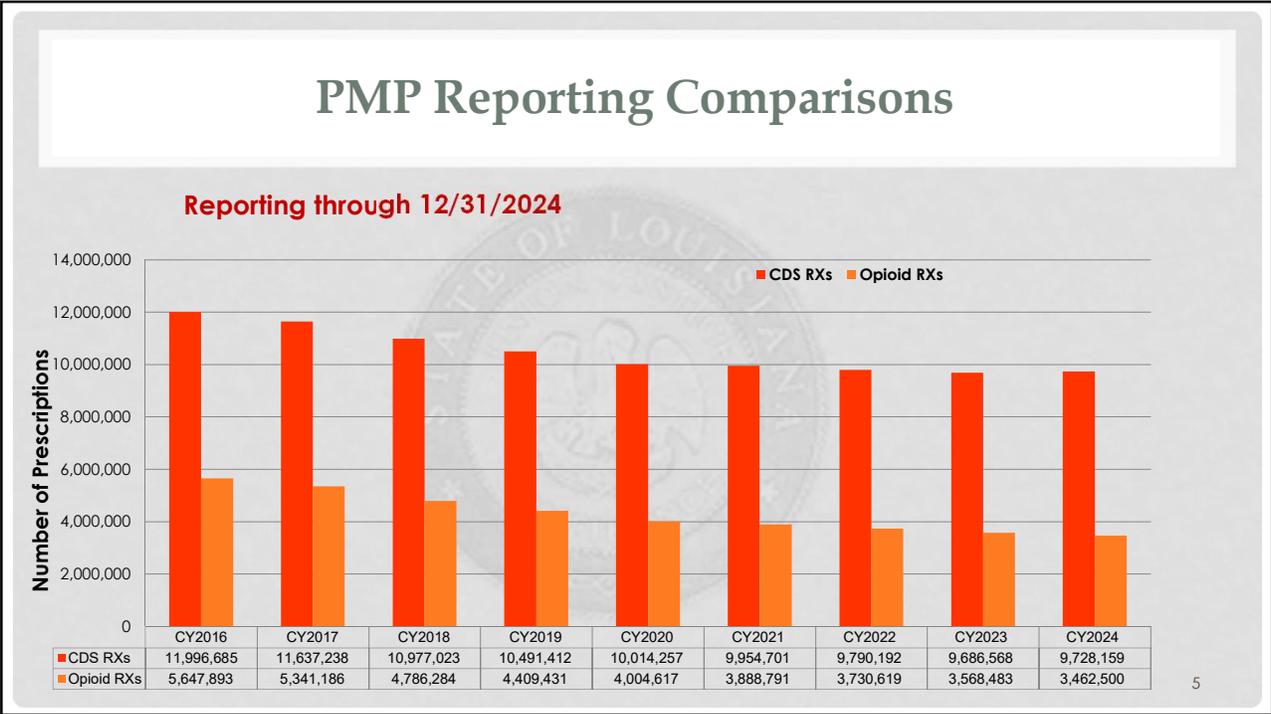
PRESCRIPTION MONITORING PROGRAM (PMP)

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING – FEBRUARY 5, 2025

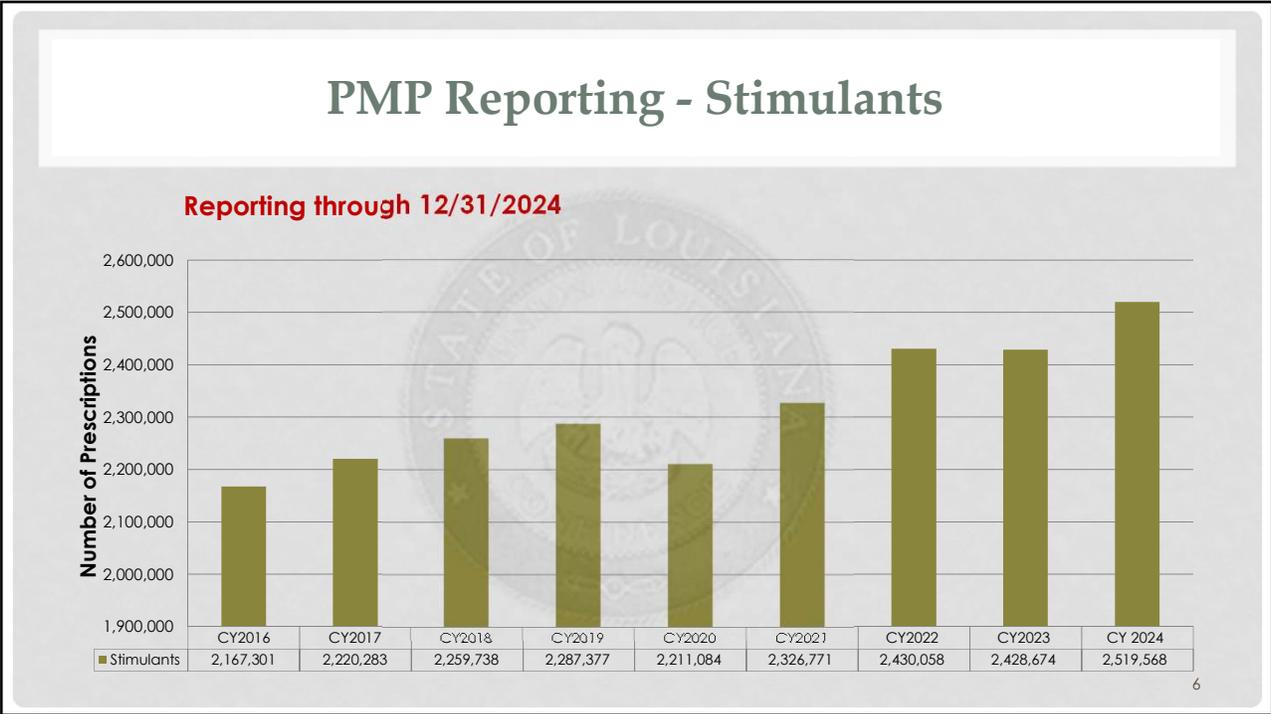
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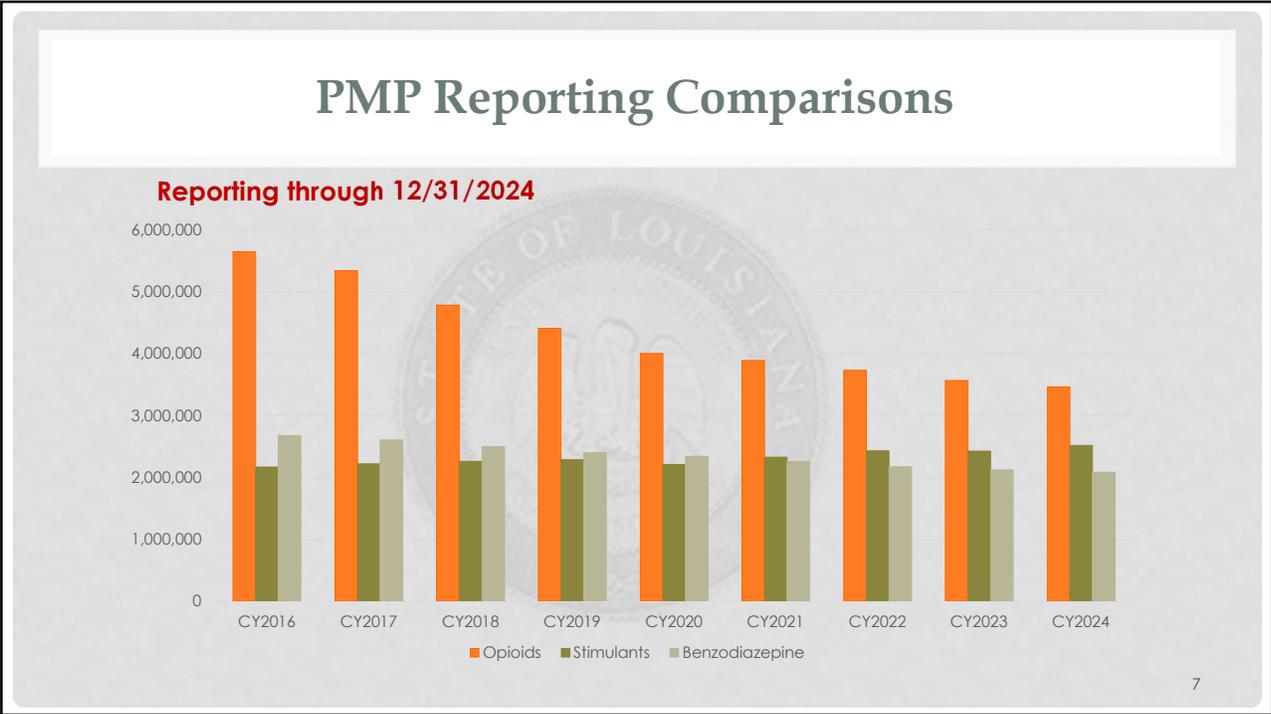




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CY 2024 Top 10 Controlled Substance Prescriptions
Dispensed to Louisiana Patients by **Generic Drug Name**

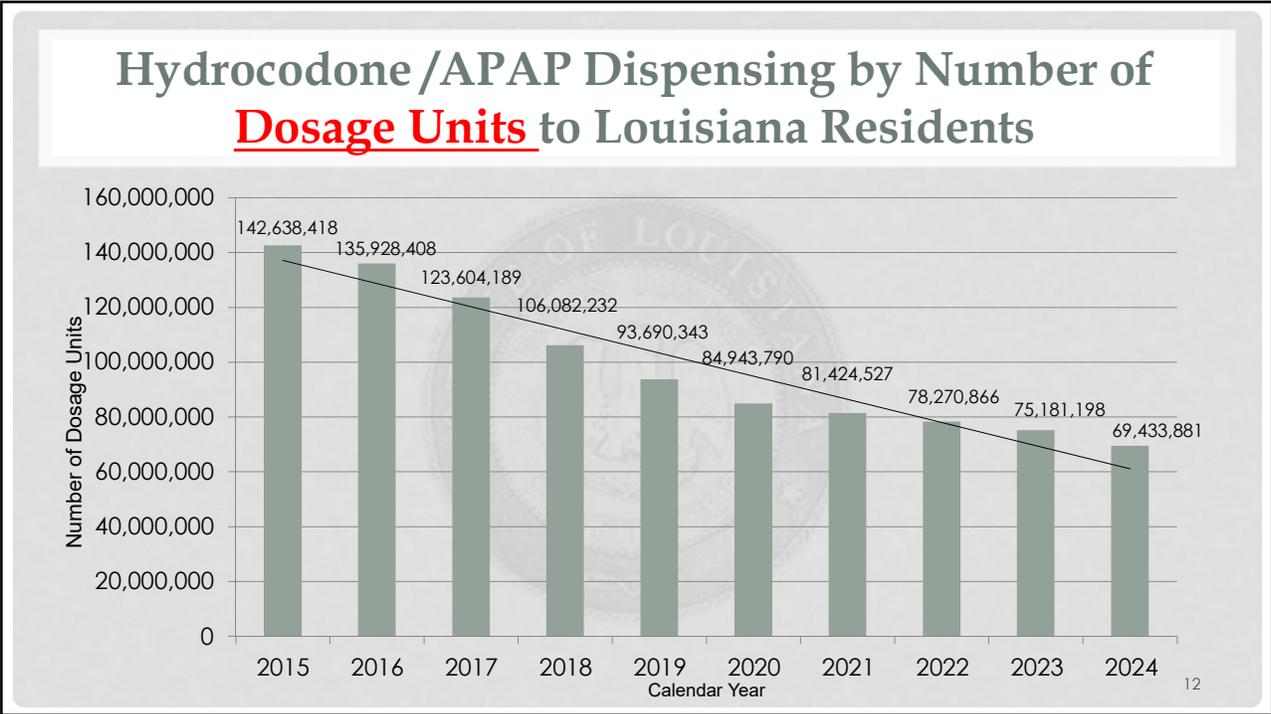
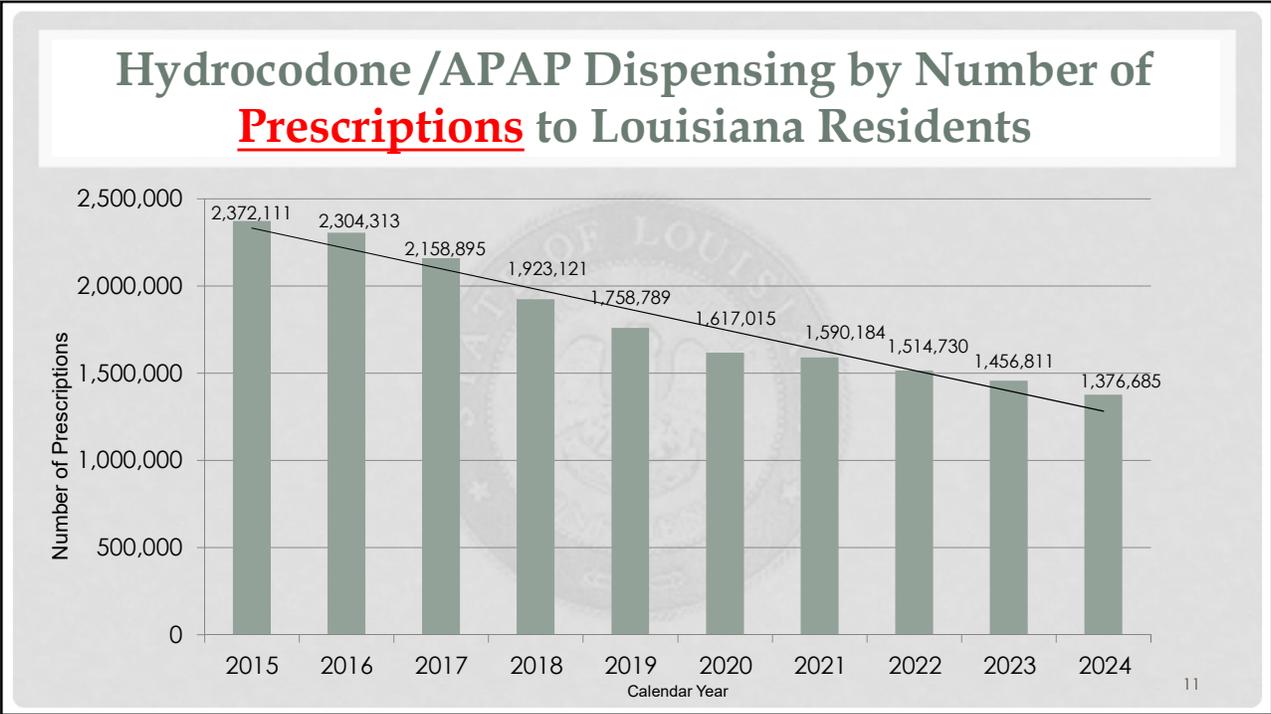
<i>Generic Name</i>	<i>Prescriptions</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Patients</i>
HYDROCODONE BITARTRATE/ACETAMINOPHEN	1,376,685	69,433,881	514,197
DEXTROAMPHETAMINE /AMPHETAMINE Combo	1,278,159	58,316,238	172,353
ALPRAZOLAM	877,380	44,691,351	165,622
TRAMADOL HCL	564,038	28,991,002	204,268
OXYCODONE HCL/ACETAMINOPHEN	552,473	33,598,726	174,326
CLONAZEPAM	512,777	25,862,304	83,952
LISDEXAMFETAMINE DIMESYLATE	510,664	15,628,755	89,088
ZOLPIDEM TARTRATE	503,215	16,254,262	74,089
PREGABALIN	332,133	24,900,718	69,052
LORAZEPAM	281,267	11,523,076	82,611

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CY 2024 Top 10 Controlled Substance Prescriptions
Dispensed to Louisiana Patients by **Drug Label Name**

<i>Label Name</i>	<i>Prescriptions</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Patients</i>
HYDROCODONE-ACETAMINOPHEN 10-325 MG TABLET	590,642	41,430,683	132,534
TRAMADOL HCL 50 MG TABLET	549,154	28,477,881	202,395
HYDROCODONE-ACETAMINOPHEN 5-325 MG TABLET	425,963	10,944,433	273,589
ALPRAZOLAM 0.5 MG TABLET	370,359	17,955,888	79,290
ZOLPIDEM TARTRATE 10 MG TABLET	355,056	11,564,804	50,560
HYDROCODONE-ACETAMINOPHEN 7.5-325 MG TABLET	343,308	14,172,091	166,782
DEXTROAMP-AMPHETAMIN 20 MG TAB	301,623	17,253,431	49,206
DEXTROAMP-AMPHETAMIN 30 MG TAB	297,231	16,266,377	39,225
OXYCODONE-ACETAMINOPHEN 10-325 MG TAB	287,789	21,863,444	59,208
ALPRAZOLAM 1 MG TABLET	275,882	16,117,514	39,792

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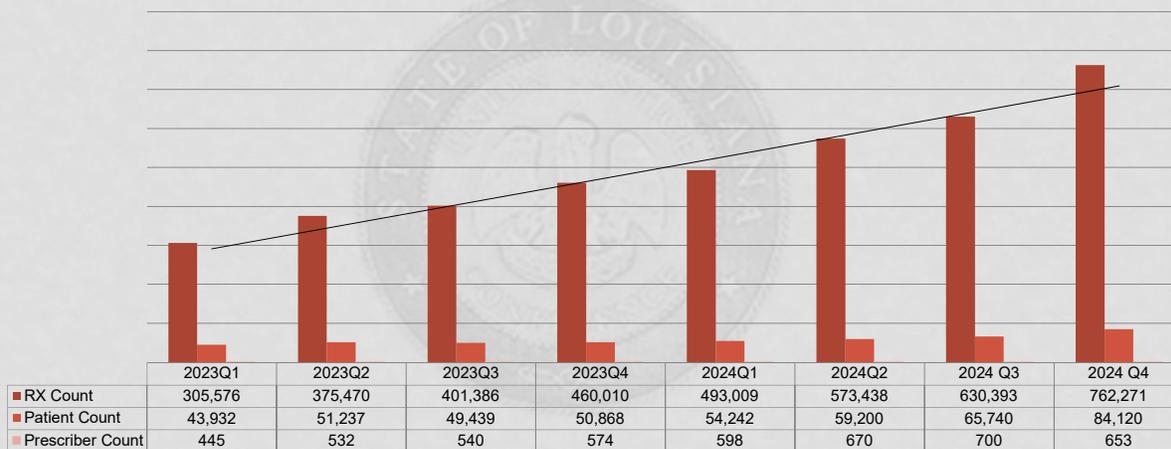


CY 2024 Top 10 Stimulant Prescriptions Dispensed to Louisiana Patients by Drug Label Name

<i>Label Name</i>	<i>Prescriptions</i>	<i>Quantity</i>	<i>Patients</i>
DEXTROAMP-AMPHETAMIN 20 MG TAB	301,625	17,254,417	49,191
DEXTROAMP-AMPHETAMIN 30 MG TAB	297,287	16,270,847	39,202
PHENTERMINE 37.5 MG TABLET	165,348	5,018,228	53,349
DEXTROAMP-AMPHETAMIN 10 MG TAB	129,672	5,850,843	29,519
DEXTROAMP-AMPHET ER 30 MG CAP	118,005	3,867,886	22,897
DEXTROAMP-AMPHET ER 20 MG CAP	99,019	3,342,247	25,453
VYVANSE 40 MG CAPSULE	52,687	1,596,517	15,466
LISDEXAMFETAMINE 30 MG CAPSULE	52,683	1,645,219	19,576
VYVANSE 50 MG CAPSULE	51,848	1,565,513	13,635
DEXTROAMP-AMPHETAMIN 15 MG TAB	49,611	2,521,522	10,583

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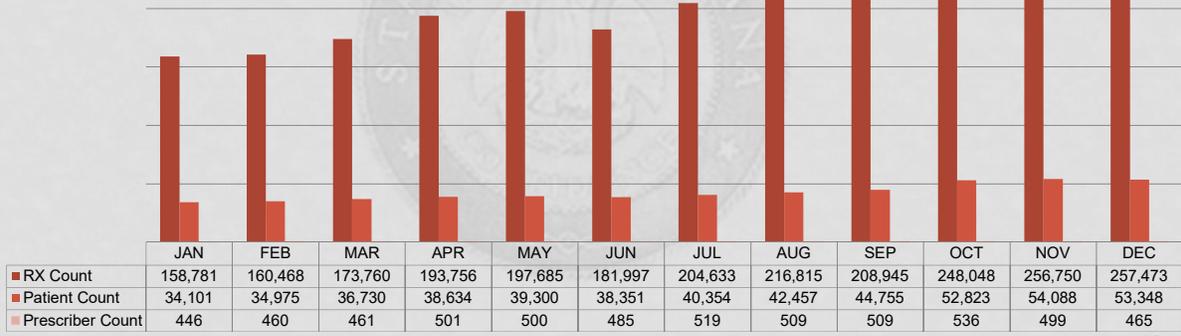
Louisiana Therapeutic Marijuana (TM) Dispensing (Quarterly)



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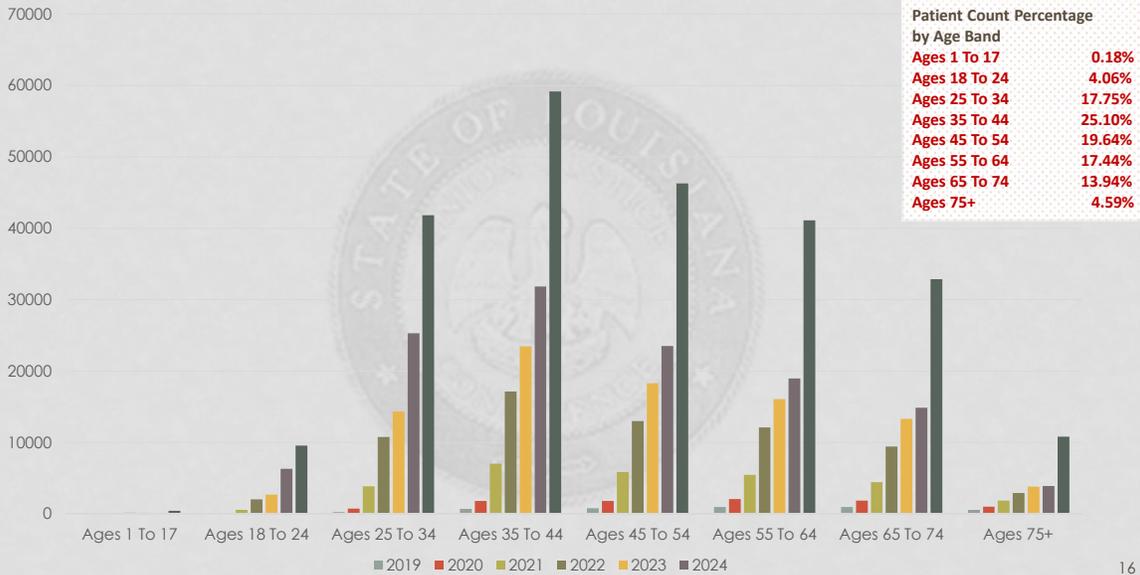
2024 Louisiana Therapeutic Marijuana (TM) Dispensing

Reporting 01/01/2024 - 12/31/2024
Total Prescription Count = 2,459,111
Total Unique Patient Count = 120,092
Total Unique Prescriber Count = 1124



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Louisiana Therapeutic Marijuana (TM) Dispensing by Age Groups



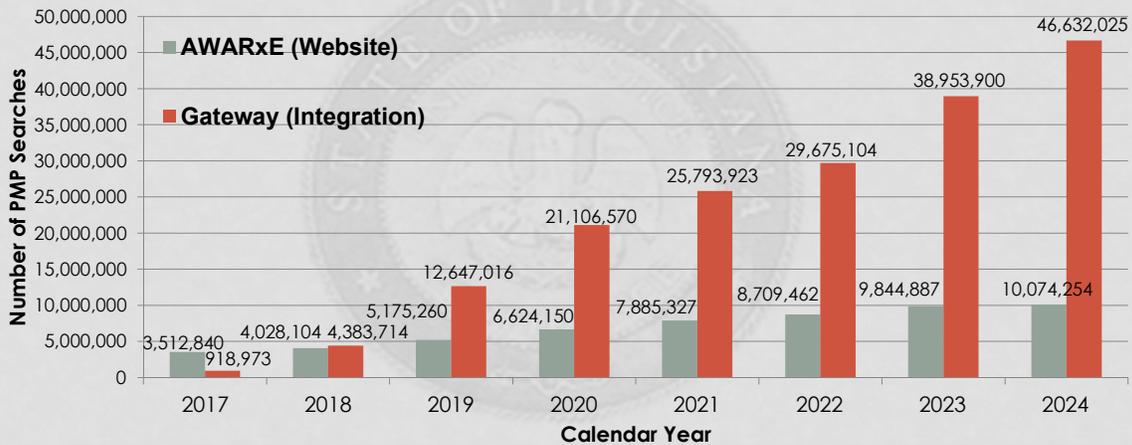
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PMP User Stats for 2024Q4 (10/01/2024 - 12/31/2024)				
PMP Healthcare Provider Role	Number of Providers Eligible for PMP Access (as of 12/31/2024)	Number of Providers with Active PMP Access Privileges (as of 12/31/2024)	Number of PMP Requests by Providers through AWARxE® During 2024Q4	Number of PMP Requests by Providers through Gateway® During 2024Q4
Physician (MD, DO)	13,956	9,661	587,642	6,536,808
Nurse Practitioner (APRN)	5,666	4,565	291,157	702,983
Dentist (DDS)	2,318	1,518	4,925	2,132
Physician Assistant (PA)	1,480	1,178	57,607	104,993
Optometrist (OD)	374	149	4	3
Podiatrist (DPM)	167	122	1,993	0
Medical Psychologist (MP)	99	91	6,946	9,028
Medical Intern/Resident	1,860	1,379	19,926	222,444
Prescriber's Delegate	N/A	3,050	174,344	N/A
Pharmacist (PST)	9,952	5,588	1,437,142	4,009,856
Pharmacist's Delegate	N/A	1,500	90,772	N/A
Totals	35,872	28,801	2,672,458	11,588,247

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Louisiana Prescriber & Pharmacist Searches through AWARxE® and Gateway®

(Ending 12/31/2024)



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MANDATORY USE COMPLIANCE

- PMP uses the **Mandatory Use Module** to view a prescriber’s compliance with state requirements to query a patient’s prescription history before prescribing opioid prescriptions.

Mandatory Use Non Compliance Report

- Reports sent in April 2024, September 2024 and January 2025
- Report for the period - October through December 2024 – In Process

LA R.S. 40, Chapter 4, Part X, §978. Prescriptions

F. (1) A prescriber or his delegate shall access and review the patient’s record in the prescription monitoring program established in R.S. 40:1001 et seq. prior to initially prescribing any opioid to a patient and shall access the prescription monitoring program and review the patient’s record at least every ninety days if the patient’s course of treatment continues for more than ninety days. The requirement established in this Subsection shall not apply in the following instances:

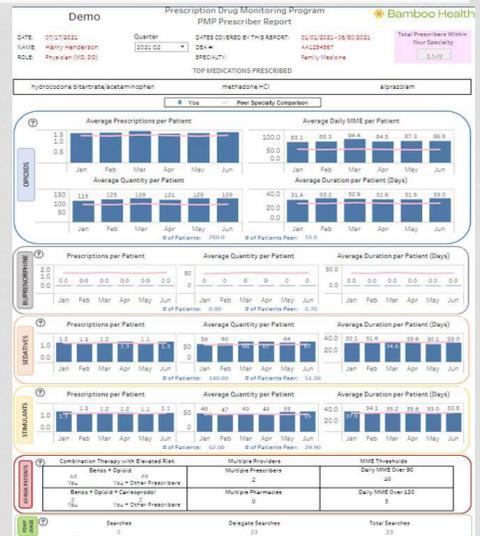
- (a) The drug is prescribed or administered to a hospice patient or to any other patient who has been diagnosed as terminally ill.
- (b) The drug is prescribed or administered for the treatment of cancer-related chronic or intractable pain.
- (c) The drug is ordered or administered to a patient being treated in a hospital.
- (d) The prescription monitoring program is inaccessible or not functioning properly due to an internal or external electronic issue. However, the prescriber or his delegate shall check the prescription monitoring program once electronic accessibility has been restored and note the cause for the delay in the patient’s chart.
- (e) No more than a single seven-day supply of the drug is prescribed or administered to a patient.

PRESCRIBER REPORT CARDS

- PMP delivers **Prescriber Report** cards every quarter to all prescribers in reporting period reflecting opioid, sedative, and stimulant medications dispensed during the last six (6) months.
- The report metrics include comparing prescribing behavior against peers within the prescriber’s healthcare specialty.

Reports sent in 2024

- Q1 - Reports sent to 13,756 Prescribers
- Q2 - Reports sent to 13,756 Prescribers
- Q3 - Reports sent to 13,825 Prescribers
- Q4 – Reports sent to 13,861 Prescribers

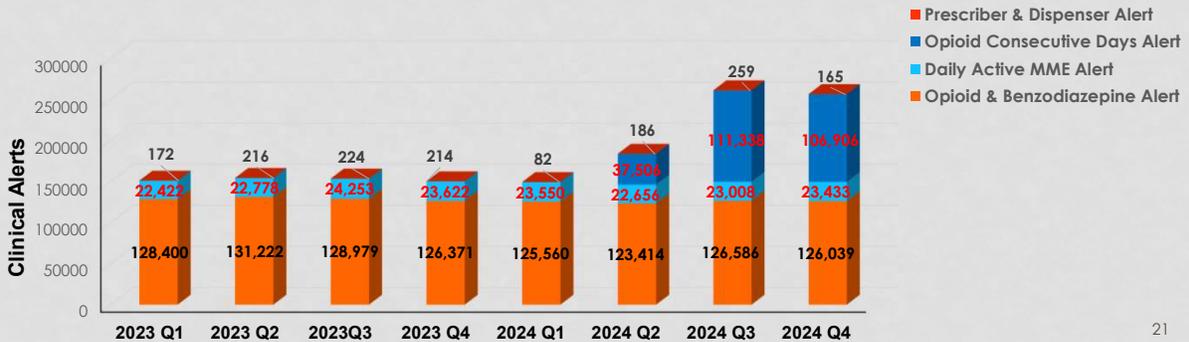


CLINICAL ALERTS

Clinical Alerts are custom automated alerts and/or notifications.

Alert Description

- **Prescriber & Dispenser Thresholds** - Generates an alert in case of multiple provider dispenser episodes within 30 days.
- **Opioid Consecutive Days Threshold** - Generates an alert when Opioids have been received daily for longer than 91 days.
- **Daily Active MME Threshold** - Generates an alert when the daily active MME(morphine milligram equivalent) is ≥ 120 .
- **Opioid & Benzodiazepine Threshold** - Generates an alert when Opioids and Benzodiazepines are prescribed within same time period.



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COMPLIANCE REVIEWS

CY 2024

- Quarterly Reviews
- Error Correction
- RX Management Guidance

Error Reports



- DEA Discrepancies
- Reporting Accuracy
- Detailed Analysis
- CHOW
- 70 Audits in 2024

Onsite Audits



- Delinquent Pharmacies
- Reporting Accuracy
- TM PHY Reviews
- 1674 Pharmacies in 2024
- Exempt Pharmacies – 58

Routine Reviews



• 96.440895% Good

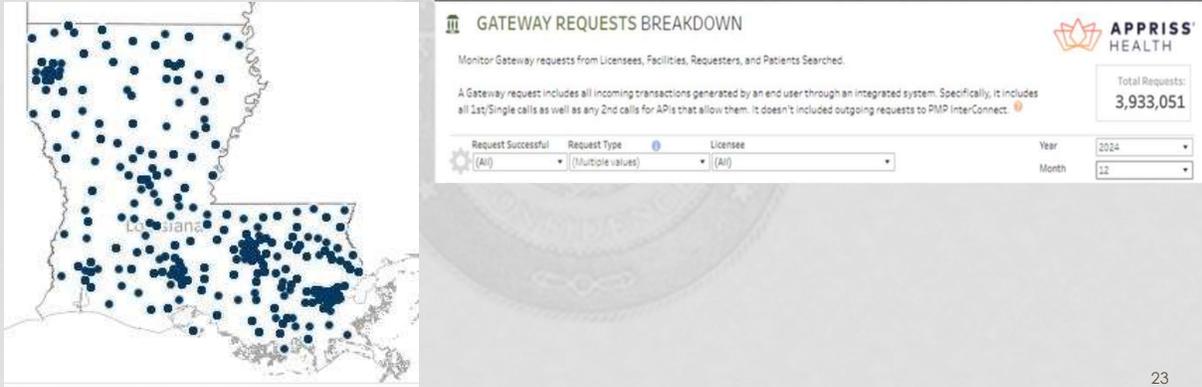
Data Quality



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PMP Statewide Integration Project through Gateway®

As of January 1, 2025, the Louisiana PMP is interoperable with 735 licensees (EHRs and pharmacy management systems) across the state. The 735 licensees represent more than 3,100 facilities in Louisiana and are responsible for 3,933,051 PMP requests in the month of December (see attached). There are an additional 309 licensee applicants pending.

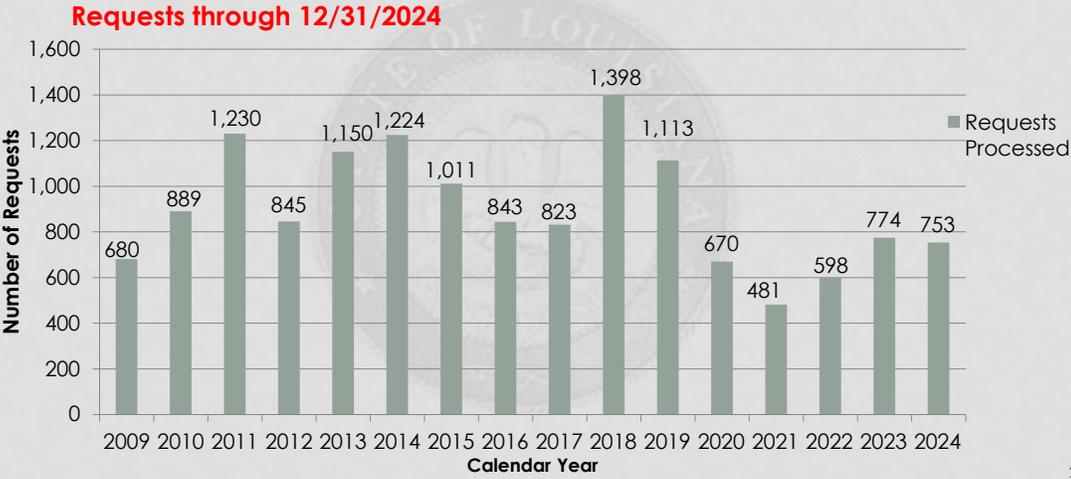


PMP Interstate Data Sharing through PMP InterConnect®

As of January 1, 2025, the Louisiana PMP is sharing with 38 PMPs (1 federal district, 1 territory, 1 federal jurisdiction, and 35 states).

- | | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Alabama | Alaska | Arizona | Arkansas |
| Colorado | Connecticut | Delaware | D.C. |
| MHS-DOD | Florida | Georgia | Idaho |
| Indiana | Iowa | Kansas | Maine |
| Massachusetts | Michigan | Minnesota | Mississippi |
| Montana | Nevada | New Mexico | North Carolina |
| North Dakota | Oklahoma | Pennsylvania | Puerto Rico |
| Rhode Island | South Carolina | South Dakota | Tennessee |
| Texas | Virginia | West Virginia. | Ohio |
| Kentucky | New York | | |

Law Enforcement, Prosecutorial Officials, and Specialty Court PMP Requests



Attachment 2

1 HLS 25RS-
2 2025 Regular Session
3 House / Senate Bill No. _____
4 By Representative / Senator _____
5

6 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES: Provides for retention and archiving of records in the state
7 prescription monitoring program.
8

9 AN ACT

10
11 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1006.G, relative to retention and archiving of records in the state
12 prescription monitoring program.

13 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

14 Section 1. R.S. 40:1006.G is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

15 §1006. Reporting of prescription monitoring information

16 ...

17 G. The board shall establish by rulemaking standards for the retention, archiving,
18 and destruction of prescription monitoring information and audit trail information.

19