



NM DRUG OVERDOSE PREVENTION QUARTERLY MEASURES REPORT SECOND QUARTER OF 2021 (2021Q2)

Substance Abuse Epidemiology Section Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention Program Injury and Behavioral Epidemiology Bureau Epidemiology and Response Division

This report is produced quarterly to track indicators related to drug overdose prevention. The indicators reported here allow for the tracking of three key interventions for prescription drug overdose: improving prescribing of controlled substances, increasing the availability of treatment for opioid dependence, and the increasing availability of naloxone in the community.

This report is based on calendar quarters: Q1 is January-March of the calendar year.

Data for this report were drawn from several sources:

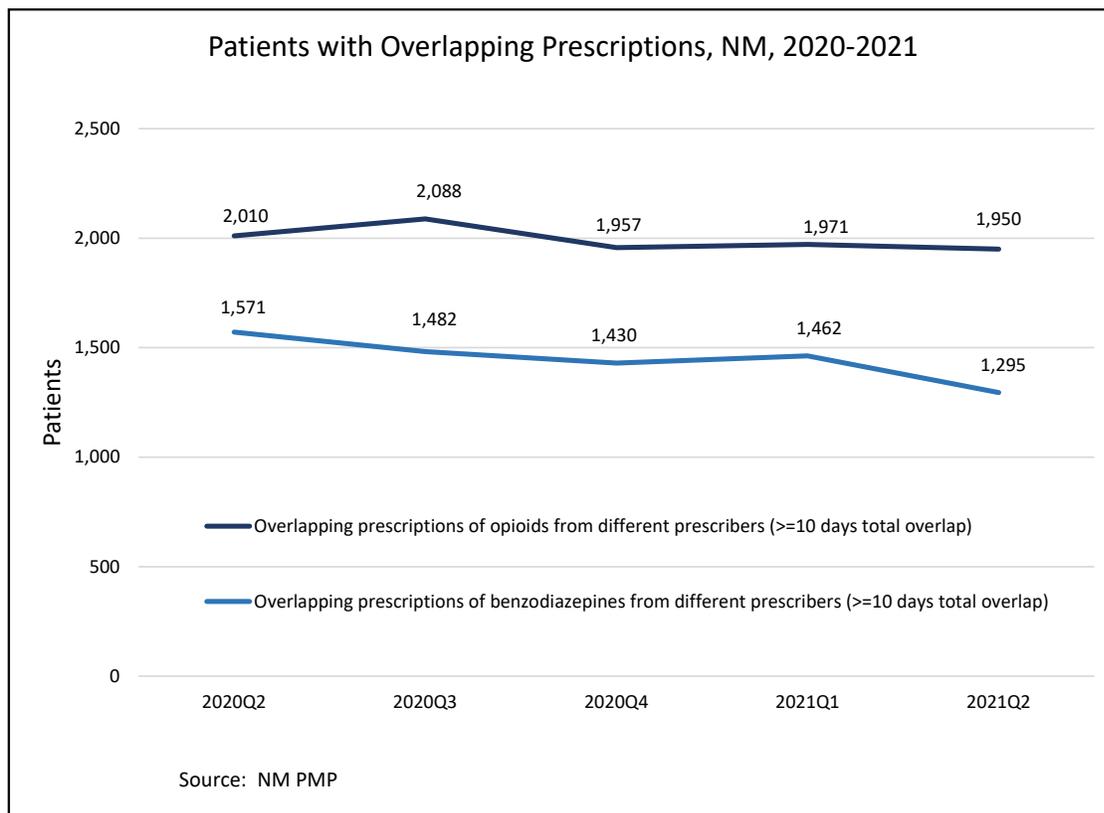
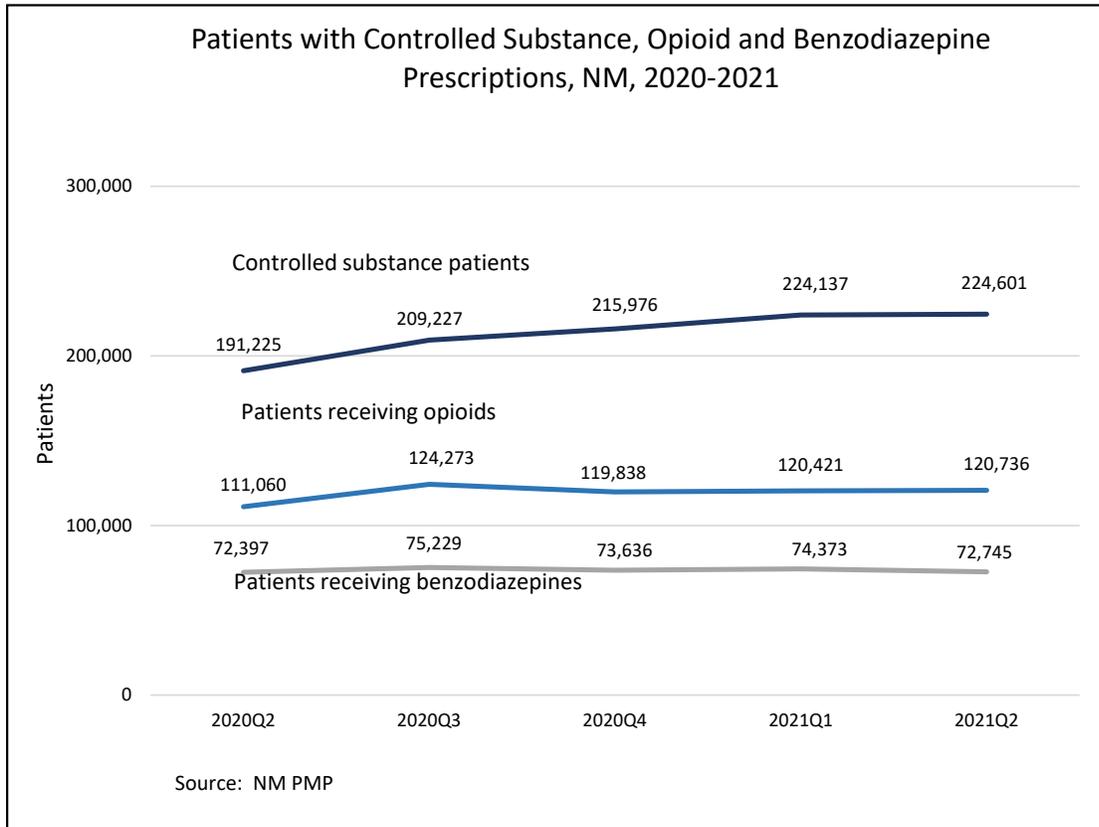
1. The Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) operated by the NM Board of Pharmacy, which collects data on every controlled substance prescription filled in New Mexico.
2. New Mexico Medicaid in the Human Services Department, for data on methadone treatment paid by Medicaid, and for data on claims paid for naloxone prescriptions at pharmacies.
3. The State Opioid Treatment Authority in the Human Services Department for data on methadone treatment programs operating in New Mexico.
4. The NM Department of Health Syringe Services Program for data on naloxone distributed via syringe exchange sites.
5. The Behavioral Health Services Division in the Human Services Department for data on naloxone distributed through Office of Substance Abuse Prevention programs.

Reports for 2020 Q2 and after reflect a changed definition of medication assisted treatment (MAT). The older definition defined MAT as buprenorphine/naloxone combination products only. The new definition has been applied to all quarters included in this report and includes all buprenorphine products except a couple of types indicated for the treatment of pain. Because MAT products are usually high-dose prescriptions and are counted separately from other opioids, this change has an effect on many of the indicators in this report.

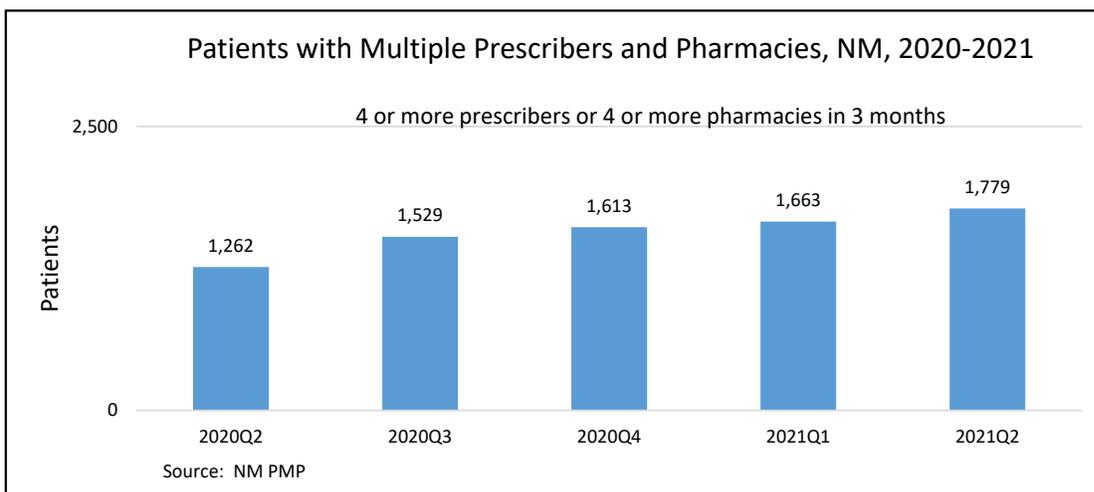
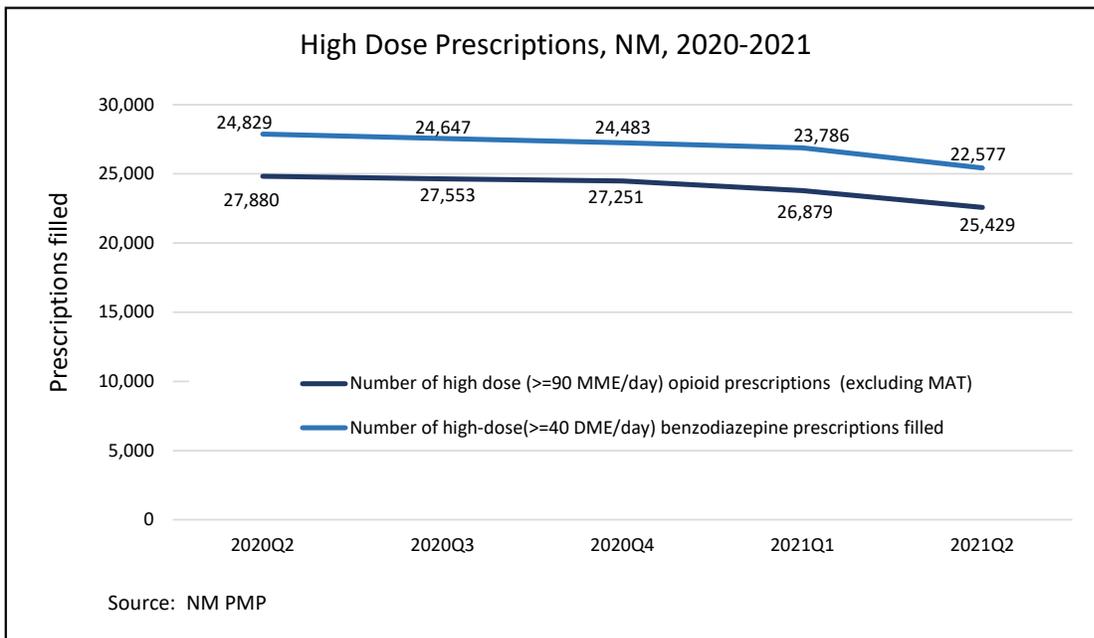
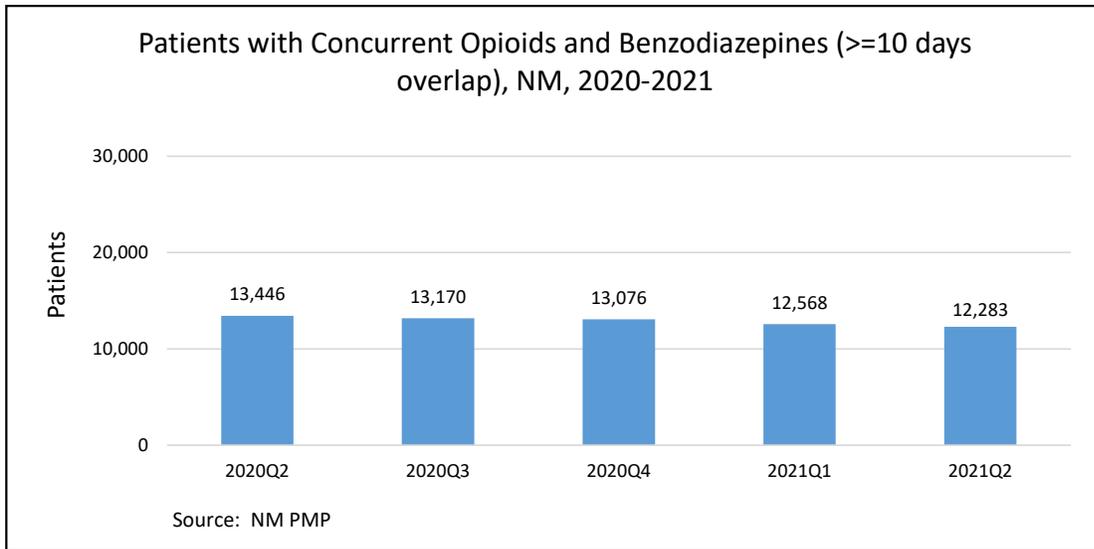
The peak in restrictions due to the Covid-19 pandemic occurred in 2020 Q2, especially in April and May. This is reflected in decreased numbers of patients and prescriptions, particularly for opioids. The decrease from Q1 to Q2 is larger than usual this year.

Prior to 2020 Q4, a number of controlled substances were excluded from the analyses that are the basis of this report. These included the barbiturates and some miscellaneous controlled substances (notably testosterone and pregabalin). The inclusion of these drugs increased the number of controlled substance patients and providers reported, and increased the number of patients with multiple providers or pharmacies. Most other indicators were not affected.

I. New Mexico Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Measures



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Totals

Year and Quarter	2020Q2	2021Q1	2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2021Q1 vs 2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2020Q2 vs 2021Q2
Total number of controlled substance patients	191,225	224,137	224,601	0.2%	17.5%
Number of patients receiving opioids (excluding MAT)	111,060	120,421	120,736	0.3%	8.7%
Number of opioid prescriptions filled (excluding MAT)	253,191	260,693	258,480	-0.8%	2.1%
Number of MAT buprenorphine prescriptions filled	29,876	28,974	28,309	-2.3%	-5.2%
Number of high dose (≥ 90 MME/day) opioid prescriptions (excluding MAT)	24,829	23,786	22,577	-5.1%	-9.1%
Total MME of opioids filled - (excluding MAT)	203,349,943	192,944,809	187,153,962	-3.0%	-8.0%
Total MME/prescription-day	47	46	45	-1.9%	-4.0%
Number of patients receiving benzodiazepines	72,397	74,373	72,745	-2.2%	0.5%
Number of benzodiazepine prescriptions filled	164,549	163,797	158,764	-3.1%	-3.5%
Number of high-dose(≥ 40 DME/day) benzodiazepine prescriptions filled	27,880	26,879	25,429	-5.4%	-8.8%
Total DME of benzodiazepines filled	84,717,726	79,501,087	76,475,085	-3.8%	-9.7%
Total DME/patient	1,170	1,069	1,051	-1.7%	-10.2%

SOURCE OF DATA: NM Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP), NM Prescribers with at least 20 controlled substance patients

MAT = Medication assisted treatment - the use of buprenorphine products indicated for treatment of opioid use disorder. Excludes products indicated for the treatment of pain.

MME = Morphine Milligram Equivalent; reference at http://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/pdf/calculating_total_daily_dose-a.pdf

DME = Diazepam Milligram Equivalent; reference at <http://archinte.jamanetwork.com/article.aspx?articleid=217249>, 2004

I. New Mexico Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Measures

Number of Patients with:

Year and Quarter	2020Q2	2021Q1	2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2021Q1 vs 2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2020Q2 vs 2021Q2
High dose opioids (>=90 MME/day) (excluding MAT)	8,703	8,573	8,331	-2.8%	-4.3%
High dose benzodiazepines (>=40 DME/day)	11,939	11,901	11,278	-5.2%	-5.5%
Opioids >=90 days and <90% of days in past 6 months (excluding MAT)	15,437	14,572	14,600	0.2%	-5.4%
Opioids >=90% of days in past 6 months (excluding MAT)	28,153	27,608	26,620	-3.6%	-5.4%
Benzodiazepines >=90 days and <90% of days in past 6 months	18,474	17,448	17,265	-1.0%	-6.5%
Benzodiazepines >=90% of days in past 6 months	22,673	22,261	21,581	-3.1%	-4.8%
Overlapping prescriptions of opioids from different prescribers (>=10 days total overlap)	2,010	1,971	1,950	-1.1%	-3.0%
Overlapping prescriptions of benzodiazepines from different prescribers (>=10 days total overlap)	1,571	1,462	1,295	-11.4%	-17.6%
Concurrent opioid and benzodiazepines (>=10 days overlap)	13,446	12,568	12,283	-2.3%	-8.6%
High dose opioids (>=90 MME/day) plus benzodiazepines	2,113	1,908	1,841	-3.5%	-12.9%
Multiple prescribers and pharmacies: 4 or more prescribers or 4 or more pharmacies in 3 months	1,262	1,663	1,779	7.0%	41.0%
New Opioid Patients with at least 30 days of coverage in the past 3 months (excl MAT)	1,990	1,920	2,001	4.2%	0.6%
New Benzodiazepine Patients with at least 30 days of coverage in the past 3 months	3,356	3,267	2,877	-11.9%	-14.3%

SOURCE OF DATA: NM Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP), NM Prescribers with at least 20 controlled substance patients

I. New Mexico Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Measures

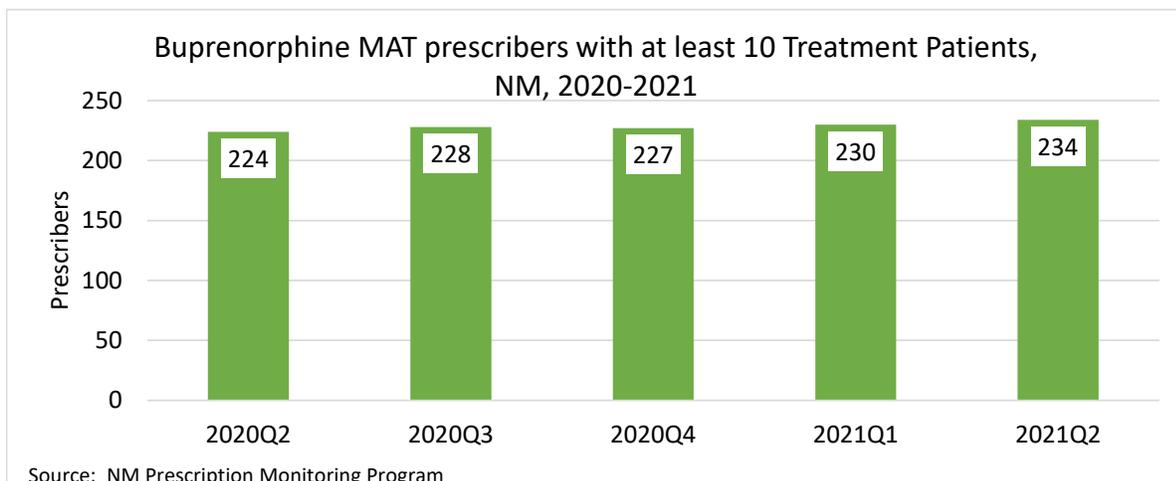
New Mexico Prescribers with at least 20 controlled substance patients:

Year and Quarter	2020Q2	2021Q1	2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2021Q1 vs 2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2020Q2 vs 2021Q2
Total active controlled substance prescribers	2,636	3,104	3,103	0.0%	17.7%
Prescribers with at least 50% high dose of opioid prescriptions, excluding treatment prescribers	34	30	26	-13.3%	-23.5%
Prescribers with at least 50% high dose of benzodiazepine prescriptions	121	111	100	-9.9%	-17.4%
Prescribers with at least 25% of patients having concurrent opioids and benzodiazepines	9	4	5	25.0%	-44.4%
Some PMP Use: Requested reports on at least 25% of patients estimated to require them	1,503	1,774	1,766	-0.5%	17.5%
Zero PMP Use: Requested no PMP reports on patients filling Controlled Substances	199	249	265	6.4%	33.2%
Number of Patients with PMP reports requested by practitioners	264,925	385,674	397,798	3.1%	50.2%
% of Chronic opioid users with a PMP request in the past 3 months*	80.1%	83.4%	83.3%	-0.1%	4.1%
% of Chronic benzodiazepine users with a PMP request in the past 3 months*	58.4%	62.5%	60.5%	-3.1%	3.7%
% of New Opioid Patients with a PMP request in the past 3 months**	38.6%	42.6%	44.5%	4.4%	15.3%
% of New Benzodiazepine Patients with a PMP request in the past 3 months**	41.3%	45.3%	44.4%	-2.0%	7.5%

*Chronic users are those with at least 90 days of coverage in six months.

**New patients are those with more than 4 days of coverage in the quarter and none in the prior quarter.

SOURCE OF DATA: NM Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP), NM Prescribers with at least 20 controlled substance patients



II. Medication Assisted Treatment (buprenorphine and methadone) Measures

Year and Quarter	2020Q2	2021Q1	2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2021Q1 vs 2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2020Q2 vs 2021Q2
Buprenorphine MAT prescribers with at least 10 treatment patients	224	230	234	1.7%	4.5%
Buprenorphine MAT patients (>=10 days)	8,263	8,189	8,079	-1.3%	-2.2%
Buprenorphine MAT prescriptions filled	29,876	28,974	28,309	-2.3%	-5.2%
Total Practitioners with DATA Waiver	997	1,167	1,205	3.3%	20.9%
Nurse Practitioners and PAs with DATA Waiver	332	404	425	5.2%	28.0%
Medicaid Methadone Treatment					
Number of distinct individuals with methadone claims paid by NM Medicaid	6,110	6,035	6,023	-0.2%	-1.4%
Number of distinct NM Medicaid providers of methadone	11	13	14	7.7%	27.3%

Methadone Treatment Programs by Survey Date	Jun 2020	Mar 2021	Jun 2021		
Number of Methadone Treatment Programs	18	21	21	0.0%	16.7%
Number of Methadone Treatment Patients in those Programs	6,867	7,235	7,327	1.3%	6.7%

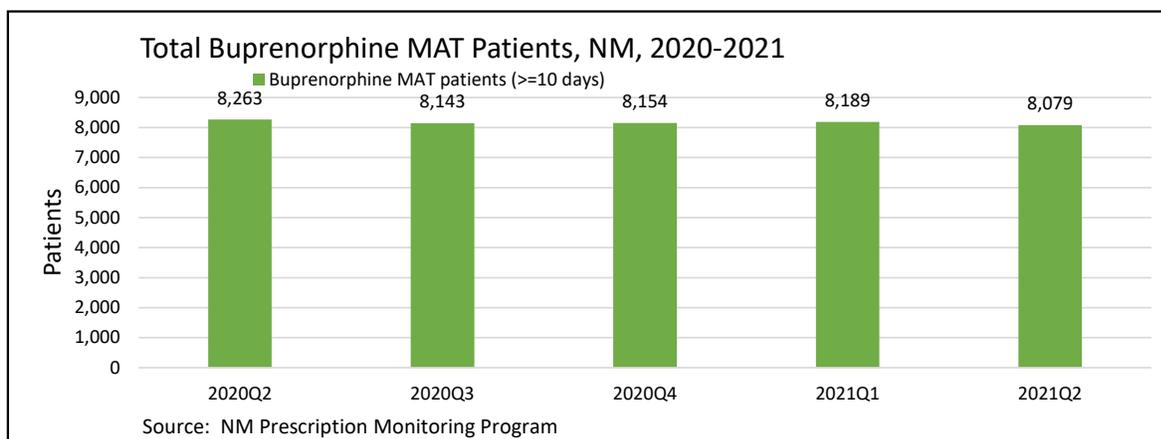
DATA Waivered provider data are as of the last month of the quarter

Sources:

Buprenorphine MAT data: NM Prescription Monitoring Program

Methadone data: NM Human Services Department, State Opioid Treatment Authority; NM Medicaid

DATA Waivered providers: US DEA Diversion Control Division



III. Naloxone Distribution and Usage Measures

Year and Quarter	2020Q2	2021Q1	2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2021Q1 vs 2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2020Q2 vs 2021Q2
New Enrollments in NM State Government Naloxone Programs	1,508	1,500	1,108	-26.1%	-26.5%
Total Number of NM Naloxone Doses distributed*	7,262	8,290	13,350	61.0%	83.8%
Total Number of NM Reported Reversals**	822	552	598	8.3%	-27.3%

Year and Quarter	2020Q2	2021Q1	2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2021Q1 vs 2021Q2	Quarterly % Change 2020Q2 vs 2021Q2
Pharmacies Presenting Medicaid Naloxone Claims+	244	251	261	4.0%	7.0%
Number of Medicaid Naloxone Claims Processed	4,000	5,180	4,676	-9.7%	16.9%

*Some naloxone doses were given to organizations and may not have been distributed in that quarter.

**Reported Reversals are not necessarily individual level data, as one person could have overdosed and been reversed more than once. Data on reversals are combined across several agencies and programs, and the definition of a reversal may vary.

+An outpatient pharmacy could present claims in more than one quarter. The total number was obtained by counting each pharmacy once. There were 286 outpatient Pharmacies with a NM address in 2019 according to the Board of Pharmacy.

Sources: NM DOH Programs; NM HSD/BHSD Programs; NM Medicaid

