



# **NM DRUG OVERDOSE PREVENTION QUARTERLY MEASURES REPORT**

**FIRST QUARTER OF 2024 (2024Q1)**

**Substance Use Epidemiology Section  
Prescription Drug Overdose Prevention Program  
Injury and Behavioral Epidemiology Bureau  
Center for Health Protection**

## Introduction

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:

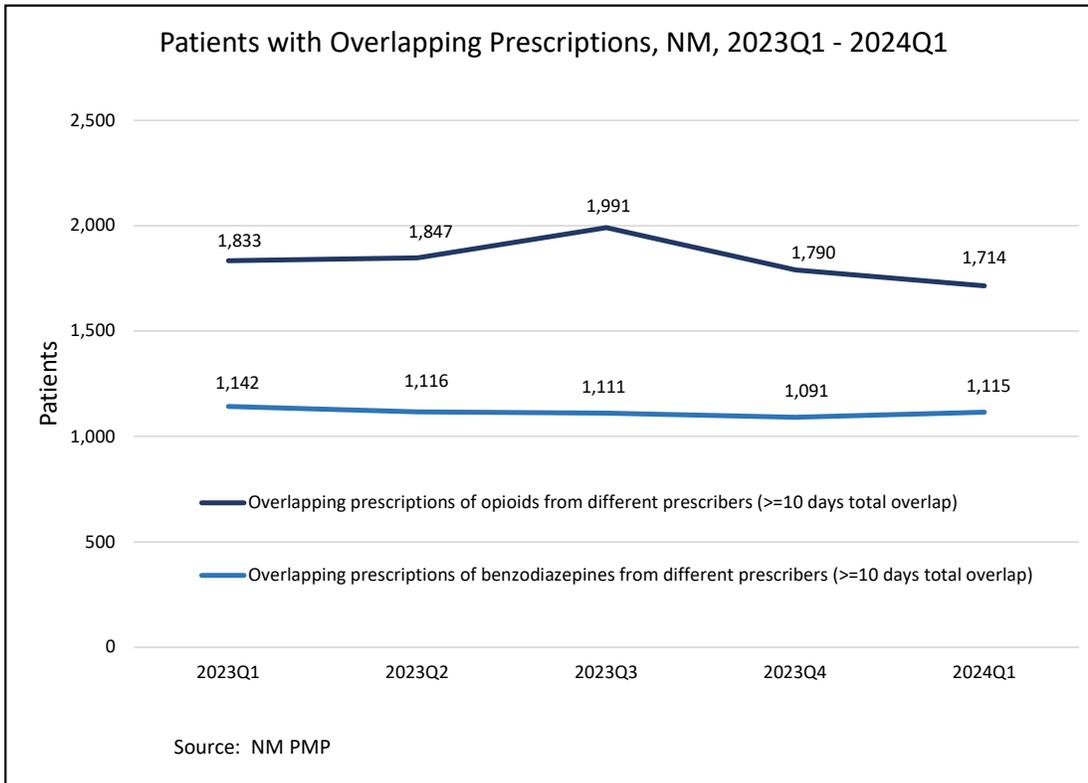
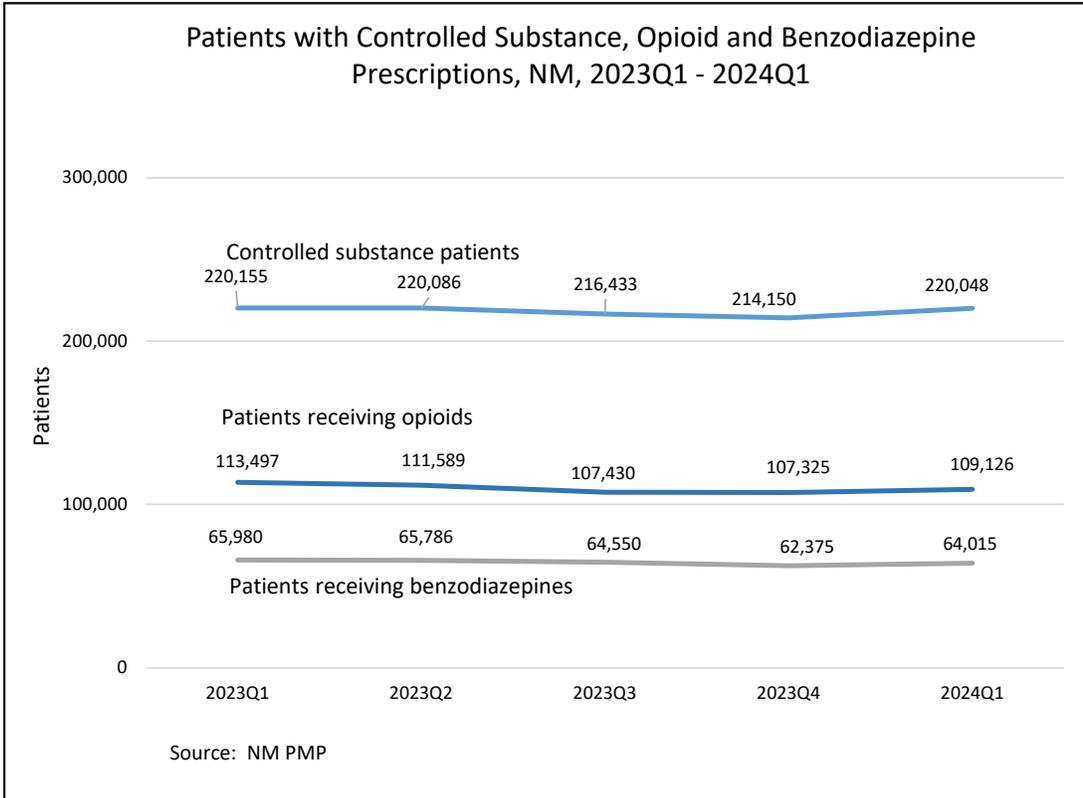
1. The Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) operated by the NM Board of Pharmacy, which collects data on every controlled substance prescription filled in New Mexico.
2. New Mexico Medicaid in the Human Services Department, for data on methadone treatment paid by Medicaid, and for data on claims paid 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.

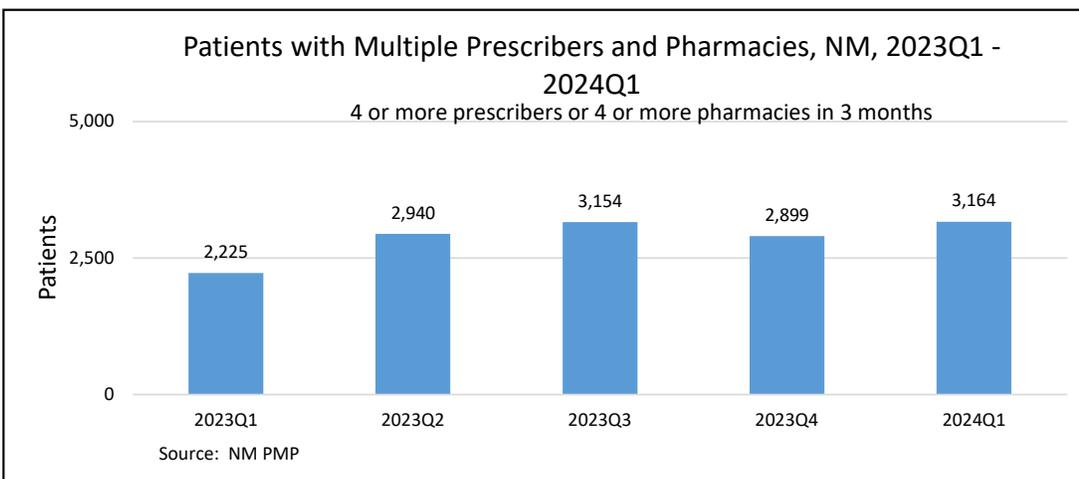
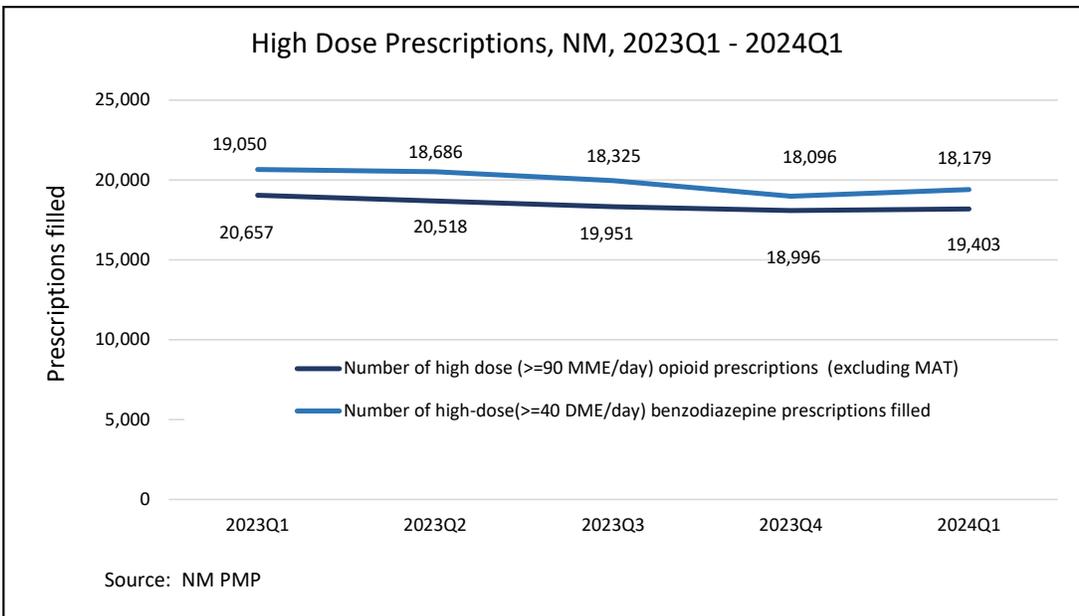
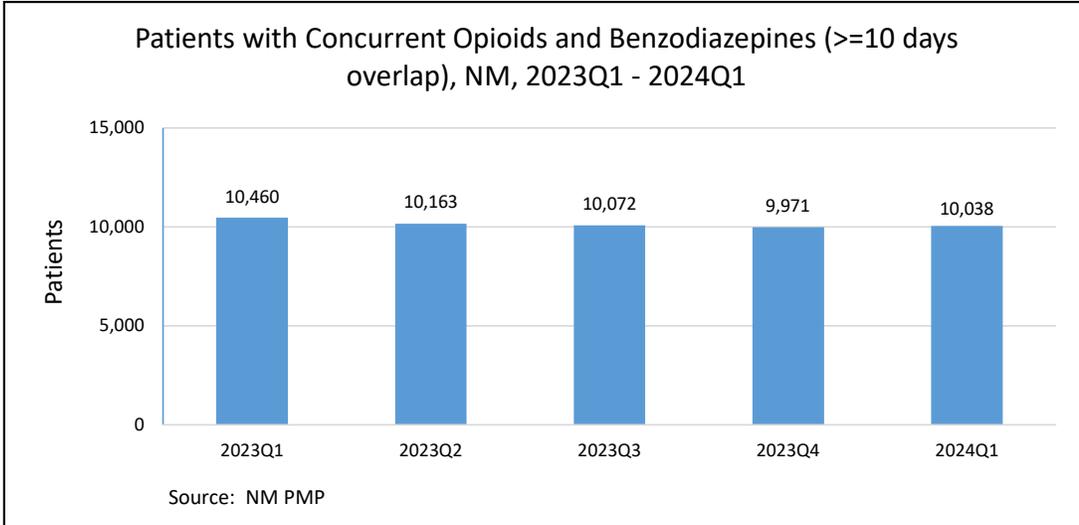
Prior to 2020 Q4, a number of controlled substances were excluded from the analyses that are the basis of this report. These included the barbiturates and some miscellaneous controlled substances (notably testosterone and pregabalin). The inclusion of these drugs increased the number of controlled substance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

Gabapentin was added to PMP reporting as a drug of concern in March 2023. This caused increases in the number of prescribers with 20+ patients, the number of patients with multiple providers. Most other indicators were not affected.

I. New Mexico Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) Measures



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Totals

Year and Quarter	2023Q1	2023Q4	2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q4 vs 2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q1 vs 2024Q1
Total number of controlled substance patients	220,155	214,150	220,048	2.8%	0.0%
Number of patients receiving opioids (excluding MAT)	113,497	107,325	109,126	1.7%	-3.9%
Number of opioid prescriptions filled (excluding MAT)	237,620	222,851	227,325	2.0%	-4.3%
Number of MAT buprenorphine prescriptions filled	28,460	27,384	28,866	5.4%	1.4%
Number of high dose (>=90 MME/day) opioid prescriptions (excluding MAT)	19,050	18,096	18,179	0.5%	-4.6%
Total MME of opioids filled - (excluding MAT)	161,525,634	152,230,773	152,524,249	0.2%	-5.6%
Total MME/prescription-day	43	42	42	0.1%	-2.5%
Number of patients receiving benzodiazepines	65,980	62,375	64,015	2.6%	-3.0%
Number of benzodiazepine prescriptions filled	140,480	131,692	135,000	2.5%	-3.9%
Number of high-dose(>=40 DME/day) benzodiazepine prescriptions filled	20,657	18,996	19,403	2.1%	-6.1%
Total DME of benzodiazepines filled	63,890,435	59,095,898	59,476,121	0.6%	-6.9%
Total DME/patient	968	947	929	-1.9%	-4.1%

**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](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	2023Q1	2023Q4	2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q4 vs 2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q1 vs 2024Q1
High dose opioids (>=90 MME/day) (excluding MAT)	7,051	6,853	6,820	-0.5%	-3.3%
High dose benzodiazepines (>=40 DME/day)	9,236	8,565	8,748	2.1%	-5.3%
Opioids >=90 days and <90% of days in past 6 months (excluding MAT)	13,501	14,221	13,846	-2.6%	2.6%
Opioids >=90% of days in past 6 months (excluding MAT)	23,562	21,906	21,866	-0.2%	-7.2%
Benzodiazepines >=90 days and <90% of days in past 6 months	15,142	14,679	14,320	-2.4%	-5.4%
Benzodiazepines >=90% of days in past 6 months	18,974	17,787	17,780	0.0%	-6.3%
Overlapping prescriptions of opioids from different prescribers (>=10 days total overlap)	1,833	1,790	1,714	-4.2%	-6.5%
Overlapping prescriptions of benzodiazepines from different prescribers (>=10 days total overlap)	1,142	1,091	1,115	2.2%	-2.4%
Concurrent opioid and benzodiazepines (>=10 days overlap)	10,460	9,971	10,038	0.7%	-4.0%
High dose opioids (>=90 MME/day) plus benzodiazepines	1,469	1,454	1,463	0.6%	-0.4%
Multiple prescribers and pharmacies: 4 or more prescribers or 4 or more pharmacies in 3 months	2,225	2,899	3,164	9.1%	42.2%
New Opioid Patients with at least 30 days of coverage in the past 3 months (excl MAT)	2,083	1,961	2,118	8.0%	1.7%
New Benzodiazepine Patients with at least 30 days of coverage in the past 3 months	2,876	2,654	2,871	8.2%	-0.2%

**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**

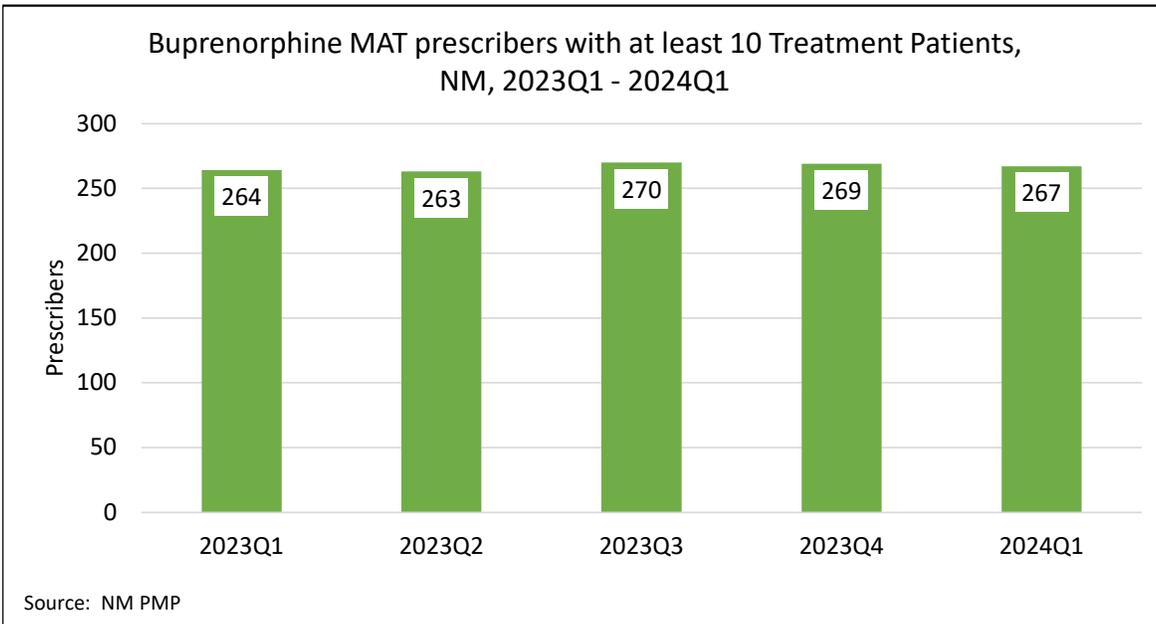
**New Mexico Prescribers with at least 20 controlled substance patients:**

Year and Quarter	2023Q1	2023Q4	2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q4 vs 2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q1 vs 2024Q1
Total active controlled substance prescribers	3,112	3,466	3,330	-3.9%	7.0%
Prescribers with at least 50% high dose of opioid prescriptions, excluding treatment prescribers	19	16	18	12.5%	-5.3%
Prescribers with at least 50% high dose of benzodiazepine prescriptions	78	69	68	-1.4%	-12.8%
Some PMP Use: Requested reports on at least 25% of patients estimated to require them	1,800	1,878	1,836	-2.2%	2.0%
Zero PMP Use: Requested no PMP reports on patients filling Controlled Substances	227	321	282	-12.1%	24.2%
Number of Patients with PMP reports requested by practitioners	454,655	253,811	392,561	54.7%	-13.7%
% of Chronic opioid users with a PMP request in the past 3 months*	83.3%	81.2%	83.5%	2.7%	0.3%
% of Chronic benzodiazepine users with a PMP request in the past 3 months*	60.9%	58.6%	60.6%	3.5%	-0.4%
% of New Opioid Patients with a PMP request in the past 3 months**	45.5%	43.7%	45.1%	3.3%	-0.7%
% of New Benzodiazepine Patients with a PMP request in the past 3 months**	46.1%	44.4%	44.5%	0.2%	-3.5%

\*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	2023Q1	2023Q4	2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q4 vs 2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q1 vs 2024Q1
Buprenorphine MAT prescribers with at least 10 treatment patients	264	269	267	-0.7%	1.1%
Buprenorphine MAT prescribers with 5 to 9 treatment patients	107	137	123	-10.2%	15.0%
Buprenorphine MAT prescribers with 1 to 4 treatment patients	315	485	490	1.0%	55.6%
Buprenorphine MAT patients (>=10 days)	8,704	8,942	9,323	4.3%	7.1%
Buprenorphine MAT prescriptions filled	28,460	27,384	28,866	5.4%	1.4%

**Medicaid Methadone Treatment**

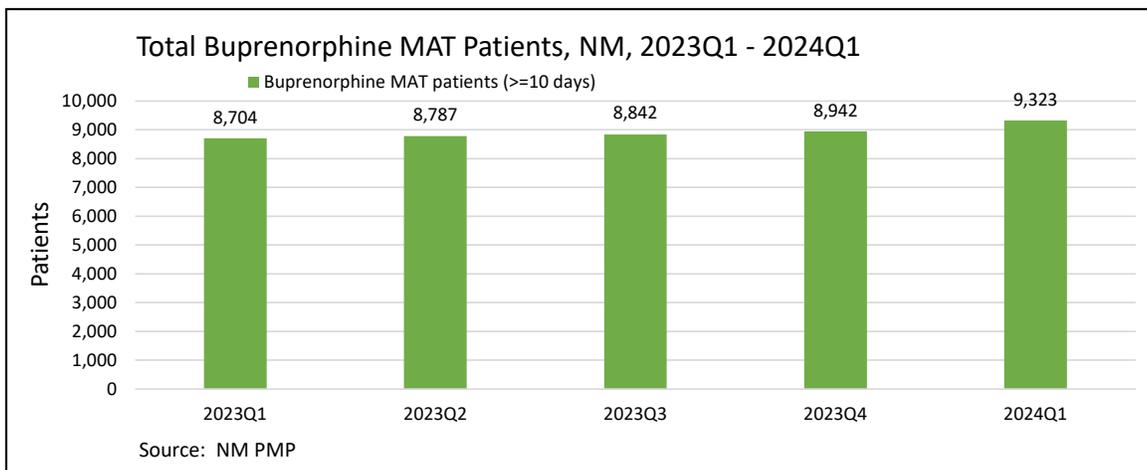
Number of distinct individuals with methadone claims paid by NM Medicaid	5,627	4,655	4,524	-2.8%	-19.6%
Number of distinct NM Medicaid providers of methadone	13	15	14	-6.7%	7.7%

Methadone Treatment Programs by Survey Date	Mar 2023	Dec 2023	Mar 2024		
Number of Methadone Treatment Programs	21	22	22	0.0%	4.8%
Number of Methadone Treatment Patients in those Programs	6,326	6,902	7,140	3.4%	12.9%

DATA Waivered provider data are as of the last month of the quarter  
 After December 2022, the DATA waiver will no longer be needed to provide OUD treatment

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	2023Q1	2023Q4	2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q4 vs 2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q1 vs 2024Q1
New Enrollments in NM State Government Naloxone Programs	987	1,327	1,054	-20.6%	6.8%
Total Number of NM Naloxone Doses distributed*	11,700	10,466	12,068	15.3%	3.1%
Total Number of NM Reported Reversals**	858	746	940	26.0%	9.6%

Year and Quarter	2023Q1	2023Q4	2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q4 vs 2024Q1	Quarterly % Change 2023Q1 vs 2024Q1
Pharmacies Presenting Medicaid Naloxone Claims+	284	280	277	-1.1%	-2.5%
Number of Medicaid Naloxone Claims Processed	6,064	8,825	4,632	-47.5%	-23.6%

\*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

