



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

**SECOND QUARTER OF 2024 (2024Q2)**

**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:

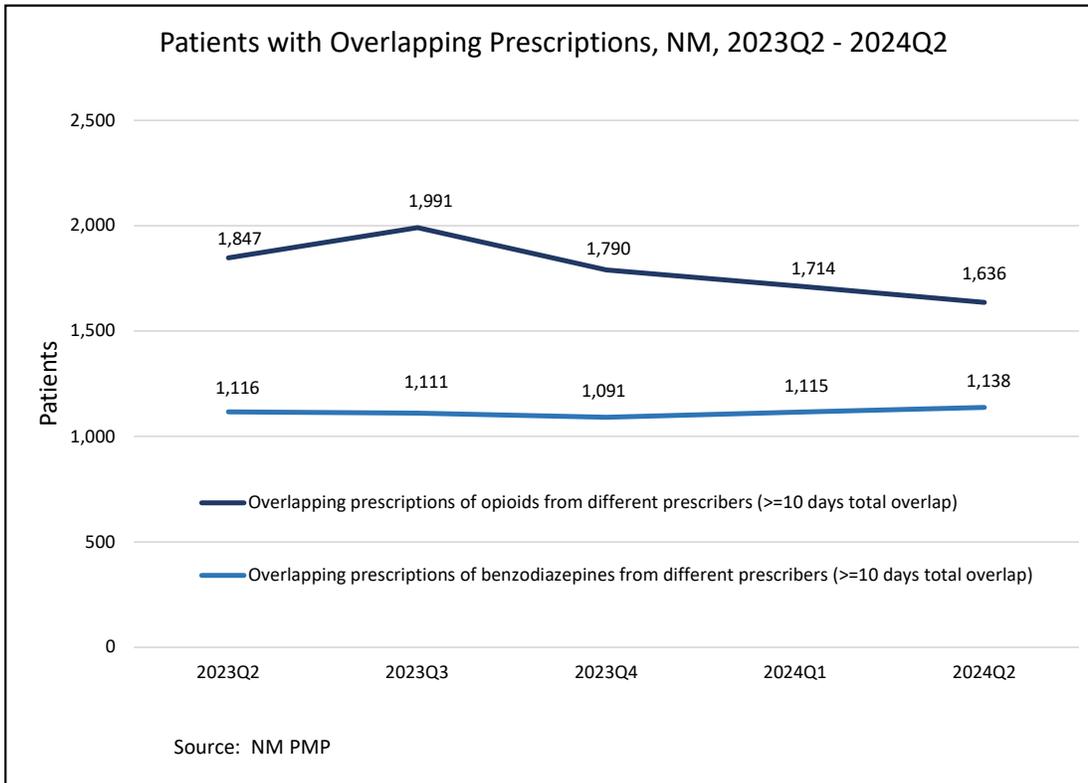
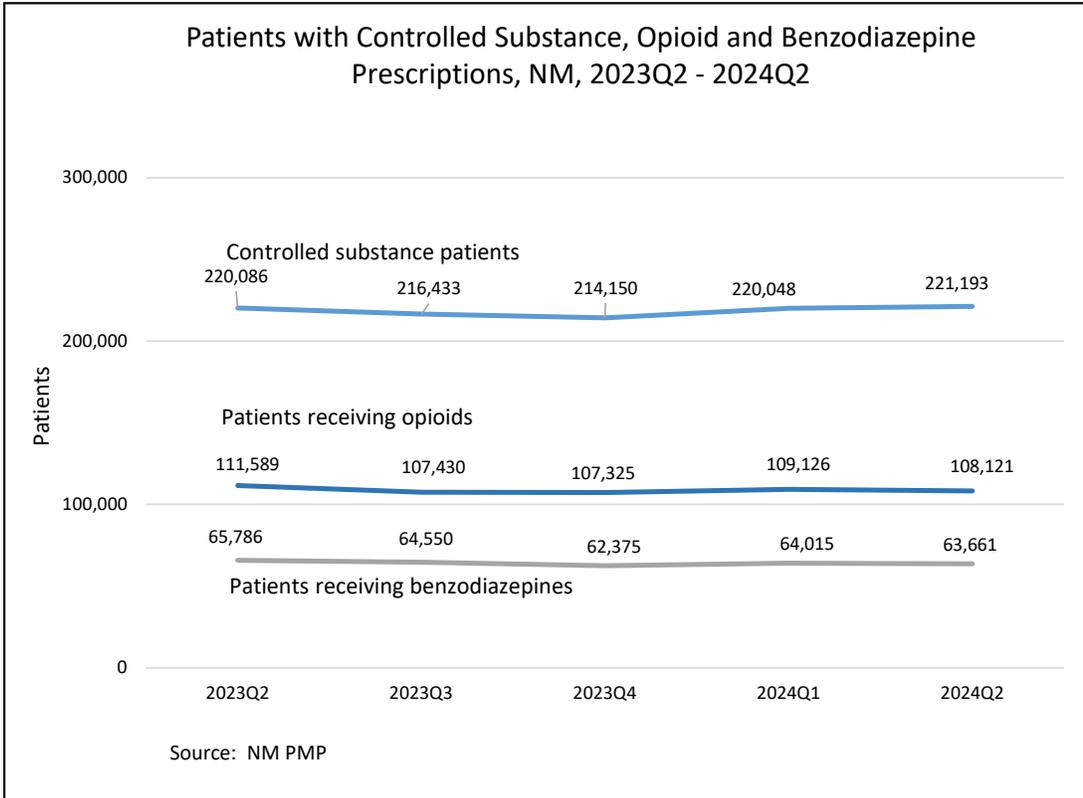
1. The Prescription Monitoring Program (PMP) operated by the NM Board of Pharmacy, which collects data on every controlled substance prescription filled in New Mexico.
2. New Mexico Medicaid in the Human Services Department, for data on methadone treatment paid by Medicaid, and for data on claims paid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

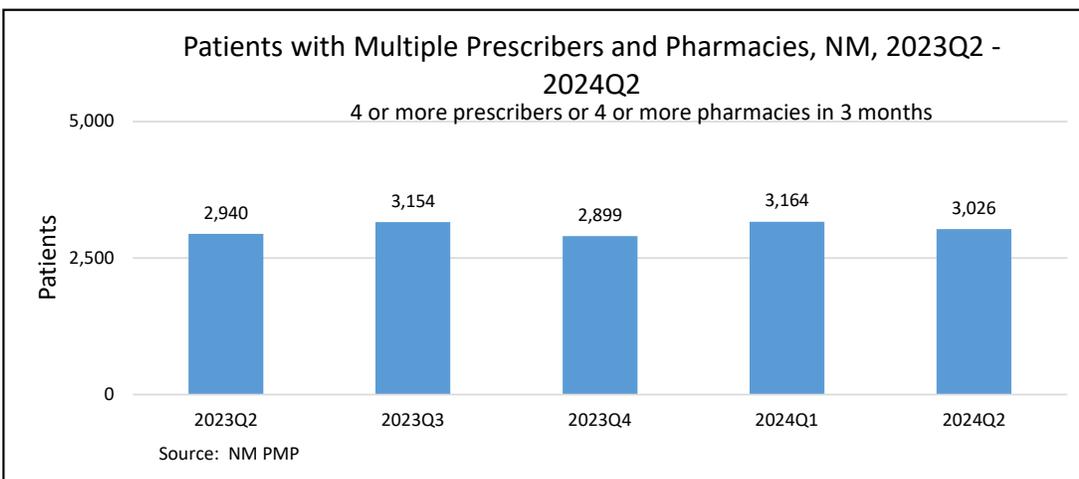
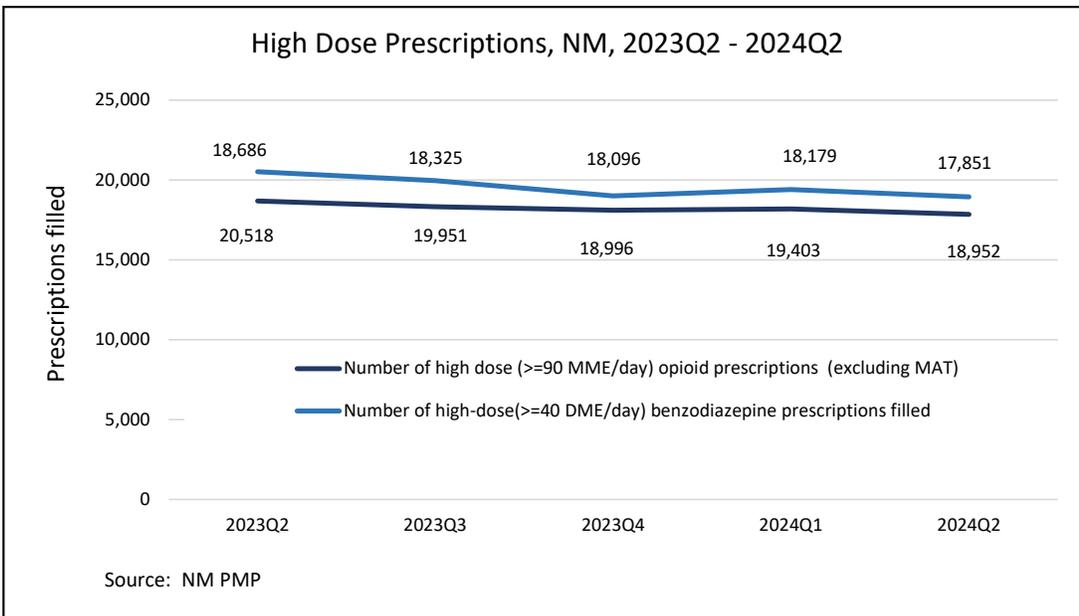
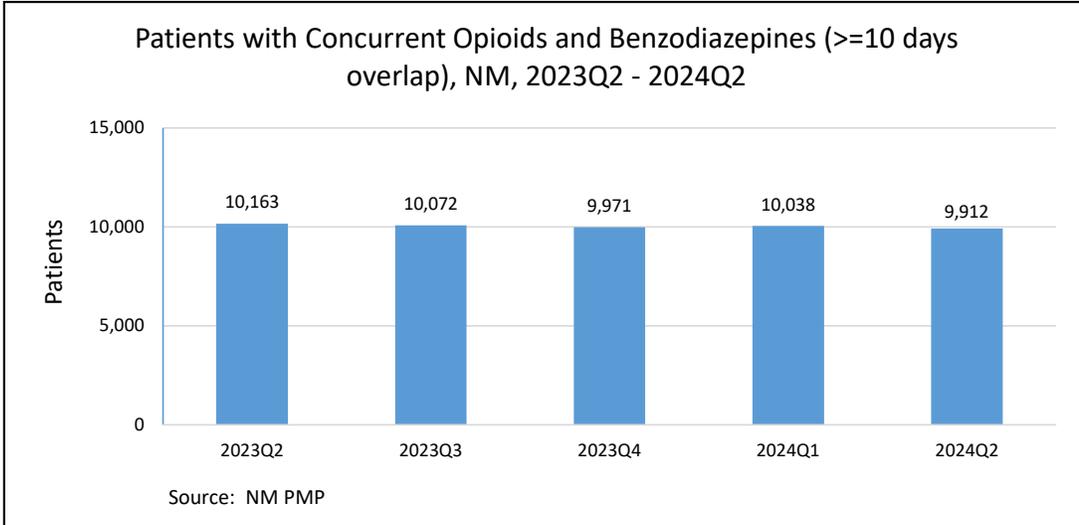
Prior to 2020 Q4, a number of controlled substances were excluded from the analyses that are the basis of this report. These included the barbiturates and some miscellaneous controlled substances (notably testosterone and pregabalin). The inclusion of these drugs increased the number of controlled substance 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	2023Q2	2024Q1	2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2024Q1 vs 2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2023Q2 vs 2024Q2
Total number of controlled substance patients	220,086	220,048	221,193	0.5%	0.5%
Number of patients receiving opioids (excluding MAT)	111,589	109,126	108,121	-0.9%	-3.1%
Number of opioid prescriptions filled (excluding MAT)	233,953	227,325	225,863	-0.6%	-3.5%
Number of MAT buprenorphine prescriptions filled	28,323	28,866	29,239	1.3%	3.2%
Number of high dose (>=90 MME/day) opioid prescriptions (excluding MAT)	18,686	18,179	17,851	-1.8%	-4.5%
Total MME of opioids filled - (excluding MAT)	159,963,334	152,524,249	152,925,228	0.3%	-4.4%
Total MME/prescription-day	43	42	42	-0.2%	-2.0%
Number of patients receiving benzodiazepines	65,786	64,015	63,661	-0.6%	-3.2%
Number of benzodiazepine prescriptions filled	139,326	135,000	133,469	-1.1%	-4.2%
Number of high-dose(>=40 DME/day) benzodiazepine prescriptions filled	20,518	19,403	18,952	-2.3%	-7.6%
Total DME of benzodiazepines filled	63,252,064	59,476,121	58,748,178	-1.2%	-7.1%
Total DME/patient	961	929	923	-0.7%	-4.0%

**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	2023Q2	2024Q1	2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2024Q1 vs 2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2023Q2 vs 2024Q2
High dose opioids (>=90 MME/day) (excluding MAT)	7,005	6,820	6,736	-1.2%	-3.8%
High dose benzodiazepines (>=40 DME/day)	9,229	8,748	8,577	-2.0%	-7.1%
Opioids >=90 days and <90% of days in past 6 months (excluding MAT)	13,673	13,846	12,878	-7.0%	-5.8%
Opioids >=90% of days in past 6 months (excluding MAT)	23,246	21,866	22,904	4.7%	-1.5%
Benzodiazepines >=90 days and <90% of days in past 6 months	15,008	14,320	13,707	-4.3%	-8.7%
Benzodiazepines >=90% of days in past 6 months	18,669	17,780	18,214	2.4%	-2.4%
Overlapping prescriptions of opioids from different prescribers (>=10 days total overlap)	1,847	1,714	1,636	-4.6%	-11.4%
Overlapping prescriptions of benzodiazepines from different prescribers (>=10 days total overlap)	1,116	1,115	1,138	2.1%	2.0%
Concurrent opioid and benzodiazepines (>=10 days overlap)	10,163	10,038	9,912	-1.3%	-2.5%
High dose opioids (>=90 MME/day) plus benzodiazepines	1,425	1,463	1,474	0.8%	3.4%
Multiple prescribers and pharmacies: 4 or more prescribers or 4 or more pharmacies in 3 months	2,940	3,164	3,026	-4.4%	2.9%
New Opioid Patients with at least 30 days of coverage in the past 3 months (excl MAT)	2,015	2,118	2,086	-1.5%	3.5%
New Benzodiazepine Patients with at least 30 days of coverage in the past 3 months	2,776	2,871	2,704	-5.8%	-2.6%

**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**

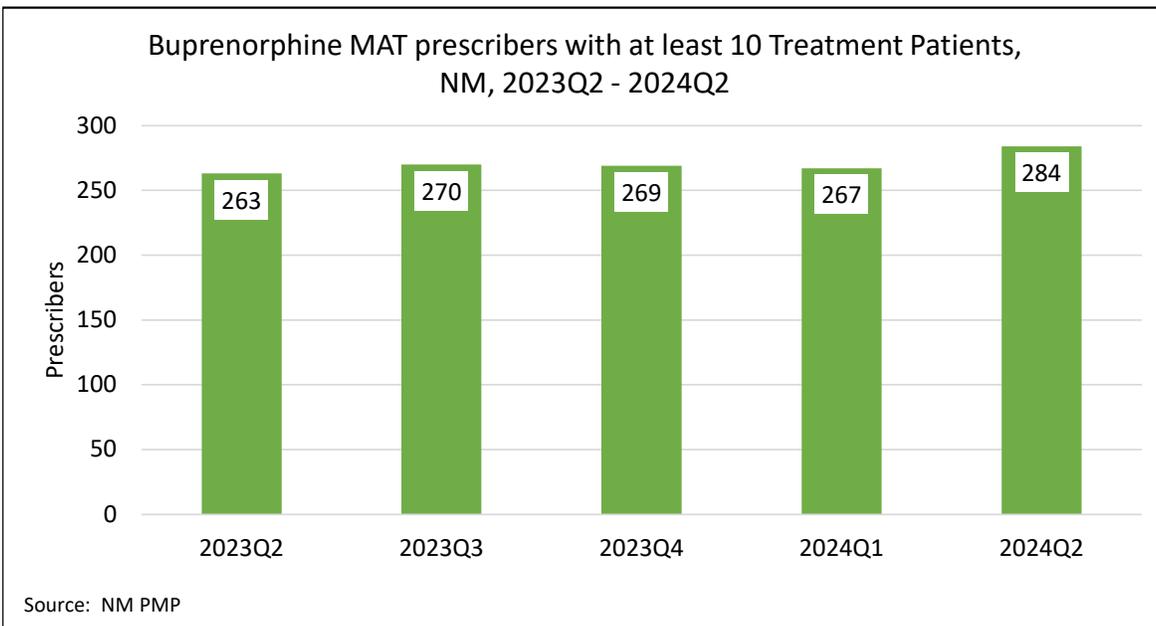
**New Mexico Prescribers with at least 20 controlled substance patients:**

Year and Quarter	2023Q2	2024Q1	2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2024Q1 vs 2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2023Q2 vs 2024Q2
Total active controlled substance prescribers	3,469	3,330	3,571	7.2%	2.9%
Prescribers with at least 50% high dose of opioid prescriptions, excluding treatment prescribers	19	18	19	5.6%	0.0%
Prescribers with at least 50% high dose of benzodiazepine prescriptions	84	68	66	-2.9%	-21.4%
Some PMP Use: Requested reports on at least 25% of patients estimated to require them	1,908	1,836	1,921	4.6%	0.7%
Zero PMP Use: Requested no PMP reports on patients filling Controlled Substances	276	282	309	9.6%	12.0%
Number of Patients with PMP reports requested by practitioners	471,013	392,561	387,619	-1.3%	-17.7%
% of Chronic opioid users with a PMP request in the past 3 months*	83.5%	83.5%	83.1%	-0.5%	-0.5%
% of Chronic benzodiazepine users with a PMP request in the past 3 months*	61.4%	60.6%	59.7%	-1.6%	-2.7%
% of New Opioid Patients with a PMP request in the past 3 months**	45.7%	45.1%	44.5%	-1.4%	-2.6%
% of New Benzodiazepine Patients with a PMP request in the past 3 months**	46.2%	44.5%	45.0%	1.3%	-2.5%

\*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	2023Q2	2024Q1	2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2024Q1 vs 2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2023Q2 vs 2024Q2
Buprenorphine MAT prescribers with at least 10 treatment patients	263	267	284	6.4%	8.0%
Buprenorphine MAT prescribers with 5 to 9 treatment patients	122	123	124	0.8%	1.6%
Buprenorphine MAT prescribers with 1 to 4 treatment patients	424	490	555	13.3%	30.9%
Buprenorphine MAT patients (>=10 days)	8,787	9,323	9,455	1.4%	7.6%
Buprenorphine MAT prescriptions filled	28,323	28,866	29,239	1.3%	3.2%

**Medicaid Methadone Treatment**

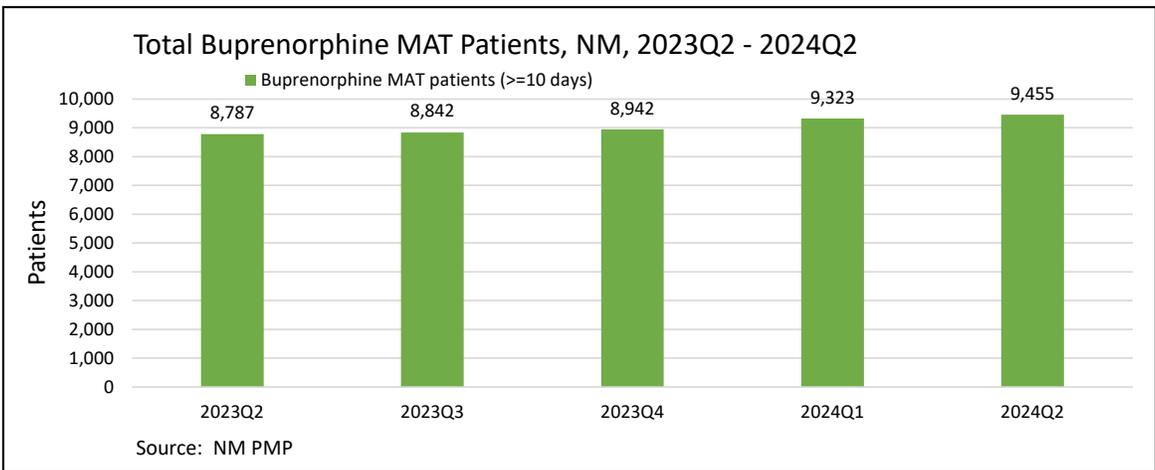
Number of distinct individuals with methadone claims paid by NM Medicaid	5,766	4,524	5,116	13.1%	-11.3%
Number of distinct NM Medicaid providers of methadone	14	14	14	0.0%	0.0%

Methadone Treatment Programs by Survey Date	Jun 2023	Mar 2024	Jun 2024		
Number of Methadone Treatment Programs	21	22	22	0.0%	4.8%
Number of Methadone Treatment Patients in those Programs	6,168	7,140	7,395	3.6%	19.9%

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	2023Q2	2024Q1	2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2024Q1 vs 2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2023Q2 vs 2024Q2
New Enrollments in NM State Government Naloxone Programs	987	1,054	1,756	66.6%	77.9%
Total Number of NM Naloxone Doses distributed*	11,700	12,068	13,044	8.1%	11.5%
Total Number of NM Reported Reversals**	858	940	810	-13.8%	-5.6%

Year and Quarter	2023Q2	2024Q1	2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2024Q1 vs 2024Q2	Quarterly % Change 2023Q2 vs 2024Q2
Pharmacies Presenting Medicaid Naloxone Claims+	289	277	271	-2.2%	-6.2%
Number of Medicaid Naloxone Claims Processed	5,801	4,632	4,164	-10.1%	-28.2%

\*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

