



**Controlled Substance Monitoring Database  
Director's Report  
to  
Controlled Substance Monitoring Database Committee**

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Director, Controlled Substance Monitoring Database

February 25, 2025

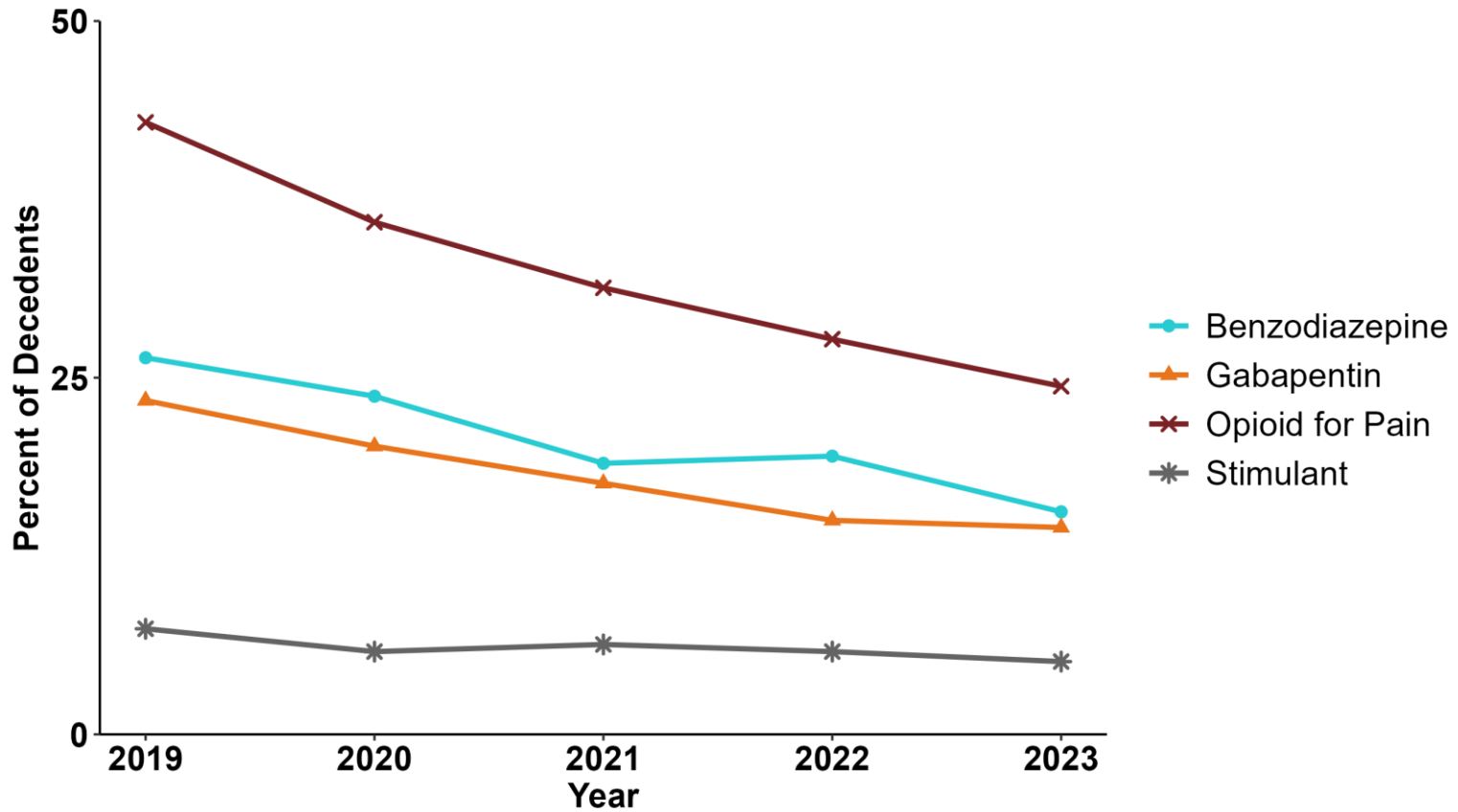
# Key Analytical Findings 2017-2024

- Morphine Milligram Equivalents (MME) prescribed and dispensed to patients in TN has decreased by 54.2%.
- Number of potential doctor shoppers has decreased by 79%.
- Number of opioid prescriptions for pain has decreased by 43.1%.

# Key Highlights for the CSMD in 2024

- The total number of controlled substance prescriptions reported to the CSMD plateaued in 2024.
- The total number of patient requests increased by 31% from 2023.
  - Despite the increase, the response time for searches in the CSMD was less than one second (if the request did not include data from another state).
- The total number of patient reports increased by 11.8% from 2023.
- Number of Gateway integrations (in production) has increased by 44.3%.

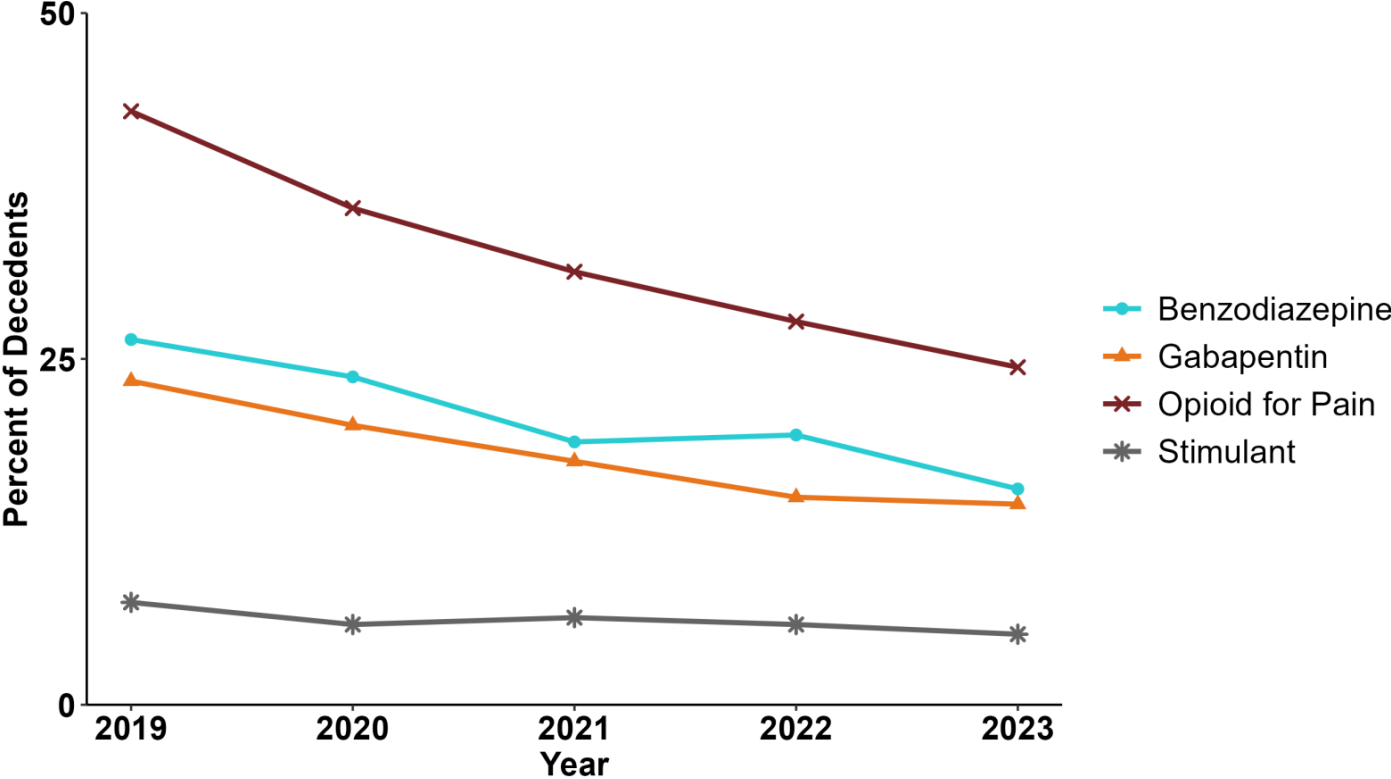
# Percent of Overdose Decedents Who Filled a Type of Prescription in the Year Before Death, 2019-2023



\*Able to link ~85% of fatal overdose decedents to CSMD

Analysis by the Office of Informatics and Analytics, TDH (last updated January 15, 2025. 2023 Data is provisional. Final numbers are subject to change. Data Source: TN Death Statistical File.

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# Number of Active Registrants in the CSMD, 2017-2024

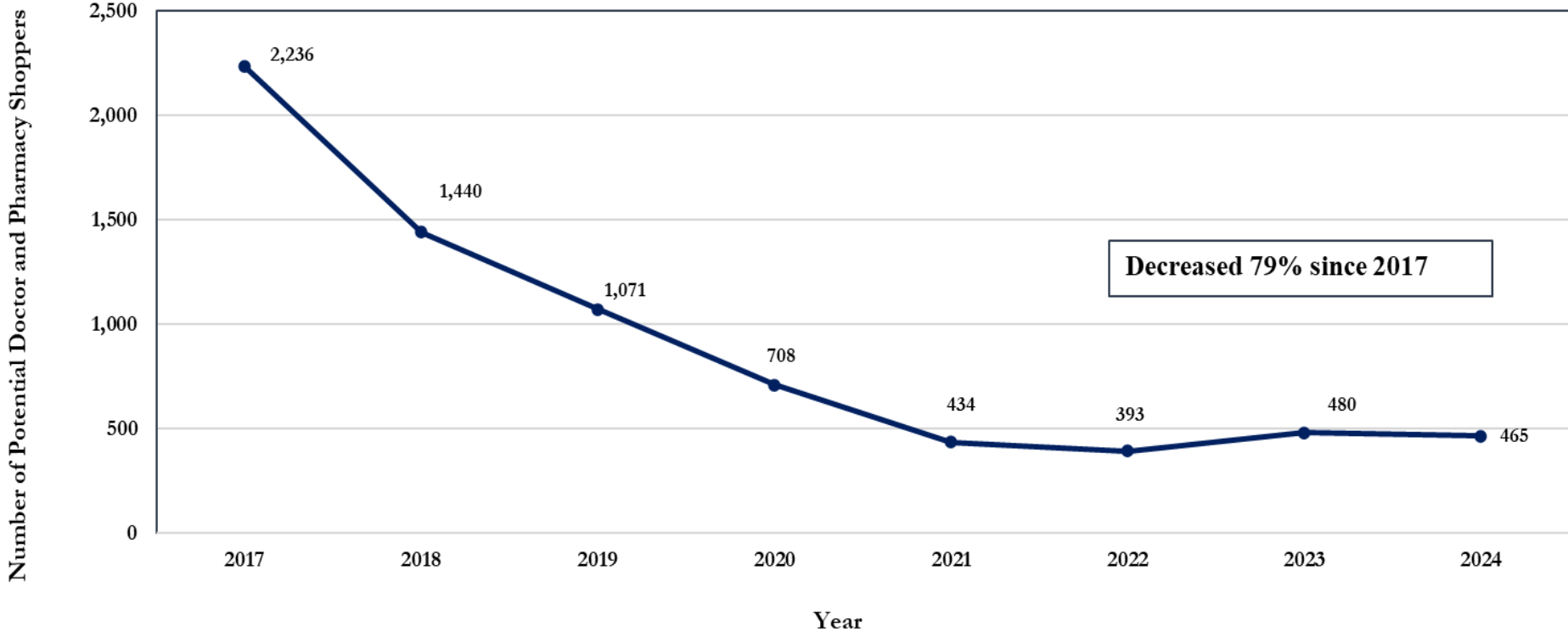
Number of Active Registrants in the CSMD, 2017 - 2024\*

Year	Registrants	Change (%)
2017	47,294	-
2018	50,991	7.8
2019	54,642	7.2
2020	58,379	6.8
2021	61,390	5.2
2022	64,717	5.4
2023	66,226	2.3
2024	68,154	2.9

\*VA registrants were included.

# Potential Doctor and Pharmacy Shoppers

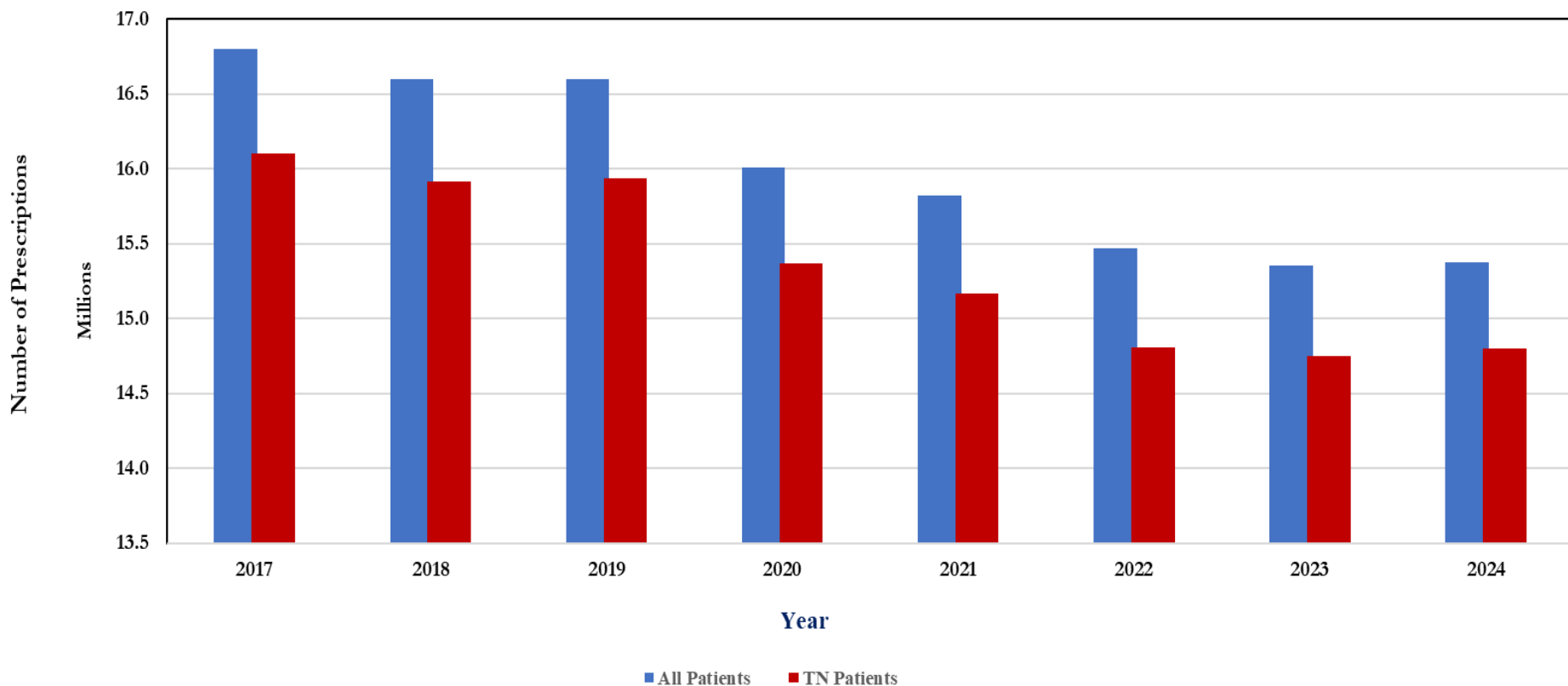
Potential Doctor and Pharmacy Shoppers Identified in the CSMD, 2017-2024\*



\* 1) Patients filled controlled substance prescriptions obtained from 5 or more different prescribers at 5 or more dispensers within 3 months; 2) Excluding prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies.

# Number of Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD, 2017-2024

Number of Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD, 2017-2024\*

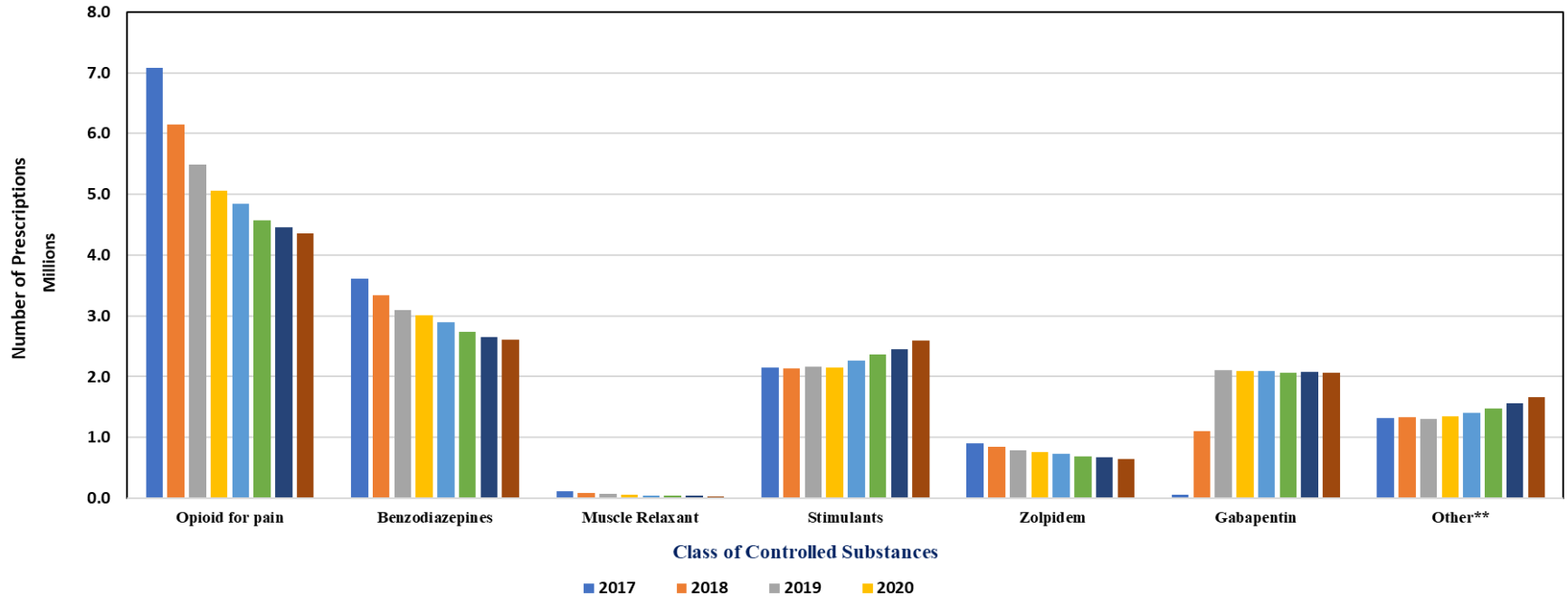


\* Excluding the prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies.



# Number of Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD by the Class of Controlled Substances, 2017-2024

Number of Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD by the Class of Controlled Substances, 2017-2024\*



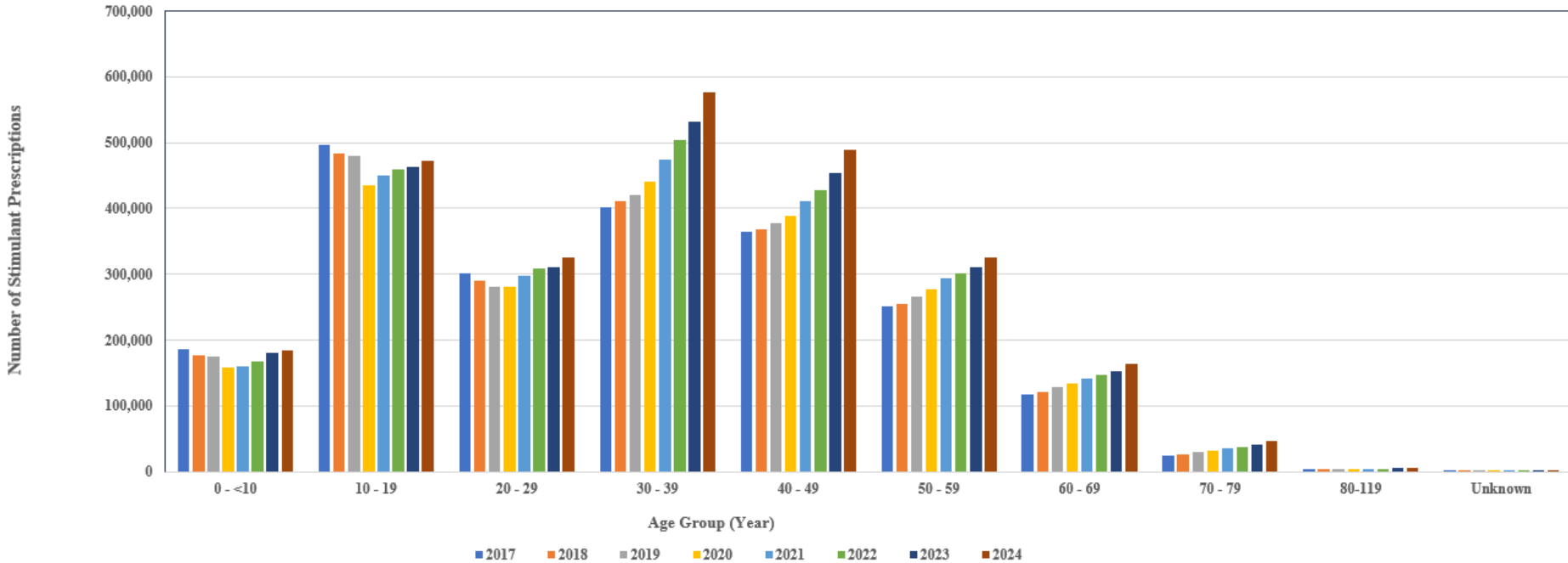
\* 1) The class of controlled substances was defined based on a combination of CDC document and RedBook file; 2) Excluding prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies;

3) Gabapentin was classified as a controlled substance by TN law in July 1, 2018.

\*\* Not including Buprenorphine products for OUD treatment.

# Number of Stimulant Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD by Age Group, 2017-2024

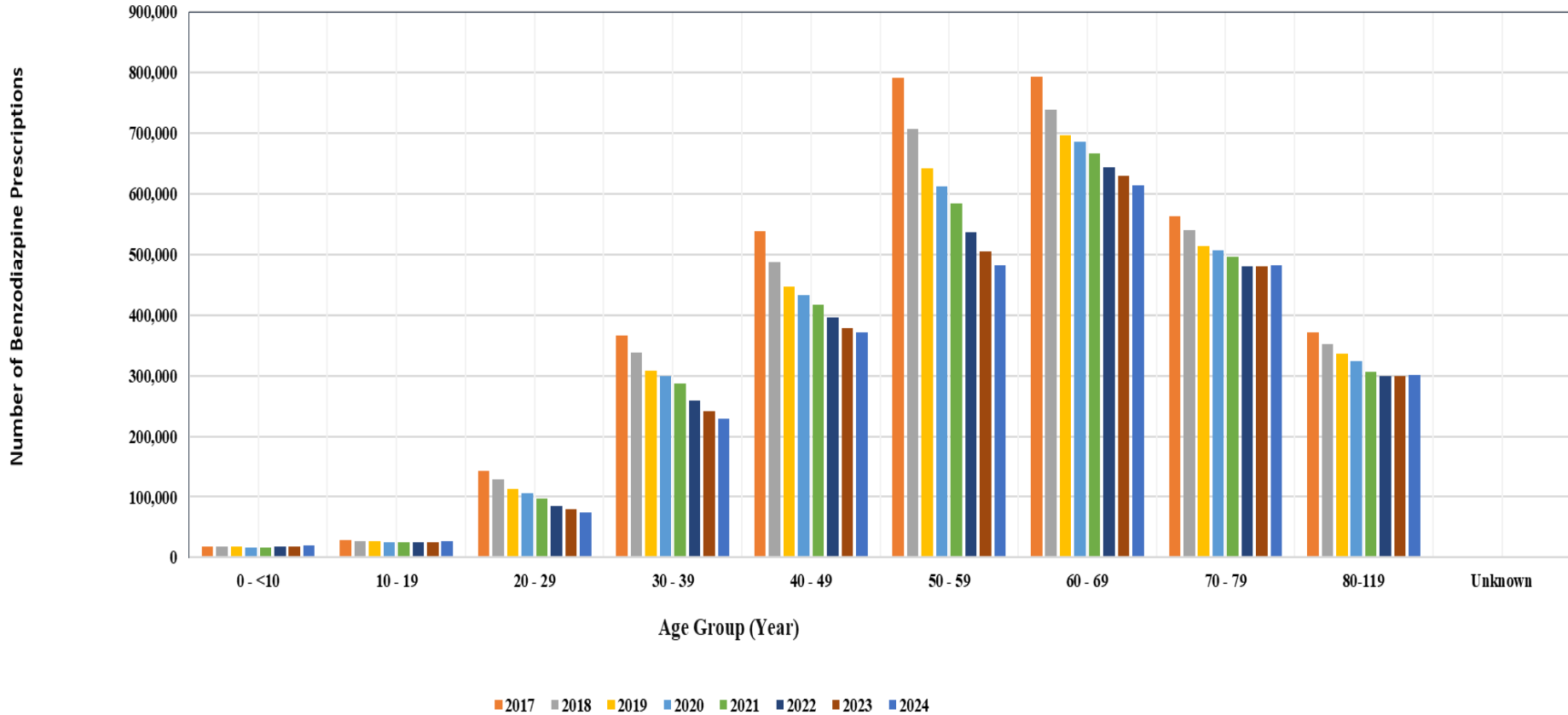
Number of Stimulant Prescriptions Dispensed to TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD by Age Group, 2017-2024\*



\* Excluding stimulant prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies.

# Number of Benzodiazepine Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD by Age Group, 2017-2024

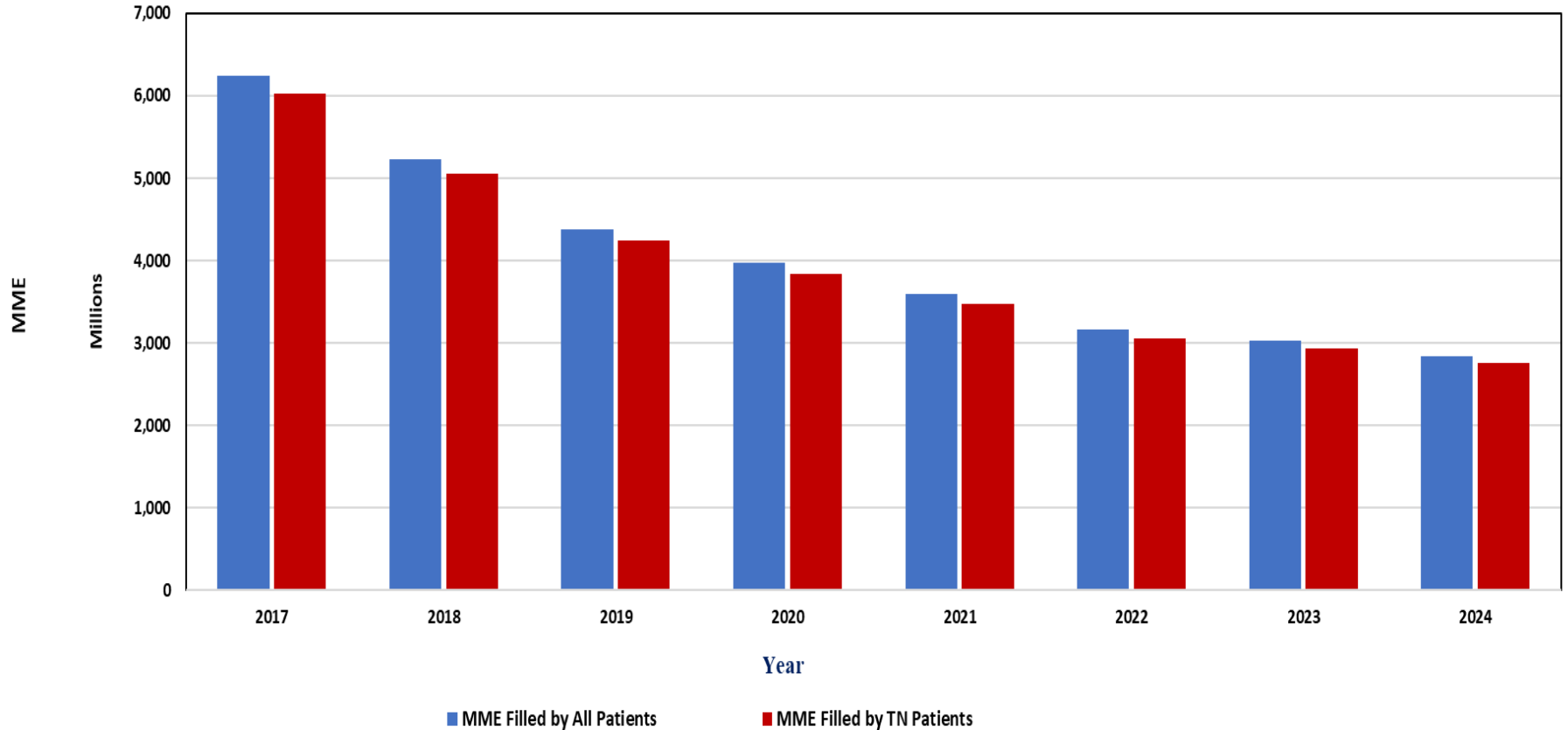
Number of Benzodiazepine Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD by Age Group, 2017-2024\*



\* Excluding benzodiazepine prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies.

# MME of Opioids Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD, 2017-2024

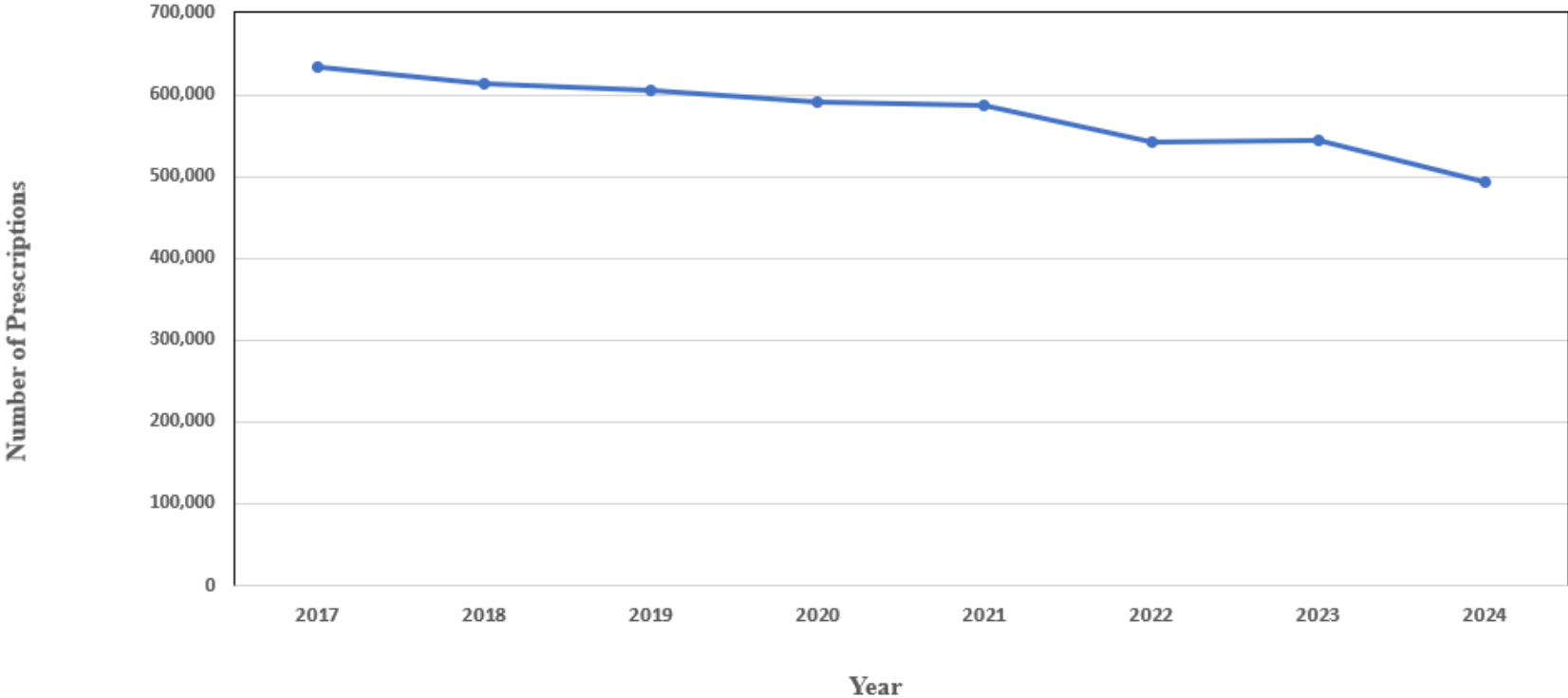
MME of Opioids Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD, 2017-2024\*



\* 1) Excluding prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies; 2) Excluding buprenorphine products for OUD treatment.

# Number of Phentermine Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD, 2017-2024

Number of Phentermine Prescriptions Dispensed and Reported to the CSMD, 2017-2024\*



\*Excluding prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies.

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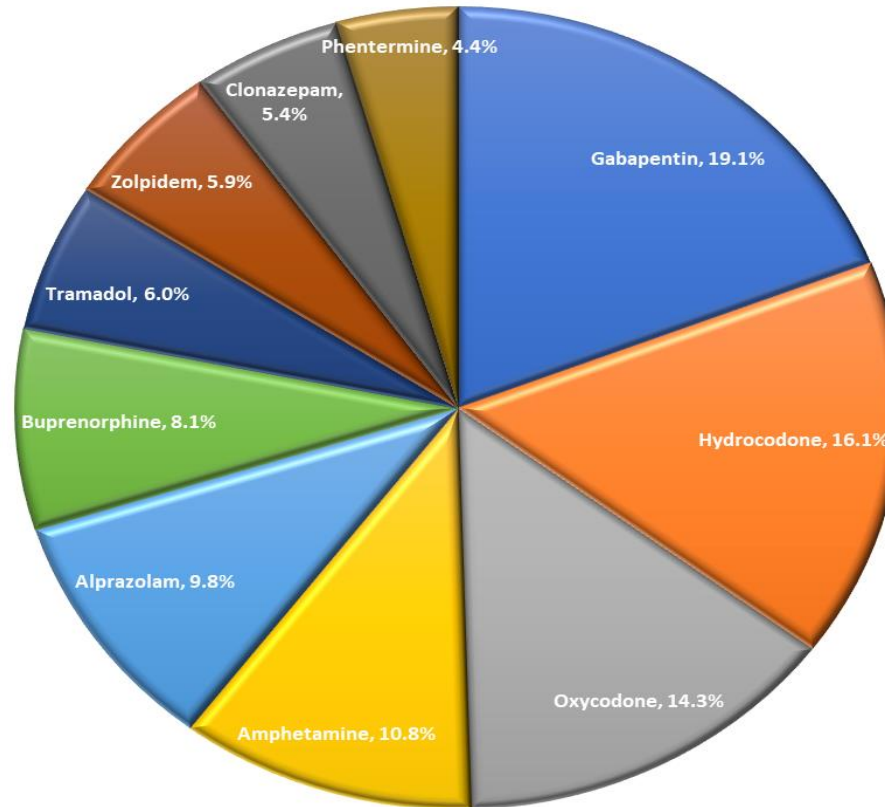
Number of Phentermine Prescriptions Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD, 2017 to 2024\*

Year	Total Number of Phentermine Prescriptions Reported to the CSMD	Change (%)
2017	633,873	-
2018	613,535	-3.2
2019	605,129	-1.4
2020	590,313	-2.4
2021	586,450	-0.7
2022	542,104	-7.6
2023	544,444	0.4
2024	493,936	-9.3

\* Prescriptions from VA pharmacies were not included.

# Top 10 Most Frequently Prescribed Controlled Substances Reported to the CSMD, for 2024

Top 10 Most Frequently Prescribed Controlled Substances Reported to the CSMD in 2024\*



\* Not including the prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies.  
Products were identified based on a combination of CDC document and RedBook file.

# Emerging Drug Trends in Tennessee

- Nitazenes- synthetic opioids developed around 60 years ago as an alternative to morphine but never released due to their high potential for overdose
  - Multiple analogs: ¼ up to 43 times as potent as fentanyl
  - Has been found in counterfeit oxycodone 30 mg tablets
  - Responds to naloxone but may need multiple doses
- Tianeptine – “Gas station heroin”
  - CII as of July 1, 2022
  - Zaza Red
- Xylazine
  - Any veterinarians asking you to order it?
- Quetiapine (Seroquel)
  - Overdose 2 Action Grant (OIA)- Given that quetiapine has increasingly appeared in fatal and nonfatal overdoses in TN and elsewhere, further research into its abuse potential is warranted.



# Top 8 Prescriptions in 'Other' Group Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD, 2017-2024

Top 8 Prescriptions in 'Other' Group Dispensed Among TN Patients and Reported to the CSMD, 2017-2024\*

Year	Atropine/Difenoxim	Esterified Estrogen / Methyltestosterone	Eszopiclone	Lacosamide	Phenobarbital	Pregabalin	Testosterone	Zaleplon
2017	60,941	22,407	91,756	33,721	72,681	346,725	227,117	22,237
2018	57,376	20,219	95,120	35,836	70,894	349,897	234,775	20,860
2019	55,164	18,057	98,571	38,350	69,896	355,783	251,174	20,015
2020	50,243	16,541	105,470	41,131	67,598	389,082	283,469	19,855
2021	51,455	14,982	109,966	43,869	66,287	411,439	312,623	19,824
2022	51,736	13,581	113,693	46,705	59,611	428,275	352,246	18,834
2023	45,236	12,379	119,157	52,619	60,028	453,121	343,265	19,329
2024	43,559	11,649	125,824	61,494	58,949	479,543	393,628	19,236

\* 1) The class of controlled substances was defined based on RedBook file; 2) Excluding prescriptions reported from VA pharmacies.

# Interstate Data Sharing 2024

