

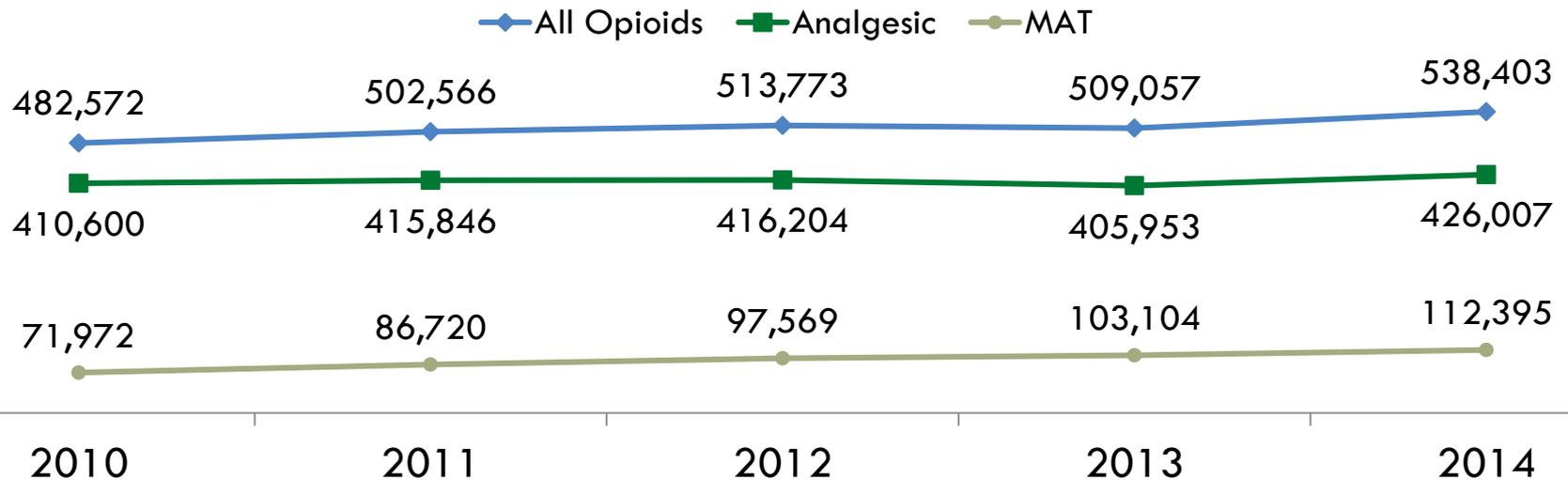


SPECIAL REPORT: OPIOID PRESCRIPTIONS
AND BENZODIAZEPINES
2014
VERMONT PRESCRIPTION MONITORING
SYSTEM

Number of Prescriptions by Year

- Opioids account for approximately 48% of the controlled substances dispensed in VT on an annual basis.
- Opioid prescriptions can be broken down into two broad categories based on their clinical application:
 - Analgesics are prescribed to treat pain.
 - Opioids used in medication-assisted treatment (MAT drugs) are prescribed to help treat opioid addiction (excluding any MAT drugs dispensed by opioid addiction treatment programs (OTPs)).
- The increase in the overall number of opioid prescriptions reflects an increase in both analgesic and MAT drug prescriptions dispensed in Vermont.

Total Number of Controlled Substance Prescriptions by Drug Type and Year

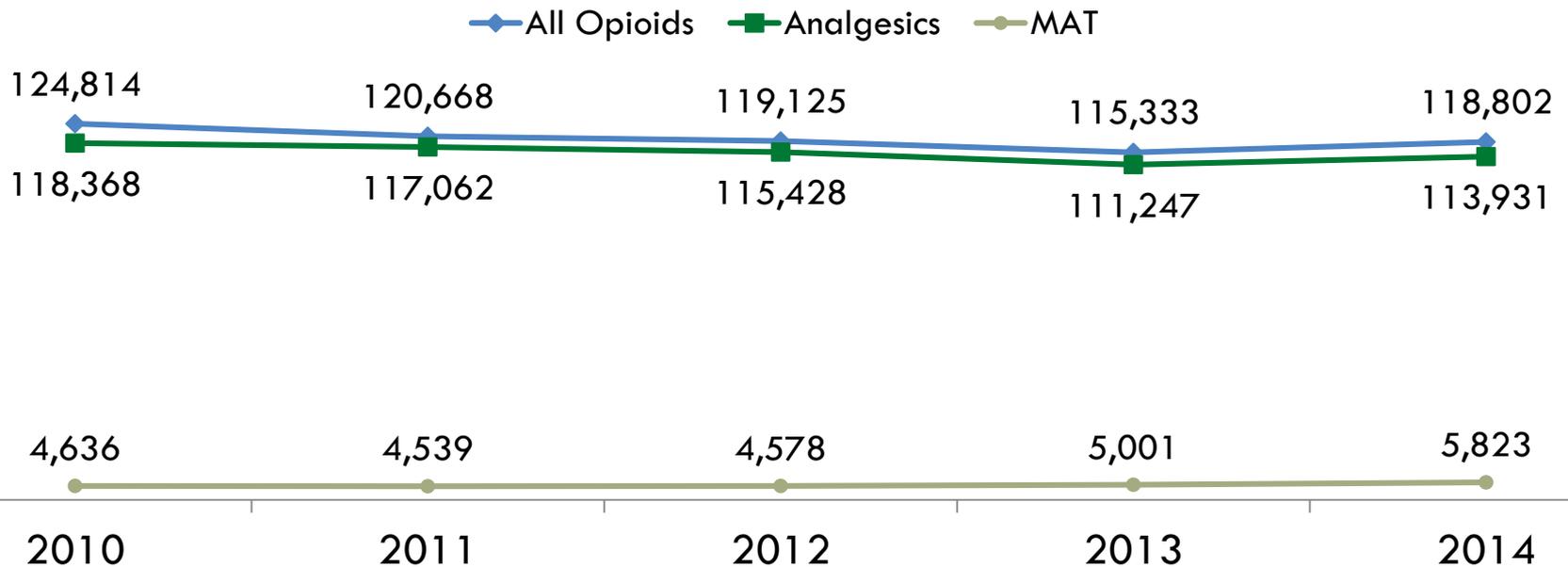


Note: MAT and analgesic counts may not add to the total due to some missing data.

Number of Recipients by Year

- Opioids were dispensed to more recipients than any other drug type.
 - NOTE: MAT drugs in this graph exclude any MAT drugs dispensed by opioid addiction treatment programs (OTPs) because federal law stipulates they shall not report to VPMS.

Total Number of Controlled Substance Recipients by Drug Type and Year

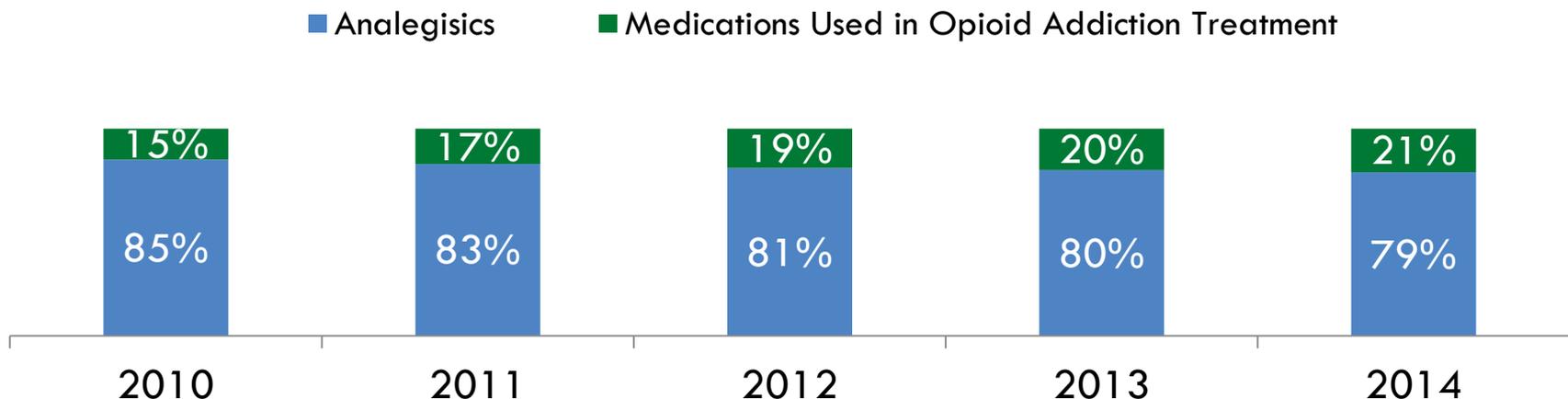


Note: Recipients may have received an analgesic and a MAT drug in the same year. Therefore, MAT and analgesic counts may add to more than the total count.

Opioid Prescriptions by Clinical Application and Year

- MAT drugs represent a small but growing proportion of all opioid prescriptions.
 - ▣ NOTE: MAT drugs in this graph exclude any MAT drugs dispensed by opioid addiction treatment programs (OTPs) because federal law stipulates they shall not report to VPMS
- Nearly 80% of opioid prescriptions dispensed in 2014 were analgesics.

Percent of Opioid Prescriptions by Clinical Application and Year

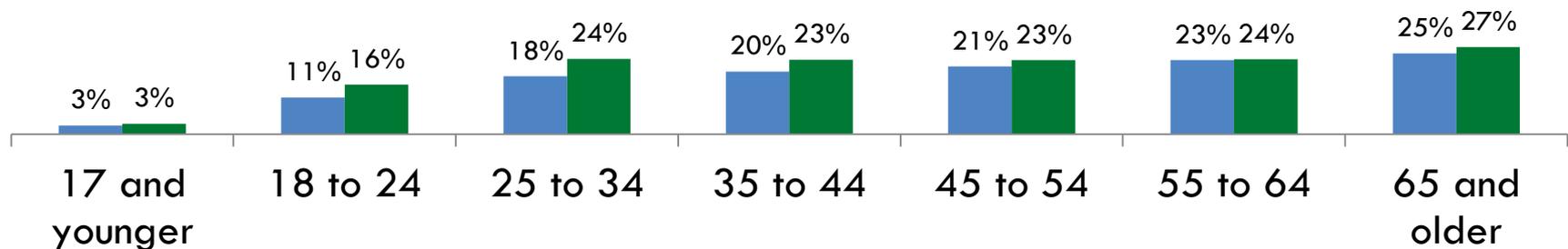


Percent of Opioid Analgesic Recipients by Age and Sex

- More women than men receive analgesic prescriptions across all age groups.
- The percent of Vermonters who received at least one prescription for an analgesic was relatively consistent across the adult age groups.

Percentage of Vermont Population That Received At Least Once Prescription for an Opioid Analgesic by Age and Sex in 2014

■ Male ■ Female

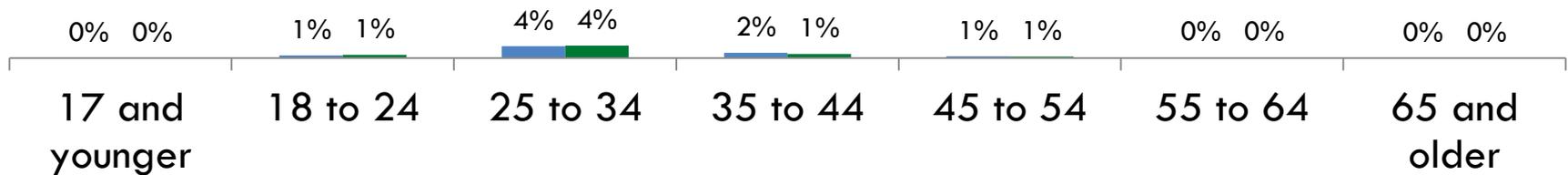


Percent of MAT Drug Recipients by Age and Sex

- Four percent of Vermonters between the age of 25 and 34 received at least one prescription for a MAT drug reported to VPMS. This is higher than any other age group.
 - ▣ NOTE: MAT drugs in this graph exclude any MAT drugs dispensed by opioid addiction treatment programs (OTPs) because federal law stipulates they shall not report to VPMS.

Percentage of Vermont Population That Received At Least Once Prescription for a MAT Drug by Age and Sex in 2014

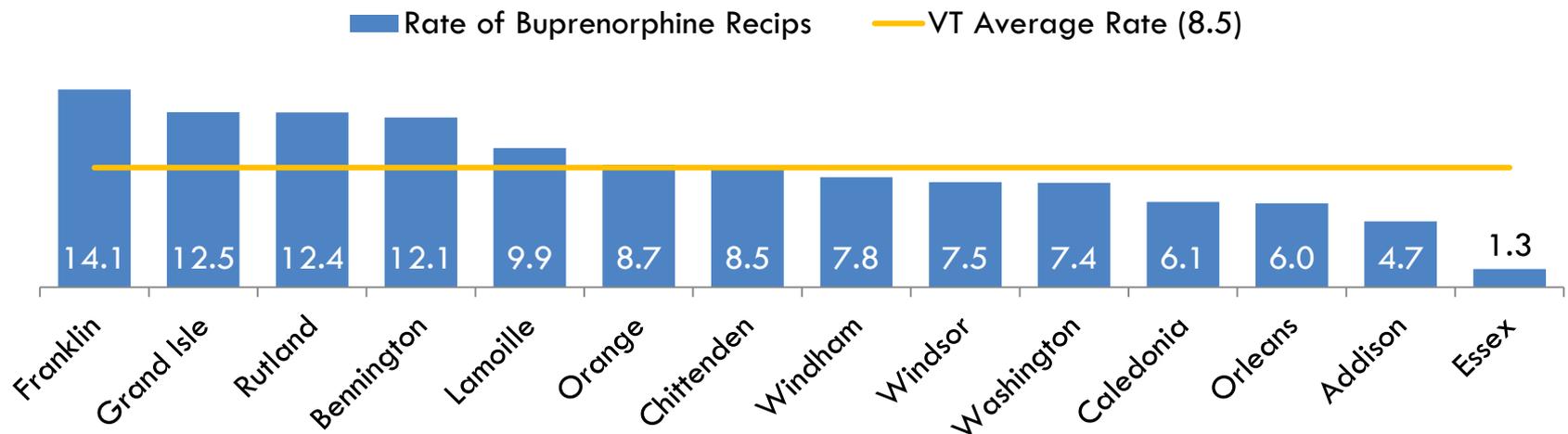
■ Male ■ Female



Rate of Vermonters Receiving at least one Buprenorphine Prescription per 1,000 Vermonters By County

- The rate of Buprenorphine recipients varies by county.
- Buprenorphine can be used for pain relief, but is primarily used to treat individuals with opioid dependence.
- NOTE: VPMS cannot track medications used to treat opioid dependence that are dispensed from opioid addiction programs (OTPs) due to Federal Regulations (42 CFR Part 2).

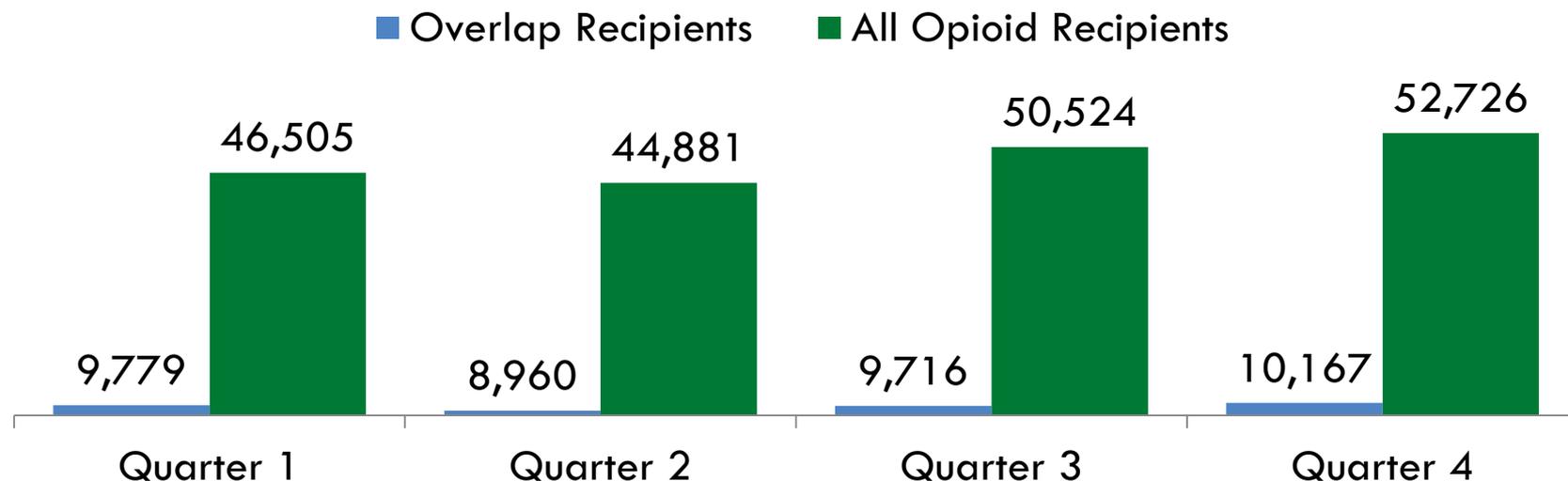
Rate per 1,000 Vermonters Receiving At Least One Buprenorphine Prescription



Overlapping Benzodiazepines and Opioid Prescriptions

- Taking a benzodiazepine and an opioid prescription at the same time is contraindicated. Providers can check VPMS in order to ensure their patients are not receiving these two drug types at the same time.

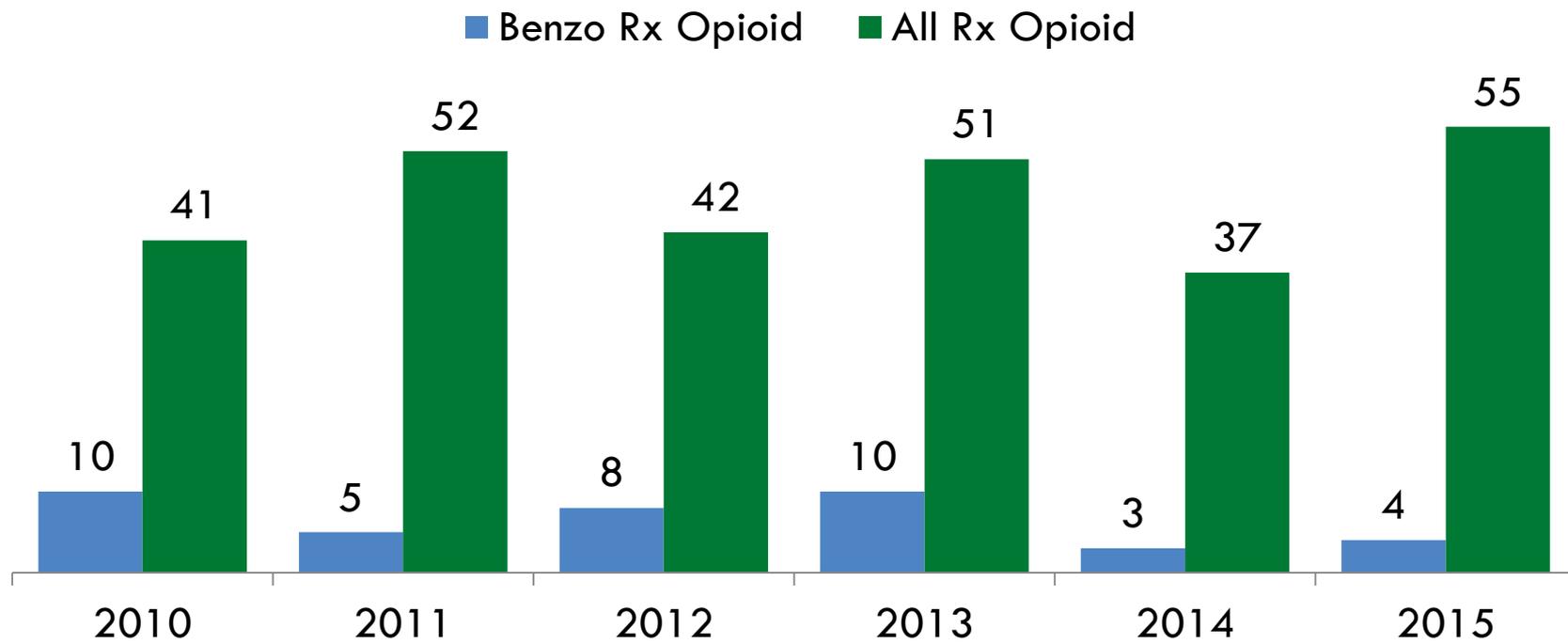
Number of individuals with at least one day of overlap between an opioid prescription and a benzodiazepine prescription, 2014



Note: All opioids includes those with benzodiazepines.

Deaths involving benzodiazepines and prescription opioids

Number of drug-related poisonings involving both a benzodiazepine and a prescription opioid (excluding heroin) due to accident or undetermined cause in Vermont



Note: All opioids includes those with benzodiazepines.

Number of Zohydro Prescriptions and Recipients

Zohydro has been prescribed very infrequently in Vermont as compared to other states that monitored its use in 2014.

Total Number of Zohydro Prescriptions and Number of Zohydro prescriptions per 1,000 State Residents in 2014

| | Total # of Zohydro Prescriptions | # of Zohydro Rx's per 1,000 State Residents |
|------------------|---|--|
| Vermont | 4 | 0.006 |
| Delaware | 71 | 0.077 |
| Florida | 2,985 | 0.153 |
| Idaho | 466 | 0.290 |
| Louisiana | 1,242 | 0.270 |
| Maine | 47 | 0.035 |

Contact VPMS

- This report and more information can be found on the VPMS website:
<http://www.healthvermont.gov/adap/VPMS.aspx>
- If you have questions that can't be answered using this report, please contact the VPMS staff.
 - ▣ Programmatic questions can be directed to Patty Breneman:
Patricia.Breneman@vermont.gov
or
(802) 652-2030
 - ▣ Data-related questions can be directed to the program analyst, David Horton at:
David.Horton@vermont.gov
or
(802) 863-6354