

Pharmaceutical trends

Top 50 dispensed* medications in Canada, 2008

Rank 2008		Launch date (MMYY)	# of Rx 2008 (000s)	% Change over 2007
	Total Prescriptions Canada		453,074	7.1
1	Lipitor	March 97	14,858	9.0
2	Synthroid	Jan 57	11,402	9.8
3	Norvasc	Sept 92	7,616	11.9
4	Crestor	Feb 03	6,055	32.0
5	Apo-Ramipril	Dec 06	4,736	51.2
6	ratio-Salbutamol HFA	Feb 02	4,606	10.2
7	Novo-Venlafaxine XR	Dec 06	4,596	16.9
8	Apo-Furosemide	June 76	4,027	9.6
9	Seroquel	Jan 98	3,678	7.6
10	Pantoloc	March 97	3,560	-29.6
11	Nexium	Aug 01	3,091	18.2
12	Apo-Hydro	Oct 74	2,986	1.3
13	Adalat XL	April 92	2,977	6.7
14	Actonel	Nov 99	2,867	15.7
15	Plavix	Oct 98	2,812	10.7
16	Tylenol with Codeine #3	Jan 71	2,759	-19.6
17	Ativan	April 77	2,649	3.4
18	Apo-Amoxi	Aug 84	2,592	-23.1
19	Apo-Amitriptyline	June 75	2,560	7.0
20	Prevacid	June 95	2,515	19.4
21	Apo-Lorazepam	Nov 85	2,508	10.3
22	Celebrex	April 99	2,480	5.8
23	Novo-Hydrazide	Jan 70	2,423	-19.1
24	Apo-Omeprazole	Jan 04	2,335	-10.5
25	Novamoxin	Jan 79	2,226	66.2
26	Eltroxin	Jan 51	2,221	3.2
27	Flovent HFA	Feb 02	2,177	-4.8
28	Novo-Metoprol	March 86	2,126	14.8
29	Avapro	June 98	2,111	12.5
30	Premarin	Feb 42	2,091	-2.0
31	Diovan	Nov 97	2,063	20.2
32	ratio-Ramipril	Dec 06	2,053	20.1
33	Nasonex	Aug 98	2,020	2.9
34	Apo-Oxazepam	Sept 79	1,968	5.1
35	Alesse	Jan 98	1,967	-22.2
36	Calcite 500+D 400	Oct 02	1,916	18.4
37	Flomax CR	May 06	1,883	25.0
38	Coversyl	Nov 94	1,865	18.9
39	Apo-Prednisone	March 82	1,820	4.4
40	Novo-Rabeprazole	Nov 07	1,817	>999.9
41	Atacand	Dec 98	1,814	14.9
42	Sandoz-Bisoprolol	Aug 03	1,771	23.7
43	ratio-Metformin	June 01	1,769	34.0
44	Apo-Naproxen	Aug 82	1,766	15.5
45	ratio-Lenoltec #3	Nov 85	1,745	58.0
46	Apo-Metformin	Sept 95	1,725	19.4
47	Apo-Allopurinol	June 81	1,724	6.5
48	Gen-Metformin	April 95	1,713	-14.4
49	ratio-Oxycocet	April 84	1,678	66.0
50	Coumadin	May 56	1,652	8.6

* Estimated prescriptions dispensed in Canadian retail pharmacies (excludes hospitals; includes new and refills).

** Rounded to the nearest 10,000.

Source: IMS Health, Canada, CompuScript.

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