

Arkansas Prescription Drug Monitoring Program

FY 2018

Fourth Quarter Report

April – June 2018



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PDMP Users

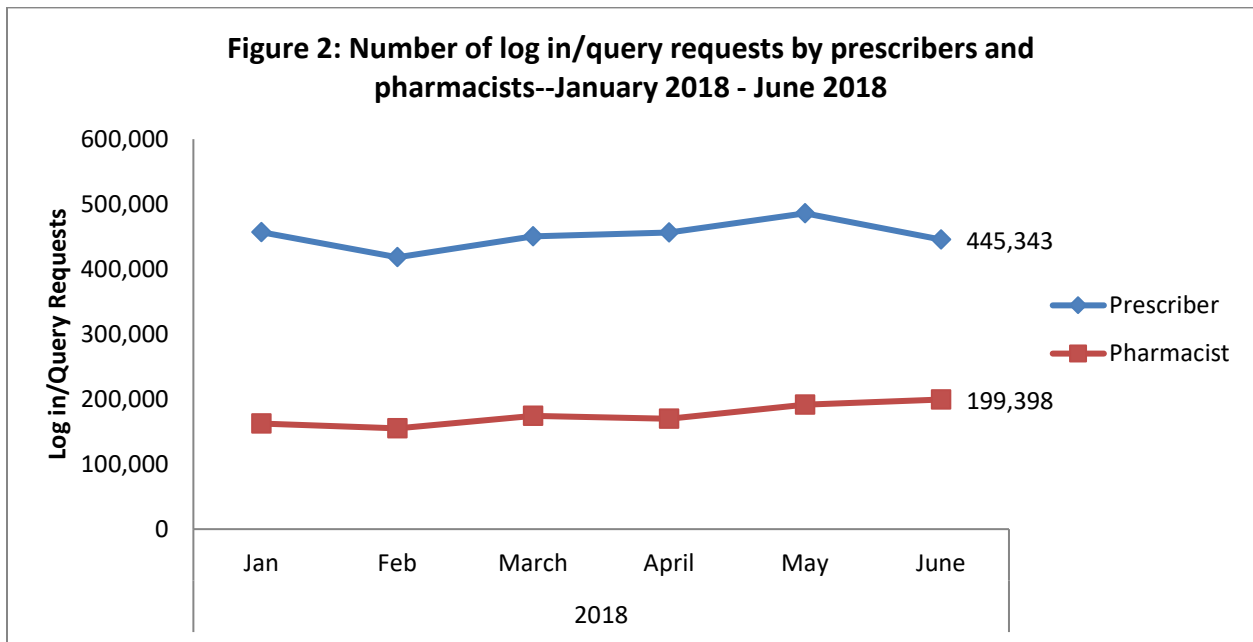
The total number of registered PDMP users continued to increase from April through June. The largest percent increases were among veterinarians and delegates. The number of registered veterinarians increased from 37 to 44 (19%). The number of delegates increased from 4,599 to 4,961 (8%). Overall, the number of PDMP users increased from 16,885 to 17,535 (4%) (Table 1).

Table 1: Number of authorized users by type – April – June 2018

PDMP User Type	Apr 2018	May 2018	Jun 2018	Pct. Change
Physician (MD, OD)	5,435	5,478	5,528	2%
Podiatrist	66	66	67	2%
Physician Assistant	348	353	359	3%
Adv. Practice Nurse	2,180	2,220	2,255	3%
Optometrist	97	99	100	3%
Dentist	1,011	1,032	1,055	4%
Veterinarian	37	39	44	19%
Pharmacist	2,935	2,953	2,981	2%
Delegate	4,599	4,763	4,961	8%
Law Enforcement	173	175	181	5%
Licensing Board	4	4	4	0%
TOTAL	16,885	17,182	17,535	4%

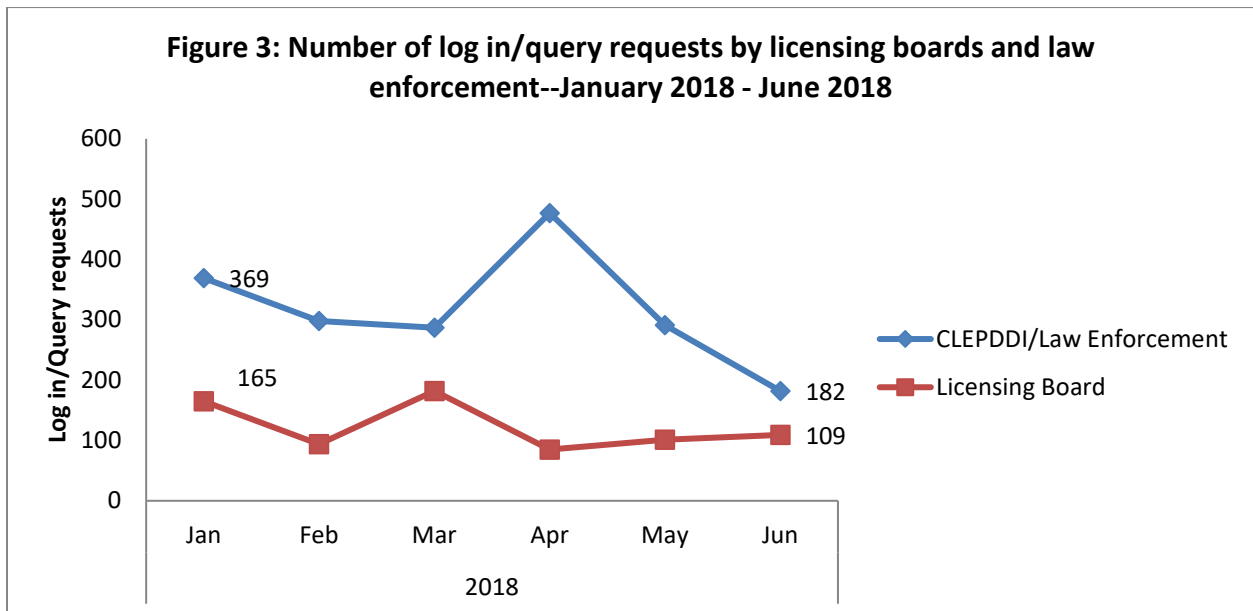
Log in/Query Requests

Since the beginning of 2018, there has been a slight increase in PDMP usage by pharmacists plus their delegates from 162,435 in January to 199,398 in June. The prescriber (physician, veterinarian, prescriber delegate, physician assistant, optometrist, podiatrist and dentist) usage of the PDMP remains steady averaging around 450,000 log in/query requests (Figure 2). The log in/query request counts are a combination of in-state and out-of-state log in/query requests in the AWARE website and query requests from the integrated systems in Arkansas. The AWARE website is PDMP portal in which users can register for a PDMP account and once approved, begin to query patients. The AWARE website is one method in which healthcare providers and other authorized users can query patients. The second method is when the PDMP is integrated within a hospital or clinic's electronic health record (EHR) or a pharmacy's dispensing software. Integration into an EHR or a pharmacy dispensing software allows the user to pull up patient reports more easily than logging into the AWARE website; furthermore, the PDMP is seeing an increase in requests for PDMP integration from local hospitals, clinics and pharmacies.



Log in/Query Requests cont.

The use of the PDMP system by professional licensing boards and law enforcement account for a small fraction of all PDMP usage; however, these regulating and enforcing bodies have the potential to make a big impact on prescribing. The licensing boards and law enforcement have the legal authority to investigate inappropriate or illegal prescribing. Since the first of the year, there was a spike in the usage of the PDMP by law enforcement. In April, law enforcement had 477 log in/query requests. The licensing boards had a slight increase of log in/query requests from 85 in April to 109 in June (Figure 3).



CLEPPDI: Certified Law Enforcement Prescription Drug Diversion Investigator

“Doctor Shopping”

In an effort to curb the misuse and abuse of controlled substances, the PDMP is able to alert prescribers and dispensers of patients who seem to be “doctor shopping.” “Doctor Shopping” is defined as a patient going to multiple providers (prescribers and pharmacies) to obtain the same prescription or same class of medication. The PDMP flags patients who get multiple prescriptions from multiple providers and fill the prescriptions at multiple pharmacies. Once a patient reaches the threshold of 7 prescribers and 7 pharmacies in 90 days, a patient alert is sent out to all providers and dispensers the patient has seen. Since the PDMP was implemented, the state has seen a decrease in “doctor shopping” (Table 4). Due to the decrease in “doctor shopping” seen from 2015-2017 at the threshold of 7-7-90 from 37 recipients to 2 recipients, the PDMP has decreased the threshold to 5 prescribers and 5 pharmacies within 90 days.

Table 4: Recipients seeing 7 or more physicians and 7 or more pharmacies in a 90-day period—Arkansas—Third Quarter, 2015—Fourth Quarter, 2017

