

# 1 in 78 Ontarians received a prescription stimulant in 2017



## STIMULANTS:

Class of medications approved in Canada for the treatment of attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and sleeping disorders (e.g. narcolepsy)

## TRENDS OVER THE PAST 5 YEARS (2013-2017):



**29%**

increase in monthly rate of individuals who received a prescription stimulant



### "DRUG HOLIDAY"

Prescription stimulant use lower during the summer months among children and youth



### NEW USE

was highest among those aged 24 and younger, reflecting timing of ADHD diagnoses



### INAPPROPRIATE USE

The proportion of potentially inappropriate stimulant prescriptions was rare and decreasing

## CHARACTERISTICS

### AMONG ONTARIANS WHO RECEIVED A PRESCRIPTION STIMULANT IN 2017:



Almost **HALF** were children and youth



**2 in 3** were men



**1 in 3**

were **NEW** stimulant prescriptions



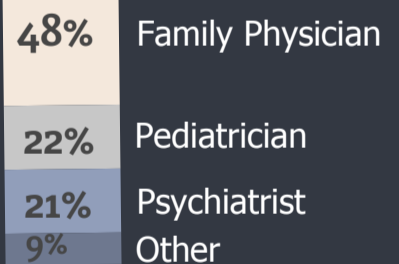
Most lived in urban regions and higher income neighbourhoods



Most common types of prescription stimulant dispensed:

**METHYLPHENIDATE** (e.g. Ritalin) products, and **LONG-ACTING** formulations

These individuals obtained their initial prescription from



## GEOGRAPHIC VARIATION



Highest rates of prescription stimulant use in South East, Erie St. Clair, Champlain and North East LHINs



Higher percent of psychiatrist visits prior to receiving a stimulant prescription in LHINs located in central Ontario as well as Erie St. Clair LHIN

