

**Table 2: Annual prescriptions dispensed in community under the Health Insurance Fund (specified medications), from 2019 to 2023**

The following should be noted:

- These data are for medicines dispensed in the community and funded by the Health Insurance fund, so exclude hospital prescribing (see Table 1) and private prescribing.
- Where there is no data available, this is because that medicine is not included in the Prescribed List and is not available to be prescribed and dispensed in the community as a Health Insurance fund prescription.
- Data does not capture the reason why each of these medicines was dispensed and some are used for indications other than those stated, for example carbamazepine, which is principally used in the management of epilepsy.
- Data are for all forms / brands / suppliers of each of the medicines, and don't necessarily reflect use of the brand name in the request.

Number of prescription items dispensed in community funded by the Health Insurance Fund (Excluding Hospital Prescribing)						
		2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
<b>Antidepressants</b>						
<b>Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRIs)</b>	Sertraline hydrochloride	26,957	30,566	33,166	34,738	34,677
	Citalopram hydrobromide	20,016	20,203	19,746	19,817	19,182
	Citalopram hydrochloride	103	139	154	145	77
	Escitalopram	1,048	1,760	2,803	3,735	4,354
	Fluoxetine hydrochloride	11,979	12,452	12,168	12,149	11,497

<b>Serotonin-norepinephrine reuptake inhibitors (SNRIs)</b>	Duloxetine hydrochloride	4,356	4,805	5,241	5,226	5,680
	Venlafaxine	8,434	8,992	9,599	9,800	10,419

<b>Tricyclic antidepressants</b>	Amitriptyline hydrochloride	18,439	18,734	19,241	19,447	19,837
	Nortriptyline	362	471	567	736	803

<b>Antipsychotics</b>	Risperidone	2,168	2,546	2,453	2,487	2,253
	Olanzapine	1,445	1,500	1,444	1,304	1,661
	Quetiapine	2,020	2,448	2,424	2,556	2,650
	Aripiprazole	479	633	733	812	1,012

<b>Mood stabilisers</b>	Lithium carbonate	752	798	694	690	644
	Lithium citrate	12	13	24	23	13
	Valproic acid	451	450	470	454	475
	Lamotrigine	2,826	2,849	2,953	3,138	3,395
	Carbamazepine	3,229	3,064	2,840	2,857	2,681

<b>Benzodiazepines</b>	Buspirone hydrochloride	355	362	332	321	270
	Diazepam	12,372	11,613	12,004	12,210	12,883
	Lorazepam	2,473	2,726	2,674	3,008	3,041
	Nitrazepam	1,557	1,595	1,475	1,499	1,991
	Temazepam	1,563	1,407	1,429	1,342	997
	Clonazepam	1,645	1,602	1,552	1,856	2,219
	Alprazolam	No data				

<b>Simulants (for ADHD)</b>	Methylphenidate	No data				
	Dexamphetamine	No data				
	Lisdexamfetamine	No data				

<b>Non-stimulants (for ADHD)</b>	Atomoxetine	No data				
	Guanfacine	No data				

<b>Medications for Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) symptoms</b>	Risperidone	Included in data above				
	Aripiprazole	Included in data above				