

North America Prescription Drugs Market Size and Forecast (2021 - 2031), Regional Share, Trend, and Growth Opportunity Analysis Report Coverage: By Product Type (Branded and Generics), Drug Type (Small Molecule and Biologics and Biosimilar), Therapeutic Area (Oncology, Cardiovascular Diseases, Neurological Diseases, Metabolic Diseases, Respiratory Diseases, Immunology, and Others), Route of Administration (Oral, Injectable, Topical, and Others), and Distribution Channel (Hospital Pharmacies, Retail Pharmacies, and Online Pharmacies)

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Abstracts

The North America Prescription Drugs Market is projected to grow significantly, reaching an estimated US\$ 1,157.0 billion by 2031, up from US\$ 707.7 billion in 2024, reflecting a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 7.3% from 2025 to 2031. This growth is primarily driven by several key factors, including an aging population, advancements in pharmaceutical research, and a robust healthcare infrastructure.

One of the most significant contributors to the market's expansion is the aging population in North America. As the baby boomer generation ages, there is a notable increase in the prevalence of chronic diseases such as diabetes, cardiovascular disorders, and cancer. This demographic shift is leading to a higher demand for prescription medications, as older adults typically require more healthcare services and

medications to manage their health conditions.

In addition to demographic changes, advancements in pharmaceutical research and biotechnology are playing a crucial role in market growth. Innovations in drug development, particularly in biologics and personalized medicine, have broadened treatment options, improving both efficacy and safety. The introduction of novel therapies for previously untreatable conditions has further stimulated market demand, as patients seek effective treatments for complex health issues.

The strong healthcare infrastructure in North America also supports market growth. Significant investments in healthcare facilities, insurance coverage, and pharmaceutical distribution networks ensure that prescription medications are widely available. Increased patient awareness regarding disease management and treatment options has led to higher consumption of prescription drugs. Regulatory support from agencies like the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) facilitates quicker approval processes for innovative drugs, allowing for faster market entry and increased availability of new therapies. Furthermore, government initiatives aimed at expanding healthcare coverage, such as the Affordable Care Act in the US, have improved access to prescription drugs for a larger segment of the population.

The rise in lifestyle-related diseases and the growing prevalence of mental health disorders have also contributed to sustained demand for therapeutic drugs. The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the importance of pharmaceutical interventions, leading to accelerated investments in drug development and distribution. As a result, the market is expected to continue its upward trajectory, driven by the increasing need for effective treatments.

Market segmentation reveals that the North America Prescription Drugs Market can be categorized by product type, drug type, therapeutic area, route of administration, and distribution channel. In 2024, the market was primarily segmented into branded and generic drugs, with branded drugs holding the largest market share. By drug type, small molecules dominated the market, while oncology emerged as the leading therapeutic area. The route of administration analysis indicated that oral medications were the most commonly prescribed, and hospital pharmacies accounted for the largest distribution channel.

The increasing prevalence of chronic conditions is a significant factor influencing the market. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), chronic lifestyle diseases are expected to rise by 57% by 2026. Urbanization and sedentary lifestyles contribute to

the growing incidence of conditions such as diabetes and cardiovascular diseases. Diabetes, in particular, is a major global health concern, with the International Diabetes Federation (IDF) estimating that the number of adults living with diabetes will increase from 589 million in 2024 to 853 million by 2050.

Chronic conditions such as multiple sclerosis, Crohn's disease, and cardiovascular disorders necessitate long-term medication management, which often involves multiple prescriptions and advanced therapies. The nature of these chronic diseases typically requires the use of specialty drugs, which are often more expensive and generate higher revenues for pharmaceutical companies. The unmet clinical needs of patients with rare diseases also drive investment in research and development, further propelling the prescription drugs market.

Geographically, the North America Prescription Drugs Market is segmented into the United States, Canada, and Mexico, with the United States holding the largest market share in 2024. The demand for prescription medications is particularly high due to the prevalence of chronic conditions such as cancer, heart disease, and diabetes. Heart disease remains the leading cause of death in the US, with nearly one million Americans dying from cardiovascular disease annually. The American Heart Association reports that nearly half of all adults in the US have some form of cardiovascular disease, and this number is expected to rise significantly by 2035.

Cancer is another critical area of concern, with approximately 1.9 million new cases diagnosed in the US in 2022. The demand for innovative treatment options is increasing, with advancements in oncology, immunology, and gene therapies expanding the range of available treatments. Despite these advancements, prescription drug spending continues to rise, highlighting the ongoing need for effective and accessible medications.

Key players in the Prescription Drugs Market include GSK Plc, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Pfizer Inc, Merck & Co Inc, Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Ltd, Novartis AG, Sanofi SA, Johnson & Johnson, AstraZeneca Plc, AbbVie Inc, and Eli Lilly and Co. These companies are employing various strategies, including expansion, product innovation, and mergers and acquisitions, to enhance their market presence and meet the growing demand for prescription drugs.

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