

# California Saves with Generic Drugs

**Total: \$26.1 Billion**



## SAVINGS

\*\*\*\*\*

MEDICAID

**\$5.7 Billion**

MEDICARE

**\$8.0 Billion**

CASH (NON-INSURED)

**\$1.4 Billion**

COMMERCIAL INSURED

**\$11 Billion**

TOTAL **\$26.1 Billion**

\*\*\*\*\*

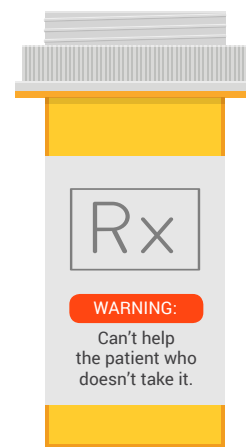
In 2019 alone, generic prescription medicines saved California \$26.1 billion, and \$293 billion for the U.S. health care system overall. The availability of safe, effective and affordable generics produces tremendous savings for the state's residents and taxpayers.

In 2019, 9 out of every 10 prescriptions in the U.S. were dispensed using generic medicines. However, generics account for only 22% of prescription drug spending.

## Abandonment in California

"Abandonment" occurs when a prescription is called in or brought to the pharmacy but the patient does not collect the medicine. In California, patients abandoned their brand-name prescriptions **19.2%** of the time, compared to **only 8.8%** for generics.

Source: IQVIA 2018



Source: IQVIA 2019

Visit [accessiblemeds.org](https://www.accessiblemeds.org) for more information

**Generic drug savings in the U.S.**

Generics are **90%** of prescriptions filled but account for only **22%** of total drug costs.

**\$293**  
Billion  
2018  
U.S. Savings

**\$2**  
Trillion  
10-Year  
U.S. Savings