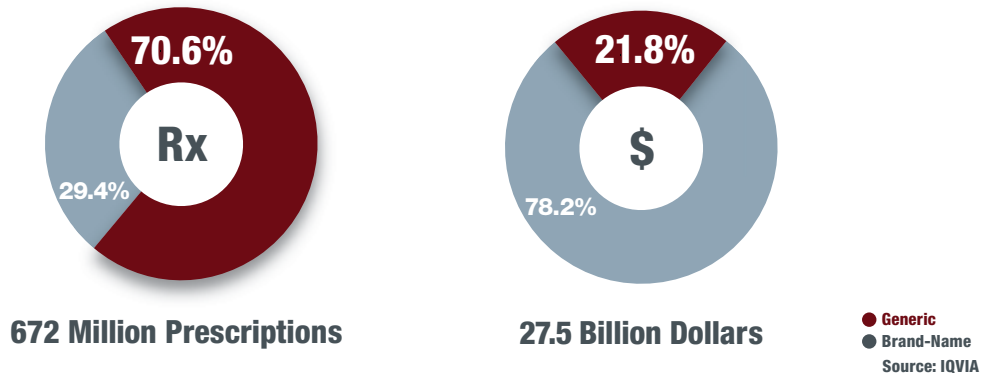


Health Canada reviews and authorizes for sale all drugs before they can be available in Canada – both brand-name and generics. Generic medicines are low-cost versions of brand-name drugs that are produced by several manufacturers once the 20-year patents expire on the brand-name versions. Generic medicines are the same as, or bioequivalent to the higher-priced brand-name versions in dosage form, safety, strength, route of administration, quality, performance characteristics and intended use. In Canada, the use of lower cost generic prescription medicines saved governments, employers and consumers more than 22-billion dollars in 2017.

## Canadian Prescription Drug Market – Year Ending December 2017

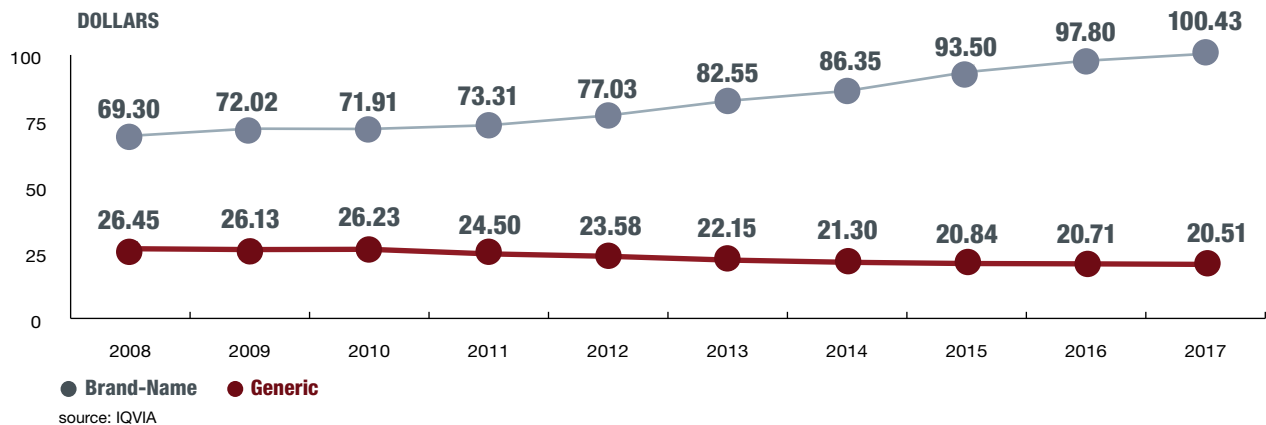


### Economics of Generics: Value for money

Even though generic medicines are dispensed to fill 70.6% of all prescriptions in Canada, they account for only 21.8% of the \$27.5-billion that Canadians spent on prescription medicines in 2017. For every one percent increase in generic drug utilization, Canadians will save an additional **\$527-million**.

**More savings could be realized – in the United States, generic prescription drugs are dispensed to fill 90% of all prescriptions. If the use of generic medicines in Canada increased to these levels, it would have saved Canada's health-care system more than 10-billion dollars in 2017.**

### The Average Retail Price\* per Prescription in Canada, Brand vs. Generic 2008–2017



\* Average retail price is based on total price of prescriptions (price of drug plus any mark-ups and professional dispensing fees) divided by estimated prescriptions dispensed in Canadian retail pharmacies (excludes hospitals; includes retail new and refills).



05/03/18

**Generic Medicine. Same Quality. Lower Price.**