

Community Epidemiology Work Group and Network-Based on Models for Monitoring Drug Abuse Trends: New Psychoactive Substances in the USA

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Presentation Overview

Network-based models for monitoring drug abuse

CEWG as an example of a network-based model for monitoring drug abuse

Monitoring new psychoactive substances

New directions

Network-based Models of Monitoring Drug Abuse

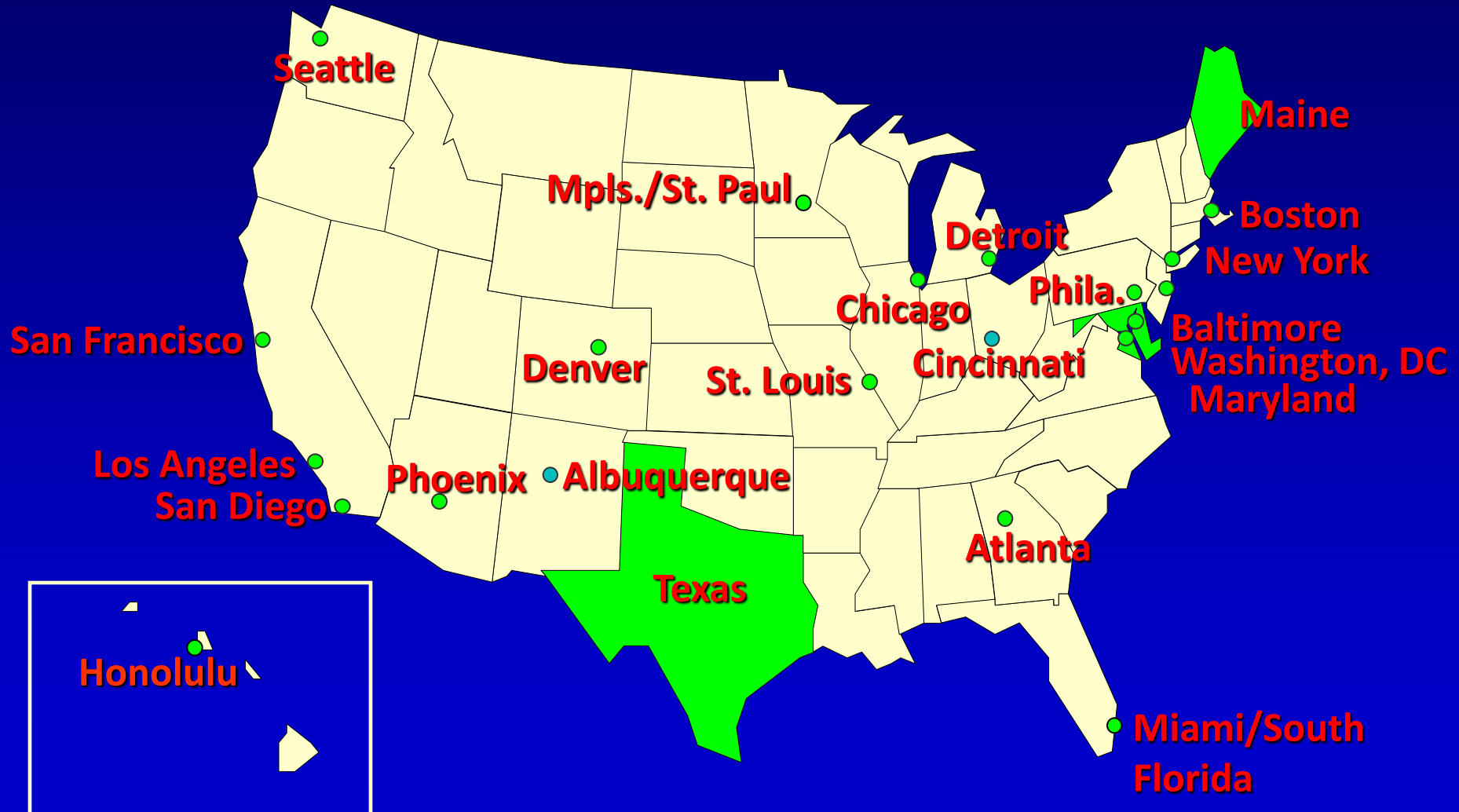
Common Features:

- Regular exchange of data/information
- Indicators
- May include primary data collection
- Strive toward harmonization
- Can be organized at different levels
- Regular dissemination

Community Epidemiology Work Group (CEWG)

- ✓ A network of researchers from 21 sentinel sites including metropolitan areas and a few states in the United States
- ✓ Functioning since 1976

Community Epidemiology Work Group



CEWG

- **Monitors drug abuse trends** based on *indicators*
 - Characterizes stability/changes in drug availability, use, consequences, and environmental factors based on *indicators*
 - Identifies new drugs being used or new forms of use
- **Provides local perspective** on drug abuse issues and factors impacting data interpretation
- **Reveals local variation** in drug use, consequences, and markets

CEWG

- Exchanges information on emerging issues through the year
- Develops semiannual reports providing local context for data interpretation and presented at semiannual meetings – *first webinar CEWG Meeting 1/2014*
- Disseminates findings through regular publications - **added videos in 2013**

CEWG Indicator Examples

(examples, availability varies by area)

- **Forensic Laboratory Drug Items Analyzed (NFLIS)**
- **Drug Price and Purity**
- **Surveys**
- **Arrestee/probationer urinalysis**
- **Poison Center Calls**
- **Emergency Department (ED) visits**
- **Substance Abuse Treatment Admissions**
- **Drug-associated Deaths**

Some Challenges for Identifying and Monitoring New Drugs Using Indicators

- Lagged indicators don't provide early alert
- Pre-defined systems not likely to pick up new substances
- Forensic labs may not report a non-controlled substance
- Aggregation of what may be different substances under a single name - e.g., "Bath salts"
- Limited authoritative sources to describe new substances in reporting

Responding to the Challenges of New Psychoactive Substances - CEWG

- Semiannual reporting/meeting keeps review of data current and provide alert to new issues
- DEA invited to provide updates on new drugs, trafficking/distribution;
- DEA provides NFLIS data for each CEWG area twice yearly. Facilitates detection and monitoring of new substances.
- CEWG reps have been exploring more leading indicators, e.g., PCC
- Ongoing communication
- Semiannual meeting provide opportunity for issue-focused sessions to include special experts, findings from relevant NIDA grants and international experience

Update on NPS in the USA

Themes:

NPS emerge within a broader drug use context – will show data on more common drugs as well as NPS

There is diversity in drug use patterns across local areas and regions in the US which is likely to influence the popularity, adoption, and methods of use of NPS. Community-level monitoring is essential.

Approach to Update on New Drugs and

Other considerations:

Presentation uses terminology/classification as used by the data source presented

Aim to illustrate local and regional diversity as well as provide national picture

Limited information is available on most new substances, availability of data varies by substance

Epidemiology perspective

Selected Indicators Presented

NFLIS drug reports

- *National, Regional, CEWG areas*

Substance abuse treatment admissions

- *CEWG areas*

Student Survey

- *National level*

Poison Center human exposure calls

- *National*

Top number and percent of all NFLIS drug reports 2012: 2 synthetic cannabinoids in top ranks

Drug	National	
	Number	Percent
Cannabis/THC	513,095	31.63%
Cocaine	268,402	16.54%
Methamphetamine	180,187	11.11%
Heroin	131,624	8.11%
Oxycodone	55,237	3.40%
Hydrocodone	43,115	2.66%
Alprazolam	39,874	2.46%
AM-2201	14,263	0.88%
Buprenorphine	11,801	0.73%
Clonazepam	11,464	0.71%
Amphetamine	10,314	0.64%
Morphine	9,311	0.57%
XLR11	9,003	0.55%
Methadone	8,071	0.50%

SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) 2011 and 2012 Annual Reports

Top 10 NFLIS Reports 2012 – Synthetic Cannabinoids in CEWG Areas

CEWG Areas	Cocaine/ Crack	Heroin	Oxy- codone	Hydro- codone	Alpraz- olam	Clonaz- epam	Metham- phetamine	Marijuana/ Cannabis	MDMA	PCP	Other Drugs
WESTERN REGION											
Albuquerque	4	1	6	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	AM-2201=5; Dimethyl Sulfone=7; Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=8; Buprenorphine=9; Lidocaine=10
Colorado	2	4	5	6	10	—	3	1	—	—	Psilocin/Psilocybin/Psilocyn/Psilocybine=7; AM-2201=8; Acetaminophen=9
Denver	1	4	5	8	10	—	3	2	—	—	AM-2201=6; Psilocin/Psilocybin/Psilocyn/Psilocybine=7; Acetaminophen=9
Honolulu	3	8	—	10	—	—	2	1	5	—	Dimethyl Sulfone=4; Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=6; MDPV=7; Acetaminophen=8 (tied with Heroin)
Los Angeles	3	4	9	5	7	—	2	1	8	6	Codeine=10
Phoenix	4	3	5	7	6	9	2	1	—	—	Buprenorphine=8; Carisoprodol=10
San Diego	3	4	6	5	7	—	1	2	10	—	Dimethyl Sulfone=8; Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=9
San Francisco	3	4	5	6	10	—	1	2	9	—	Methadone=7; Morphine=8
Seattle	3	1	5	—	—	—	2	4	—	10	Fentanyl=6; Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=7; Dimethyl Sulfone=8; BZP=9
Texas	2	6	—	4	5	—	3	1	—	—	AM-2201=7; Carisoprodol=8; Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=9; Acetaminophen=10
MIDWESTERN REGION											
Chicago	3	2	—	4	6	—	—	1	7	7	BZP=5; MDPV=9; Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=10; Note: MDMA and PCP are tied for 7
Cincinnati	3	2	4	5	6	8	7	1	—	—	Diazepam=9; BZP=10
Detroit	2	3	6	4	5	—	—	1	—	—	TFMPP=7; Amphetamine and Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=tied for 8; BZP=10
Michigan	2	3	7	4	6	—	5	1	—	—	Morphine=7 (tied with Oxycodone); Amphetamine=9; Methadone=10
Minneapolis/ St. Paul	2	4	6	—	10	—	1	3	—	—	Acetaminophen=5; BZP=7; Caffeine=8; Amphetamine=9
St. Louis	3	2	7	6	5	—	4	1	—	—	Acetaminophen=8; Pseudoephedrine=9; AM-2201=10
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Maine	1	3	2	8	—	—	8	4	—	—	Buprenorphine=5; Caffeine=6; Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=7; MDPV=10; Note: Hydrocodone and Methamphetamine are tied for 8
New York City	2	3	4	10	5	9	—	1	—	6	Buprenorphine=7; Methadone=8
Philadelphia	2	3	4	—	5	8	—	1	—	7	Acetaminophen=6; Codeine=9; Buprenorphine=10
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Baltimore City	2	3	4	—	6	7	—	1	—	—	Buprenorphine=5; Caffeine=8; Methadone=9; Mannitol=10
Maryland	2	3	4	9	5	7	—	1	—	—	Buprenorphine=6; AM-2201=8
Miami	1	4	5	—	3	—	10	2	—	—	Hallucinogen=6; Methylone=7; Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=8; Caffeine=8;
Washington, DC	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	Phenylimidothiazole Isomer Undetermined=3; Caffeine=4; 1-Piperidinocyclohexanecarbonitrile=7; Benzocaine=8; MDPV=9; BZP=10

SOURCE: June 2013 CEWG Meeting Highlights and Executive Summary

Hallucinogens: Number and percent of reports

2011

2012

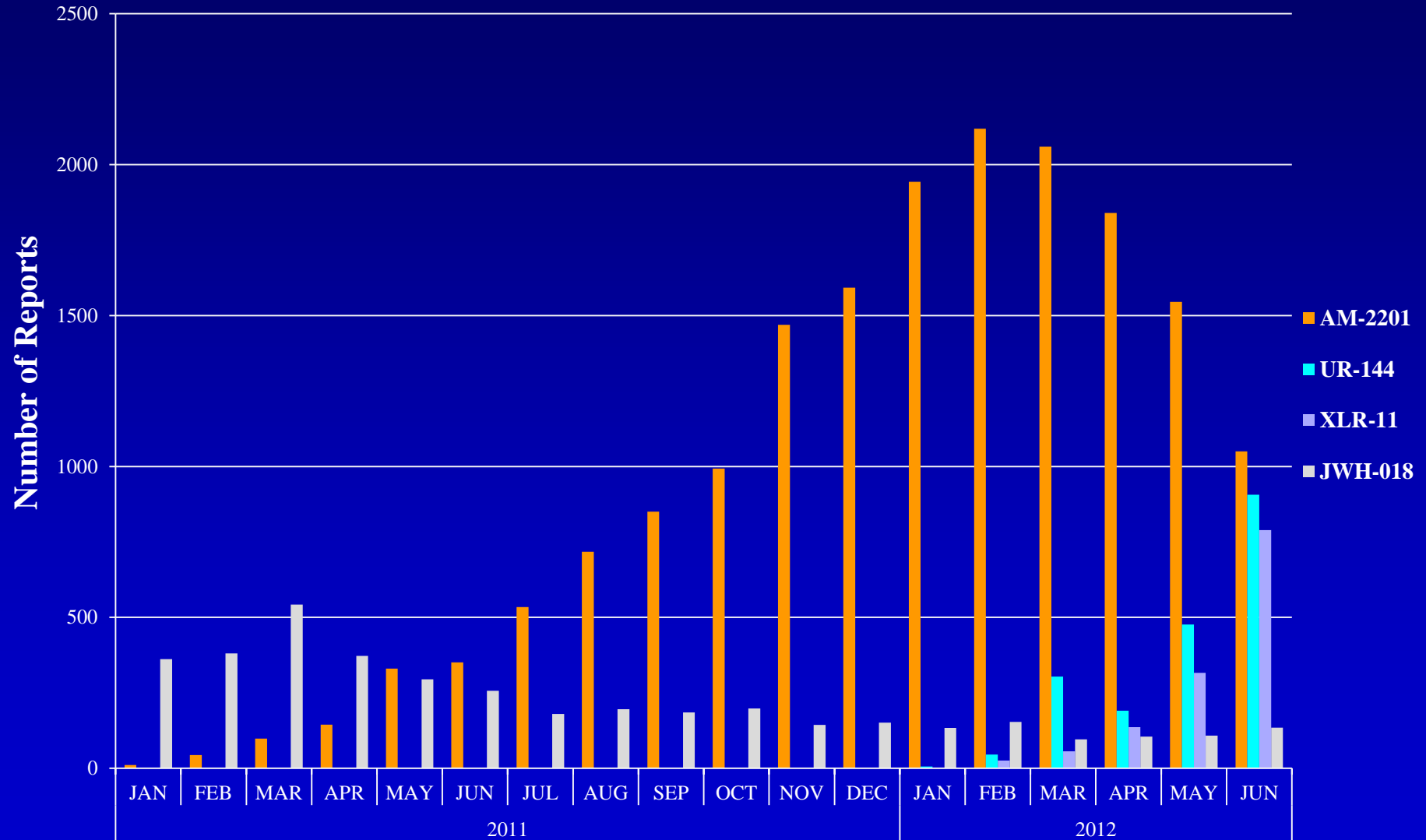
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SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) 2011 and 2012 Annual Reports

AM-2201, JWH-018, UR-144, XLR-11

Monthly Reports
January 2011 - June 2012



SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS), CEWG 1/2013 presentation – Database queried 01-11-2013

Other New Synthetic Cannabinoids

Recently reported by DEA: Laced on plant material encountered by law enforcement with some frequently

AKB48 (APINACA)

5F-AKB48 (5F-APINACA)

PB-22

5G-PB-22

AB-FUBINACA

SOURCE: DEA Drug and Chemical Fact sheets, accessed 4/20/2014

2013 Monitoring the Future Study

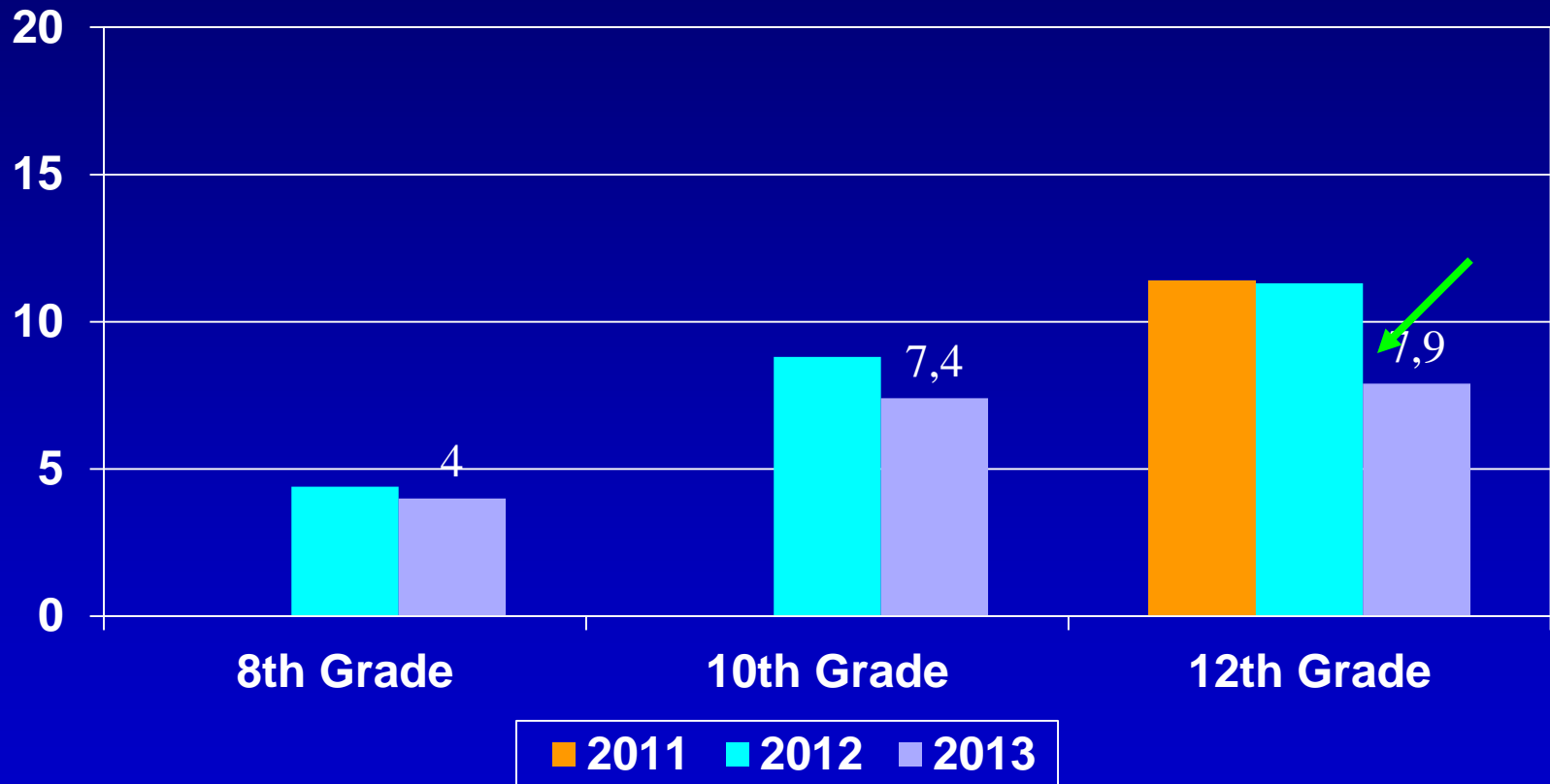
Prevalence of Past Year Drug Use Among 12th graders

Drug	Prev.	Drug	Prev.
Alcohol	62.0	Sedatives*	4.8
Marijuana/Hashish	36.4	Tranquilizers*	4.6
Hookah	21.4	Hallucinogens	4.5
Small cigars	20.4	MDMA (Ecstasy)	4.0
Amphetamines*	8.7	Hall other than LSD	3.7
Synthetic Marijuana	7.9	OxyContin*	3.6
Snus	7.7	Salvia	3.4
Adderall*	7.4	Cocaine (any form)	2.6
Narcotics o/t Heroin*	7.1	Inhalants	2.5
Vicodin*	5.3	Ritalin*	2.3
Cough Medicine*	5.0	LSD	2.2

* Nonmedical use

Categories not mutually exclusive

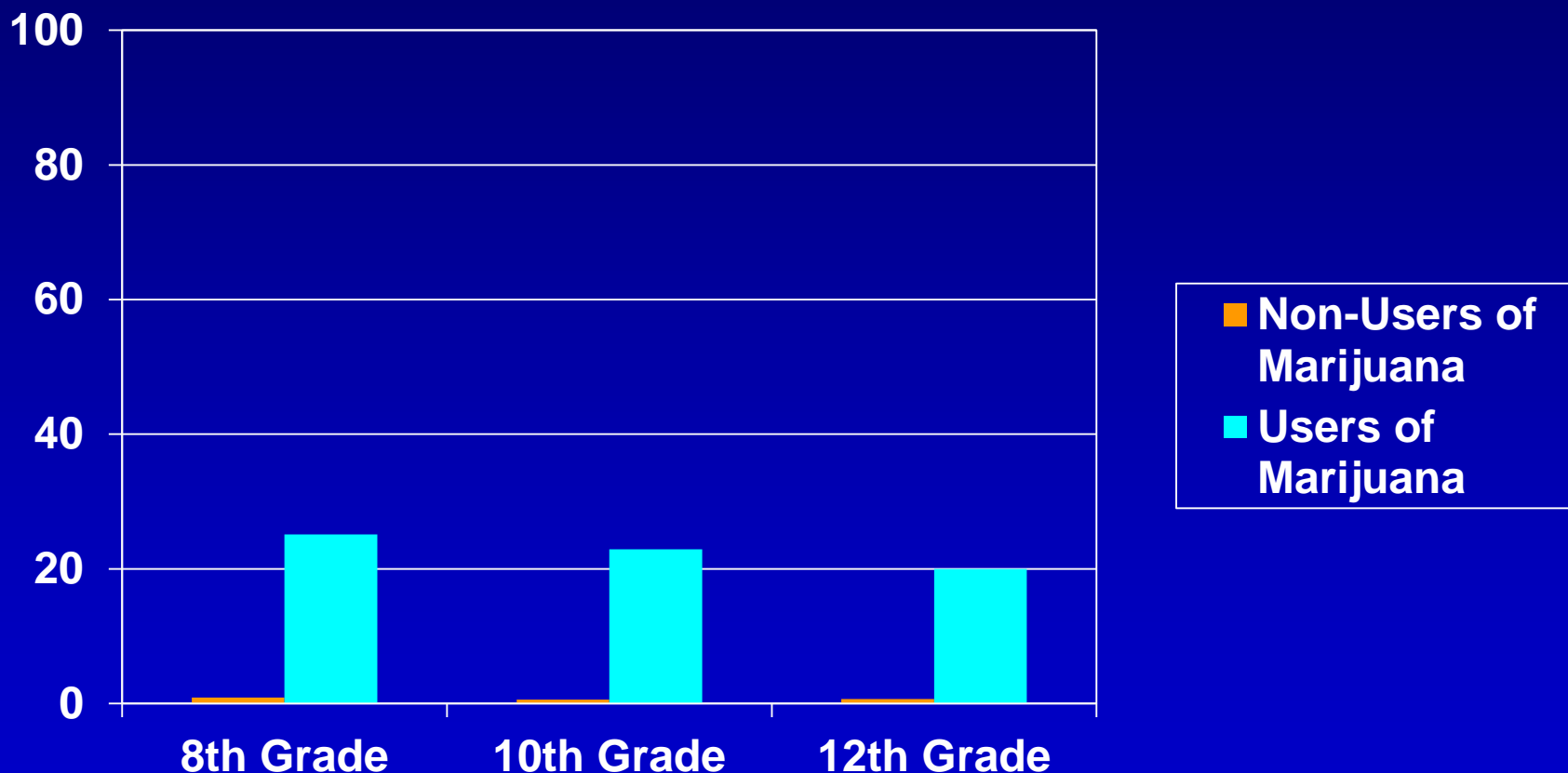
Percent of Students Reporting Use of Synthetic Marijuana in Past Year, by Grade



↗ Denotes significant difference
between 2012 and 2013

SOURCE: University of Michigan, 2013 Monitoring the Future Study

Percent Reporting Using Synthetic Marijuana in Past Year, By Past-Year Use of Marijuana Among All Grades



SOURCE: University of Michigan, 2013 Monitoring the Future Study

Top number and percent of all NFLIS drug reports 2012 – *no synthetic cathinones in top ranks*

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Cannabis/THC	513,095	31.63%
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SOURCE: June 2014 CEWG Meeting Highlights and Executive Summary

Hallucinogens: Number and percent of reports

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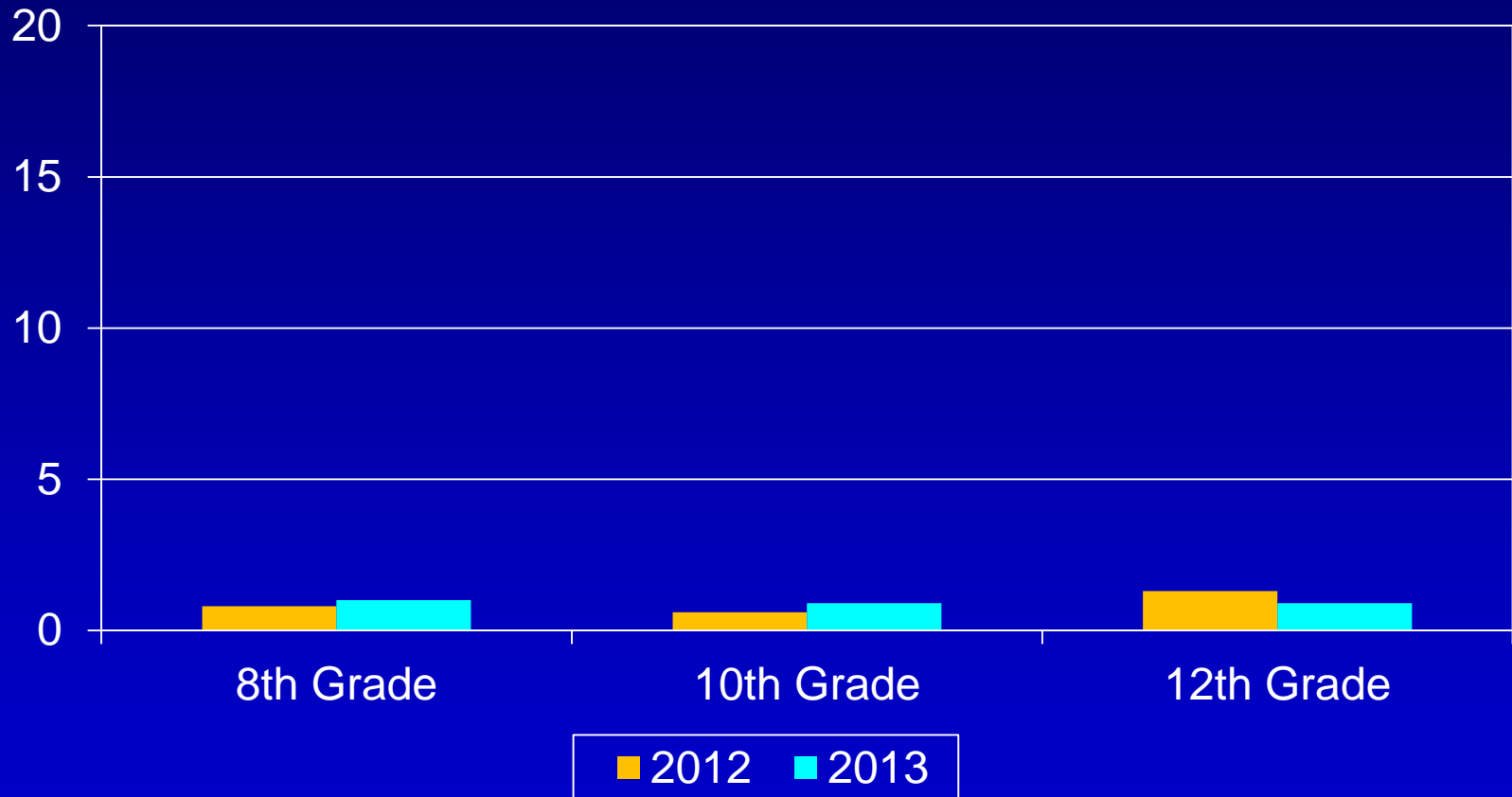
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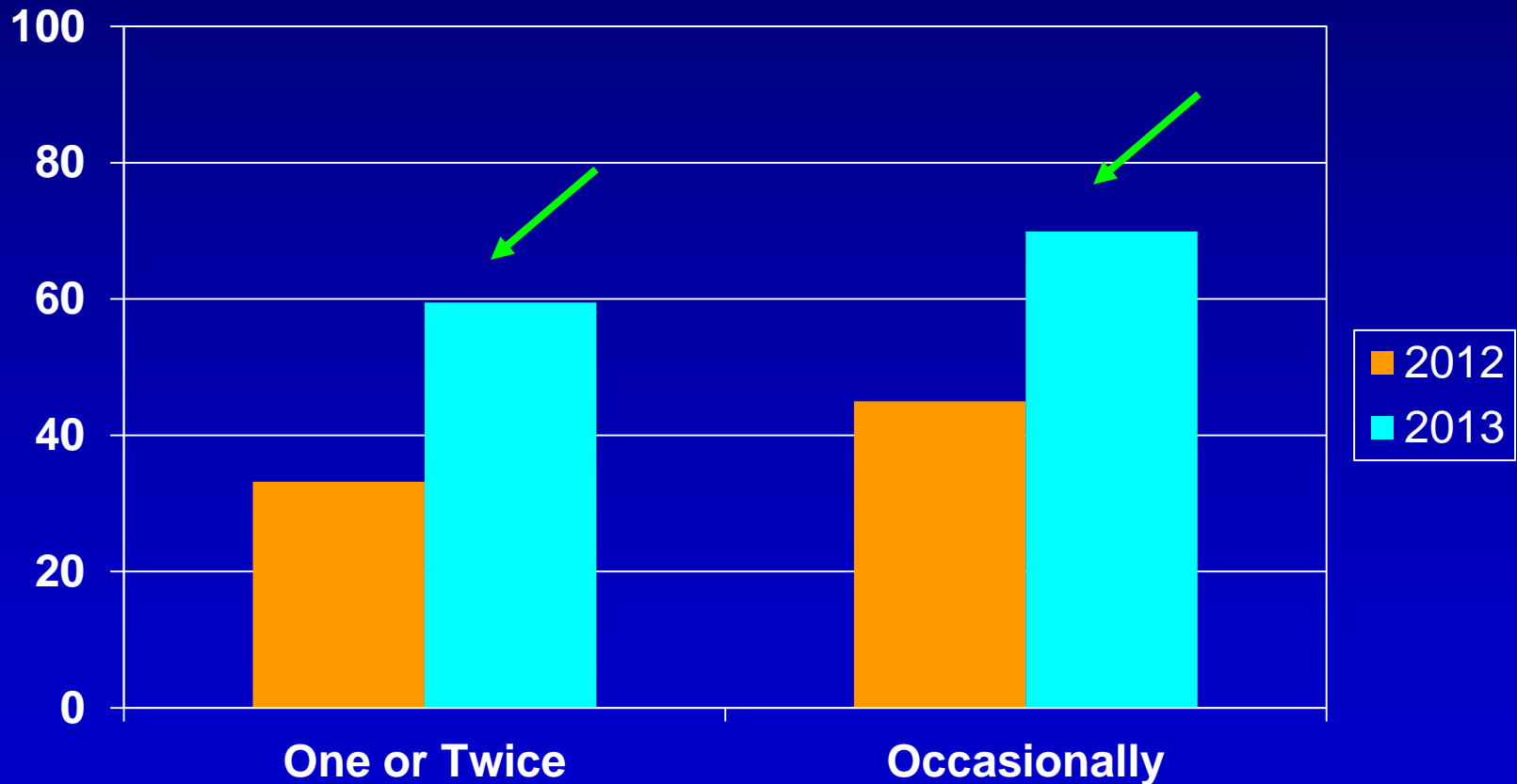
SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) 2011 and 2012 Annual Reports

Percent of Students Reporting Use of Bath Salts in Past Year, by Grade



SOURCE: University of Michigan, 2013 Monitoring the Future Study

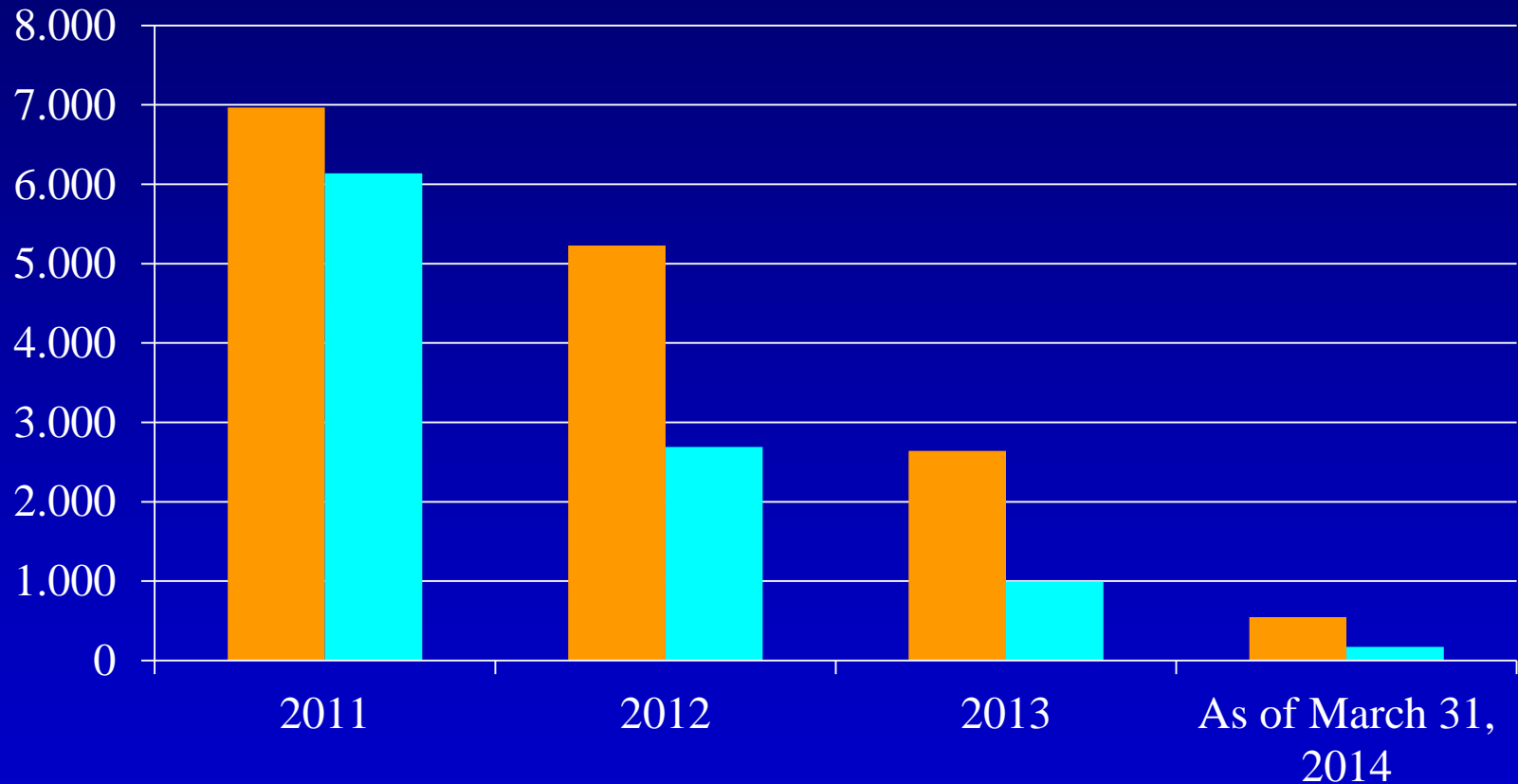
Percent Perceiving Great Risk of Taking Bath Salts among 12th Graders



SOURCE: University of Michigan, 2013 Monitoring the Future Study

↗ Denotes significant difference
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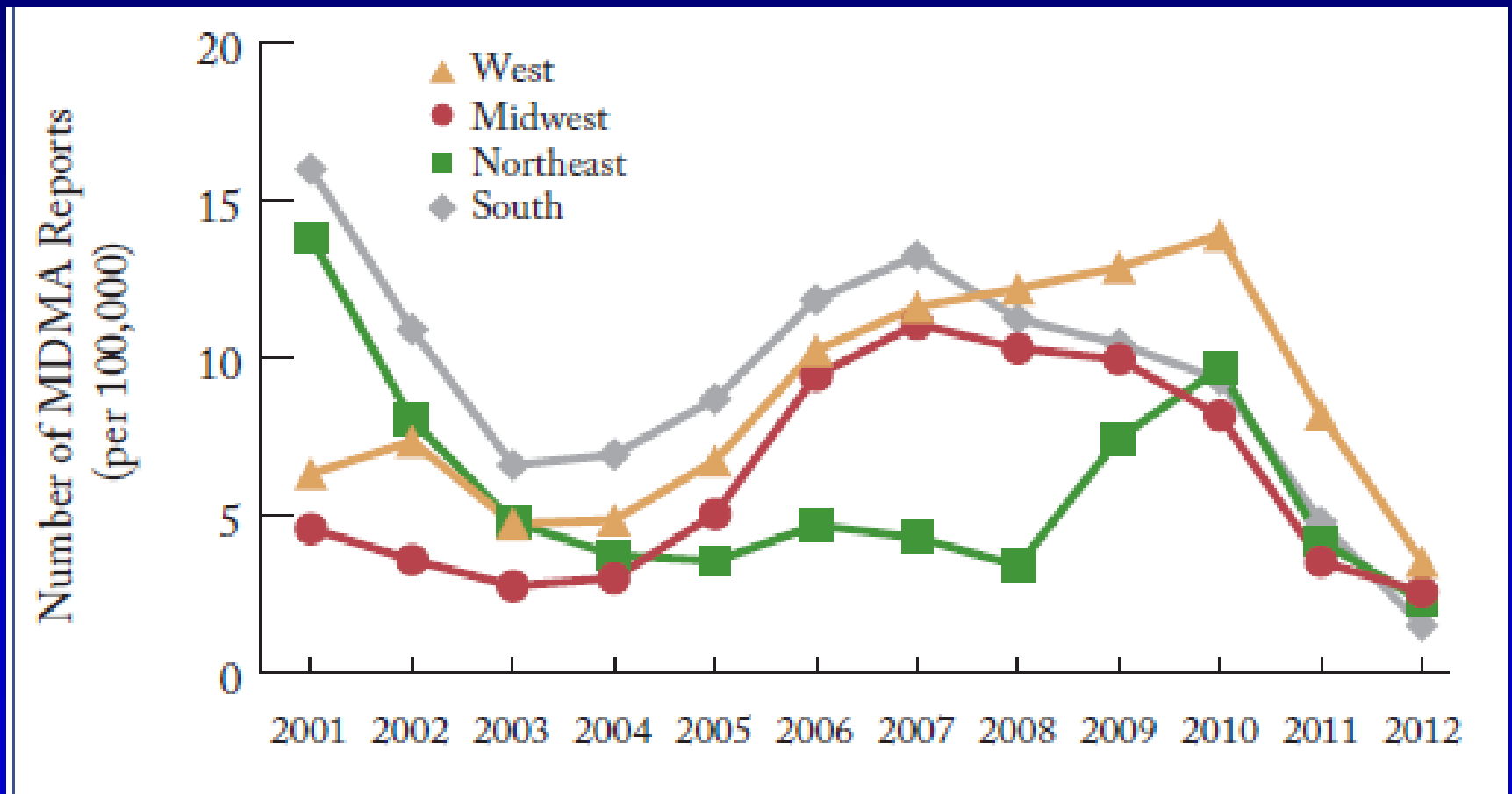
Calls to U.S. Poison Centers: Exposures to Synthetic Marijuana Products and “Bath Salts”*



* Synthetic cathinones and products marketed as bath salts

SOURCE: American Association of Poison Centers, release March 31, 2014. <http://www.aapcc.org/dnn/default.aspx>

Regional trends in MDMA reported per 100,000 persons aged 15 older: January 2001–December 2012



SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) 2012 Annual Report

Hallucinogens: Number and percent of reports

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MDMA	4,816	7.70%
Psilocin/psilocibin	4,189	6.70%
Methylone	3,603	5.76%
MDPV	3,246	5.19%
JWH-122	2,270	3.63%
TFMPP	1,792	2.87%
JWH-210	1,681	2.69%
5-MeO-DIPT	1,431	2.29%
MAM-2201	1,369	2.19%
JWH-018 (AM-678)	998	1.60%
LSD	786	1.26%
Dimethyltryptamine (DMT)	691	1.10%
Other hallucinogens	8,890	14.21%
<i>Total Hallucinogen Reports</i>	62,540	100.00%
<i>Total Drug Reports</i>	1,420,811	

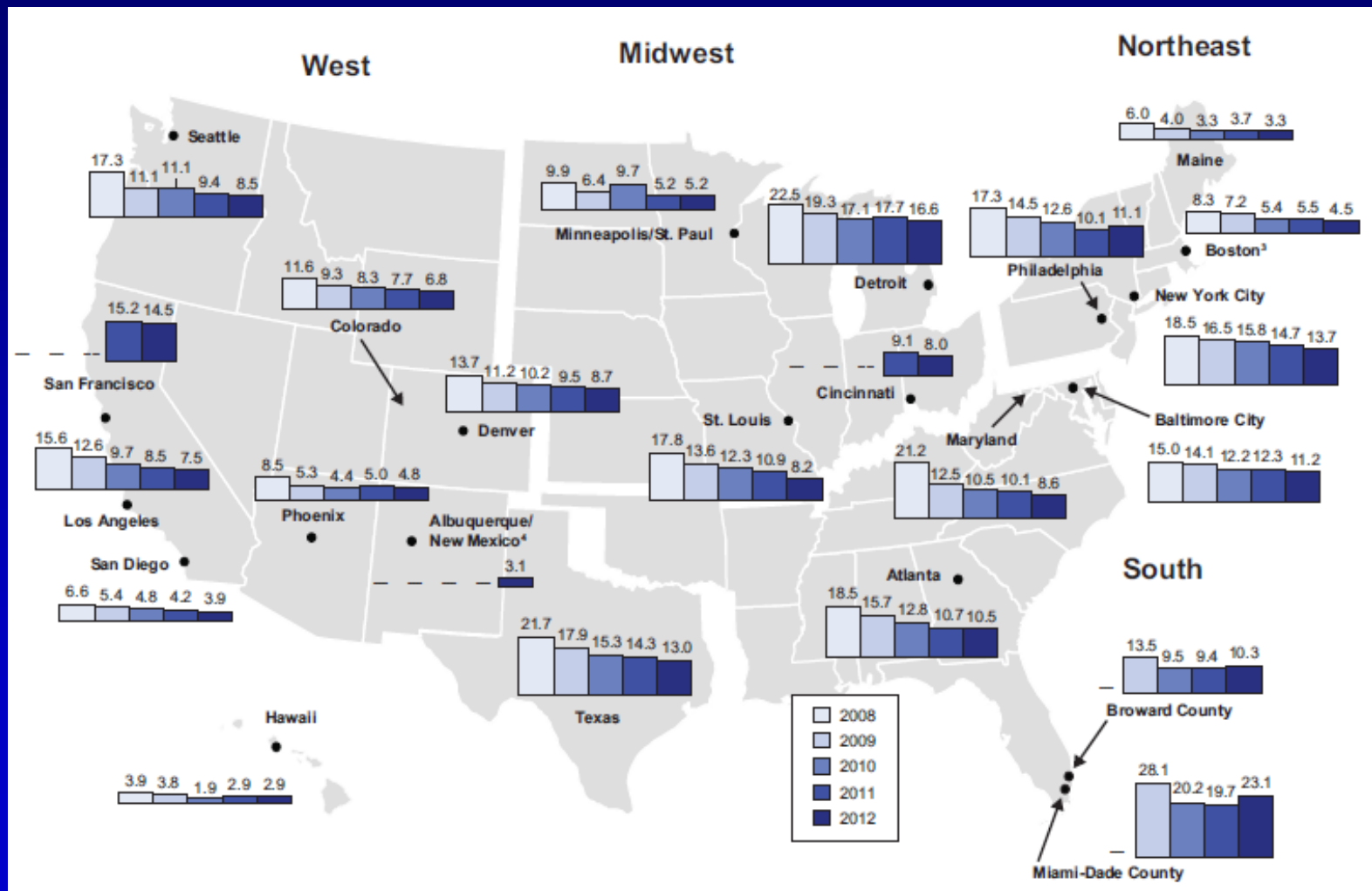
SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) 2011 and 2012 Annual Reports

Other NPS with hallucinogenic effects

*Methylone in products marketed as “Molly”
(assumed to be MDMA)*

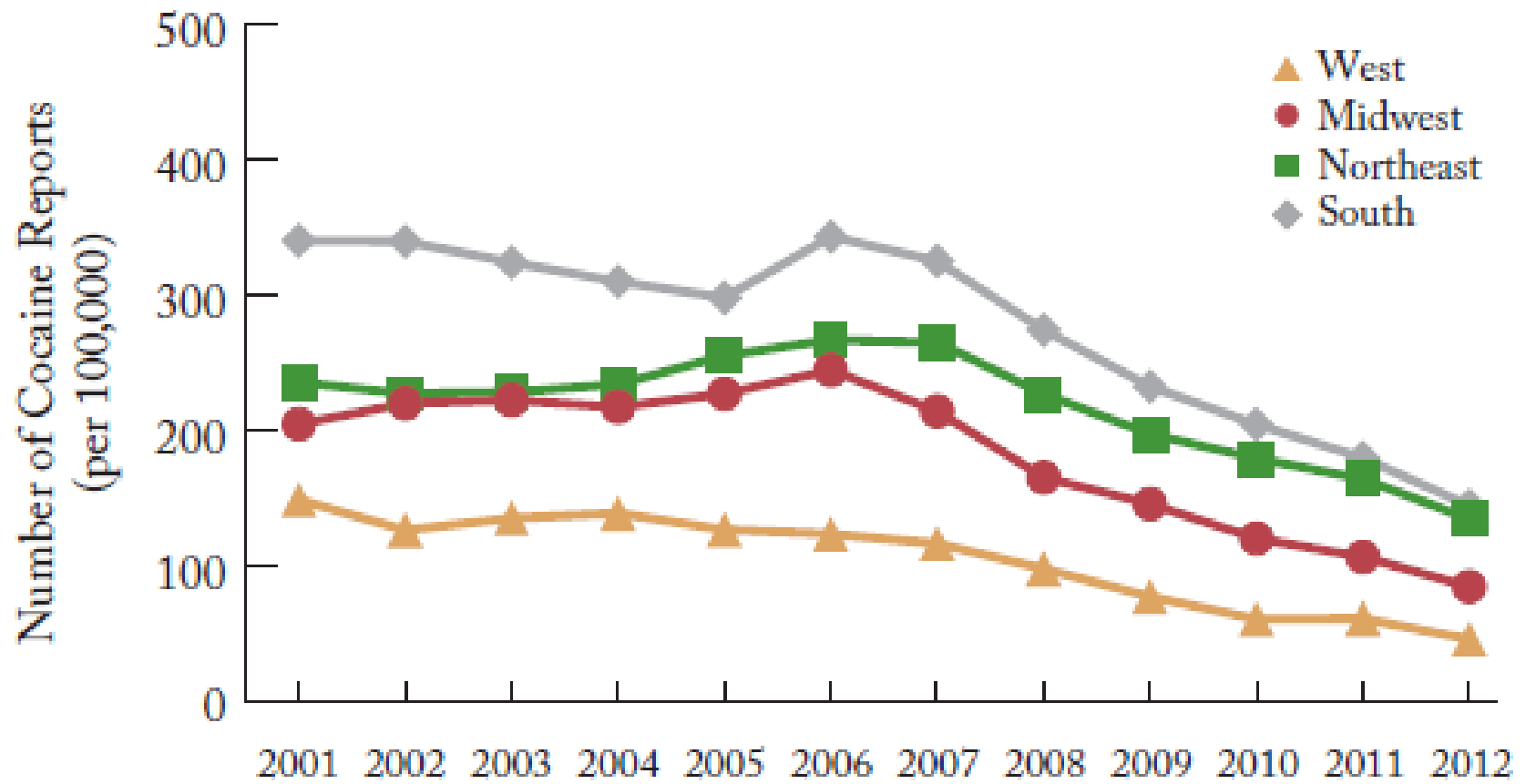
*25i-NBOMe, “Smiles” – sporadic reports of use and
associated consequences – does not appear
prominently in NFLIS*

Primary Cocaine Treatment Admissions as a Percentage of Total Treatment Admissions in CEWG Areas in 4 U.S. Regions: 2008–2012



SOURCE: CEWG area reports, June 2009–2013 meetings

Regional trends in cocaine reported per 100,000 persons aged 15 older: January 2001–December 2012



SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) 2012 Annual Report

Stimulants: Number and percent of reports

2011

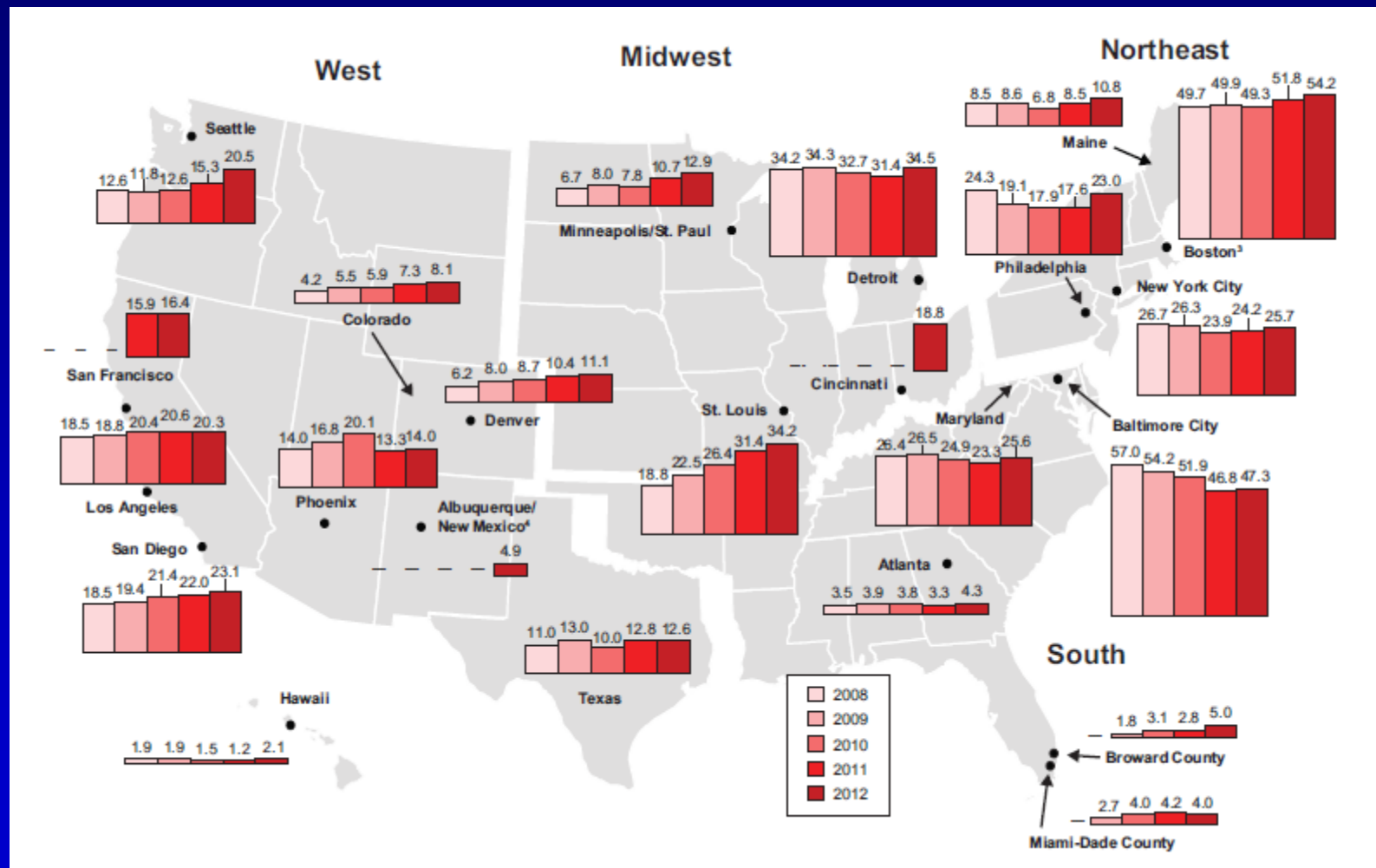
2012

Stimulant Reports	Number	Percent
Methamphetamine	130,895	84.84%
Amphetamine	7,986	5.18%
1-Benzylpiperazine (BZP)	4,887	3.17%
Methylphenidate	2,133	1.38%
Trazodone (noncontrolled)	875	0.57%
Lisdexamfetamine	866	0.56%
Phentermine	581	0.38%
Cathinone	347	0.22%
Citalopram (noncontrolled)	305	0.20%
Amitriptyline (noncontrolled)	253	0.16%
Sertraline (noncontrolled)	237	0.15%
Other stimulants	4,916	3.19%
<i>Total Stimulant Reports</i>	154,281	100.00%
<i>Total Drug Reports</i>	1,449,916	

Stimulant Reports	Number	Percent
Methamphetamine	162,655	84.73%
Amphetamine	8,821	4.59%
1-Benzylpiperazine (BZP)	4,182	2.18%
alpha-PVP	2,642	1.38%
Methylphenidate	2,280	1.19%
Lisdexamfetamine	1,298	0.68%
4-MEC	995	0.52%
Trazodone	891	0.46%
Pentedrone	882	0.46%
Phentermine	619	0.32%
Cathinone	533	0.28%
Citalopram	287	0.15%
Sertraline	264	0.14%
Amitriptyline	261	0.14%
Benocyclidine	238	0.12%
Butylone	238	0.12%
Other stimulants	4,888	2.55%
<i>Total Stimulant Reports</i>	191,974	100.00%
<i>Total Drug Reports</i>	1,420,811	

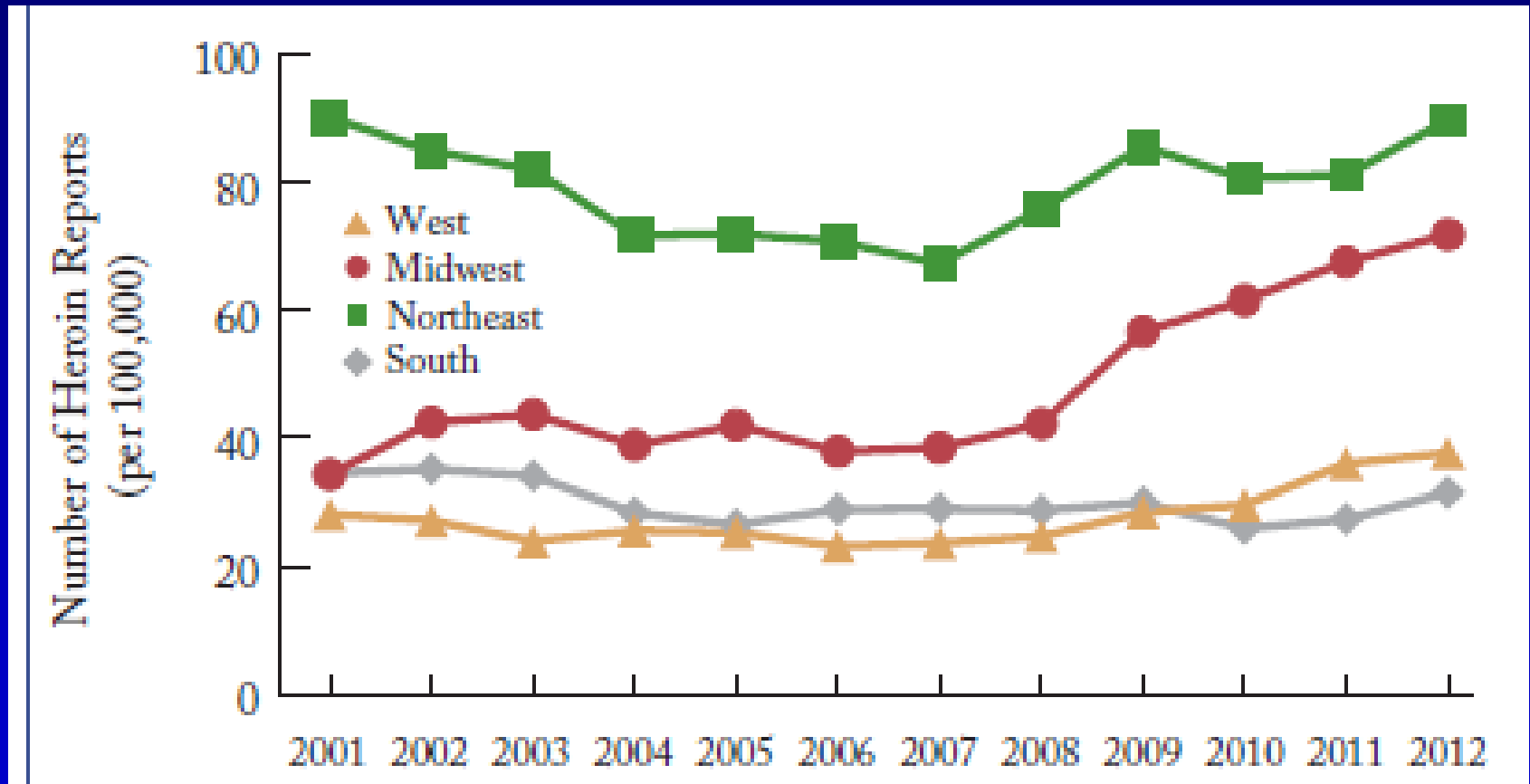
SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) 2011 and 2012 Annual Reports

Primary Heroin Treatment Admissions as a Percentage of Total Treatment Admissions in 23 CEWG Areas in 4 U.S. Regions: 2008–2012



SOURCE: CEWG area reports, June 2009–2013 meetings

Regional trends in *heroin* reported per 100,000 persons aged 15 older: January 2001–December 2012



SOURCE: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) 2012 Annual Report

Acetyl fentanyl - 2013

Similar to the Schedule II opioid fentanyl, is a potent opioid analgesic illicitly produced

Recently, it has been linked to a number of overdose deaths in the northeastern part of the U.S.

May serve as a direct substitute for heroin or opioids in opiate/opioid dependent individuals

Reports of suspected acetyl fentanyl continue

NPS Summary

Dynamic rapidly changing situation, new substances being encountered by law enforcement

NPS monitoring will benefit from understanding current trends in more common drugs

There is local variability in availability of NPS – networks and community-level monitoring are an important complement to national monitoring

Changing composition of products and terminology present challenges for monitoring – changing names, what are we measuring?

Synthetic cannabinoids are prominent in youth drug use though some of evidence of decrease in use

NPS Summary

Synthetic cannabinoids are prominent in forensic lab data

Synthetic cathinones are less prominent but some show increasing presence

Decrease in MDMA based on forensic lab data

Methylone identified in products assumed to be MDMA

New substances are being integrated into ongoing monitoring efforts

New Initiatives

New Funding Opportunity Announcement:

- PAR-14-104 Synthetic Psychoactive Drugs and Strategic Approaches to Counteract Their Deleterious Effects
<http://www.drugabuse.gov/funding-app/pa>

NIDA NEWS! Stay tuned...