

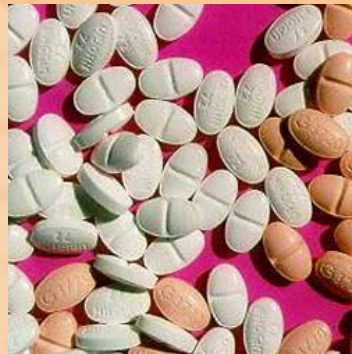
Drug Enforcement Administration
Office of Diversion Control



NFLIS

NATIONAL FORENSIC LABORATORY INFORMATION SYSTEM

Midyear Report 2006



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Highlights

- An estimated 927,202 drug items were analyzed by state and local laboratories in the United States from January 1, 2006, through June 30, 2006. These drug items were identified in an estimated 614,187 distinct cases.
- Cocaine was the most frequently identified drug (311,689), followed by cannabis/THC (308,906), methamphetamine (105,112), and heroin (48,609). The four most frequently identified drugs accounted for 84% of all analyzed drug items.
- Overall, the estimated number of drug items analyzed by state and local laboratories increased from the 1st quarter of 2001 through the 2nd quarter of 2006, from 457,967 to 467,388. Among the top four drugs, cannabis/THC and heroin declined significantly across all quarters from 2001 to 2006 ($\alpha = .05$). However, cannabis/THC and cocaine increased significantly from the 2nd quarter of 2005 to the 2nd quarter of 2006, while methamphetamine declined. Methamphetamine increased significantly across all quarters from 2001 to 2006.
- Regionally, cocaine was the most frequently identified drug in the Northeast (40%) and South (40%); cannabis/THC was the most frequently identified drug in the Midwest (45%); and methamphetamine was the most frequently identified drug in the West (36%).
- From the 2nd quarter of 2005 to the 2nd quarter of 2006, cannabis/THC and heroin increased significantly in the South. However, methamphetamine declined significantly in the West during this time. Despite this decline, the West continues to report the highest percentage of methamphetamine.
- Nationally, oxycodone, hydrocodone, and alprazolam increased significantly across the quarters from January 2001 to June 2006, while MDMA experienced a significant decrease. However, from the 2nd quarter of 2005 to the 2nd quarter of 2006, reports of MDMA significantly increased.
- Based on data provided by laboratories that submitted 3 or more months of data during the first half of 2006, two-thirds of narcotic analgesics were identified as hydrocodone or oxycodone. Alprazolam accounted for 63% of benzodiazepines, while MDMA accounted for more than 8 out of 10 club drugs.

Introduction

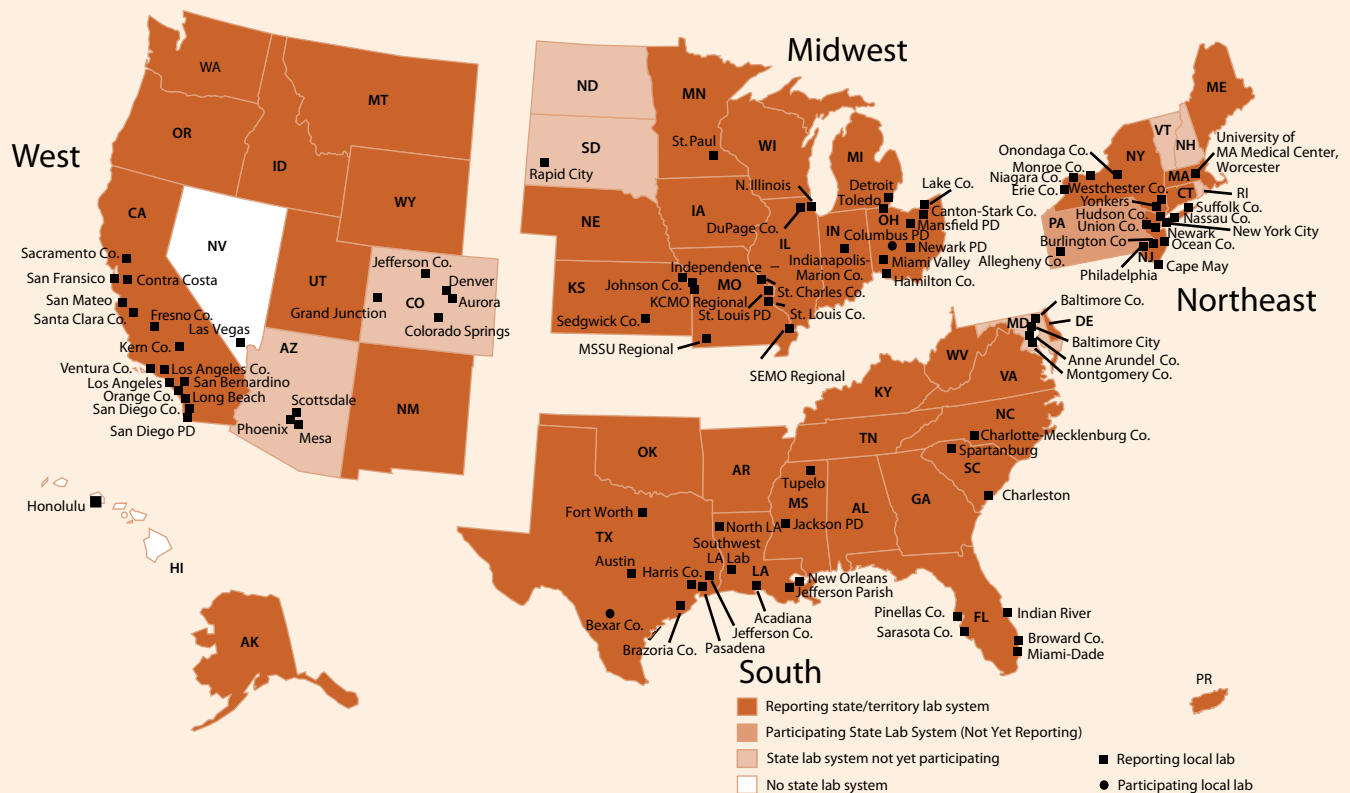
The National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS) is a program sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Administration's Office of Diversion Control. NFLIS systematically collects results from drug analyses conducted by state and local forensic laboratories. These laboratories analyze controlled and noncontrolled substances secured in law enforcement operations across the country and represent an important resource for monitoring and understanding illicit drug use and trafficking, including the diversion of legally manufactured drugs into illegal markets. NFLIS data can identify not only the specific type of substance, but also the characteristics of drug evidence, such as purity, quantity, and drug combinations. These data are used to support drug scheduling efforts and to inform drug policy and drug enforcement initiatives.

Since its inception in September 1997, NFLIS has transformed into an operational information system that includes data from forensic laboratories that handle over 88% of the nation's nearly 1.2 million annual drug analysis cases from state and local laboratories. As of November

2006, NFLIS included 42 state systems, 92 local or municipal laboratories, and 1 territorial laboratory, representing a total of 268 individual labs. In addition, the NFLIS database includes federal data from the DEA's System To Retrieve Information from Drug Evidence II (STRIDE II), which includes the results of drug evidence analyzed at DEA laboratories across the country. NFLIS will continue to work toward recruiting all state and local laboratories while also incorporating into the system the remainder of federal laboratories.

This report provides the results of substances analyzed by state and local laboratories from January 2006 through June 2006, including national and regional estimates for the most frequently identified drugs. Section 1 provides national and regional estimates for the most frequently identified drugs, as well as national and regional trends. These estimates are based on data reported among the NFLIS national sample of laboratories. Data from STRIDE are also included in this section. Section 2 presents data by major drug categories for all state and local laboratories reporting 3 or more months of data to NFLIS during this 6-month reporting period.

Participating Laboratories, by Census Region



Section 1: National and Regional Estimates

This section presents national and regional estimates for drug items analyzed by state and local laboratories from January 2006 through June 2006. Quarterly trends are presented for selected drugs from 2001 through 2006. National drug case estimates are also presented. A national laboratory sample was used to produce estimates of drugs identified by

forensic laboratories for the nation and for census regions. Appendix A provides a detailed description of the methods used in preparing these estimates. Appendix B contains a list of NFLIS laboratories, including those in the national sample. Appendix C describes the benefits and limitations of NFLIS.

Table 1.1

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL ESTIMATES FOR THE 25 MOST FREQUENTLY IDENTIFIED DRUGS*

Estimated number and percentage of total analyzed drug items, January 2006–June 2006.

Drug	National		West		Midwest		Northeast		South	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Cocaine	311,689	33.62%	35,329	21.06%	63,711	28.17%	58,206	40.32%	154,441	39.71%
Cannabis/THC	308,906	33.32%	39,147	23.34%	102,722	45.42%	46,134	31.96%	120,903	31.08%
Methamphetamine	105,112	11.34%	59,744	35.62%	16,066	7.10%	801	0.55%	25,502	7.33%
Heroin	48,609	5.24%	5,916	3.53%	10,541	4.66%	16,278	11.28%	15,874	4.08%
Hydrocodone	13,945	1.50%	1,298	0.77%	2,510	1.11%	1,529	1.06%	8,609	2.21%
Alprazolam	13,886	1.50%	641	0.38%	2,907	1.29%	1,942	1.35%	8,397	2.16%
Oxycodone	11,027	1.19%	1,327	0.79%	2,536	1.12%	2,920	2.02%	4,244	1.09%
Noncontrolled, non-narcotic	9,461	1.02%	1,946	1.16%	3,613	1.60%	1,520	1.05%	2,382	0.61%
MDMA	9,143	0.99%	2,160	1.29%	1,806	0.80%	940	0.65%	4,237	1.09%
Methadone	4,428	0.48%	660	0.39%	791	0.35%	971	0.67%	2,006	0.52%
Clonazepam	3,940	0.42%	370	0.22%	938	0.41%	934	0.65%	1,698	0.44%
Diazepam	3,436	0.37%	536	0.32%	836	0.37%	371	0.26%	1,694	0.44%
Pseudoephedrine ***	2,783	0.30%	249	0.15%	1,385	0.61%	**	**	1,130	0.29%
Amphetamine	2,209	0.24%	452	0.27%	549	0.24%	254	0.18%	954	0.25%
Morphine	2,145	0.23%	515	0.31%	563	0.25%	247	0.17%	821	0.21%
Phencyclidine (PCP)	2,071	0.22%	348	0.21%	81	0.04%	988	0.68%	654	0.17%
Codeine	1,886	0.20%	226	0.13%	700	0.31%	270	0.19%	691	0.18%
Psilocin	1,638	0.18%	491	0.29%	549	0.24%	212	0.15%	387	0.10%
Carisoprodol	1,565	0.17%	**	**	**	**	52	0.04%	1,024	0.26%
Methylphenidate	836	0.09%	88	0.05%	235	0.10%	245	0.17%	268	0.07%
Propoxyphene	800	0.09%	38	0.02%	296	0.13%	120	0.08%	346	0.09%
Lorazepam	766	0.08%	90	0.05%	260	0.11%	98	0.07%	319	0.08%
Hydromorphone	706	0.08%	129	0.08%	157	0.07%	45	0.03%	375	0.10%
MDA	648	0.07%	44	0.03%	92	0.04%	217	0.15%	295	0.08%
Dihydrocodeine	573	0.06%	0	0.00%	539	0.24%	15	0.01%	19	0.00%
<i>Top 25 Total</i>	862,208	92.99%	152,061	90.66%	214,554	94.87%	135,309	93.74%	357,270	92.63%
<i>All Other Drugs</i>	64,994	7.01%	15,666	9.34%	11,614	5.13%	9,053	6.26%	31,676	7.37%
<i>Total All Drugs****</i>	927,202	100.00%	167,727	100.00%	226,168	100.00%	144,362	100.00%	388,946	100.00%

MDMA=3,4-Methylenedioxyamphetamine

MDA=3,4-Methylenedioxyamphetamine

* Sample n's and 95% confidence intervals for all estimates are available upon request.

** The estimate for this drug does not meet standards of precision and reliability because too few laboratories reported this specific drug.

*** Includes items from a small number of laboratories that do not specify between pseudoephedrine and ephedrine.

**** Numbers may not sum to totals due to suppression and rounding.

Table 1.2 NATIONAL CASE ESTIMATES

Number and percentage of cases containing the 25 most frequently identified drugs, January 2006–June 2006.

Drug	Number	Percent
Cocaine	242,022	39.41%
Cannabis/THC	235,588	38.36%
Methamphetamine	78,468	12.78%
Heroin	37,561	6.12%
Alprazolam	11,777	1.92%
Hydrocodone	11,578	1.89%
Oxycodone	8,894	1.45%
MDMA	7,281	1.19%
Noncontrolled, non-narcotic	6,961	1.13%
Methadone	3,778	0.62%
Clonazepam	3,386	0.55%
Diazepam	3,022	0.49%
Pseudoephedrine *	1,979	0.32%
Amphetamine	1,901	0.31%
Morphine	1,830	0.30%
Phencyclidine (PCP)	1,814	0.30%
Codeine	1,687	0.27%
Psilocin	1,493	0.24%
Carisoprodol	1,476	0.24%
Methylphenidate	752	0.12%
Propoxyphene	740	0.12%
Lorazepam	714	0.12%
Hydromorphone	586	0.10%
Dihydrocodeine	568	0.09%
MDA	567	0.09%
<i>Top 25 Total</i>	666,425	108.51%
<i>All Other Substances</i>	51,797	8.43%
<i>Total All Substances***</i>	718,222	116.94% **

* Includes cases from a small number of laboratories that do not specify between pseudoephedrine and ephedrine.

** Multiple drugs can be reported within a single case, so the cumulative percentage exceeds 100%. The estimated national total of distinct cases that drug case percentages are based on is 614,187.

*** Numbers may not sum to totals due to rounding.

System To Retrieve Information from Drug Evidence II (STRIDE)

Data from the DEA's System To Retrieve Information from Drug Evidence II (STRIDE) reflect results of substance evidence from drug seizures, undercover drug buys, and other evidence analyzed at all the DEA laboratories located across the country. STRIDE includes results for drug cases submitted by DEA agents, other federal law enforcement agencies, and select local police agencies. Although STRIDE captures both domestic and international drug cases, the results presented here describe only those drugs obtained within the United States.

MOST FREQUENTLY IDENTIFIED DRUGS IN STRIDE, January 2006–June 2006.

Drug	Number	Percent
Cocaine	10,424	37.28%
Cannabis/THC	7,696	27.52%
Heroin	2,457	8.79%
Methamphetamine	1,705	6.10%
MDMA	1,100	3.93%
Pseudoephedrine	409	1.46%
Hydrocodone	343	1.23%
Phentermine	289	1.03%
Alprazolam	259	0.93%
Oxycodone	184	0.66%
<i>All Other Drugs</i>	3,095	11.07%
<i>Total Analyzed Items</i>	27,961	100.00%

NATIONAL AND REGIONAL DRUG TRENDS

National drug trends

From the 1st quarter of 2001 through the 2nd quarter of 2006, total analyzed items increased from 457,967 items to 467,388 items. Figure 1.1 presents national trends for the number of drug items analyzed by state and local laboratories in 3-month increments for 2001 through 2006 for the top four drugs reported in NFLIS. Cannabis/THC items declined significantly across all quarters from 2001 to 2006 ($\alpha = .05$), from 161,343 items to 155,045 items. Although the causes of this downward trend are unclear, a number of factors may be associated with the trend, including request-only analyses by laboratories of marijuana cases as a means of reducing their overall workload and backlog; lessened law enforcement and prosecutorial emphases on marijuana relative to other drugs in some jurisdictions; and other factors, such as changes in supply, price, and demand. (It should be noted that while cannabis/THC decreased from 2001 to 2006, it increased significantly from the 2nd quarter of 2005 to the 2nd quarter of 2006.) Heroin items also decreased significantly from 2001 to 2006,

from 26,750 items to 25,132 items, but increased significantly during the past year. Annual trend data show that from the 2nd quarter of 2005 to the 2nd quarter of 2006 reports of cocaine increased significantly while methamphetamine significantly declined.

Figure 1.2 describes national reporting trends for MDMA, alprazolam, oxycodone, and hydrocodone. Among these drugs, reports of MDMA experienced a significant decrease across all quarters from the 1st quarter of 2001 to the 2nd quarter of 2006 (from 5,427 items to 5,168 items). However, during the past year, reports of MDMA significantly increased. Reports of oxycodone, hydrocodone, and alprazolam experienced significant increases from 2001 to 2006. Oxycodone reporting increased from 2,771 items in the 1st quarter of 2001 to 5,423 items in the 2nd quarter of 2006. Hydrocodone reporting increased from 2,742 items to 7,431 items, and alprazolam increased from 3,616 items to 7,374 items.

Figure 1.1 National trend estimates for top four drugs, by quarter, January 2001–June 2006.

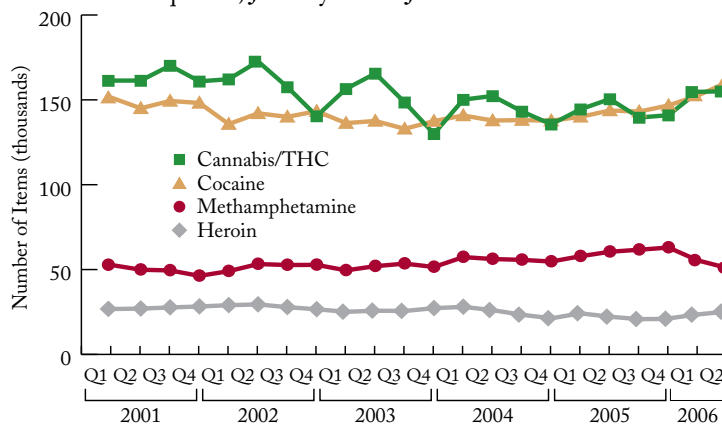
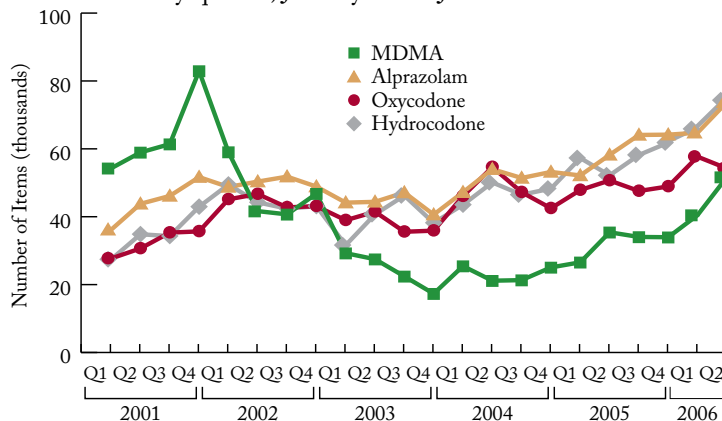


Figure 1.2 National trend estimates for other selected drugs, by quarter, January 2001–June 2006.



Regional drug trends, adjusted for population

Figure 1.3 presents regional trends per 100,000 persons aged 15 or older for the top four reported drugs from January 2001 through June 2006. This four-part figure illustrates changes in drugs reported over time, taking into account the population of each region.

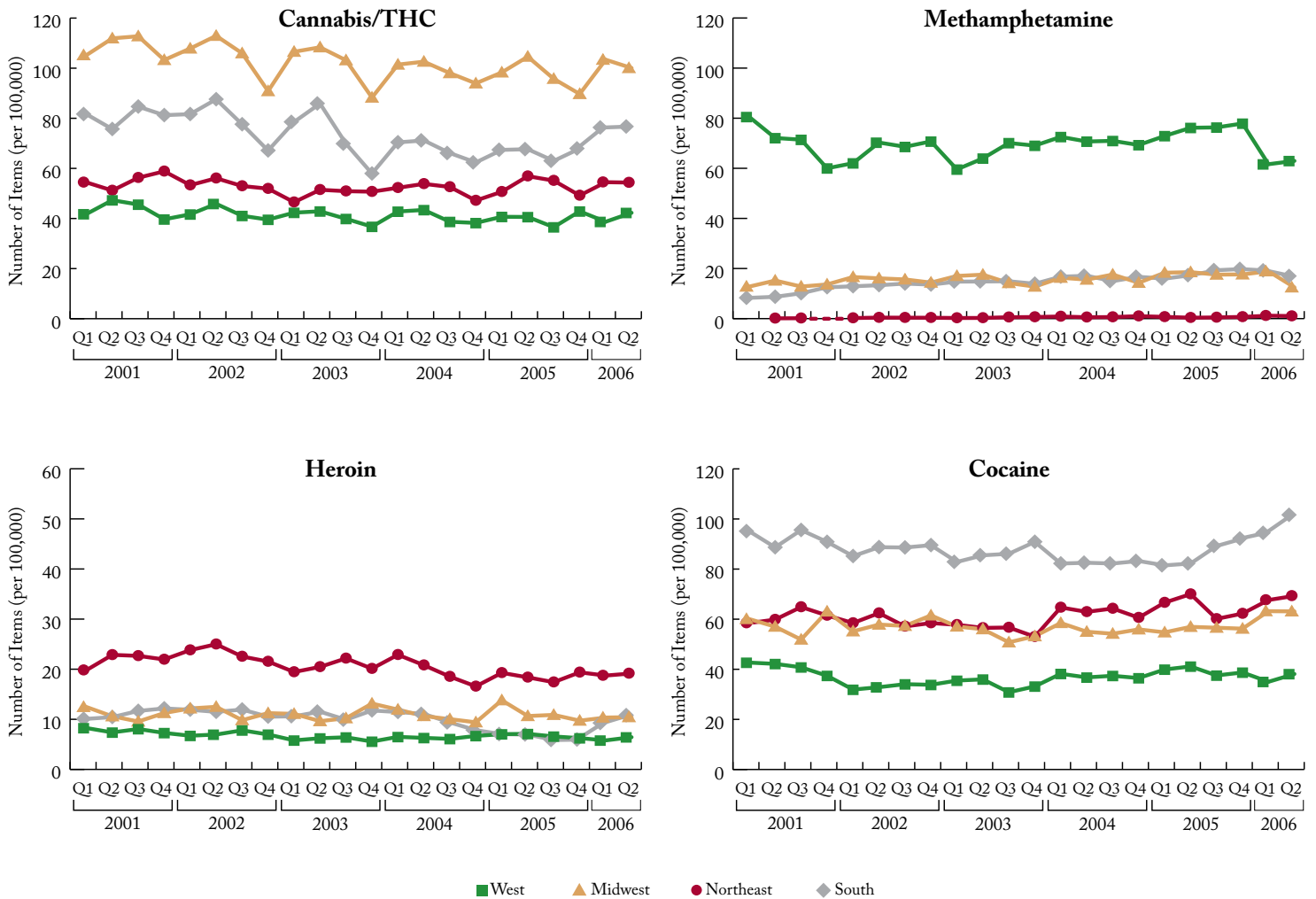
Cannabis/THC reporting declined significantly across all quarters from 2001 to 2006 in the South and Midwest ($\alpha = .05$). However, cannabis/THC reporting increased significantly in the South from the 2nd quarter of 2005 to the 2nd quarter of 2006. Overall, the highest rate of cannabis/THC continues to be reported in the Midwest.

Heroin reporting decreased significantly across all quarters in the Northeast and South from 2001 to 2006. During the past year, however, heroin reporting increased significantly in

the South. In the 2nd quarter of 2006, reports of heroin by forensic laboratories in the Northeast were about twice the rate as in the Midwest and South and at about 3 times the rate in the West.

Methamphetamine reporting significantly increased in the South from January 2001 to June 2006. However, reports of methamphetamine decreased significantly in the West from the 2nd quarter of 2005 to the 2nd quarter of 2006. The rate of methamphetamine items reported in the South doubled, from 8 items in the 1st quarter of 2001 to 17 items per 100,000 persons in the 2nd quarter of 2006. In the Northeast, cocaine reporting also increased significantly during this time, from 58 to 69 items per 100,000 persons.

Figure 1.3 Trends in the top four drugs reported per 100,000 persons aged 15 or older, by region, January 2001–June 2006.*

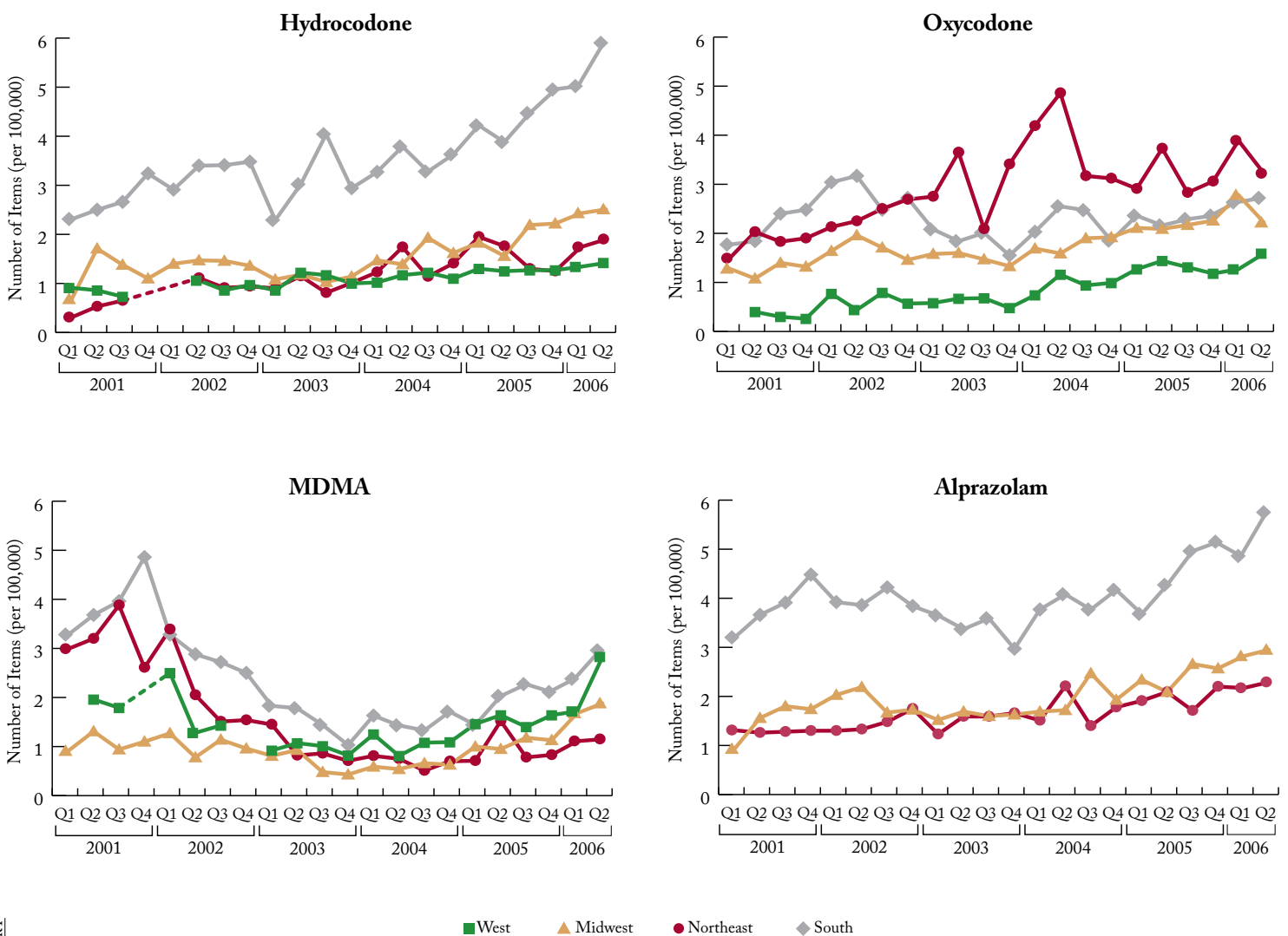


*A dashed line implies unstable estimates because too few laboratories in the region reported this specific drug.

Figure 1.4 shows regional trends per 100,000 persons aged 15 or older for other selected drugs, including hydrocodone, oxycodone, MDMA, and alprazolam. Reports of hydrocodone increased significantly across all quarters in the Northeast (from 0.3 to 1.9 items per 100,000 persons), the Midwest (0.7 to 2.5 items per 100,000 persons), and the South (2.3 to 5.9 items per 100,000 persons). Reports of alprazolam also increased significantly in the Northeast, Midwest, and

South, with the highest rate reported in South at 5.8 items per 100,000 persons. The reported rate of oxycodone items analyzed increased significantly in the Northeast, more than doubling from 1.5 to 3.2 items per 100,000 persons. Reports of MDMA declined significantly in the Northeast and South, but increased in the Midwest (0.9 to 1.9 items per 100,000 persons).

Figure 1.4 Trends in other selected drugs reported per 100,000 persons aged 15 or older, by region, January 2001–June 2006.*



*A dashed line or the absence of a line implies unstable estimates because too few laboratories in the region reported this specific drug.

Section 2: Major Drug Categories

This section presents results for major drug categories reported by NFLIS laboratories from January 2006 through June 2006. Major drug categories presented in this section include narcotic analgesics, benzodiazepines, anabolic steroids, club drugs, and stimulants.

The results presented in this section are different from the national and regional estimates presented in Section 1. The

estimates presented in Section 1 were based on data reported by the NFLIS national sample. The data were weighted to provide national and regional estimates. The data presented in Section 2 are not weighted and are only representative of those laboratories that provided 3 or more months of data during the first 6 months of 2006. During this 6-month period, 784,365 analyzed drug items were reported by NFLIS laboratories.

Table 2.1 **NARCOTIC ANALGESICS**
Number and percentage of total identified narcotic analgesics, January 2006–June 2006.

Analgesic	Number	Percent
Hydrocodone	12,290	38.38%
Oxycodone	9,401	29.36%
Methadone	3,638	11.36%
Morphine	1,827	5.71%
Codeine	1,658	5.18%
Propoxyphene	715	2.23%
Dihydrocodeine	591	1.85%
Hydromorphone	583	1.82%
Buprenorphine	399	1.25%
Fentanyl	375	1.17%
Tramadol*	315	0.98%
Meperidine	170	0.53%
Pentazocine	42	0.13%
Nalbuphine*	9	0.03%
Butorphanol	3	0.01%
Oxymorphone	2	0.01%
<i>Total Narcotic Analgesics</i>	32,018	100.00%
<i>Total Analyzed Items</i>	784,365	

*Noncontrolled narcotic analgesics.

Figure 2.1 Distribution of narcotic analgesics within region, January 2006–June 2006

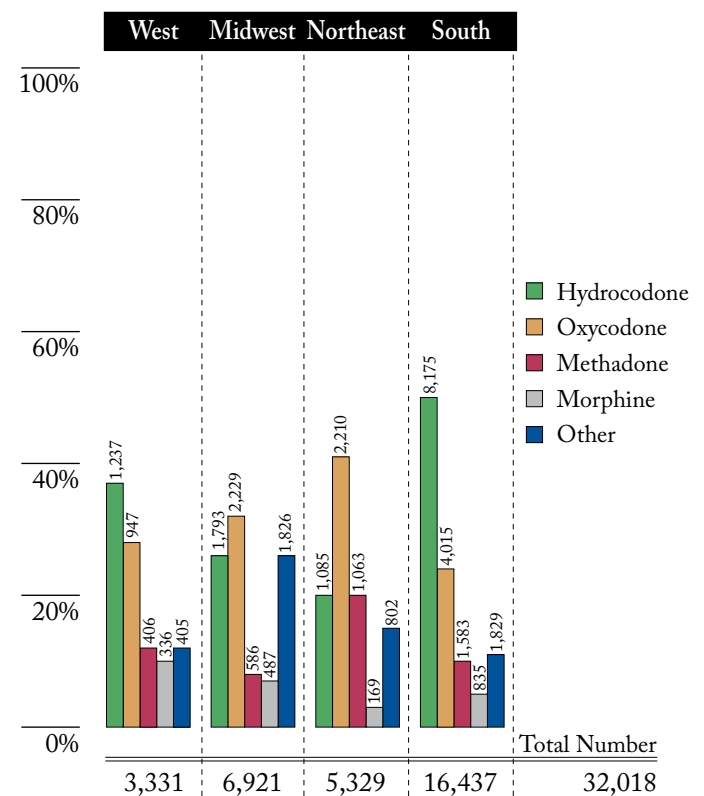


Table 2.2 **BENZODIAZEPINES**

Number and percentage of total identified benzodiazepines, January 2006–June 2006.

Benzodiazepine	Number	Percent
Alprazolam	12,927	63.36%
Clonazepam	3,404	16.68%
Diazepam	3,072	15.06%
Lorazepam	743	3.64%
Temazepam	146	0.72%
Chlordiazepoxide	54	0.26%
Triazolam	32	0.16%
Flunitrazepam	19	0.09%
Midazolam	7	0.03%
<i>Total Benzodiazepines</i>	20,404	100.00%
<i>Total Analyzed Items</i>	784,365	

Figure 2.2 Distribution of benzodiazepines within region, January 2006–June 2006

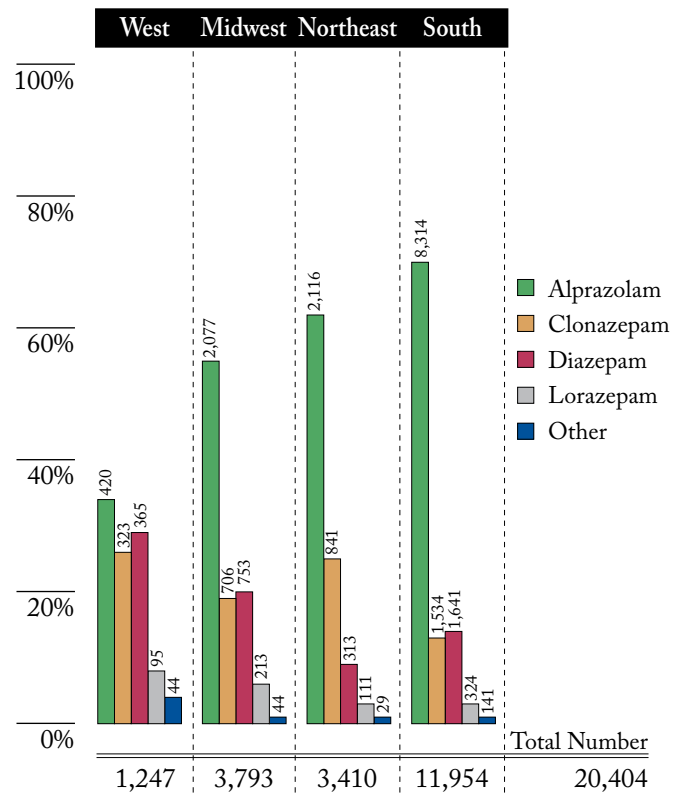


Table 2.3 **ANABOLIC STEROIDS**

Number and percentage of total identified anabolic steroids, January 2006–June 2006.

Steroid	Number	Percent
Testosterone	355	38.76%
Methandrostenolone	139	15.17%
Anabolic steroids, not specified	136	14.85%
Nandrolone	110	12.01%
Stenozolol	87	9.50%
Boldenone	35	3.82%
Oxymetholone	20	2.18%
Oxandrolone	17	1.86%
Drostanolone	6	0.66%
Fluoxymesterone	3	0.33%
Mesterolone	3	0.33%
Methenolone	3	0.33%
Methyltestosterone	2	0.22%
<i>Total Anabolic Steroids</i>	916	100.00%
<i>Total Analyzed Items</i>	784,365	

Figure 2.3 Distribution of anabolic steroids within region, January 2006–June 2006.

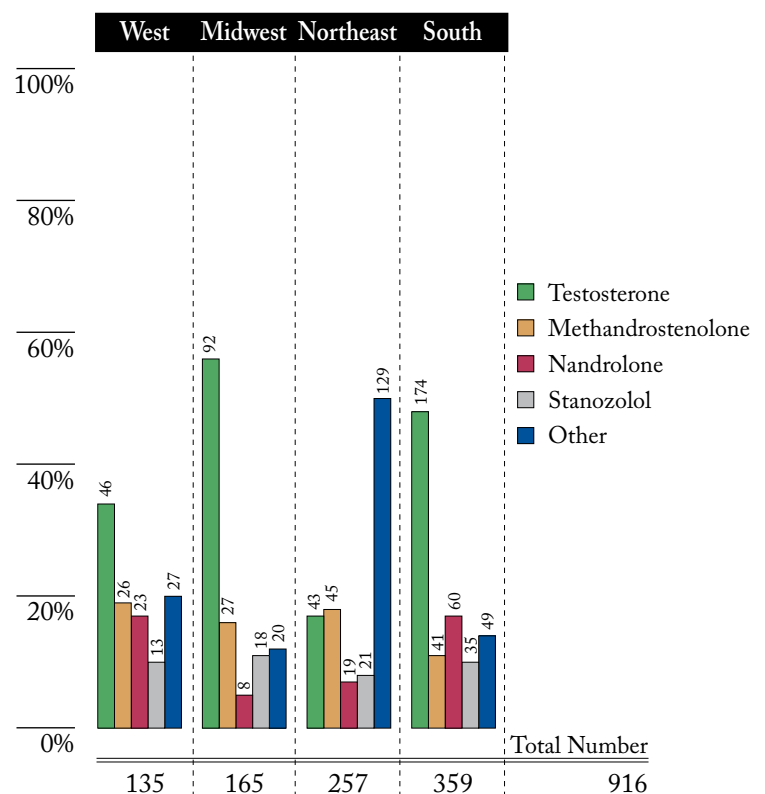


Table 2.4 CLUB DRUGS

Number and percentage of total identified club drugs, January 2006–June 2006.

Club Drug	Number	Percent
MDMA	7,661	86.47%
MDA	669	7.55%
Ketamine	376	4.24%
GHB/GBL	135	1.52%
MDEA	17	0.19%
BZP*	2	0.02%
<i>Total Club Drugs</i>	8,860	100.00%
<i>Total Analyzed Items</i>	784,365	

MDMA=3,4-Methylenedioxymethamphetamine
 MDA=3,4-Methylenedioxyamphetamine
 GHB/GBL=gamma-hydroxybutyrate or gamma-butyrolactone
 MDEA=N-ethyl-3,4-methylenedioxyamphetamine
 BZP=1-Benzylpiperazine

* Noncontrolled club drug.

Figure 2.4 Distribution of club drugs within region, January 2006–June 2006

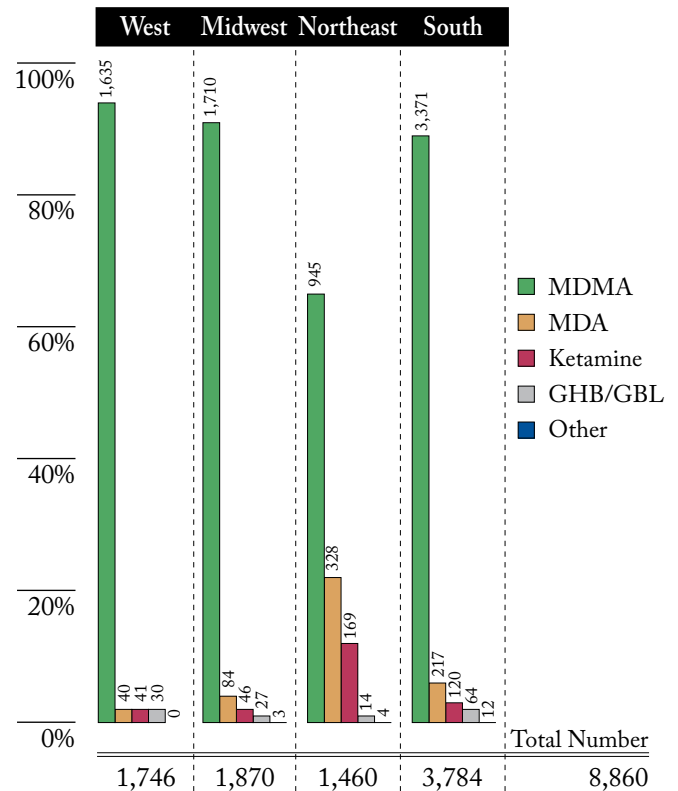
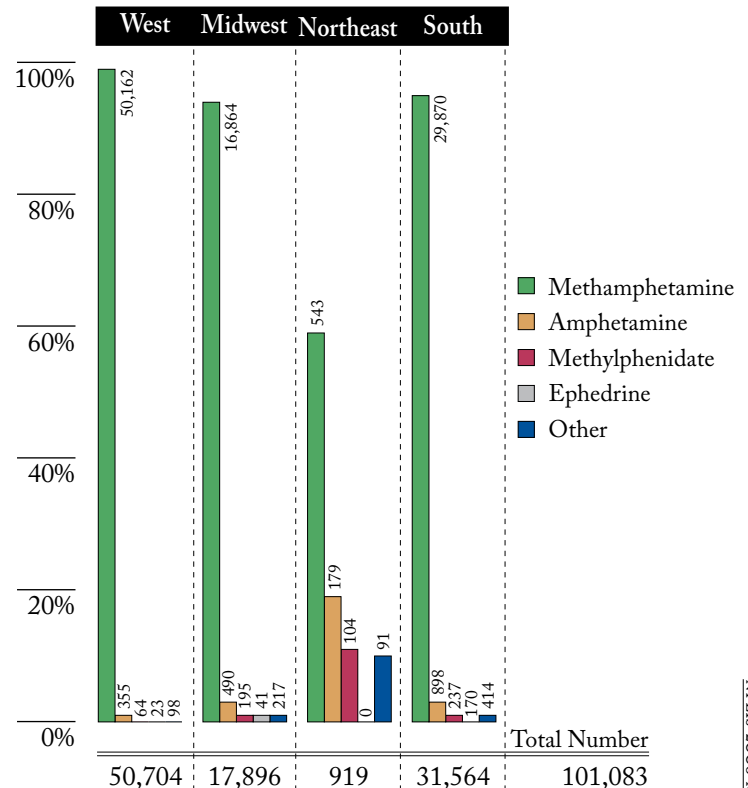


Table 2.5 STIMULANTS

Number and percentage of total identified stimulants, January 2006–June 2006.

Stimulant	Number	Percent
Methamphetamine	97,439	96.39%
Amphetamine	1,902	1.88%
Methylphenidate	600	0.59%
Caffeine*	322	0.32%
Phentermine	240	0.24%
Ephedrine**	234	0.23%
Cathinone	116	0.11%
N,N-dimethylmethamphetamine	69	0.07%
Phendimetrazine	31	0.03%
Cathine	28	0.03%
Diethylpropion	20	0.02%
Benzphetamine	19	0.02%
Modafinil	18	0.02%
Methcathinone	10	0.01%
Sibutramine	8	0.01%
Pemoline	5	0.00%
Phenylpropanolamine**	5	0.00%
Fenfluramine	4	0.00%
Propylhexedrine	4	0.00%
Fenproporex	2	0.00%
4-methylaminored	1	0.00%
Chlorphentermine	1	0.00%
Mazindol	1	0.00%
Phenmetrazine	1	0.00%
Protriptyline	1	0.00%
Strychnine	1	0.00%
<i>Total Stimulants</i>	101,083	100.00%
<i>Total Analyzed Items</i>	784,365	

Figure 2.5 Distribution of stimulants within region, January 2006–June 2006.



* Substance is an ingredient of many controlled pharmaceutical products and is often used as a cutting agent.

** Listed chemical.

NATIONAL ESTIMATES METHODOLOGY

Since 2001, NFLIS reports have included national and regional estimates for the number of drug items and drug cases analyzed by state and local forensic laboratories in the United States. This appendix discusses the methods used for producing these estimates, including sample selection, weighting, and imputation and adjustment procedures. RTI International, under contract to the DEA, began implementing NFLIS in September 1997. Results from a 1998 survey provided laboratory-specific information, including annual caseload figures, used to establish a national sampling frame of all state and local forensic laboratories that routinely perform drug analyses. A representative probability proportional to size (PPS) sample was drawn on the basis of annual cases analyzed per laboratory, resulting in a NFLIS national sample of 29 state laboratory systems and 31 local or municipal laboratories, a total of 165 individual laboratories (see Appendix B for a list of sampled and nonsampled NFLIS laboratories). Only the data for those laboratories that reported drug analysis data for 3 or more months during the first 6 months of 2006 were included in the national estimates.

Weighting Procedures

Data were weighted with respect to both the original sampling design and nonresponse in order to compute design-consistent, nonresponse-adjusted estimates. Weighted prevalence estimates were produced for drug cases and drug items analyzed by state and local forensic laboratories from January 2006 through June 2006.

A separate item-level and case-level weight was computed for each sample laboratory or laboratory system using caseload information obtained from an updated laboratory survey administered in 2004. These survey results allowed for the case- and item-level weights to be poststratified to reflect current levels of laboratory activity. Item-level prevalence estimates were computed using the item-level weights, and case-level estimates were computed using the case-level weights.

Drug Report Cutoff

Not all drugs are reported by laboratories with sufficient frequency to allow reliable estimates to be computed. For some drugs, such as cannabis/THC and cocaine, thousands of items are reported annually, allowing for reliable national prevalence estimates to be computed. Many other substances have 100 or fewer annual observations for the entire sample. A prevalence estimate based upon such few observations is not likely to be reliable and thus was not included in the national estimates. The method for evaluating the cutoff point was established using the coefficient of variation, or CV, which is the ratio between the standard error of an estimate and the estimate itself. As a rule, drug estimates with a CV greater than 0.5 were suppressed and not shown in the tables.

* For more information on this technique, please refer to Chernick, M.R. (1999). *Bootstrap Methods: A Practitioner's Guide*. New York: Wiley.

Imputations and Adjustments

Due to technical and other reporting issues, several laboratories did not report data for every month during the first 6 months of 2006. This resulted in missing monthly data, which is a concern in calculating national estimates of drug prevalence. Imputations were performed separately by drug for laboratories that were missing monthly data, using drug-specific proportions generated from laboratories reporting all 6 months of data.

Although most forensic laboratories report case-level analyses in a consistent manner, a small number of laboratories do not produce item-level counts that are comparable with those submitted by the vast majority of laboratories. Most laboratories report items in terms of the number of vials of the particular pill, yet a few laboratories report the count of the individual pills themselves as "items." Because the case-level counts across laboratories are comparable, they were used to develop item-level counts for the few laboratories that count items differently. For those laboratories, it was assumed that drug-specific ratios of cases to items should be similar to laboratories serving similarly sized areas. Item-to-case ratios for each drug were produced for the similarly sized laboratories, and these drug-specific ratios were then used to adjust the drug item counts for the relevant laboratories.

Statistical Techniques for Trend Analysis

A trend analysis was performed on the January 2001 through June 2006 national and regional estimates. Typically, models test for mean differences; however, the national and regional estimates are totals. To work around this challenge, a bootstrapping technique was employed. (Bootstrapping is an iterative technique used to estimate variances when standard variance estimation procedures cannot be used.)* All statistical tests were performed at the 95% confidence level ($\alpha = .05$). In other words, if a linear trend was found to be statistically different, then the probability of observing a linear trend (under the assumption that no linear trend existed) was less than 5%.

PARTICIPATING AND REPORTING FORENSIC LABORATORIES

State	Lab Type	Lab Name	Reporting
AK	State	Alaska Department of Public Safety	✓
AL	State	Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences (9 sites)	✓
AR	State	Arkansas State Crime Laboratory	✓
AZ	Local	Mesa Police Department	✓
	Local	Phoenix Police Department	✓
	Local	Scottsdale Police Department	✓
CA	State	California Department of Justice (10 sites)	✓
	Local	Contra Costa County Sheriff's Office	✓
	Local	Fresno County Sheriff's Forensic Laboratory	✓
	Local	Kern County District Attorney's Office (Bakersfield)	✓
	Local	Long Beach Police Department	✓
	Local	Los Angeles Police Department (2 sites)	✓
	Local	Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (4 sites)	✓
	Local	Orange County Sheriff's Department	✓
	Local	Sacramento County District Attorney's Office	✓
	Local	San Bernardino Sheriff's Office (2 sites)	✓
	Local	San Diego County Sheriff's Department	✓
	Local	San Diego Police Department	✓
	Local	San Francisco Police Department	✓
	Local	San Mateo County Sheriff's Office (San Mateo)	✓
	Local	Santa Clara District Attorney's Office (San Jose)	✓
	Local	Ventura County Sheriff's Department	✓
CO	Local	Aurora Police Department	✓
	Local	Colorado Springs Police Department	✓
	Local	Denver Police Department	✓
	Local	Grand Junction Police Department	✓
	Local	Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (Golden)	✓
CT	State	Connecticut Department of Public Safety	✓
DE	State	Chief Medical Examiner's Office	✓
FL	State	Florida Department of Law Enforcement (8 sites)	✓
	Local	Broward County Sheriff's Office (Ft. Lauderdale)	✓
	Local	Miami-Dade Police Department	✓
	Local	Indian River Crime Laboratory	✓
	Local	Pinellas County Forensic Laboratory (Largo)	✓
	Local	Sarasota County Sheriff's Office	✓
GA	State	Georgia State Bureau of Investigation (7 sites)	✓
HI	Local	Honolulu Police Department	✓
IA	State	Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation	✓
ID	State	Idaho State Police (3 sites)	✓
IL	State	Illinois State Police (8 sites)	✓
	Local	DuPage County Sheriff's Office (Wheaton)	✓
	Local	Northern Illinois Police Crime Laboratory (Chicago)	✓
IN	State	Indiana State Police Laboratory (4 sites)	✓
	Local	Indianapolis-Marion County Forensic Laboratory	✓
KS	State	Kansas Bureau of Investigation (3 sites)	✓
	Local	Johnson County Sheriff's Office (Mission)	✓
	Local	Sedgwick County Regional Forensic Science Center (Wichita)	✓
KY	State	Kentucky State Police (6 sites)	✓
LA	State	Louisiana State Police	✓
	Local	Acadiana Criminalistics Laboratory (New Iberia)	✓
	Local	Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office (Metairie)	✓
	Local	New Orleans Police Department Crime Laboratory	✓
	Local	North Louisiana Criminalistics Laboratory System (3 sites)	✓
	Local	Southwest Louisiana Regional Laboratory (Lake Charles)	✓
MA	State	Massachusetts Department of Public Health (2 sites)	✓
	State	Massachusetts State Police	✓
	Local	University of Massachusetts Medical Center (Worcester)	✓
MD	Local	Anne Arundel County Police Department (Millersville)	✓
	Local	Baltimore City Police Department	✓
	Local	Baltimore County Police Department (Towson)	✓
	Local	Montgomery County Crime Laboratory (Rockville)	✓
ME	State	Maine Department of Human Services	✓
MI	State	Michigan State Police (7 sites)	✓
	Local	Detroit Police Department	✓
MN	State	Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (2 sites)	✓
	Local	St. Paul Police Department	✓
MO	State	Missouri State Highway Patrol (6 sites)	✓
	Local	Independence Police Department	✓
	Local	KCMO Regional Crime Laboratory (Kansas City)	✓
	Local	MSSU Regional Crime Laboratory (Joplin)	✓
	Local	St. Charles County Criminalistics Laboratory	✓
	Local	St. Louis County Crime Laboratory (Clayton)	✓
	Local	St. Louis Police Department	✓
	Local	South East Missouri Regional Crime Laboratory (Cape Girardeau)	✓
MS	State	Mississippi Department of Public Safety (4 sites)	✓
	Local	Jackson Police Department Crime Laboratory	✓
	Local	Tupelo Police Department	✓
MT	State	Montana Forensic Science Division	✓
NC	State	North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (2 sites)	✓
	Local	Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department	✓
NE	State	Nebraska State Patrol Criminalistics Laboratory (2 sites)	✓
NJ	State	New Jersey State Police (4 sites)	✓
	Local	Burlington County Forensic Laboratory (Mt. Holly)	✓
	Local	Cape May County Prosecutor's Office	✓
	Local	Hudson County Prosecutor's Office (Jersey City)	✓
	Local	Newark Police Department	✓
	Local	Ocean County Sheriff's Department (Toms River)	✓
	Local	Union County Prosecutor's Office (Westfield)	✓
NM	State	New Mexico Department of Public Safety	✓
NV	Local	Las Vegas Police Department	✓
NY	State	New York State Police (4 sites)	✓
	Local	Erie County Central Police Services Laboratory (Buffalo)	✓
	Local	Monroe County Department of Public Safety (Rochester)	✓
	Local	Nassau County Police Department (Mineola)	✓
	Local	New York City Police Department Crime Laboratory*	✓
	Local	Niagara County Police Department (Lockport)	✓
	Local	Onondaga County Center for Forensic Sciences (Syracuse)	✓
	Local	Suffolk County Crime Laboratory (Hauppauge)	✓
	Local	Westchester County Forensic Sciences Laboratory (Valhalla)	✓
	Local	Yonkers Police Department Forensic Science Laboratory	✓
OH	State	Ohio Bureau of Criminal Identification & Investigation (3 sites)	✓
	State	Ohio State Highway Patrol	✓
	Local	Canton-Stark County Crime Laboratory	✓
	Local	Columbus Police Department	✓
	Local	Hamilton County Coroner's Office (Cincinnati)	✓
	Local	Lake County Regional Forensic Laboratory (Painesville)	✓
	Local	Mansfield Police Department	✓
	Local	Miami Valley Regional Crime Laboratory (Dayton)	✓
	Local	Newark Police Department Forensic Services	✓
	Local	Toledo Police Forensic Laboratory	✓
OK	State	Oklahoma State Bureau of Investigation (5 sites)	✓
OR	State	Oregon State Police Forensic Services Division (8 sites)	✓
PA	State	Pennsylvania State Police Crime Laboratory (6 sites)	✓
	Local	Allegheny County Coroner's Office (Pittsburgh)	✓
	Local	Philadelphia Police Department	✓
SC	State	South Carolina Law Enforcement Division	✓
	Local	Charleston Police Department	✓
	Local	Spartanburg Police Department	✓
SD	Local	Rapid City Police Department	✓
TN	State	Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (3 sites)	✓
TX	State	Texas Department of Public Safety (13 sites)	✓
	Local	Austin Police Department	✓
	Local	Bexar County Criminal Investigations Laboratory (San Antonio)	✓
	Local	Brazoria County Crime Laboratory (Angleton)	✓
	Local	Harris County Medical Examiner's Office (Houston)	✓
	Local	Jefferson County Sheriff's Regional Crime Laboratory (Beaumont)	✓
	Local	Pasadena Police Department	✓
	Local	Fort Worth Police Department Criminalistics Laboratory	✓
UT	State	Utah State Crime Laboratory (4 sites)	✓
VA	State	Virginia Division Forensic Science (4 sites)	✓
WA	State	Washington State Patrol (6 sites)	✓
WI	State	Wisconsin Department of Justice (3 sites)	✓
WV	State	West Virginia State Police	✓
WY	State	Wyoming State Crime Laboratory	✓
PR	Territory	Puerto Rico Crime Laboratory	✓

This list identifies participating and reporting laboratories as of December 18, 2006.

Laboratories in bold are part of our national sample.

*The New York City Police Department Crime Laboratory currently reports summary data.

*NFLIS BENEFITS & LIMITATIONS***Benefits**

The systematic collection and analysis of drug analysis data can improve our understanding of the nation's illegal drug problem. NFLIS serves as a critical resource for supporting drug scheduling policy and drug enforcement initiatives both nationally and in specific communities around the country.

Specifically, NFLIS helps the drug control community achieve its mission by

- providing detailed information on the prevalence and types of controlled substances secured in law enforcement operations
- identifying variations in controlled and noncontrolled substances at the national, state, and local levels
- identifying emerging drug problems and changes in drug availability in a timely fashion
- monitoring the diversion of legitimately marketed drugs into illicit channels
- providing information on the characteristics of drugs, including quantity, purity, and drug combinations
- supplementing information from other drug sources, including the DEA's STRIDE, the Drug Abuse Warning Network (DAWN), the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), and the Monitoring the Future (MTF) Survey.

NFLIS is an opportunity for state and local laboratories to participate in a useful and high-visibility initiative. Participating laboratories regularly receive reports that summarize national and regional data. In addition, the Interactive Data Site (IDS) is a secure website that allows NFLIS participants—including state and local laboratories, the DEA, other federal drug control agencies, and researchers—to run customized queries on the NFLIS data. Enhancements to the IDS will also provide a new interagency exchange forum that will allow the DEA, forensic laboratories, and other members of the drug control community to post and respond to current information.

Limitations

NFLIS has limitations that must be considered when interpreting findings generated from the database.

- Currently, NFLIS includes data from state and local forensic laboratories, as well as data from DEA's STRIDE. STRIDE includes data from DEA's laboratories across the country. The STRIDE data are shown separately in this report. Efforts are under way to enroll additional federal laboratories during 2007.
- NFLIS includes drug chemistry results from completed analyses only. Drug evidence secured by law enforcement but not analyzed by laboratories is not included in the database.
- National and regional estimates may be subject to variation associated with sample estimates, including nonresponse bias.
- For results presented in Section 2, the absolute and relative frequency of analyzed results for individual drugs can in part be a function of laboratories' participating in NFLIS.
- State and local policies related to the enforcement and prosecution of specific drugs can affect the types of drugs submitted to laboratories for analysis.
- Laboratory policies and procedures for handling drug evidence vary. Some laboratories analyze all evidence submitted to them, while others analyze only selected items. Many laboratories do not analyze drug evidence if the criminal case was dismissed from court or if no defendant could be linked to the case.
- Laboratories vary with respect to the records they maintain. For example, some laboratories' automated records include the weight of the sample selected for analysis (e.g., the weight of one of five bags of powder), while others record total weight.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This report was prepared under contract DEA-03-C-0013, Drug Enforcement Administration, U.S. Department of Justice. Points of view or opinions expressed in this document do not necessarily represent the official position of the DEA or the U.S. Department of Justice.

At the DEA, Liquan Wong contributed to the report and provided oversight across all preparation stages. At RTI, BeLinda Weimer was the major contributor and led its production; Kevin Strom and Valley Rachal provided oversight and guidance; Jeffrey Ancheta oversaw the database preparation; Celia Eicheldinger provided statistical analysis and review; Shari Lambert oversaw the graphic design; and Richard Straw edited the report.

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Weimer, B.J., Wong, L., Sannerud, C., Eicheldinger, C., Ancheta, J., Strom, K., and Rachal, V. (2006). *The National Forensic Laboratory Information System: 2006 Midyear Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

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December 2006