The Special Testing and Research Laboratory’s Emerging Trends Program compiled the data for this report through a query of archived seizure and analysis information from drug evidence analyzed by the Drug Enforcement Administration’s laboratory system. This data is representative of drug evidence seized and analyzed in the ranges annotated. This is not a comprehensive list of all new psychoactive substances and is not representative of all evidence analyzed by DEA. This data is a mid-year snapshot of the new psychoactive substance market in the United States.

SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS

There were 36 synthetic cannabinoid identifications in the first half of CY2020. 5F-MDMB-PICA was the most reported synthetic cannabinoid accounting for 56% of the identifications.

OTHER

The “other” category includes substances that could not be confirmed, psychoactive plants, PCP related substances, benzofurans, hallucinogens, tryptamines, and amphetamines.

There were 16 identifications categorized as inconclusive during this reporting period. Additionally, there were 5 identifications of 2-methoxymethamphetamine, 3 identifications of an unknown substance, 2 identifications of 25B-NBOH, and 1 identification each of 25E-NBOH and 2F-deschloroketamine.

CATHINONES

There were 47 cathinone identifications this reporting period. Eutylone was the most reported cathinone accounting for 74% of the identifications.

BENZODIAZEPINES

There were 76 NPS benzodiazepine identifications this reporting period. Flualprazolam was the most reported benzodiazepine accounting for 47% of the identifications.

OPIOIDS/ANALGESICS

There were 1392 identifications of fentanyl, fentanyl-related compounds, and other new opioids. Fentanyl accounted for approximately 86% of the opioid identifications. Of the 1191 identifications, fentanyl was found as the only controlled substance in 54% of the identifications and with heroin in approximately 31% of the identifications.

A single unit of drug evidence may have multiple sub-units. For the purposes of this document, each unit of drug evidence counts as one identification regardless of the number of sub-units. Some seized drug evidence contains more than one active ingredient; therefore, more than one identification can be made for a single unit.

Questions about this data are welcome and may be directed to the DEA Emerging Trends Program at 703-668-3300 or DEA.Emerging.Trends@usdoj.gov