



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 date 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 quarterly snapshot of the new psychoactive substance market in the United States. The term new psychoactive substance (NPS) describes a recently emerged drug that may pose a public health threat. This includes synthetic cannabinoids, substituted cathinones, phenethylamines, opioids, tryptamines, benzodiazepines, and a variety of other chemical classes. Due to the recent increase in seizures, fentanyl is also included in this report.

An identification is made when authenticated reference material is available for comparison. When reference material is not available, the drug evidence is identified as "substance unconfirmed." 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.

SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS

THERE WERE **36** SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID IDENTIFICATIONS IN THE THIRD QUARTER OF CY 2018. 5F-MDMB-PICA WAS THE MOST REPORTED SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID, ACCOUNTING FOR APPROXIMATELY **28%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS. ADB-FUBINACA WAS THE SECOND MOST REPORTED SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID, ACCOUNTING FOR **25%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS. NO NEW SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS WERE IDENTIFIED DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD.

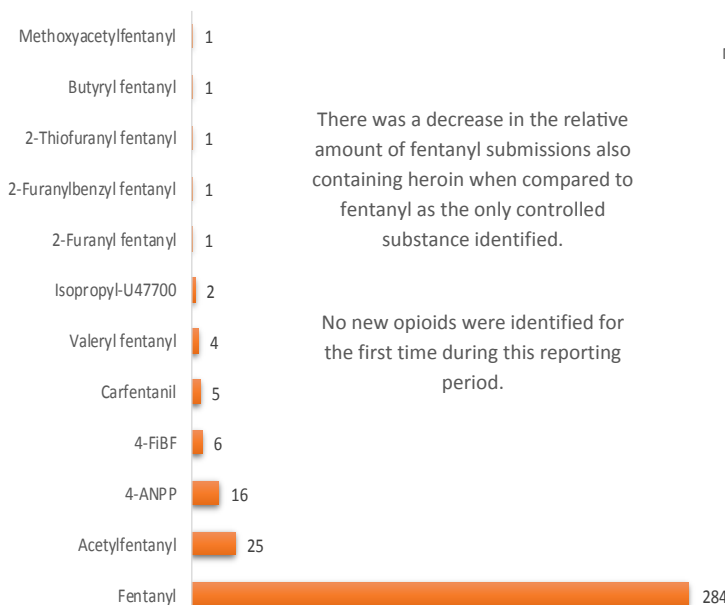


BENZODIAZEPINES

THERE WERE **5** IDENTIFICATIONS OF ETIZOLAM THIS REPORTING PERIOD.

OPIOIDS/ANALGESICS

THERE WERE **347** IDENTIFICATIONS OF FENTANYL, FENTANYL-RELATED COMPOUNDS, AND OTHER NEW OPIOIDS. THIS IS A DECREASE FROM THE 392 IDENTIFICATIONS DURING THE THIRD QUARTER OF CY 2018. FENTANYL ACCOUNTED FOR APPROXIMATELY **82%** OF THE OPIOID IDENTIFICATIONS. OF THE **284** FENTANYL IDENTIFICATIONS, FENTANYL WAS FOUND AS THE ONLY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE IN APPROXIMATELY **39%** OF THE UNITS. FENTANYL WAS IDENTIFIED WITH HEROIN IN APPROXIMATELY **28%** OF THE UNITS. ACETYLFENTANYL WAS THE NEXT MOST PROMINENT SUBSTANCE IDENTIFIED, ACCOUNTING FOR APPROXIMATELY **7%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS.



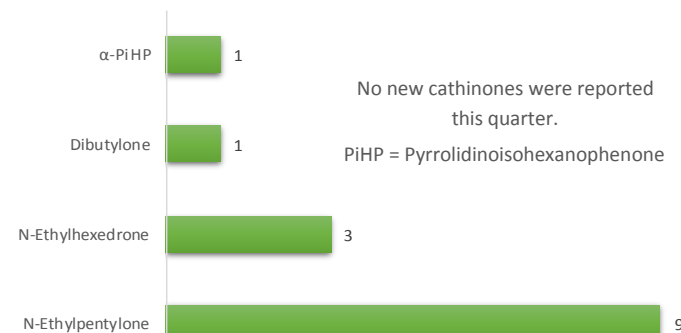
There was a decrease in the relative amount of fentanyl submissions also containing heroin when compared to fentanyl as the only controlled substance identified.

No new opioids were identified for the first time during this reporting period.

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CATHINONES

THERE WERE **14** CATHINONE IDENTIFICATIONS THIS REPORTING PERIOD. N-ETHYLPENTYLONE CONTINUES TO BE THE MOST REPORTED CATHINONE, ACCOUNTING FOR APPROXIMATELY **64%** 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 **4** INSTANCES OF UNCONFIRMED SUBSTANCES DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD. ADDITIONALLY, THERE WERE **2** IDENTIFICATIONS OF 2-OXO-PCE AND **1** IDENTIFICATION OF MMMP (2-METHYL-1-(4-(METHYLTHIO)PHENYL)-2-MORPHOLINOPROPAN-1-ONE).

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.