



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 range annotated. This is not a comprehensive list of all new psychoactive substances and is not representative of all evidence analyzed

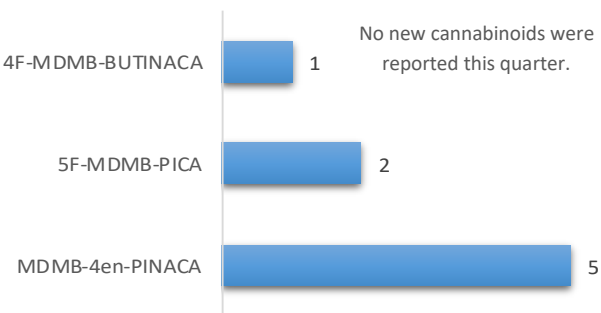
by DEA. This data is a quarterly snapshot of the new psychoactive substance market in the United States.

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 increase in seizures over the last several years, 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 "inconclusive." 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.

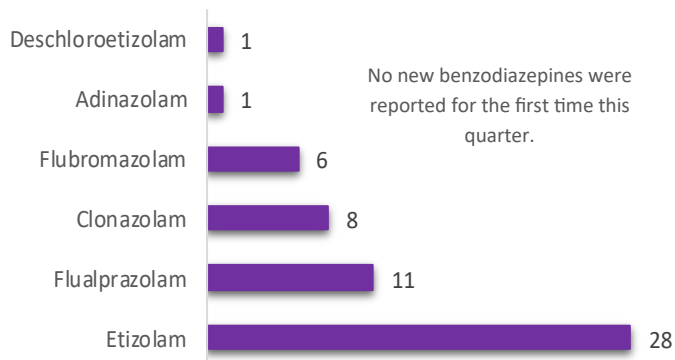
SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS

THERE WERE **8** SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID IDENTIFICATIONS IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF CY2020. MDMB-4EN-PINACA WAS THE MOST REPORTED SYNTHETIC CANNABINOID ACCOUNTING FOR **63%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS.



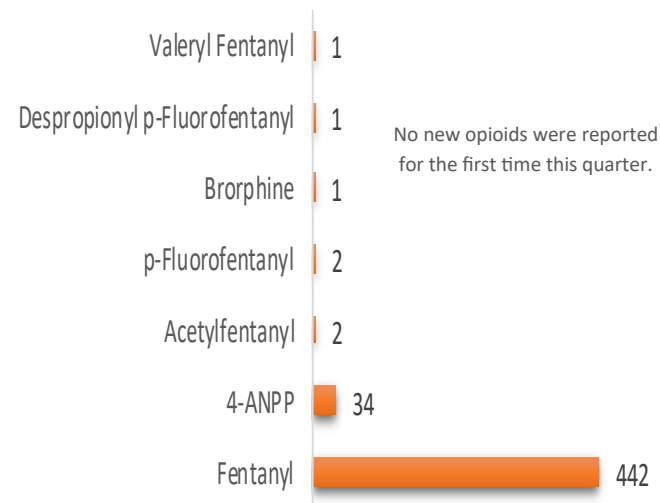
BENZODIAZEPINES

THERE WERE **55** IDENTIFICATIONS OF NPS BENZODIAZEPINES. ETIZOLAM WAS THE MOST REPORTED BENZODIAZEPINE ACCOUNTING FOR **51%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS.



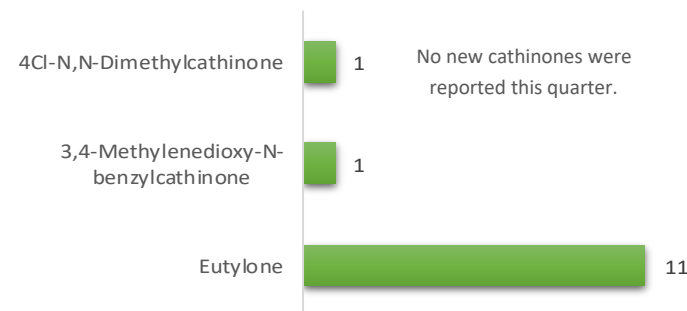
OPIOIDS/ANALGESICS

THERE WERE **483** IDENTIFICATIONS OF FENTANYL, FENTANYL-RELATED COMPOUNDS, AND OTHER NOVEL OPIOIDS. FENTANYL ACCOUNTED FOR APPROXIMATELY **92%** OF THE OPIOID IDENTIFICATIONS. OF THE **442** IDENTIFICATIONS, FENTANYL WAS FOUND AS THE ONLY CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE IN **62%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS AND WITH HEROIN IN APPROXIMATELY **20%** OF THE IDENTIFICATIONS.



CATHINONES

THERE WERE **13** CATHINONE IDENTIFICATIONS THIS REPORTING PERIOD. EUTYLONE WAS THE MOST REPORTED CATHINONE, ACCOUNTING FOR APPROXIMATELY **85%** 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 **6** IDENTIFICATIONS CATEGORIZED AS INCONCLUSIVE DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD.

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