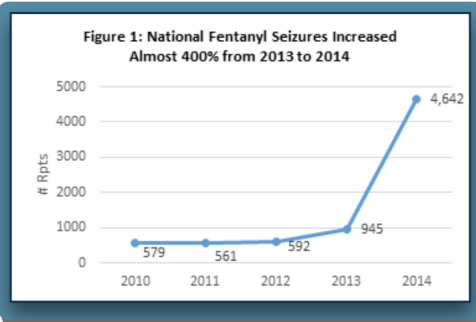


FENTANYL: NATIONAL TRENDS

Fentanyl Law Enforcement Seizures

- According to the DEA's National Forensic Laboratory Information System (NFLIS), the estimated number of items positive for fentanyl seized by law enforcement nationwide increased by almost 400% from 2013 (945) to 2014 (4,642) (Figure 1) (DEA, 2015f).



Source: DOJ, DEA. NFLIS 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, & 2014 Annual Report.

- More than 80% of fentanyl seizures in the U.S. in 2014 were reported in 10 states, predominantly in the eastern U.S.: Ohio, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New Jersey, Kentucky, Virginia, Florida, New Hampshire, and Indiana (CDC, 2015).
- A review of NFLIS data provided to the NDEWS Coordinating Center reveals that fentanyl and/or fentanyl analogs were found in drug items seized by law enforcement in 11 of the 12 NDEWS Sentinel Community Sites (SCS) and in 8 of the 10 NDEWS Community Sites. Fentanyl was one of the top 10 most frequently found drugs in three NDEWS sites: Boston, Baltimore, and Hamilton County (Cincinnati Area). However, the percentage of total reports positive for these drugs was less than 1% in all sites but Boston (2.9%), Maine (2.3%), and Hamilton County (Cincinnati Area) (1.1%) (Table 1) (DEA, personal communication, 2015).

RELATED PUBLICATIONS



NFLIS SPECIAL REPORT: OPIATES AND RELATED DRUGS REPORTED IN NFLIS, 2009-2014

2015 NATIONAL DRUG THREAT ASSESSMENT SUMMARY



FENTANYL ALERTS

Fentanyl-related deaths and law enforcement seizures have prompted public health and law enforcement authorities in the U.S. to issue alerts about the drug.

In 2015, the Drug Administration issued a press release and alert to all U.S. law enforcement agencies (DEA, 2015d; EPIC, 2015).

In June 2015, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services issued an official health alert about fentanyl (HHS, 2015).

