**SYNTHETIC CANNABINOIDS**

There were 65 synthetic cannabinoid identifications in the third quarter of CY 2018. 5F-MDMB-PINACA was the most reported synthetic cannabinoid, accounting for approximately 37% of the identifications. ADB-FUBINACA was the second most reported synthetic cannabinoid, accounting for approximately 34% of the identifications. No new synthetic cannabinoids were identified during this reporting period.

**OPIOIDS/ANALGESICS**

There were 392 identifications of fentanyl, fentanyl-related compounds, and other new opioids. This is an increase from the 378 identifications during the second quarter of CY 2018. Fentanyl accounted for approximately 78% of the opioid identifications. Of the 307 fentanyl identifications, fentanyl was found as the only controlled substance in approximately 39% of the units. Fentanyl was identified with heroin in approximately 44% of the units. 4-anpp was the next most prominent substance identified, accounting for approximately 6% of the identifications.

**CATHINONES**

There were 32 cathinone identifications this reporting period. N-ethylpentylone continues to be the most reported cathinone, accounting for approximately 56% of the identifications.

**BENZODIAZEPINES**

There were 3 identifications of etizolam this reporting period.

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.

**OTHER**

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

There were 6 instances of unconfirmed substances during this reporting period. Additionally, there were 4 identifications of PFP, 2 identifications each of mitragynine and TFMP, and 1 identification of 3-methoxy-PCP.

Questions about this data are welcome and may be directed to the DEA Emerging Trends Program at 703-688-3300 or DEA.Emerging.Trends@usdoj.gov.