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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Current NPS and synthetic opioids trends



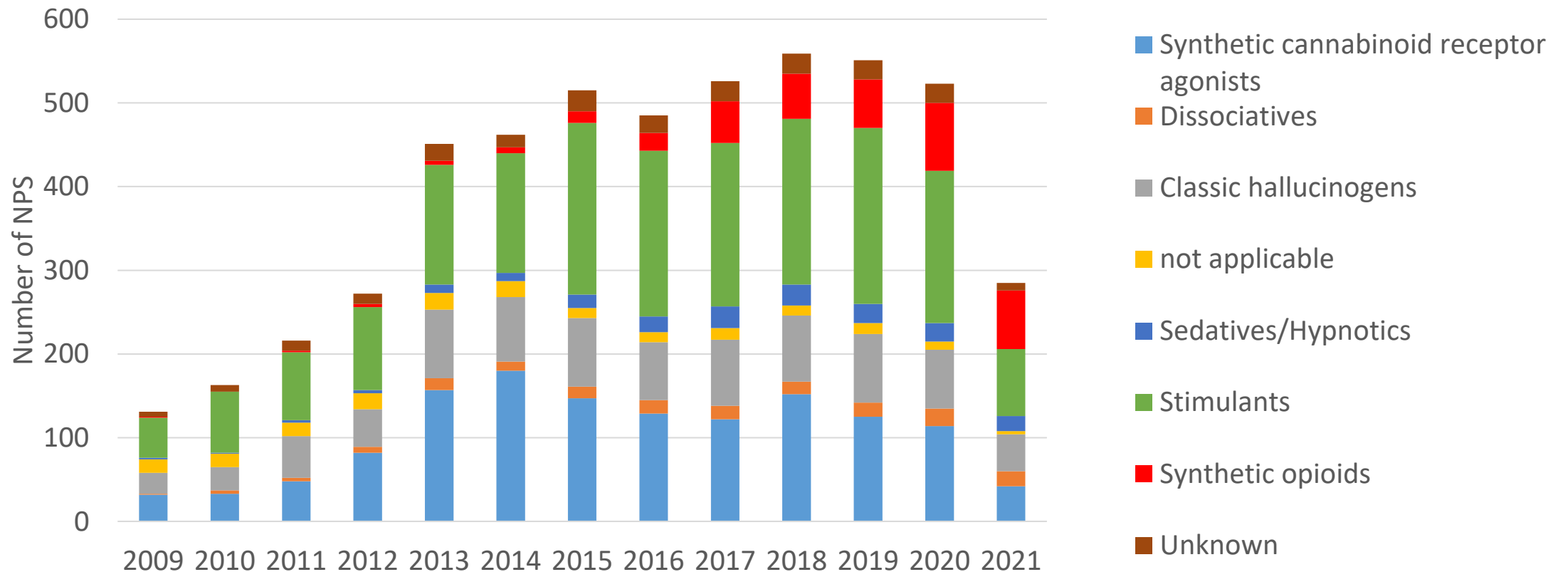
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Global Synthetics Monitoring, Analyses, Reporting and
Trends Programme (SMART)



Global NPS situation

Number of individual NPS reported by effect group at global level, 2009-2021

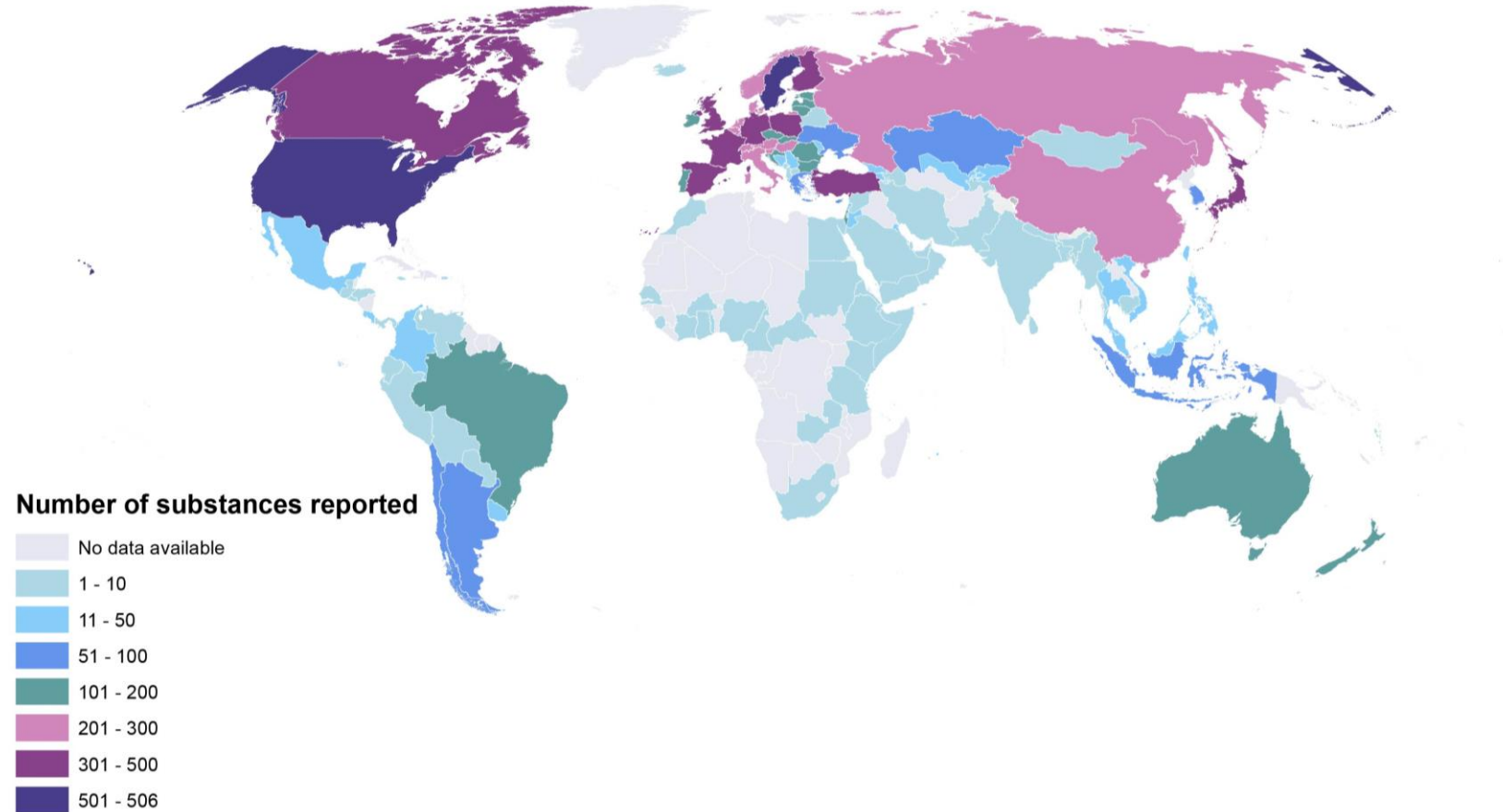




The global emergence of New Psychoactive Substances

Map: Number of NPS reported by countries, 2009-2021

Currently almost 1100 unique substances have been reported to UNODC.

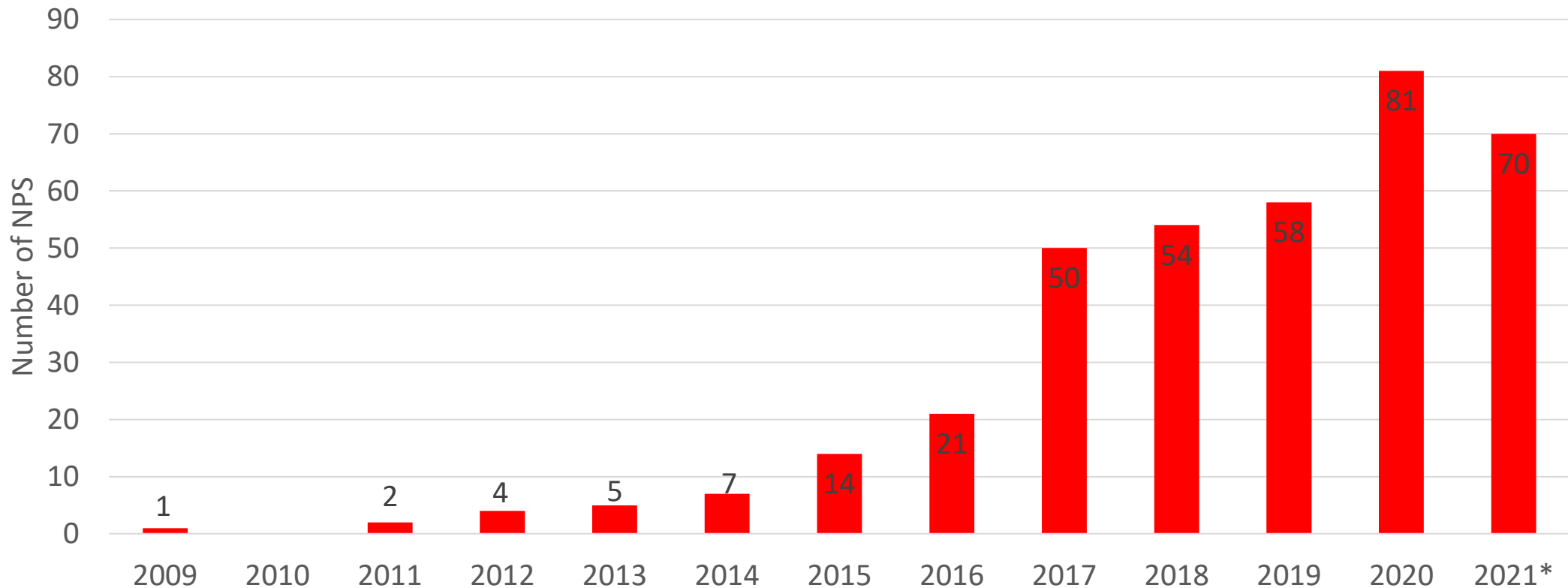


The boundaries shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Dashed lines represent undetermined boundaries. The dotted line represents approximately the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. A dispute exists between the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning sovereignty over the Falkland Islands (Malvinas).



Synthetic opioids increased dramatically in recent years

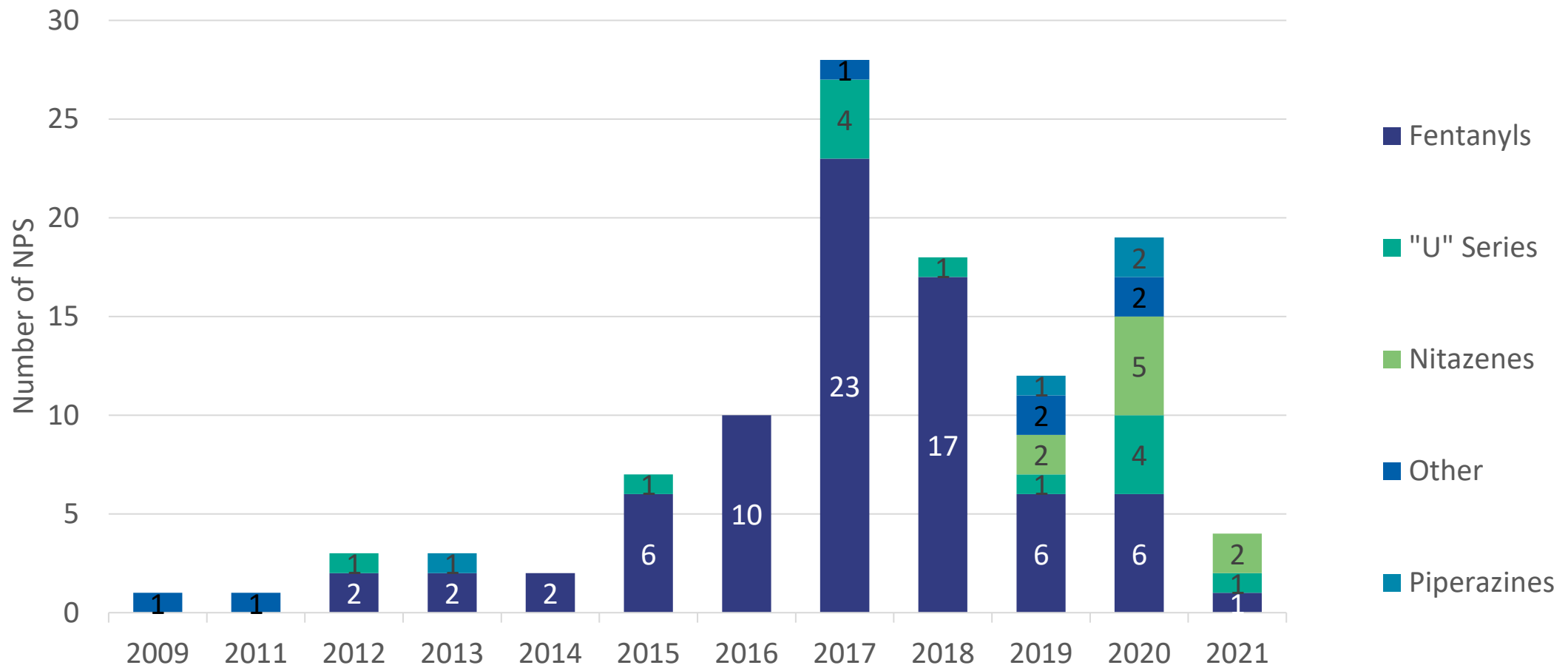
Number of individual synthetic opioids reported by effect group at global level, 2009-2021*



Source: UNODC Early Warning Advisory on NPS, Oct. 2021. *Note: Data for 2021 are preliminary.



New developments – Synthetic opioids reported for the 1st time

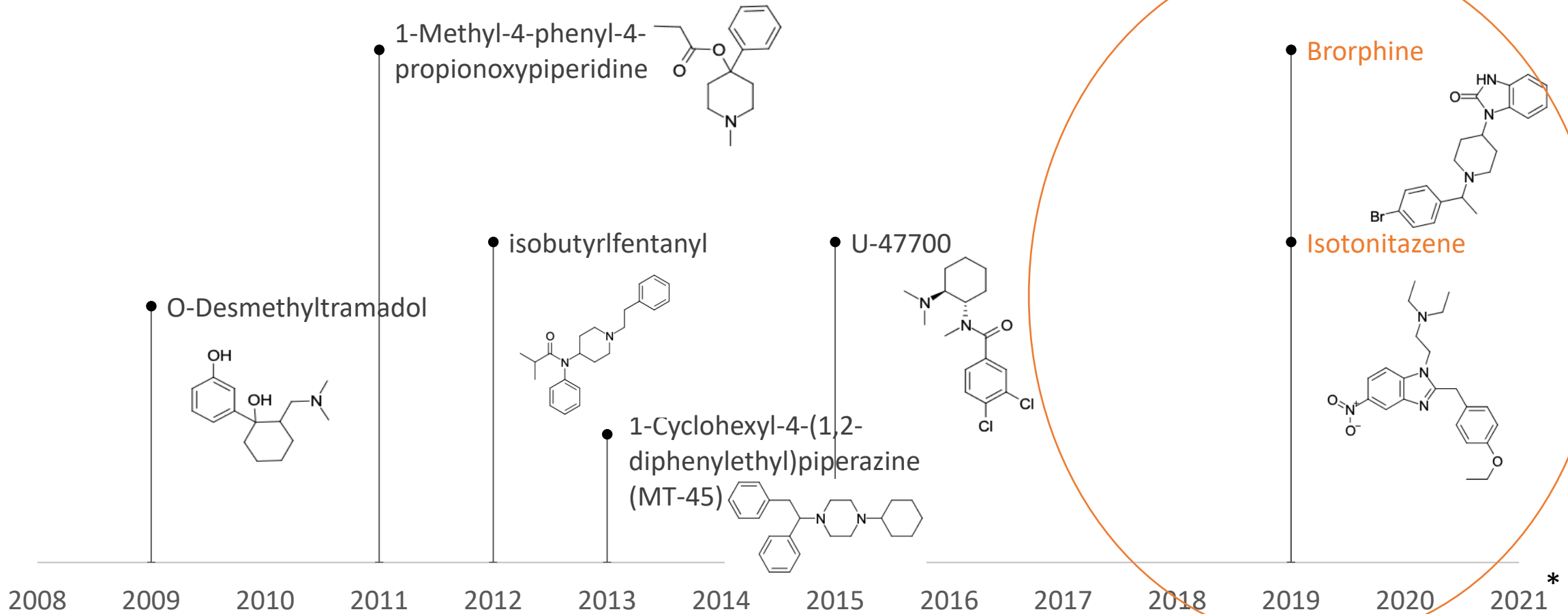


Source: UNODC Early Warning Advisory on NPS, Oct. 2021. Note: Data for 2021 are preliminary.



Innovative dynamics – Are nitazenes the new fentanyl?

Examples selected as representatives of new emerging structural classes



Nitazenes

Brorphine

Isotonitazene

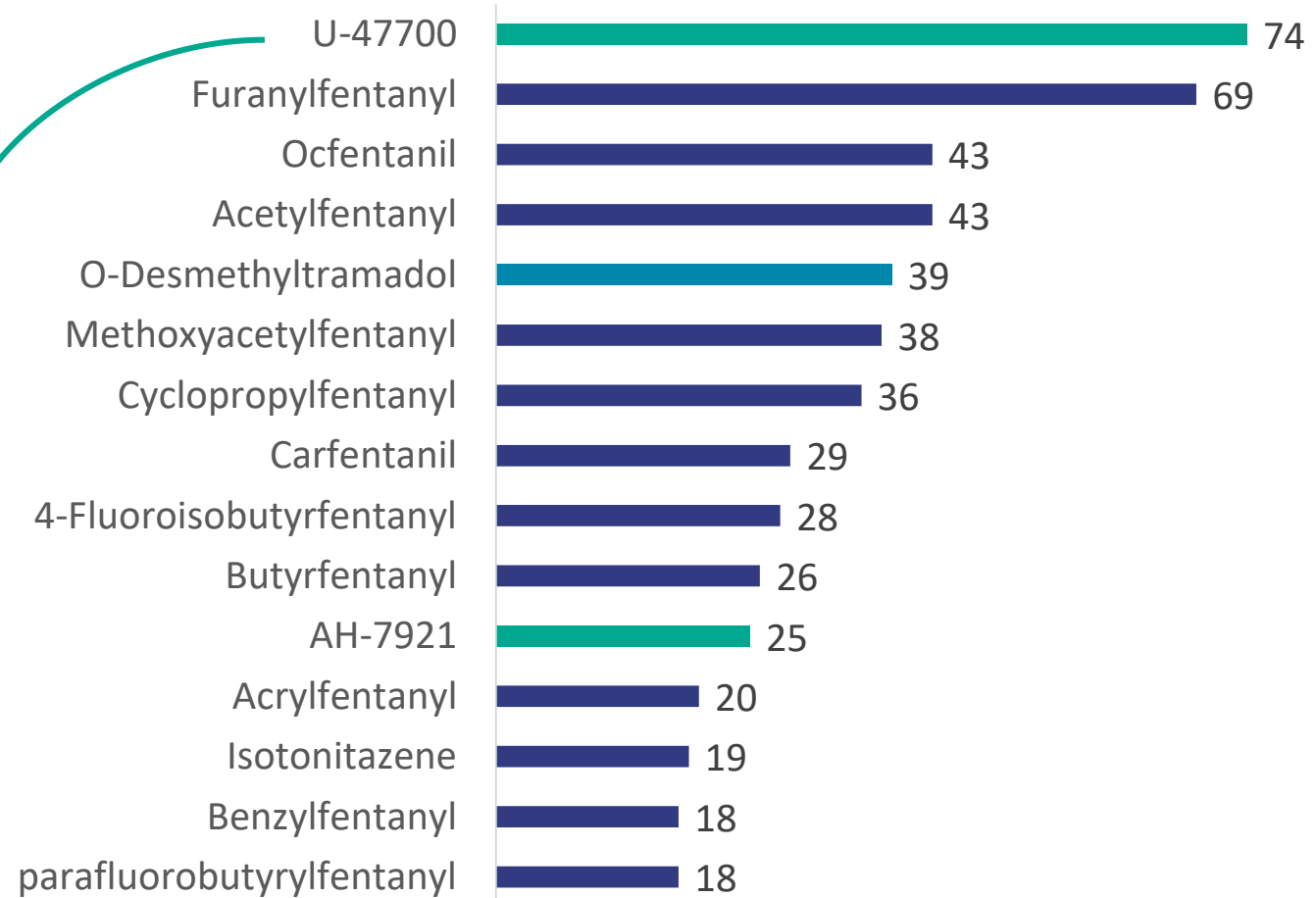
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Top 15 synthetic opioids

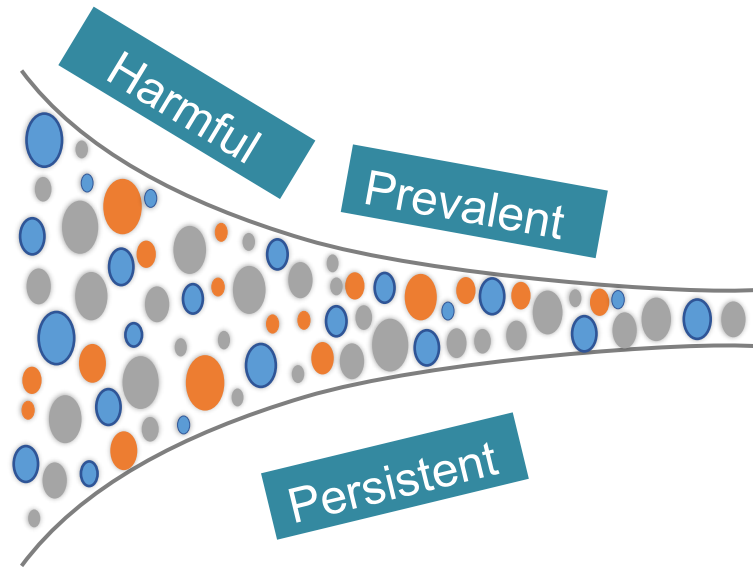
U-47700 was reported by 32 countries in total in 2009-2021 with 7 country reports alone from the United States, followed by 6 country reports from Canada.

Top 15 synthetic opioids,
by number of country reports in 2009-2021

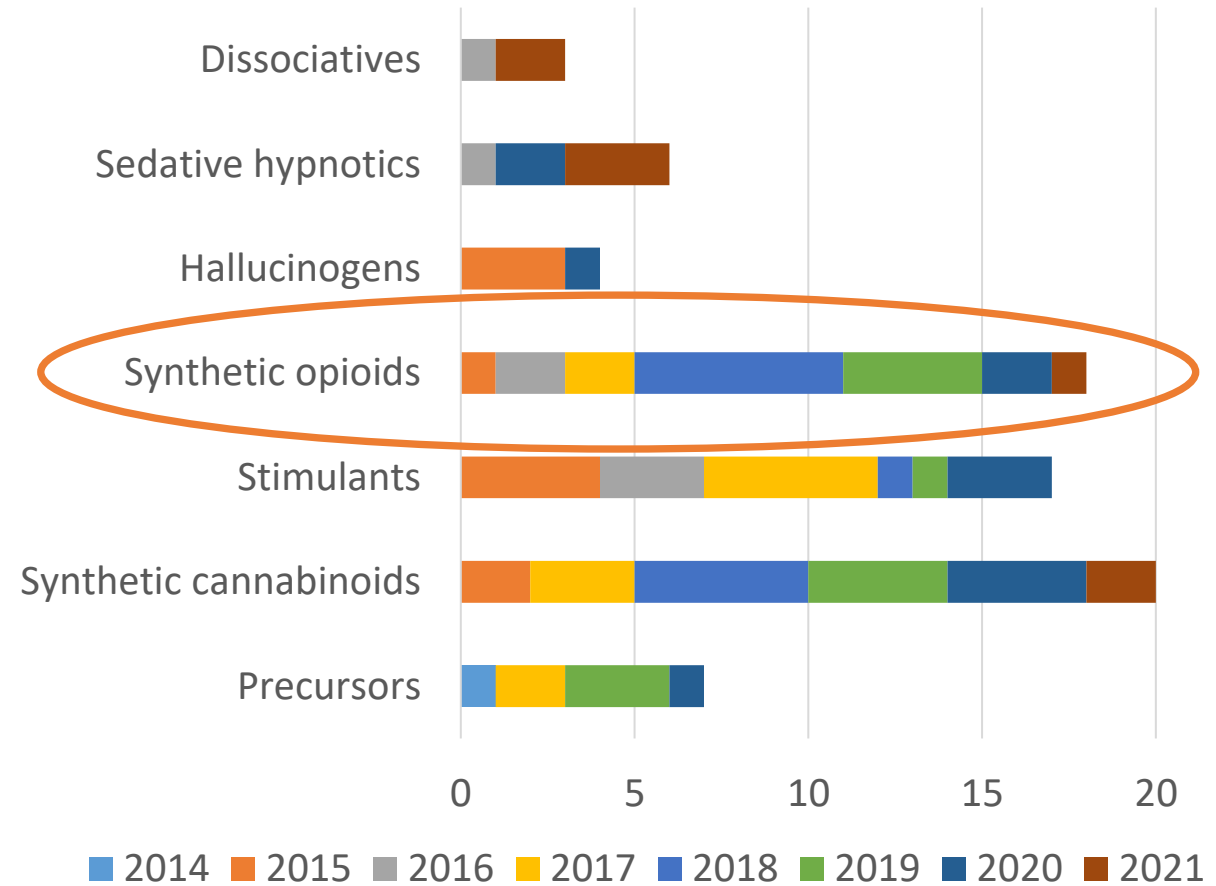




Synthetic opioids under international control



International Scheduling Decisions 2014 – 2021





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Fentanyl manufacture emerging in Mexico

- 362 kg of fentanyl were seized in Mexico in 2018 and 206 kg in 2019
- According to DEA, Mexican cartels are involved in the production of fentanyl in Mexico - indications that fentanyl is also being manufactured or processed in other parts in the Latin American and Caribbean region

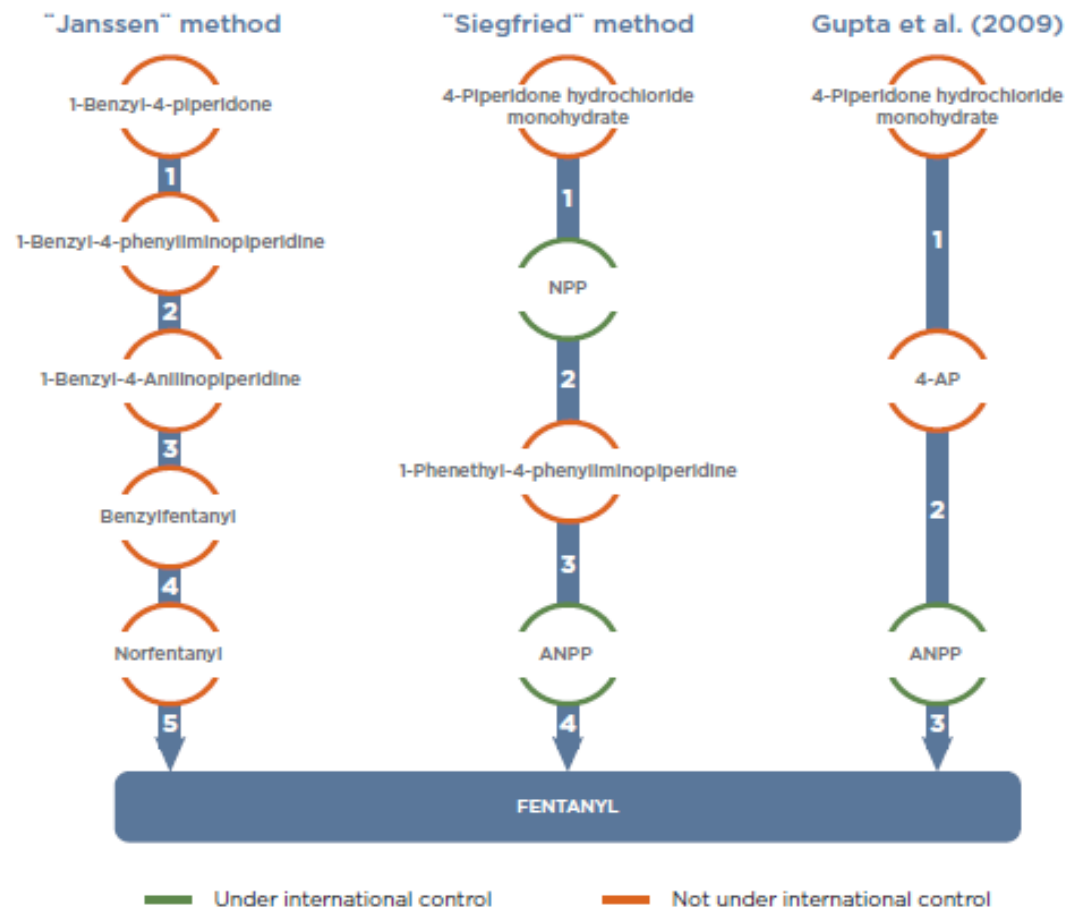




Fentanyl precursor trafficking to Mexico diversifies

- According to US authorities, illicit manufacture of fentanyl in Mexico relies mostly on the Janssen synthesis route (before, the Siegfried route was popular), which does not require controlled precursors NPP and ANPP
- Additionally, the use of the non-scheduled precursor 4-AP as an alternative precursor chemical to NPP for the synthesis of ANPP has recently been noted.

Selected methods for the synthesis of fentanyl



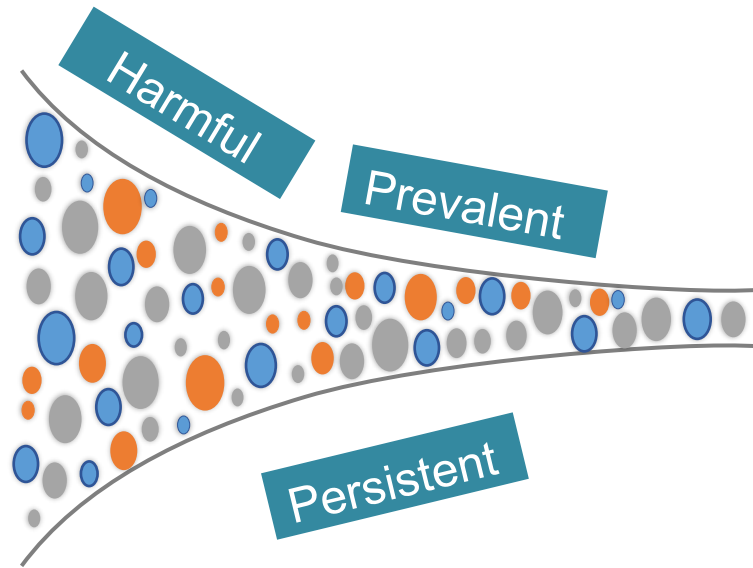


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Fentanyl precursors placed under international control



2017

- 4-anilino-*N*-phenethylpiperidine (**ANPP**)
- *N*-phenethyl-4-piperidone (**NPP**)



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Thank you!

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