

The Lone Star State: Trends for Common Drugs of Abuse and the Several Drugs Increasing in Popularity



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and
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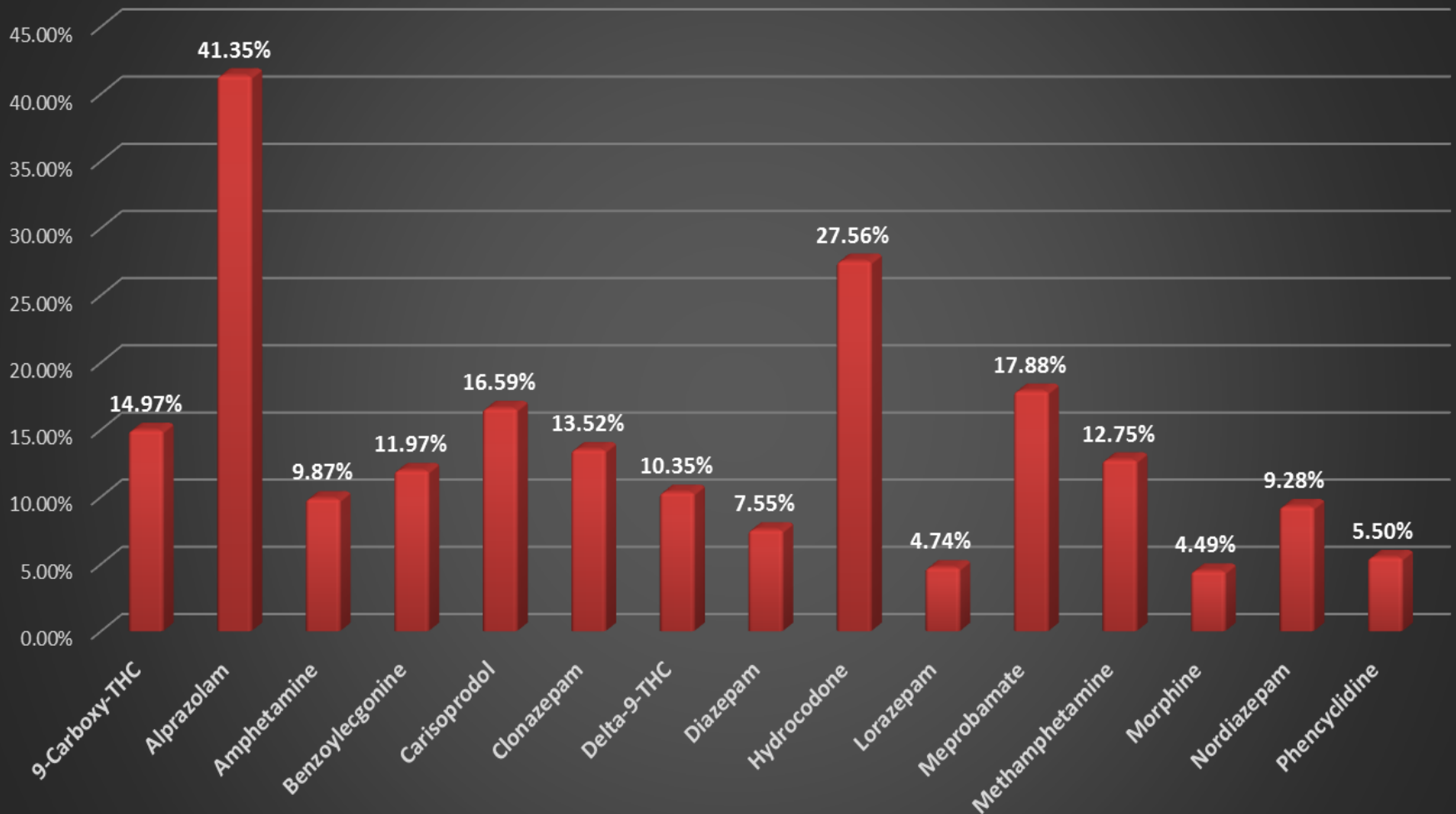
Texas Department of Public Safety



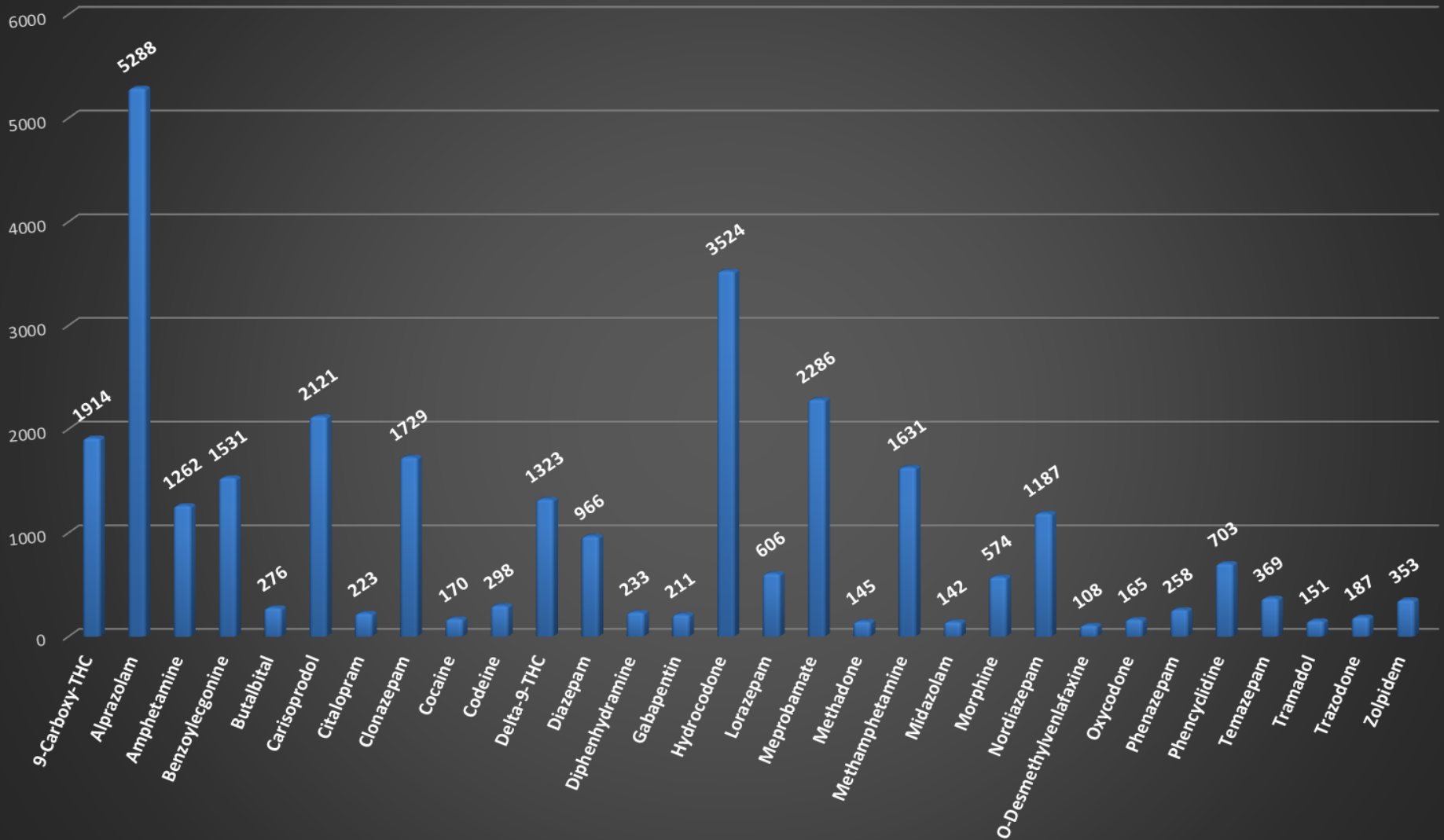
Data Presented

- Three years of completed drug content blood analyses conducted at the TX DPS.
 - Limitation on data - cases that are not yet complete.
- Department receives approximately 6,800 drug content toxicology analysis requests per year.
 - TXDPS has a stop testing policy of 0.100 g% after BAC or BrAC testing is conducted (unless fatality incident).
- Between July 2012-May 2015, 12,788 positive blood drug content reports released.
- 98.6% of positive drug content blood cases were Intoxication Offenses (DWI).

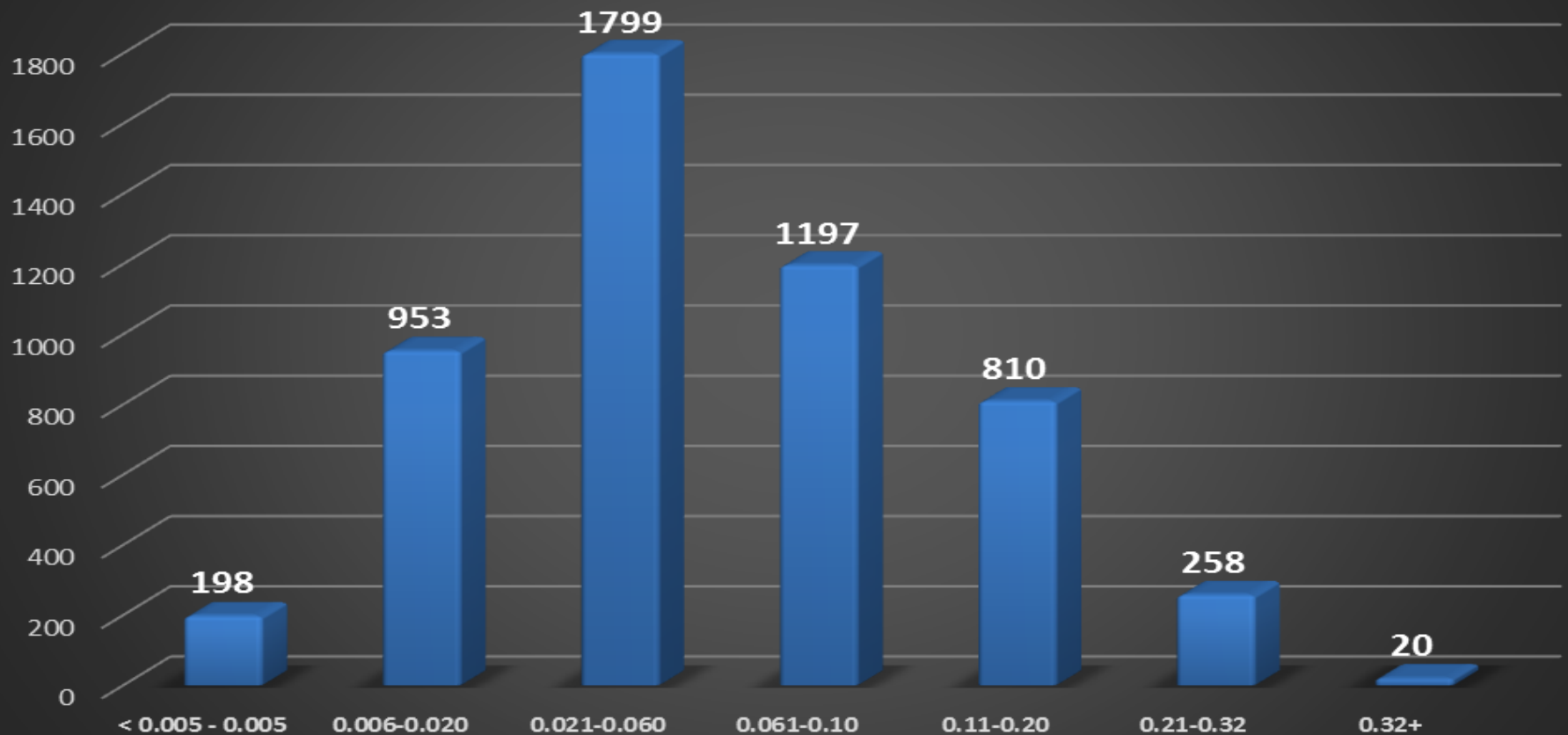
Reported Drugs - % of all positive reports



Drugs reported at least 100 times

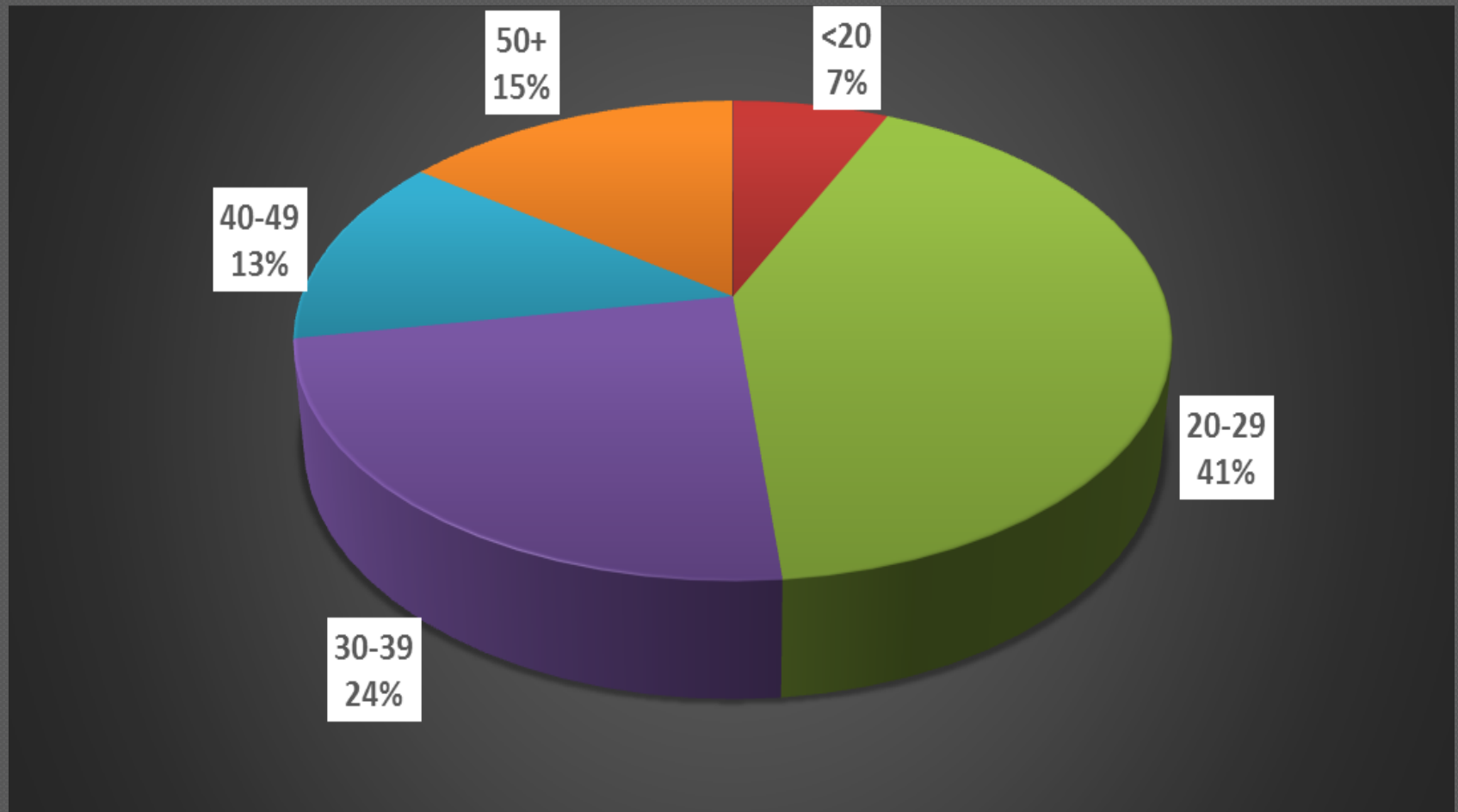


Reported Alprazolam by Concentration (mg/L)

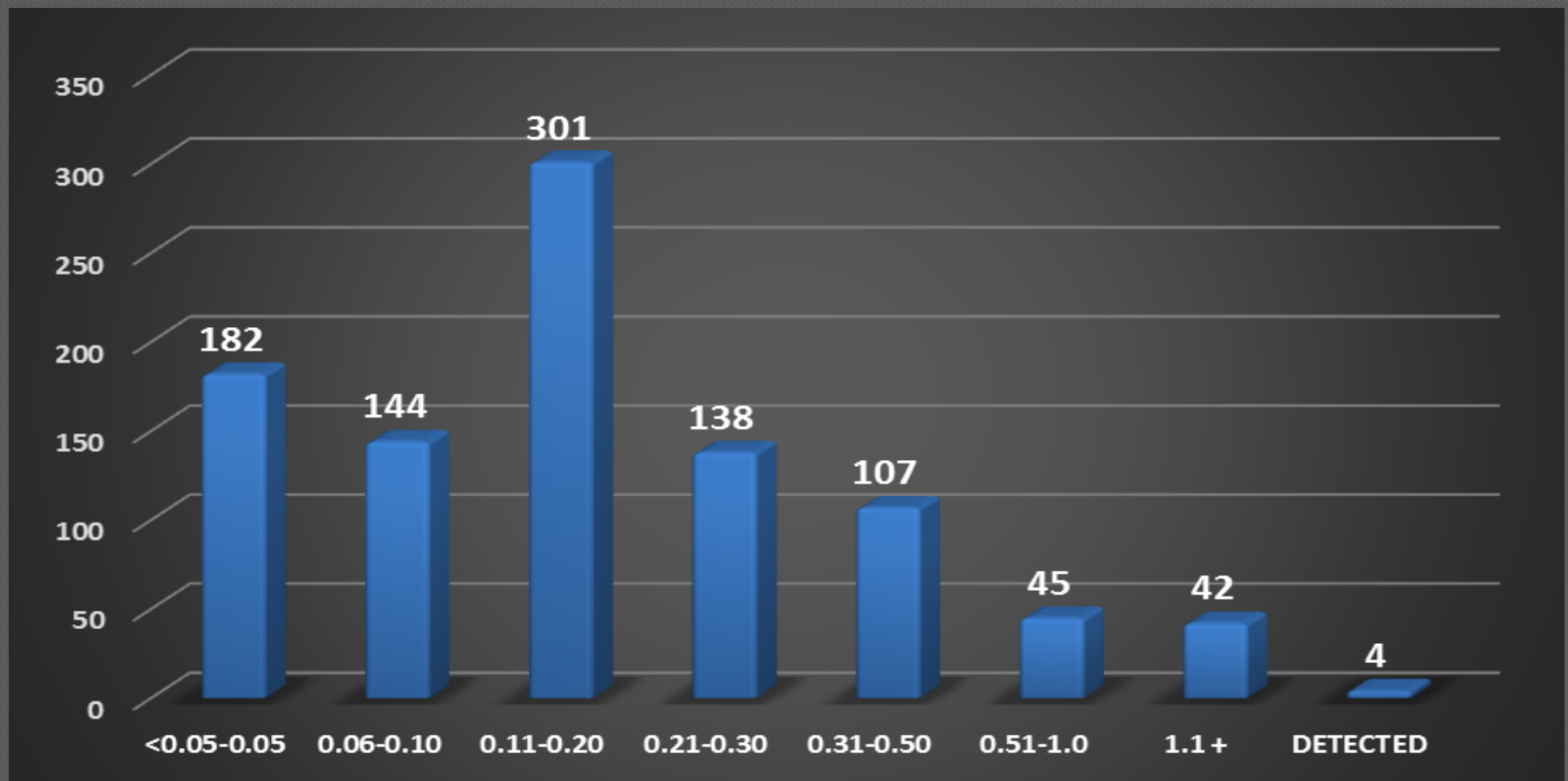


Highest reported concentration: 0.96 mg/L

Reported Alprazolam by Age of Subject

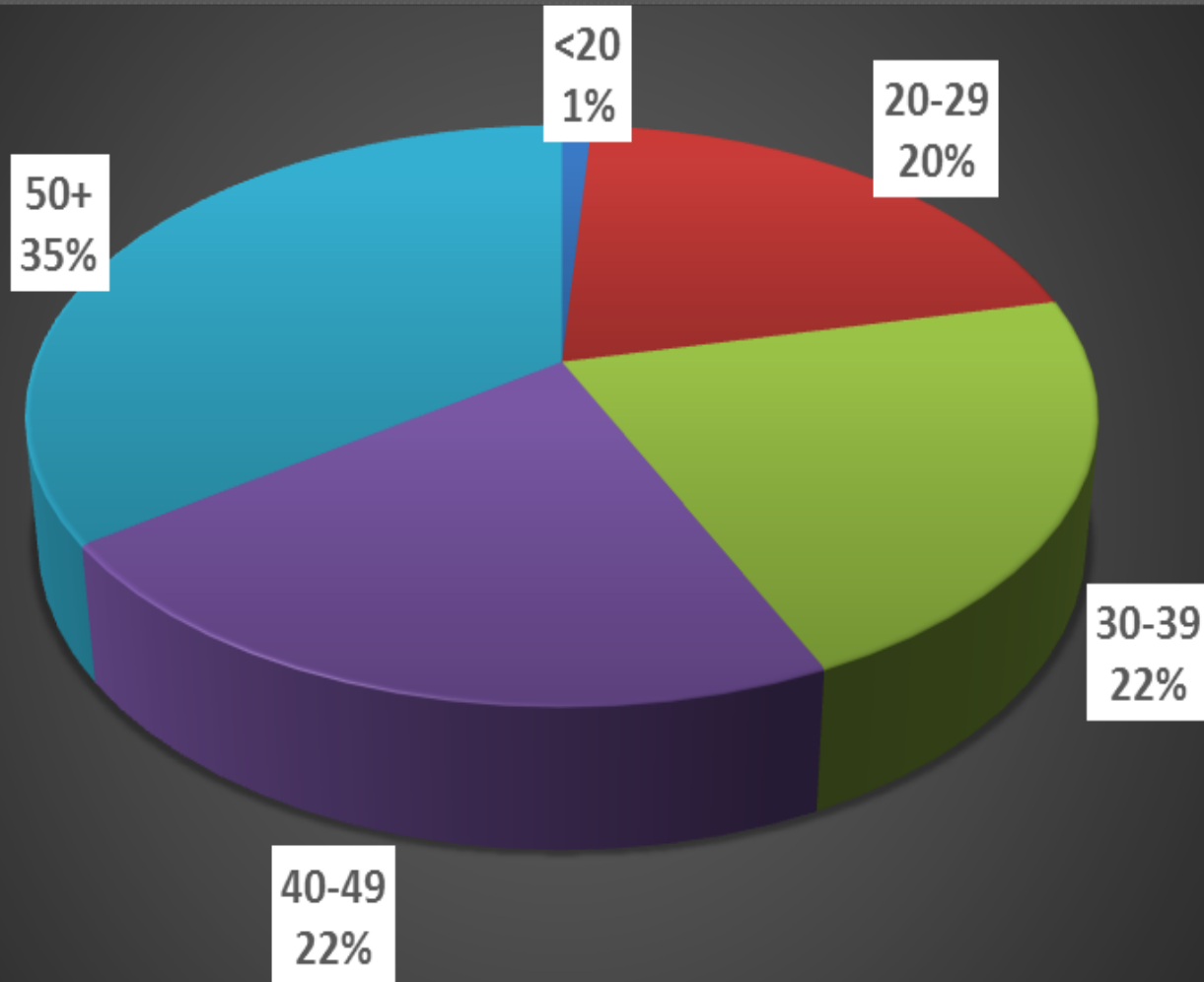


Reported Diazepam by Concentration (mg/L)

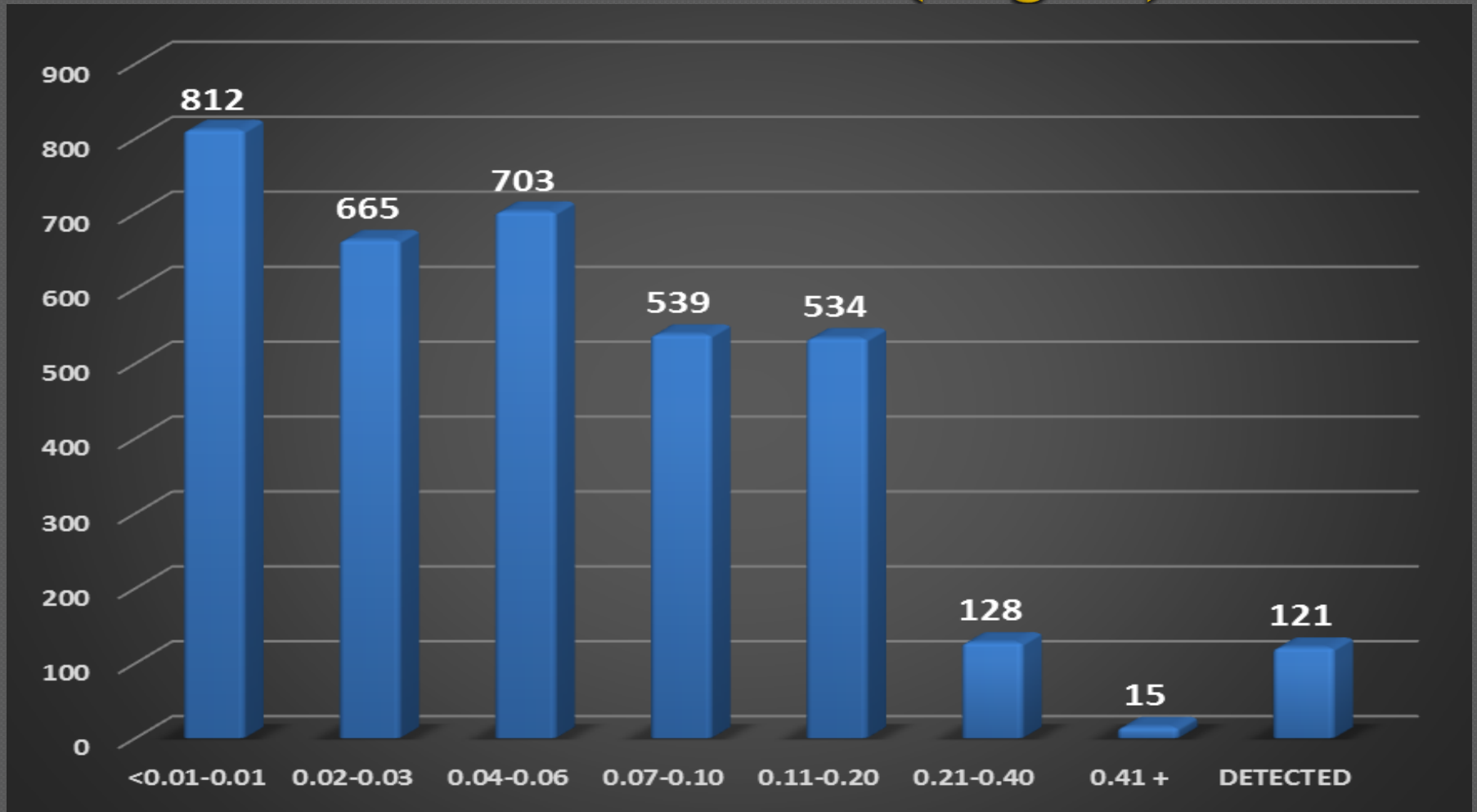


Highest reported concentration: 2.4 mg/L

Reported Diazepam by Age of Subject



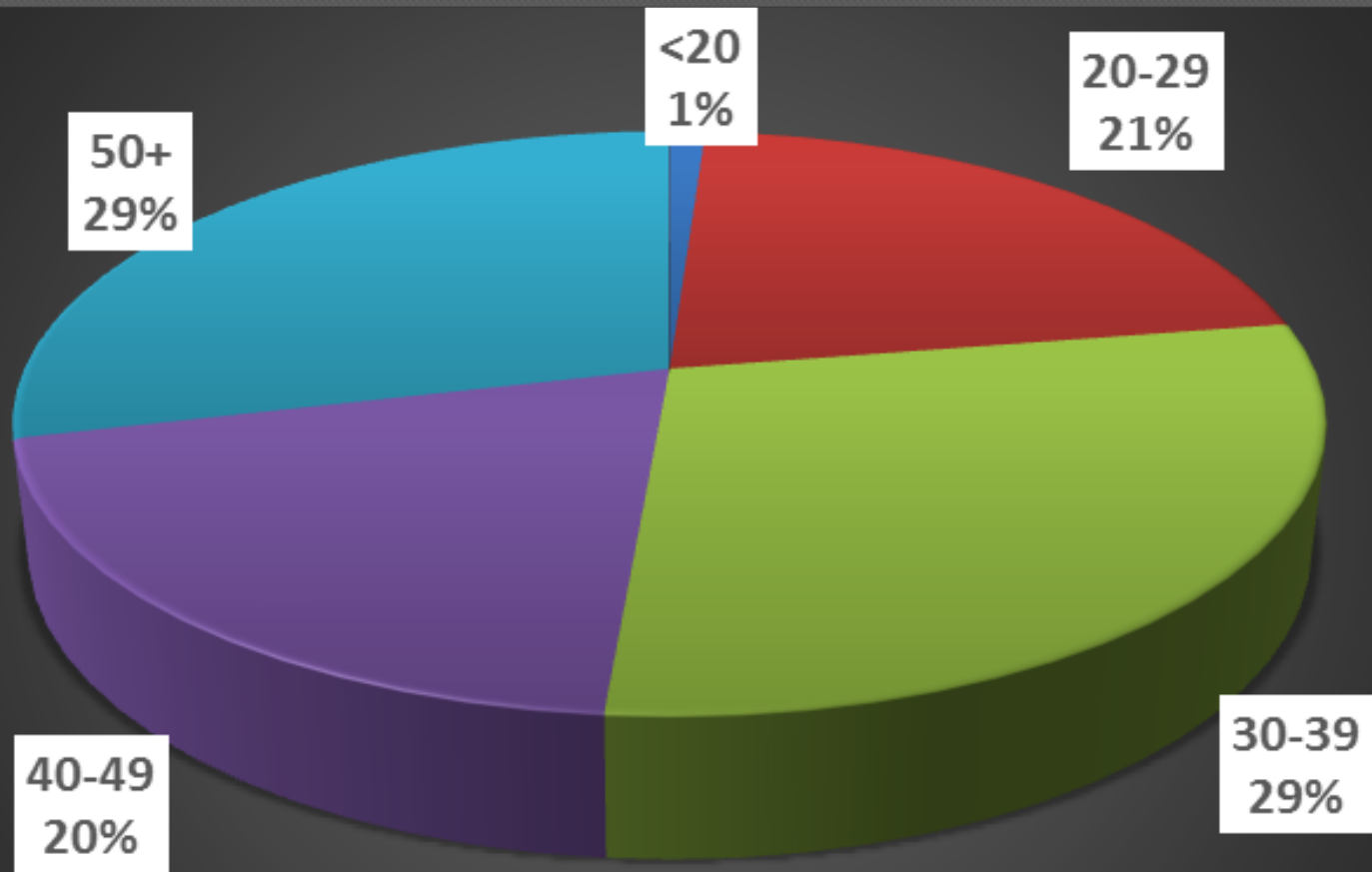
Reported Hydrocodone by Concentration (mg/L)



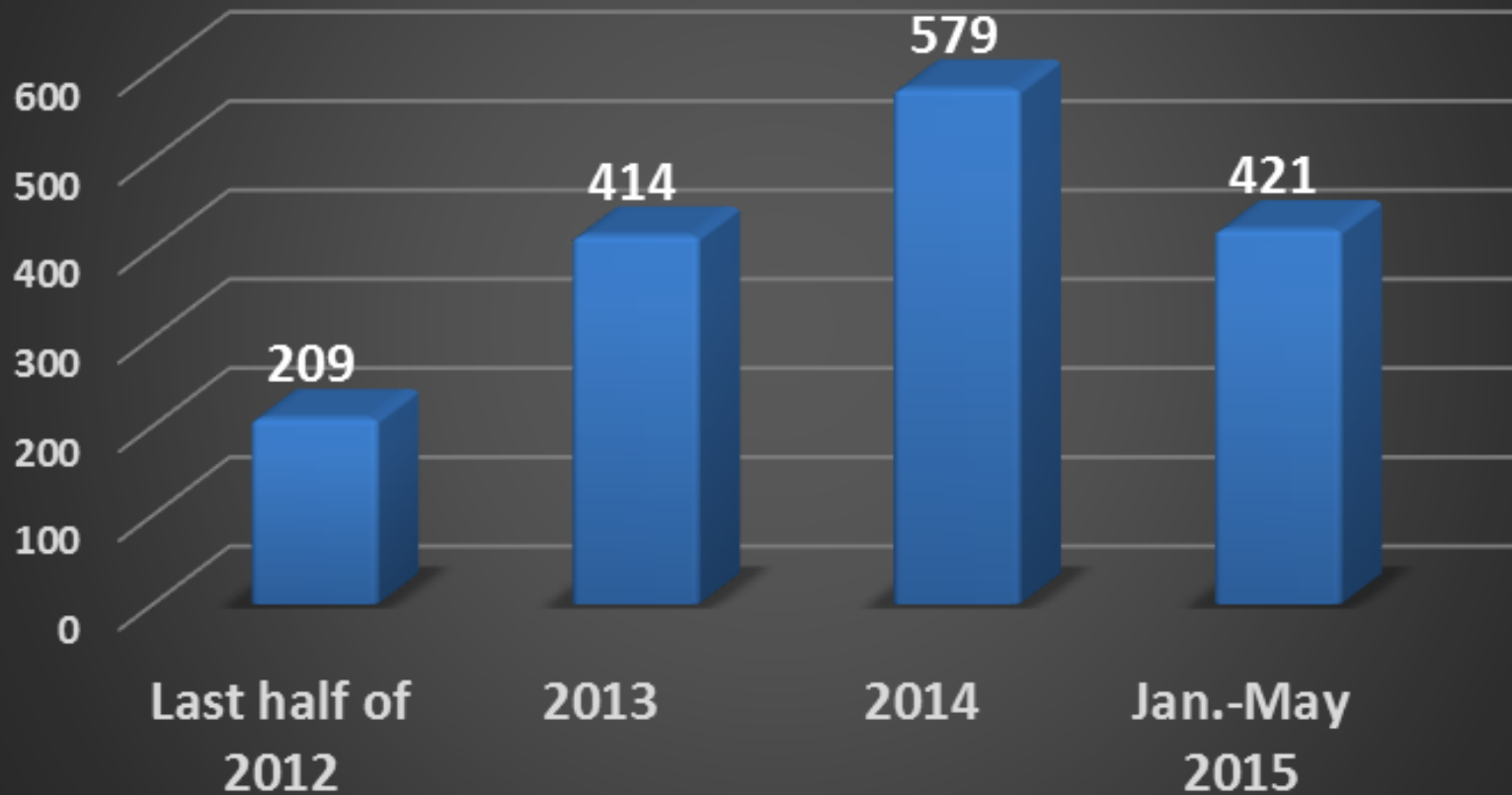
Highest reported concentration: 2.0 mg/L (deceased subject)

Highest reported living subject: 0.58 mg/L

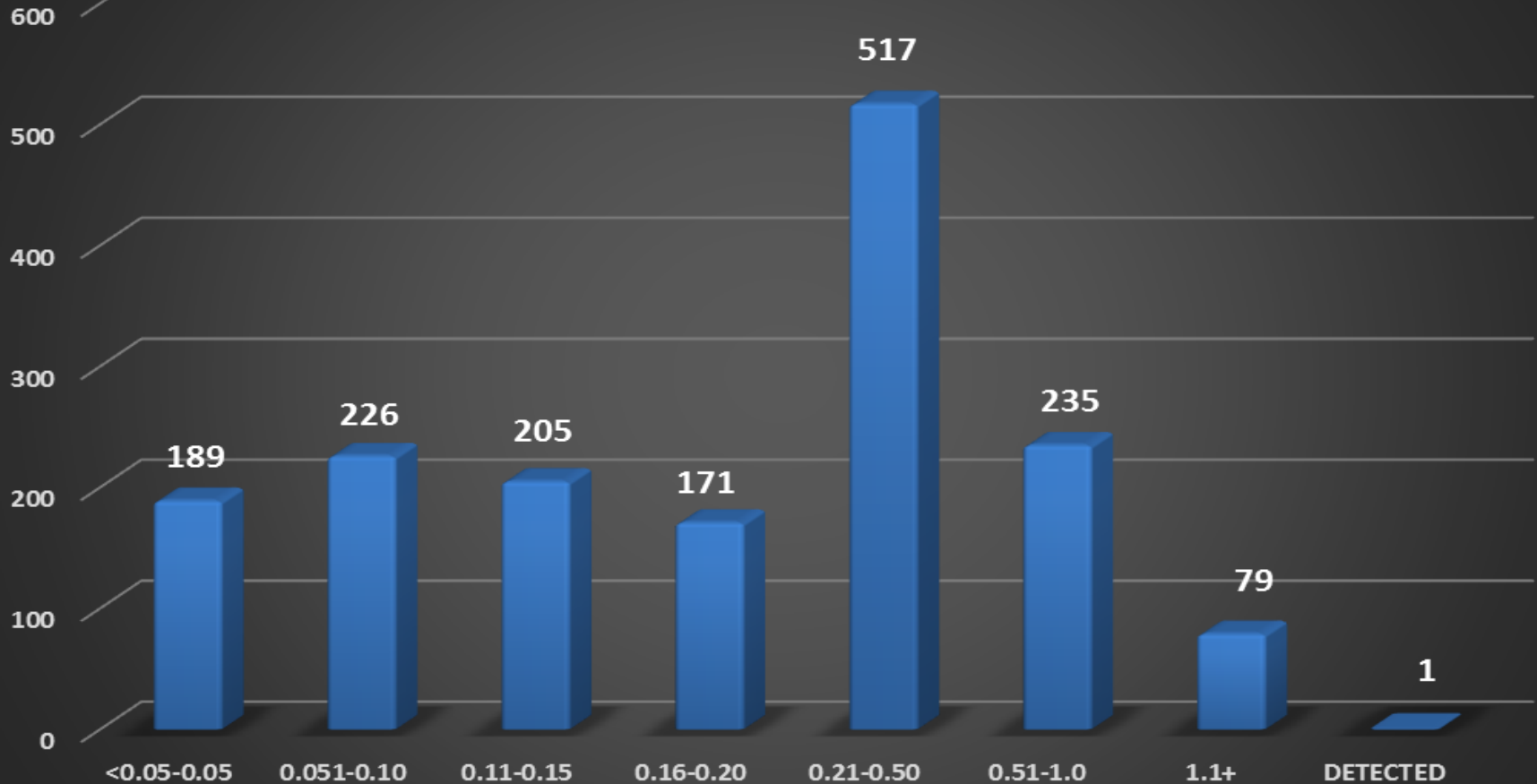
Reported Hydrocodone by Age of Subject



Reported Methamphetamine by Year



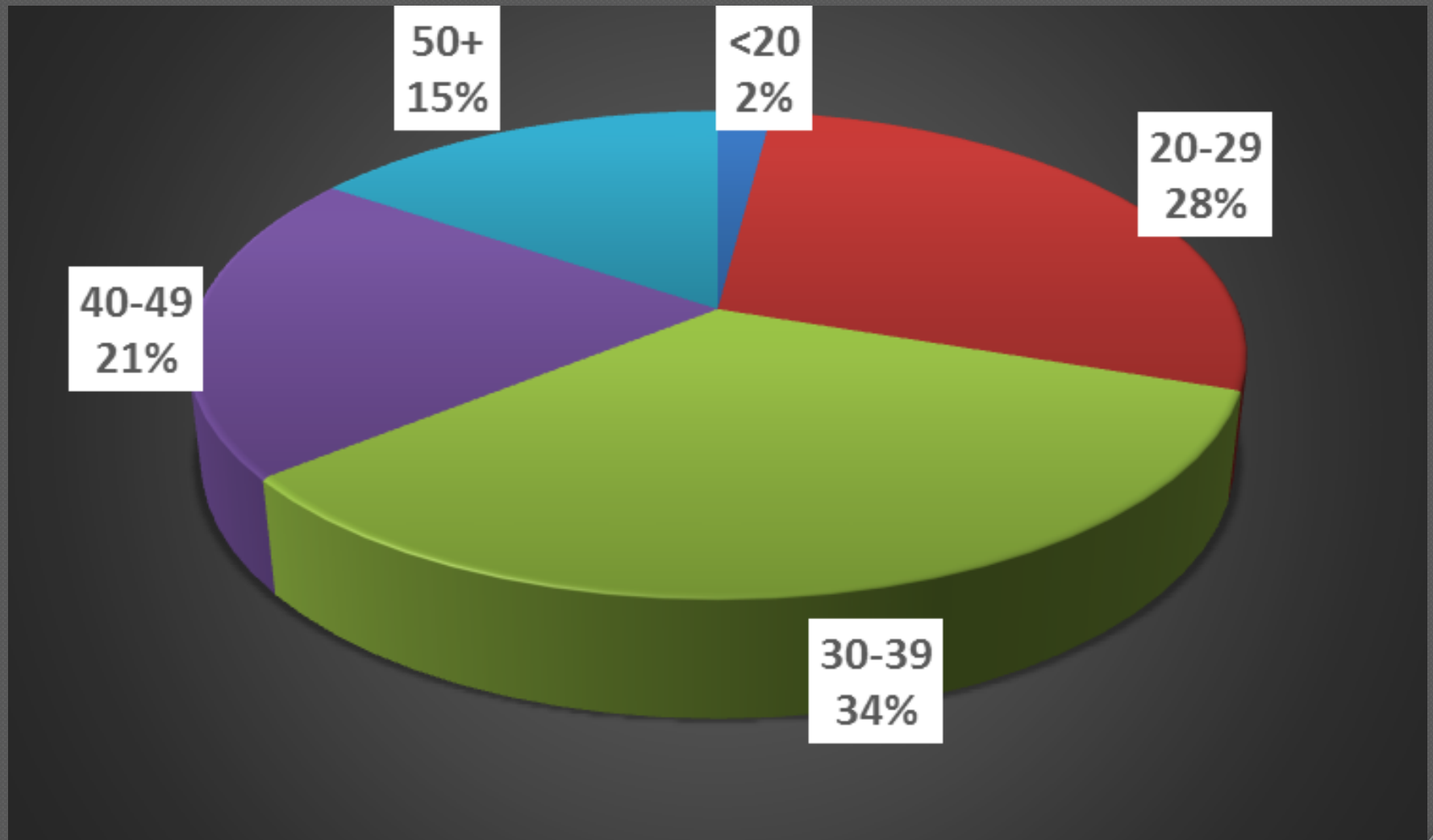
Reported Methamphetamine by Concentration (mg/L)



Highest Reported Concentration: 7.8 mg/L (deceased subject)

Highest Reported Living Subject: 5.8 mg/L

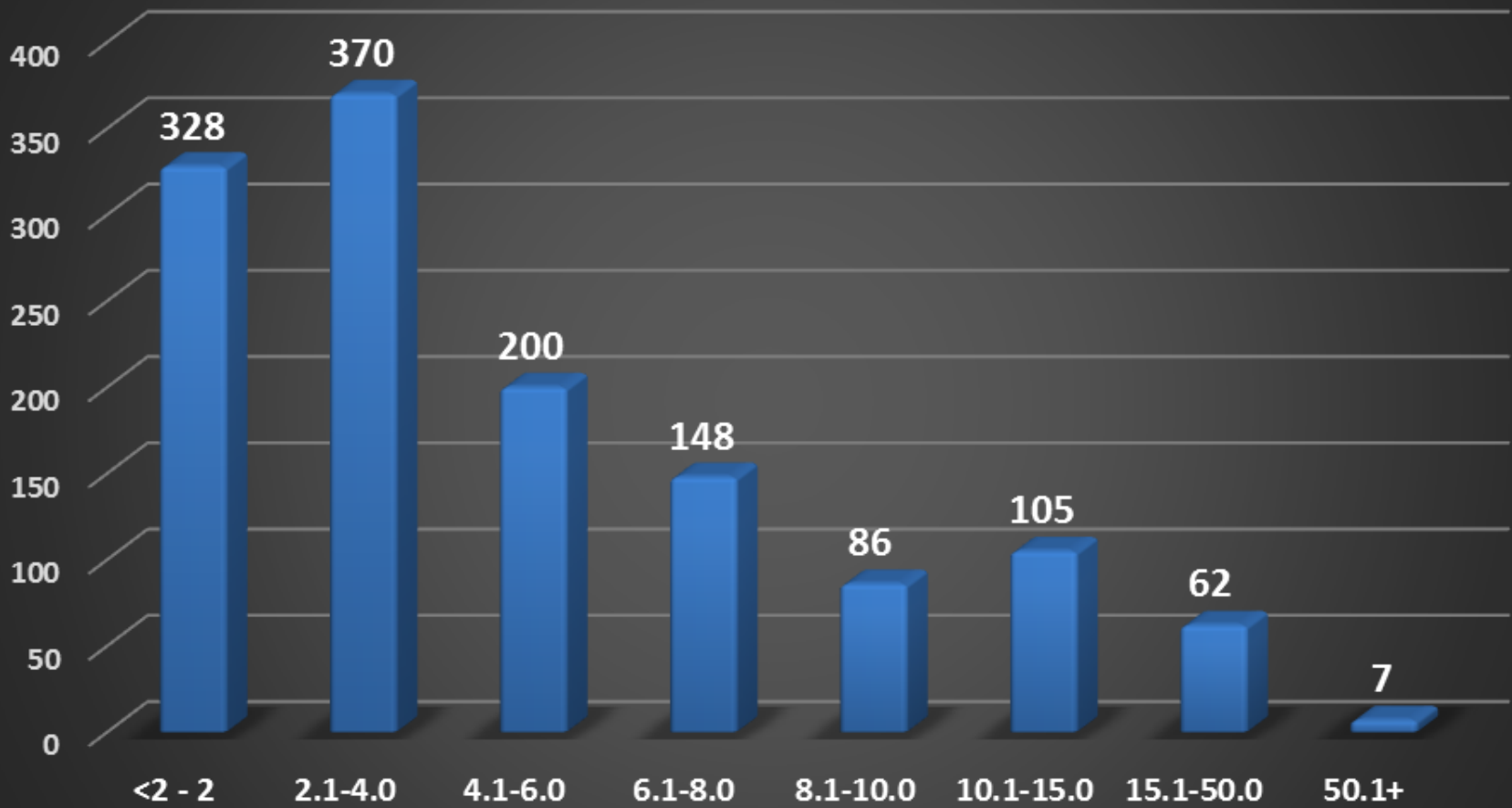
Reported Methamphetamine by Age of Subject



Delta-9-THC

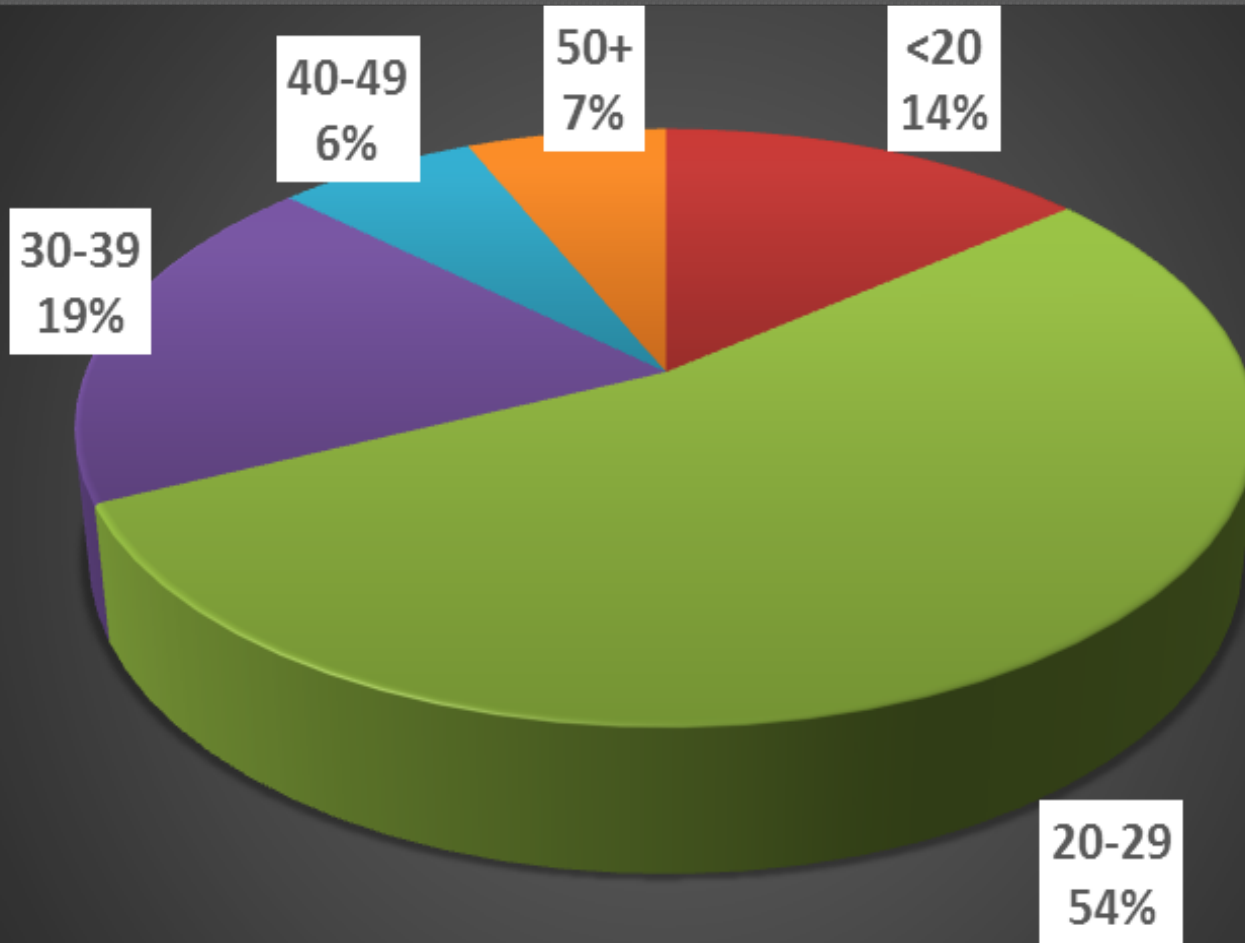
- ◉ Texas DPS first started analysis of THC and Carboxy-THC in blood in March 2014.
- ◉ Reminder: THC is 10% of positive reports from last three years and it's only 15 months of data; Carboxy-THC is 15%.

Reported THC by Concentration (ng/mL)

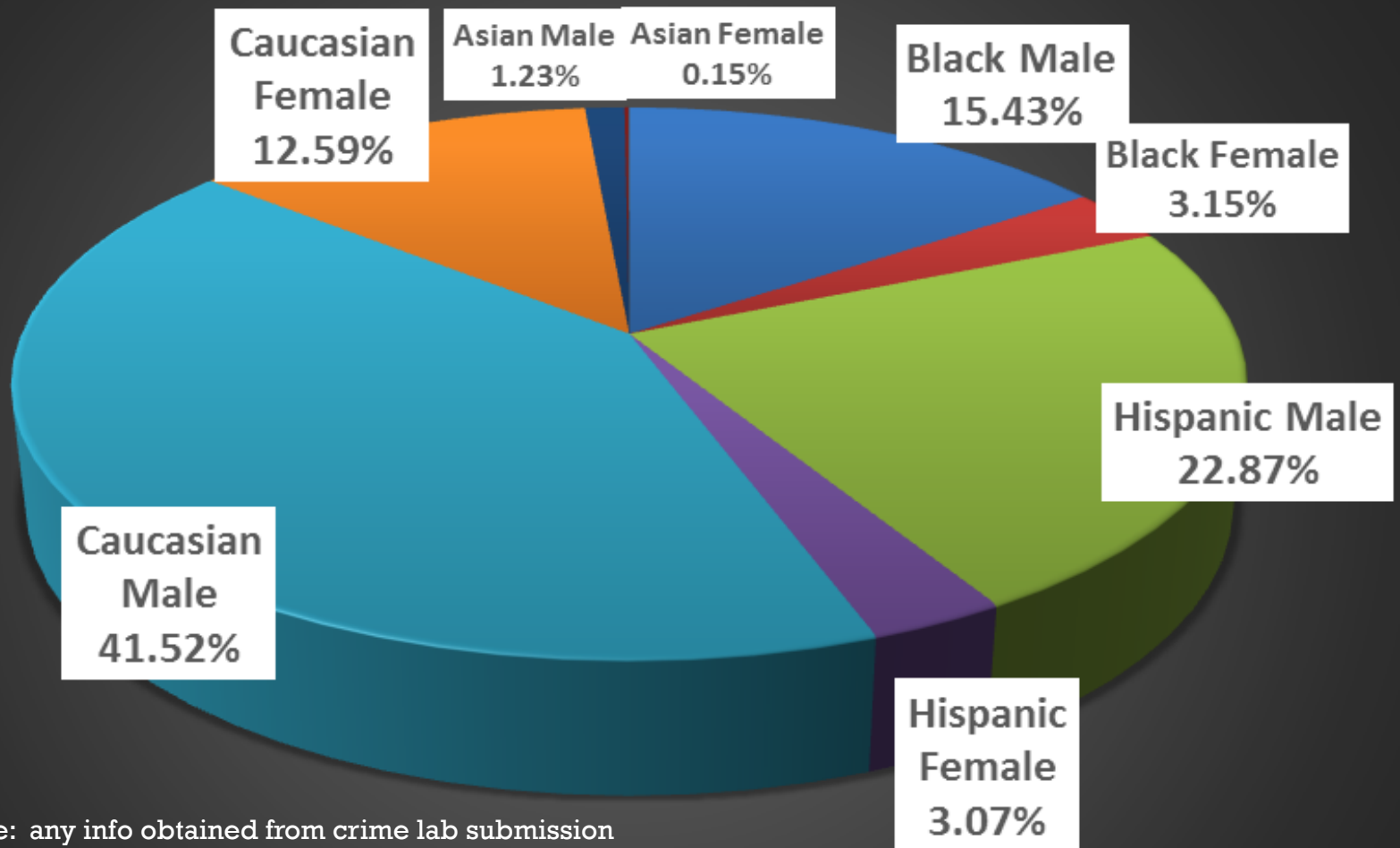


Highest reported concentration: 258 ng/mL

Reported THC by Age of Subject



Reported THC by Gender and Race



Please note: any info obtained from crime lab submission form was received directly from the submitting agency and not verified by the DPS crime lab.

Summary of Trends in Texas Regions

- Houston Region has greatest number of
 - positive drug cases
 - Alprazolam
 - Carisoprodol
 - Diazepam
 - Hydrocodone
 - Benzoylcegonine
 - PCP
 - Etizolam
- Tyler Region has greatest number of Methamphetamine
- Austin Region leads in THC
- Phenazepam seen most in Tyler Region in 2013, then in Garland Region in 2014 and 2015

Summary of Drug Trends in the State of Texas

- ⦿ Alprazolam most frequently reported drug in positive drug content blood cases - 41% of all positive blood cases.
- ⦿ Increase in Methamphetamine and PCP.
- ⦿ Decrease in Carisoprodol.

Future Research

- ◉ Percentage of drugs for each region?
- ◉ Percentage of DWI investigations/
positive reports per population of the
region?
- ◉ Look at poly-drug cases
 - E.g. How often is THC seen with PCP? How often
by itself?
 - E.g. Is back pain combo, aka the “Texas
cocktail,” aka the “Houston cocktail,” slowing

Acknowledgements

- ◎ Sharon Mason

- For help with the LIMS crystal reports.

- ◎ Shawn Hawkins

- For his technical support with Excel graphs.

Questions?

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