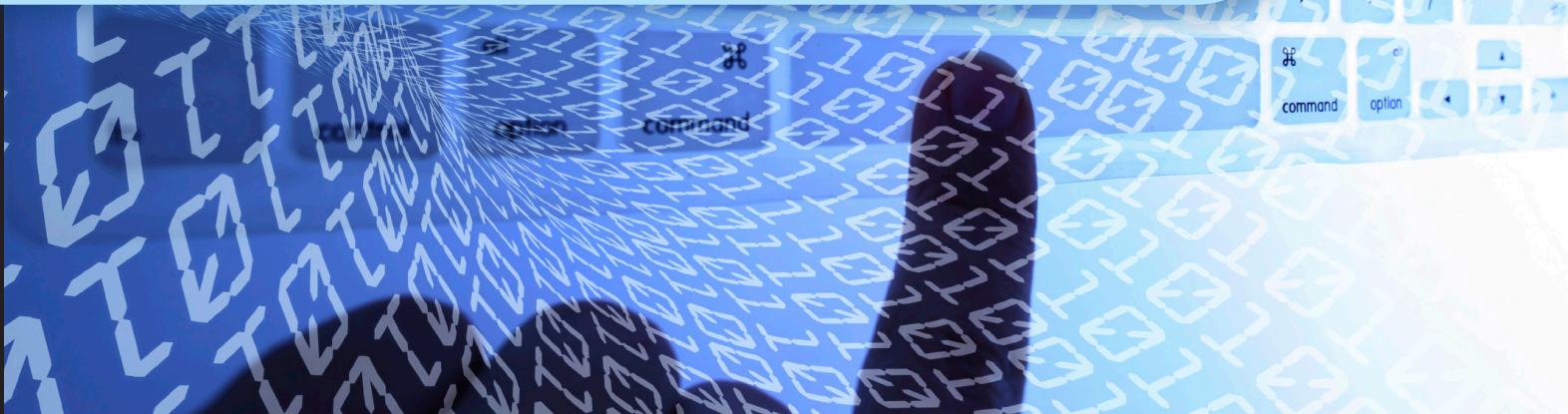# NFLIS-Drug Data Query System (DQS)

The NFLIS-Drug Data Query System (DQS) is accessible via the NFLIS website (https://www.nflis.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/) and provides users with the ability to analyze NFLIS-Drug data at the national, regional, State, or local level.

Participation and Database Content

NFLIS is a program of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), Diversion Control Division. NFLIS-Drug systematically collects drug identification results and associated information from drug cases submitted to and analyzed by Federal, State, and local forensic laboratories. These laboratories analyze controlled and noncontrolled substances secured in law enforcement operations across the country. This information supports drug regulatory and scheduling efforts and informs drug policy and enforcement initiatives.

Key Features of the NFLIS-Drug DQS

The DQS is a distinct resource for NFLIS-Drug reporting laboratories to run customizable queries on their own case-level data and on aggregated metropolitan, State, regional, and national data.

The system has a number of features, including the following:

- **Secure –** Only participating laboratories and other DEA-approved entities are granted access to the NFLIS-Drug DQS. The NFLIS website uses the industry standard communications protocol, HTTPS, to establish secure, encrypted connections to the DQS.

- **Timely –** Results can be analyzed in near real-time and reflect data reported by laboratories on a monthly or quarterly basis (a few laboratories report to NFLIS quarterly).

- **Detailed –** Data can be analyzed for specific drugs or drug categories at the case or report level.

- **Geographically diverse –** The NFLIS-Drug DQS includes data from 50 State systems and 104 local or municipal laboratories/laboratory systems, representing a total of 283 individual laboratories.

- **Flexible and easy to use –** Data can be analyzed by drug type or drug category, date (date submitted to or date analyzed by the laboratory), laboratory type, laboratory location, and other factors. Laboratory users can analyze their own data at the case or report level and make aggregate-level comparisons with other laboratories at a State, regional, or national level.

- **Powerful and fast –** The system is supported by a large-scale relational database, providing an efficient environment to analyze large volumes of NFLIS-Drug data.

- **Cost free –** The NFLIS-Drug DQS is provided free of cost to all users and can be used by laboratories to augment other productivity analysis and reporting tools with respect to reported drug analyses.
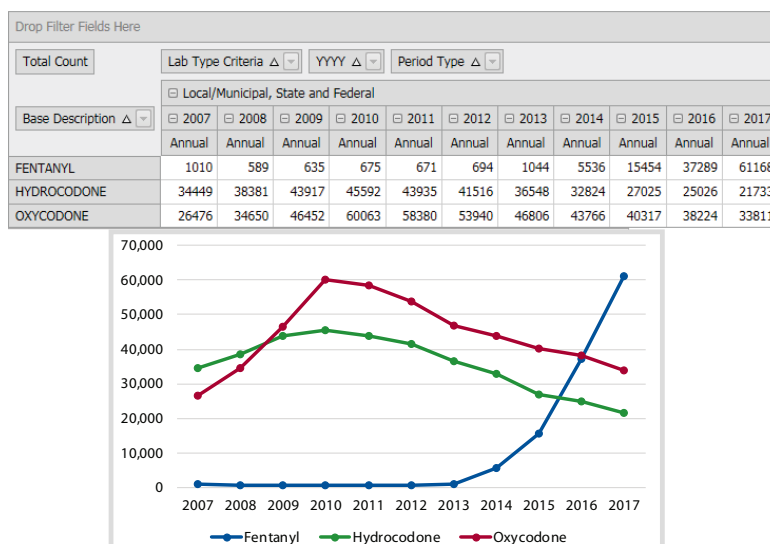
NFLIS-Drug DQS Queries

The NFLIS-Drug DQS can generate useful data sets aggregated and filtered across multiple variables of the NFLIS-Drug data. Data can either be analyzed ad hoc or use predefined analysis queries and reports.

Analysis types include the following:

- All drugs selected individually or by drug group(s)
- Top 25 drugs reported to NFLIS-Drug
- Individual base drugs
- Drug categories (e.g., synthetic cannabinoids)

Query results are rendered in a separate browser window in a customizable Microsoft Excel-like grid format. Users can hide unneeded columns or move other columns, such as "time period being reported," to create a cross-tab of the original data set. Once the data are shaped to the user's preferences, they can then be exported and downloaded in either Excel or text formats and used to support the user's objectives.

Drop Filter Fields Here												
Total Count	Lab Type Criteria △ ▽		YYYY △ ▽	Period Type △ ▽								
	□ Local/Municipal, State and Federal											
Base Description △ ▽	□ 2007	□ 2008	□ 2009	□ 2010	□ 2011	□ 2012	□ 2013	□ 2014	□ 2015	□ 2016	□ 2017	
	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	Annual	
FENTANYL	1010	589	635	675	671	694	1044	5536	15454	37289	61168	
HYDROCODONE	34449	38381	43917	45592	43935	41516	36548	32824	27025	25026	21733	
OXYCODONE	26476	34650	46452	60063	58380	53940	46806	43766	40317	38224	33811	

The analysis of NFLIS-Drug DQS data can have a number of benefits, including

- In-depth analysis of data for your own laboratory
- Comparisons with national, regional, and State numbers
- Identification and tracking of emerging drugs, including those in adjacent jurisdictions and States

Future Direction with the NFLIS-Drug DQS

The NFLIS-Drug DQS is designed to provide the DEA and other Federal, State, and local laboratories participating in NFLIS-Drug with an analytic tool that can provide timely and detailed results on the types, prevalence, and location of emerging and other diverted drugs. The information can, in turn, inform drug control and drug scheduling policies and efforts across the country. Moving forward, the DEA intends to continue to enhance the NFLIS-Drug DQS and its usefulness to participating NFLIS-Drug laboratories.

NFLIS Expansion

The DEA is expanding the NFLIS program to include (1) medical examiner and coroner office (NFLIS-MEC) data regarding deaths in which drugs were identified and (2) public and private toxicology laboratory (NFLIS-Tox) data on toxicological findings from postmortem and antemortem testing. These two continuous data collection programs complement NFLIS-Drug and further support the DEA's drug regulatory and scheduling efforts. As these two NFLIS components mature, DEA will develop similar DQS capabilities for participants.

Suggested Citation for a NFLIS-Drug DQS Data Analysis:
U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Diversion Control Division. (Year, month, and day that analysis was run). *Type of analysis that was run* [NFLIS-Drug Data Query System analysis]. Retrieved from https://www.nflis.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/

For More Information, Contact:

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