Seattle-King County Drug Trends 2010

June 8, 2011

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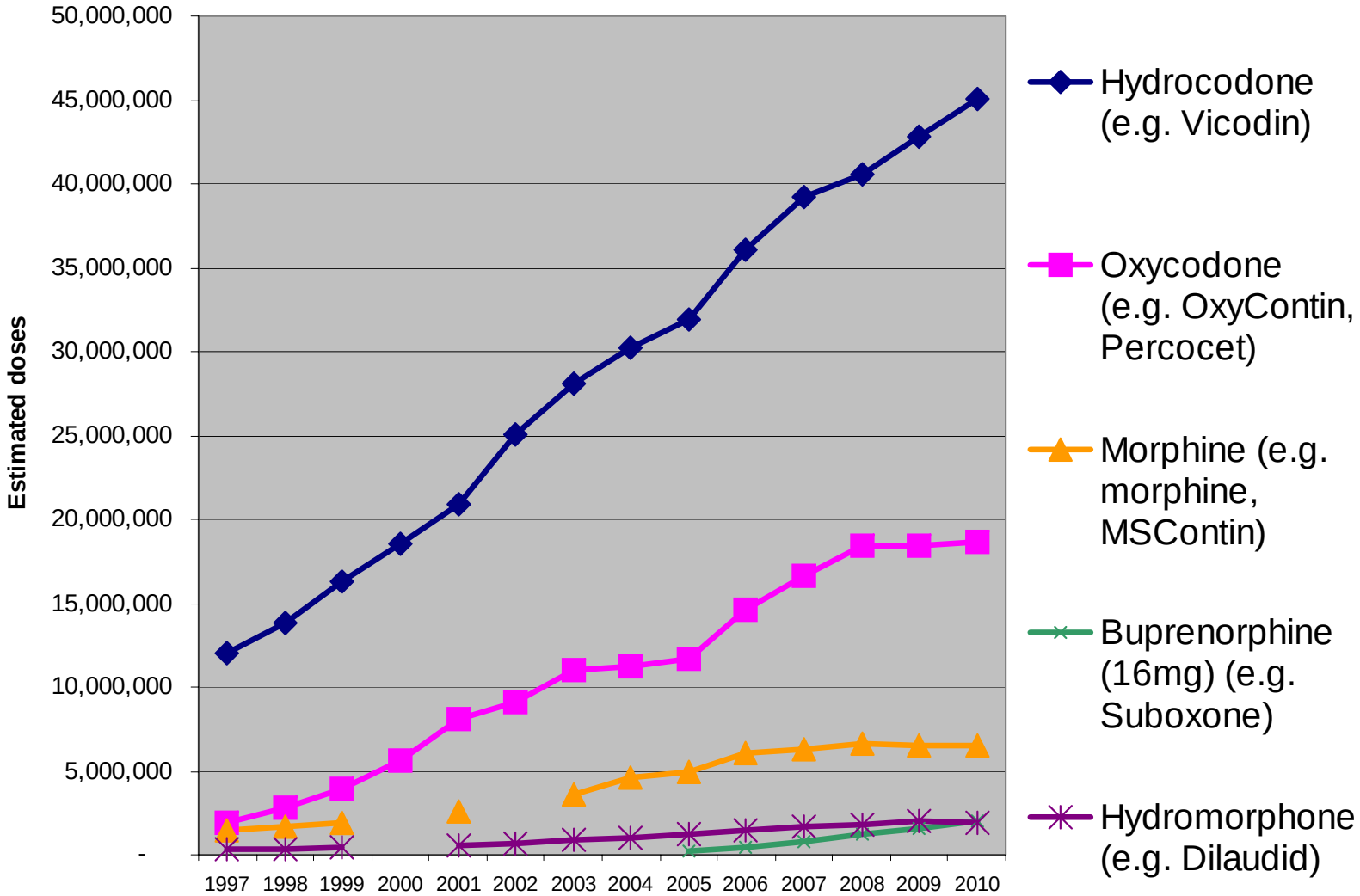
Local Meeting Participants

- Ron Jackson Evergreen Treatment Services
- Steve Freng NW HIDTA
- Michael Hanrahan PHSKC
- Johnny Ohta- UDYC…
- Local and Federal Law Enforcement
- Steve Reid- WSP Crime Lab
- Rome Doherty- Recovery Centers of King County

Data

- Opioid prescribing
- NFLIS
- Levamisole
- Heroin purity/DMP
- Synthetic drugs/ “Legal highs”
- Poison center
- Treatment- TARGET, Suboxone, Waitlist
- Deaths
- HIV Syringe Exchange

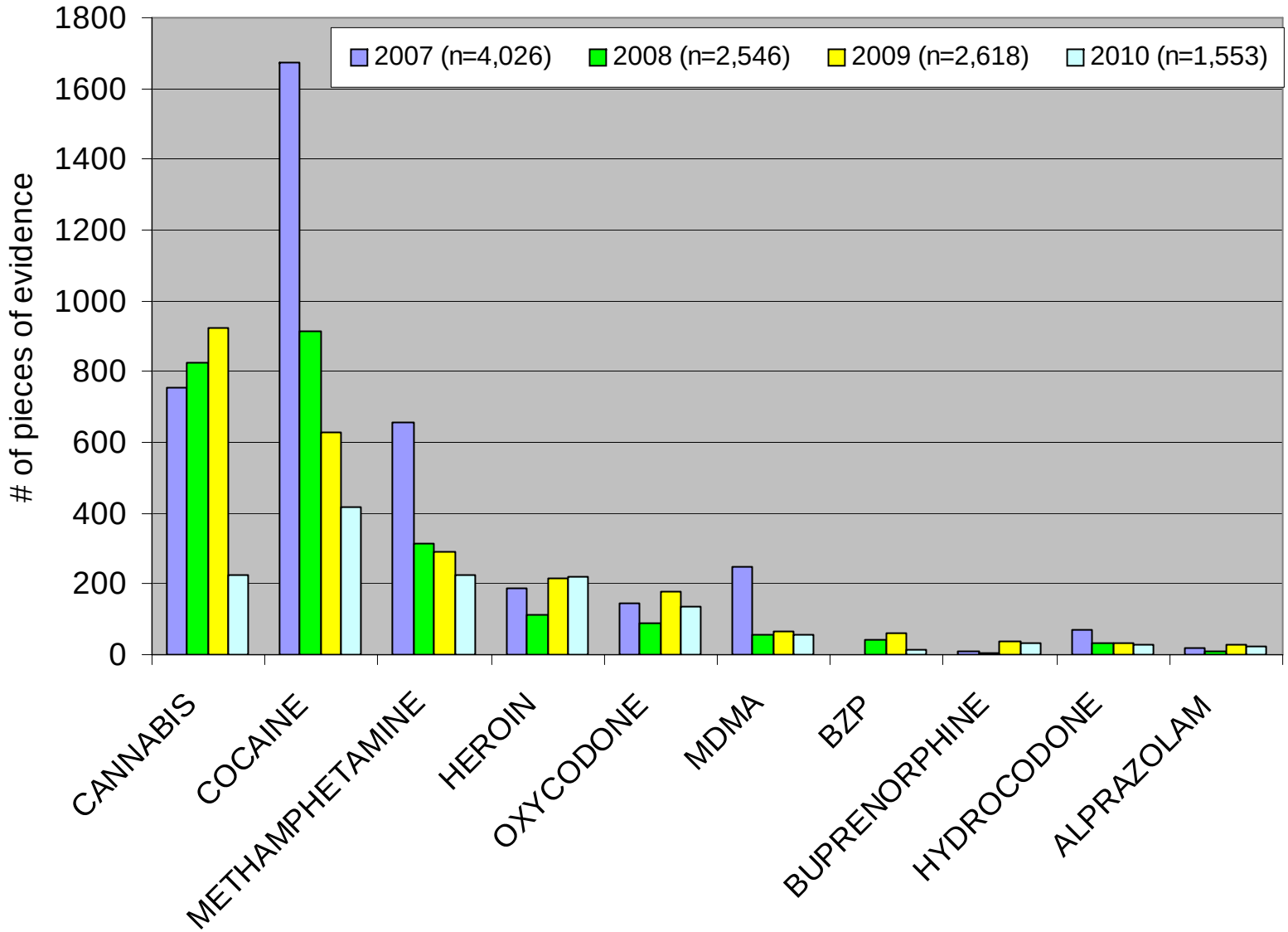
Rx Sales Washington State



Source: DEA ARCOS

Note- Finalizing Fentanyl and Methadone data

Police Evidence (lab results) from King County WA



Data are strongly influenced by arrest, prosecutorial & drug testing policies

Levamisole in Cocaine

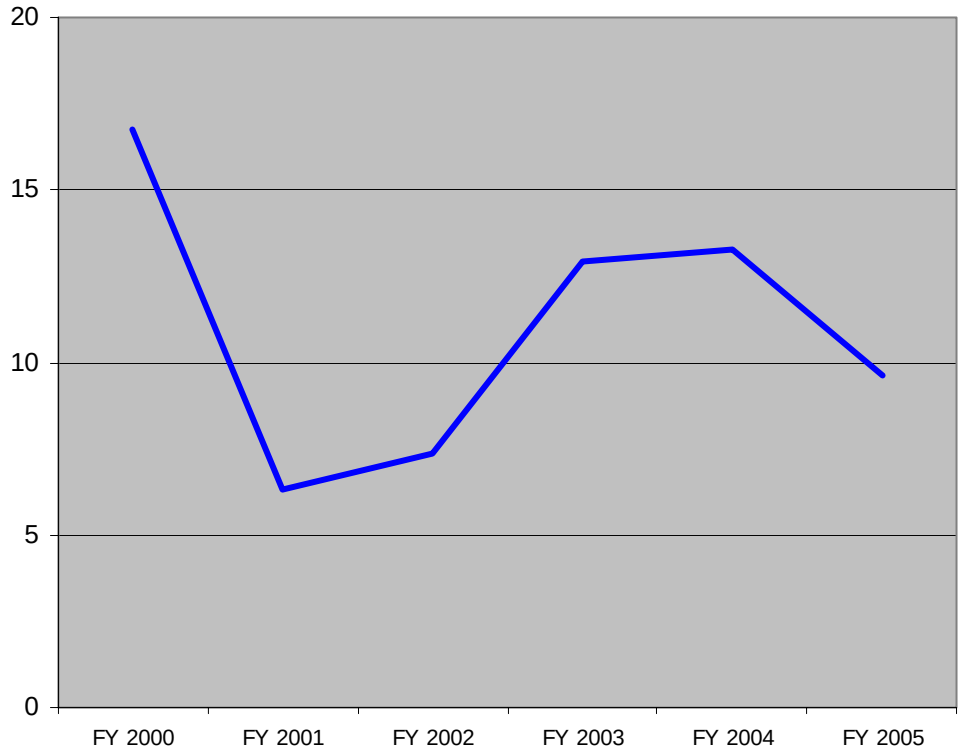
- National data indicate increasing presence of levamisole in cocaine
- King County, WA Local Police Evidence
- Tested by WSP Crime Lab
- *Special thanks to Steve Reid*
  - Cocaine tested for levamisole during Fall of 2010
    - almost all evidence seized in 2010 n=47

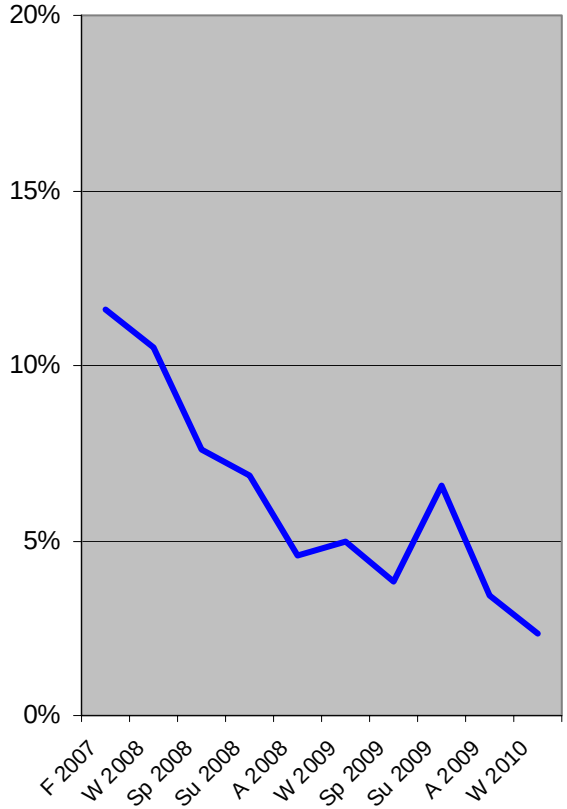
Lab #	Weight	Form (base/salt)	Appearance	Levamisole (Y/N)	Concentration	Agency	Agency #
a	0.03	base	chunky material	y	low	x	…
b	0.04	base	chunky material	y	low	y	…
c	0.73	HCl	white powder	y	low	x	…
d	<0.1	probably base	pipe residue	y	low	x	…
e	0.4 ml	HCl	liquid	y	high	z	…
f	1.5 ml	HCl	liquid	y	high	y	…
g	250 grams	HCl	mpressed powc	y	high	x	…
h	2.08	HCl	ressed powder	n	-	x	…
i	<0.1	base	chunky material	n	-	z	…
j	0.16	base	chunky material	n	-	y	…
k	0.03	base	chunky material	n	-	y	…

Levamisole in cocaine-findings

- Overall 65% tested positive for levamisole
- The % positive were similar by:
  - Form- Base/HCL(Salt)
  - Appearance- “chunky” “powder” “residue”
  - Weight
    - ¾ of samples under 3 grams
- Concentration of levamisole was evaluated qualitatively, appears to be higher in HCl(Salt) however small numbers of pieces of evidence

Heroin median purity- Seattle Area





Mostly black tar, some brown powder (appears to all be Mexican in origin)

Source: DEA DMP

“Legal” Highs

- Spice/K2
- Bath Salts- MDPV/Mephedrone
- BZP

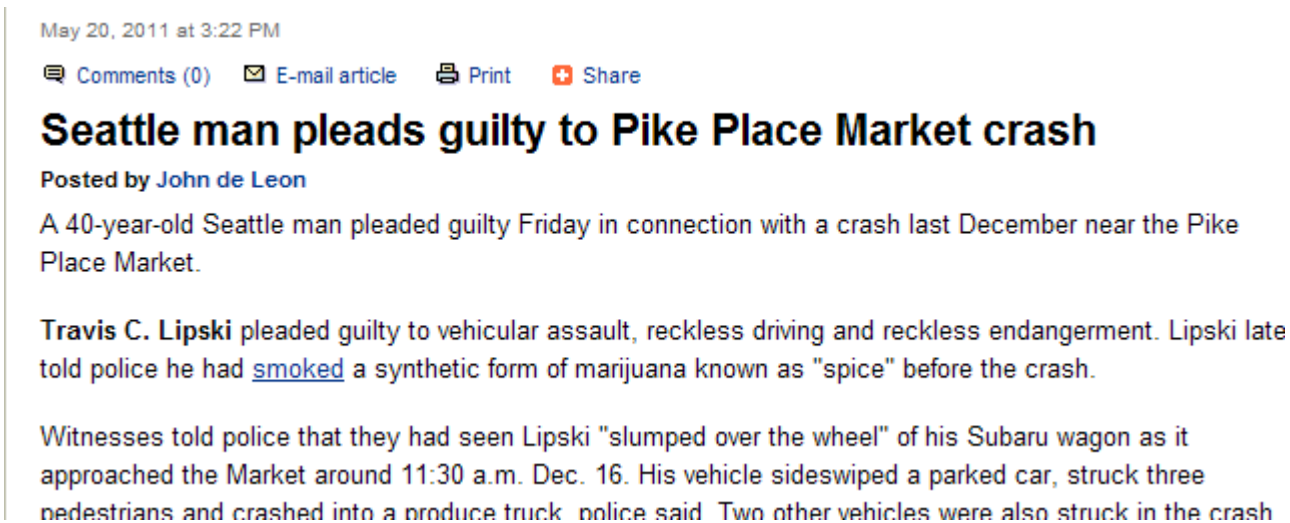
- Send out information requests March-April
  - Many responses, including 11 from treatment providers

Bath Salts- MDPV/Mephedrone

- 17 “bath salt” exposure calls Jan-March 2011 to the WA Poison Center
- 4 MDPV positive tests from WA residents at *Sterling Reference Labs*- work place/ treatment testing 3/1/11-4/8/11
- 1 report out of 11 agencies about youth preferring it to MDMA

Spice/K2 in the news

- Treatment providers report some use by clients, mostly those who need to get UA'd for court or treatment purposes.
- Users report marijuana is preferably to Spice



May 20, 2011 at 3:22 PM

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Seattle man pleads guilty to Pike Place Market crash

Posted by John de Leon

A 40-year-old Seattle man pleaded guilty Friday in connection with a crash last December near the Pike Place Market.

Travis C. Lipski pleaded guilty to vehicular assault, reckless driving and reckless endangerment. Lipski late told police he had smoked a synthetic form of marijuana known as "spice" before the crash.

Witnesses told police that they had seen Lipski "slumped over the wheel" of his Subaru wagon as it approached the Market around 11:30 a.m. Dec. 16. His vehicle sideswiped a parked car, struck three pedestrians and crashed into a produce truck, police said. Two other vehicles were also struck in the crash

BZP/TFMPP (in Ecstasy)

- Reportedly decreased substantially in recent months
  - 2010 NFLIS data show decrease
- Most “Ecstasy” is positive for MDMA (and other things) per Crime Lab
- MDMA generally available according to most sources

Response to “legal highs” concern

- National reports of bath salts
- Need for local “alerts”
- Numbers and severity of consequences in early 2011 did not appear sufficient to support an “alert”
- Continue to monitor
- Released resource brief…

Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute
University of Washington

ADAI LIBRARY RESOURCE BRIEF

March 2011

"Legal Highs" - Synthetic Drugs

"LEGAL HIGHS" ARE INCREASINGLY MENTIONED in the media locally, nationally, and internationally. "Legal highs" is a broad term referring to substances which are, or seem to be, legal and are being purchased from head shops/drug paraphernalia stores, convenience stores, the Internet, and drug dealers for the purpose of getting high. What many have in common is that they are synthetic or "designer" drugs composed of substances that are not controlled or banned, as are other drugs of abuse. Because of the way they are distributed, it is very difficult for users to know what the actual contents of each drug are. This is a large part of the potential danger -- not knowing what drug you are taking or how strong it is.

Use of "legal highs" has been an issue in Washington State for many years. In 2003, 21% of youth surveyed at raves reported they had used these types of synthetics at least once (Banta-Green 2004). It can be difficult to document the use of these substances, as most users don't know exactly what they are taking and most standard drug tests cannot detect the chemicals in these compounds.

However, these substances have all been found in evidence sent to the Washington State Patrol's Crime Lab, and local doctors, the state poison center, and people who do health promotion in the rave/dance scene are also reporting cases of people who appear to be under the effects of these types of drugs. Washington State's Board of Pharmacy is considering ways to better control these synthetics, and a growing number of other states, including Louisiana, North Dakota, Florida, and Hawaii, have already banned some of the specific chemicals they contain. In November 2010, the federal Drug Enforcement Agency announced an "emergency ban" on five chemicals used in the making of synthetic cannabinoids, such as "Spice" and "K2."

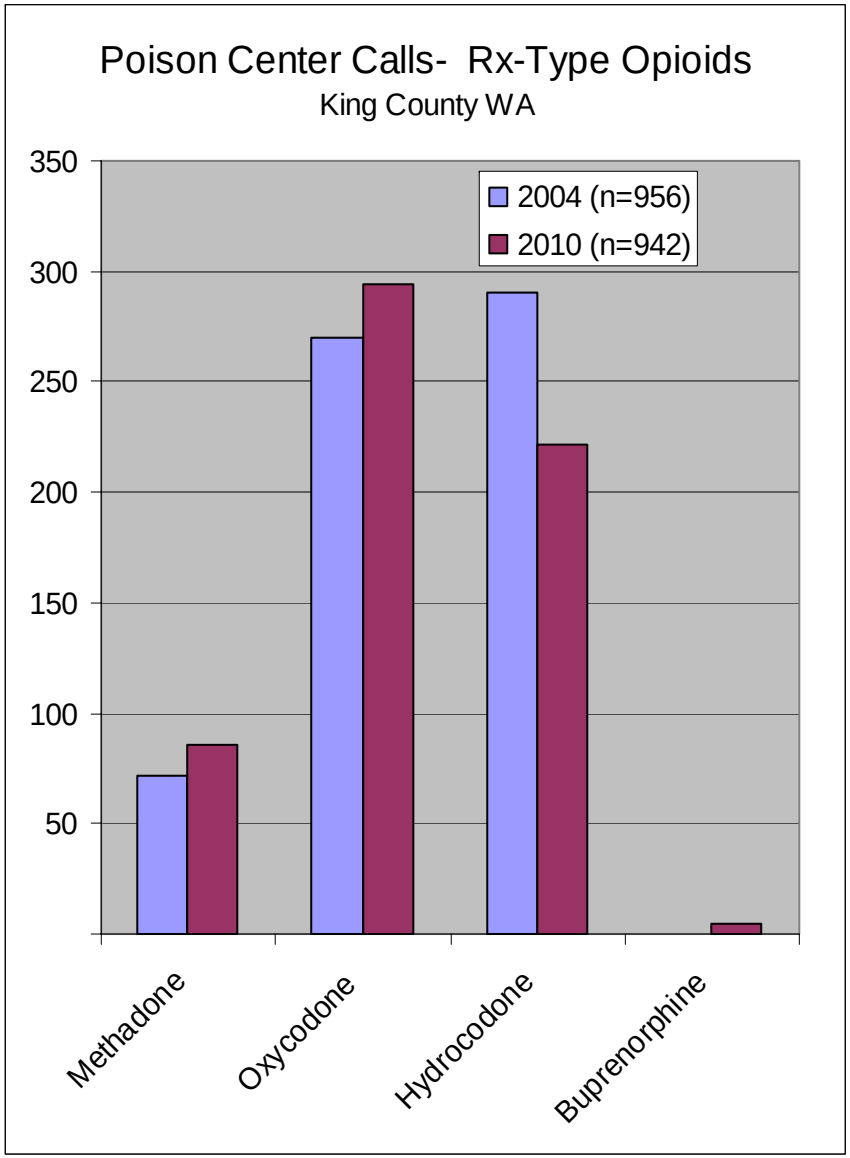
Currently these drugs do not appear to represent a major public health threat in Washington, but there is every reason to believe these types of compounds will continue to be available in the future. The exact drugs will surely change, especially as more and more states begin to ban specific formulations (driving producers to alter their products slightly), but the major concerns -- unknown drug, potency, and effects -- are likely to continue.

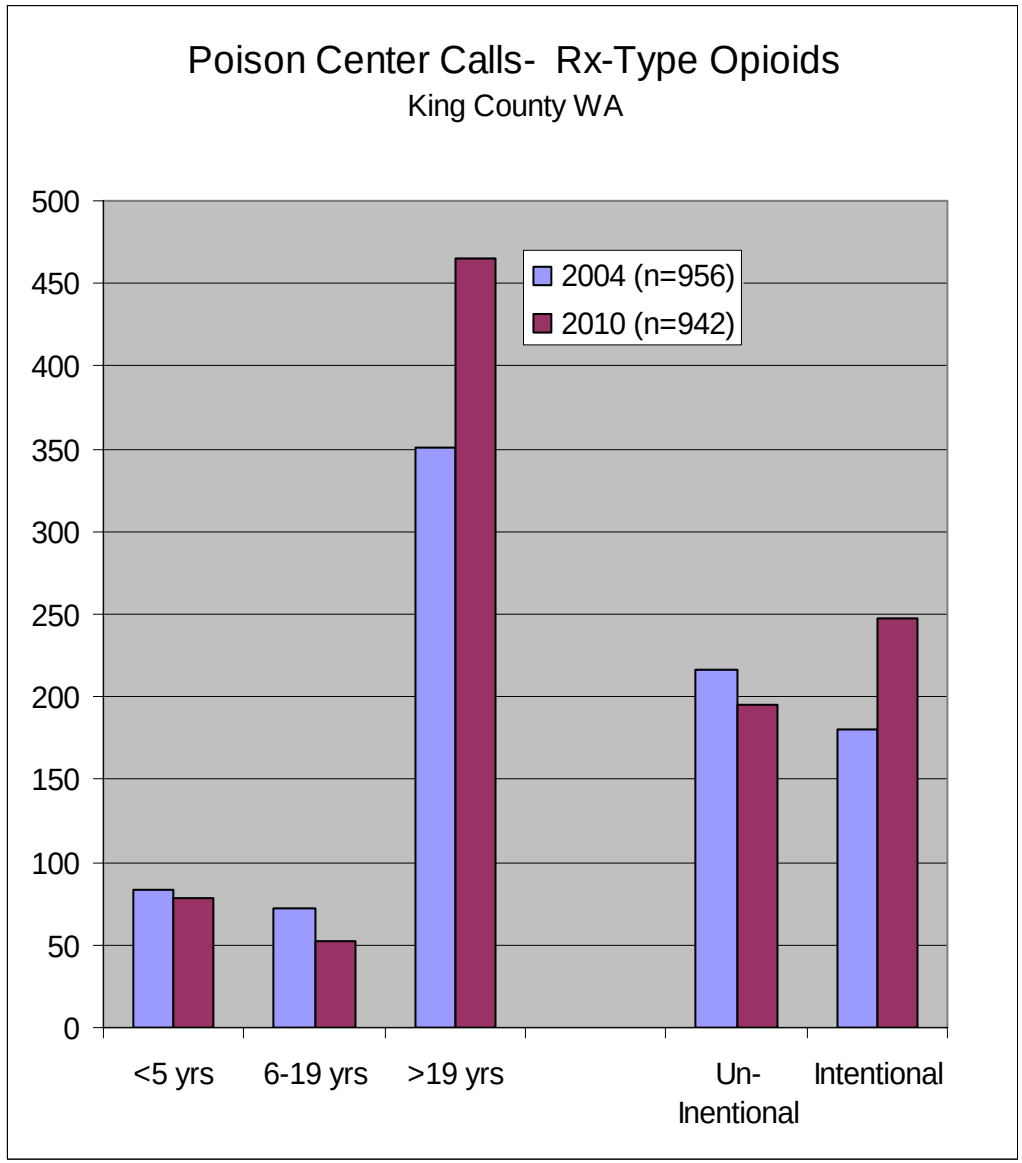
Poison Center Exposure Calls 2010

from King County WA

Substance	Exposures
Ethanol: beverage	388
All rx-type opioids	942
Benzodiazepine	541
DXM Total	396
Muscle relaxants	206
Amphetamine	106
Methylphenidate	81
Barbiturates total	24
Ketamine and analogs	5
Marijuana/THC	56
Cocaine	39
Methamphetamine	24
Hallucinogenic amphetamine	21
Heroin	20
Mushrooms Hallucinogenic	11
GHB and analog/precursor	9
Nitrous oxide	6
Phencyclidine	5
Amyl/butyl nitrite	1
LSD	1
Mescaline/peyote	1
TOTAL CALLS	24,111

- Total calls declined from 30,808 in 2004
- Absolute numbers for most of these drugs similar
- DXM declined from 657 in 2004

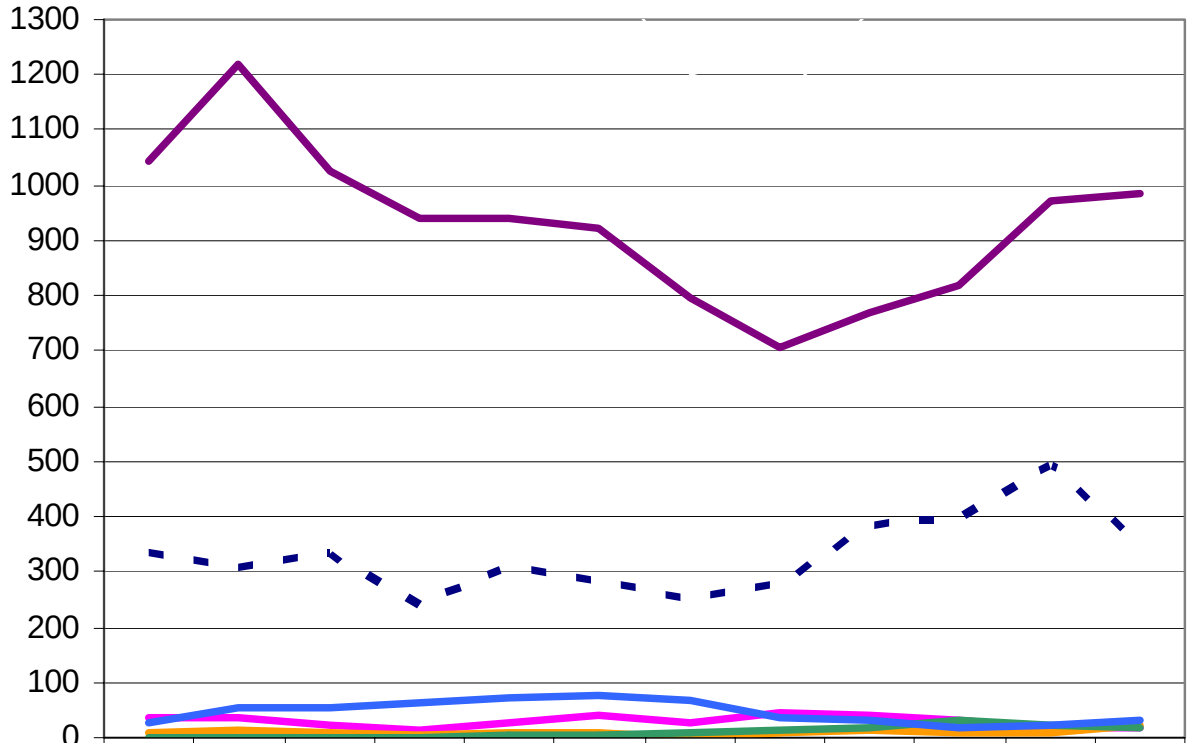




The total volume of calls in 2004 = 30,808 2010 = 24,111

Source: Washington Poison Center www.wapc.org

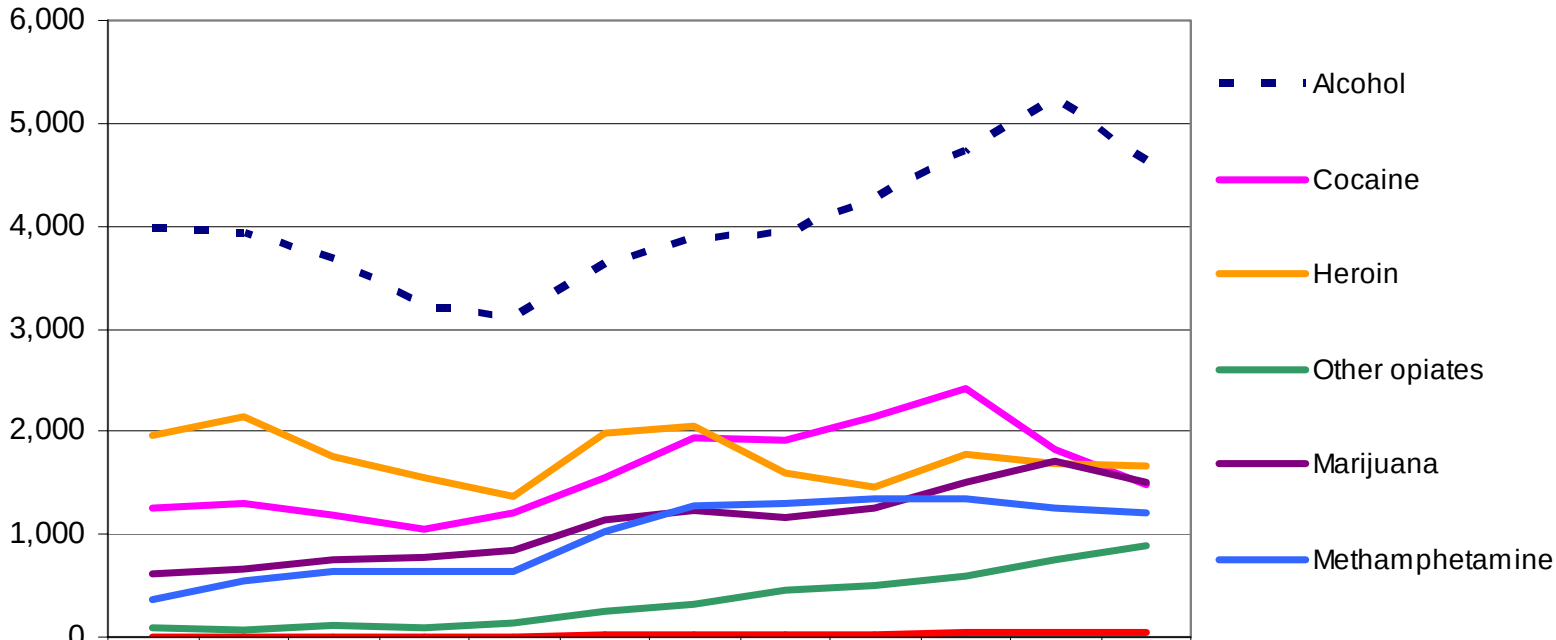
Youth Treatment Admits, King County WA



	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Alcohol	333	306	333	240	304	284	246	278	383	394	489	349
Cocaine	35	35	24	14	25	40	27	45	42	32	19	16
Heroin	10	15	9	6	11	9	2	9	14	11	10	23
Other opiates	0	2	2	2	5	4	10	12	18	30	23	19
Marijuana	1,045	1,221	1,027	941	938	924	797	707	770	817	970	985
Methamphetamine	29	55	52	61	70	75	68	36	31	18	24	31
Total	1,510	1,699	1,512	1,333	1,396	1,393	1,202	1,157	1,315	1,357	1,576	1,483

Source: WA Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, Treatment Analyzer

Adult Treatment Admits, King County WA

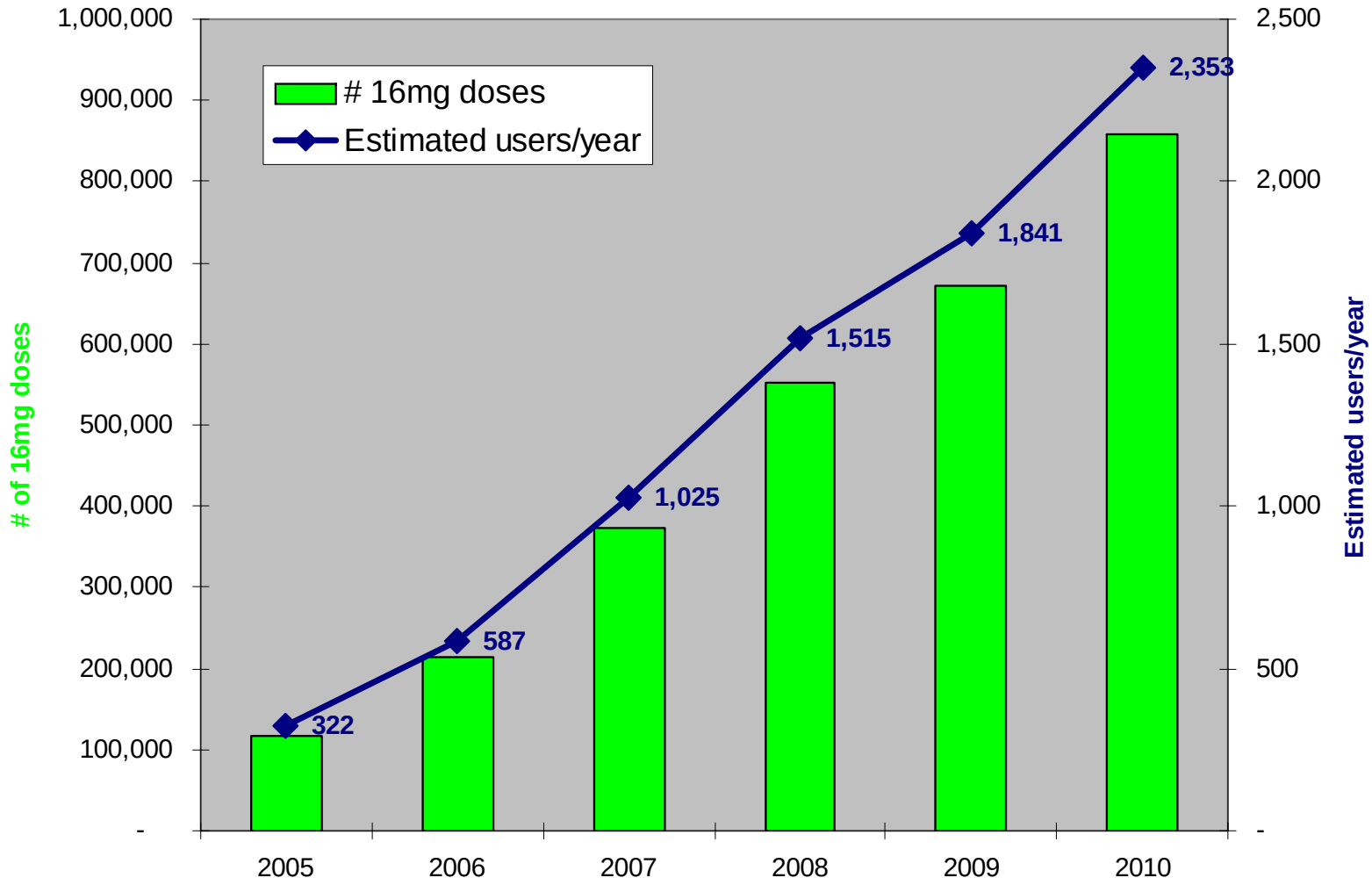


	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Alcohol	3,974	3,928	3,671	3,226	3,104	3,637	3,884	3,922	4,265	4,729	5,238	4,637
Cocaine	1,244	1,296	1,187	1,055	1,206	1,557	1,933	1,911	2,146	2,425	1,829	1,477
Heroin	1,952	2,138	1,746	1,548	1,364	1,995	2,057	1,590	1,468	1,785	1,683	1,660
Other opiates	87	77	104	93	139	261	327	453	492	596	750	900
Marijuana	620	662	760	782	845	1,141	1,222	1,153	1,257	1,512	1,716	1,512
Methamphetamine	361	546	639	637	647	1,034	1,282	1,309	1,342	1,339	1,266	1,218
PCP	2	3	8	11	10	18	23	23	25	38	51	54
Total	8,334	8,776	8,242	7,531	7,470	9,875	11,009	10,732	11,359	12,877	13,001	11,920

Source: WA Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, Treatment Analzyer

Buprenorphine Rx Sales in King County Area

(Zip Codes 980xx 981xx)



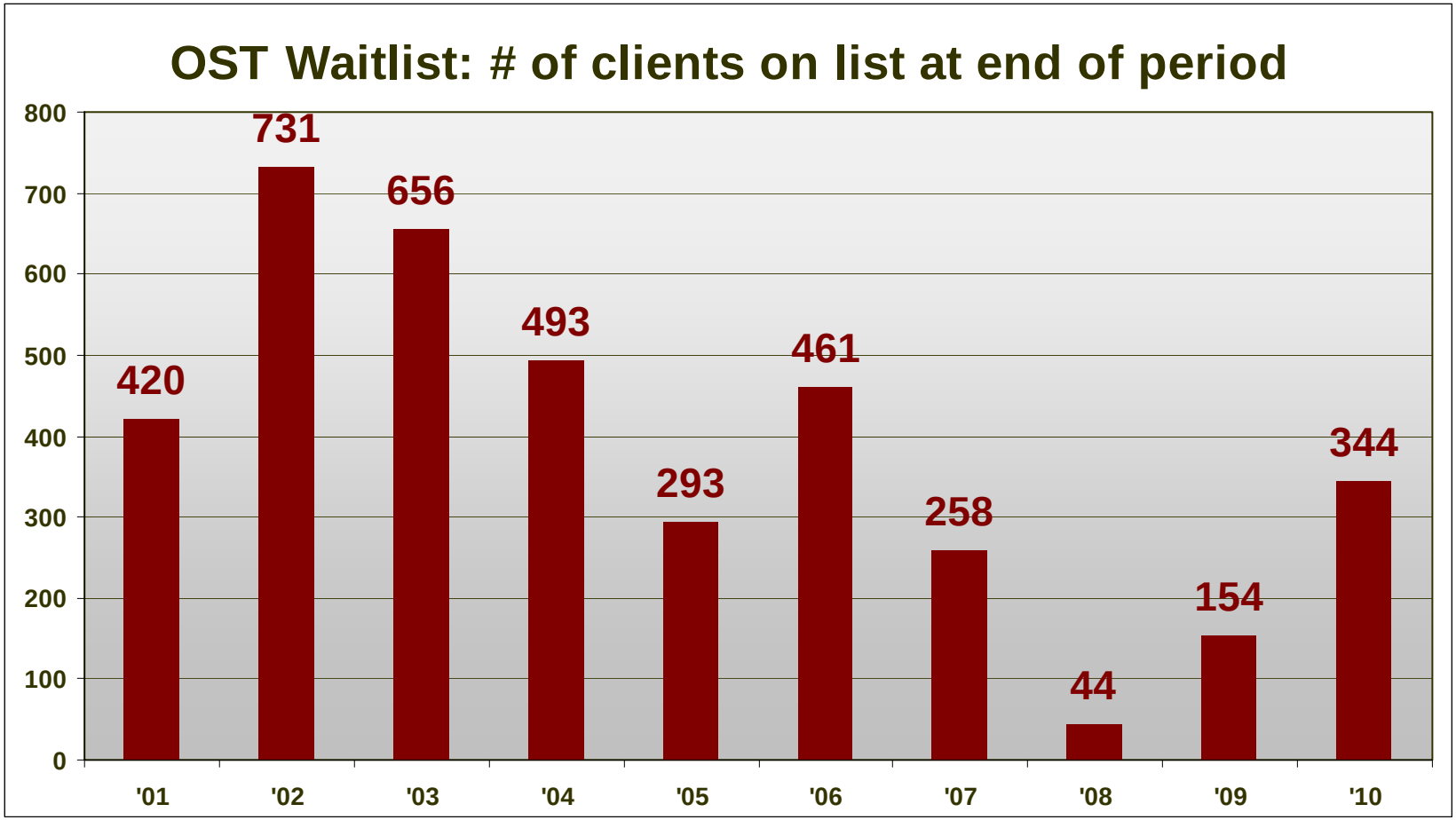
Statewide- Estimated increase from 677 to 5,531 annual treatment spaces

Public funding for 679 people in 2010 (default is 6 month detox)

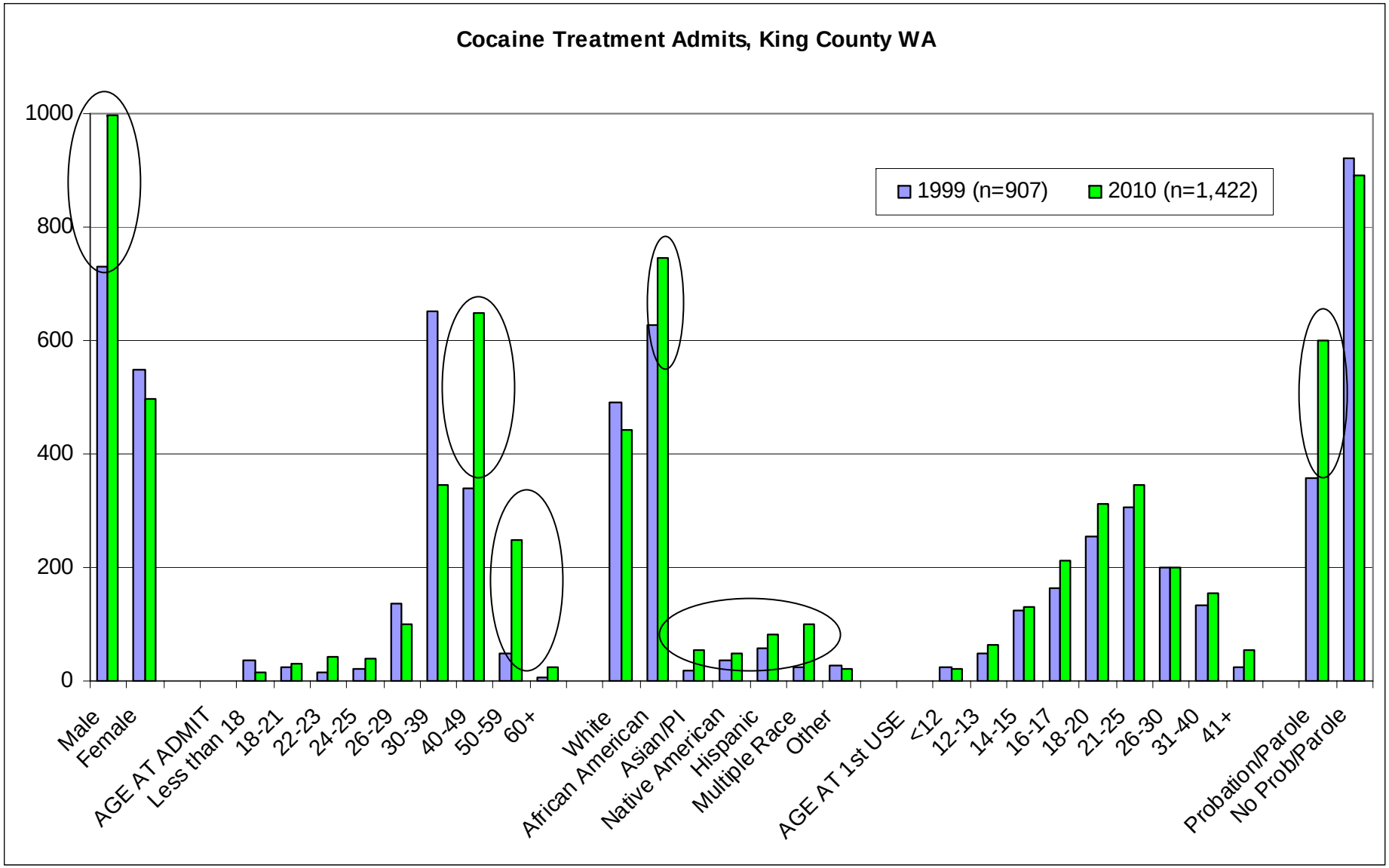
Data Source: DEA ARCOS

Note- almost all for addiction treatment, not pain

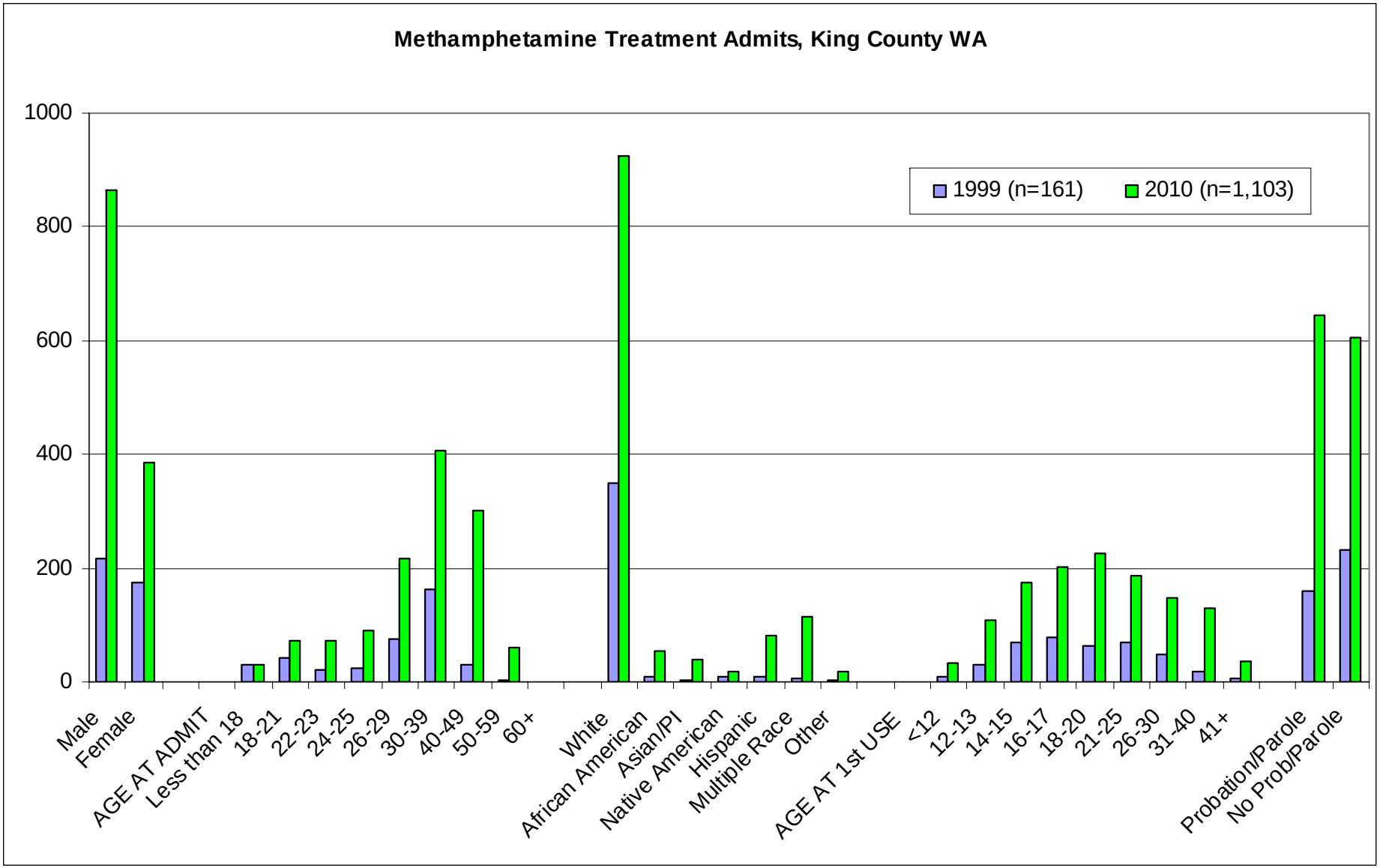
King County methadone waitlist managed by public health

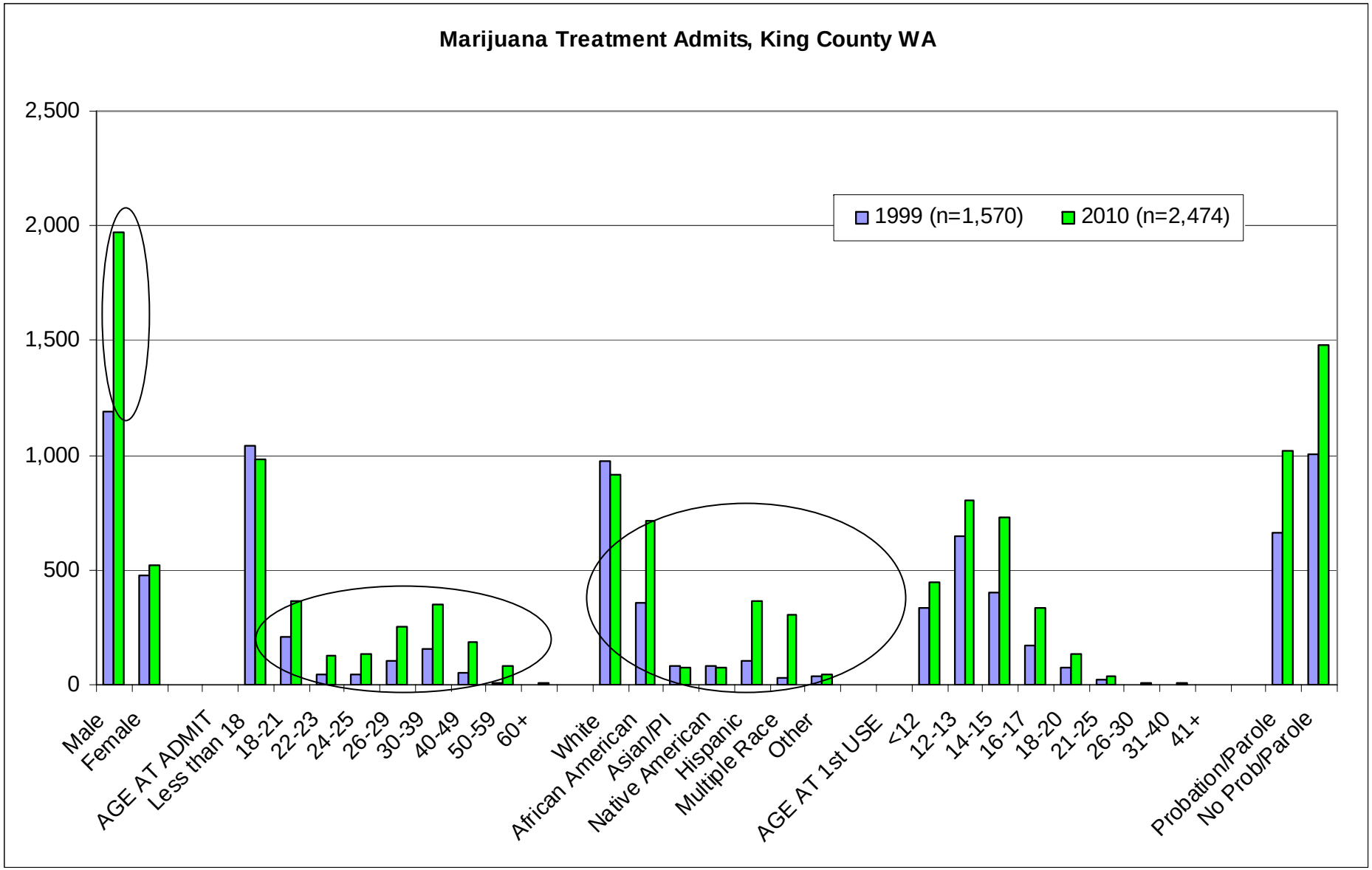


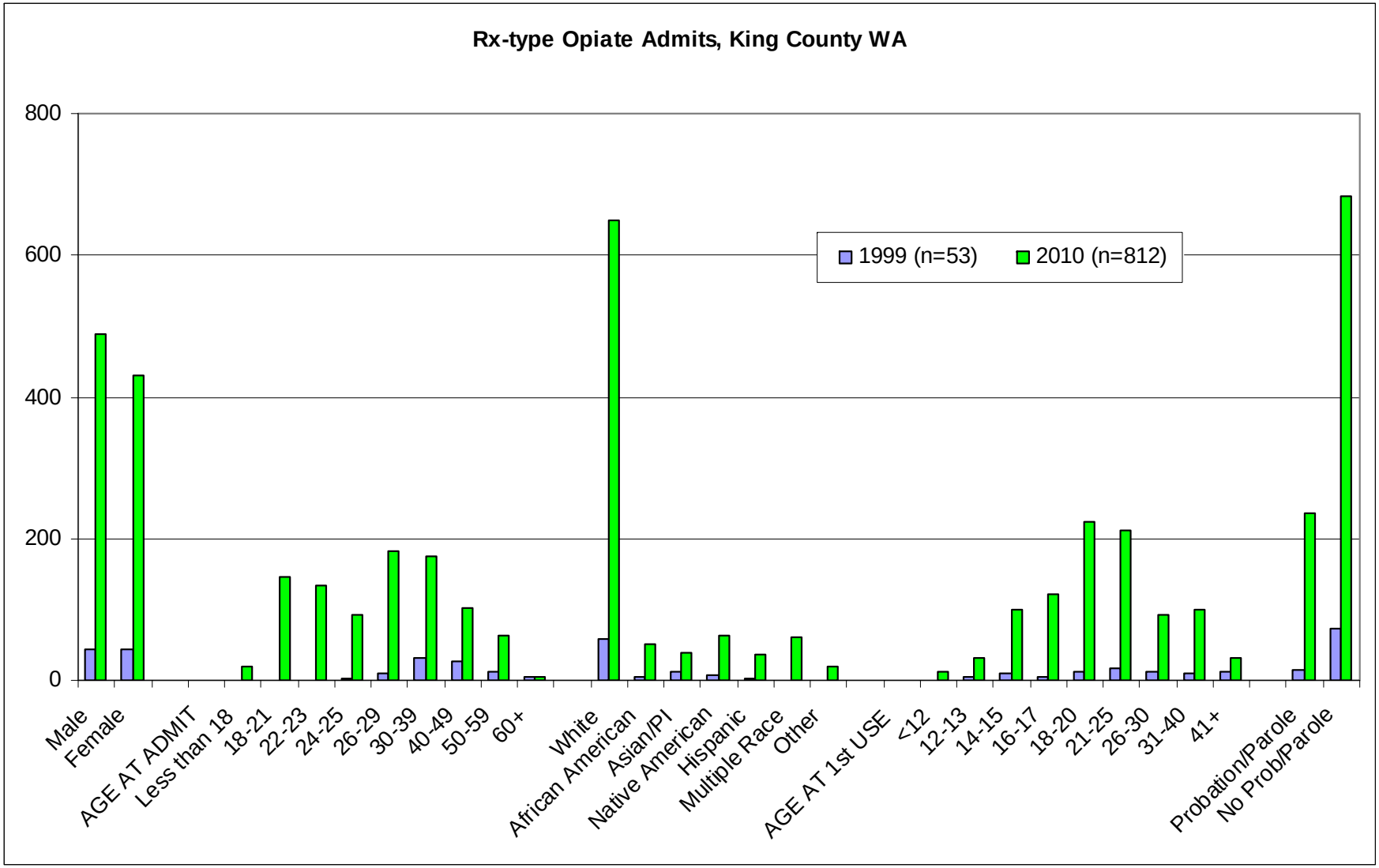
Methadone Tx Caseload in King County Facilities	2005	2010
Public Pay	1835	2356
Public + Private Pay	2526	3003

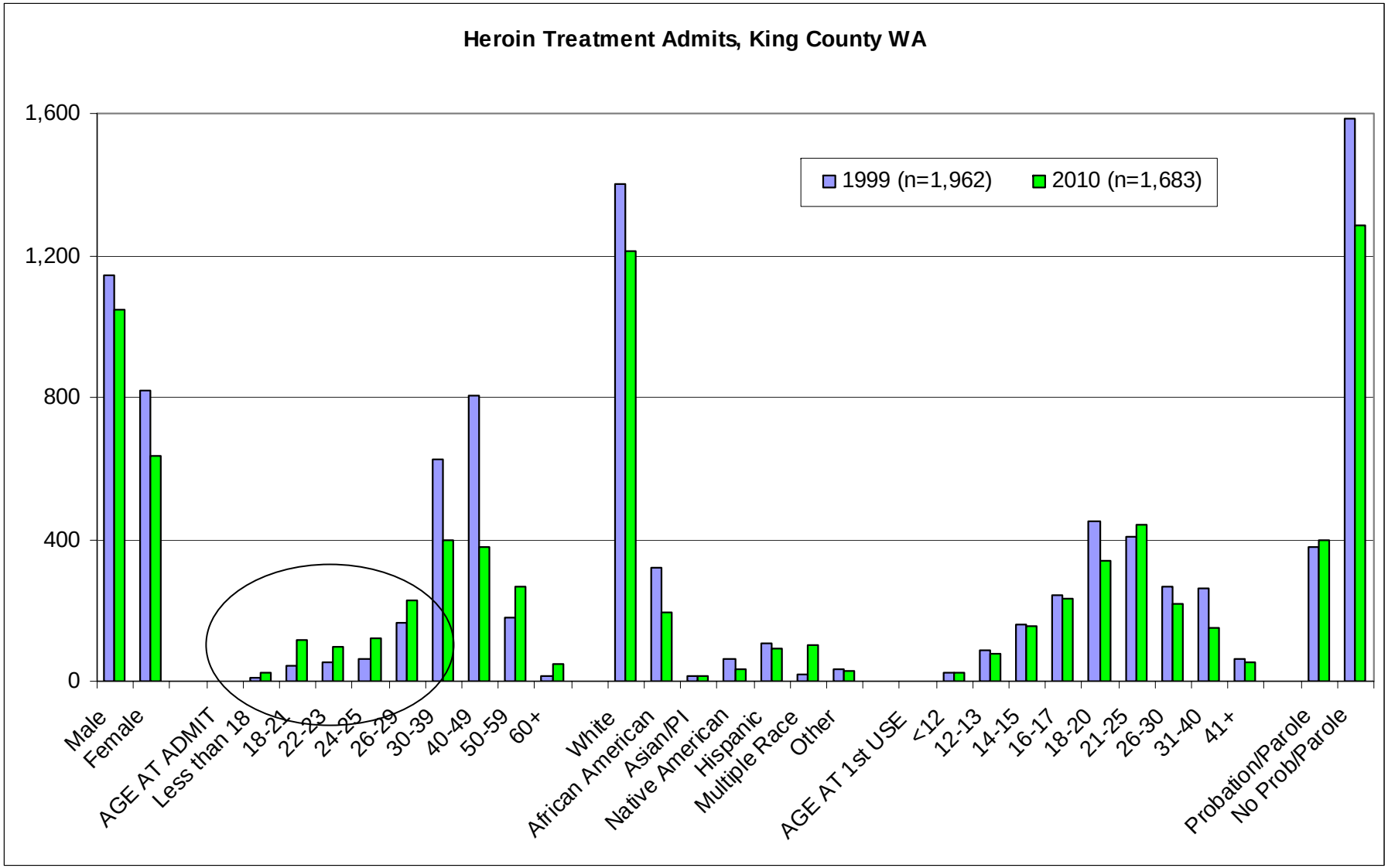


Source: WA Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, Treatment Analzyer


Methamphetamine Treatment Admits, King County WA
1000
800
600
400
200
0
1999 (n=161)
2010 (n=1,103)
Male
Female
AGE AT ADMIT
Less than 18
18-21
22-23
24-25
26-29
30-39
40-49
50-59
60+
White
African American
Asian/PI
Native American
Hispanic
Multiple Race
Other
AGE AT 1st USE
<12
12-13
14-15
16-17
18-20
21-25
26-30
31-40
41+
Probation/Parole
No Prob/Parole

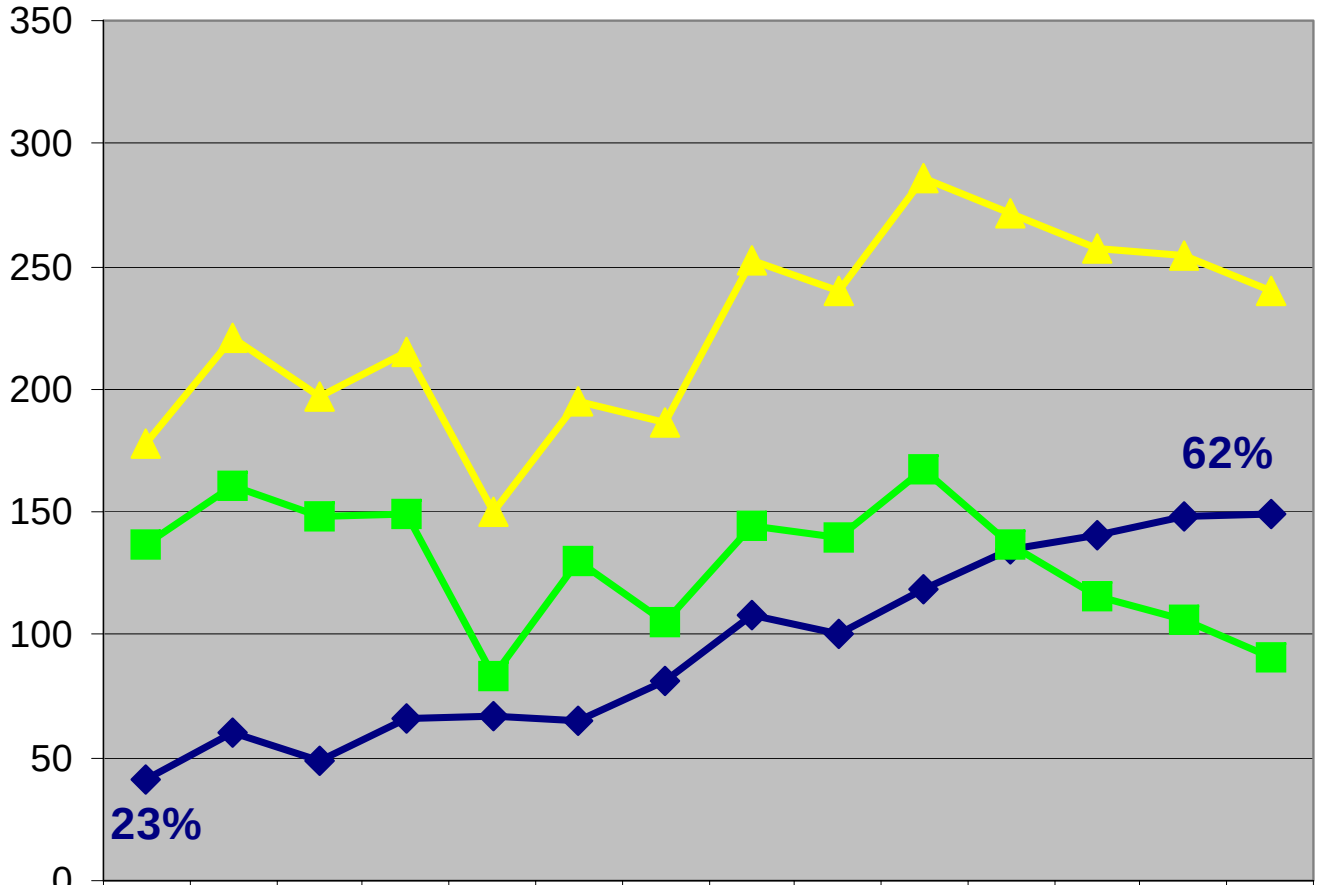

Marijuana Treatment Admits, King County WA
2,500
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0
1999 (n=1,570)
2010 (n=2,474)
Male
Female
AGE AT ADMIT
Less than 18
18-21
22-23
24-25
26-29
30-39
40-49
50-59
60+
White
African American
Asian/PI
Native American
Hispanic
Multiple Race
Other
AGE AT 1st USE
<12
12-13
14-15
16-17
18-20
21-25
26-30
31-40
41+
Probation/Parole
No Prob/Parole


Rx-type Opiate Admits, King County WA
800
600
400
200
0
1999 (n=53)
2010 (n=812)
Male
Female
AGE AT ADMIT
Less than 18
18-21
22-23
24-25
26-29
30-39
40-49
50-59
60+
White
African American
Asian/PI
Native American
Hispanic
Multiple Race
Other
AGE AT 1st USE
<12
12-13
14-15
16-17
18-20
21-25
26-30
31-40
41+
Probation/Parole
No Prob/Parole



Aged 18-29 increased from 326 to 566

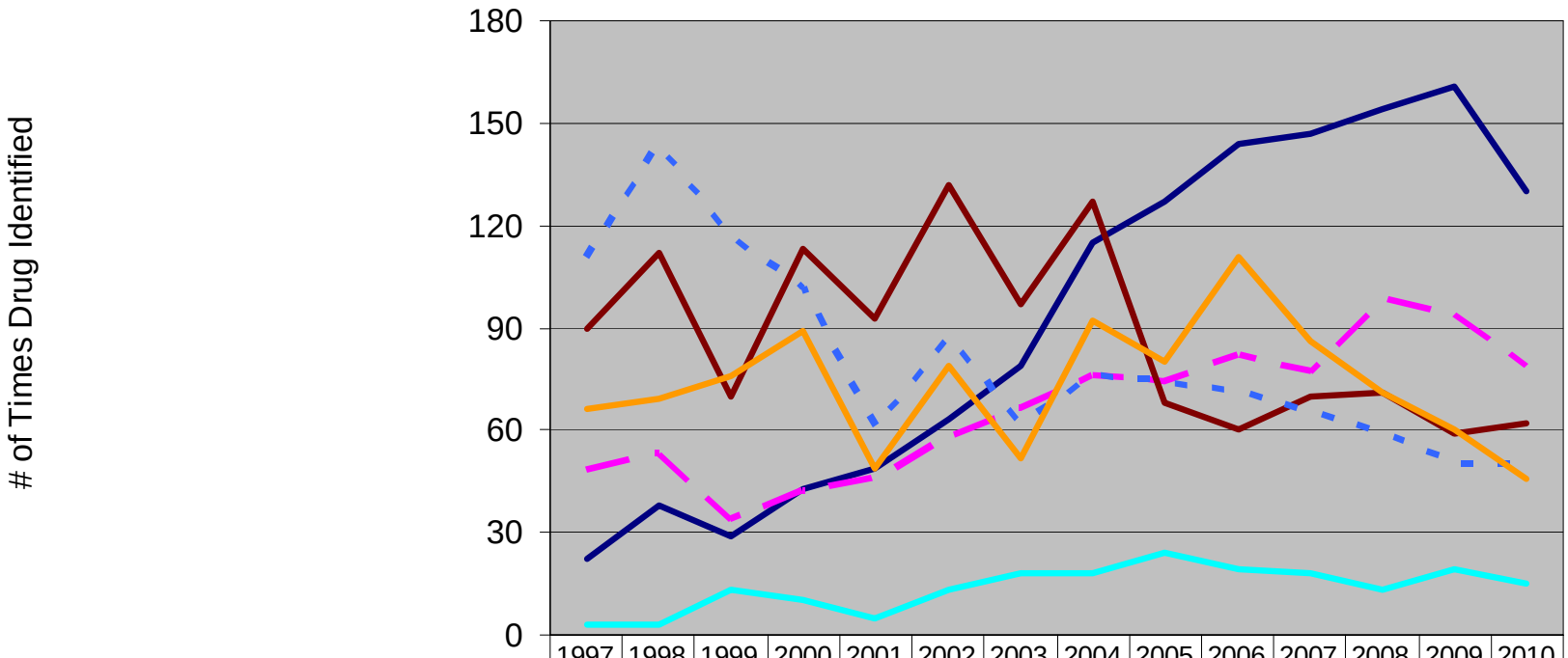
Drug Caused Deaths
King County WA



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
No illegal drugs present	41	60	49	66	67	65	81	108	100	119	135	141	148	149
Illegal drug present	137	161	148	149	83	130	105	144	140	167	137	116	106	91
Total deaths	178	221	197	215	150	195	186	252	240	286	272	257	254	240

Source: King County Medical Examiner Public Health- Seattle & King County

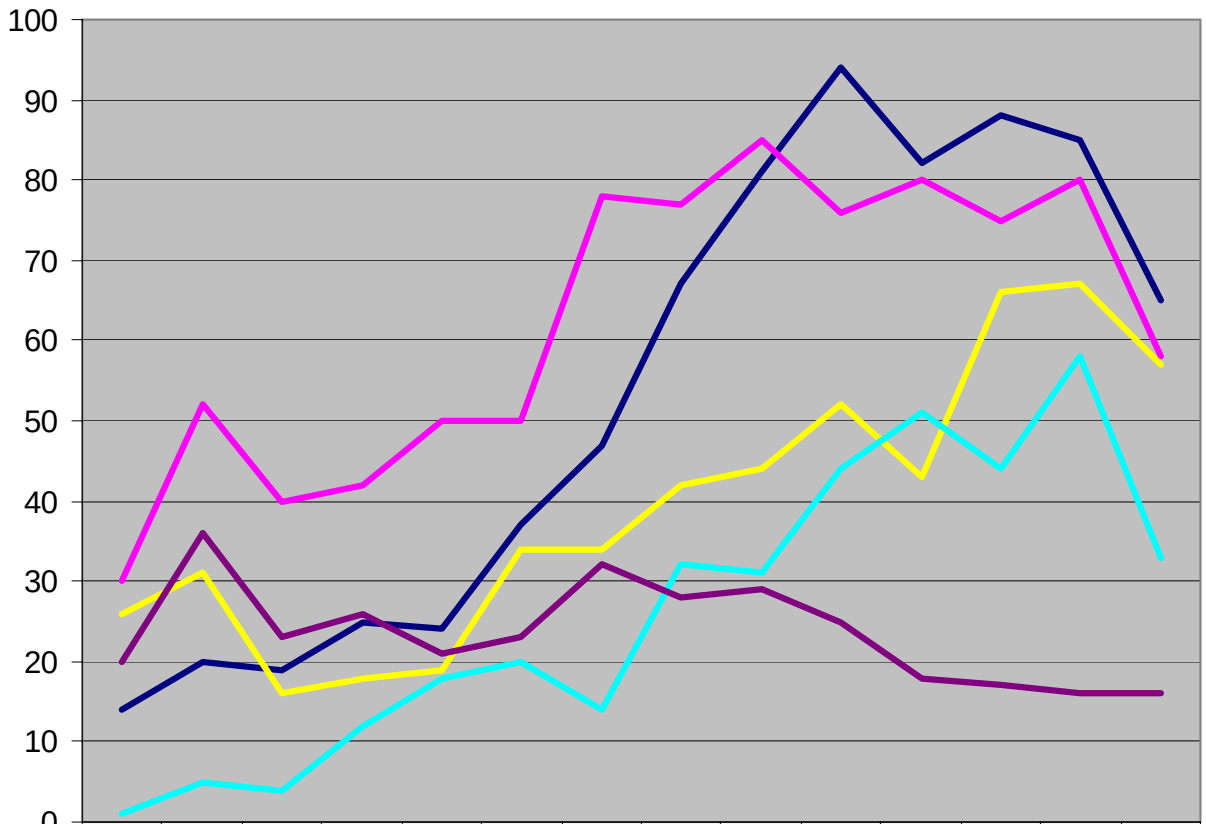
Drug Caused Deaths, King County WA



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Other Opiate	22	38	29	43	49	63	79	115	127	144	147	154	161	130
Benzo Barb Tricylic MuscRlx GHB	48	53	34	42	46	58	66	76	74	82	77	98	94	79
Alcohol	90	112	70	113	93	132	97	127	68	60	70	71	59	62
Heroin_mophine_opiate	111	144	117	102	61	87	62	76	74	71	65	59	50	50
Cocaine	66	69	76	89	49	79	52	92	80	111	86	71	60	46
Methamphetamine	3	3	13	10	5	13	18	18	24	19	18	13	19	15
Total	178	221	197	215	150	195	186	252	240	286	272	257	254	240

Source: King County Medical Examiner Public Health- Seattle & King County

Drug Caused Deaths, Most Common Pharmaceuticals King County WA



	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Methadone	14	20	19	25	24	37	47	67	81	94	82	88	85	65
Antidepressant	30	52	40	42	50	50	78	77	85	76	80	75	80	58
Benzodiazepine	26	31	16	18	19	34	34	42	44	52	43	66	67	57
Oxycodone	1	5	4	12	18	20	14	32	31	44	51	44	58	33
Tri-cyclic anti-depressant	20	36	23	26	21	23	32	28	29	25	18	17	16	16

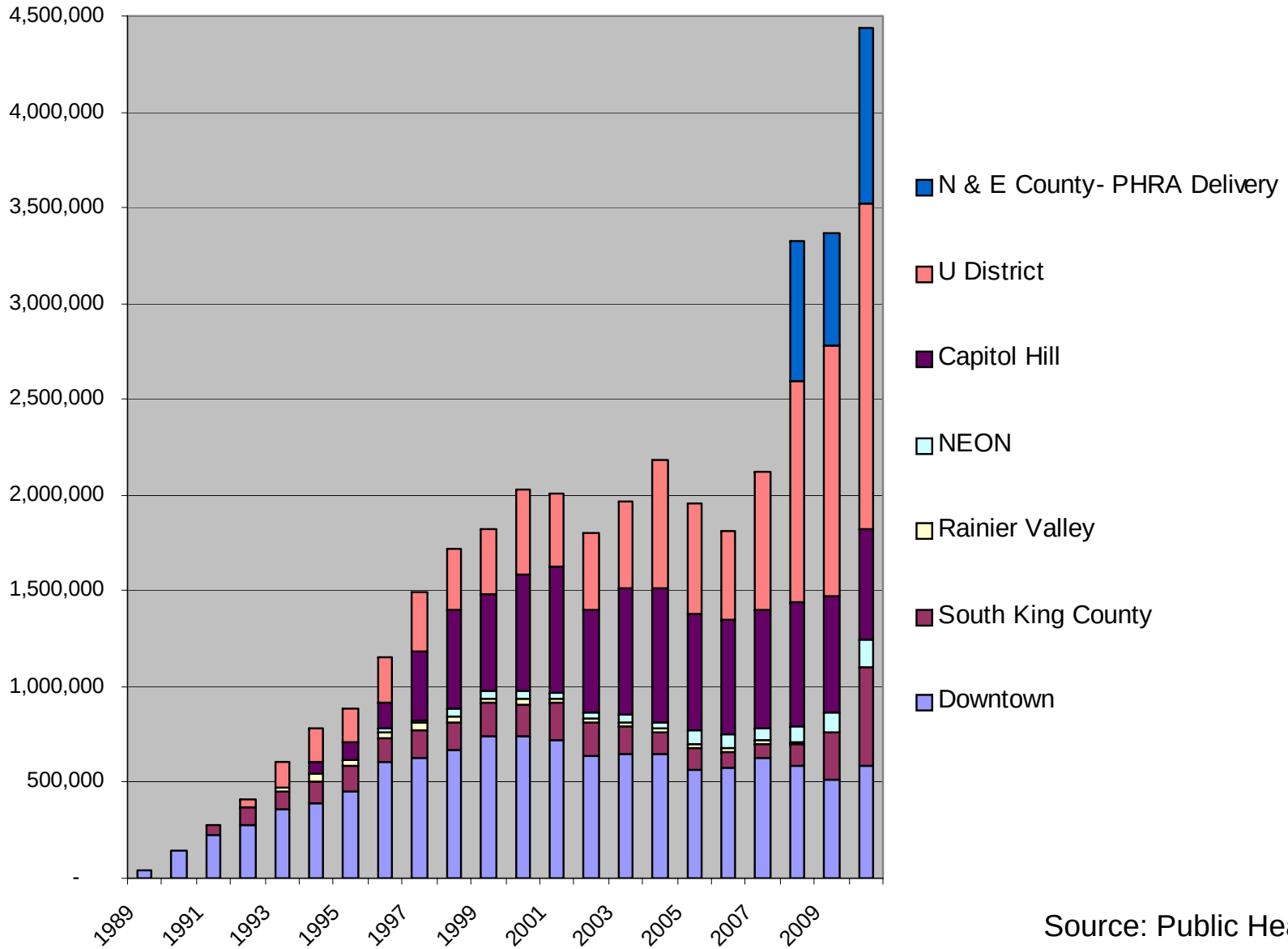
Source: King County Medical Examiner Public Health- Seattle & King County

King County residents diagnosed with HIV

	1982-2001		2002-2004		2005-2007		2008-2010[1]		Trend[2]
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	2002-2010
TOTAL	**8,427**	**100%**	**1,055**	**100%**	**957**	**100%**	**917**	**100%**	
HIV Exposure Category									
Men who have sex with men (MSM)	6,225	76%	679	70%	588	71%	597	76%	up
Injection drug user (IDU)	482	6%	67	7%	40	5%	32	4%	down
MSM-IDU	860	11%	87	9%	87	11%	53	7%	
Heterosexual contact[3]	473	6%	142	15%	107	13%	97	12%	
Blood product exposure	96	1%	1	0%	1	0%	1	0%	
Perinatal exposure	27	0%	0	0%	1	0%	6	1%	
SUBTOTAL- known risk	*8,163*		*976*		*824*		*786*		
Undetermined/other[4]	264	3%	79	7%	133	14%	131	14%	N/A

1982-2010 and reported through 12/31/2010, by date of HIV diagnosis
Source: Public Health- Seattle & King County

Syringes Exchanged King County



Source: Public Health-Seattle & King County

Stimulants & Hallucinogens

- Cocaine persists as a major drug of abuse
  - Levamisole common locally
- Methamphetamine treatment admits and deaths steady past 5 years at moderate level
- MDPV/Mephedrone present and apparently low levels- may be serious adverse consequences
- MDMA persists (less BZP)

Summary opioids

- Rx-type opiate deaths decreased in 2010 for the first time
- Heroin deaths remain low at 50 compared to 144 in 1998 (but indicates scale of possible harm)
- Low purity heroin (2%) may be keeping heroin OD's low for now
- Morphine, Oxycodone and (apparently) Methadone prescribing have leveled off
- Buprenorphine treatment/Rx increasing substantially
- Treatment data foreshadow a continuing cohort of opioid dependent people at substantial risk for OD as they age