

# **Drug Cases Submitted to the Virginia Department of Forensic Science Calendar Year 2016**

**A Joint Report by the Virginia Departments of  
Forensic Science  
and  
Criminal Justice Services**

# Drug Cases Submitted to the Virginia Department of Forensic Science

- DFS receives tens of thousands of drug samples every year
- Data presented here are for select drug categories of interest
  - Cocaine
  - Heroin
  - Methamphetamine
  - Marijuana
  - Cannabimimetic Agents\*
  - “Club Drugs”\*\*
  - Prescription Opioids\*\*\*
  - Prescription Stimulants
  - Benzodiazepines
  - Illicit Fentanyl\*\*\*

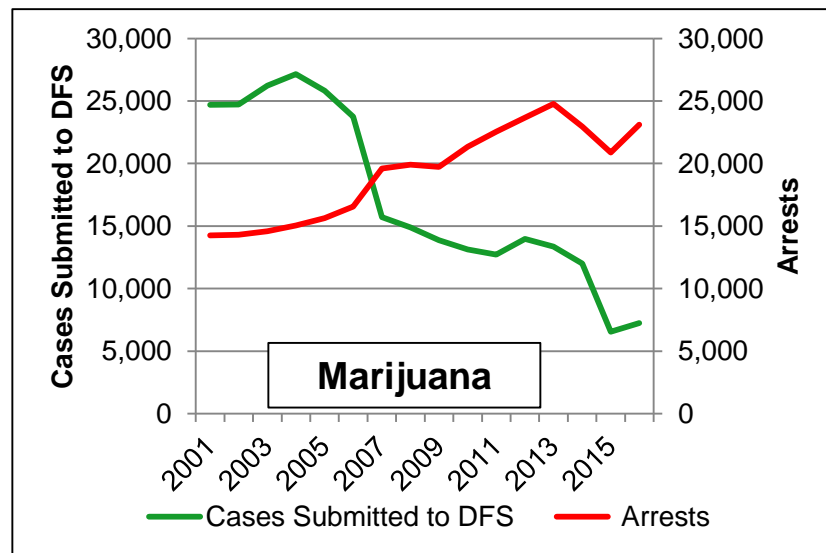
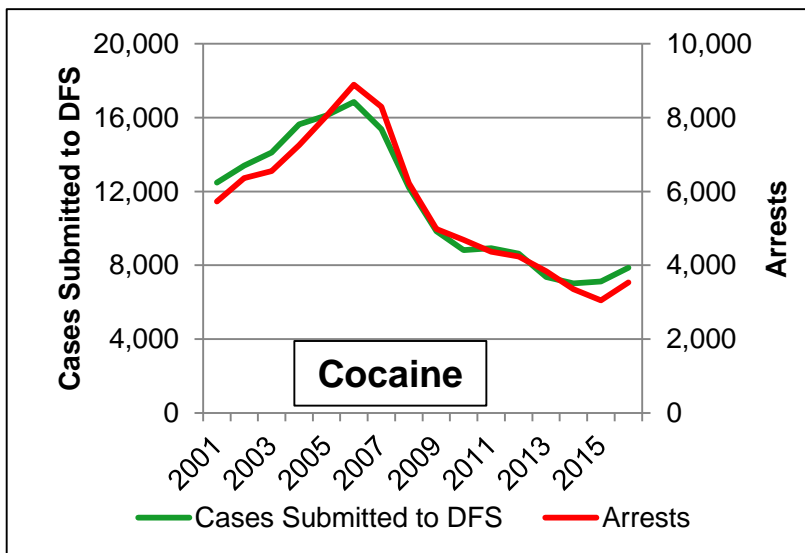
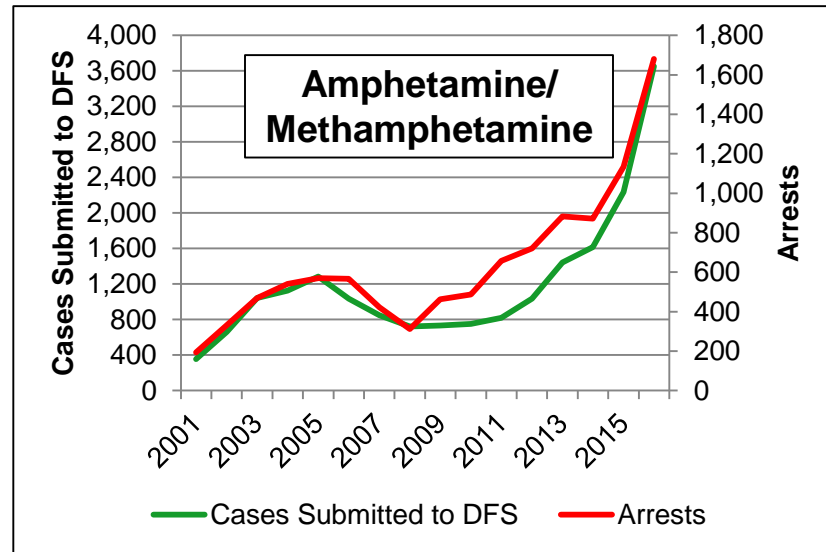
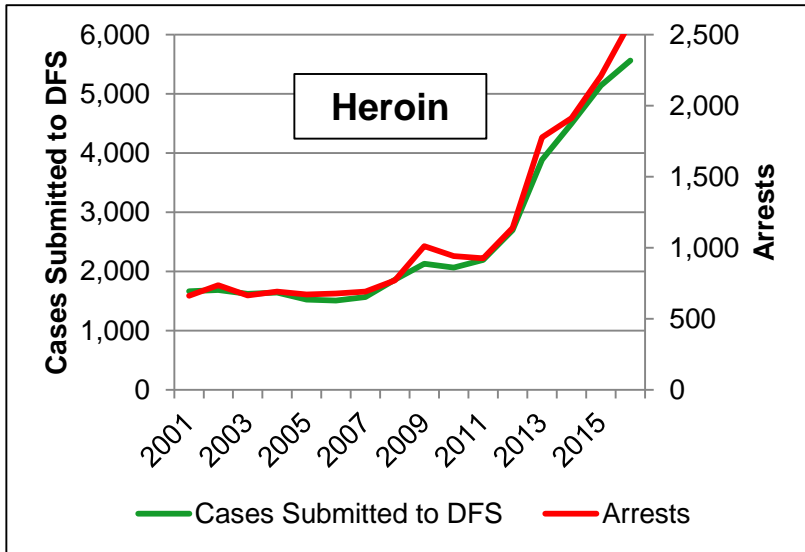
\*Cannabimimetic agents were previously labeled “synthetic cannabinoids.”

\*\*Includes various designer and other drugs including Ecstasy, Ketamine, Phenethylamines, Tryptamines, Piperazines, bath salts, and others. Use of these drugs is not limited to clubs or parties, and in fact some of these designer drugs might not be identified as “club drugs” *per se*, but in lieu of a better category label, they are included here. Any drug listed specifically above is not included in this category.

\*\*\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as “illicit” for purposes of this report.

# Comparing DFS Cases to Arrest Data

Select drug types, calendar years 2001-2016



# Comparing DFS Cases to Arrest Data

Select drug types, calendar years 2001-2016

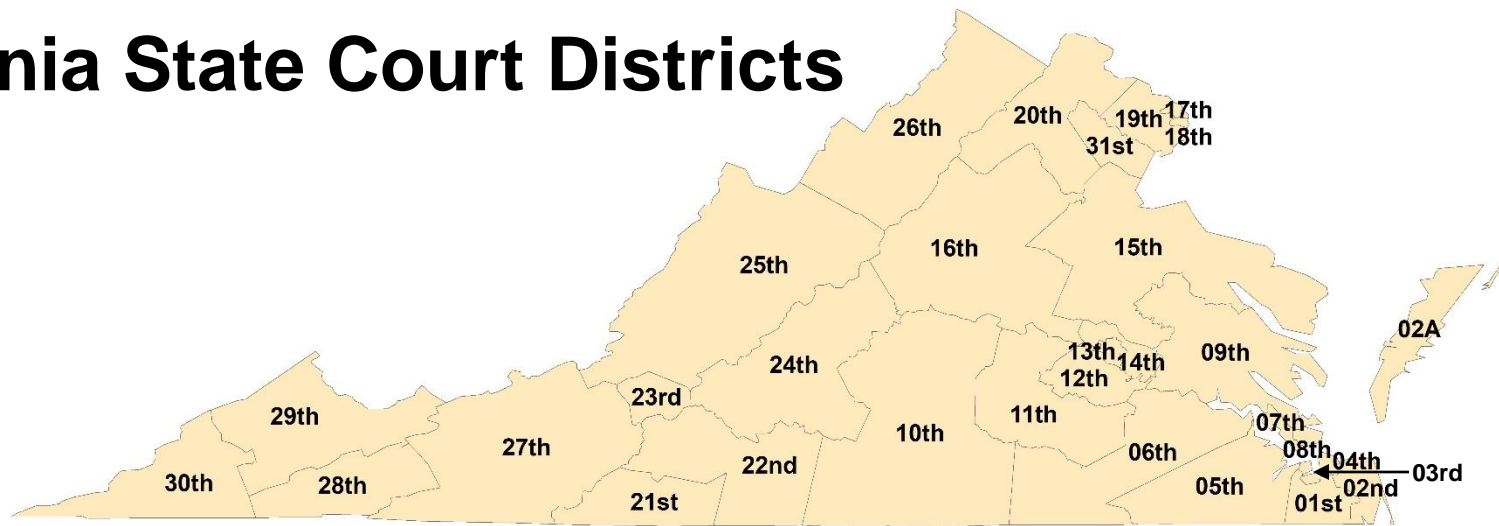
- For cocaine, heroin, and amphetamine/methamphetamine, DFS cases and VSP arrest data show a similar pattern.
  - DFS cases (the left axis and the green line in each chart here) are consistently more numerous than arrests (right axis, red line). Each year there are 40-50% as many arrests as there are DFS cases.
- DFS cases and VSP arrest data for marijuana do not share a similar pattern. There is a clear break in the series of data for both DFS cases (left axis, green line) and arrests (right axis, red line).
  - Changes in the *Code of Virginia* relating to law enforcement testimony with regard to marijuana field test kits (beginning July 2006) coincided with an increase in marijuana arrests and a decrease in marijuana cases submitted to DFS.
  - Marijuana case data before and after this change cannot be compared. Because of this, marijuana cases are given less focus in this report.

# Virginia State Police Divisions



<u>Division 1</u>		<u>Division 2</u>		<u>Division 3</u>		<u>Division 4</u>		<u>Division 5</u>		<u>Division 6</u>		<u>Division 7</u>	
Amelia County	Lancaster County	Clarke County	Albemarle County	Bland County	Accomack County	York County	Alleghany County	Roanoke County	Arlington County				
Caroline County	Louisa County	Culpeper County	Amherst County	Buchanan County	Brunswick County	Chesapeake City	Bath County	Rockbridge County	Fairfax County				
Charles City County	New Kent County	Fauquier County	Appomattox County	Carroll County	Gloucester County	Emporia City	Bedford County	Bedford City	Loudoun County				
Chesterfield County	Northumberland County	Frederick County	Augusta County	Dickenson County	Greensville County	Franklin City	Botetourt County	Buena Vista City	Prince William County				
Dinwiddie County	Nottoway County	Madison County	Buckingham County	Giles County	Isle of Wight County	Hampton City	Craig County	Danville City	Alexandria City				
Essex County	Powhatan County	Orange County	Campbell County	Grayson County	James City County	Newport News City	Floyd County	Lexington City	Fairfax City				
Goochland County	Prince George County	Page County	Charlotte County	Lee County	Mathews County	Norfolk City	Franklin County	Martinsville City	Falls Church City				
Hanover County	Richmond County	Rappahannock County	Cumberland County	Pulaski County	Middlesex County	Poquoson City	Henry County	Radford City	Manassas City				
Henrico County	Westmoreland County	Rockingham County	Fluvanna County	Russell County	Northampton County	Portsmouth City	Highland County	Roanoke City	Manassas Park City				
King and Queen County	Colonial Heights City	Shenandoah County	Greene County	Scott County	Southampton County	Suffolk City	Montgomery County	Salem City					
King George County	Hopewell City	Spotsylvania County	Halifax County	Smyth County	Surry County	Virginia Beach City	Patrick County						
King William County	Petersburg City	Stafford County	Lunenburg County	Tazewell County	Sussex County	Williamsburg City	Pittsylvania County						
	Richmond City	Warren County	Mecklenburg County	Washington County									
		Fredericksburg City	Nelson County	Wise County									
		Harrisonburg City	Prince Edward County	Wythe County									
		Winchester City	Charlottesville City	Bristol City									
			Lynchburg City	Galax City									
			Staunton City	Norton City									
			Waynesboro City										

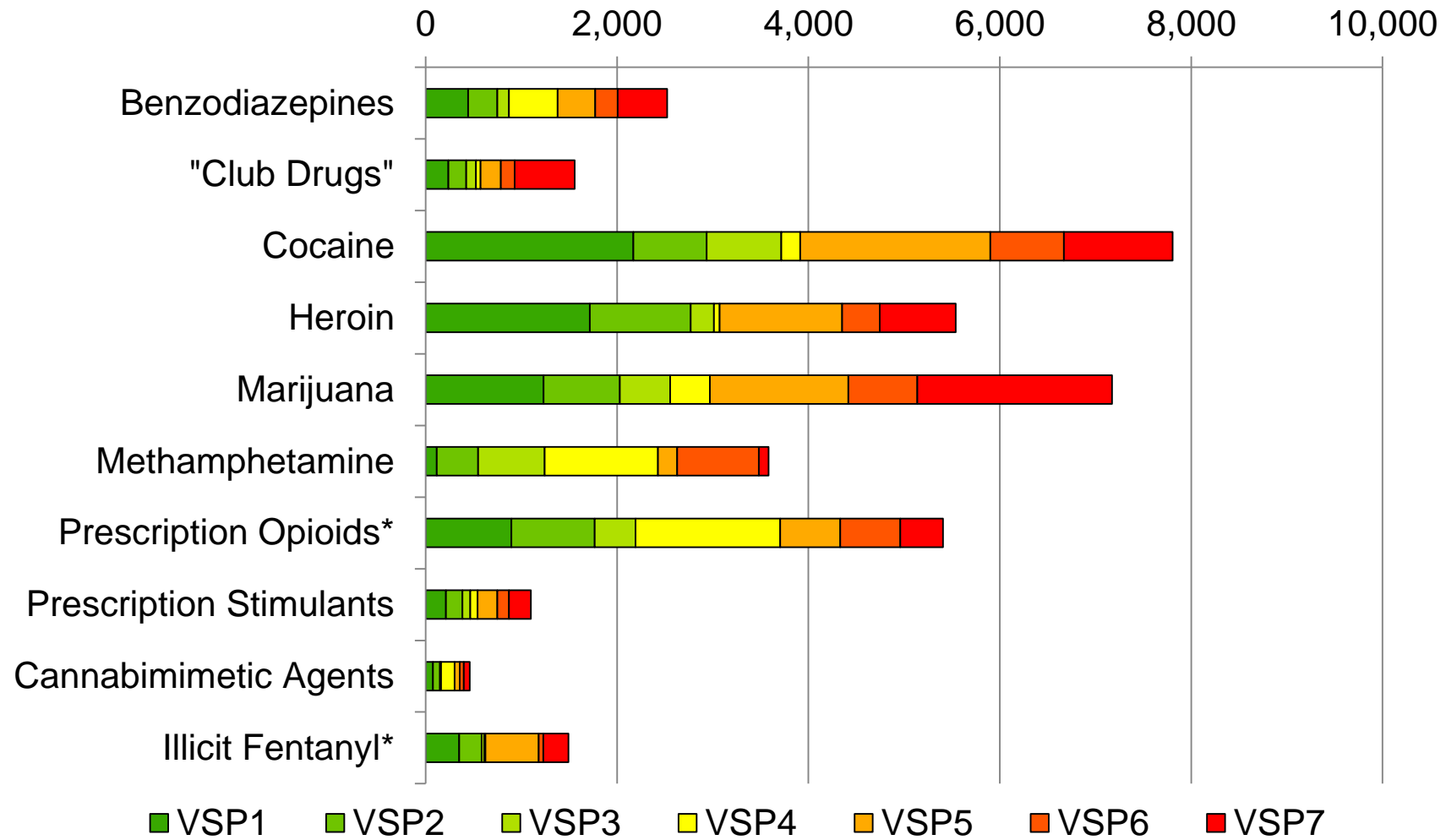
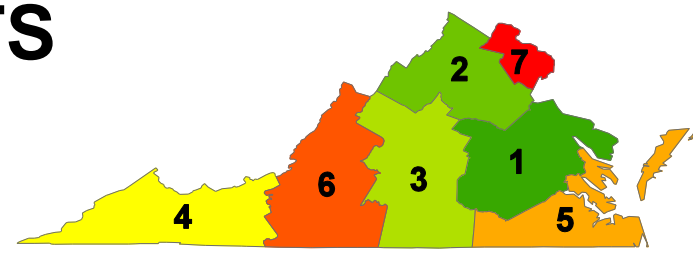
# Virginia State Court Districts



Court District	Locality	Court District	Locality	Court District	Locality	Court District	Locality	Court District	Locality
1st	Chesapeake City	10th	Appomattox County	16th	Albemarle County	24th	Amherst County	27th	Bland County
2A	Accomack County		Buckingham County		Charlottesville City		Bedford City		Carroll County
	Northampton County		Charlotte County		Culpeper County		Bedford County		Floyd County
2nd	Virginia Beach City		Cumberland County		Fluvanna County		Campbell County		Galax City
3rd	Portsmouth City		Halifax County		Goochland County		Lynchburg City		Giles County
4th	Norfolk City		Lunenburg County		Greene County		Nelson County		Grayson County
5th	Franklin City		Mecklenburg County		Louisa County	25th	Alleghany County		Montgomery County
	Isle of Wight County		Prince Edward County		Madison County		Augusta County		Pulaski County
	Southampton County	11th	Amelia County		Orange County		Bath County		Radford City
	Suffolk City		Dinwiddie County	17th	Arlington County		Botetourt County		Wythe County
6th	Brunswick County		Nottoway County		Falls Church City		Buena Vista City	28th	Bristol City
	Emporia City		Petersburg City	18th	Alexandria City		Clifton Forge		Smyth County
	Greensville County		Powhatan County	19th	Fairfax City		Covington City		Washington County
	Hopewell City	12th	Chesterfield County		Fairfax County		Craig County	29th	Buchanan County
	Prince George County		Colonial Heights City	20th	Fauquier County		Highland County		Dickenson County
	Surry County	13th	Richmond City		Loudoun County		Lexington City		Russell County
	Sussex County	14th	Henrico County		Rappahannock County		Rockbridge County		Tazewell County
7th	Newport News City	15th	Caroline County	21st	Henry County		Staunton City	30th	Lee County
8th	Hampton City		Essex County		Martinsville City	26th	Waynesboro City		Norton City
9th	Charles City County		Fredericksburg City		Patrick County		Clarke County		Scott County
	Gloucester County		Hanover County	22nd	Danville City		Frederick County		Wise County
	James City County		King George County		Franklin County		Harrisonburg City	31st	Manassas City
	King and Queen County		Lancaster County		Pittsylvania County		Page County		Manassas Park City
	King William County		Northumberland County	23rd	Roanoke City		Rockingham County		Prince William County
	Mathews County		Richmond County		Roanoke County		Shenandoah County		
	Middlesex County		Spotsylvania County		Salem City		Warren County		
	New Kent County		Stafford County				Winchester City		
	Poquoson City		Westmoreland County						
	Williamsburg City								
	York County								

# Drug Cases Submitted to DFS

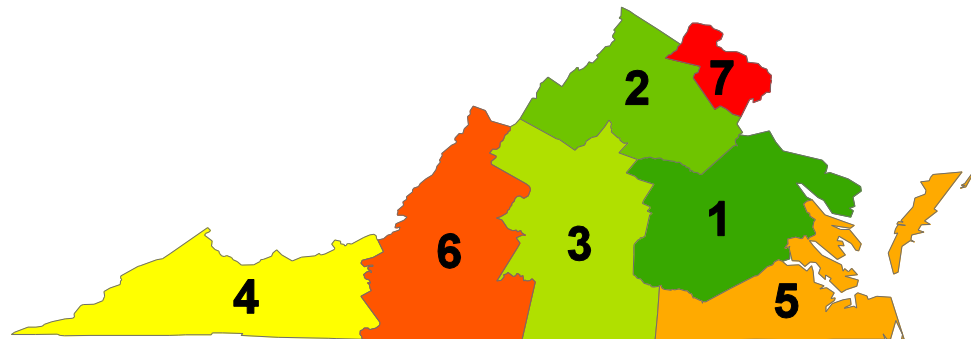
## Selected Drugs in CY2016, By VSP Division



\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.

# Regional Variations in Drug Submissions

## Distribution of Select Drug Cases Submitted to DFS, CY2016



Drug Category	VSP Div 1	VSP Div 2	VSP Div 3	VSP Div 4	VSP Div 5	VSP Div 6	VSP Div 7	Total
Benzodiazepines	18%	12%	5%	20%	16%	9%	20%	100%
Marijuana	17%	11%	7%	6%	20%	10%	28%	100%
"Club Drug"	15%	12%	6%	3%	14%	9%	40%	100%
Cocaine	28%	10%	10%	3%	25%	10%	15%	100%
Illicit Fentanyl*	23%	16%	2%	1%	37%	3%	18%	100%
Heroin	31%	19%	4%	1%	23%	7%	14%	100%
Methamphetamine	3%	12%	19%	33%	6%	24%	3%	100%
Presc. Opioids*	17%	16%	8%	28%	12%	12%	8%	100%
Presc. Stimulants	19%	16%	7%	7%	19%	11%	21%	100%
Cannabimimetic Agents	17%	15%	3%	31%	12%	9%	14%	100%
Census Population	17%	10%	8%	5%	22%	9%	29%	100%

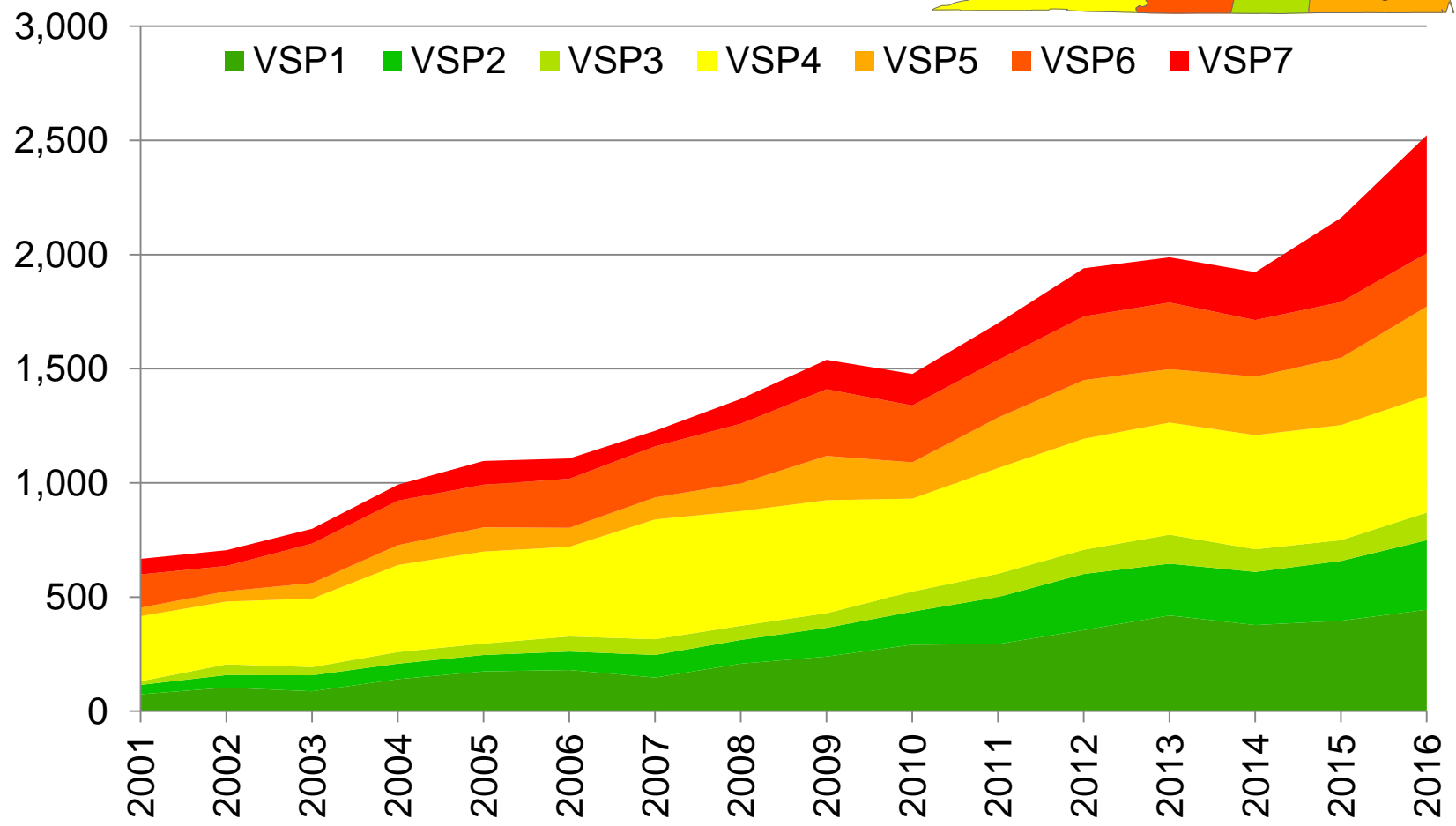
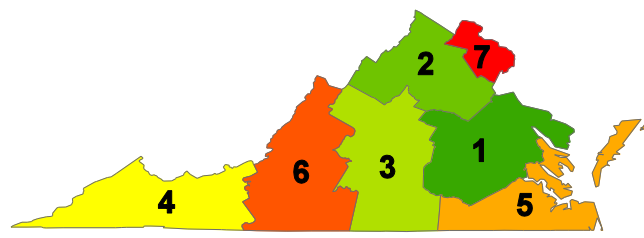
The table above presents the proportion of each of the selected drug types submitted by the individual VSP Divisions. The proportion of the state's population is also presented, for comparison. For example: 20% of benzodiazepine submissions in 2016 were submitted by Division 4, which had 5% of the state population.

\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.



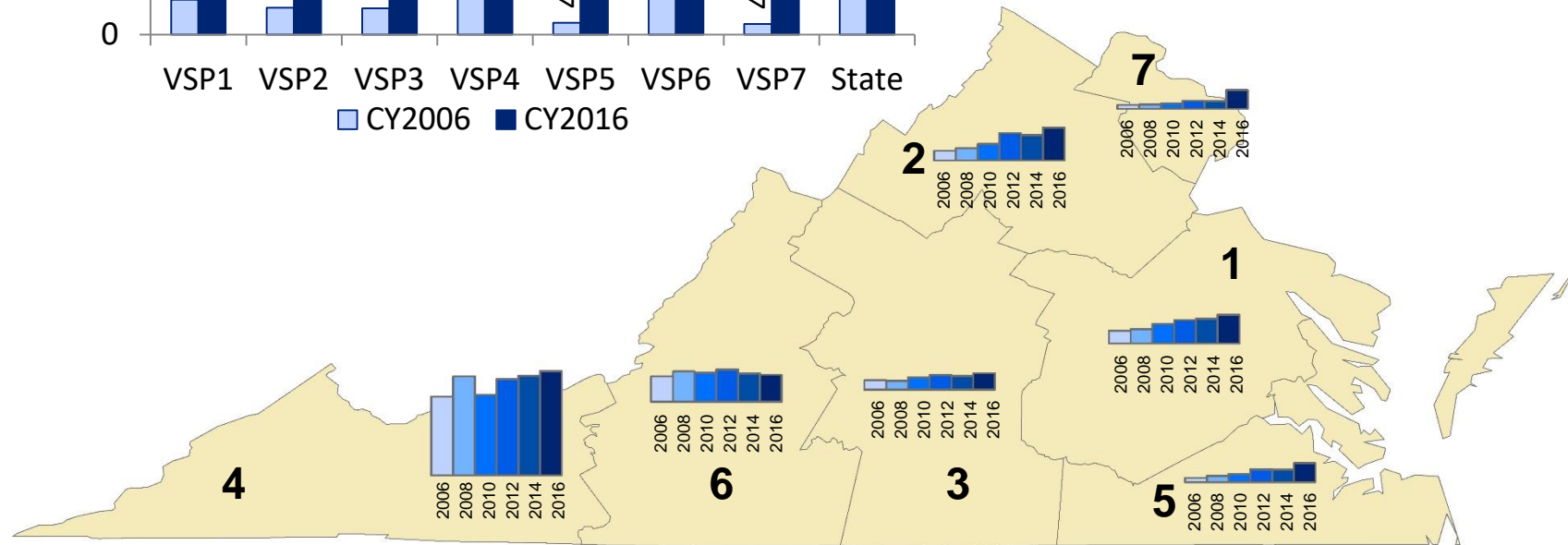
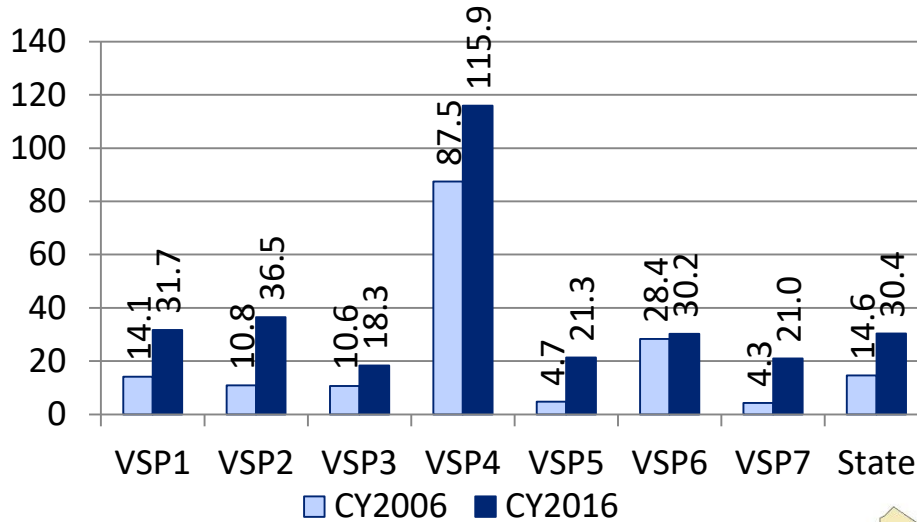
# Benzodiazepine Submissions

Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2016



# Benzodiazepine Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2016



# Benzodiazepine Summary

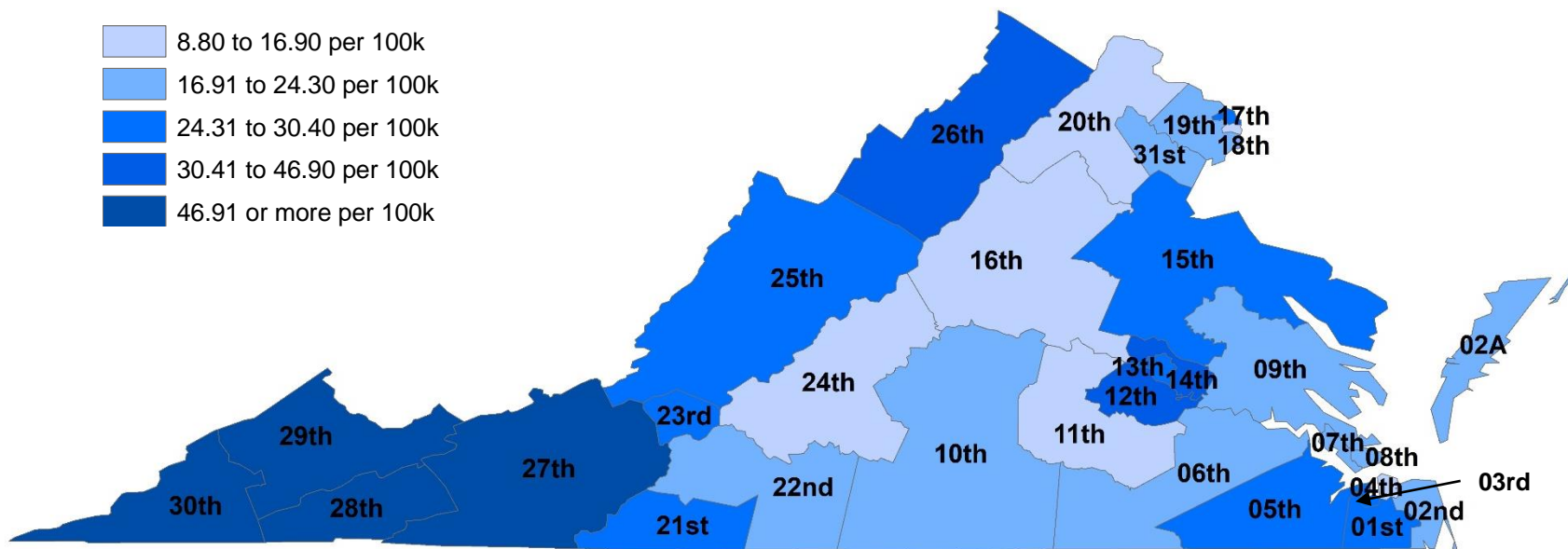
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of benzodiazepine case submissions:
  - Benzodiazepine cases submitted to DFS increased 16% statewide between 2015 and 2016.
  - Between 2011 and 2016, benzodiazepine case submissions increased 49%.
  - VSP Divisions 4 and 7 each reported 20% of the statewide total number of benzodiazepine cases in 2016.
  - Relatively few cases were submitted by Division 3 (5% of the statewide total).
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - The 2016 rate of benzodiazepine cases submitted by Division 4 was more than three times higher than the rate for any other Division.
  - Division 7 has seen the most growth in the rate of benzodiazepine submissions, increasing 195% between 2011 and 2016.

# Benzodiazepine Data by Court District

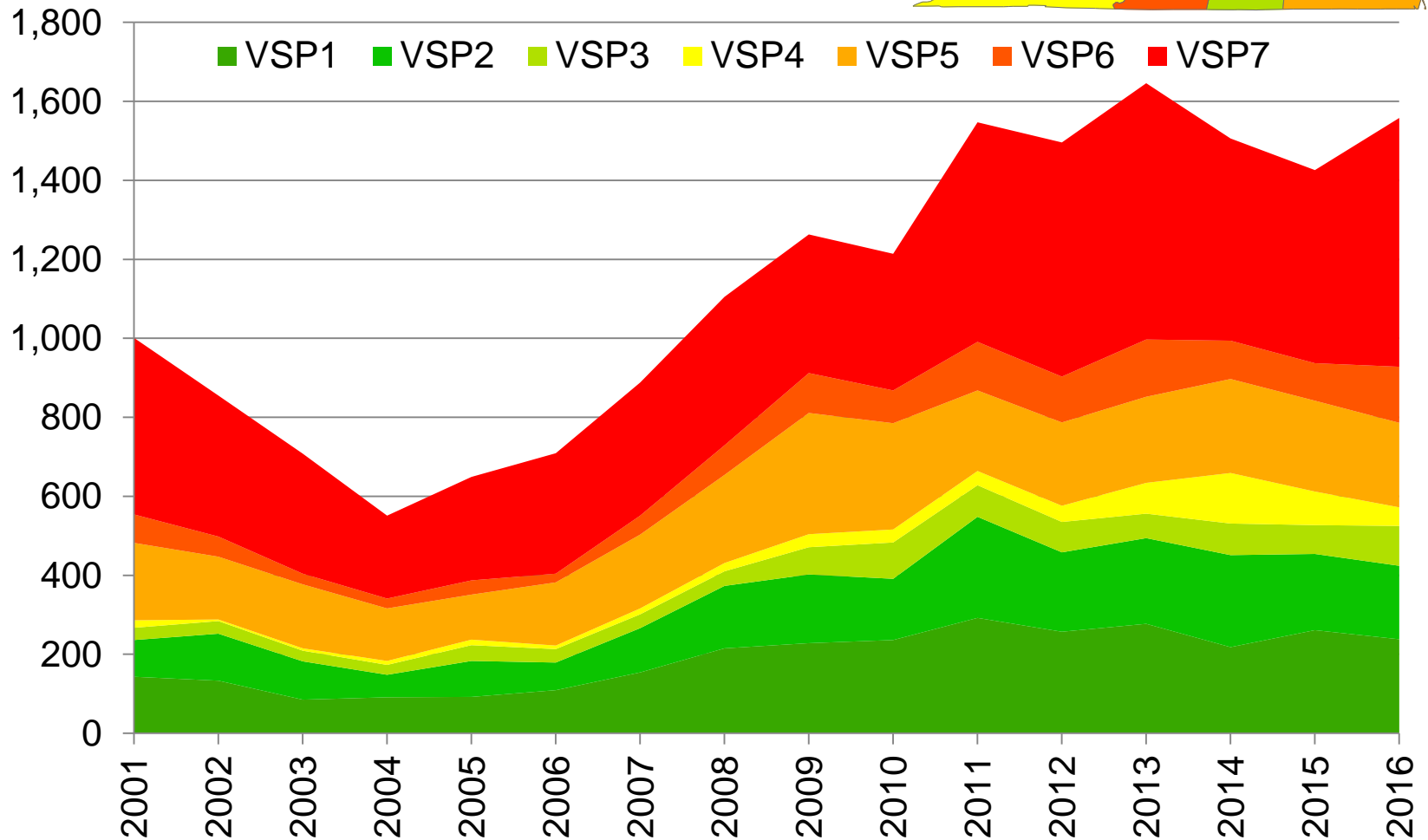
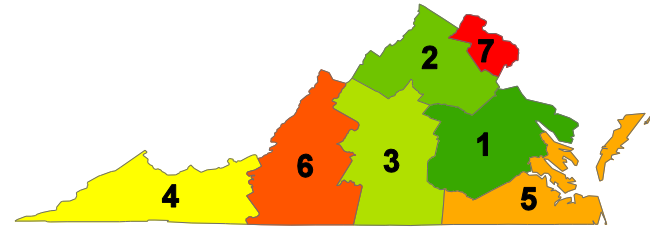
Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

- The Court Districts with the highest rate of benzodiazepine submissions in 2016 were the 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 28<sup>th</sup> District increased 86%. In that same period, the rate of submissions from the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> Districts decreased (20% and 16%, respectively).



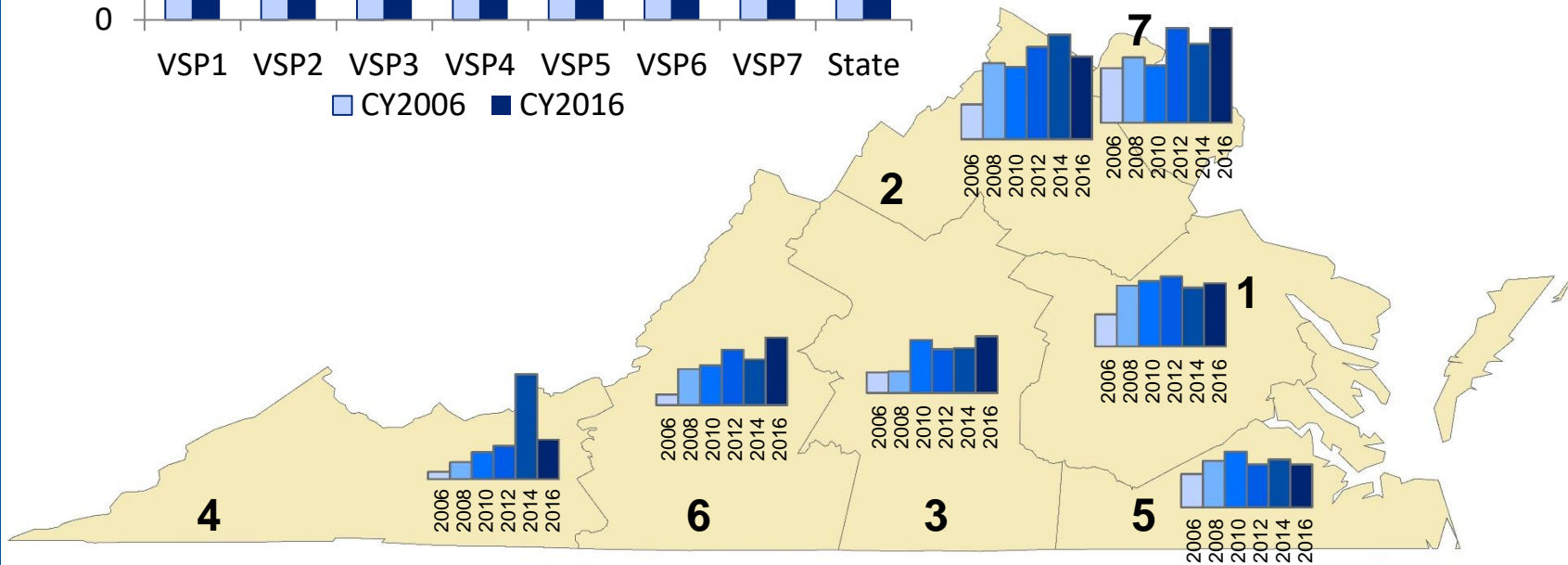
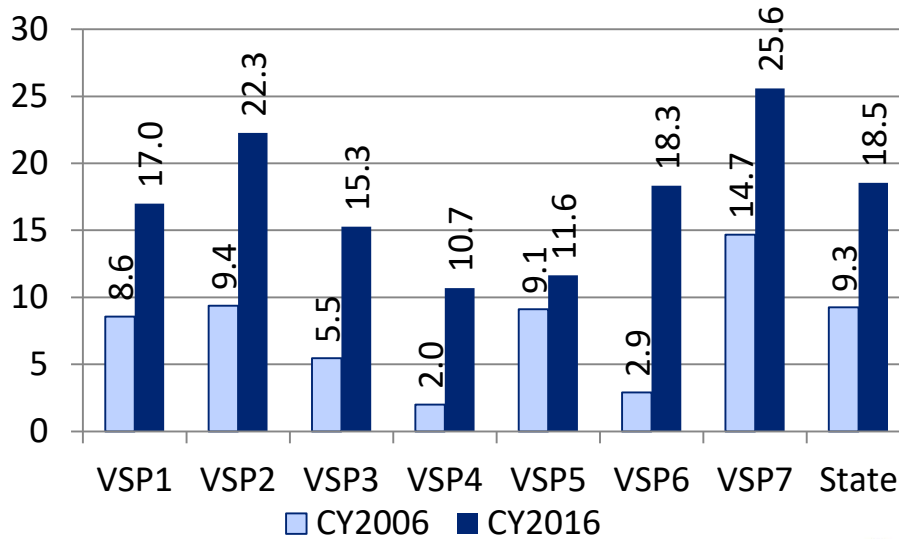
# “Club Drug” Submissions

Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2016



# “Club Drug” Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2016



# “Club Drug” Summary

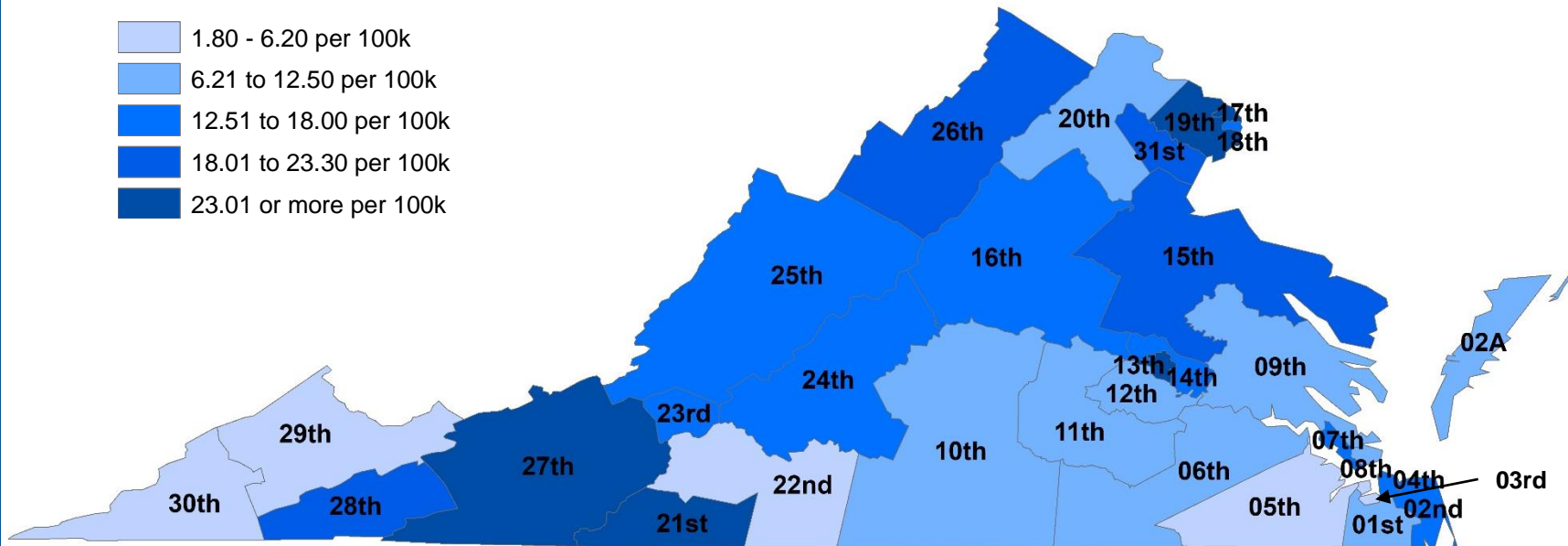
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of “club drug” case submissions:
  - After dropping in 2013 and 2014, “Club drug” cases submitted to DFS increased 9% statewide between 2015 and 2016. However, submissions in 2016 were less than 1% higher than 2011.
  - VSP Division 7 reported 40% of the statewide total number “club drug” cases in 2016.
  - Relatively few cases were submitted in 2016 by Divisions 4 or 3 (3% and 6% of the statewide total, respectively).
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - Divisions 2 and 7 have usually had the highest rates of “club drug” case submissions.
  - The spike in Division 4 in 2014 was driven by a large number of arrests for alpha-PVP, also known as “flakka,” a stimulant with hallucinogenic properties.

# “Club Drug” Data by Court District

Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

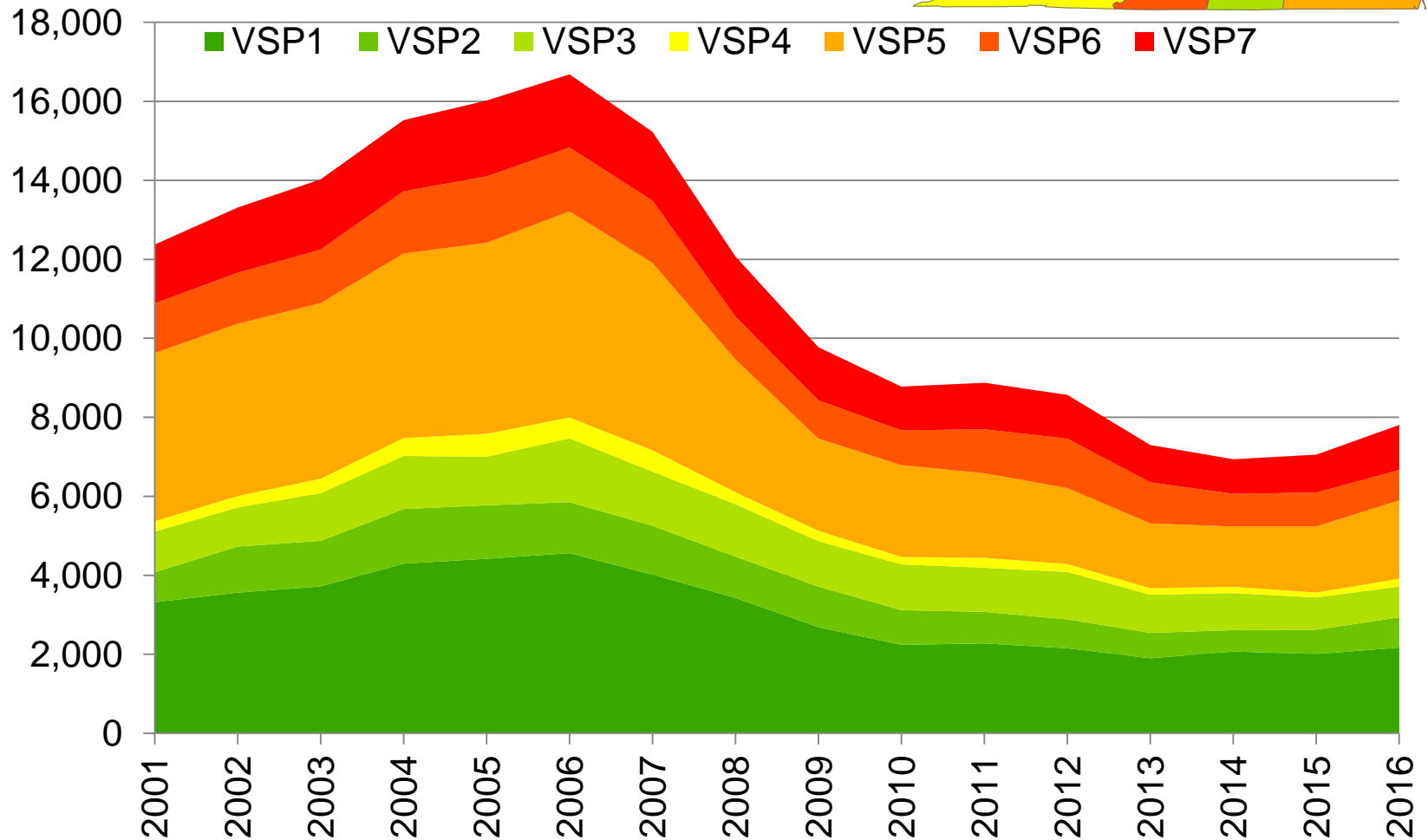
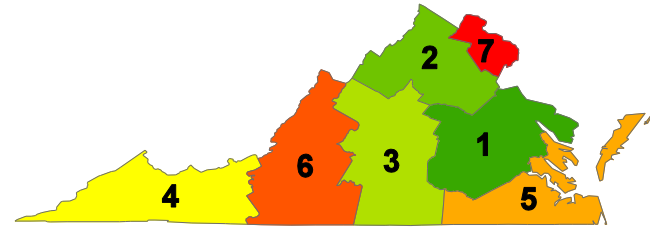
- The Court Districts with the highest rate of “club drug” submissions in 2016 were the 17<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup>.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 30<sup>th</sup> District decreased 88%. In the same period, the rate of submissions from the 17<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 19<sup>th</sup> Districts increased (98%, 71%, and 54%, respectively).





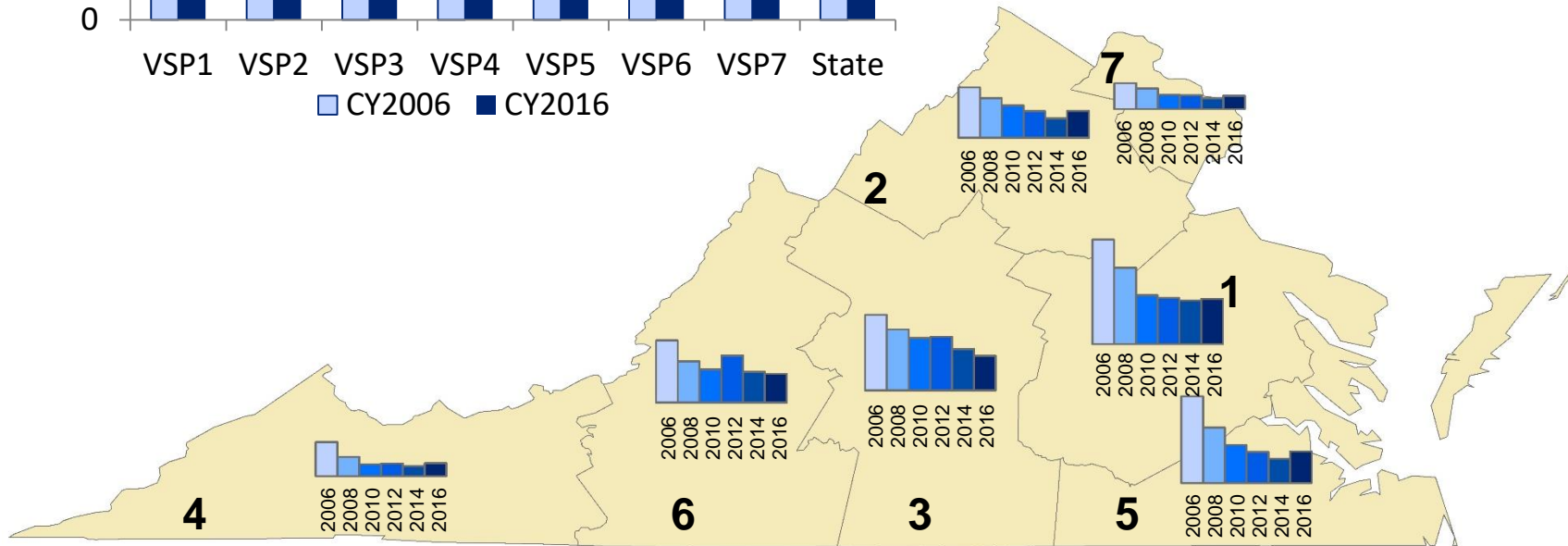
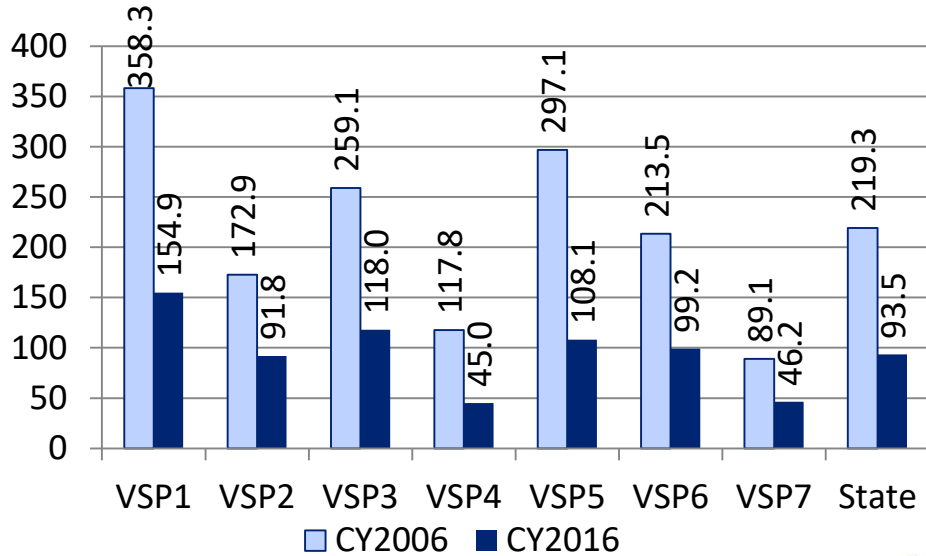
# Cocaine Submissions

Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2016



# Cocaine Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2016



# Cocaine Summary

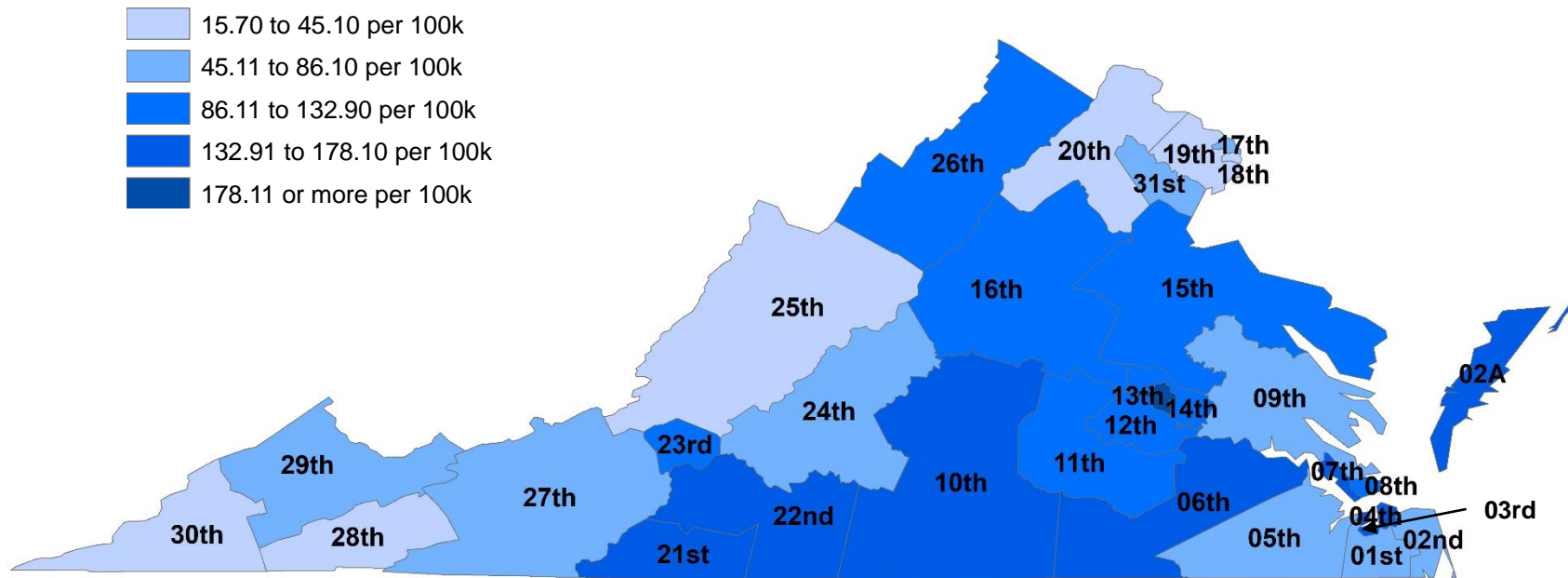
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of cocaine case submissions:
  - After declining 58% between 2006 and 2014, statewide cocaine cases submitted to DFS increased 2% in 2015 and 10% between 2015 and 2016.
  - VSP Divisions 1 and 5 submitted the majority of the statewide total number of cocaine cases in 2016 (28% and 25%, respectively).
  - Relatively few cases were submitted by Division 4 (3% of the statewide total).
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - VSP Division 4 saw the greatest increase in the rate of cocaine submissions in 2016, up 62% from 2015.
  - VSP Division 1 had highest rate of cocaine submissions in 2016.

# Cocaine Data by Court District

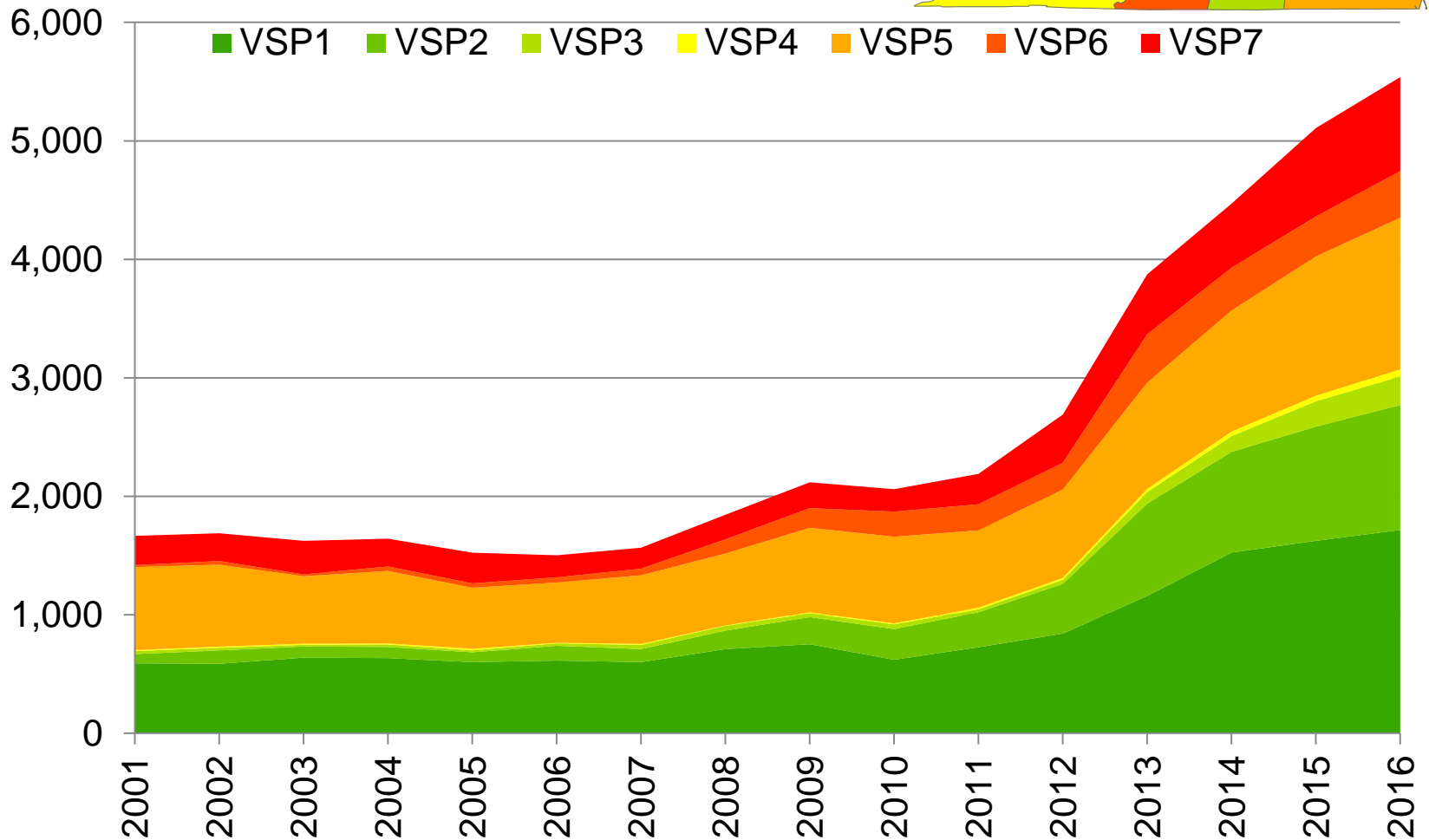
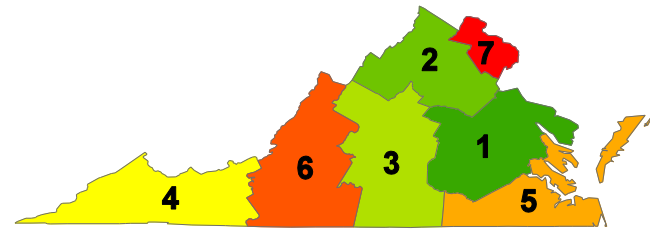
Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

- The Court Districts with the highest rate of cocaine submissions in 2016 were the 13<sup>th</sup>, 2A, and the 7<sup>th</sup>.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 5<sup>th</sup> District decreased 44%. In that same period, the rate of submissions from the 29<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Districts, as well as District 2A, increased (87%, 43%, and 66%, respectively).



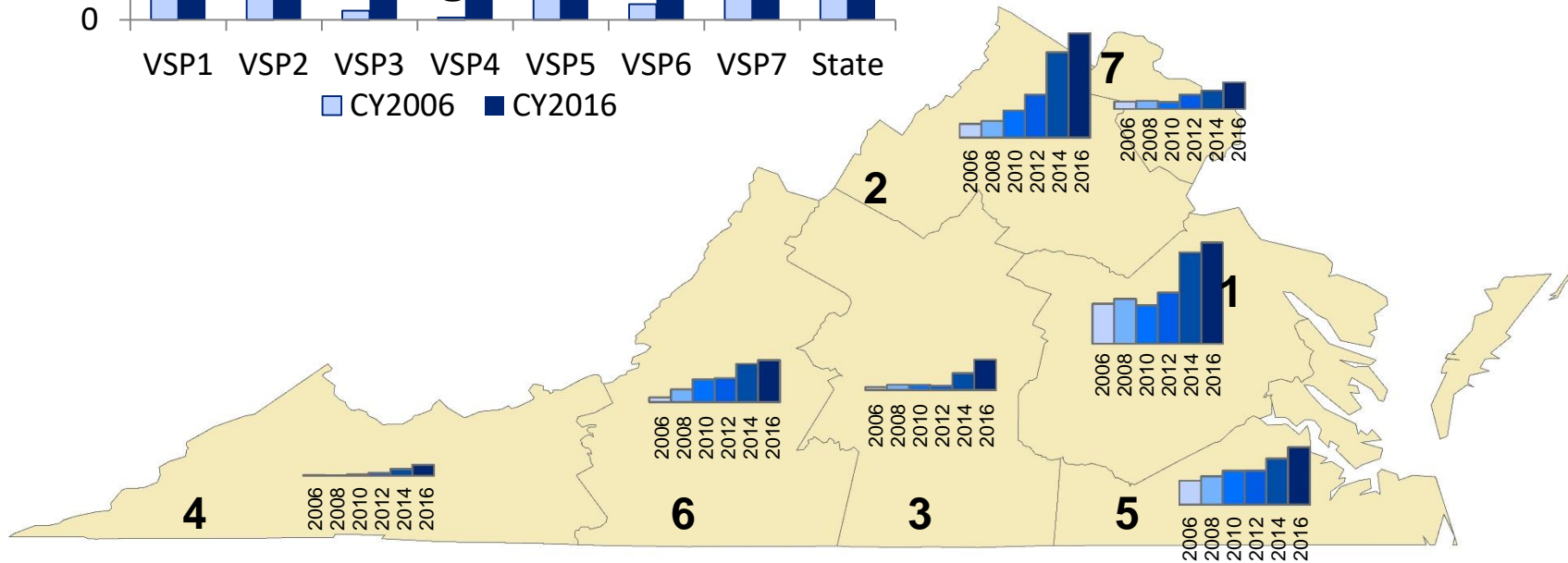
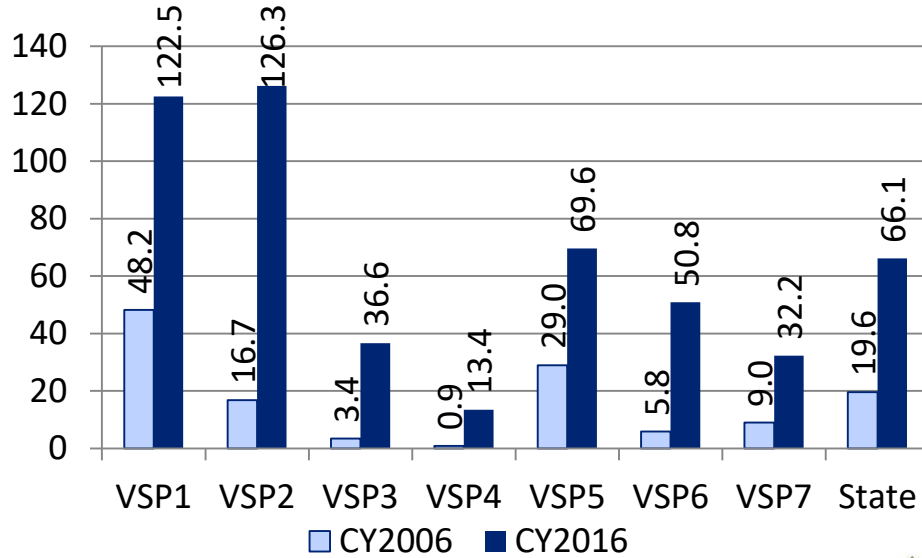
# Heroin Submissions

Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2016



# Heroin Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2016



# Heroin Summary

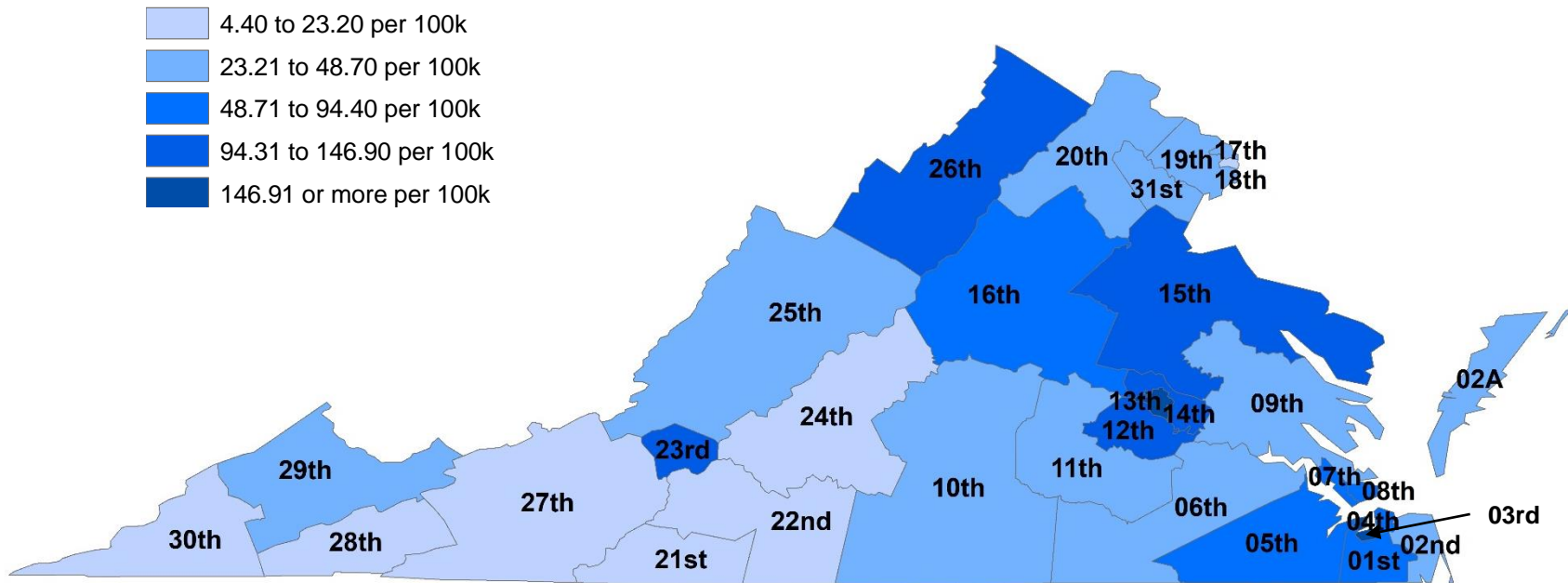
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of heroin case submissions:
  - Heroin cases submitted to DFS increased 8% statewide between 2015 and 2016.
  - Between 2011 and 2016, heroin submissions increased 154% statewide.
  - VSP Divisions 1 and 5 submitted the majority of the statewide total number of heroin cases in 2016 (31% and 23%, respectively).
  - Relatively few cases were submitted by Divisions 4 and 3 in 2016 (1% and 4%, respectively).
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - The rate of heroin cases submitted from Divisions 1 and 2 were each almost twice as high as any other Division.

# Heroin Data by Court District

Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

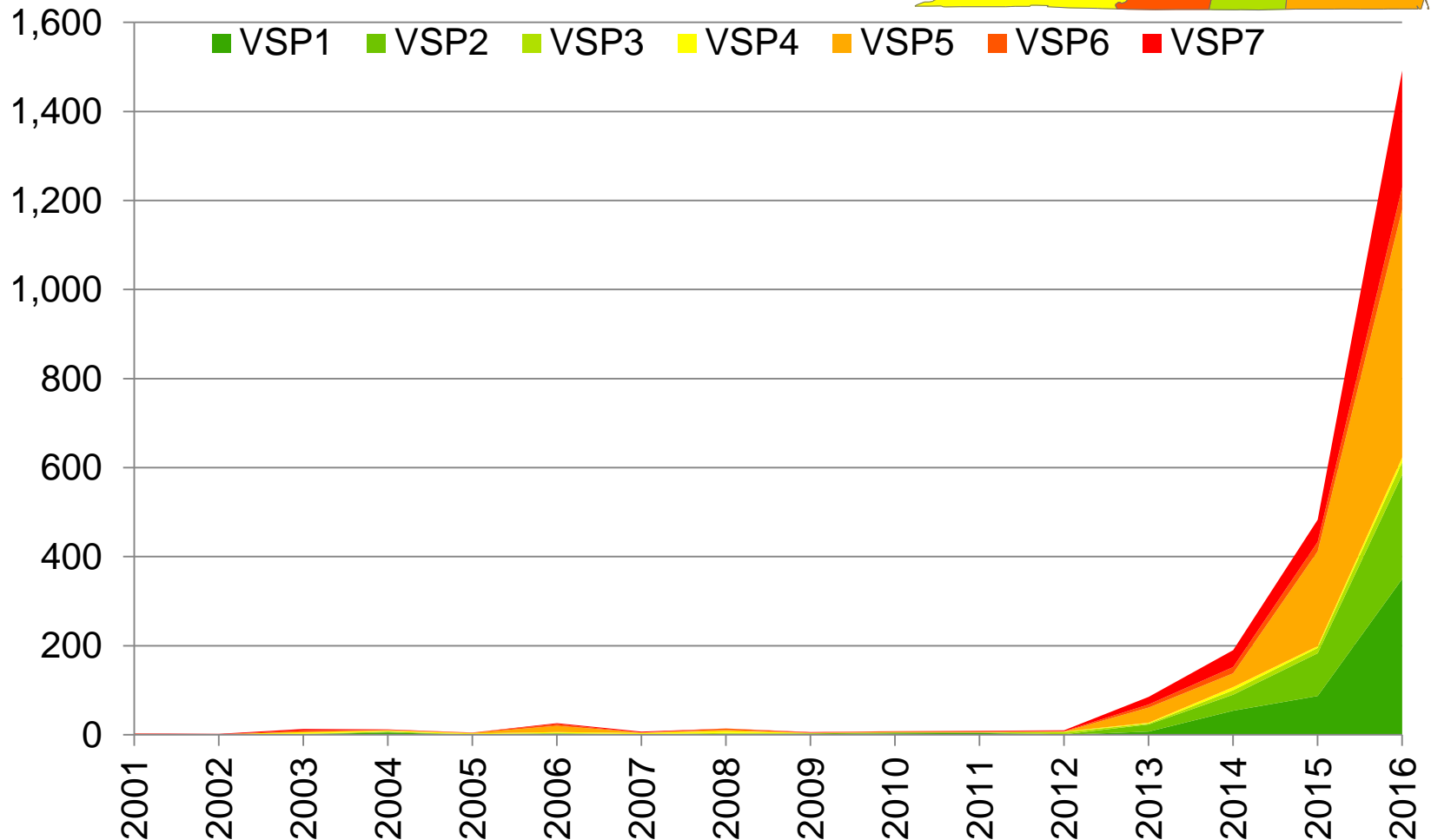
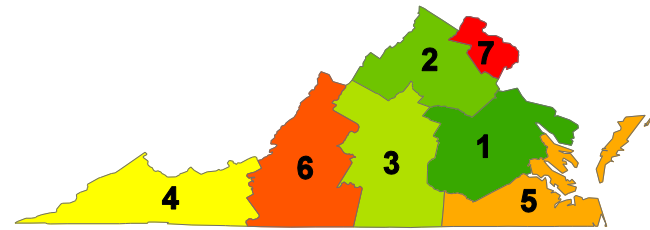
- The Court Districts with the highest rate of heroin submissions were the 13th, 3rd, and 14th.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 13<sup>th</sup> District decreased 14%. In that same period, the rate of submissions from the 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Districts increased (30%, 10%, and 7%, respectively).





# Illicit Fentanyl\* Submissions

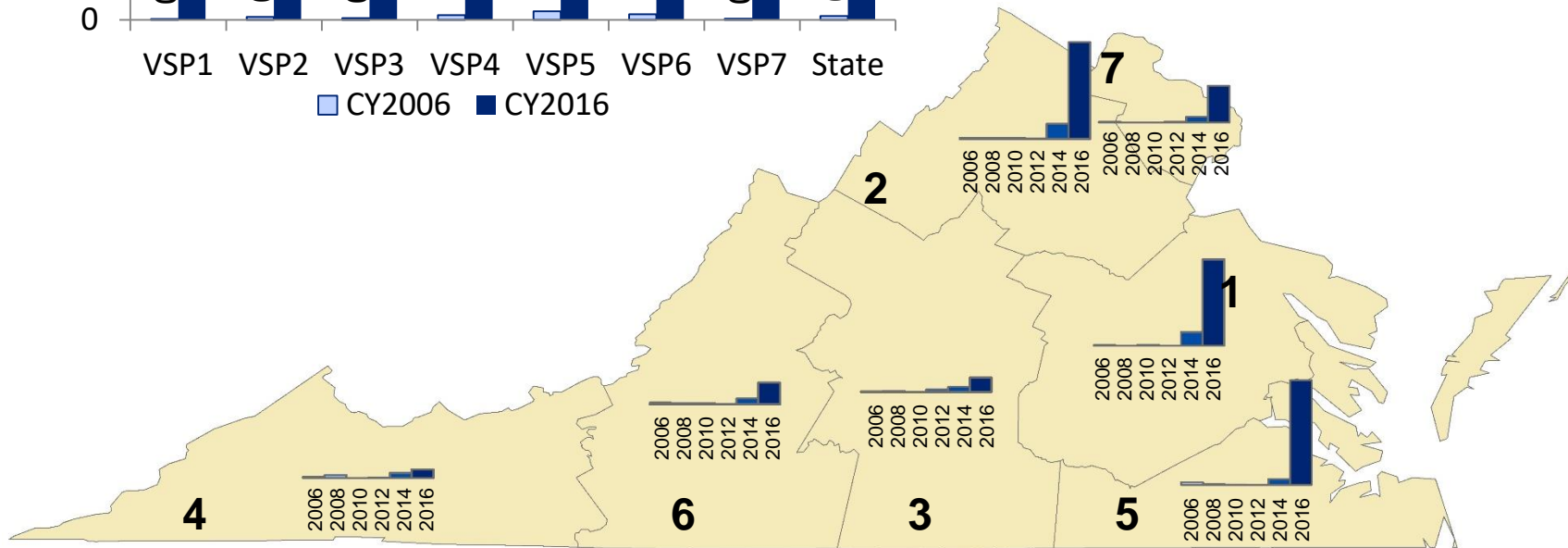
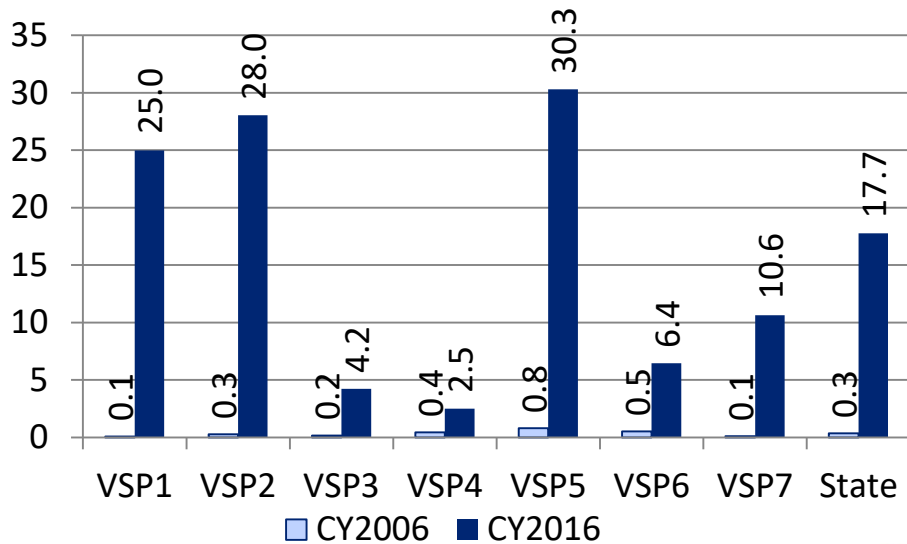
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2016



\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.

# Illicit Fentanyl\* Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2016



\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.

# Illicit Fentanyl\* Summary

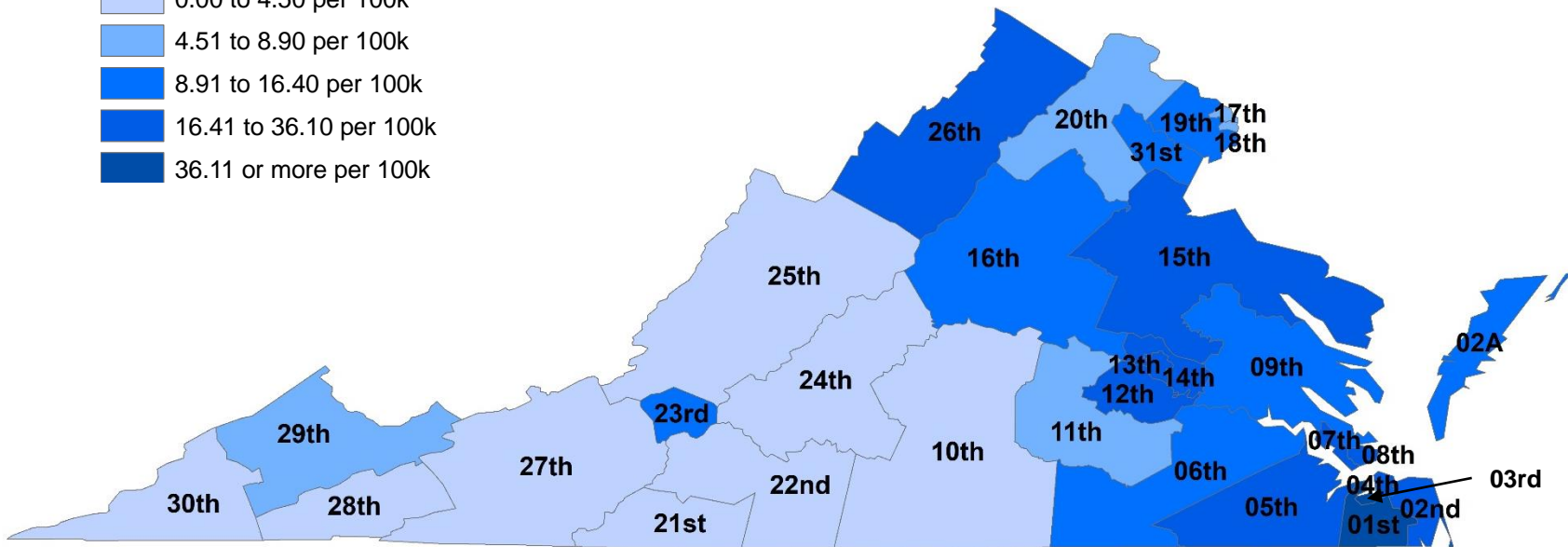
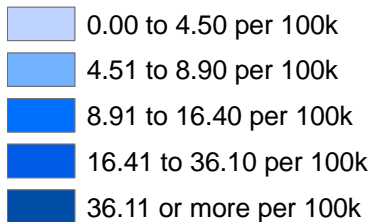
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of illicit fentanyl case submissions:
  - Illicit fentanyl cases submitted to DFS increased 207% statewide between 2015 and 2016.
  - Illicit fentanyl cases began increasing rapidly in 2013. Between 2013 and 2016, cases increased 1,656%.
  - VSP Divisions 5 and 1 submitted the majority of the statewide total number of illicit fentanyl cases in 2016 (37% and 23%, respectively).
  - Relatively few cases were submitted by Divisions 4 and 3 in 2016 (1% and 2%, respectively).
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - The rate of illicit fentanyl cases submitted from Divisions 5, 2, and 1 were each more than twice as high as any other Division.

# Illicit Fentanyl\* Data by Court District

Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

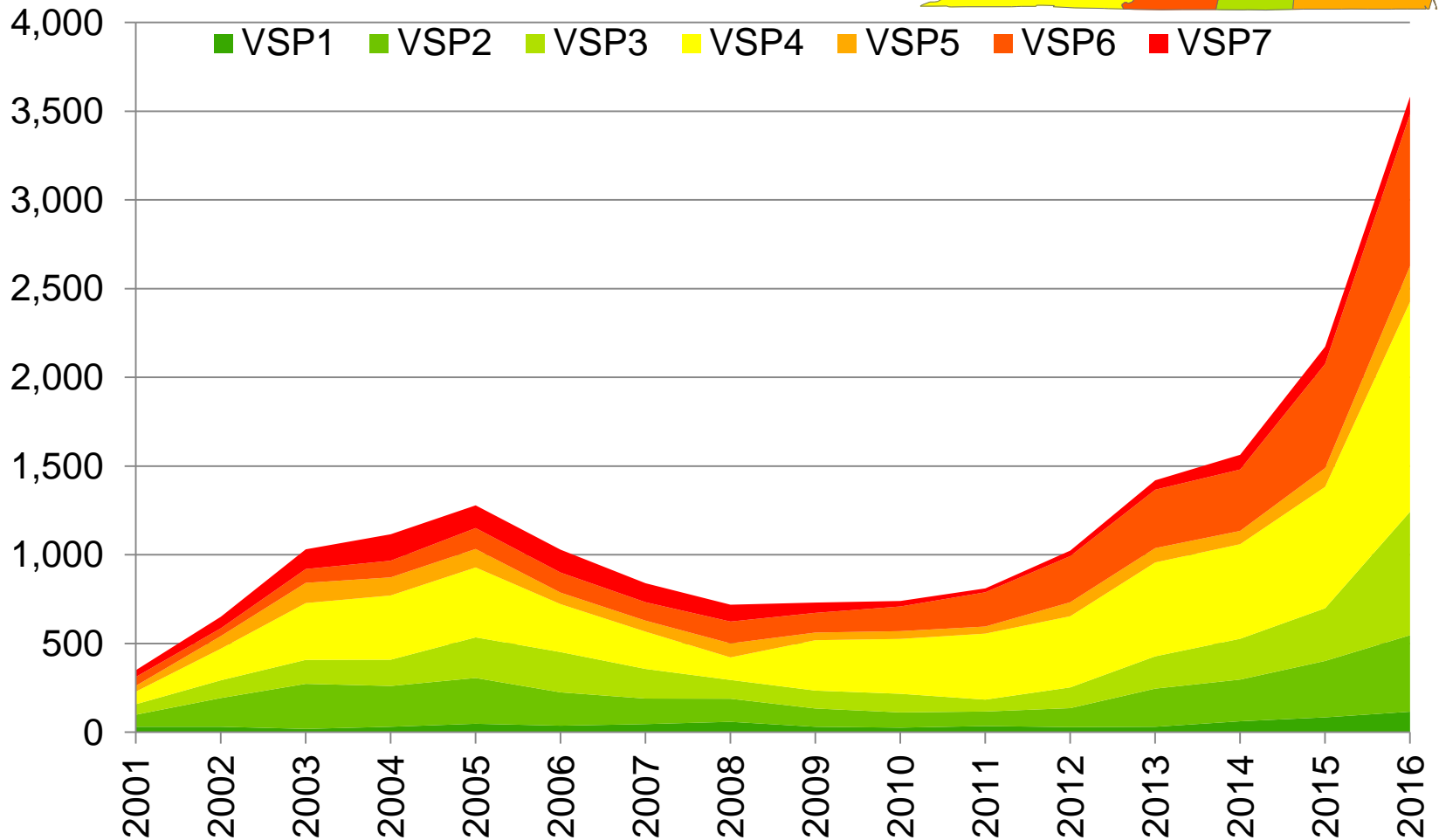
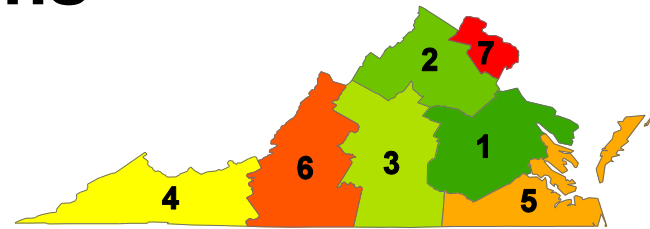
- The Court Districts with the highest rate of illicit fentanyl submissions were the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 7<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> Districts increased (1,369%, 559%, and 539% respectively). The rate of submissions from the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1<sup>st</sup>, and 13<sup>th</sup> Districts also increased substantially (198%, 180%, and 314%, respectively).



\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.

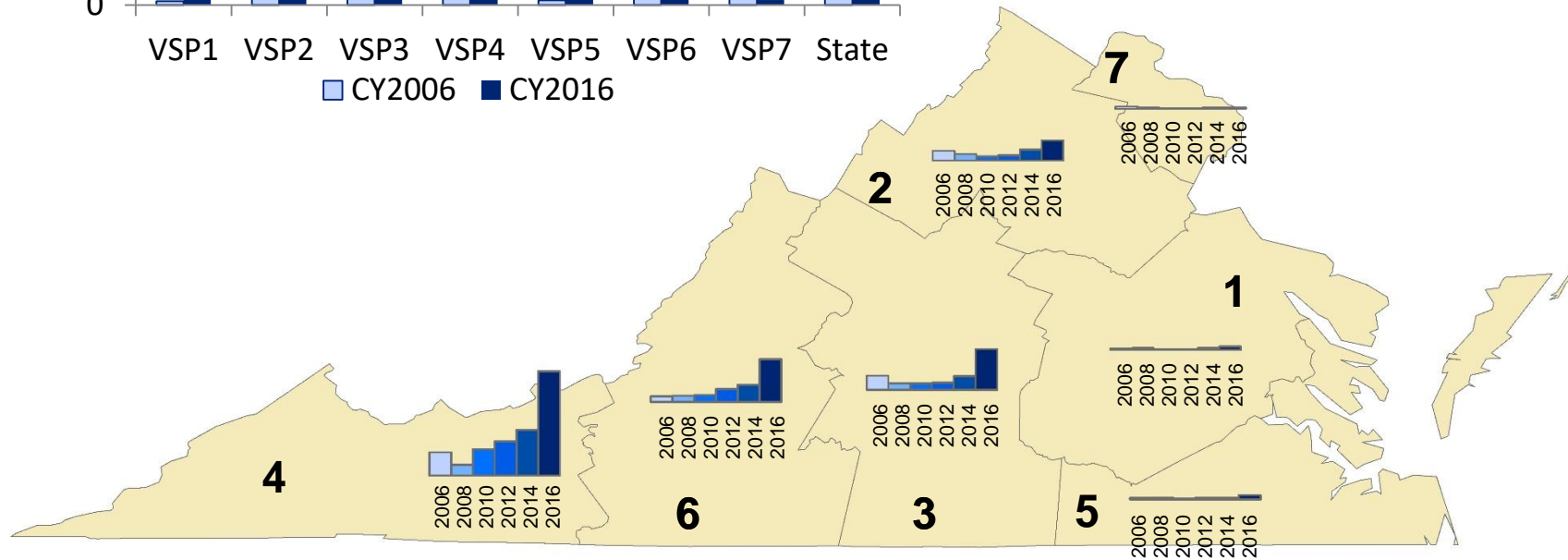
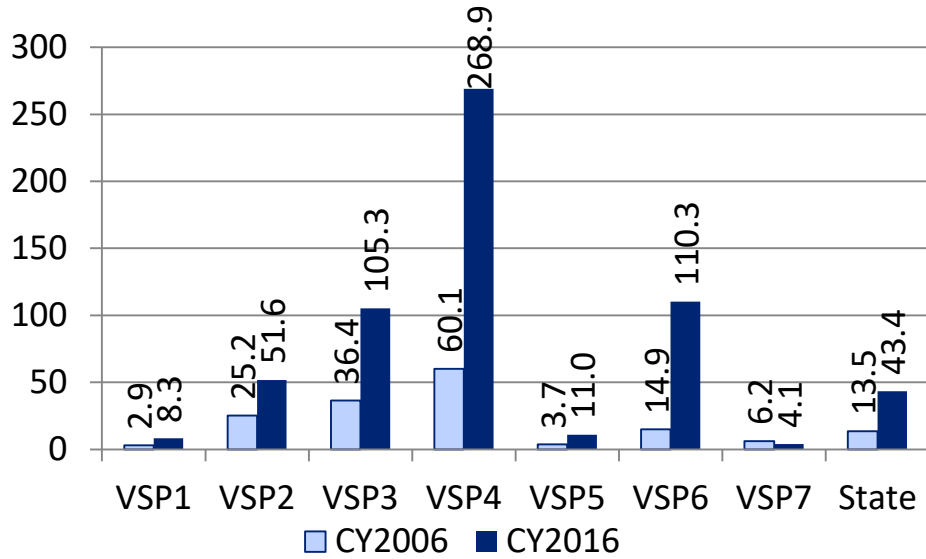
# Methamphetamine Submissions

Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2016



# Methamphetamine Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2016



# Methamphetamine Summary

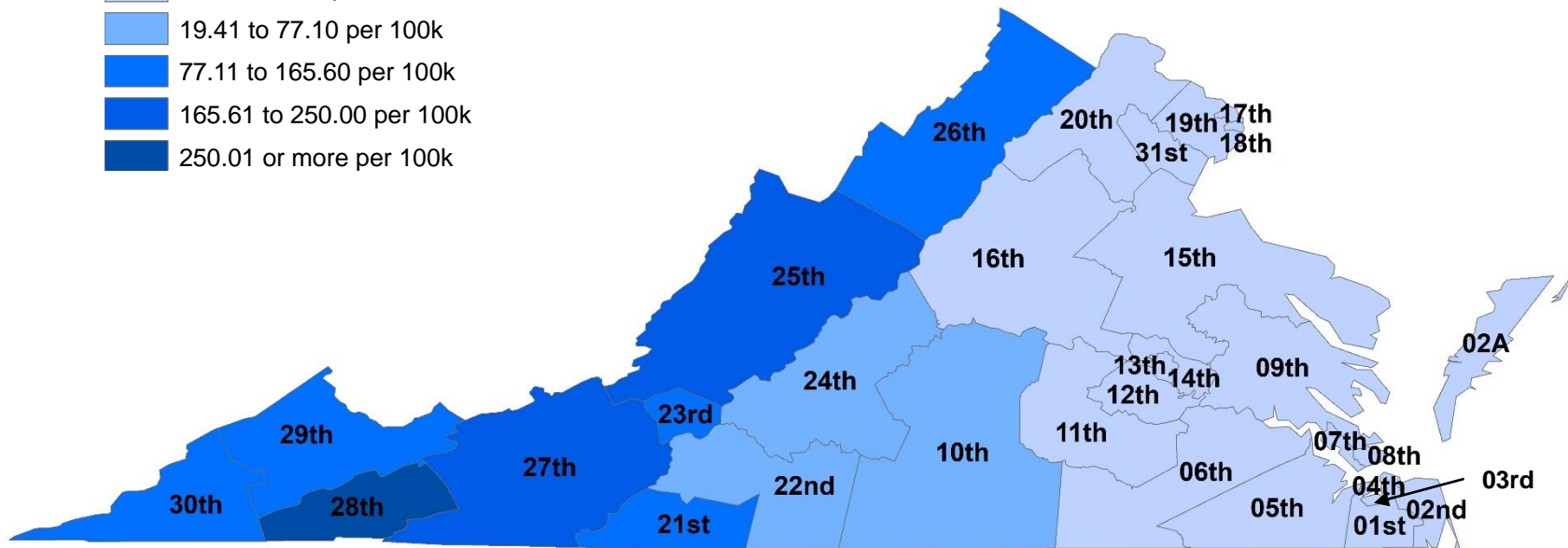
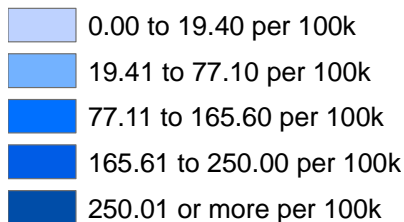
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of methamphetamine case submissions:
  - Methamphetamine cases submitted to DFS increased 63% statewide between 2015 and 2016.
  - After remaining flat for several years, methamphetamine cases began to rise in 2012. Between 2011 and 2016, methamphetamine submissions increased 329% statewide.
  - VSP Divisions 4, 6, and 3 submitted three quarters of the statewide total number of methamphetamine cases in 2016 (32%, 23%, and 19% respectively).
  - Relatively few cases were submitted by Divisions 1, 7, and 5 in 2016 (3%, 3%, and 6%, respectively).
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - The rate of methamphetamine cases submitted from Division 4 was over twice the rate from Divisions 3 and 6, which were each over twice as high as any other Division.

# Methamphetamine Data by Court District

Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

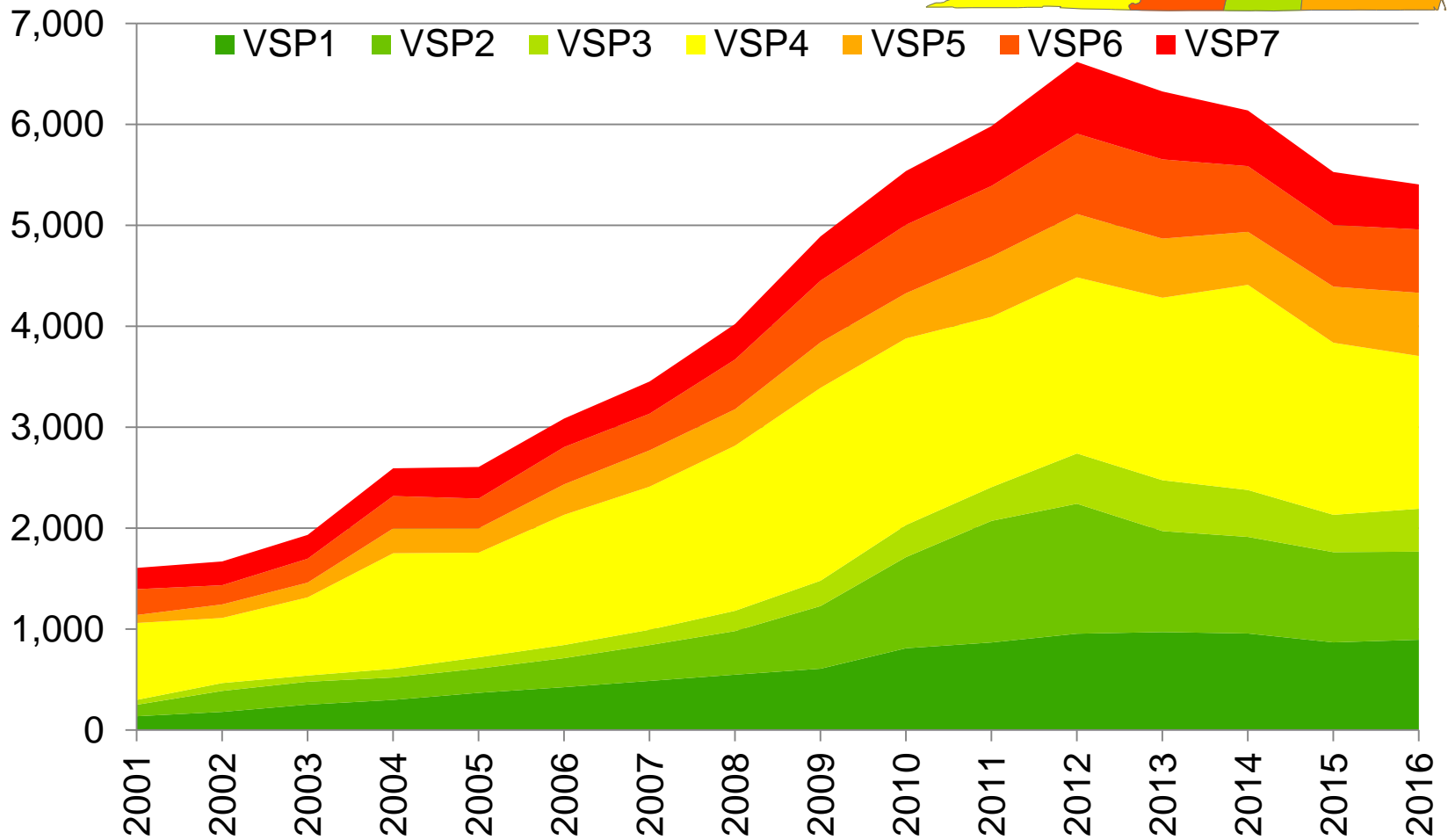
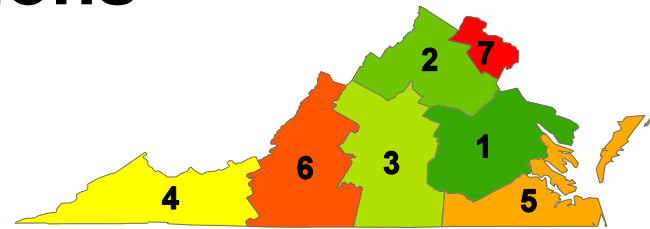
- The Court Districts with the highest rate of methamphetamine submissions were the 28<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 24<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup> Districts increased (190%, 160%, 64%, and 28%, respectively).





# Prescription Opioid\* Submissions

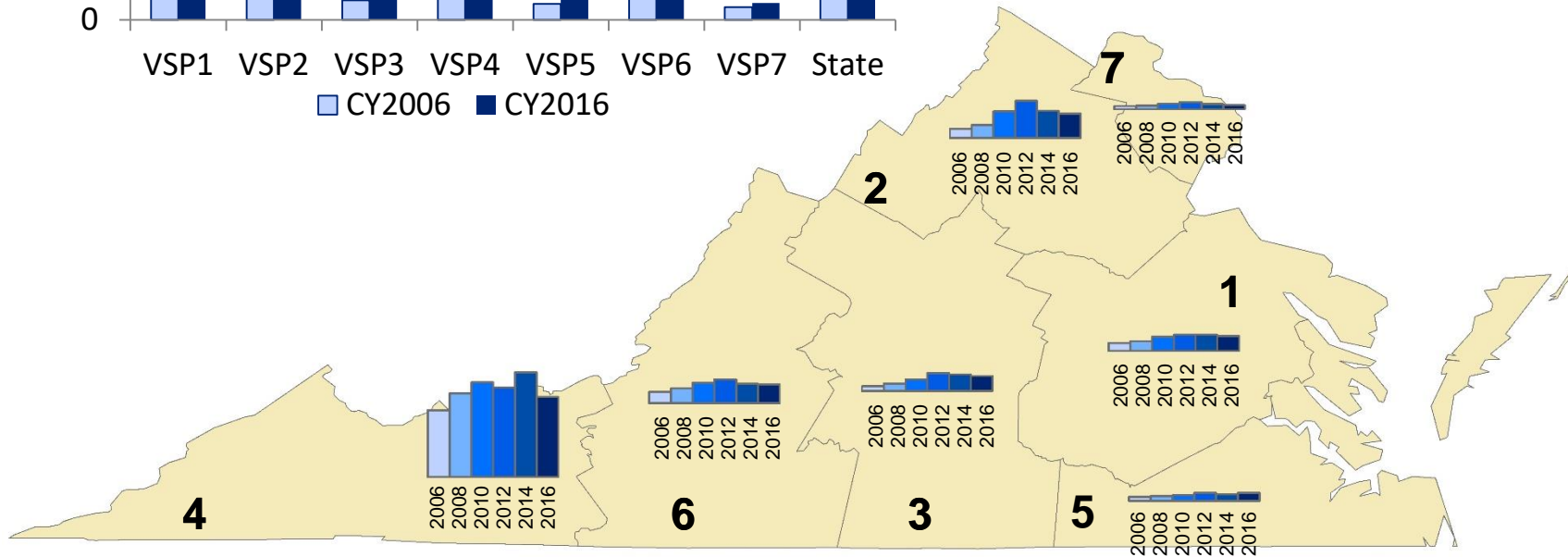
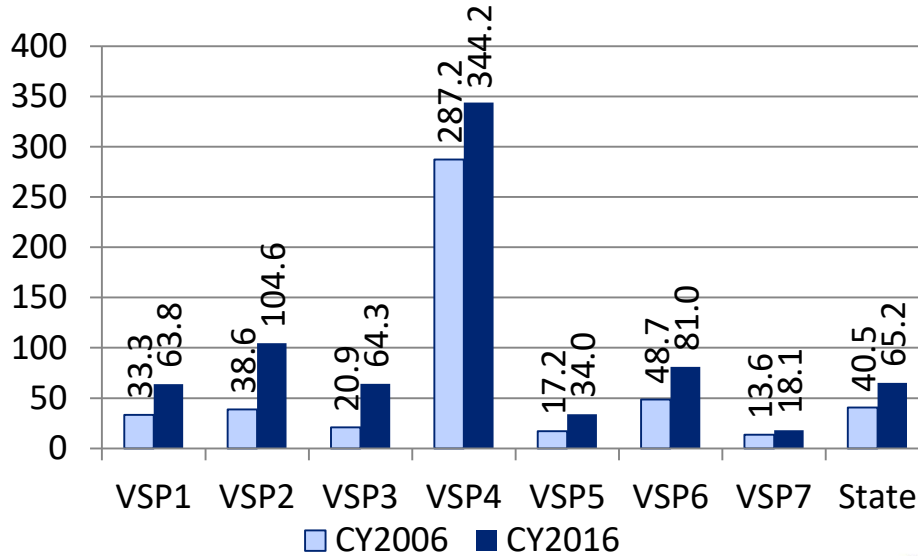
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2016



\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.

# Prescription Opioid\* Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2016



\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.

# Prescription Opioid\* Summary

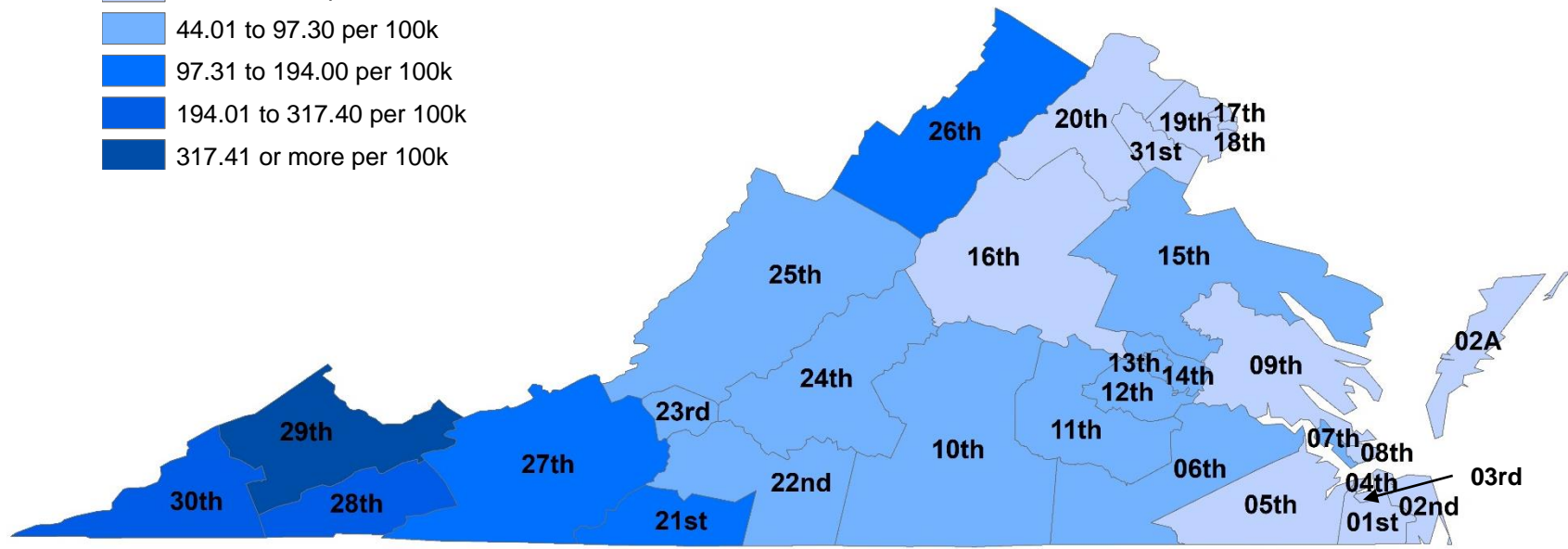
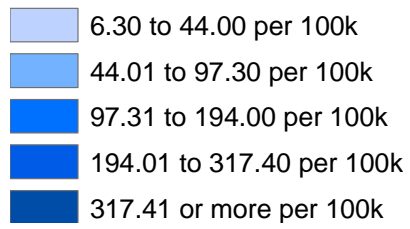
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of prescription opioid case submissions:
  - The number of prescription opioid cases submitted to DFS decreased 3% statewide between 2015 and 2016.
  - After peaking in 2012, the number of prescription opioid submissions dropped each year. Between 2012 and 2016, submissions dropped 18% statewide.
  - VSP Division 4 has consistently submitted the most prescription opioid cases. In 2016, 28% of the statewide prescription opioid cases were from Division 4.
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - The rate of prescription opioid submissions from Division 4 was more than three times higher than any other Division.

# Prescription Opioid\* Data by Court District

Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

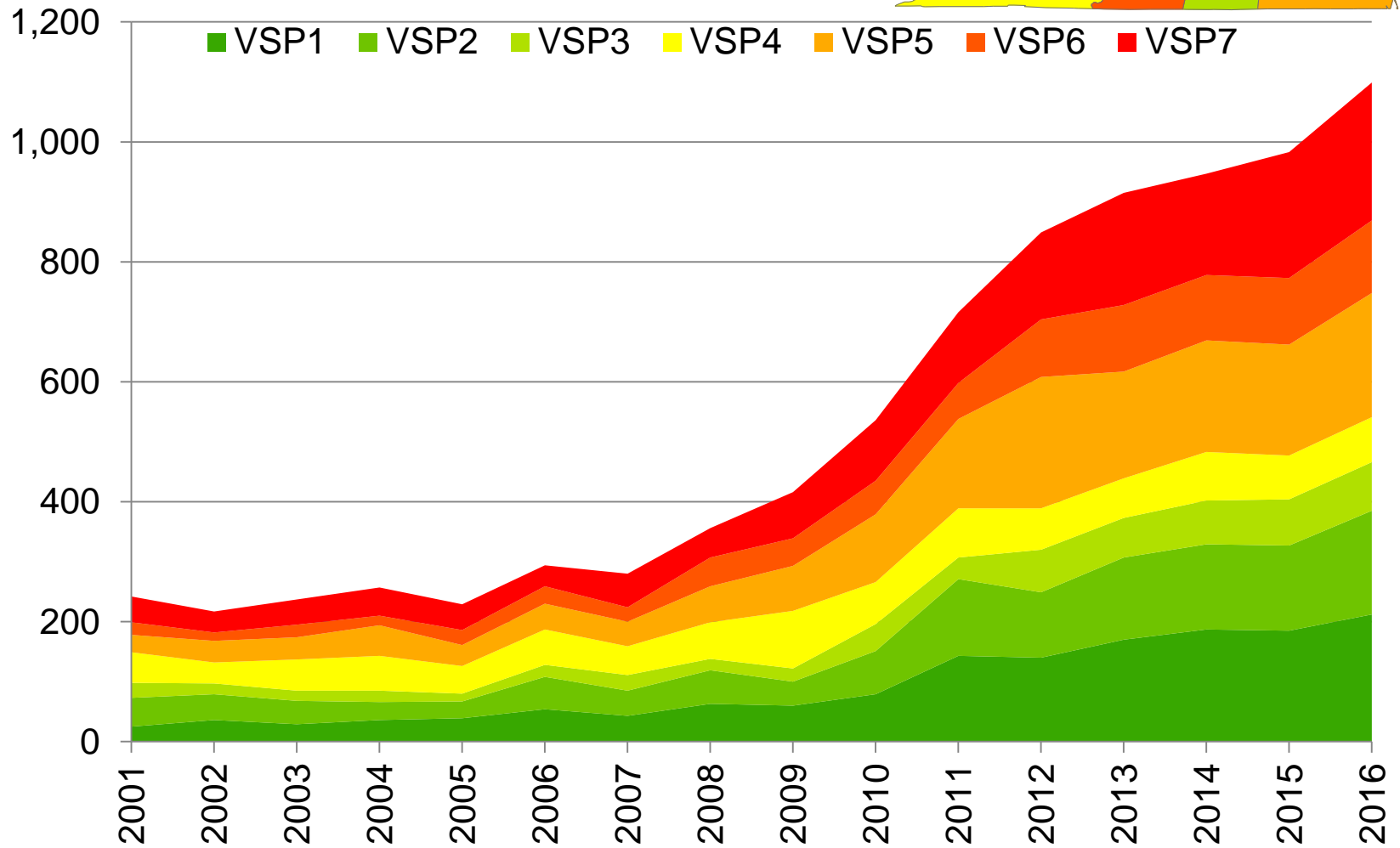
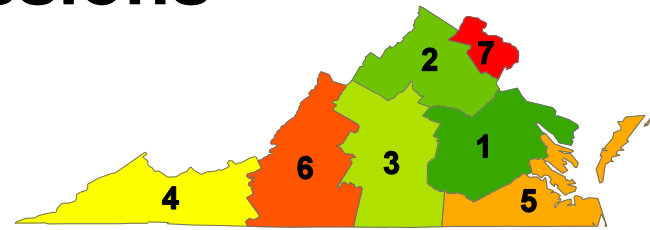
- The Court Districts with the highest rates of submissions in 2016 were the 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 30<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> Districts decreased (46% and 6%, respectively). In the same period, the rate of submissions from the 28<sup>th</sup> District increased 71%.



\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.

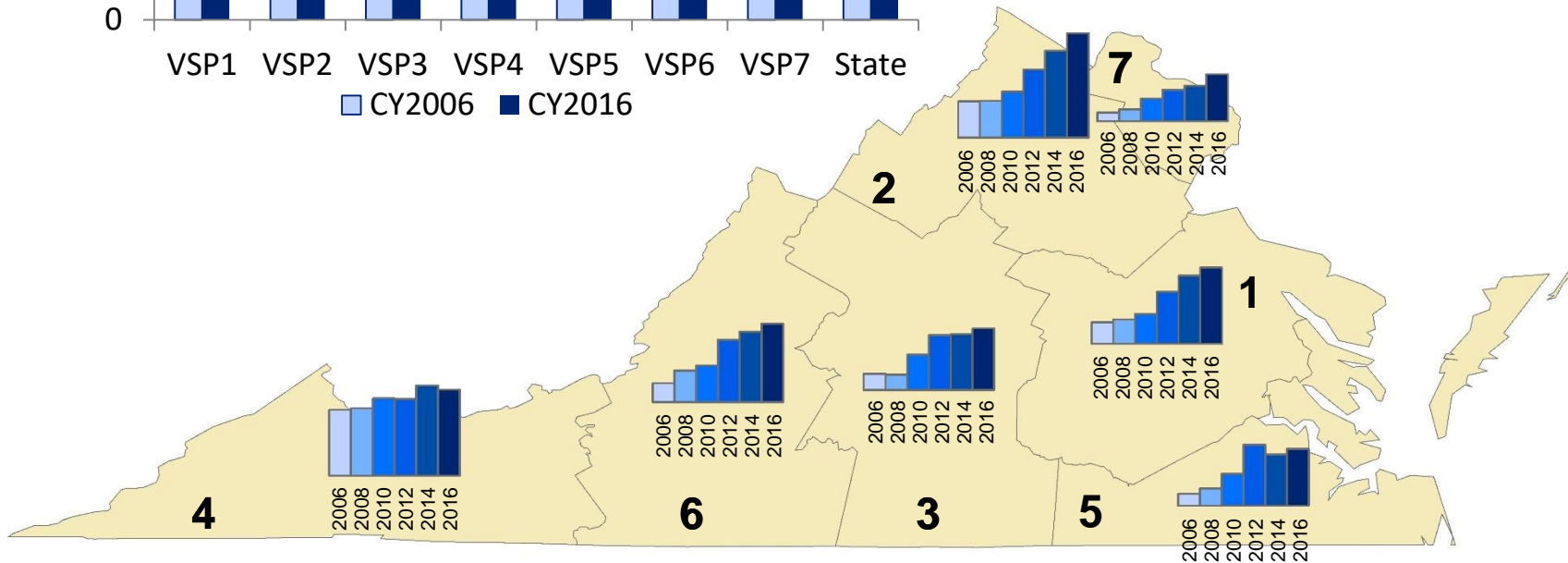
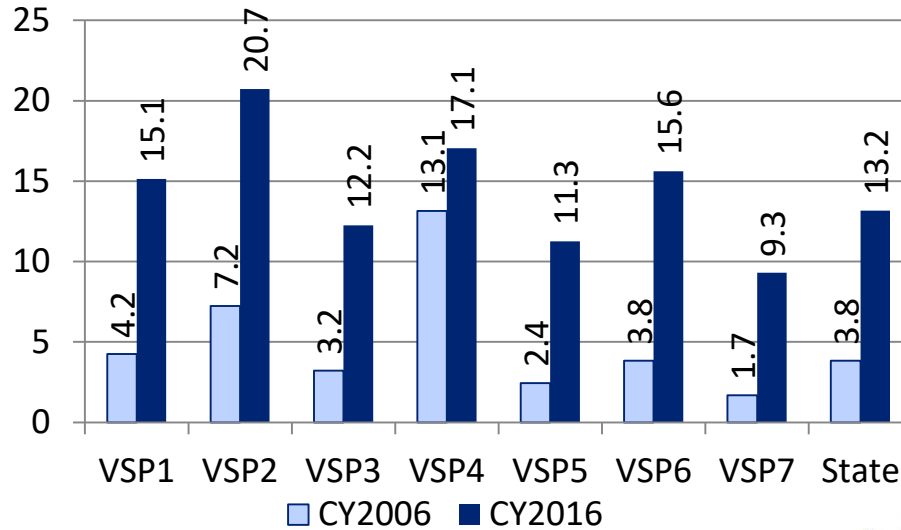
# Prescription Stimulant Submissions

Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2001-2016



# Prescription Stimulant Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2006-2016



# Prescription Stimulant Summary

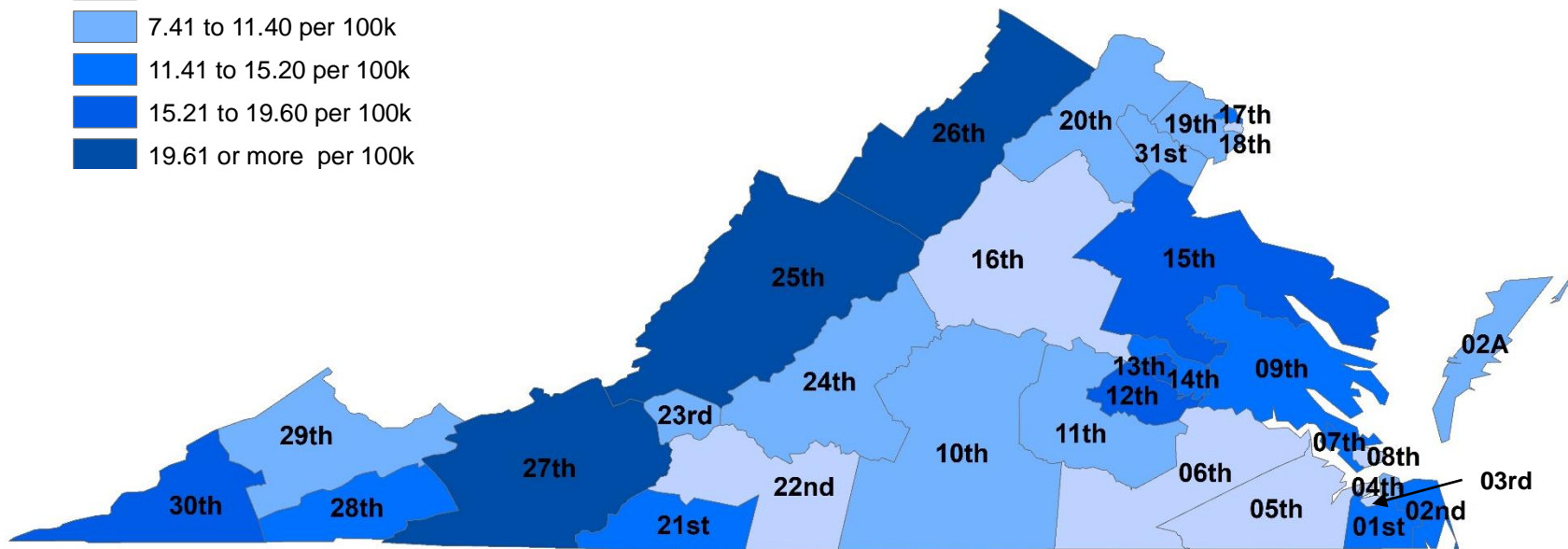
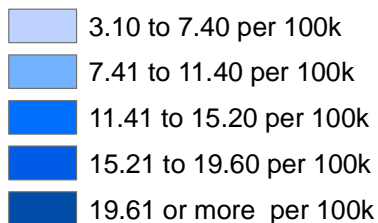
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of prescription stimulant case submissions:
  - The number of prescription stimulant cases submitted to DFS increased 11% statewide between 2015 and 2016. Between 2011 and 2016, submissions increased 51%.
  - VSP Divisions 7, 1, and 5 submitted almost three-fifths of the statewide total in 2016 (21%, 19%, and 19%, respectively).
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - Until 2015, Division 4 consistently had the highest rate of prescription stimulant submissions. In 2015 and 2016, Division 2 had the highest rate.
  - The rate of submissions for Division 2 increased 29% between 2011 and 2016. The rate for Division 4 dropped 6% during that period.

# Prescription Stimulant Data by Court District

Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

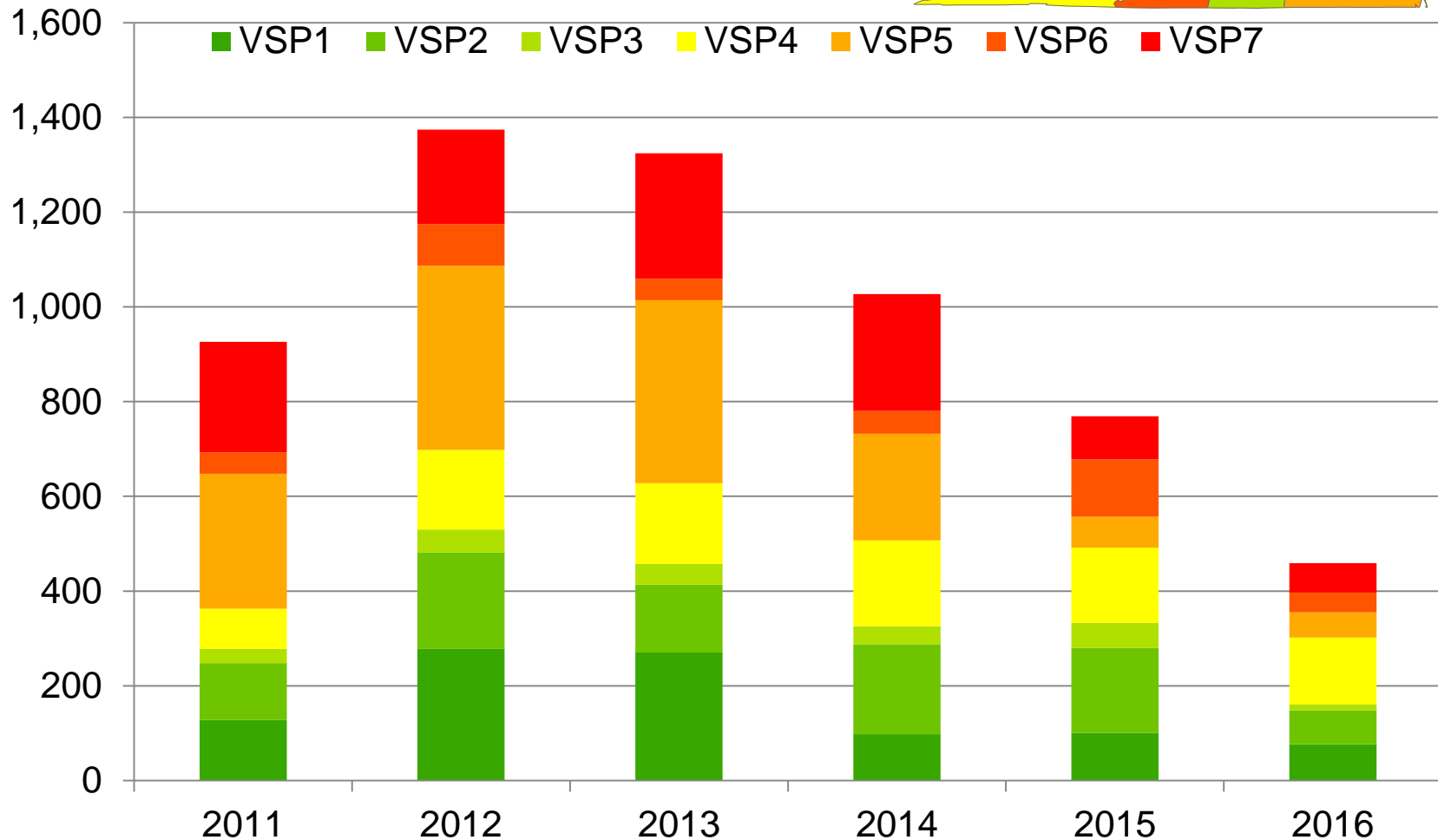
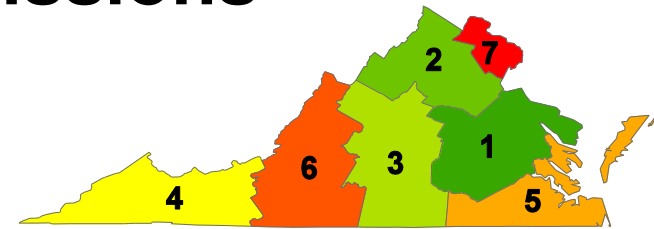
- The Court Districts with the highest rates of submissions in 2016 were the 27<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and 27<sup>th</sup> Districts increased (29%, 20%, and 2%, respectively).





# Cannabimimetic Agent\* Submissions

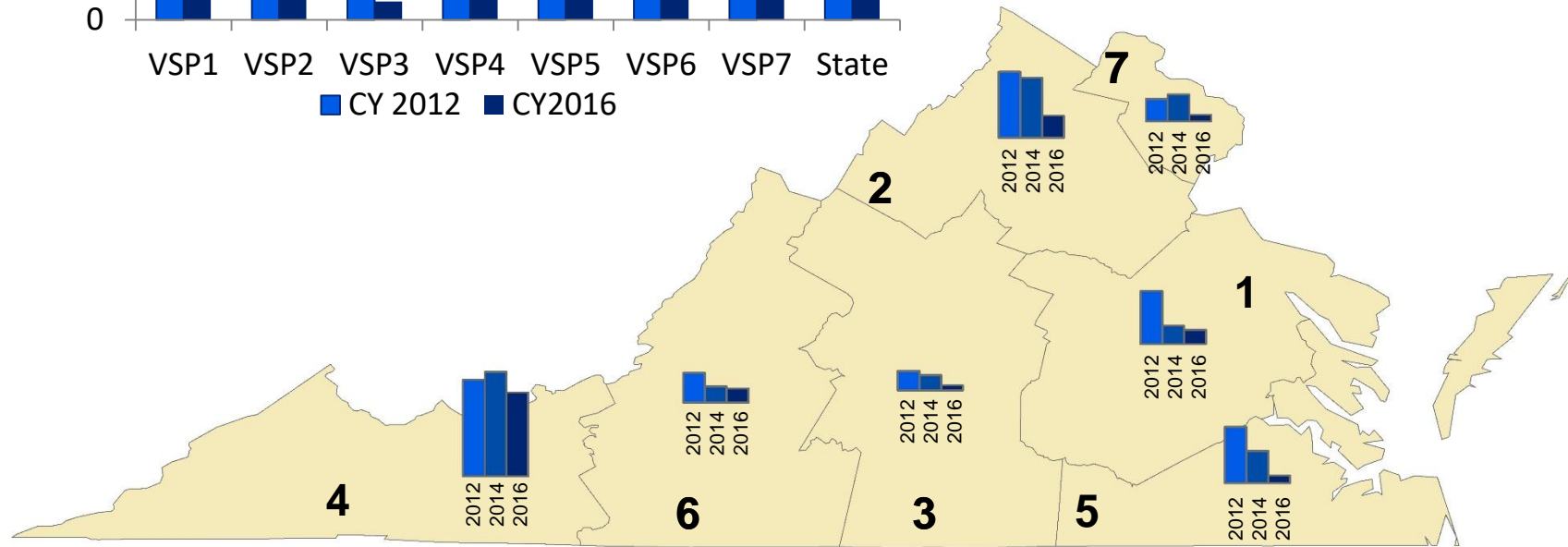
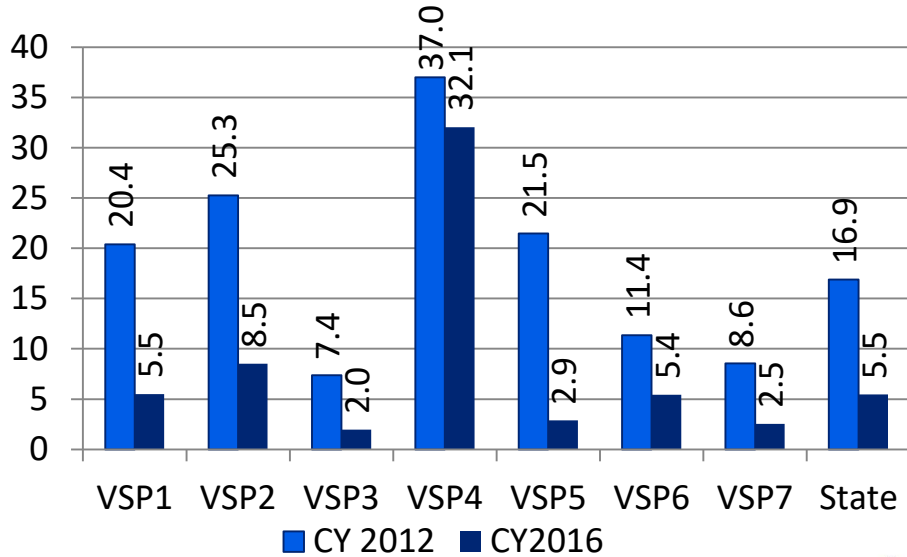
Cases submitted to DFS, calendar years 2011-2016



\*Previously labeled "synthetic cannabinoids." Includes substances that were not listed as cannabimimetic agents by Code at the time they were identified, but appear to have included a cannabimimetic agent-type substance.

# Cannabimimetic Agent\* Submission Rate

Rate of submissions per 100,000 Population, calendar years 2012-2016



\*Previously labeled "synthetic cannabinoids." Includes substances that were not listed as cannabimimetic agents by Code at the time they were identified, but appear to have included a cannabimimetic agent-type substance.

# Cannabimimetic Agent\* Summary

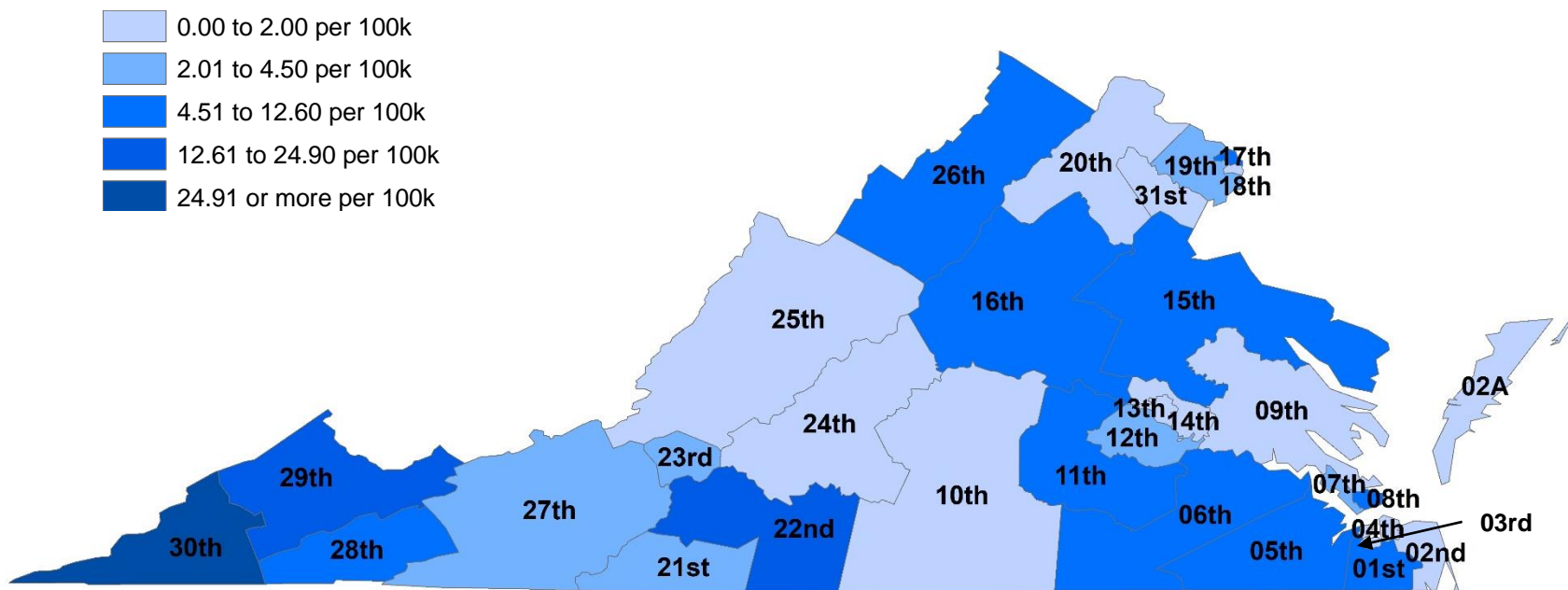
## Statewide and by VSP Division

- Number of cannabimimetic agent case submissions:
  - The number of cannabimimetic agent cases submitted to DFS decreased 40% statewide between 2015 and 2016.
  - After peaking in 2012, the number of cannabimimetic agent submissions dropped each year. Between 2012 and 2016, submissions dropped 67%.
  - Almost one-third of submissions in 2016 were from VSP Division 4.
- Rate of submissions, per 100,000 population
  - The rate of submissions from Division 4 was more than three times the rate from any other Division in 2016.

# Cannabimimetic Agent\* Data by Court District

## Rate of submissions per 100,000 population, CY2016

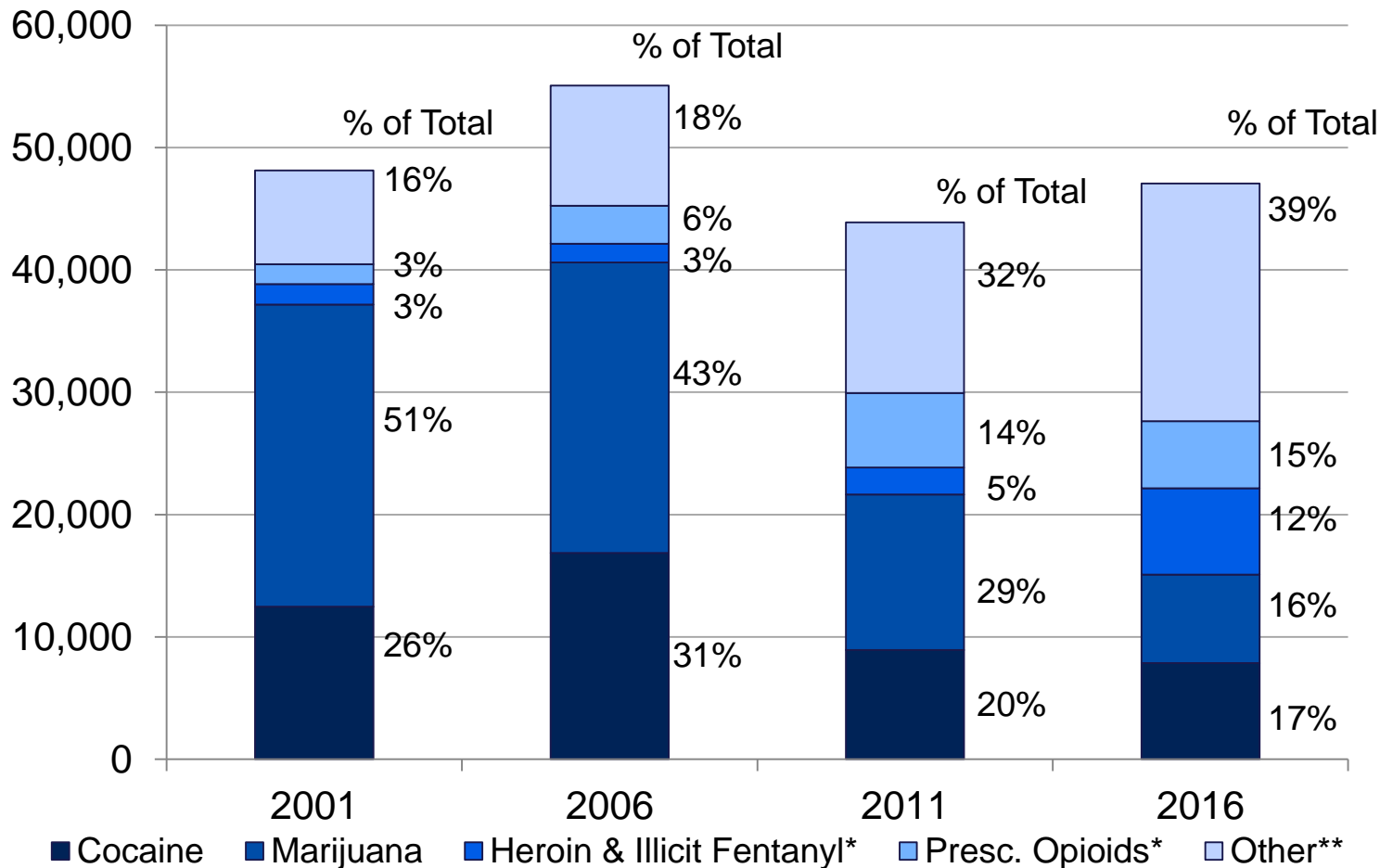
- The Court District with the highest rate of submission in 2016 was the 30<sup>th</sup>, which was more than four times higher than any other District.
- Between 2015 and 2016, the rate of submissions from the 30<sup>th</sup> District increased 6%. In the same period, the rate of submissions from the 12<sup>th</sup> District decreased 81%.



\*Previously labeled "synthetic cannabinoids." Includes substances that were not listed as cannabimimetic agents by Code at the time they were identified, but appear to have included a cannabimimetic agent-type substance.

# Combined Drug Submissions

## Selected Drug Types



In 2001, cocaine and marijuana made up 77% of DFS cases. In 2016, they were only 33% of the total. During this same period of time, heroin, prescription opioids, and illicit fentanyl grew from 7% to 28% of the total.

\*Fentanyl submissions identified as being in the form of a transdermal patch are counted with other prescription opioids. All other forms of fentanyl and fentanyl derivatives are counted as "illicit" for purposes of this report.

\*\*Includes all substances other than those listed, including those not presented in this report

## Data Sources

Drug submission data for this report were provided by DFS, using information collected for the National Forensic Laboratory Information System. When multiple drug samples of the same type of drug were submitted as part of the same case, they were only counted a single time, as one case. When multiple samples of different drug types were submitted as part of the same case, they were counted as a single case for each included drug type.

Arrest data were taken from the annual *Crime in Virginia* reports prepared by the Virginia State Police (VSP), [http://www.vsp.state.va.us/Crime\\_in\\_Virginia.shtm](http://www.vsp.state.va.us/Crime_in_Virginia.shtm).

Population data used to calculate rates were provided by the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, <http://www.coopercenter.org/demographics>.

Data analysis was provided by the DCJS Criminal Justice Research Center.