Supplement to the July 2026 Newsletter

ONDCP Office of Data and Research

This Supplement to the July 2026 issue "*Wastewater Analytics: A Powerful Window into Shifting Drug Use Trends*" provides additional information about the methodology for collecting, testing, and analyzing the wastewater samples that are used for the Office of National Drug Control Policy's (ONDCP) Wastewater-Based Drug Epidemiology project.

Methods: Drug Panels and Counties

The wastewater testing program quantitatively analyzes over 20 drugs across more than 100 U.S. counties, and qualitatively screens for over 500 drugs in select counties. Quantitative testing measures the concentration of each drug in a wastewater sample collected from a given site, whereas qualitative testing identifies which drugs are present. Biobot Analytics collects and analyzes the wastewater samples and provides aggregated data to ONDCP at the county-level or higher.

In this newsletter, we present county, state, regional, and national-level analyses. However, because counties and states differ in both the number and spatial distribution of wastewater sampling sites, measured drug concentrations should not be viewed as representative of the entire jurisdiction. Although the participating sites are not nationally representative, they encompass a broad mix of communities and collectively cover about one-fifth of the U.S. population. The tables below describe the characteristics of the counties in the network and the drugs being monitored.

Table S1. Characteristics of Counties that Provided Wastewater Samples in 2026

Regions	Number of Counties	Percentage
Distribution by Census Regions		
Midwest	15	15%
Northeast	23	23%
South	34	33%
West	29	29%
Total	**101**	**100%**
Distribution by Rural-Urban Designation		
Metropolitan - Non-Urban	49	48%
Metropolitan - Urban	36	36%
Non-Metropolitan - Micropolitan	10	10%
Non-Metropolitan - Rural	6	6%
Total	**101**	**100%**

Table S2. Drugs Quantitatively Tested for, Corresponding Metabolite, and Testing Start Date

Parent Compound	Metabolite	Testing Start Date
Opioids		
Acetyl Fentanyl	Acetyl Norfentanyl	June 2022
Carfentanil		December 2024
Codeine		December 2024
Dihydrocodeine		December 2024
Fentanyl	Norfentanyl	June 2022
Heroin	6-Acetylmorphine, Morphine-3-glucuronide	June 2022
Hydrocodone	Norhydrocodone	December 2024
Hydromorphone		December 2024
Morphine	Morphine-3-glucuronide	June 2022
Oxycodone	Noroxycodone	May 2024
Oxymorphone		December 2024
para-Fluorofentanyl		January 2026
Sufentanil	Norsufentanil	December 2024
Tianeptine	Tianeptine MC5	December 2024
Tramadol	N- and O- Desmethyl-cis-tramadol	December 2024
Stimulants		
Cocaine	Benzoylecgonine	June 2022
Methamphetamine	Amphetamine	June 2022
Anesthetics/ Antidepressants		
Alprazolam		October 2025
Ketamine		October 2025
Medetomidine		October 2025
Xylazine	4-hydroxy xylazine	February 2025
Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) and Naloxone		
Buprenorphine	Norbuprenorphine	May 2024
Methadone	EDDP	May 2024
Naloxone	6a-Naloxol	February 2023