

## Overview NFLIS

- National and regional estimates for drugs seized and analyzed by Federal, State and local forensic laboratories – reported as cases (exhibits) or drug mentions (reports)
- Estimates frequencies of drug identification lab results, NOT quantities or amount of the drug within each case, ie. 1 tablet of hydrocodone = 10 tablets of hydrocodone
- Includes data from 47 State systems, 94 local or municipal systems , and one territorial system, representing a total of 283 individual laboratories – 92% of the national drug caseload
- Estimates are weighted sums of the counts from the laboratories

# Strengths and Limitations: NFLIS

## Strengths

- Provides information on the prevalence and type of controlled substances secured by law enforcement
- Monitors the diversion of licit drugs
- Identifies variations at the national, State, and local levels

## Limitations

- Laboratory policies and procedures for handling drug evidence and maintaining records vary
- Includes data from completed analyses only
- State and local policies associated with enforcement and prosecution of specific drugs can impact drug evidence submissions