

# REGION 6 LEPC Update



Steve Mason, EPA Region 6  
mason.steve@epa.gov

Hilary Gafford, Weston Solutions  
hiliary.gafford@westonsolutions.com

**T**his month, we will be reviewing the emergency response notifications received by EPA through the NRC for Region 6. It is important to cover this once a year, as it can provide significant help to local, state, and federal partners in planning activities. Steve & Hilary



## Local Government Reimbursement Success Story

EPA Headquarters has evaluated an application submitted by the City of Mansfield, TX, under the Local Governments Reimbursement Program.

Based on the evaluation, Mansfield is eligible for an award of \$18,719.97 for costs incurred responding to an abandoned hazardous substance in April, 2010. For more information concerning the LGR program, go to:

<http://www.epa.gov/oem/content/lgr/index.htm>



### Region 6 LEPC Coordinators

Arkansas	Kenny Harmon	501-683-6700	<a href="mailto:kenny.harmon@adem.arkansas.gov">kenny.harmon@adem.arkansas.gov</a>
Louisiana	Gene Dunegan	225-925-6113	<a href="mailto:gene.dunegan@dps.la.gov">gene.dunegan@dps.la.gov</a>
New Mexico	Don Shainin	505-476-9628	<a href="mailto:don.shainin@state.nm.us">don.shainin@state.nm.us</a>
Oklahoma	Tom Bergman Bonnie McKelvey	405-702-1013 405-521-2481	<a href="mailto:tom.bergman@deq.ok.gov">tom.bergman@deq.ok.gov</a> <a href="mailto:bonnie.mckelvey@oem.ok.gov">bonnie.mckelvey@oem.ok.gov</a>
Texas	Bernardine Zimmerman Wade Parks	800-452-2791 512-424-5677	<a href="mailto:Bernardine.zimmerman@dshs.state.tx.us">Bernardine.zimmerman@dshs.state.tx.us</a> <a href="mailto:wade.parks@txdps.state.tx.us">wade.parks@txdps.state.tx.us</a>

# 12<sup>th</sup> Annual HOTZONE Conference

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The goal of the HOTZONE conference is to train local, state and federal responders for safe and efficient response to releases of hazardous materials which threaten public health and the environment.

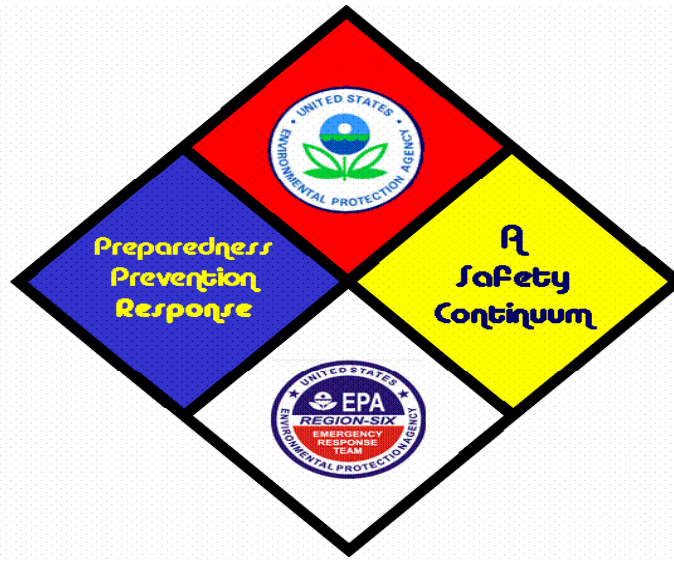
People who attend include local fire, police, emergency management personnel, EMS, health care providers, and state & federal response personnel who participate in the incident command system or in its immediate support at the scene of a hazmat response or terrorist event in Federal Region 6.

*THIS YEAR, HOTZONE 12 will be held:  
October 20-23, 2011 -- Crowne Plaza Hotel - Reliant Park  
Houston, TX*

GO TO OUR WEBPAGE FOR MORE CONFERENCE  
INFORMATION and REGISTRATION,  
[www.hotzone.org](http://www.hotzone.org)



Training for Responders by Responders



# EPA Region 6 Accidental Release Information :

**2001 - 2010**

**NRC BACKGROUND** :: Primary function of the NRC is to serve as the sole national point of contact for reporting all oil, chemical, radiological, biological, and etiological discharges into the environment.

In addition to gathering and distributing spill data for OSCs and serving as the communications and operations center for the NRT, the NRC maintains agreements with a variety of entities to make notifications regarding incidents meeting established trigger criteria.

The NRC also takes Terrorist/Suspicious Activity Reports and Maritime Security Breach Reports.

On behalf of DHS and the USCG, the NRC:

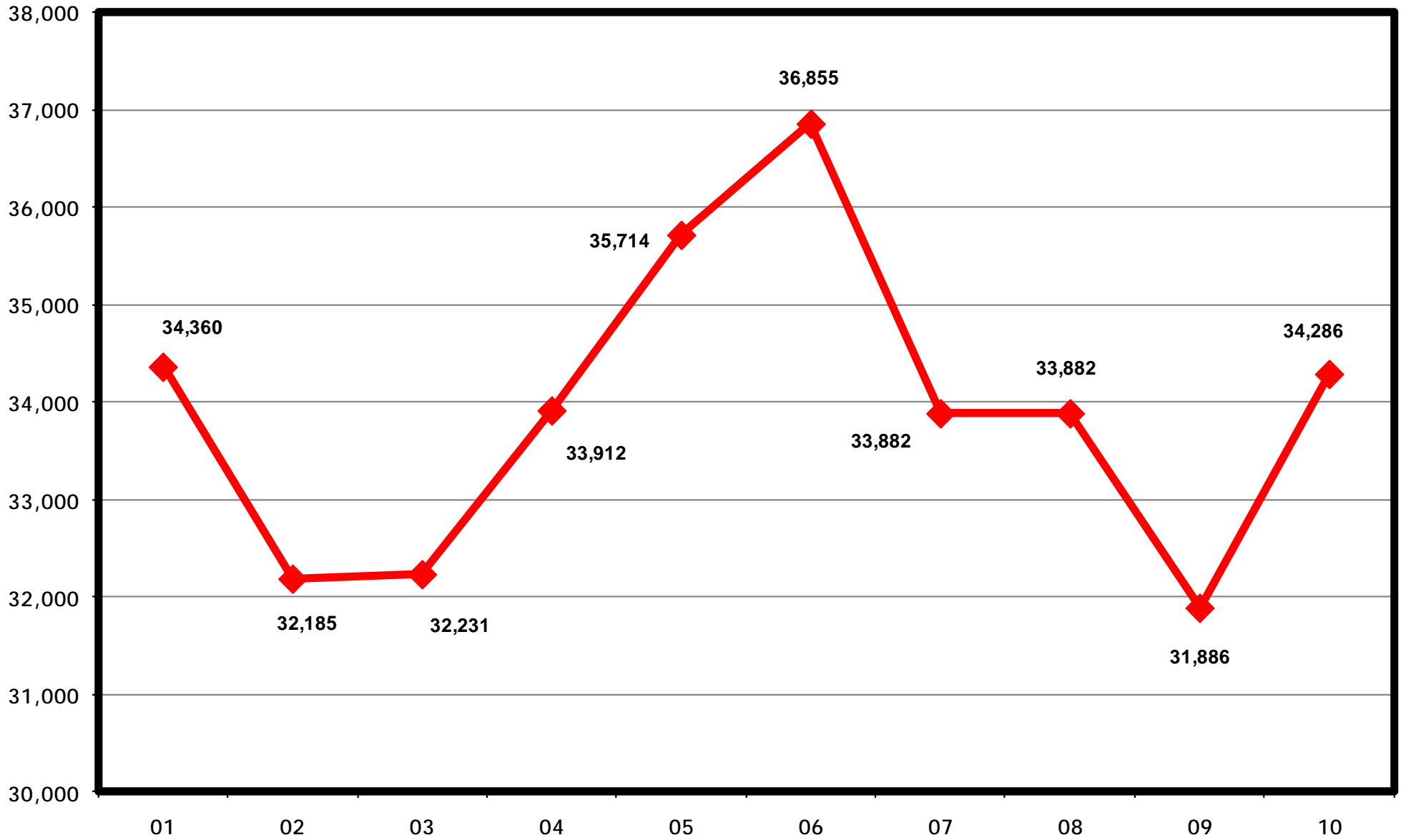
- Briefs the White House, Office of Homeland Security, Secretary of Transportation, and Chiefs of Modal Administrations regarding all significant transportation emergencies;
- Provides information the Coast Guard's Office of Marine Safety, Security, and Environmental Protection as needed;
- Receives and relays reports of incidents reportable under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act;
- Provides incident reports to various DOT agencies;
- and provides notification to DOT and NTSB offices of transportation incidents that meet certain criteria.

On behalf of other Agencies, the NRC provides services to enhance the Federal Response System:

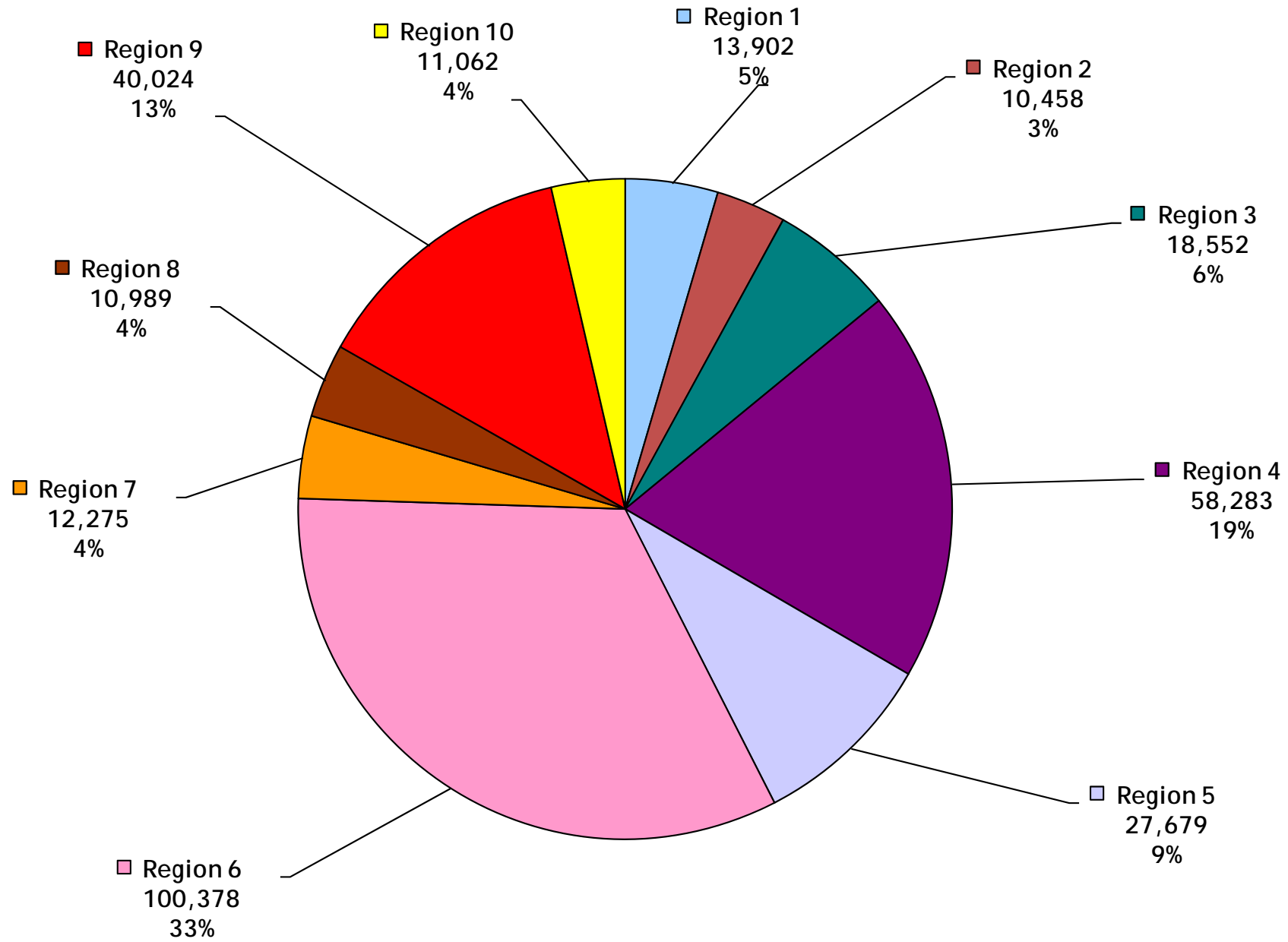


- For the EPA, the NRC receives incident reports under the FRS which is supported under CERCLA, CWA, CAA, EPCRA, and OPA. The NRC disseminates reports of oil discharges and chemical releases to the FOSC;
- For FEMA, the NRC acts as a 24 hour contact point to receive earthquake, flood, hurricane, and evacuation reports;
- For the NucRC, and DOE, the NRC makes notification of all incidents involving radioactive material releases;
- For DOI, the NRC receives reports of incidents involving Trans-Alaskan Pipeline Oil;
- For DOD, incidents involving transportation emergencies with DOD munitions or explosives are referred to the Army Operations Center. Any incident involving hypergolic rocket fuels and oxidizers are passed to the Air Force Operations Center.
- The NRC takes reports on potential or actual domestic terrorism and coordinates notifications and response with the FBI;
- For the DHHS, releases of etiological and biological agents are referred to the CDC;
- For the FRA, the NRC takes reports of railroad incidents involving hazardous materials, grade crossing fatalities, and accidents resulting in injury or death of railroad employees.
- The NRC is contact point for activation of the NRT and provides facilities for the NRT to use in coordinating a national response action when required.

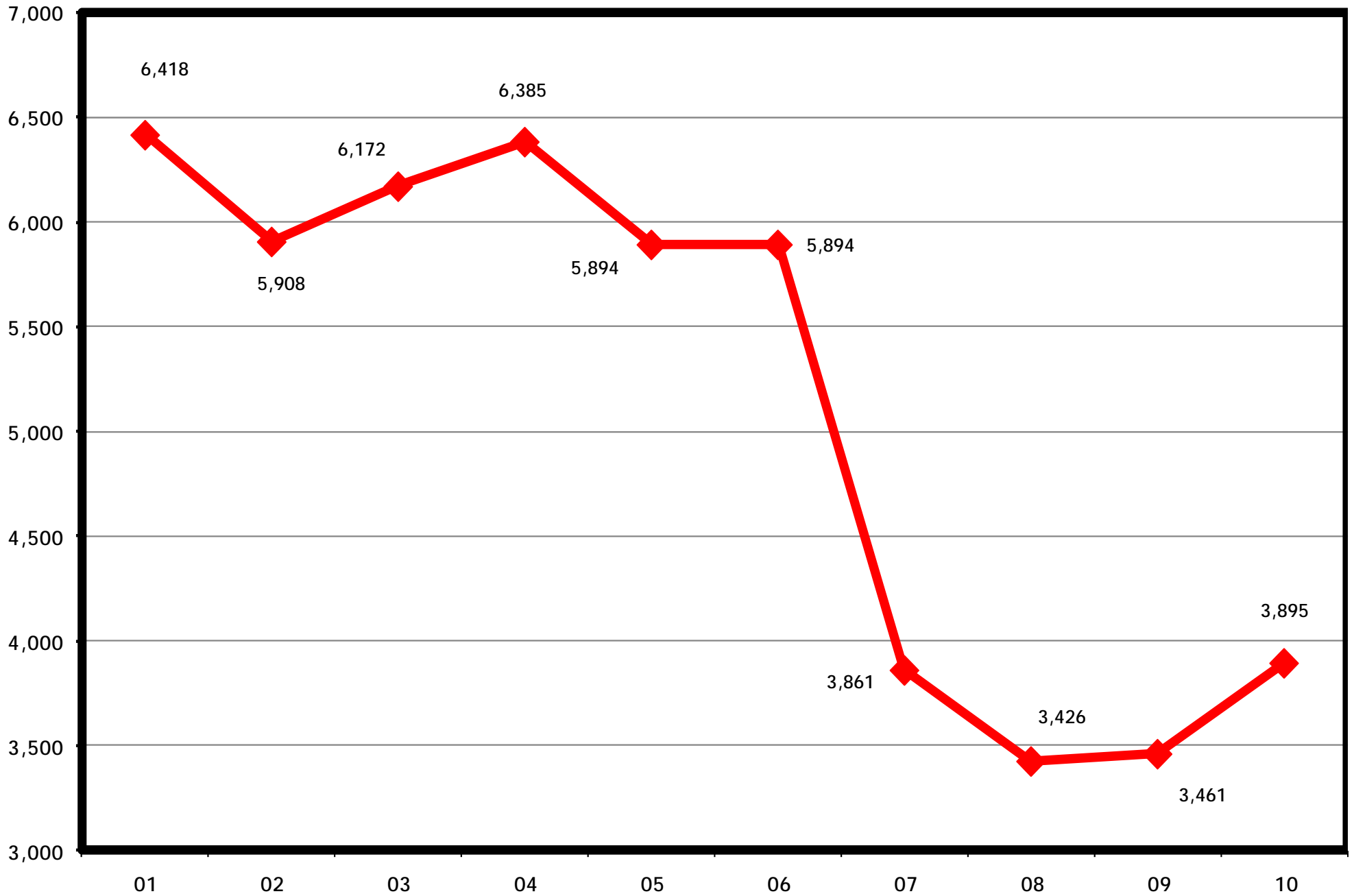
**NRC Notifications Nationally / EPA (2001 - 2010)**



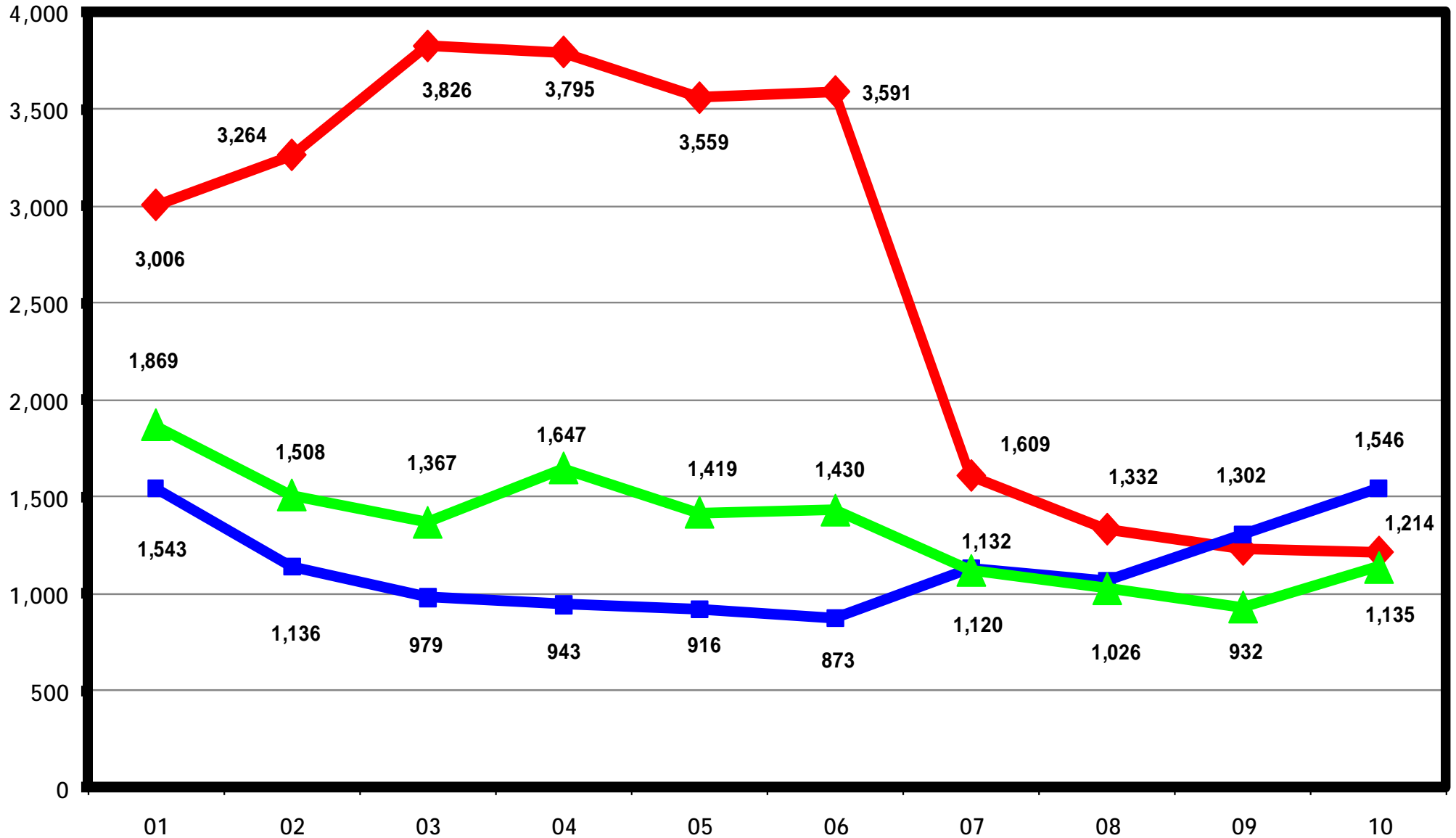
EPA Notifications to NRC per Region (2001 - 2010)



NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 (2001 - 2010)



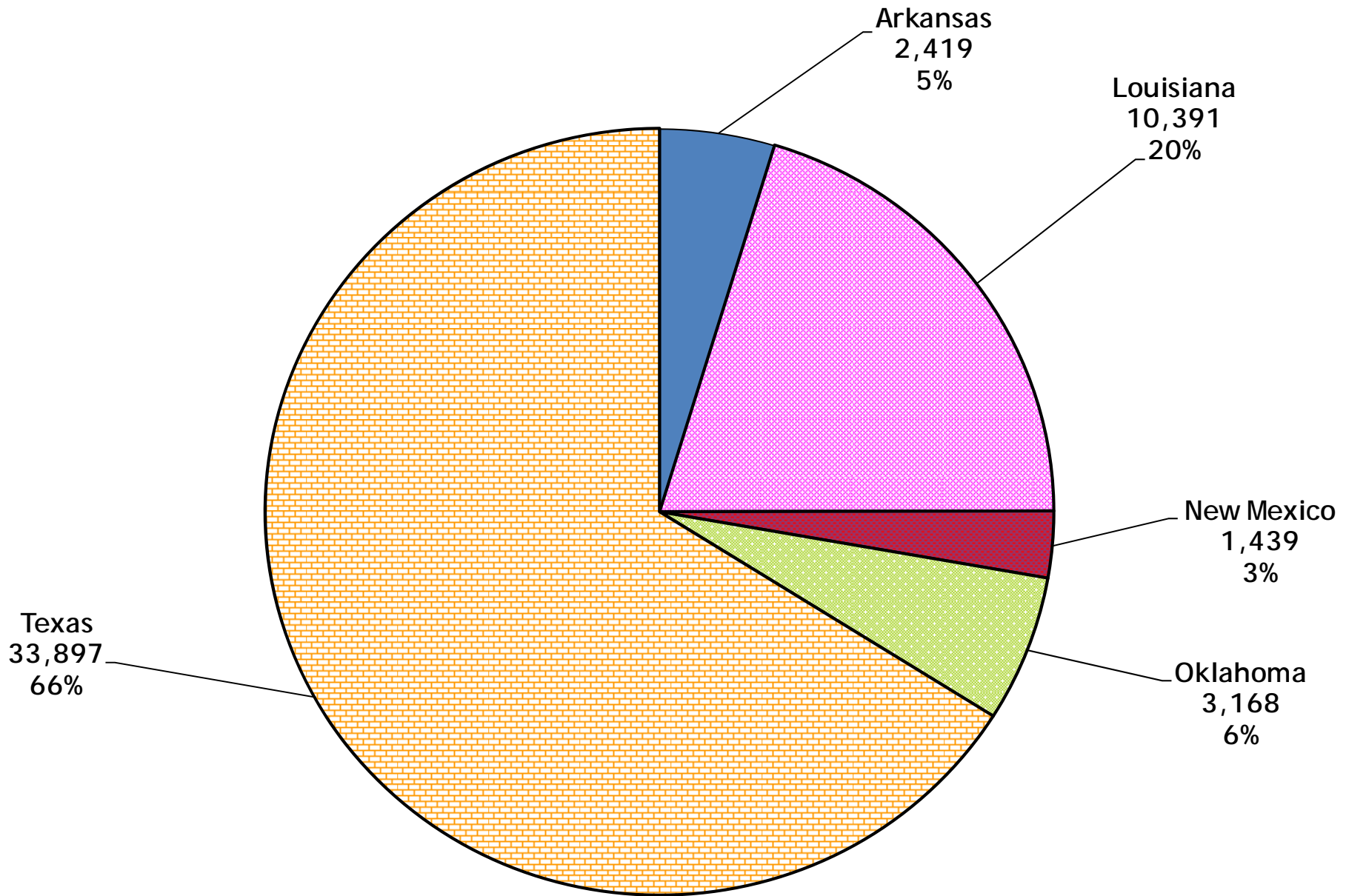
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by Material Type (2001 - 2010)



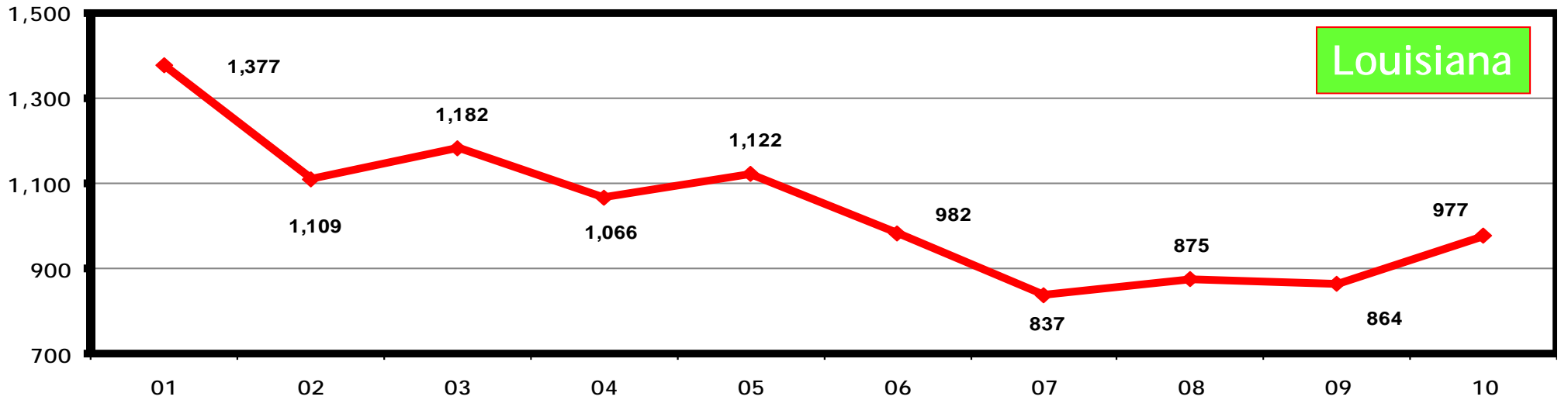
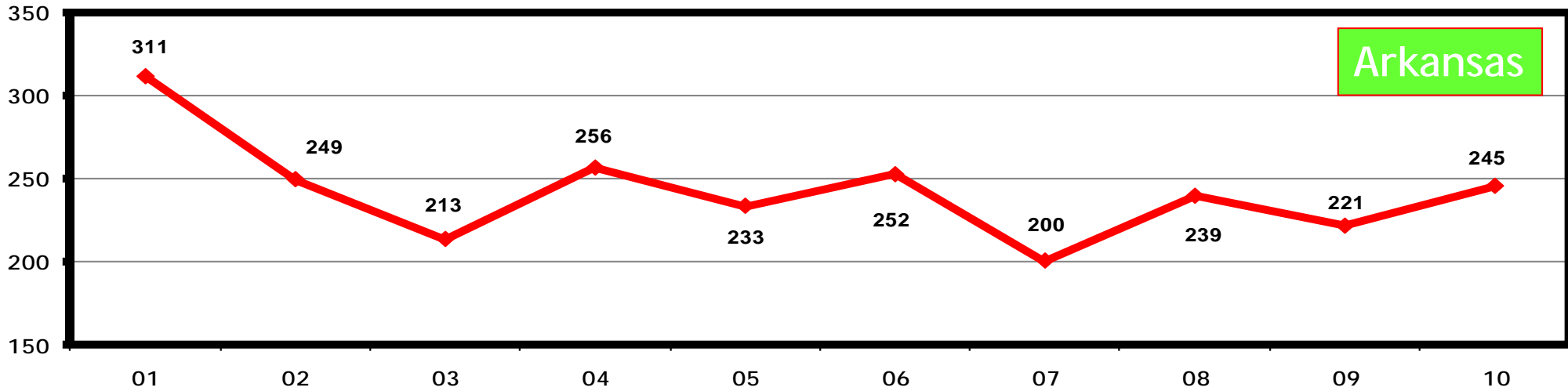
◆ Hazardous Materials   
 ■ Oil / Oil Products   
 ▲ Other / Unknown



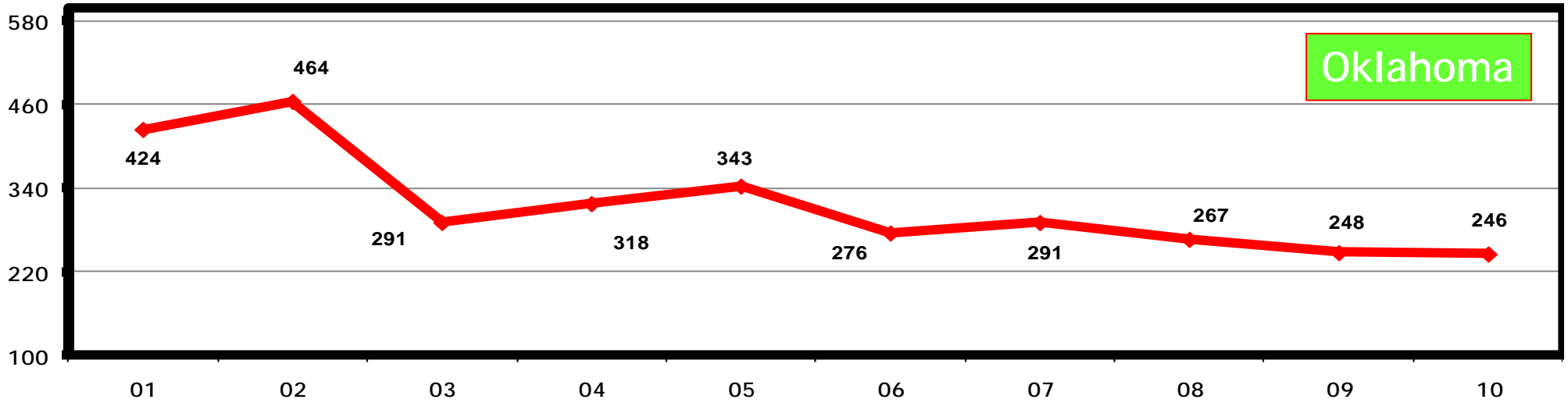
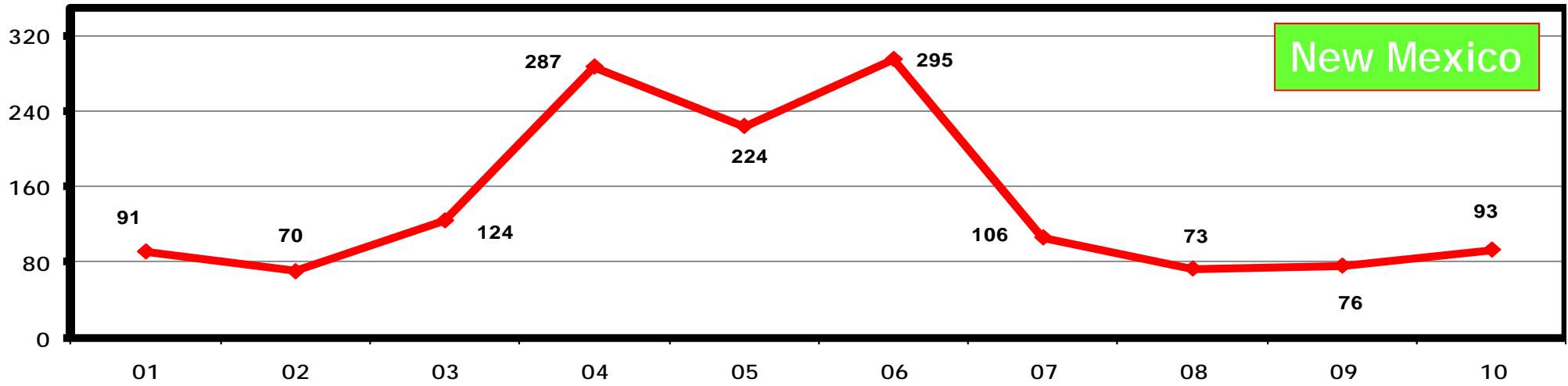
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- % by State (2001 - 2010)



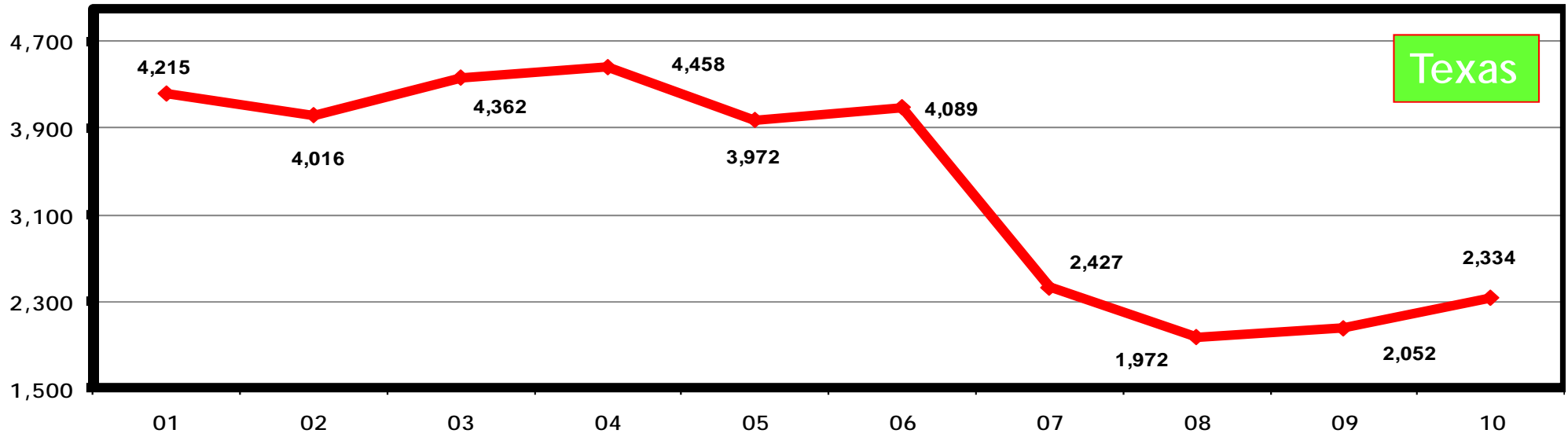
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by State and Year (2001 - 2010)



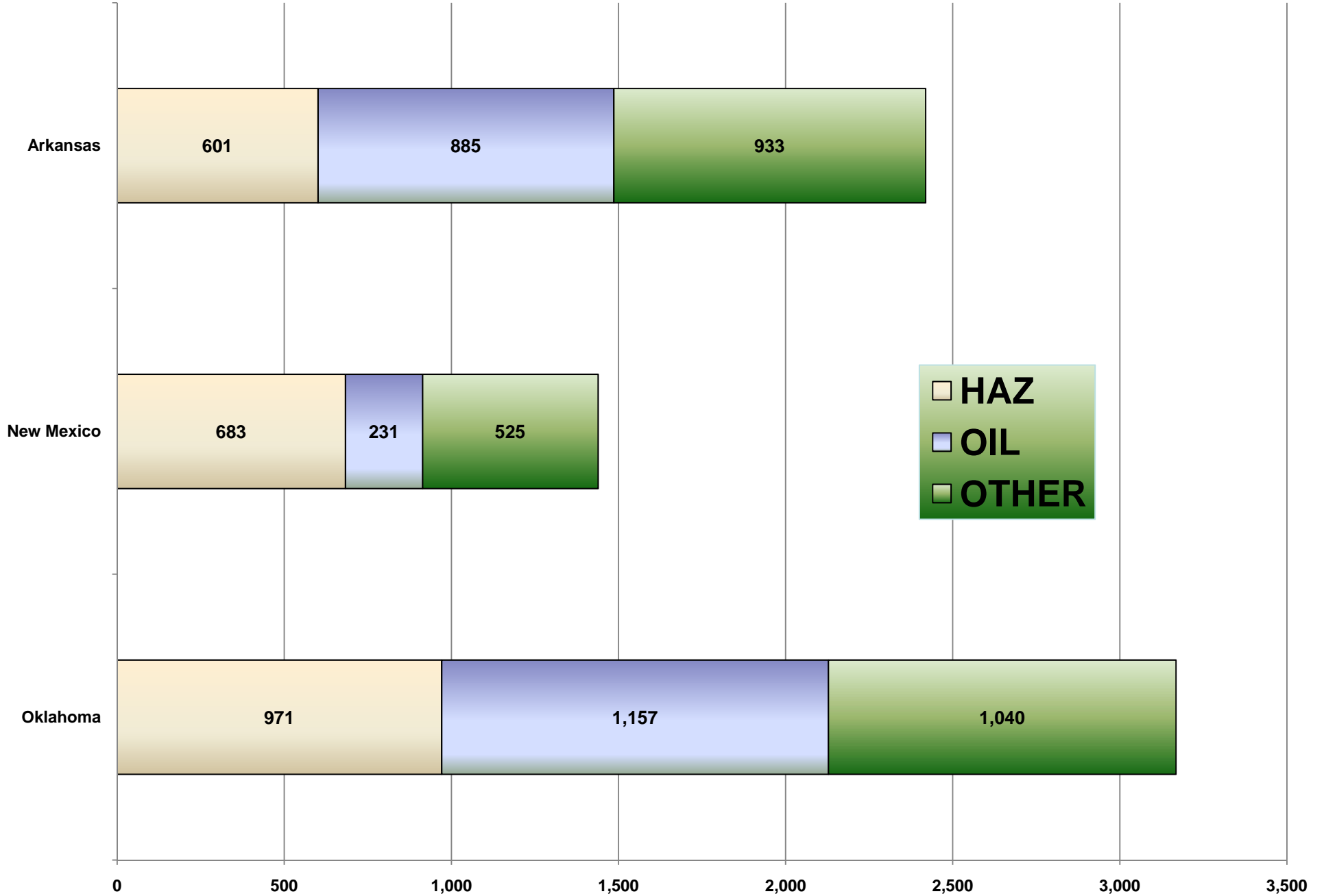
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by State and Year (2001 - 2010)



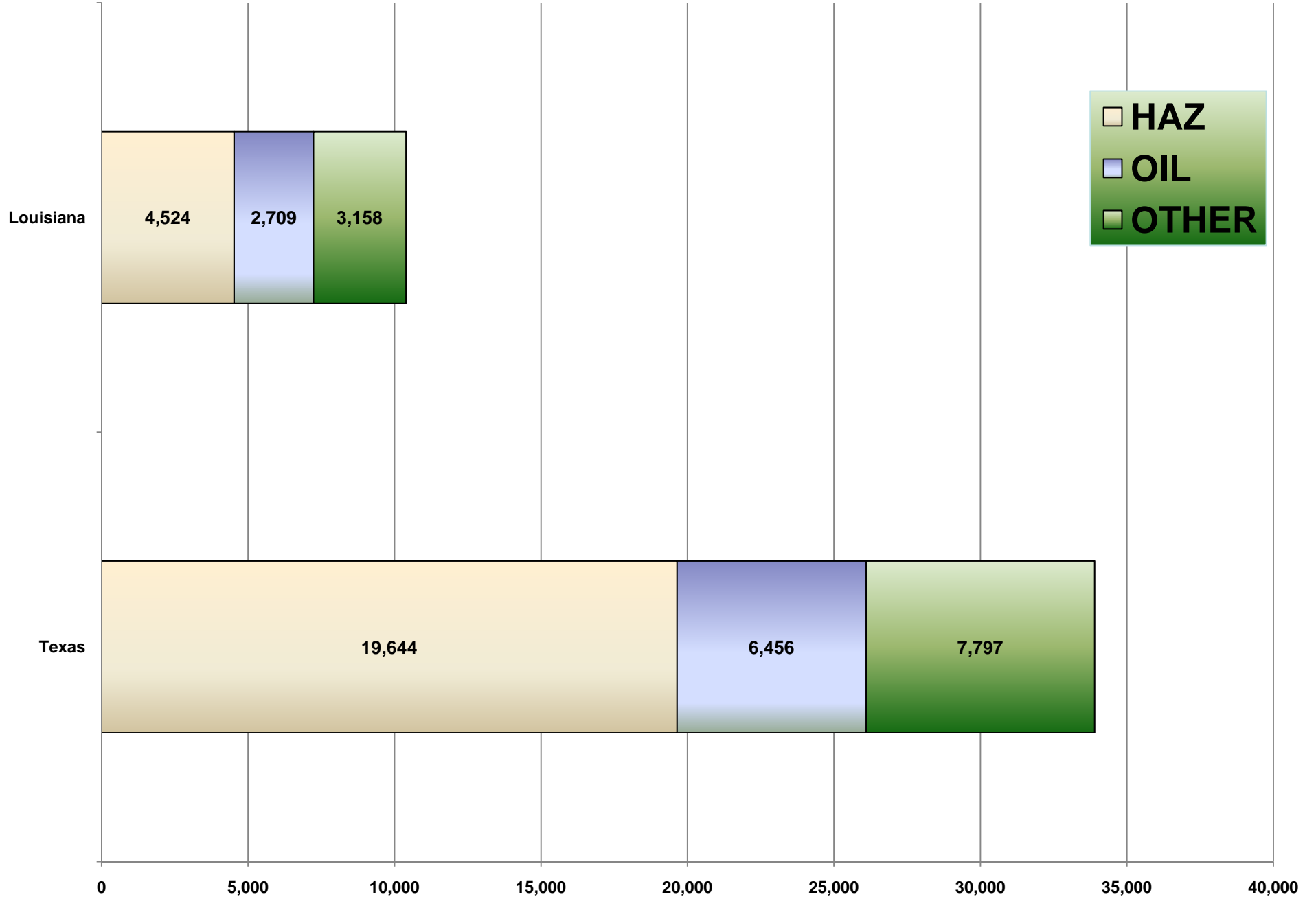
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by State and Year (2001 - 2010)

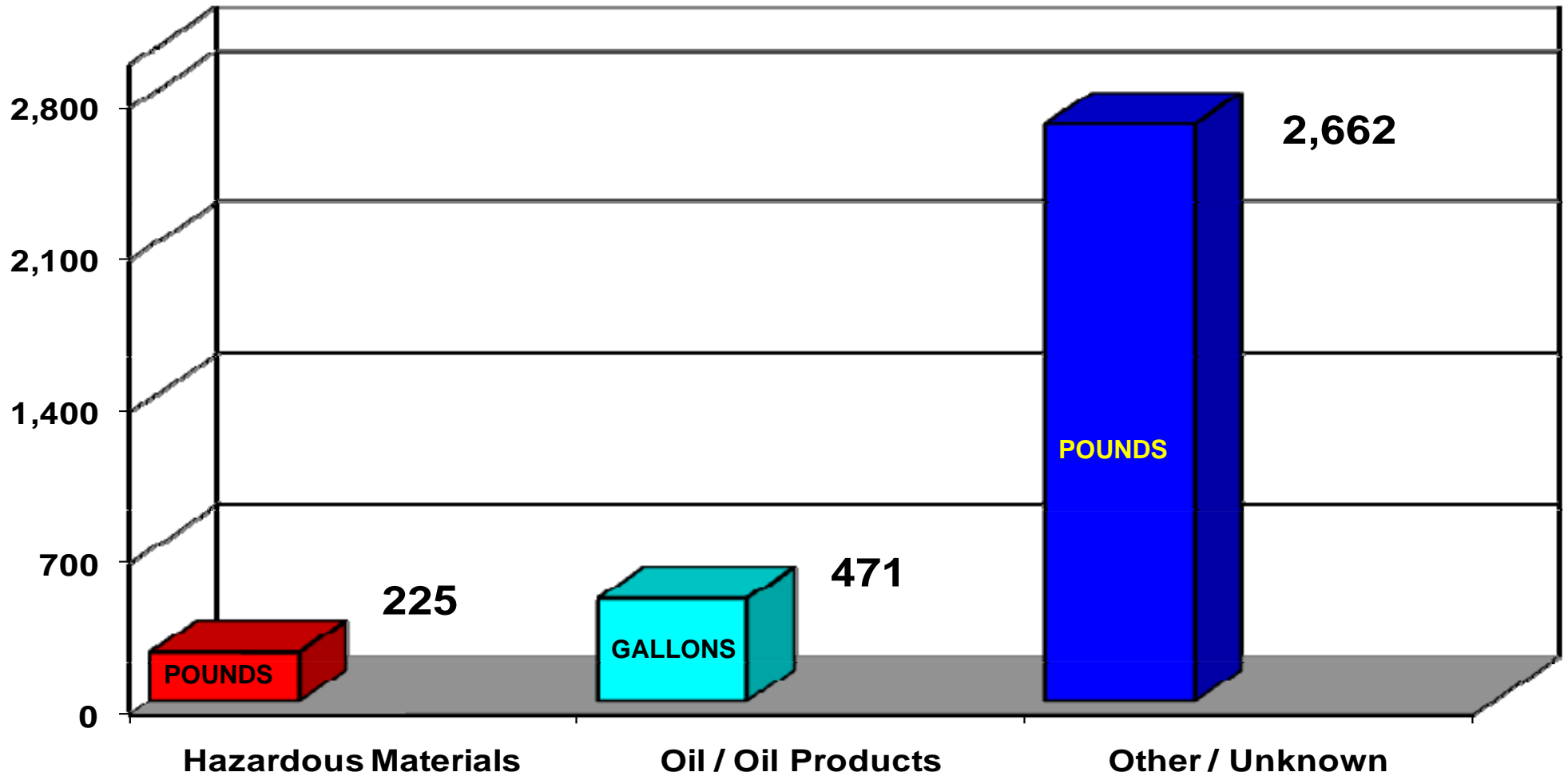


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by Material Type & State (2001 - 2010)

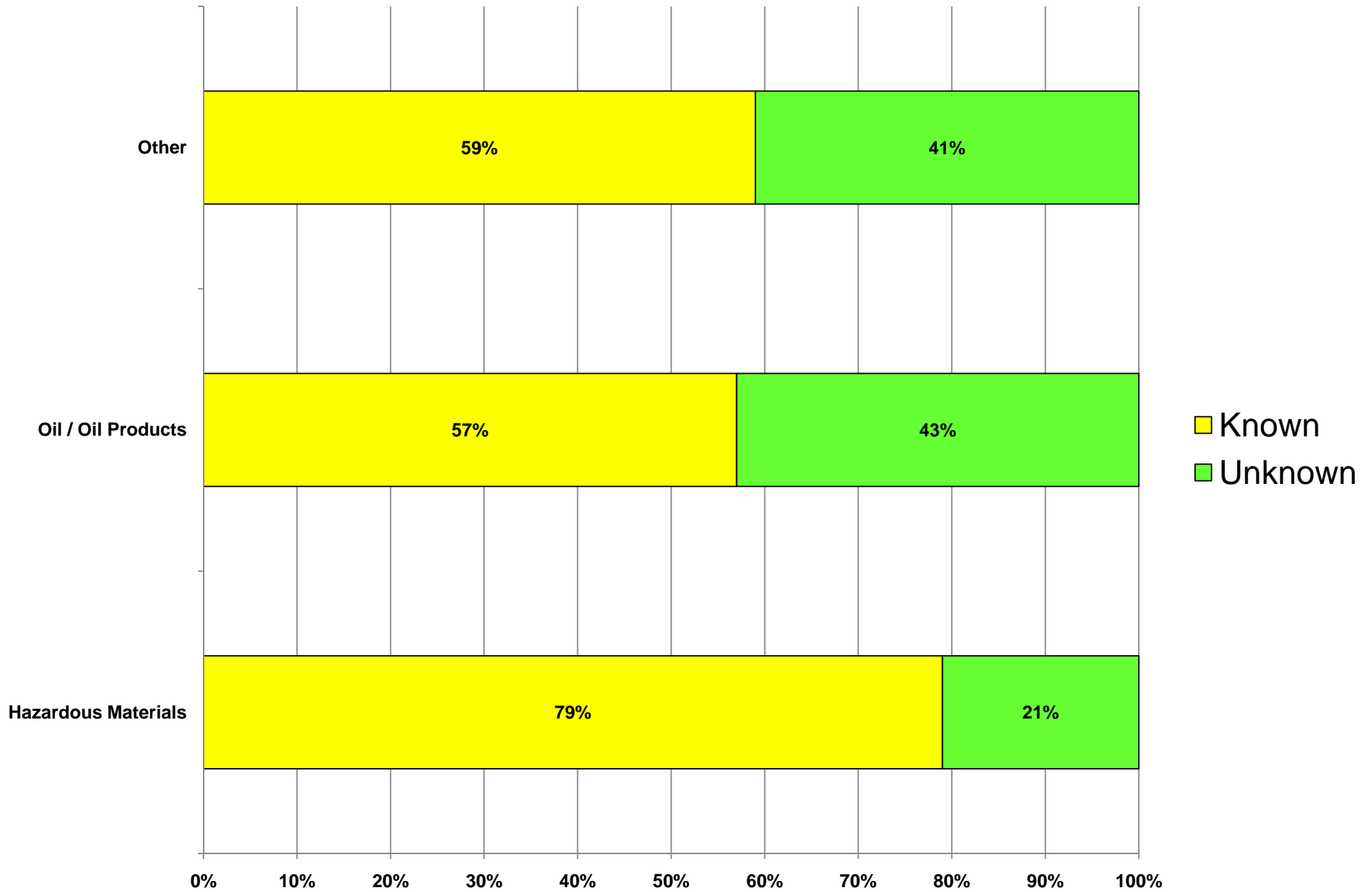


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by Material Type & State (2001 - 2010)





**NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- % Releases Reported as Quantity Unknown, by Material Type (2001 - 2010)**

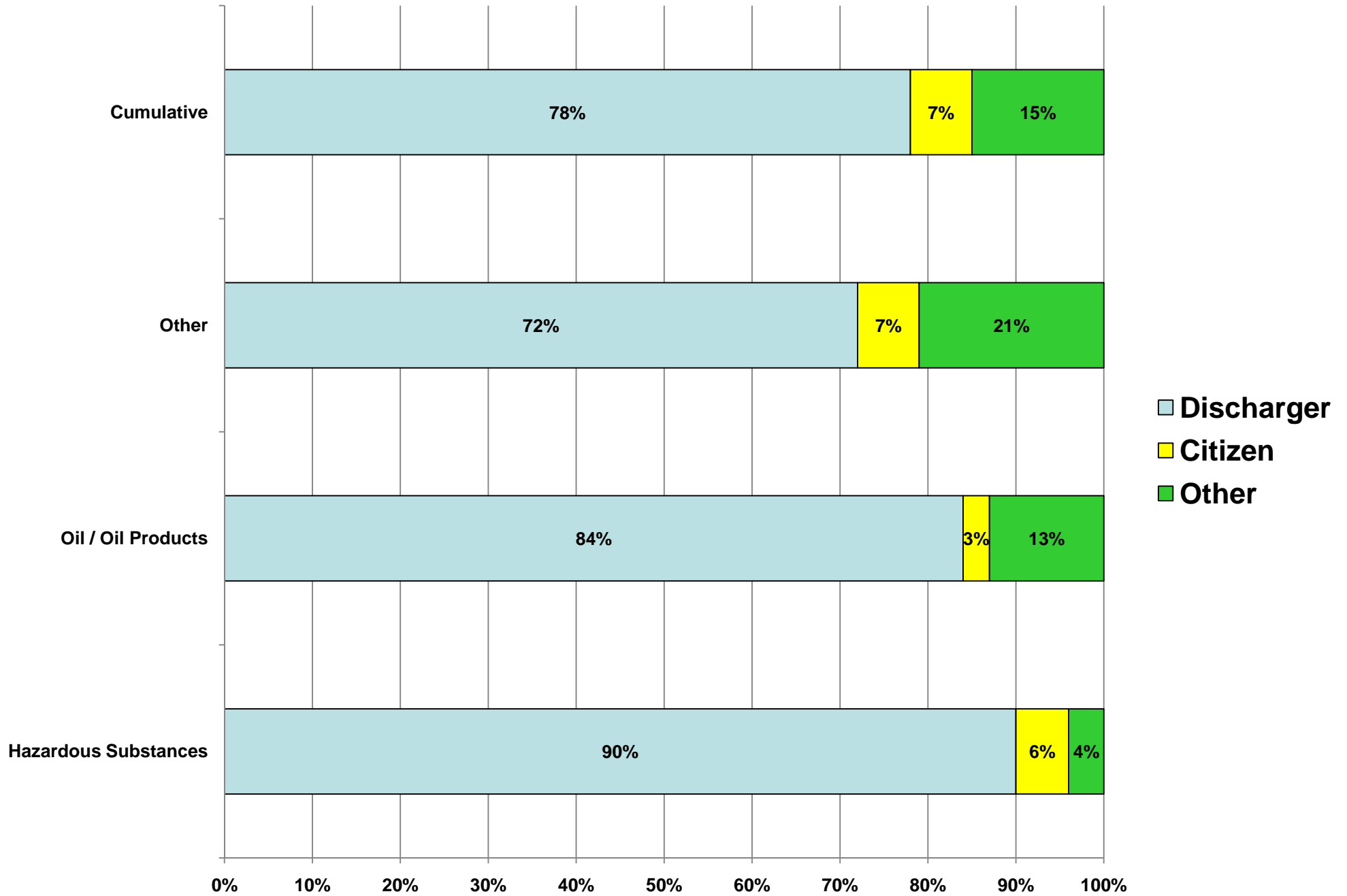




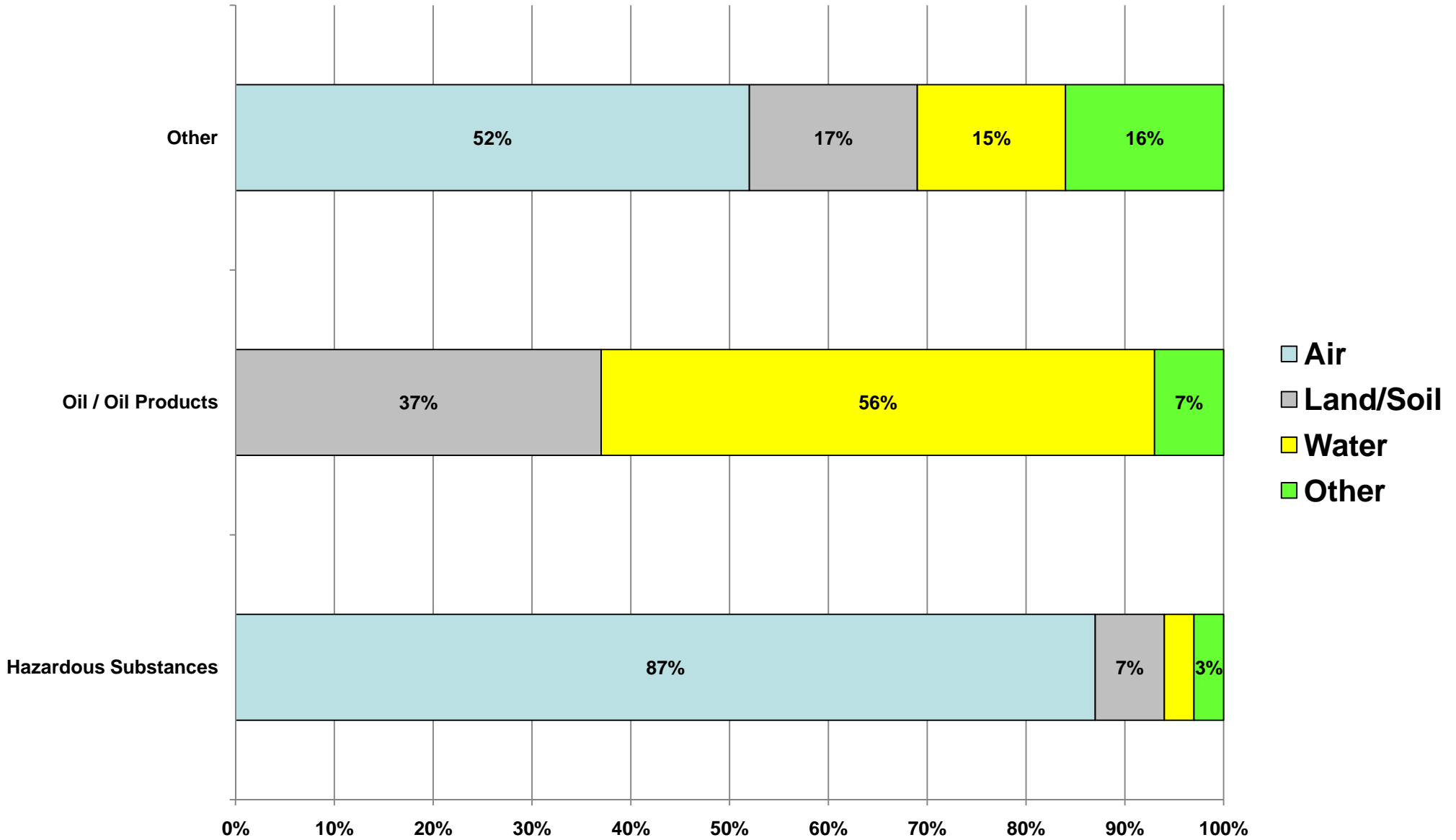
**NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Caller Status (2001 - 2010)**



NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Discharger Status (2001 - 2010)

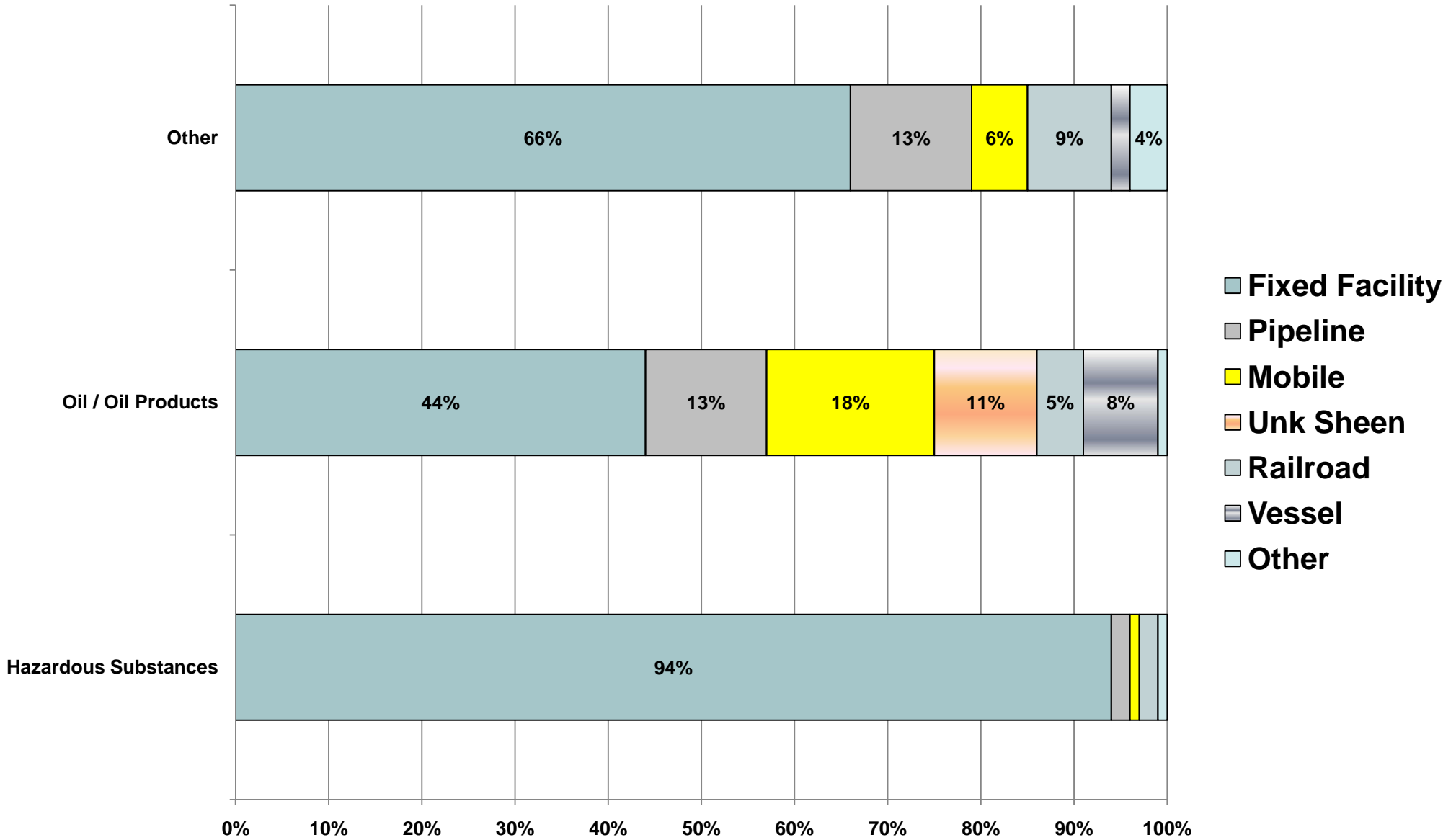


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Medium Affected (2001 - 2010)



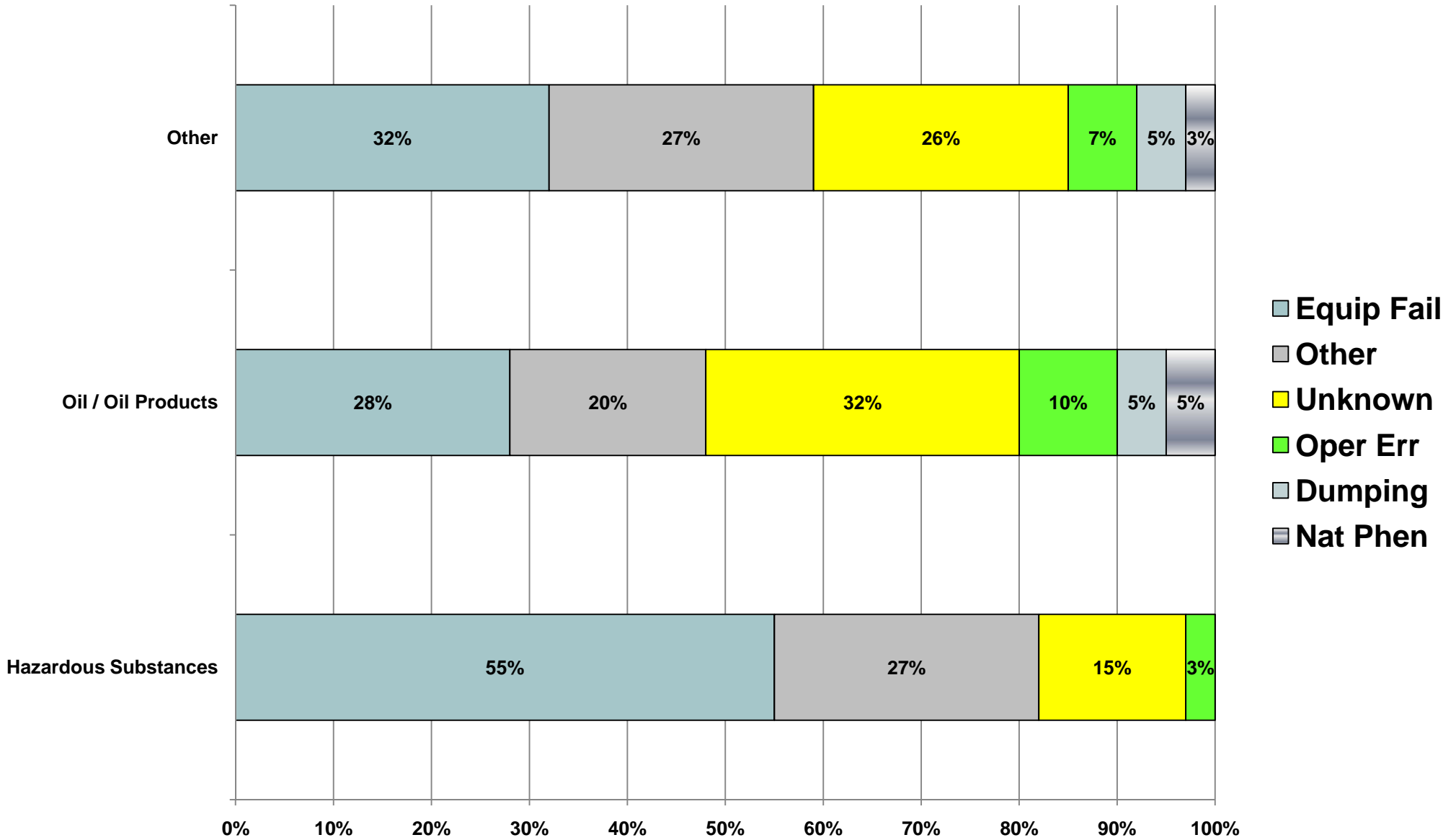
Other Medium may include: non-releases, groundwater, ballast, railway

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Source of Release (2001 - 2010)



Other Sources may include: aircraft, continuous, platform, terrorist

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Cause of Release (2001 - 2010)



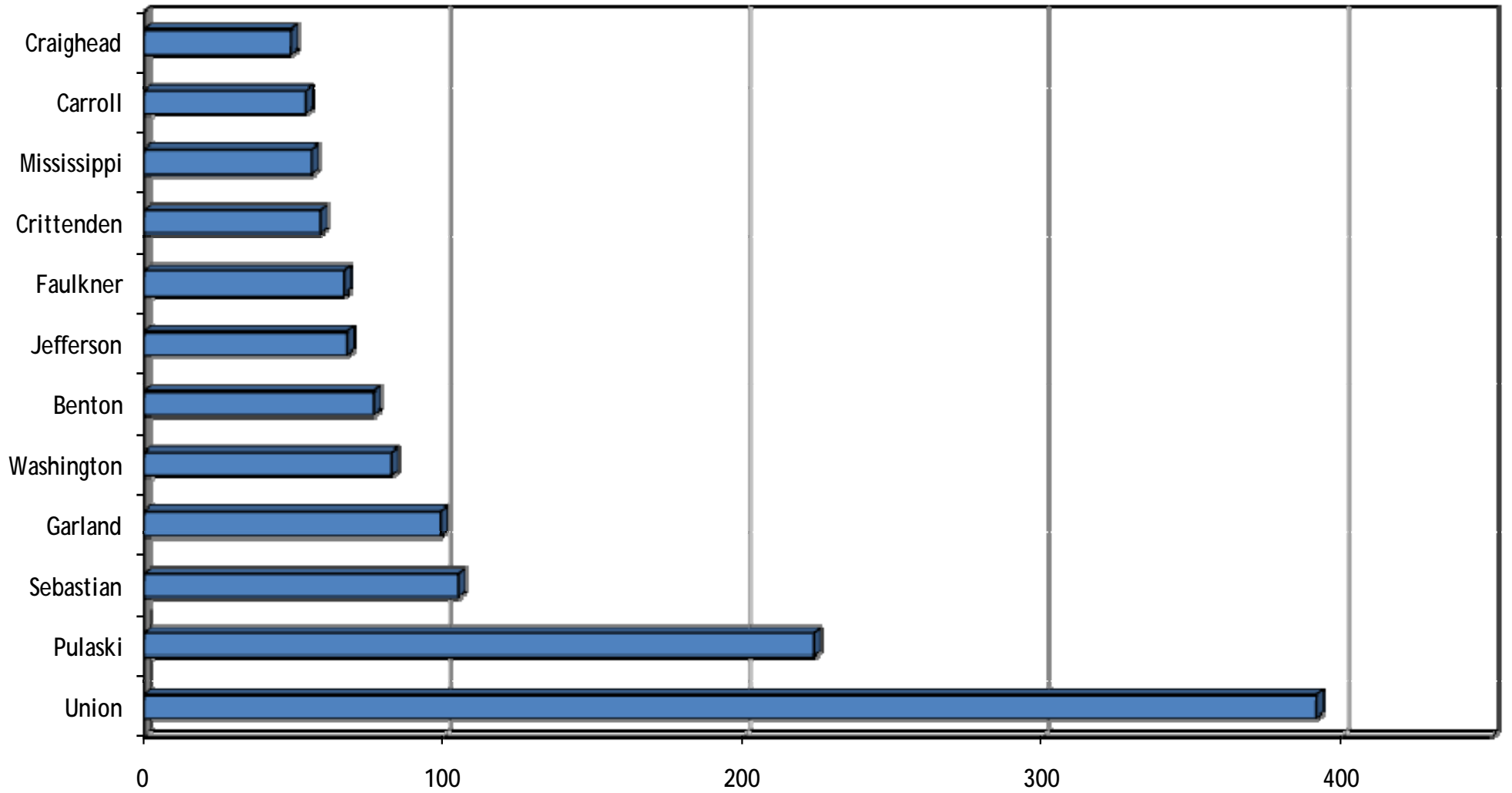
Other Causes may include: aircraft crash, continuous, terrorist

**Since 2001, approximately 4.0 % of all release reports have led to a significant event (death, injury, community evacuation, shelter-in-place)**

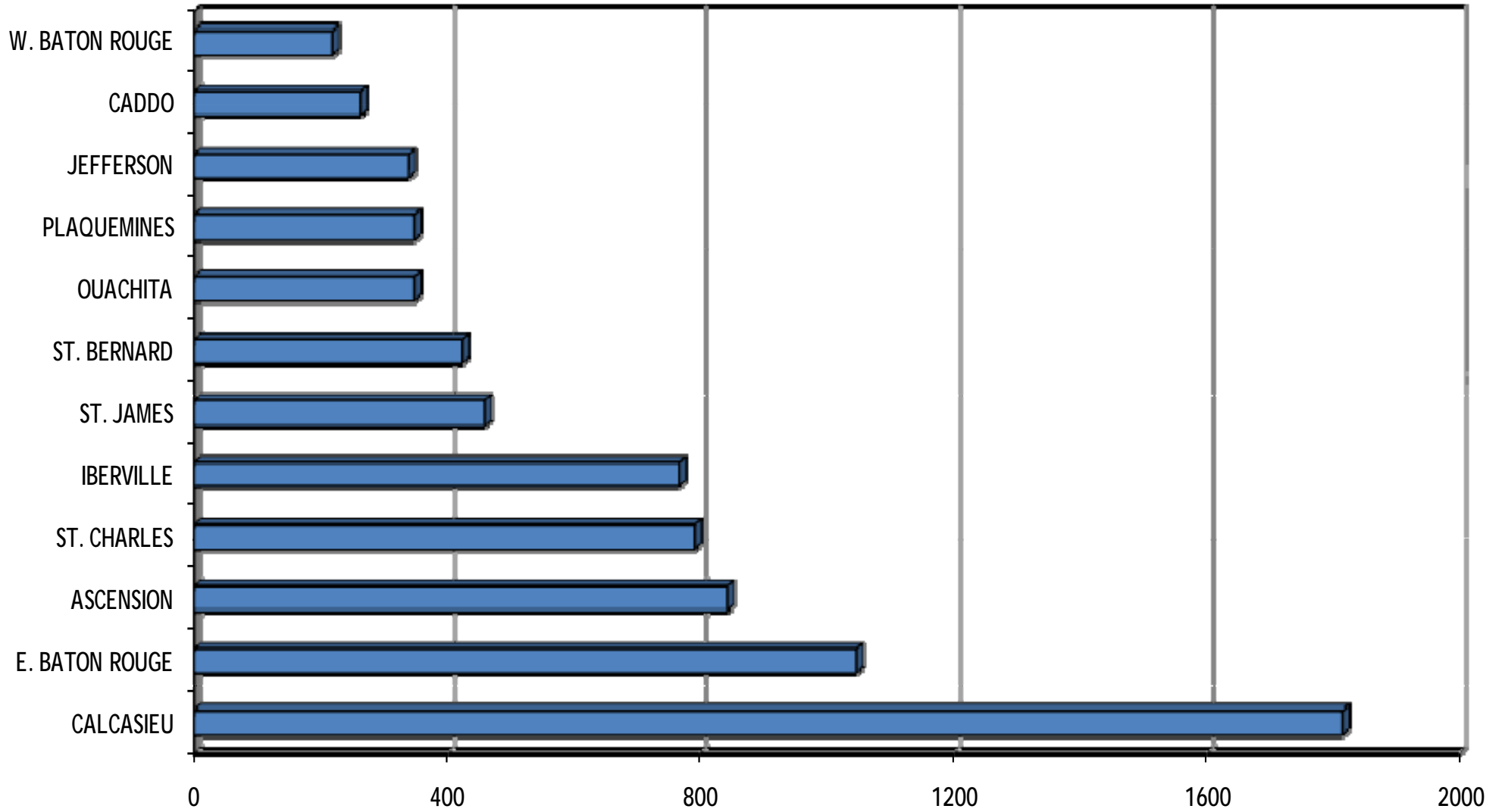
**Deaths, injuries, and evacuations may not be directly due to exposure, but as a consequence of the accident resulting in the release**

**Since 2001, statistically there is a shelter-in-place or evacuation of a community (whole or part) due to a hazardous materials / oil incident somewhere in Region 6, on a weekly basis**

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Counties : Arkansas (2001 - 2010)

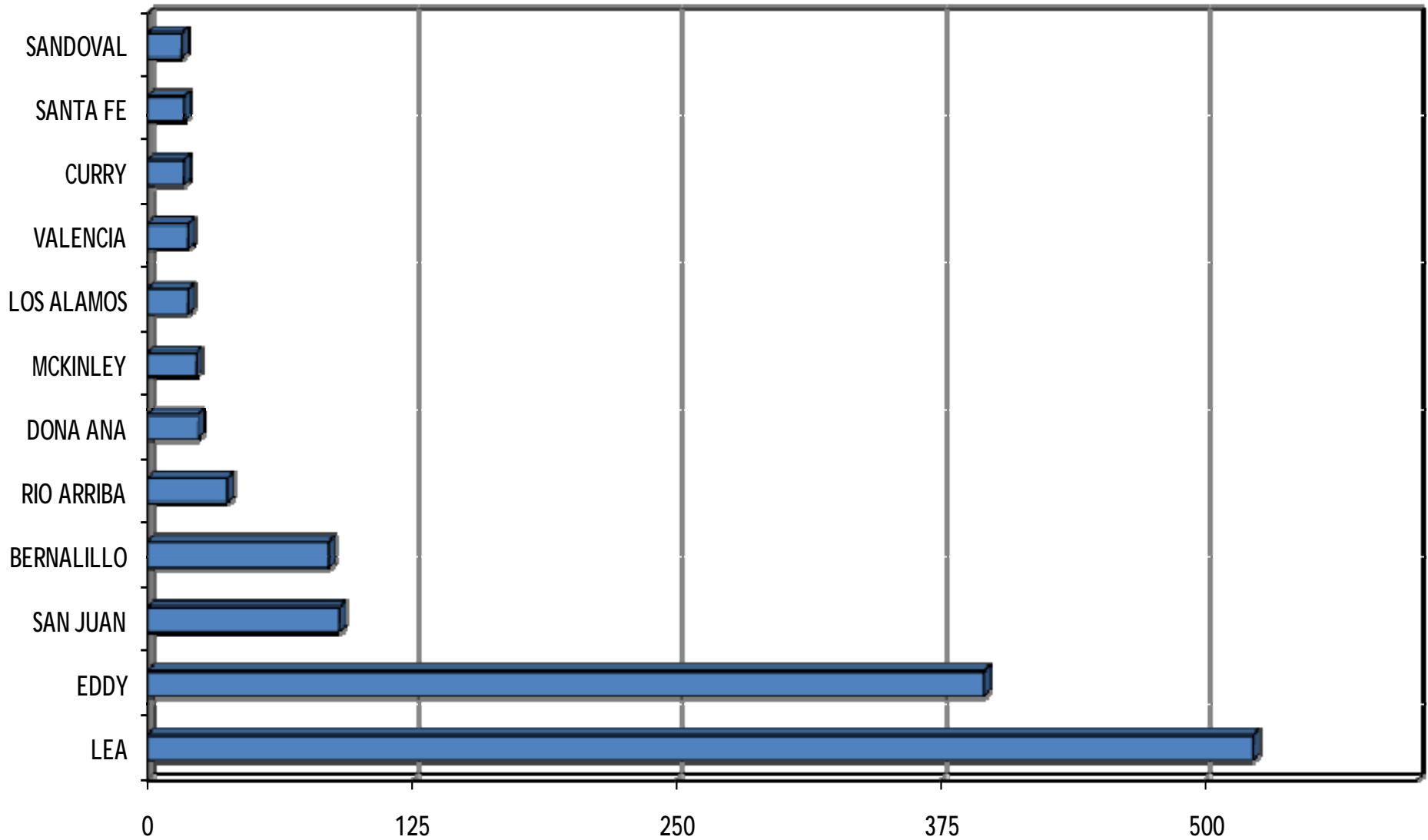


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top 10 Counties : Louisiana (2001 - 2010)

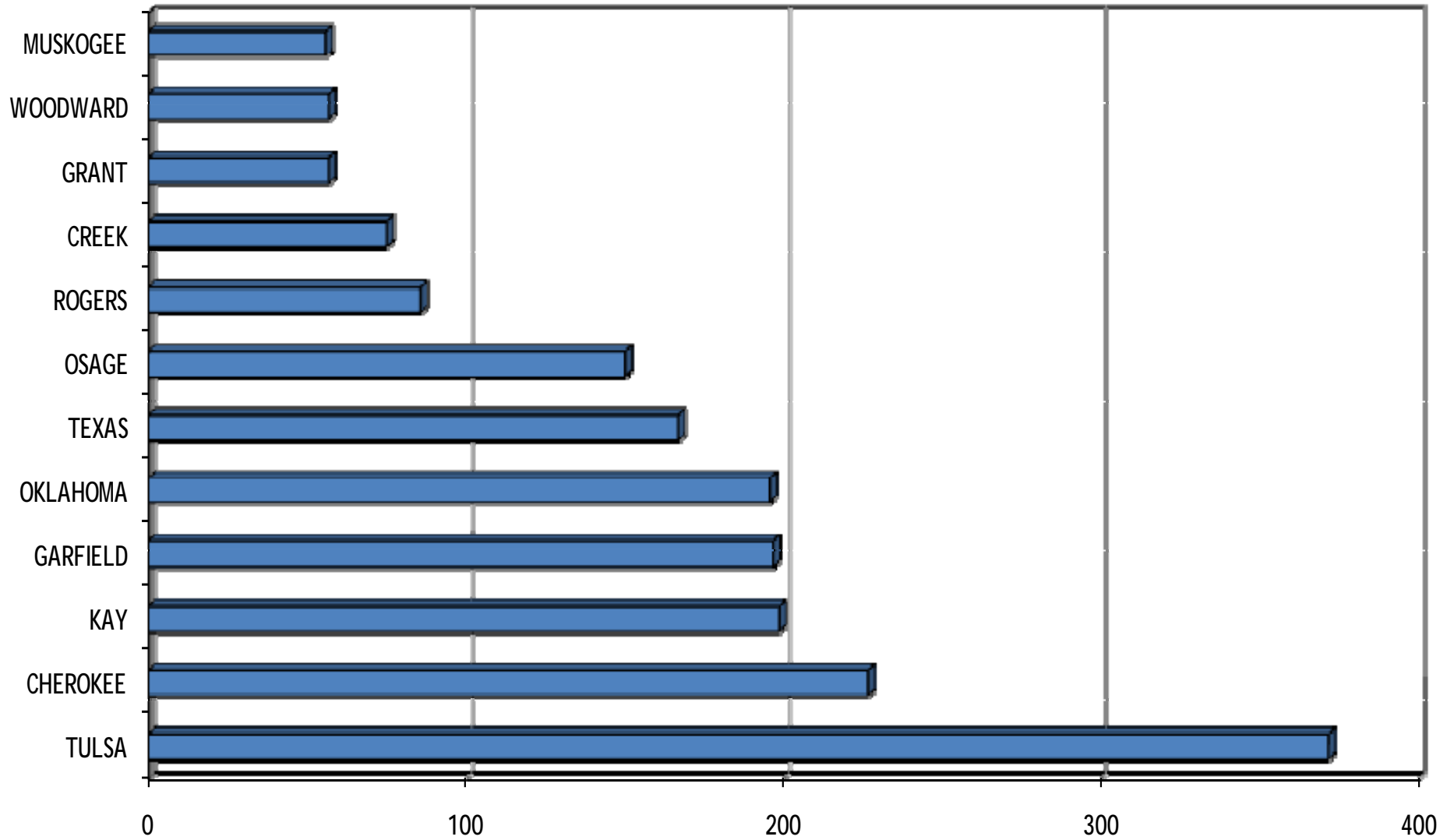




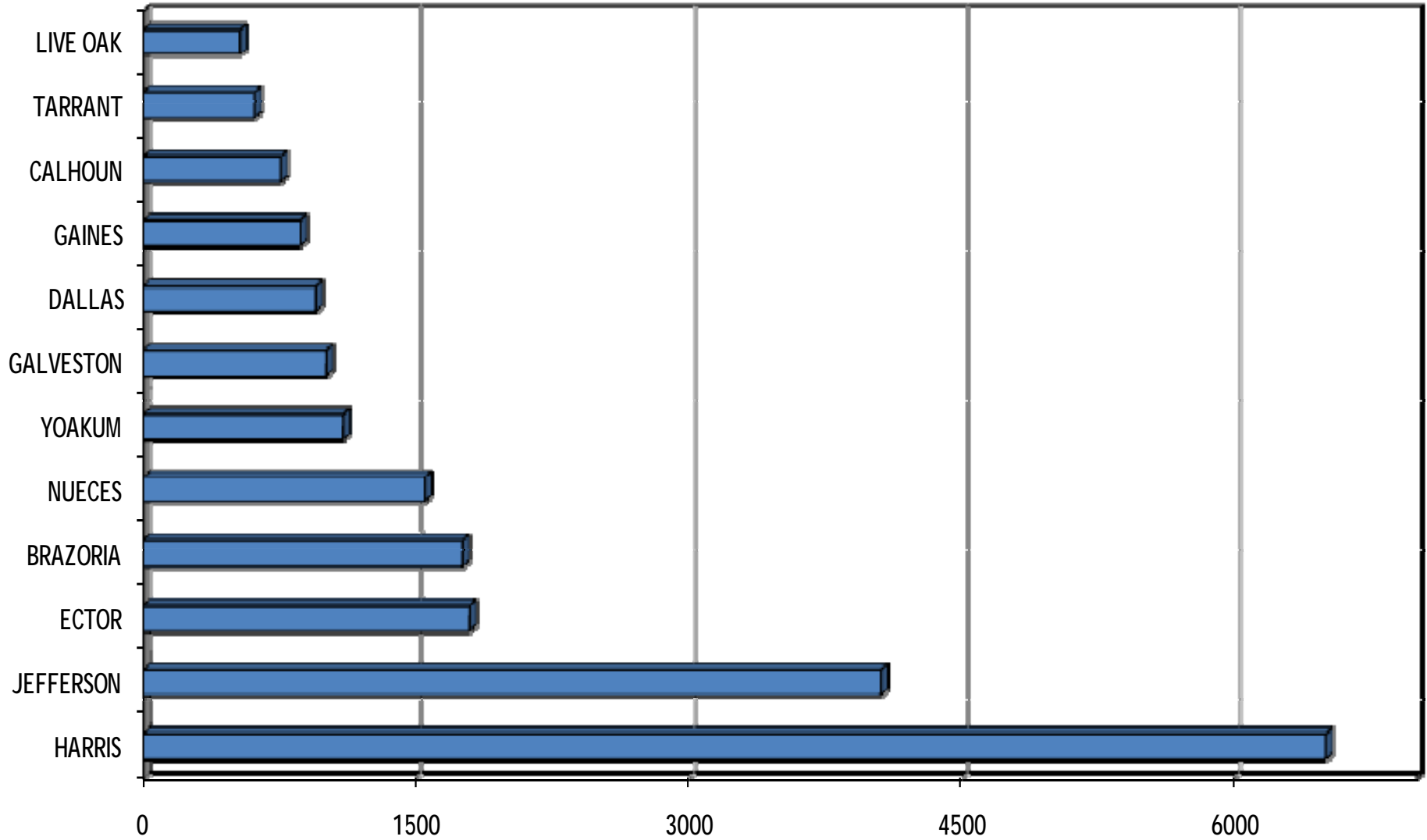
**NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top 10 Counties : New Mexico (2001 - 2010)**



NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top 10 Counties : Oklahoma (2001-2010)



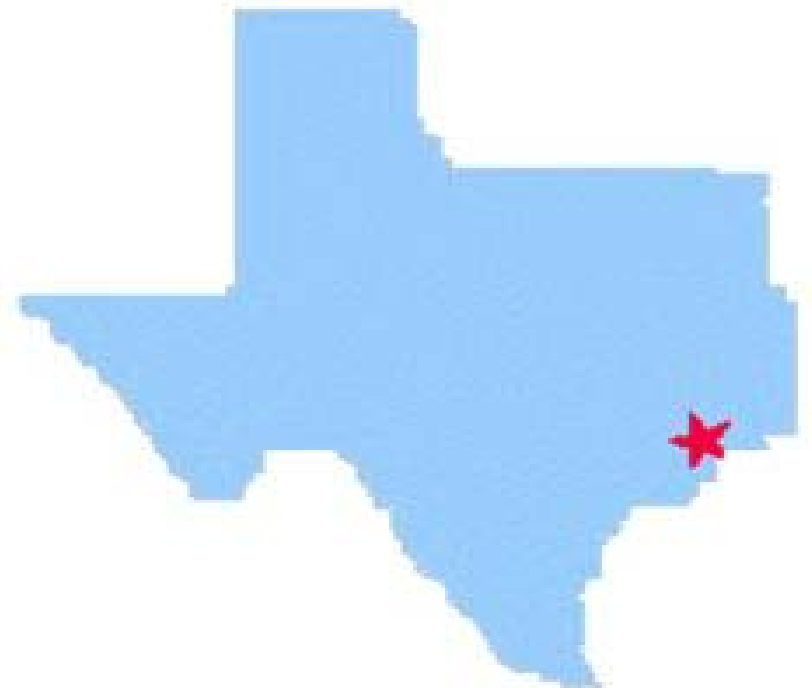
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top 10 Counties : Texas (2001 - 2010)



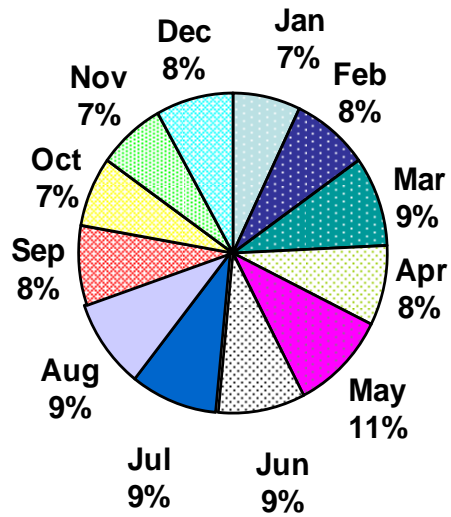
## Factoid

**Since 1982, more release reports to EPA through the National Response Center have originated from Harris County (Greater Houston), Texas, than 43 States**

**It is truly the center of the Chemical Universe !**

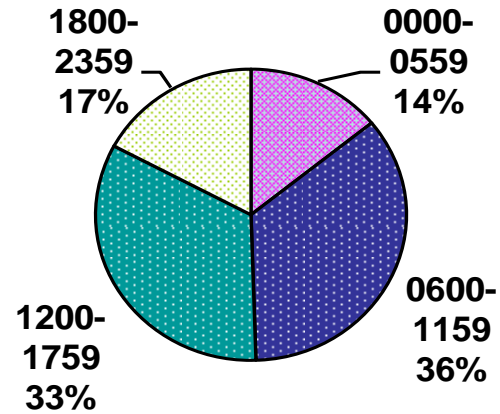
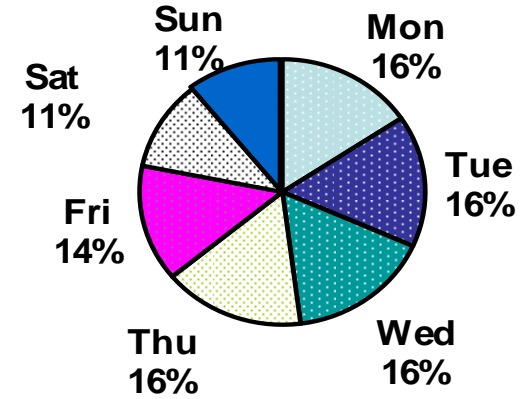


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Releases by Month, Day, Time of Day (2001-2010)



Month

Day

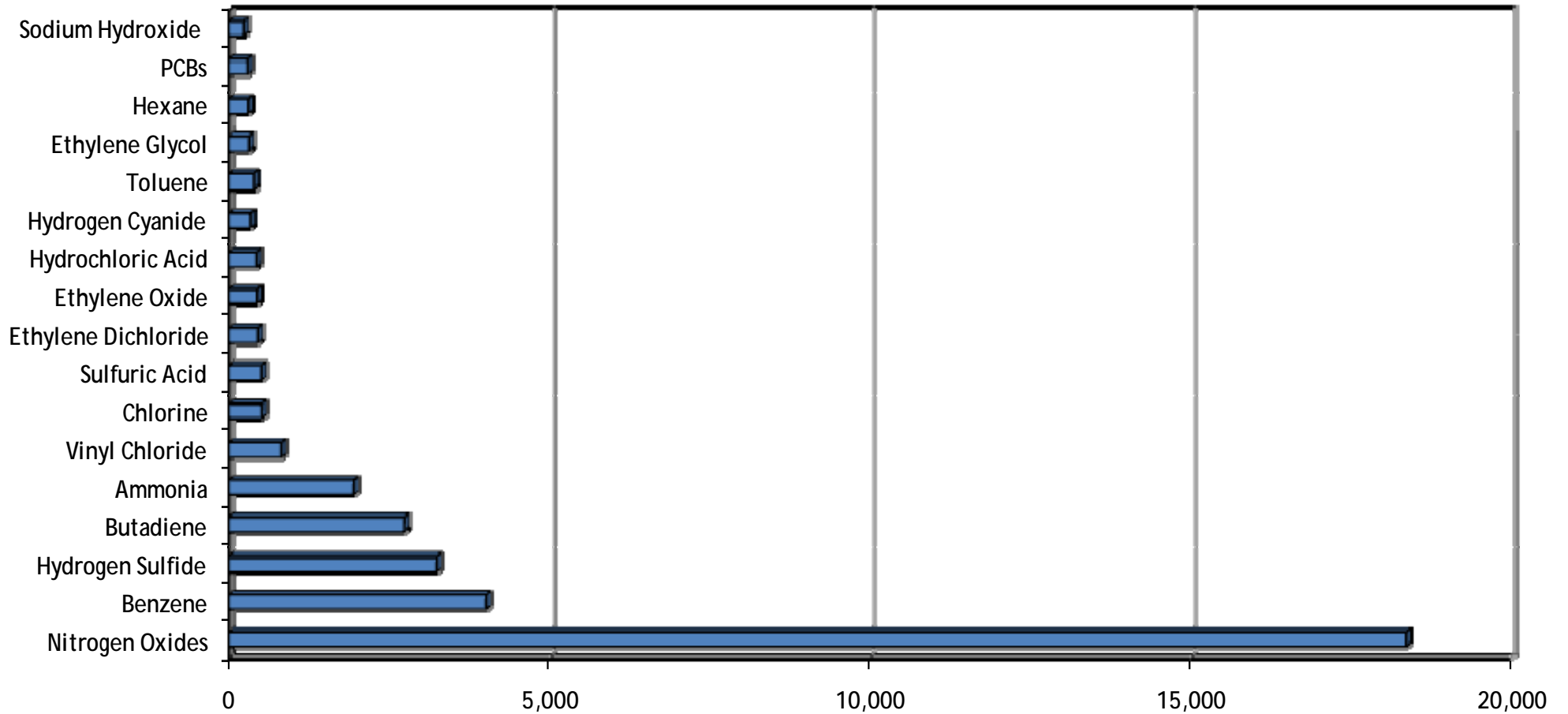


Time

Releases are distributed:

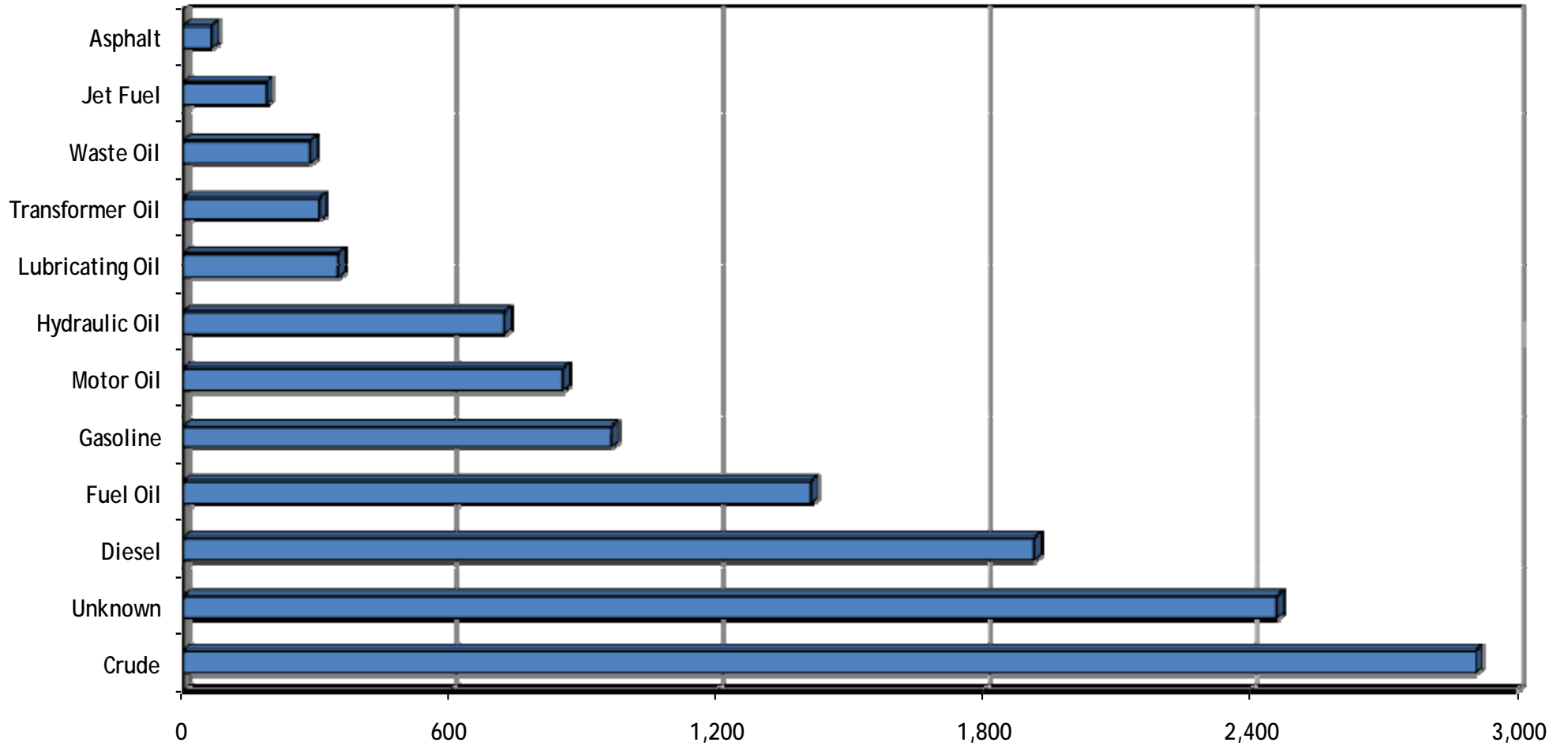
- fairly evenly by month
- less releases on weekend days
- more in middle of day

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Hazardous Materials Released (2001 - 2010)



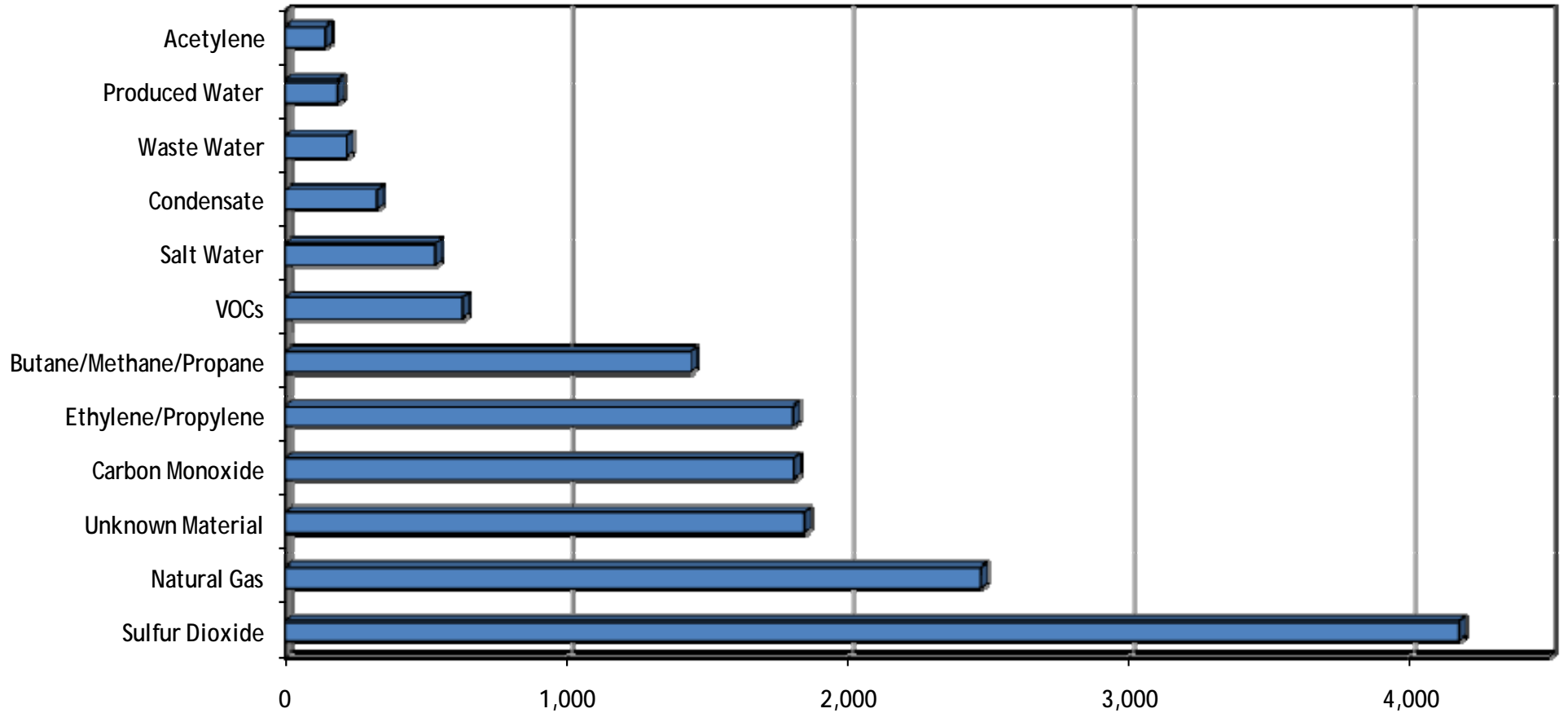
The 17 materials listed above account for 88 % of all hazardous material releases within Region 6 since 2000

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Oil / Oil Products Released (2001 - 2010)



The oil / oil products listed above account for 89 % of all oil / oil product releases within Region 6 since 2001

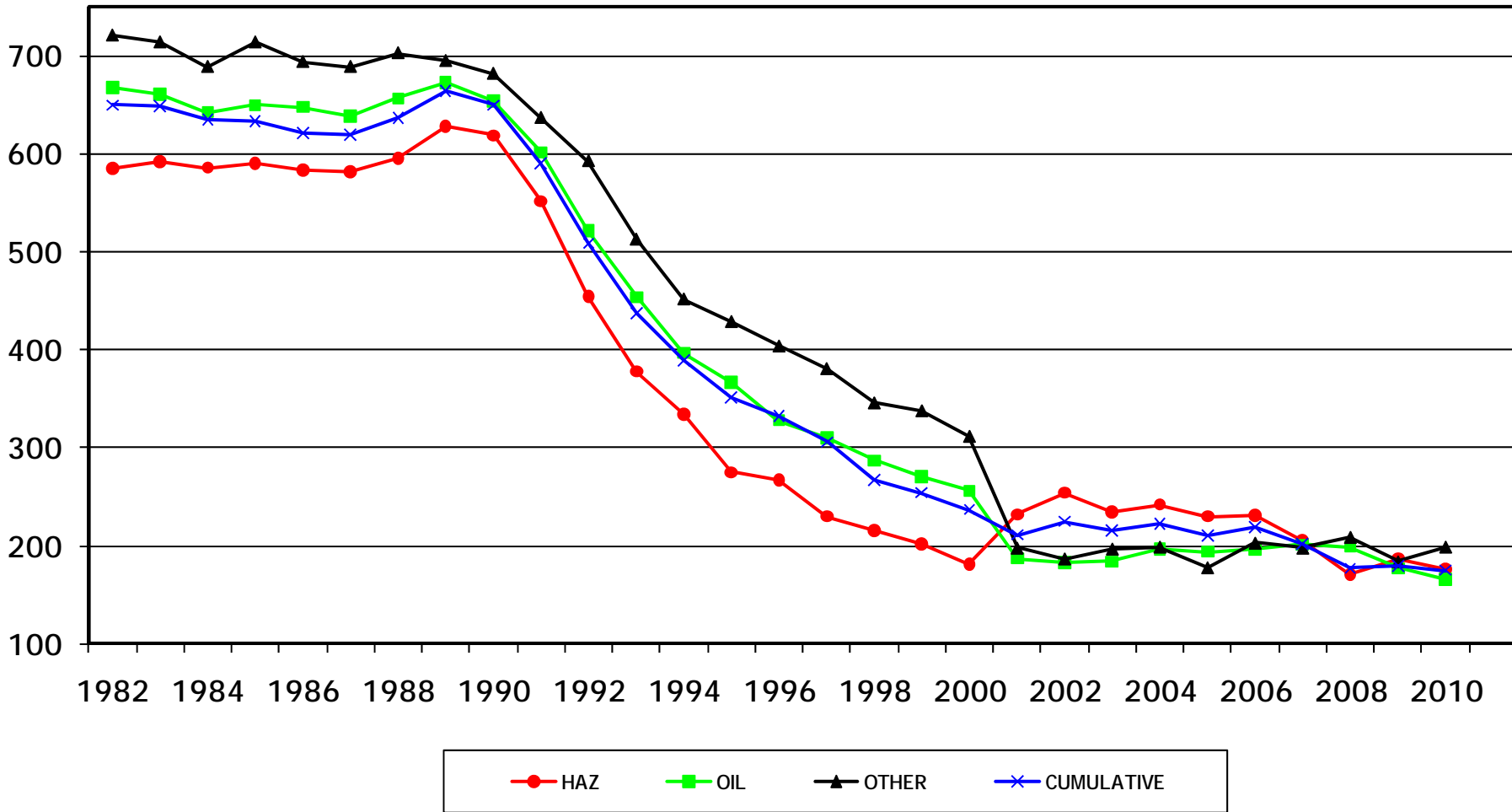
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Other Substances Released (2001 - 2010)



The materials listed above account for 67 % of all other material releases within Region 6 since 2001



NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Time from Release to Reported to NRC -- by Year (1982 - 2010)



**Hazardous Substances: 585 to 176 minutes**  
**Oil / Oil Products: 668 to 166 minutes**

**Other / Unknown: 721 to 199 minutes**  
**Cumulative: 650 to 175 minutes**

This above indicated decrease over the years can be associated with an aggressive and extensive outreach program under CERCLA, EPCRA, and OPA, as well as a strong Regional enforcement program

**REGION 6 LEPC RELEASE  
NOTIFICATION TOTALS  
(TO EPA THROUGH THE  
NATIONAL RESPONSE  
CENTER)  
FY01 – FY10**

AR	ARKANSAS	11
AR	ASHLEY	29
AR	BAXTER	17
AR	BENTON	77
AR	BOONE	11
AR	BRADLEY	6
AR	BRADLEY	5
AR	CALHOUN	6
AR	CARROLL	54
AR	CHICOT	10
AR	CLARK	23
AR	CLAY	8
AR	CLEBURNE	26
AR	CLEVELAND	2
AR	COLUMBIA	43
AR	CONWAY	22
AR	CRAIGHEAD	49
AR	CRAWFORD	42
AR	CRITTENDEN	59
AR	CROSS	34
AR	DALLAS	8
AR	DESHA	8
AR	DREW	8
AR	FAULKNER	67
AR	FRANKLIN	18
AR	FULTON	8
AR	GARLAND	99
AR	GRANT	5
AR	GREENE	20
AR	HEMPSTEAD	24
AR	HOT SPRING	42
AR	HOWARD	11
AR	INDEPENDENCE	25
AR	IZARD	3
AR	JACKSON	19
AR	JEFFERSON	68
AR	JOHNSON	10
AR	LAFAYETTE	13
AR	LAWRENCE	14
AR	LEE	6
AR	LINCOLN	6
AR	LITTLE RIVER	35
AR	LOGAN	16

AR	LONOKE	20
AR	MADISON	11
AR	MARION	8
AR	MILLER	28
AR	MISSISSIPPI	56
AR	MONROE	9
AR	MONTGOMERY	8
AR	NEVADA	13
AR	NEWTON	2
AR	OUACHITA	43
AR	PERRY	2
AR	PHILLIPS	26
AR	PIKE	9
AR	POINSETT	11
AR	POLK	19
AR	POPE	37
AR	PRAIRIE	6
AR	PULASKI	224
AR	RANDOLPH	8
AR	SALINE	43
AR	SCOTT	13
AR	SEARCY	8
AR	SEBASTIAN	105
AR	SEVEIR	13
AR	SHARP	10
AR	ST. FRANCIS	13
AR	STONE	2
AR	UNION	392
AR	VAN BUREN	17
AR	WASHINGTON	83
AR	WHITE	48
AR	WOODRUFF	2
AR	YELL	16
LA	ACADIA	101
LA	ALLEN	18
LA	ASCENSION	843
LA	ASSUMPTION	61
LA	AVOYELLES	33
LA	BEAUREGARD	36
LA	BIENVILLE	24
LA	BOSSIER	85
LA	CADDO	264
LA	CALCASIEU	1816
LA	CALDWELL	7
LA	CAMERON	79
LA	CATAHOULA	15
LA	CLAIBORNE	34
LA	CONCORDIA	13
LA	DE SOTO	50
LA	E. BATON ROUGE	1046
LA	EVANGELINE	27
LA	FRANKLIN	6

LA	GRANT	13
LA	IBERIA	107
LA	IBERVILLE	768
LA	JACKSON	11
LA	JEFFERSON	339
LA	JEFFERSON DAVIS	58
LA	LA SALLE	90
LA	LAFAYETTE	88
LA	LAFOURCHE	154
LA	LINCOLN	27
LA	LIVINGSTON	43
LA	MADISON	13
LA	MOREHOUSE	11
LA	NATCHITOCHE	13
LA	ORLEANS	208
LA	OUACHITA	348
LA	PLAQUEMINES	348
LA	POINTE COUPEE	72
LA	RAPIDES	76
LA	RED RIVER	10
LA	RICHLAND	14
LA	SABINE	11
LA	ST. BERNARD	425
LA	ST. CHARLES	792
LA	ST. HELENA	10
LA	ST. JAMES	460
LA	ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST	142
LA	ST. LANDRY	112
LA	ST. MARTIN	132
LA	ST. MARY	46
LA	ST. TAMMANY	161
LA	TANGIPAHOA	74
LA	TENSAS	7
LA	TERREBONNE	103
LA	UNION	21
LA	VERMILION	33
LA	VERNON	47
LA	W. BATON ROUGE	218
LA	W. CARROLL	4
LA	W. FELICIANA	6
LA	WASHINGTON	23
LA	WEBSTER	52
LA	WINN	11
NM	BERNALILLO	86
NM	CHAVES	12
NM	CIBOLA	13
NM	COLFAX	5
NM	CURRY	17
NM	DE BACA	2
NM	DONA ANA	24
NM	EDDY	396
NM	GRANT	12

NM	GUADALUPE	6
NM	HARDING	2
NM	HIDALGO	11
NM	LEA	523
NM	LINCOLN	6
NM	LOS ALAMOS	19
NM	LUNA	6
NM	MCKINLEY	23
NM	MORA	2
NM	OTERO	13
NM	QUAY	9
NM	RIO ARRIBA	38
NM	ROOSEVELT	15
NM	SAN JUAN	91
NM	SAN MIGUEL	5
NM	SANDOVAL	16
NM	SANTA FE	17
NM	SIERRA	4
NM	SOCORRO	3
NM	TAOS	6
NM	TORRANCE	6
NM	VALENCIA	19
OK	ADAIR	5
OK	ALFALFA	8
OK	ATOKA	14
OK	BEAVER	31
OK	BECKHAM	38
OK	BLAINE	5
OK	BRYAN	21
OK	CADDO	28
OK	CANADIAN	45
OK	CARTER	5
OK	CHEROKEE	227
OK	CHEROKEE	7
OK	CHOCTAW	3
OK	CIMARRON	3
OK	CLEVELAND	33
OK	COAL	9
OK	COMANCHE	18
OK	COTTON	1
OK	CRAIG	10
OK	CREEK	75
OK	CUSTER	21
OK	DELAWARE	17
OK	DEWEY	4
OK	ELLIS	5
OK	GARFIELD	197
OK	GARVIN	51
OK	GRADY	29
OK	GRANT	57
OK	GREER	1
OK	HARPER	2

OK	HASKELL	5
OK	HUGHES	24
OK	JACKSON	9
OK	JEFFERSON	3
OK	JOHNSTON	6
OK	KAY	199
OK	KINGFISHER	36
OK	KIOWA	5
OK	LATIMER	12
OK	LE FLORE	35
OK	LINCOLN	27
OK	LOGAN	19
OK	LOVE	10
OK	MAJOR	19
OK	MARSHALL	15
OK	MAYES	29
OK	MCCLAIN	16
OK	MCCURTAIN	49
OK	MCINTOSH	19
OK	MURRAY	13
OK	MUSKOGEE	56
OK	NOBLE	22
OK	NOWATA	12
OK	OKFUSKEE	3
OK	OKLAHOMA	196
OK	OKMULGEE	20
OK	OSAGE	150
OK	OTTAWA	22
OK	PAWNEE	18
OK	PAYNE	48
OK	PITTSBURG	43
OK	PONTOTOC	54
OK	POTTAWATOMIE	35
OK	PUSHMATAHA	3
OK	ROGER MILLS	12
OK	ROGERS	86
OK	SEMINOLE	45
OK	SEQUOYAH	26
OK	STEPHENS	53
OK	TEXAS	167
OK	TILLMAN	1
OK	TULSA	372
OK	WAGONER	16
OK	WASHINGTON	32
OK	WASHITA	16
OK	WOODS	6
OK	WOODWARD	57
TX	ANDERSON	32
TX	ANDREWS	319
TX	ANGELINA	64
TX	ARANSAS	21
TX	ARCHER	13

TX	ARMSTRONG	3
TX	ATASCOSA	12
TX	AUSTIN	22
TX	BANDERA	3
TX	BASTROP	28
TX	BAYLOR	3
TX	BEE	11
TX	BELL	83
TX	BEXAR	372
TX	BLANCO	4
TX	BORDEN	14
TX	BOSQUE	16
TX	BOWIE	68
TX	BRAZORIA	1759
TX	BRAZOS	61
TX	BREWSTER	4
TX	BROOKS	15
TX	BROWN	9
TX	BURLESON	36
TX	BURNET	13
TX	CALDWELL	25
TX	CALHOUN	754
TX	CALLAHAN	9
TX	CAMERON	240
TX	CAMP	11
TX	CARSON	14
TX	CASS	40
TX	CASTRO	4
TX	CHAMBERS	528
TX	CHEROKEE	30
TX	CHILDRESS	5
TX	CLAY	11
TX	COCHRAN	1
TX	COKE	1
TX	COLEMAN	6
TX	COLLIN	112
TX	COLLINGSWORTH	1
TX	COLORADO	18
TX	COMAL	69
TX	COMANCHE	3
TX	CONCHO	1
TX	COOKE	52
TX	CORYELL	9
TX	COTTLE	1
TX	CRANE	340
TX	CROCKETT	74
TX	CROSBY	1
TX	CULBERSON	14
TX	DALLAM	21
TX	DALLAS	954
TX	DAWSON	321
TX	DE WITT	9

TX	DEAF SMITH	2
TX	DELTA	3
TX	DENTON	127
TX	DICKENS	1
TX	DIMITT	17
TX	DONLEY	4
TX	DUVAL	13
TX	EASTLAND	21
TX	ECTOR	1797
TX	EL PASO	305
TX	ELLIS	171
TX	ERATH	15
TX	FALLS	7
TX	FANNIN	22
TX	FAYETTE	43
TX	FISHER	6
TX	FLOYD	4
TX	FORT BEND	72
TX	FRANKLIN	15
TX	FREESTONE	60
TX	FRIO	13
TX	GAINES	869
TX	GALVESTON	1011
TX	GARZA	16
TX	GILLESPIE	2
TX	GLASSCOCK	4
TX	GOLIAD	7
TX	GONZALES	10
TX	GRAY	35
TX	GRAYSON	79
TX	GREGG	189
TX	GRIMES	18
TX	GUADALUPE	61
TX	GUILFORD	1
TX	HALE	73
TX	HANSFORD	9
TX	HARDEMAN	7
TX	HARDIN	58
TX	HARRIS	6512
TX	HARRISON	357
TX	HARTLEY	6
TX	HASKELL	5
TX	HAYS	30
TX	HEMPHILL	27
TX	HENDERSON	62
TX	HIDALGO	144
TX	HILL	46
TX	HOCKLEY	426
TX	HOOD	20
TX	HOPKINS	21
TX	HOUSTON	36
TX	HOWARD	224

TX	HUDSPETH	7
TX	HUNT	57
TX	HUTCHINSON	439
TX	IRION	8
TX	JACK	20
TX	JACKSON	32
TX	JASPER	24
TX	JEFF DAVIS	2
TX	JEFFERSON	4063
TX	JIM HOGG	3
TX	JIMWELLS	20
TX	JOHNSON	123
TX	JONES	11
TX	KARNES	9
TX	KAUFMAN	40
TX	KENDALL	6
TX	KENEDY	28
TX	KENT	332
TX	KERR	7
TX	KIMBLE	1
TX	KING	12
TX	KINNEY	2
TX	KLEBERG	62
TX	KNOX	9
TX	LA SALLE	6
TX	LAMAR	31
TX	LAMB	8
TX	LAMPASAS	10
TX	LAVACA	20
TX	LEE	8
TX	LEON	19
TX	LIBERTY	88
TX	LIMESTONE	18
TX	LIPSCOMB	11
TX	LIVE OAK	532
TX	LLANO	7
TX	LOVING	4
TX	LUBBOCK	63
TX	MADISON	8
TX	MARION	11
TX	MARTIN	11
TX	MATAGORDA	75
TX	MAVERICK	16
TX	MCCULLOCH	5
TX	MCLENNAN	105
TX	MCMULLEN	38
TX	MEDINA	30
TX	MENARD	1
TX	MIDLAND	337
TX	MILAM	21
TX	MILLS	3
TX	MITCHELL	18

TX	MONTAGUE	29
TX	MONTGOMERY	226
TX	MOORE	210
TX	MORRIS	11
TX	NACOGDOCHES	29
TX	NAVARRO	33
TX	NEWTON	22
TX	NOLAN	16
TX	NUECES	1554
TX	OCHILTREE	29
TX	OLDHAM	5
TX	ORANGE	456
TX	PALO PINTO	26
TX	PANOLA	92
TX	PARKER	60
TX	PARMER	15
TX	PECOS	142
TX	POLK	25
TX	POTTER	73
TX	PRESIDIO	3
TX	RAINS	1
TX	RANDALL	10
TX	REAGAN	2
TX	REAL	1
TX	RED RIVER	6
TX	REEVES	29
TX	REFUGIO	26
TX	ROBERTS	2
TX	ROBERTSON	33
TX	ROCKWALL	10
TX	RUNNELS	5
TX	RUSK	102
TX	SABINE	9
TX	SAN AUGUSTINE	4
TX	SAN JACINTO	13
TX	SAN PATRICIO	208
TX	SAN SABA	2
TX	SCHLEICHER	24
TX	SCURRY	76
TX	SHACKELFORD	3
TX	SHELBY	44
TX	SHERMAN	5
TX	SMITH	136
TX	SOMERVELL	9
TX	STARR	10
TX	STEPHENS	11
TX	STERLING	11
TX	STONEWALL	2
TX	SUTTON	23
TX	SWISHER	1
TX	TARRANT	612
TX	TAYLOR	54

TX	TERRELL	2
TX	TERRY	6
TX	THROCKMORTON	5
TX	TITUS	45
TX	TOM GREEN	21
TX	TRAVIS	142
TX	TRINITY	5
TX	TYLER	16
TX	UPSHUR	34
TX	UPTON	43
TX	UVALDE	9
TX	VAL VERDE	17
TX	VAN ZANDT	29
TX	VICTORIA	224
TX	WALKER	14
TX	WALLER	28
TX	WARD	131
TX	WASHINGTON	10
TX	WEBB	77
TX	WHARTON	24
TX	WHEELER	4
TX	WICHITA	56
TX	WILBARGER	14
TX	WILLACY	11
TX	WILLIAMSON	65
TX	WILSON	5
TX	WINKLER	206
TX	WISE	96
TX	WOOD	47
TX	YOAKUM	1101
TX	YOUNG	13
TX	ZAPATA	13
TX	ZAVALA	7

# *The Five (Stolen) P's of Problem Solving*

© 2011 Frederick J. Cowie, Ph.D. [fredcowie@aol.com](mailto:fredcowie@aol.com) fredcowie.com 406-431-3531



**Amateurs imitate, professionals, we just steal.**

**Here are five of the best strategic ideas I've ever stolen and they are part of my Stress Management and Problem Solving talks.**

**Feel free to steal them.**

**Pareto Principle:** Vilfredo Pareto, an Italian economist of the early nineteenth century, was the king of consciousness raising, for he taught us to step back, get a good perspective, and realize that in each of our lives a vast majority of one thing (call it X), is brought about by vast minority of another thing (call it Y).



**These pairs always remarkable to me and the vast majority is usually 80% or more and the vast majority is usually 20% or less.**

**So implementing the Pareto Principle is like repeating this fill in the blank sentence over and over in your life: "80% of my \_\_\_\_\_ is/are caused by 20% of my \_\_\_\_\_."**

**Try it.**

**Here are some of my favorite pairs: income/customers; complaints/customers; success/work; failures/mistakes; whines/students; smiles/friends. There are many, many more viable pairs in my life.**



**Potato Principle:** Ed Maguire was my favorite history prof on my way to my Ph.D. One day he taught us about medium sized potatoes. In the Navy he was given a sack of potatoes and two big pots and was told to put the big potatoes in one pot and small potatoes in the other.

**"I was okay," he said, "till I hit a medium sized potato." He then went on to say something like this was a metaphor for life.**

**Most people and most historians, he said, spend a majority of their decision making time wasting energy on medium sized potatoes, when in fact it doesn't matter what you do with them. I have found that because one doesn't have a decision making model or algorithm for "medium sized potatoes," one frets over them and becomes indecisive.**

**So, here's my solution: Throw the big-mediums in the big pot, little-mediums in the little pot, and medium-mediums, well, there's the problem, but by this time there aren't many of them, throw them in either pot, or away!**



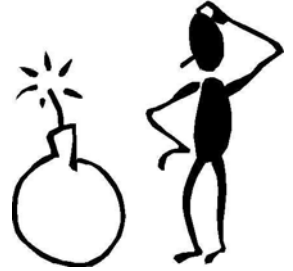
**Problem Principle:** My wife's coworker Randy Bowsher had a phrase for people who whined about work and said it was hard, he would always quip:

"That's why they call it work."

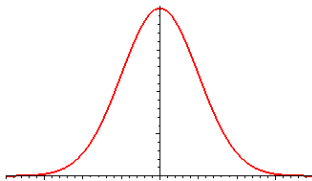
From Randy I took that to mean, work's not a problem, work's just work.

A problem is something you don't have a solution for, it's something you don't know what work to do to fix it. Thus, work's not the problem.

Almost all problem solving courses, designed by process engineers it seems, start with "Step One: Define the problem." The rest of the course is about designing a workable solution. Thus, having a personal problem solving system is not only critical to success and necessary for personal happiness, it is as simple as figuring out what work to do.



But, if like some folks, for you work is a problem, you don't need a job, you probably need a treatment program.



**Power Principle:** Best boss I ever had in the emergency management business was Bill Good, Colonel Good, a retired full bird out of Viet Nam who always just shook his head at state government.

He taught me, well all of us, you had to know where you were on the "power curve." For Bill, and now for me, life's a Bell Curve.

"Sometimes," Bill would say, "you're just OBE." It didn't take long for a new employee to find out that that meant overwhelmed by events. The event at full force just had too much power. You prepared for catastrophic events beforehand, you recovered afterward, but during the event itself you simply moved to higher ground and just waited, for it was as Jackie Gleason used to say, "bigger than both of us."

During and immediately after an OBE event (redundant/), you stood back and gathered data, and did not give in to the "do something" adrenaline rush.

If you made a mistake and actually fought the event, when it finally was time to act you were too tired and you were out of resources.



Katrina comes to mind.



**Preparedness Principle: This gem comes from Louis Pasteur.**

**When people called him lucky because he found so many scientific gems, he countered with, "Luck favors the prepared mind."**

**Or some such quote.**

**Henry Ford's quote to the same type of malcontents was something like "It's surprising how lucky you are when you work hard."**

**Pasteur knew that the brain sees only what it knows, what it expects, what it is looking for, and what it has developed the ability to detect. Seeing well is hard work. What this means to me centers around two ideas.**

**First, for me personally I must learn all I can learn, read all I can read, take all the classes available, and certainly train to my weaknesses, my defects.**

**For me as an emergency manager, it means fill my committees, my response teams, my research panels with as many different types of people as I can find, for each has a different set of personal experience, education, training and equipment.**

**Not five fire fighters or five cops, because then their experience, education, training and equipment are cookie cutter. In emergency management, as in a good life and a great culture, diversity is the key to success.**

### **HAS YOUR LEPC:**

- Established a permanent address for facilities, the SERC, and EPA to mail required forms and information;
- Notified the SERC of any changes to the LEPC structure, especially a change in the chair or address;
- Provided EPCRA training to emergency responders, specifically local fire departments who often can provide information to facilities during fire inspections and police departments who respond to haz-mat incidents?
- Established a 24-hour manned emergency phone number (i.e., sheriff's office, 911, fire department) for facilities to make release notifications -- an answering machine is not sufficient





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**Region 6 Emergency Notification Numbers**

Arkansas Dept. of Emergency Management	800-322-4012
Louisiana State Police	877-925-6595
New Mexico State Police	505-827-9126
Oklahoma Dept. of Environmental Quality	800-522-0206
Texas Environmental Hotline	800-832-8224
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National Response Center	800-424-8802
EPA Region 6	866-372-7745
CHEMTREC	800-424-9300