

REGION 6 LEPC Update



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This month, we will be reviewing the emergency response notifications received by EPA through the NRC for Region 6 for FY2011. 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

12th Annual HOTZONE Conference

The 12th Annual HOTZONE Conference proved to be another outstanding success. Even with budgetary concerns and restrictions on travel for many local communities, we actually were able to grow in the total number of attendees from last year (over 700 total attendees).

Many thanks go to Danny Snell and the Houston Fire Department for hosting the conference again this year; while kudos also go to Bob Royall with the Harris County Fire Marshal's Office for developing an outstanding agenda, and once again bringing in premier instructions from around the country.



HOTZONE 13 will be held next October 18 - 21, 2012 in Houston. You can keep up with information on the conference by going to: www.hotzone.org

Region 6 LEPC Coordinators			
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A Note to Teachers and Trainers

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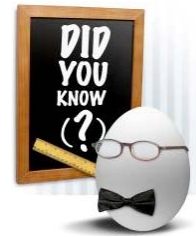
There is a syndrome which I have always called "graduate-school-itis," although after training cops I sometimes call it "law-enforcement-academy-itis."



Teachers coming right out of school as well as cops coming right out of the academy (and even hazmat techs coming right out a chemistry class), all have the tendency to ignore the humanity of the folks in front of them, and place extreme, undue emphasis upon facts: facts of whatever specialty they have just spent days, weeks, and years accumulating. It might be called the know-it-all syndrome, an extension of the call-on-me syndrome from grade school, for we all know the kid who always had her/his hand up because she/he had actually done all the homework and reading.

Let me state, right here, that facts are important, and facts are critical, especially in the hard sciences like physics and chemistry, which are the basis of hazmat preparedness and response.

Oh yes, let me state, right here up front, that I am a stickler for facts and I do an extreme amount of research to make sure I have my facts right. I am not always right, and I want and expect people (readers, class attendees, family members) to let me know when I am wrong, because I want to know. BUT (and this is a big but), given that all trainers' facts should be correct, what then? That all has to be taken care of before the teacher, trainer, or boss enters the room. That is all about prep work. That is about being a professional learner. Okay, I get it. It's a given, facts are important.



Yet, now we must learn to leave the hazmat class, the graduate school, and/or the law enforcement academy at the door, forget we were anal-retentive students who were facts-oriented looking for certificates and degrees, and we must somehow morph into terrific student-oriented, humanity-oriented teachers, trainers, and supervisors. Poof!



We have to change, become that which we are not, otherwise we will become she/he who we all dreaded. We all have heard the speaker who was the "mouthpiece" for the company or agency line and we quit listening after the first sentence. We have all been in a class where the teacher spoke over our heads and the facts died sliding down the back wall to the floor. We have all cringed when the trainer put up a slide which was a copy of the textbook page—and then read it to us!

If we don't go to new classes and read new books and learn to skills, training and teaching skills, we become of whom was said: who he was spoke so loudly I couldn't hear what he said!

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

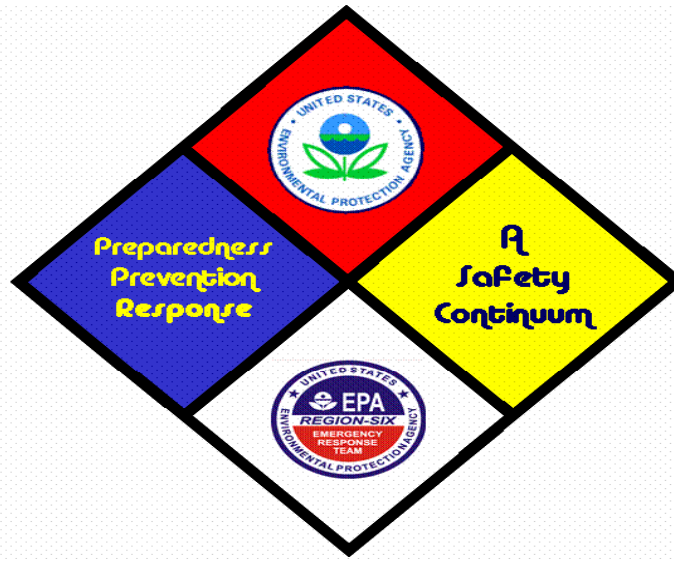
- The articles contained herein are provided for general purposes only.
- EPA does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions or results of any actions based upon this information.
- Please consult the applicable regulations when determining compliance.
- Mention of trade names, products, or services does not convey, and should not be interpreted as conveying official EPA approval, endorsement, or recommendation.



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

National Response Center	800-424-8802
EPA Region 6	866-372-7745
CHEMTREC	800-424-9300



EPA Region 6 Accidental Release Information :

2001 - 2011

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:

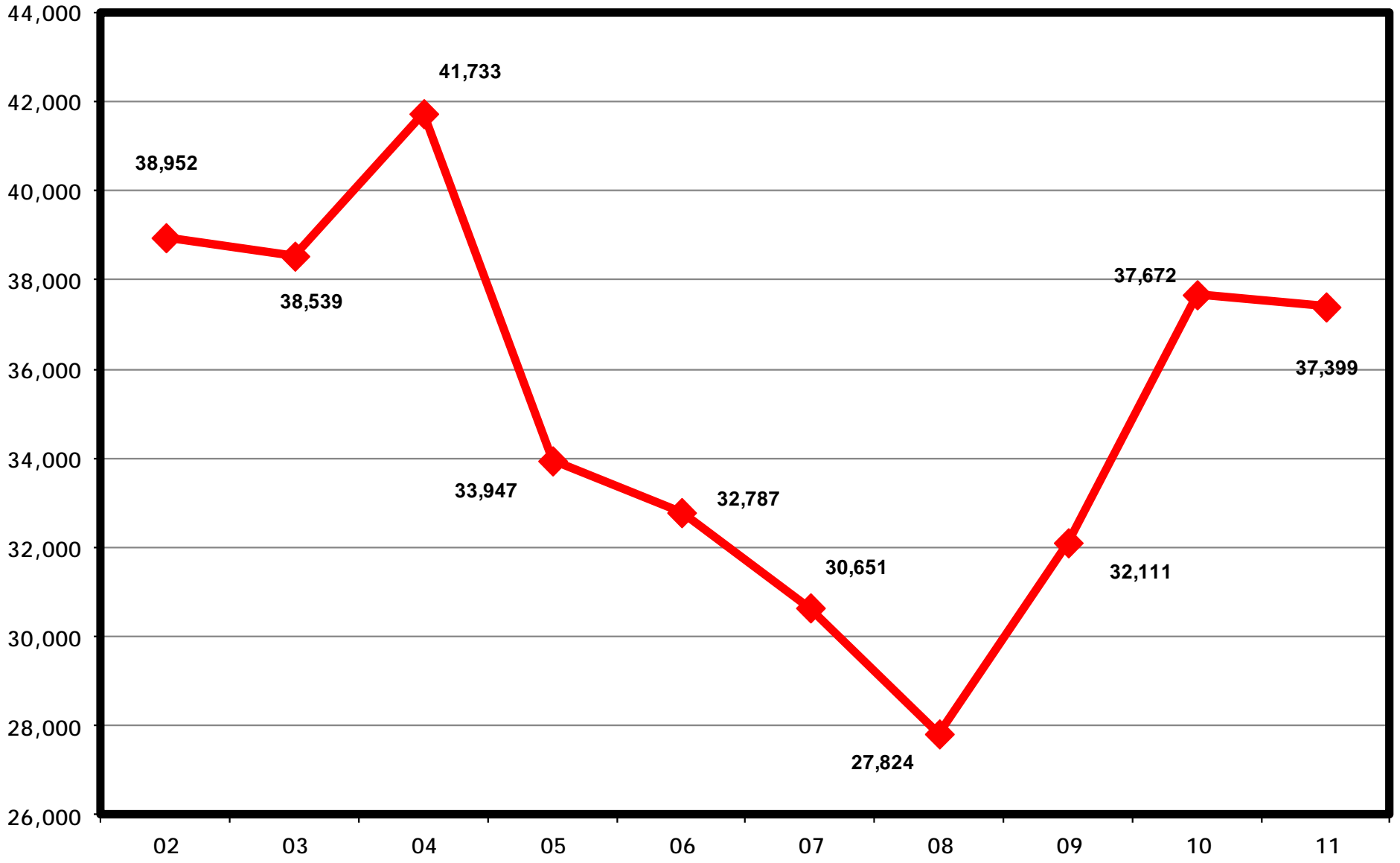
- Briefs the White House, Office of Homeland Security, Secretary of Transportation, and Chiefs of Modal Administrations regarding all significant transportation emergencies;
- Provides information the Coast Guard's Office of Marine Safety, Security, and Environmental Protection as needed;
- Receives 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:

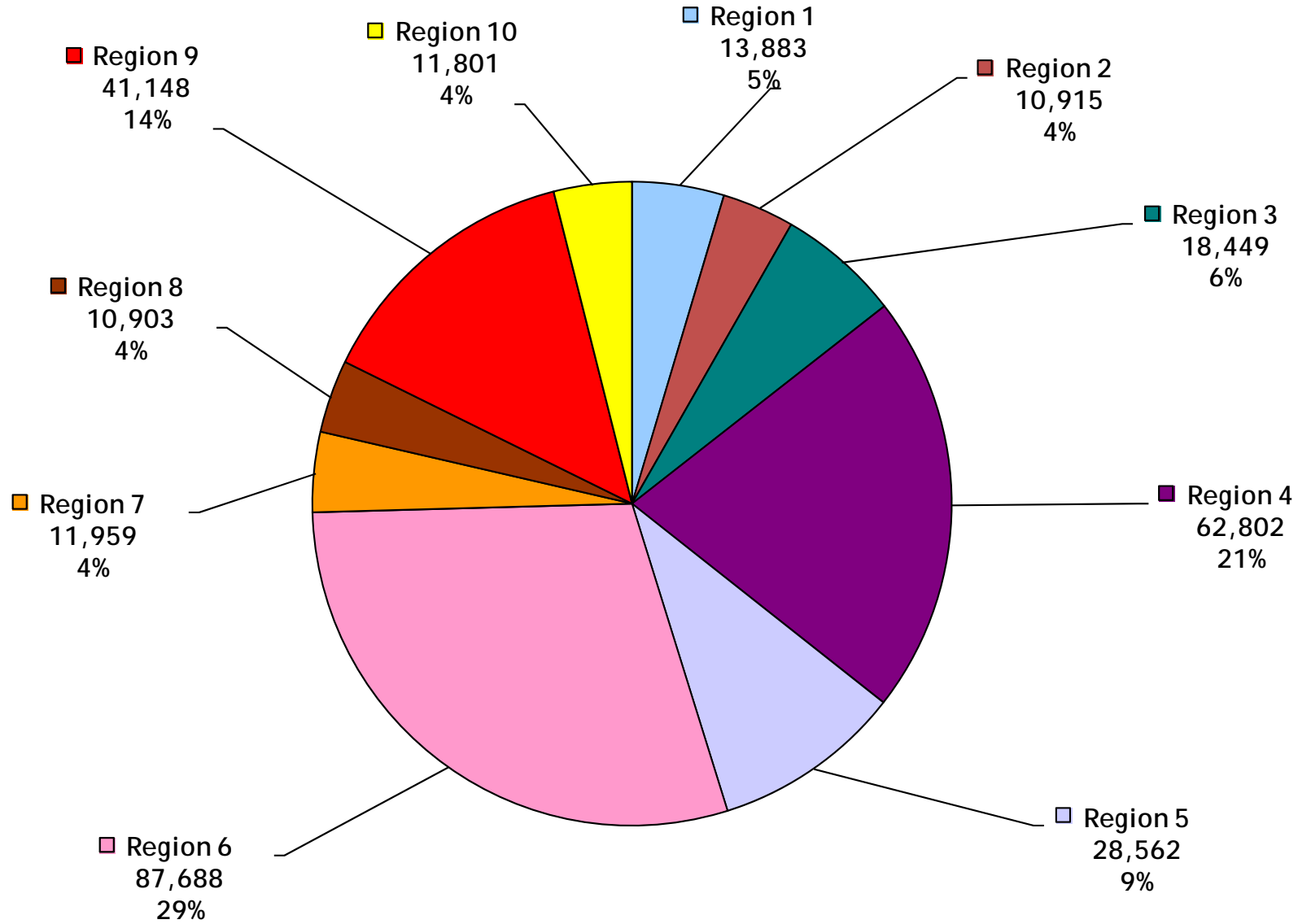


- For the EPA, the NRC receives incident reports under the FRS which is supported under CERCLA, CWA, CAA, EPCRA, and OPA. The NRC disseminates reports of oil discharges and chemical releases to the FOSC;
- For FEMA, the NRC acts as a 24 hour contact point to receive earthquake, flood, hurricane, and 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.

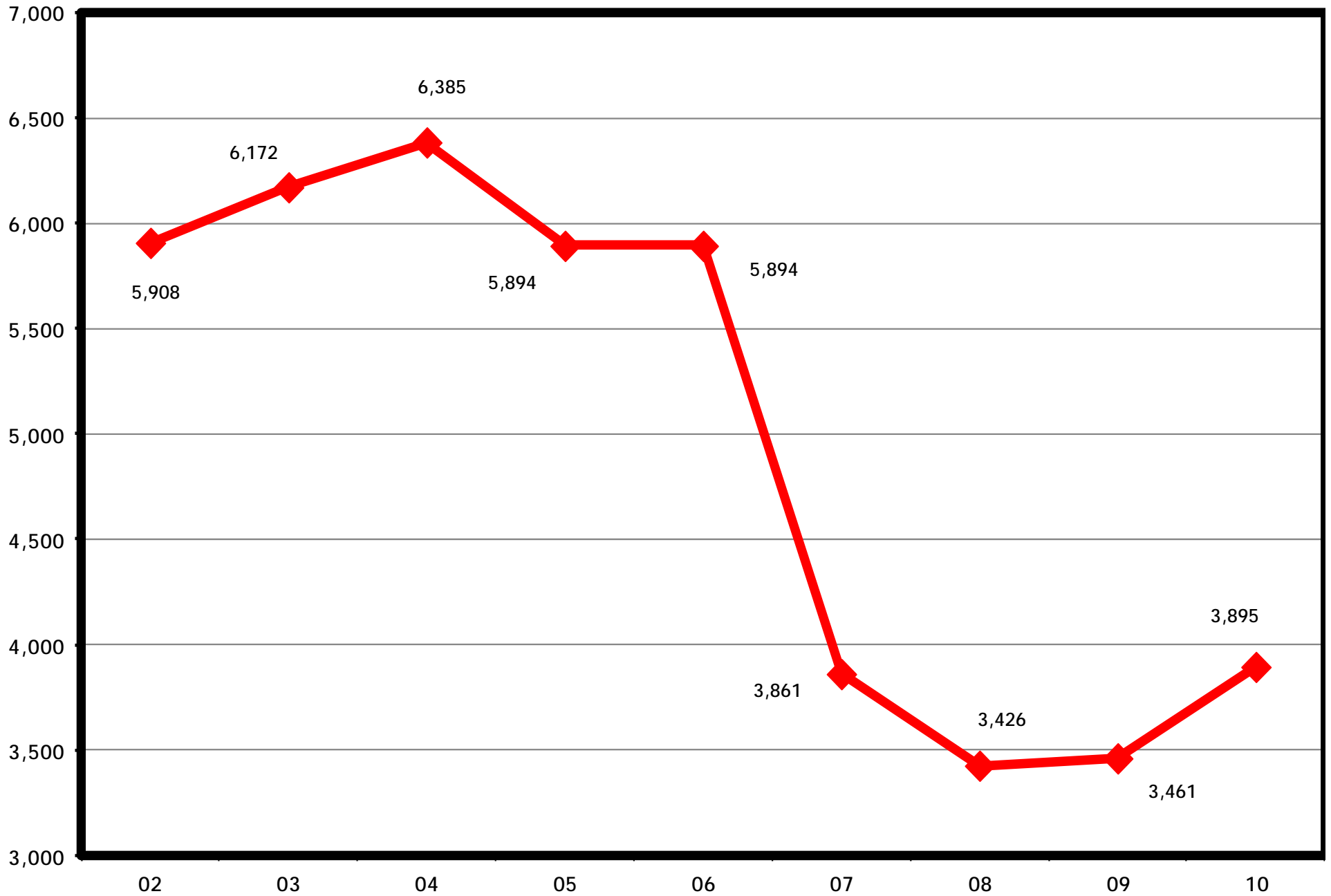
NRC Notifications Nationally / EPA (2002 - 2011)



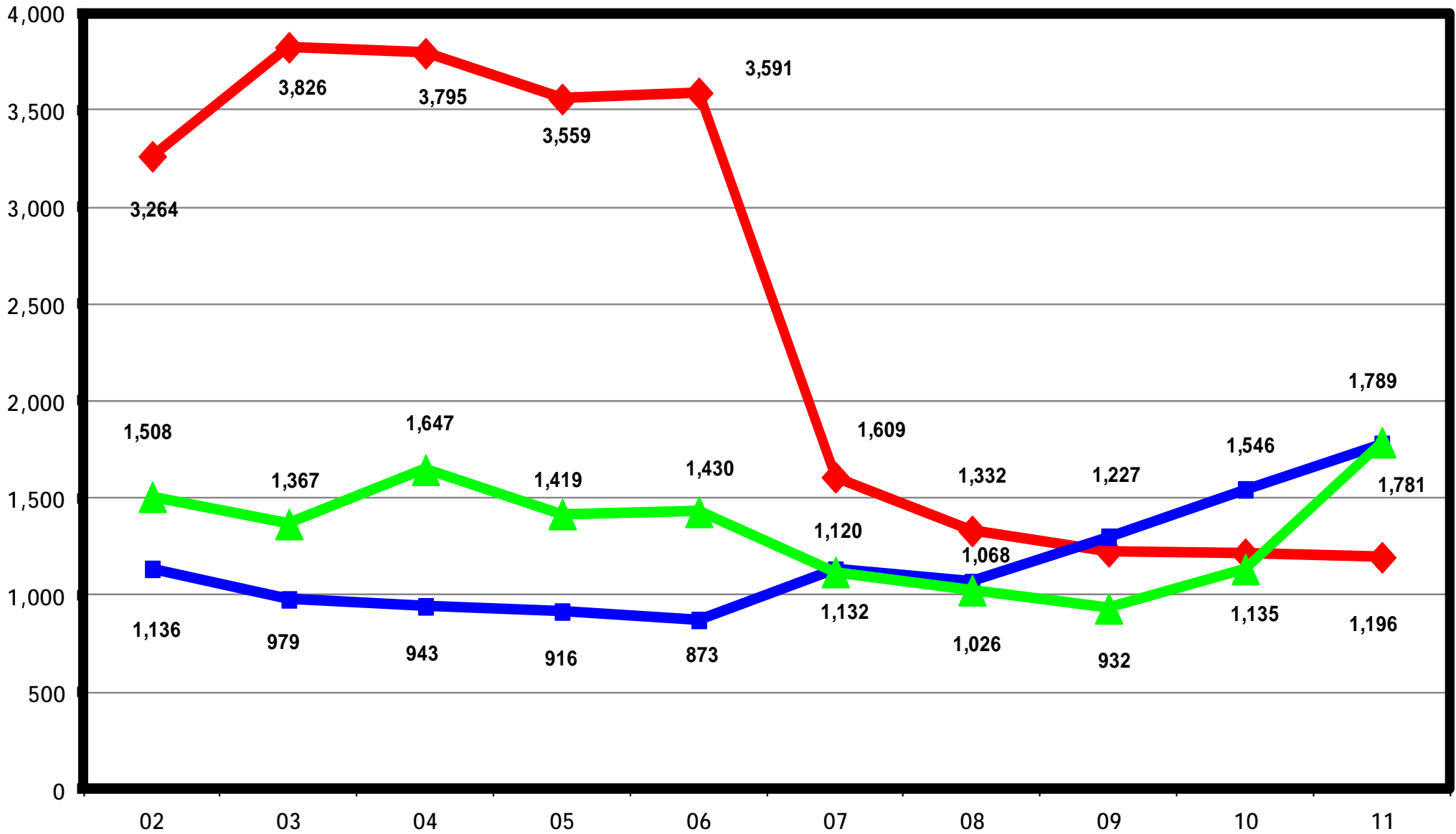
EPA Notifications to NRC per Region (2002 - 2011)



NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 (2002 - 2011)

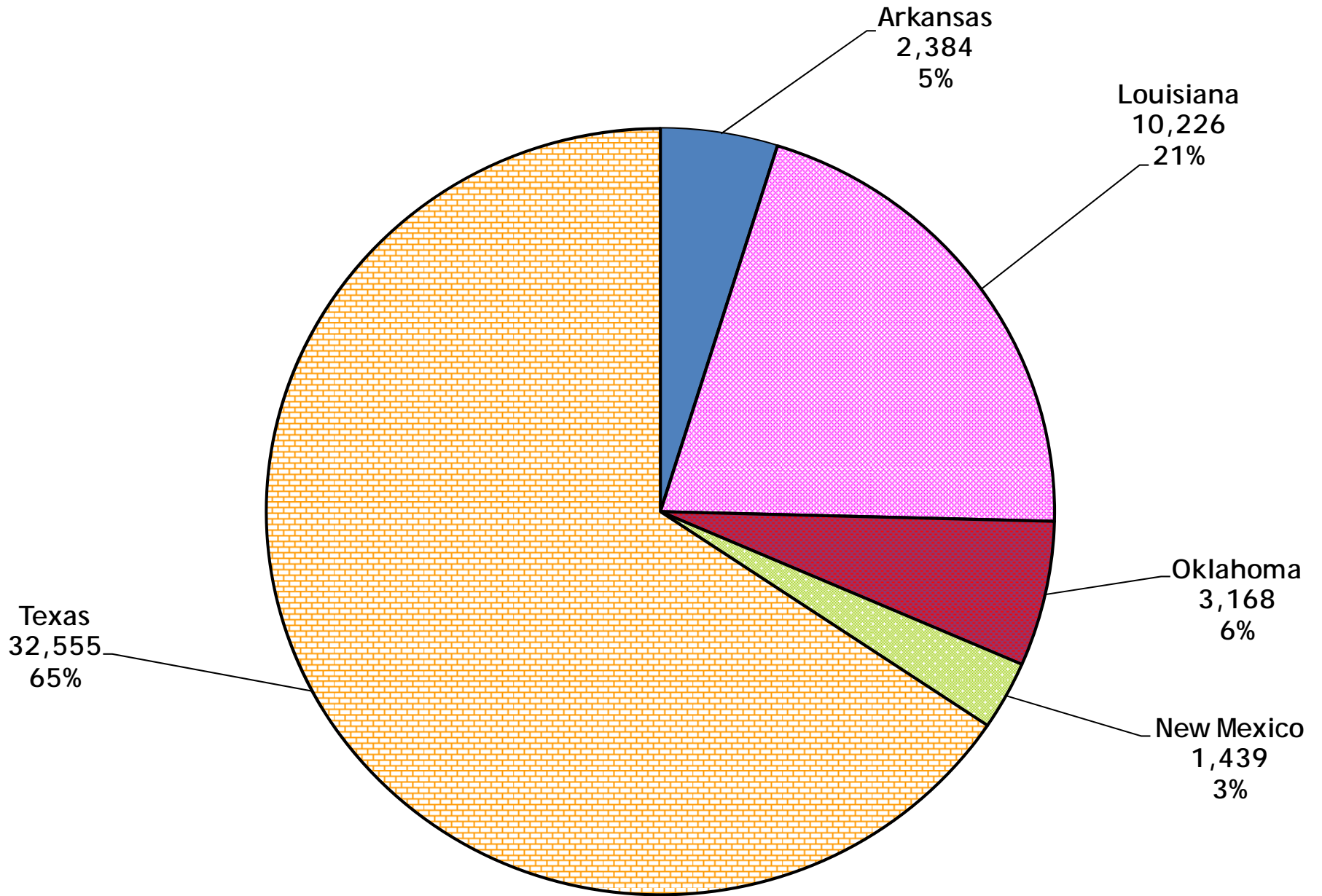


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by Material Type (2002 - 2011)

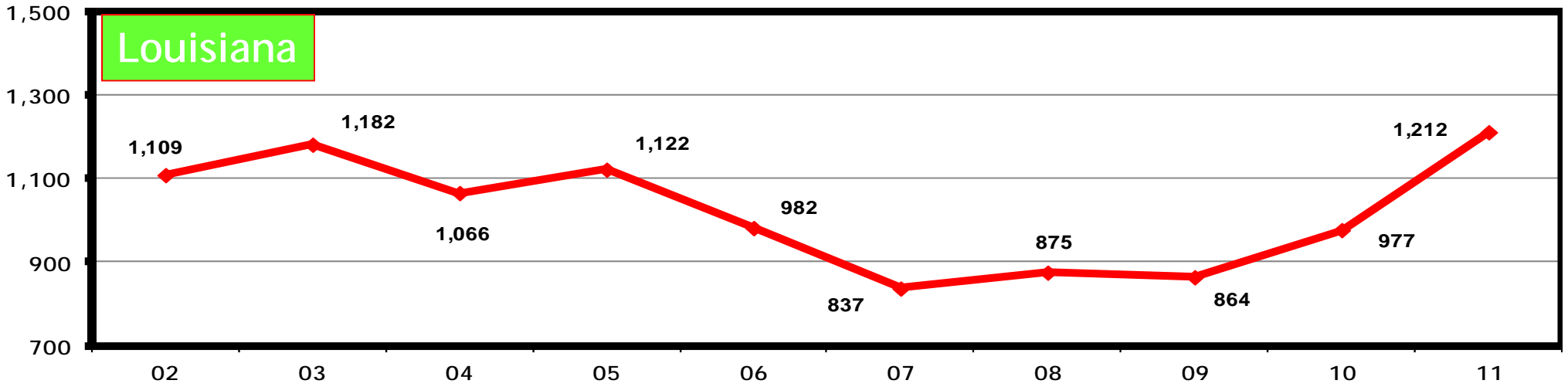
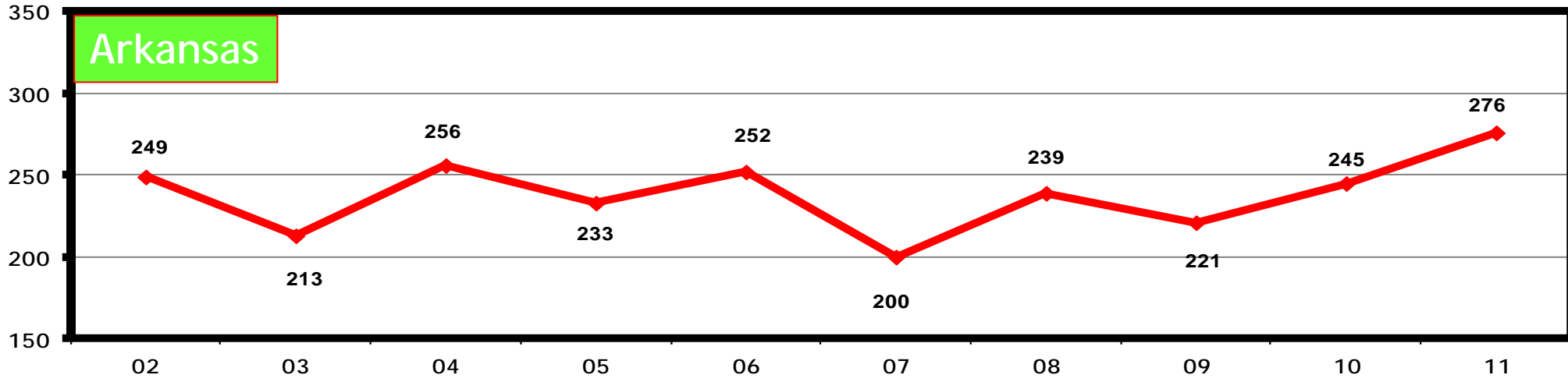


◆ Hazardous Materials ■ Oil / Oil Products ▲ Other / Unknown

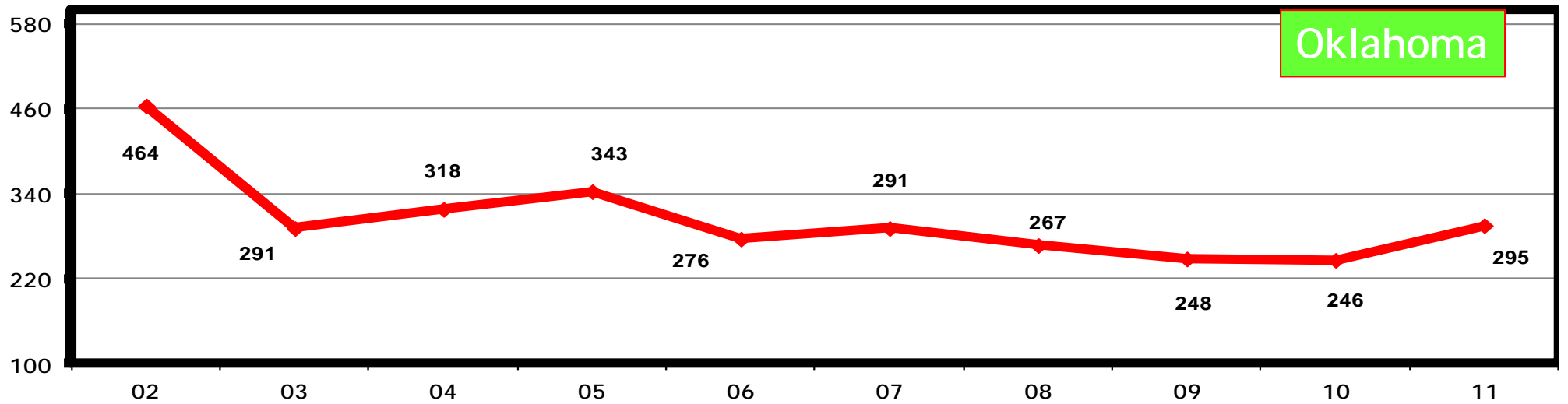
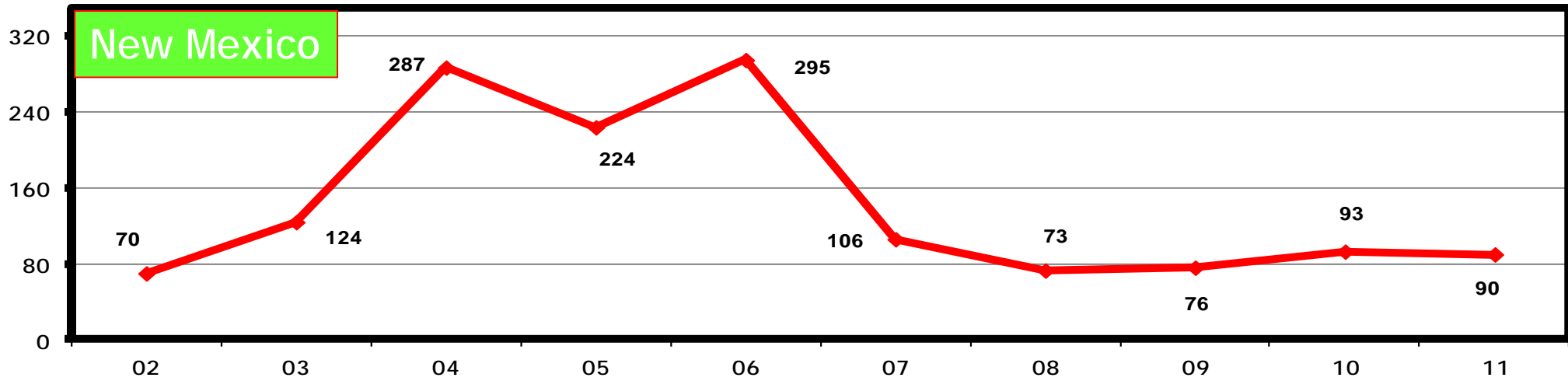
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- % by State (2002 - 2011)



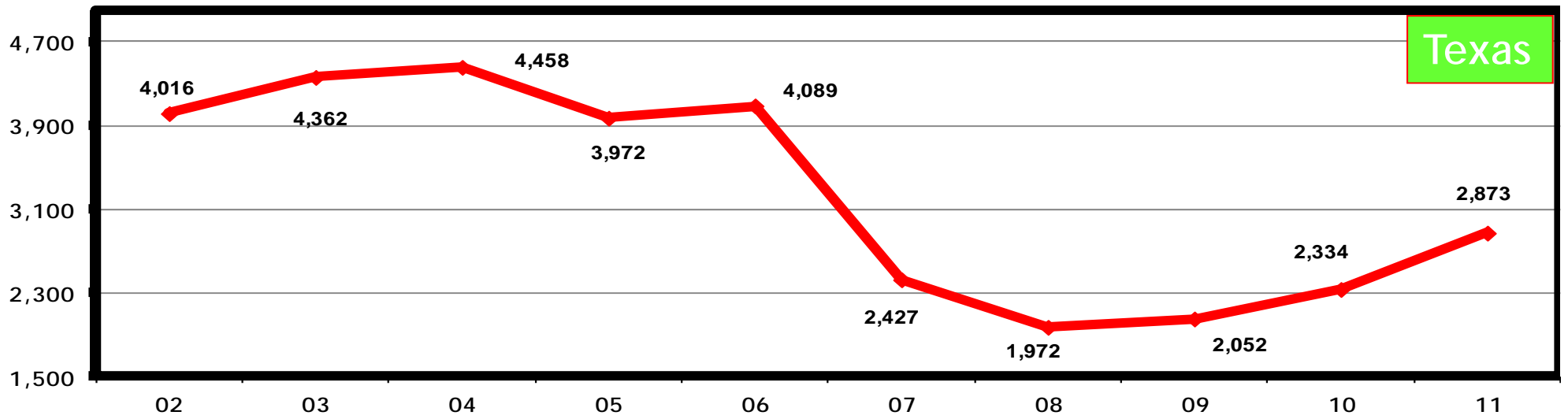
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by State and Year (2002 - 2011)



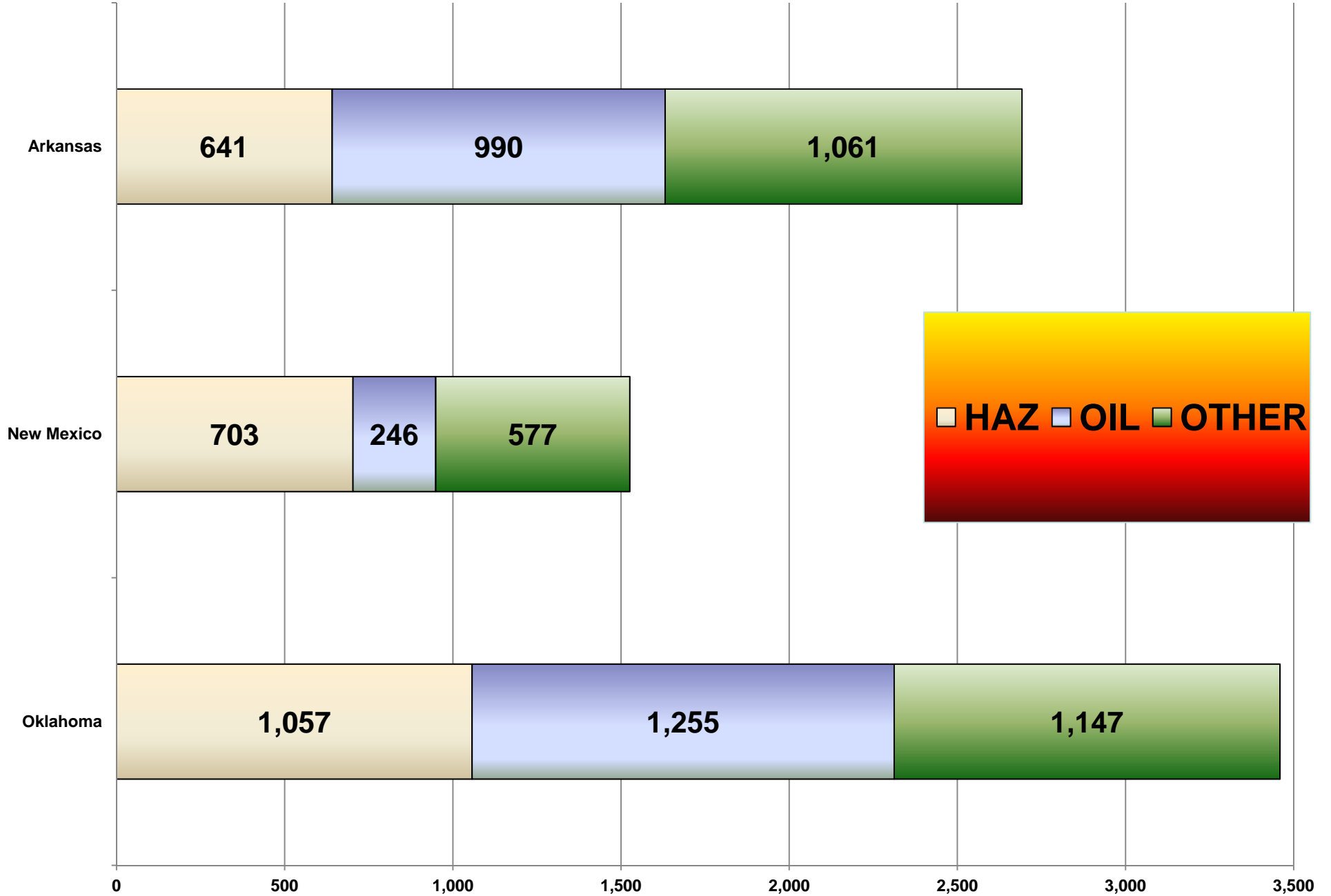
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by State and Year (2002 - 2011)



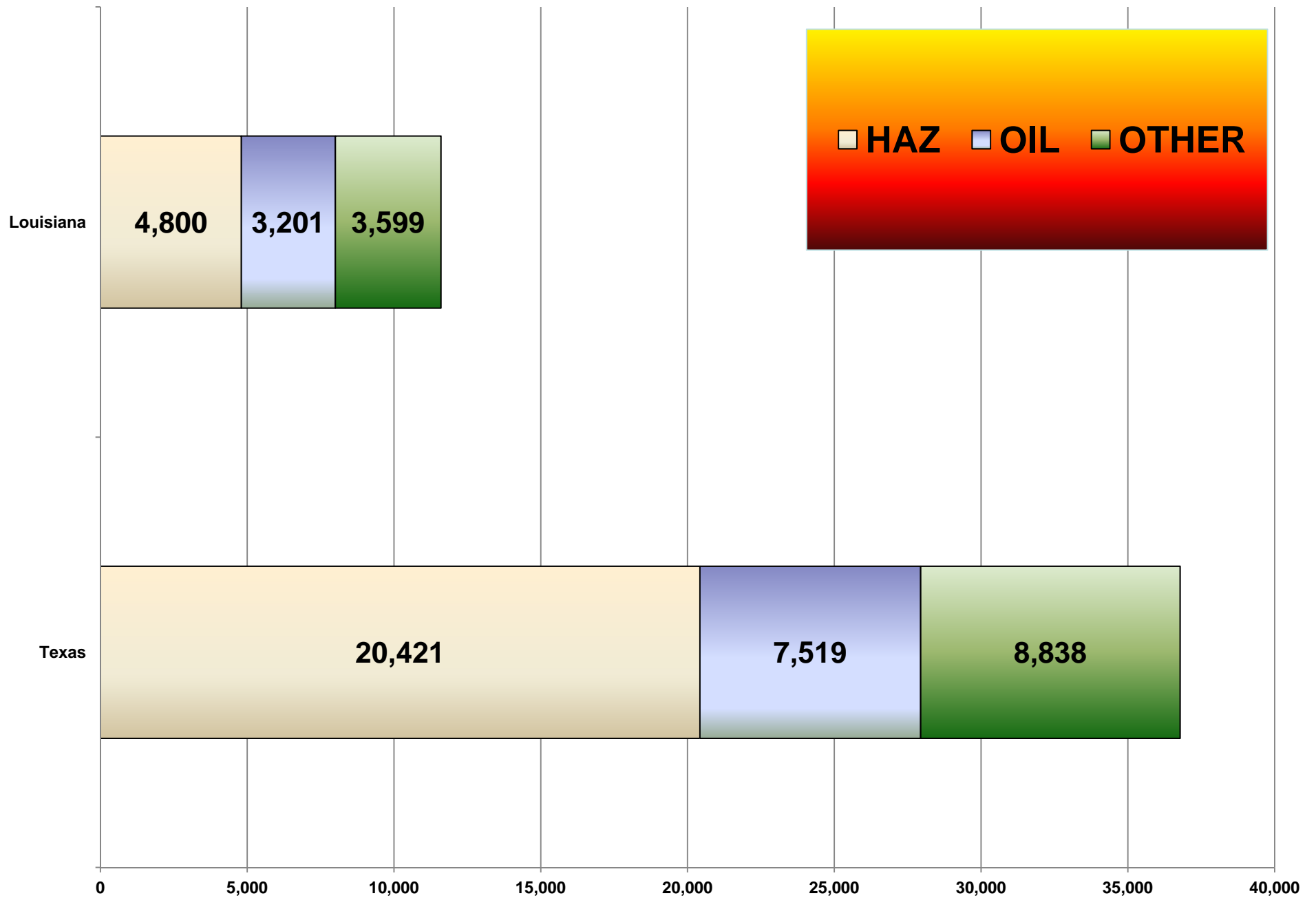
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by State and Year (2002 - 2011)

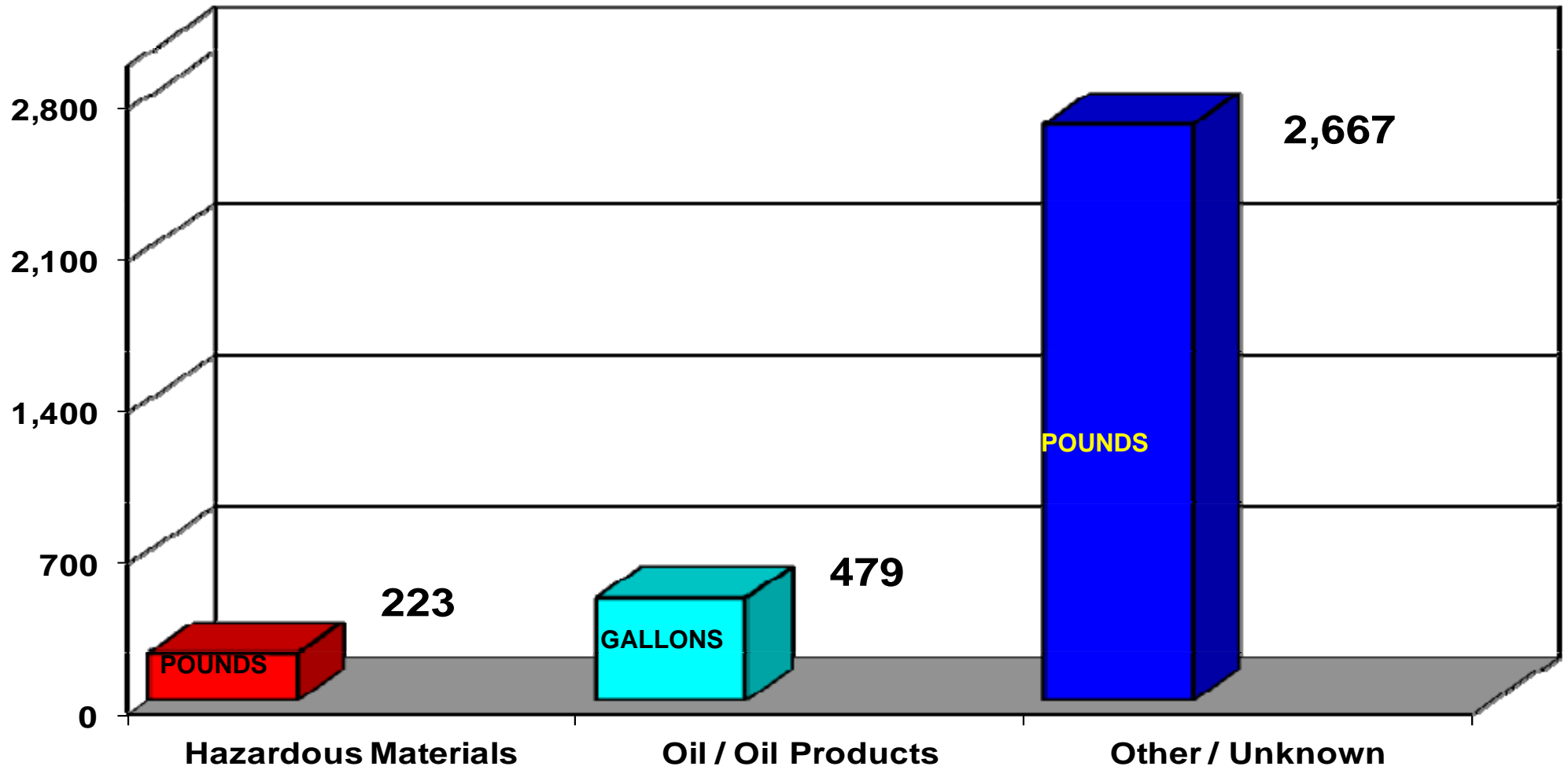


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by Material Type & State (2002 - 2011)

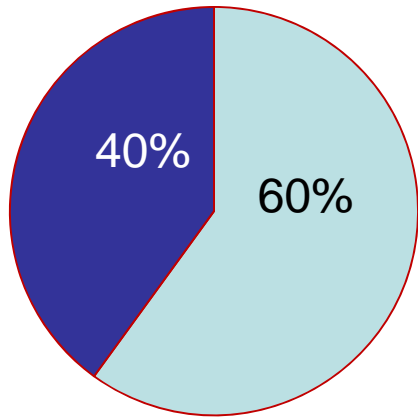


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- by Material Type & State (2002 - 2011)

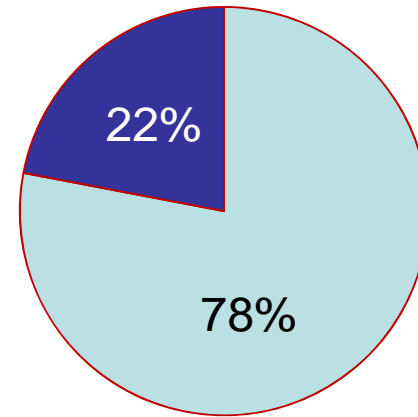




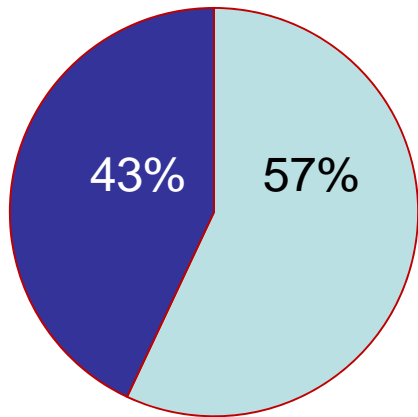
Other



Hazardous Materials



Oil / Oil Products

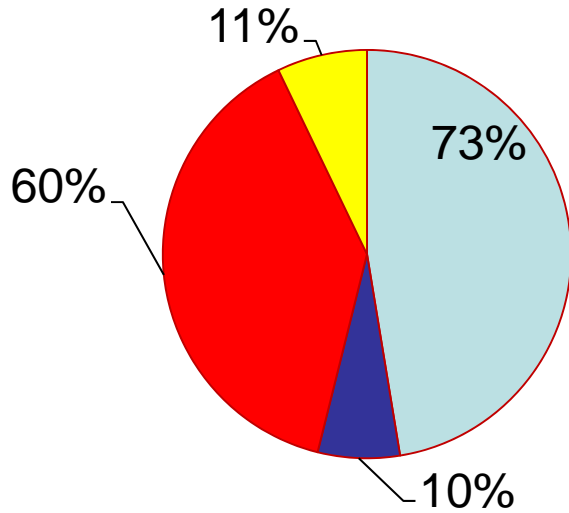


Known

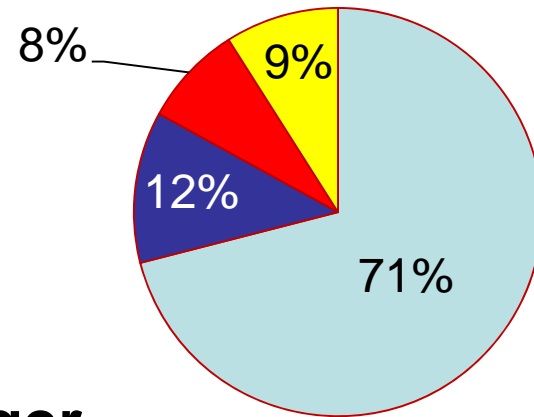


Unknown

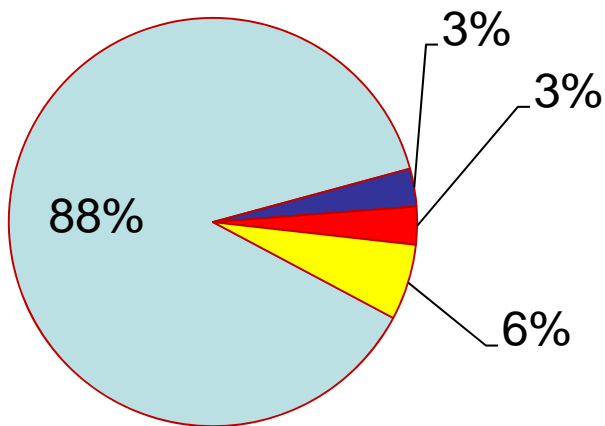
Cumulative



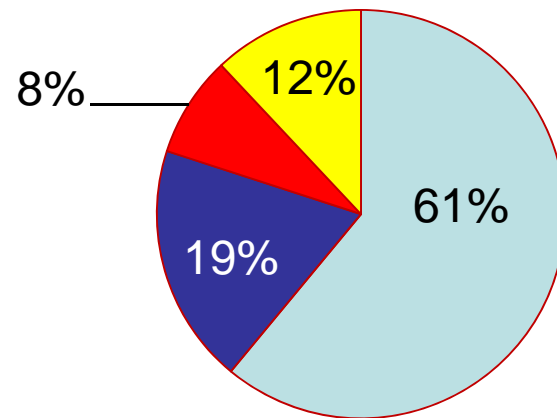
Hazardous Substances



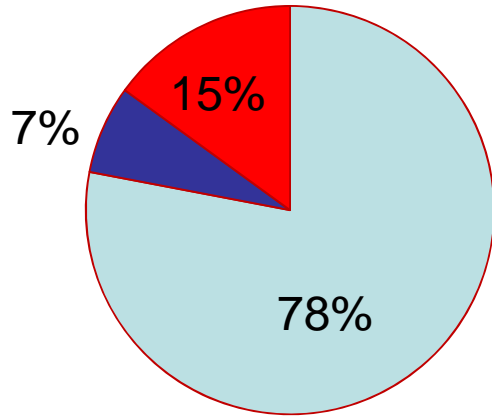
Oil / Oil Products



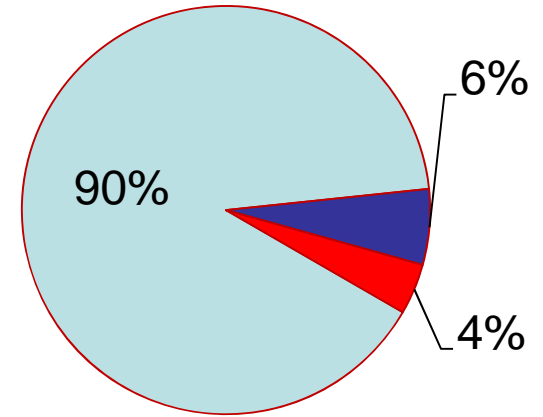
Other



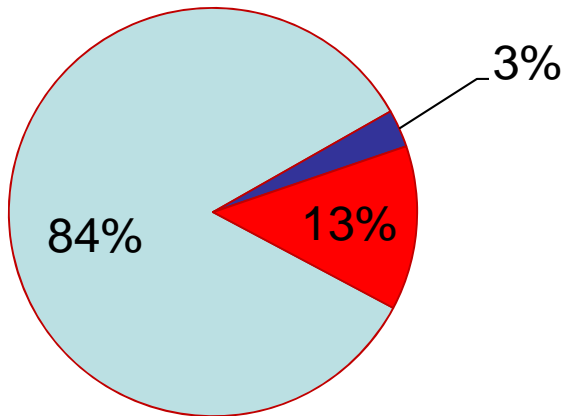
Cumulative



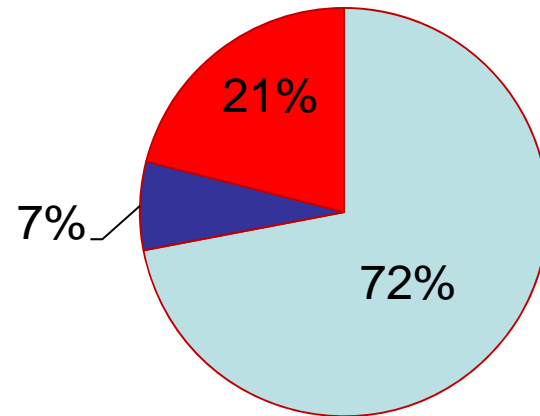
Hazardous Substances



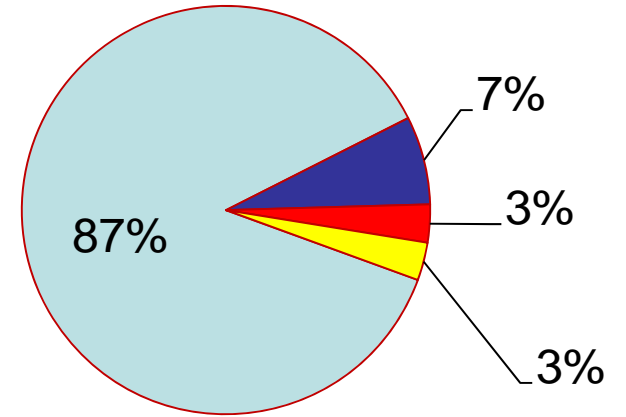
Oil / Oil Products



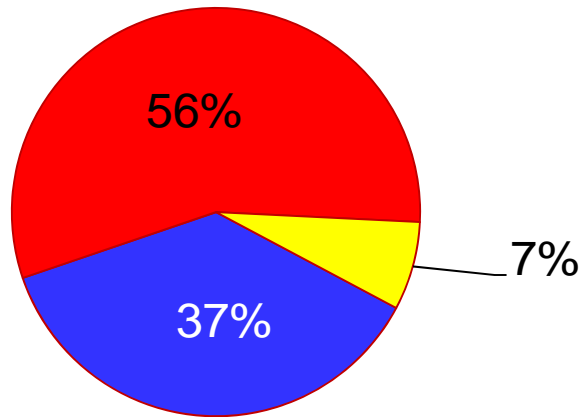
Other



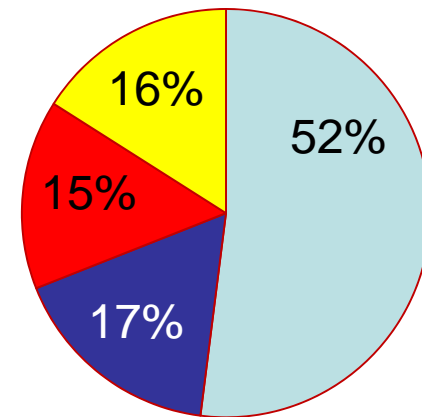
Hazardous Substances



Oil / Oil Products

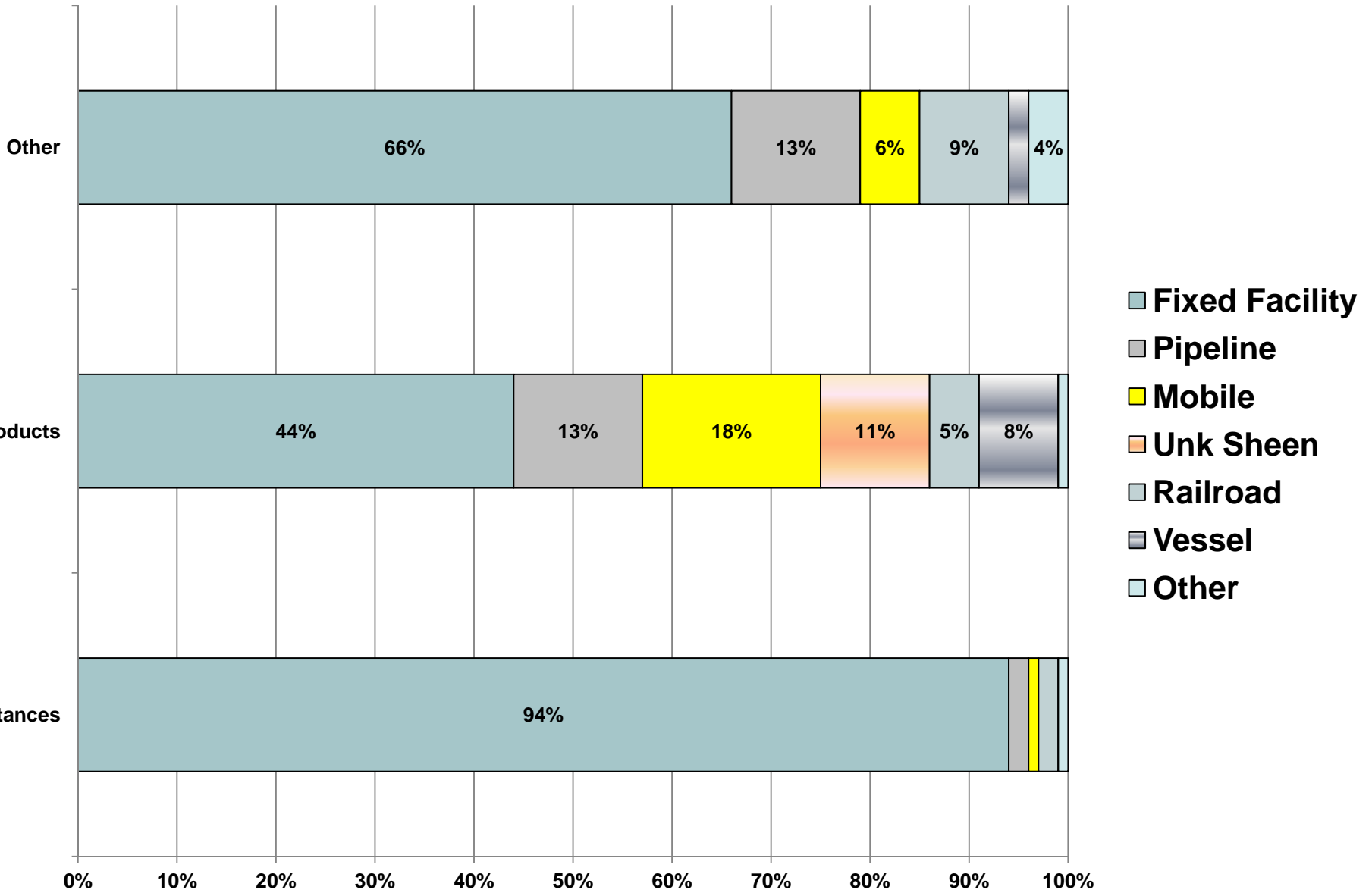


Other



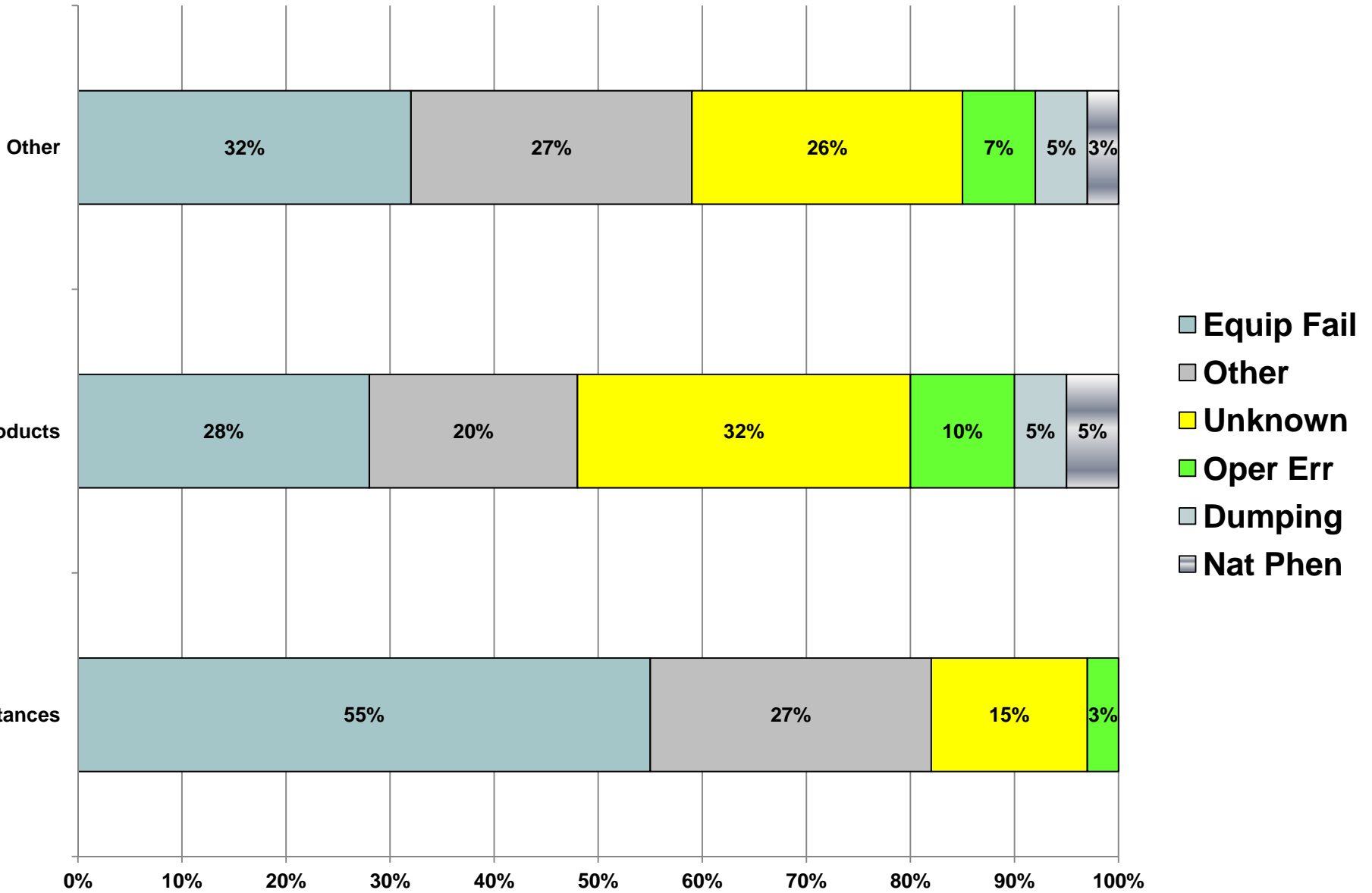
Other Medium may include: non-releases, groundwater, ballast, railway

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Source of Release (2002 - 2011)



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

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Cause of Release (2002 - 2011)



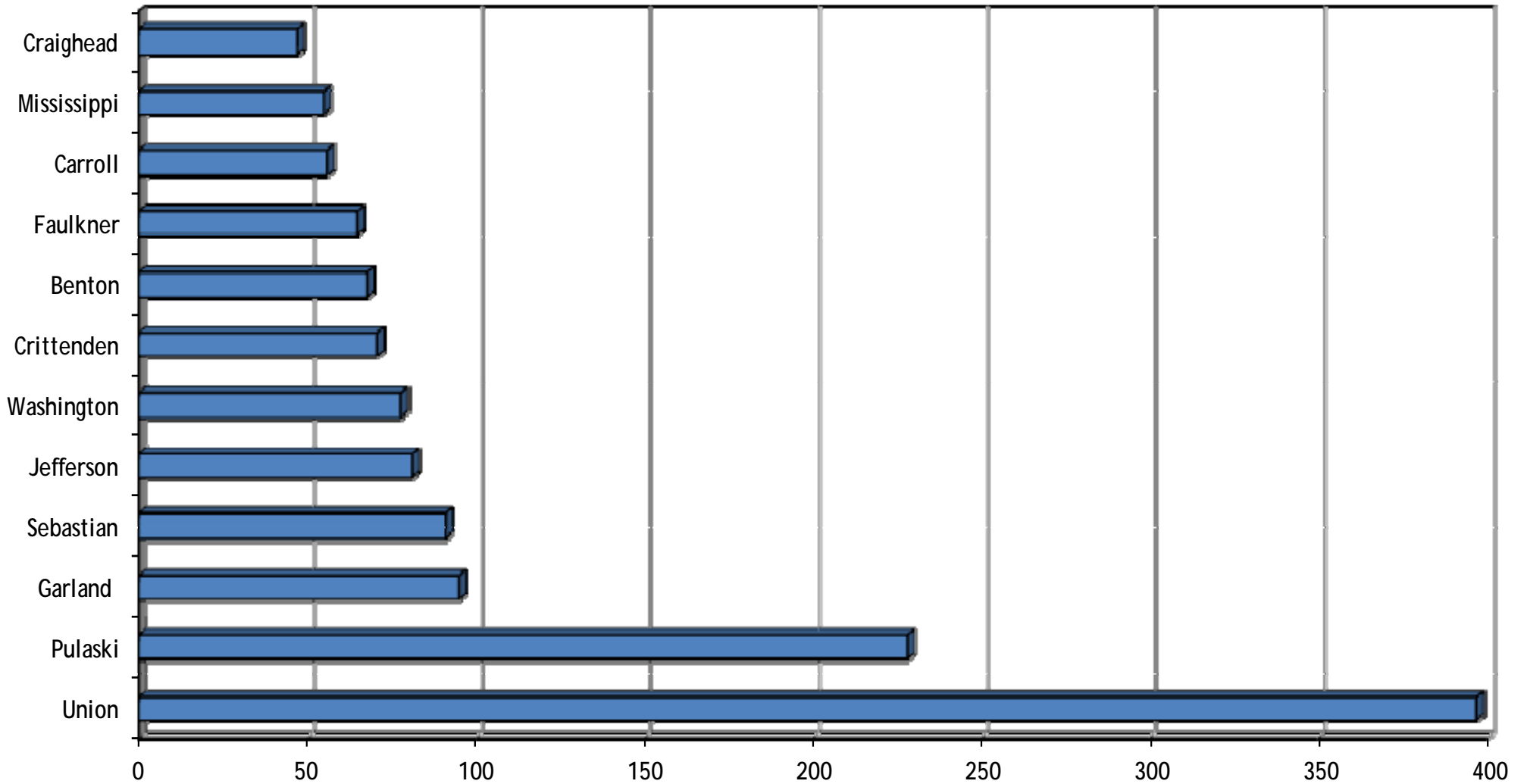
Other Causes may include: aircraft crash, continuous, terrorist

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

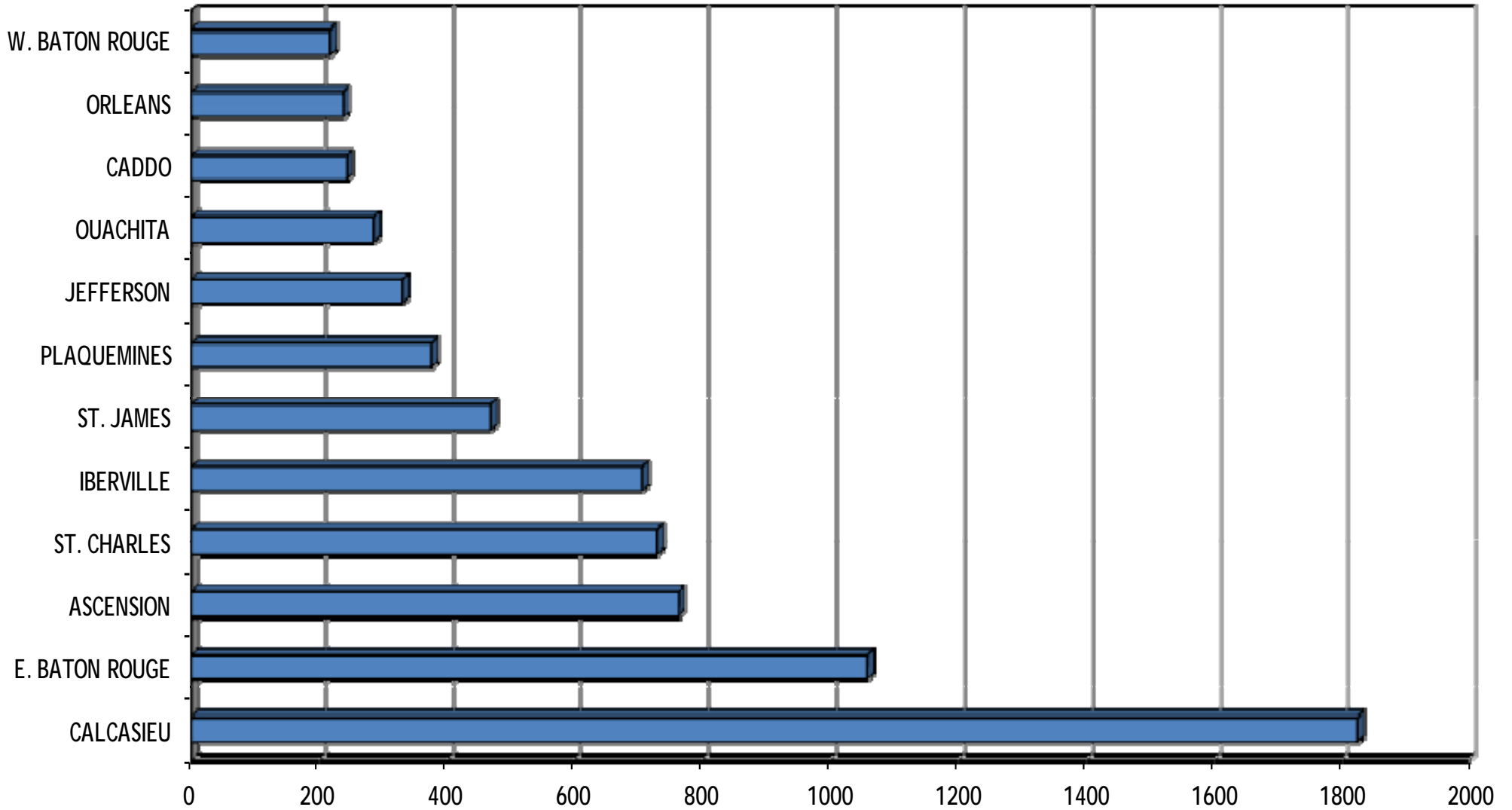
Deaths, injuries, and evacuations may not be directly due to exposure, but as a consequence of the accident resulting in the release

Since 2002, statistically there is a shelter-in-place or evacuation of a community (whole or part) due to a hazardous substance, oil, or other material incident somewhere in Region 6, on a weekly basis

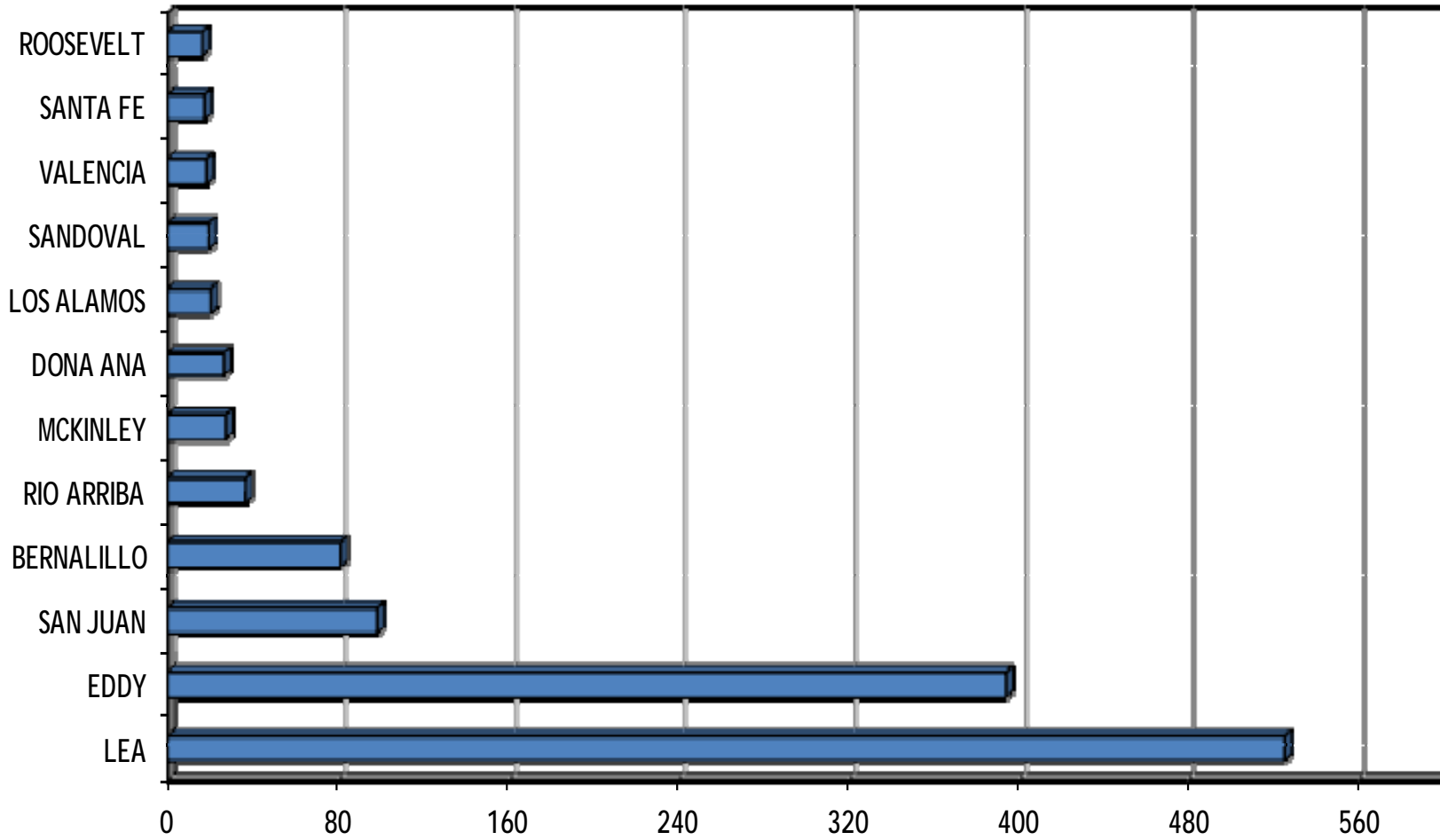
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Counties : Arkansas (2002 - 2011)



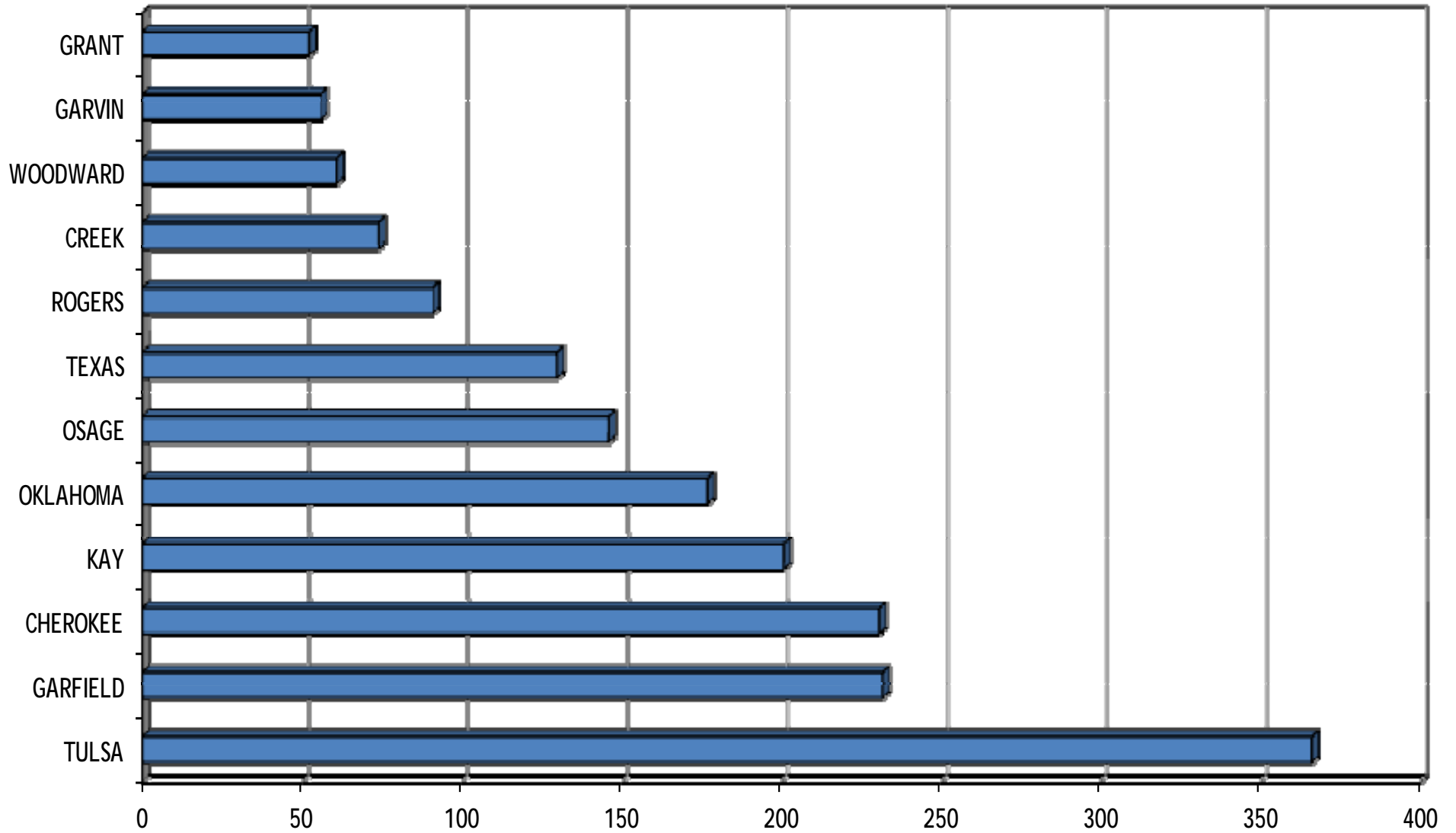
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Counties : Louisiana (2002 - 2011)



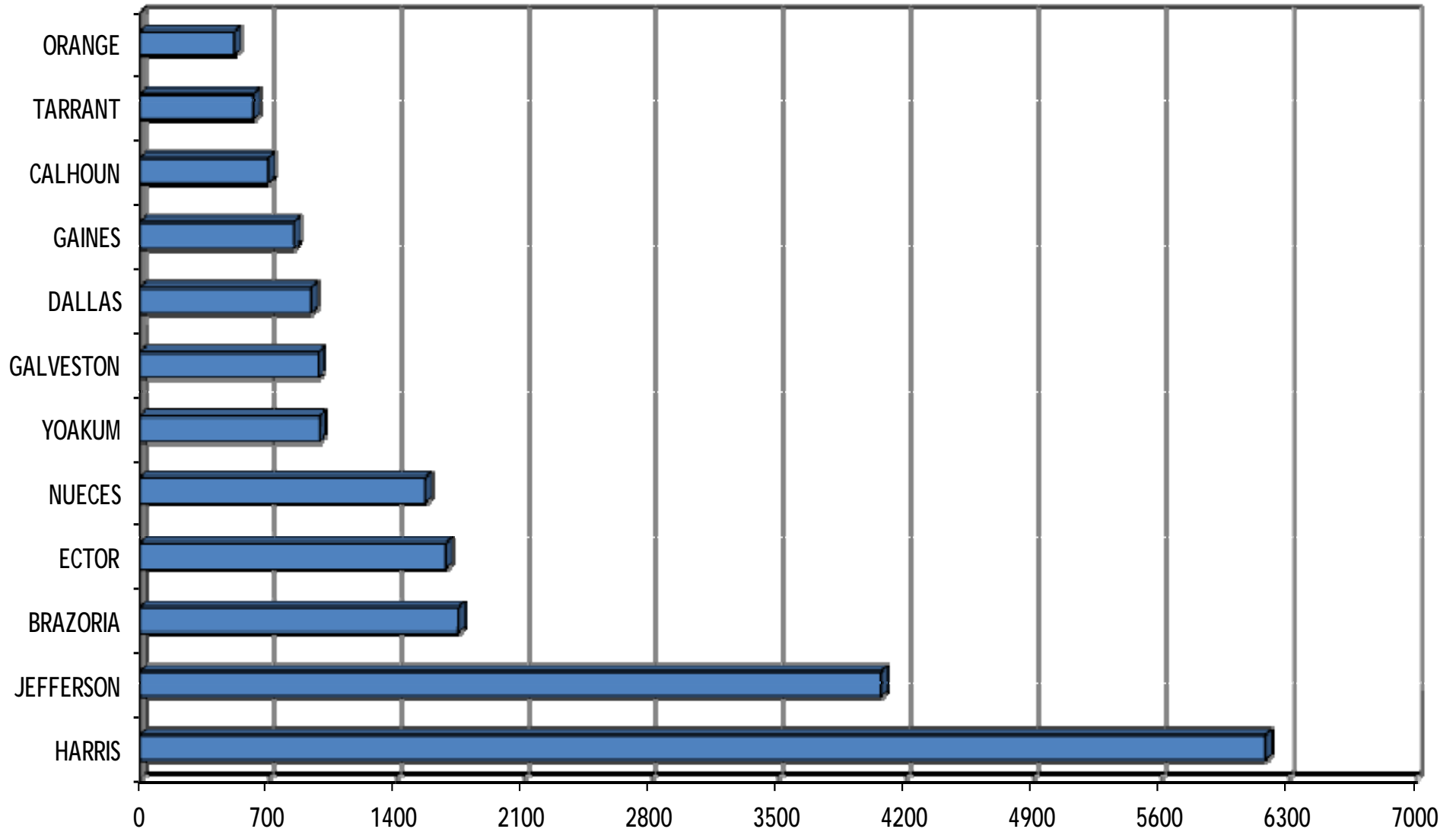
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Counties : New Mexico (2002 - 2011)



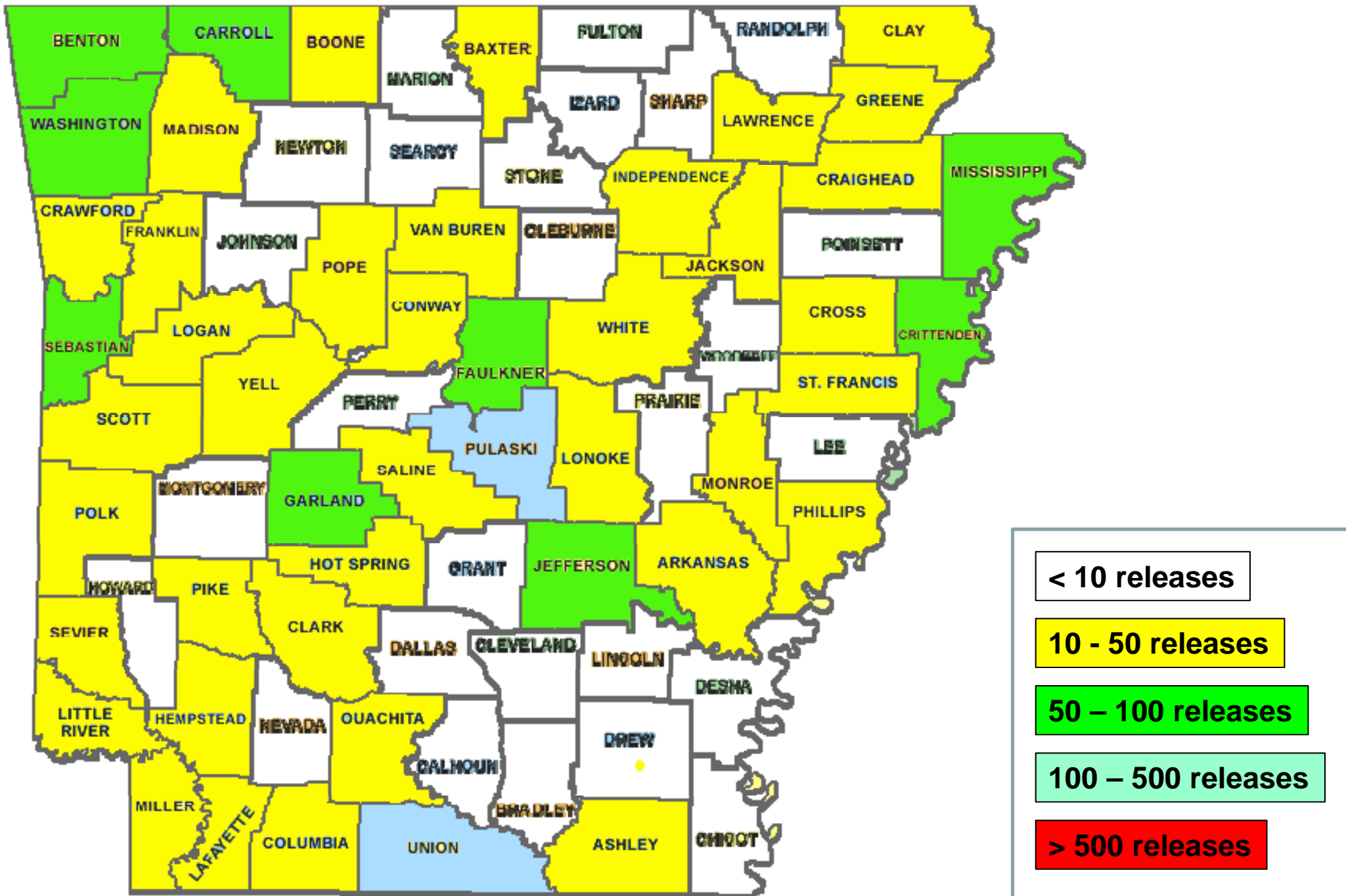
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Counties : Oklahoma (2002-2011)



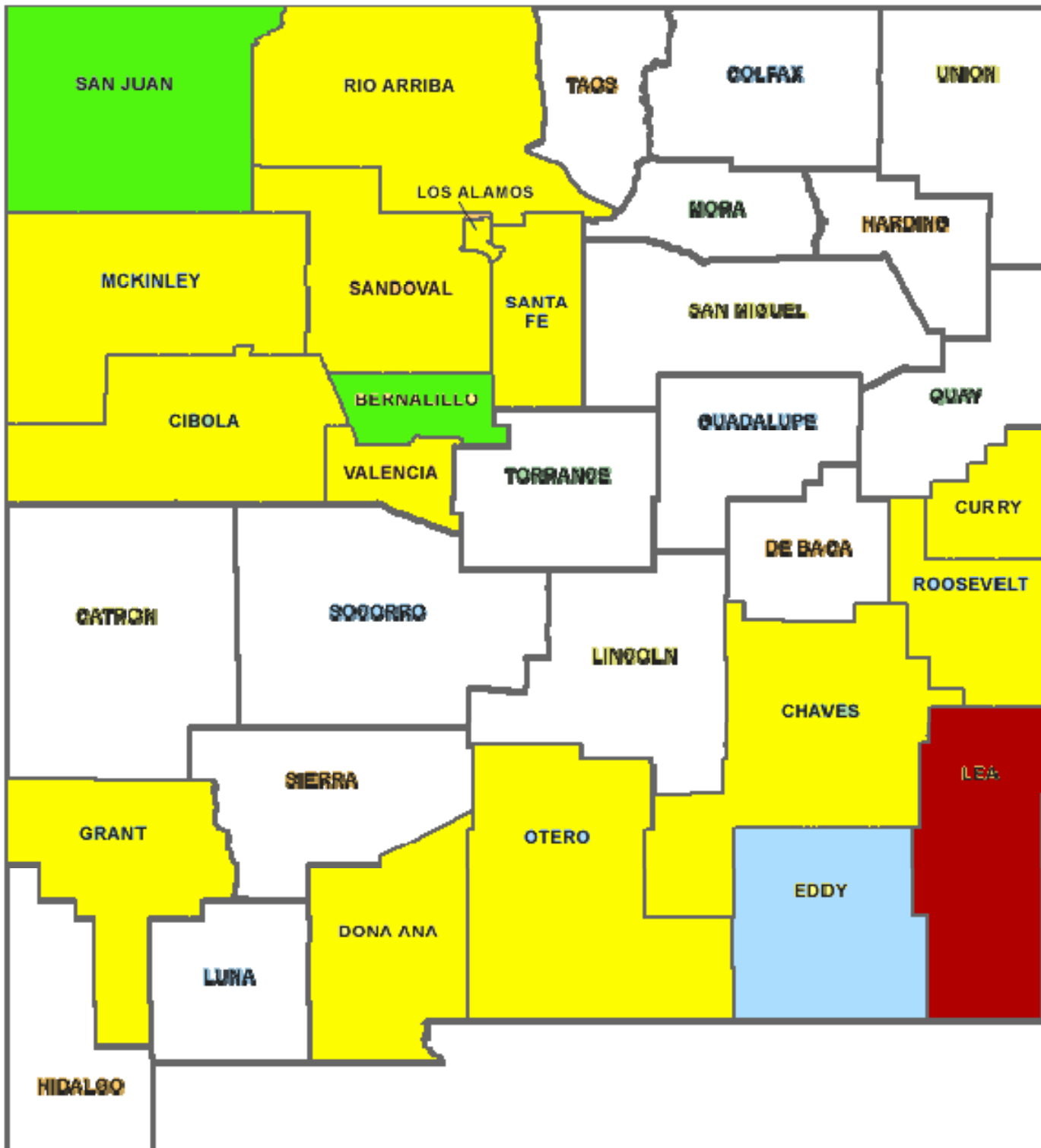
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Counties : Texas (2002 - 2011)



Region 6 – Spill Reports – All Reports (2002-2011)



Region 6 – Spill Reports – All Reports (2002- 2011)



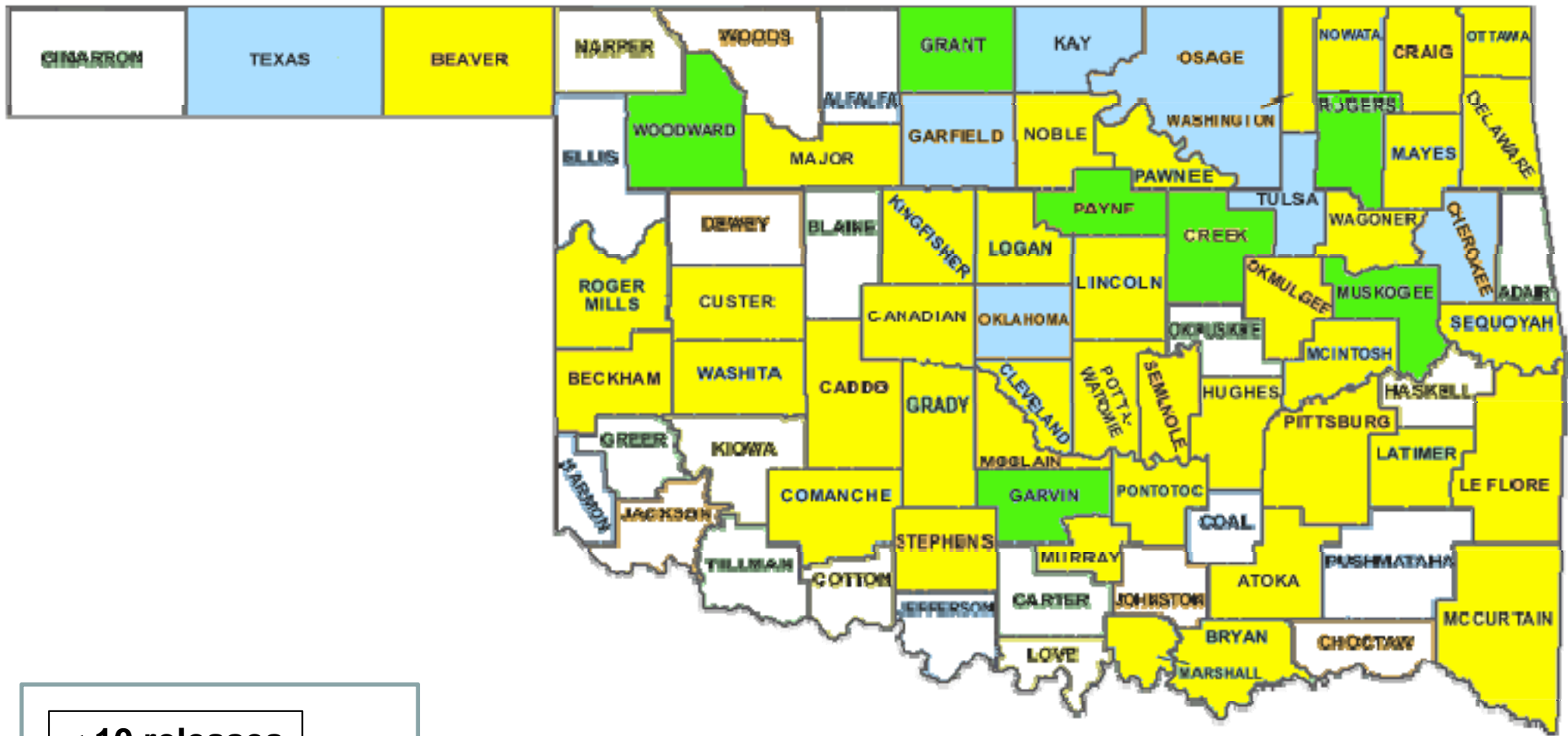
< 10 releases

10 - 50 releases

50 - 100 releases

100 - 500 releases

> 500 releases



< 10 releases

10 - 50 releases

50 - 100 releases

100 - 500 releases

> 500 releases

Region 6 – Spill Reports – All Reports (2002-2011)

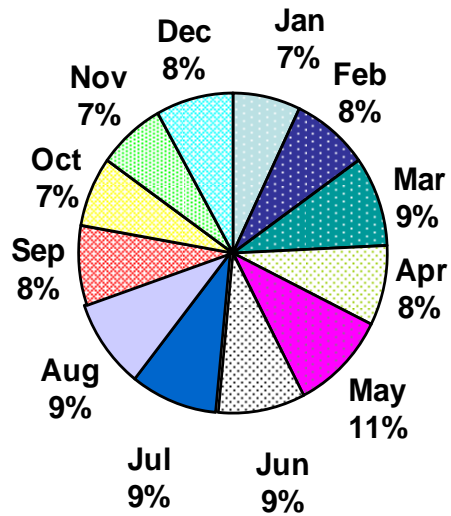
Factoid

Since 2006, more release reports to EPA through the National Response Center have originated from Harris County (Greater Houston), Texas, than 47 States

It is truly the center of the Chemical Universe !

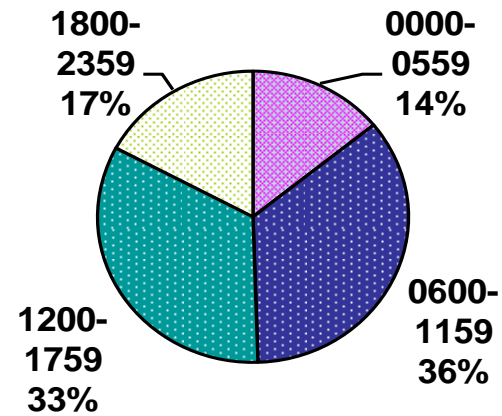
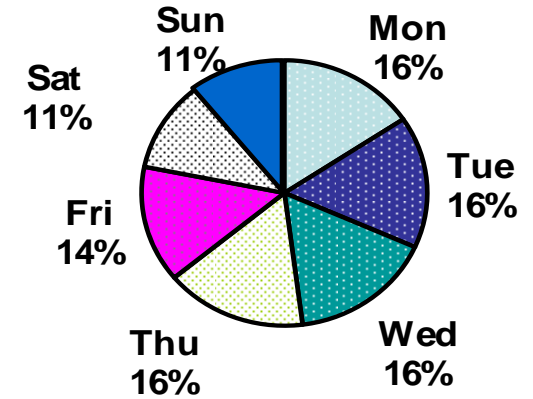


NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Releases by Month, Day, Time of Day (2002-2011)



Month

Day



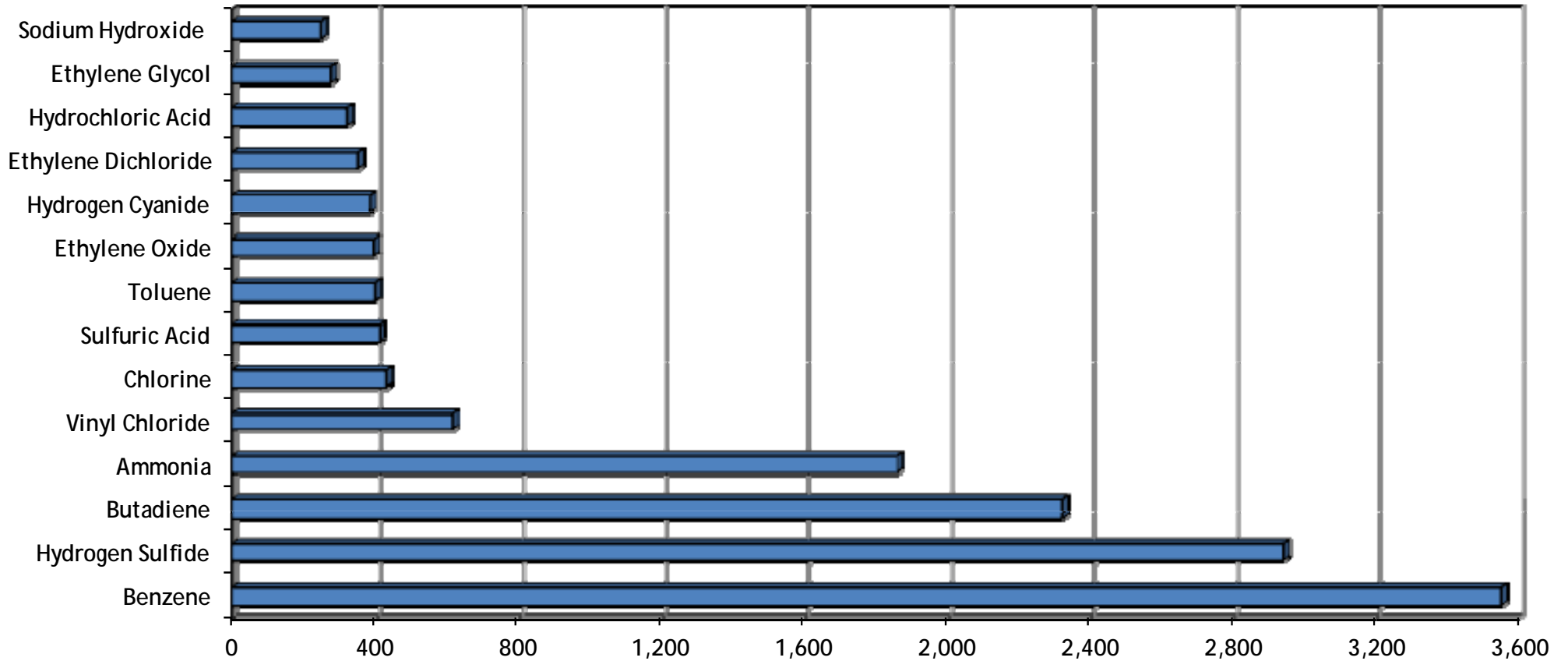
Time

Releases are distributed:

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

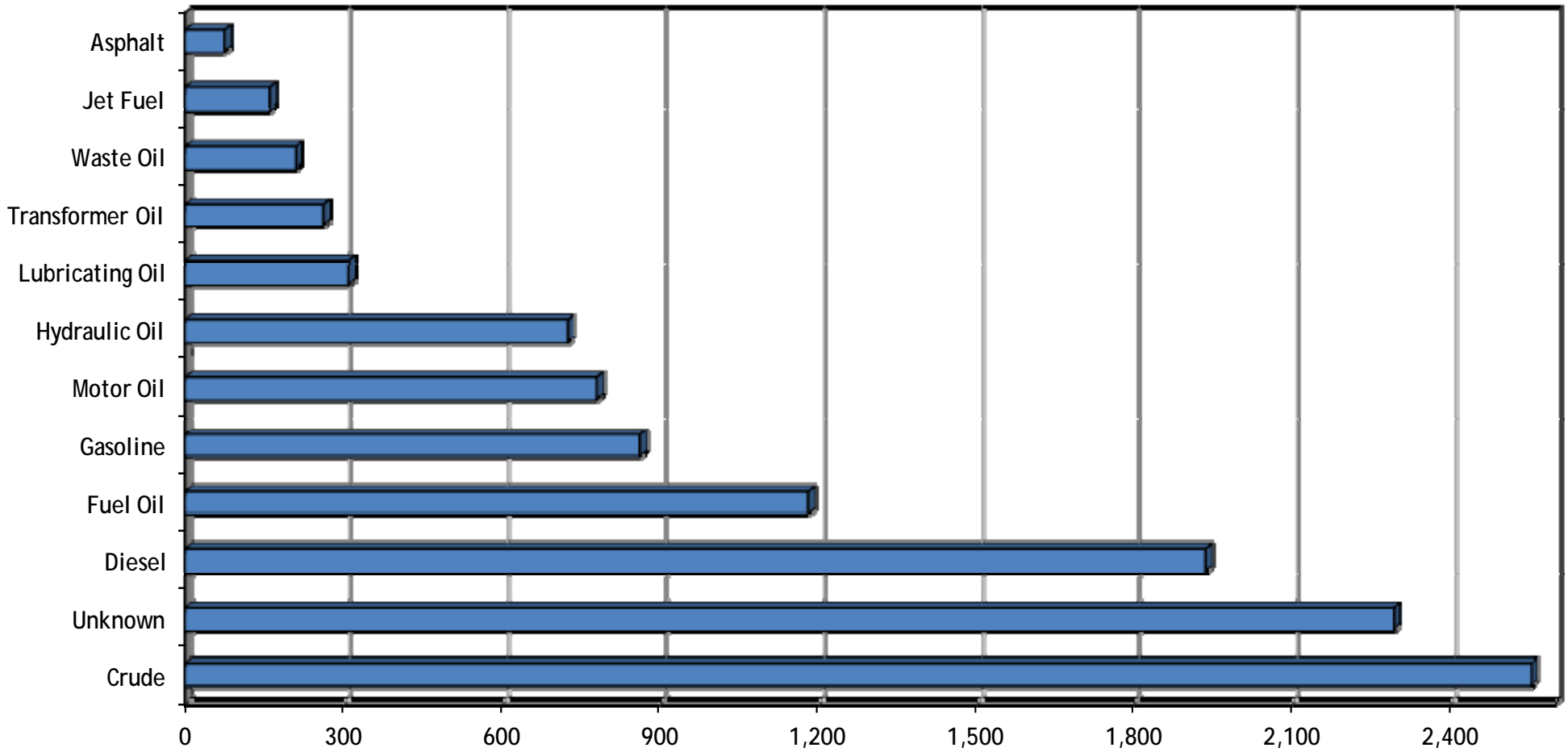
NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Hazardous Materials Released (2002 - 2011)

The 15 materials listed above account for 88 % of all hazardous material releases within Region 6 since 2002



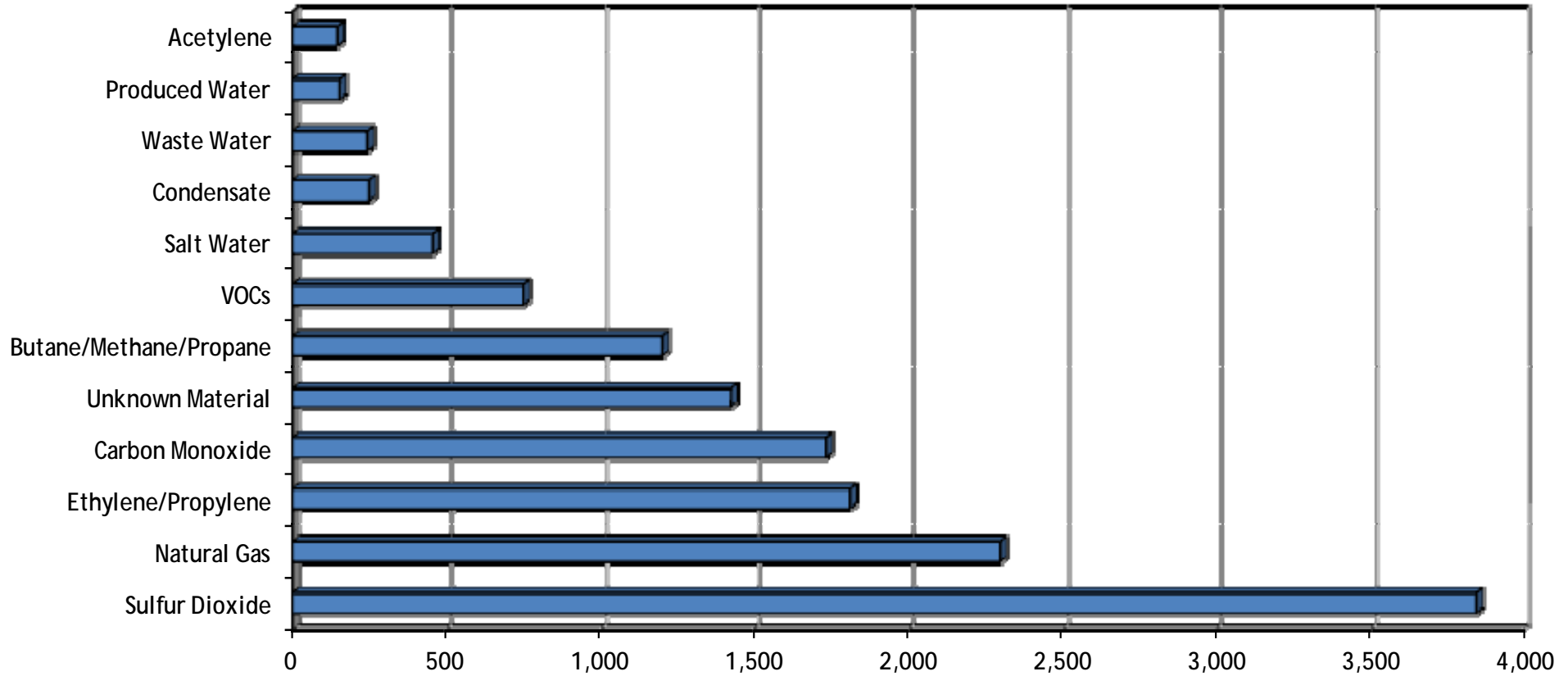
Nitrogen Oxides, Dioxides, Tetroxides, NOX account for 16,306 reports

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Oil / Oil Products Released (2002 - 2011)



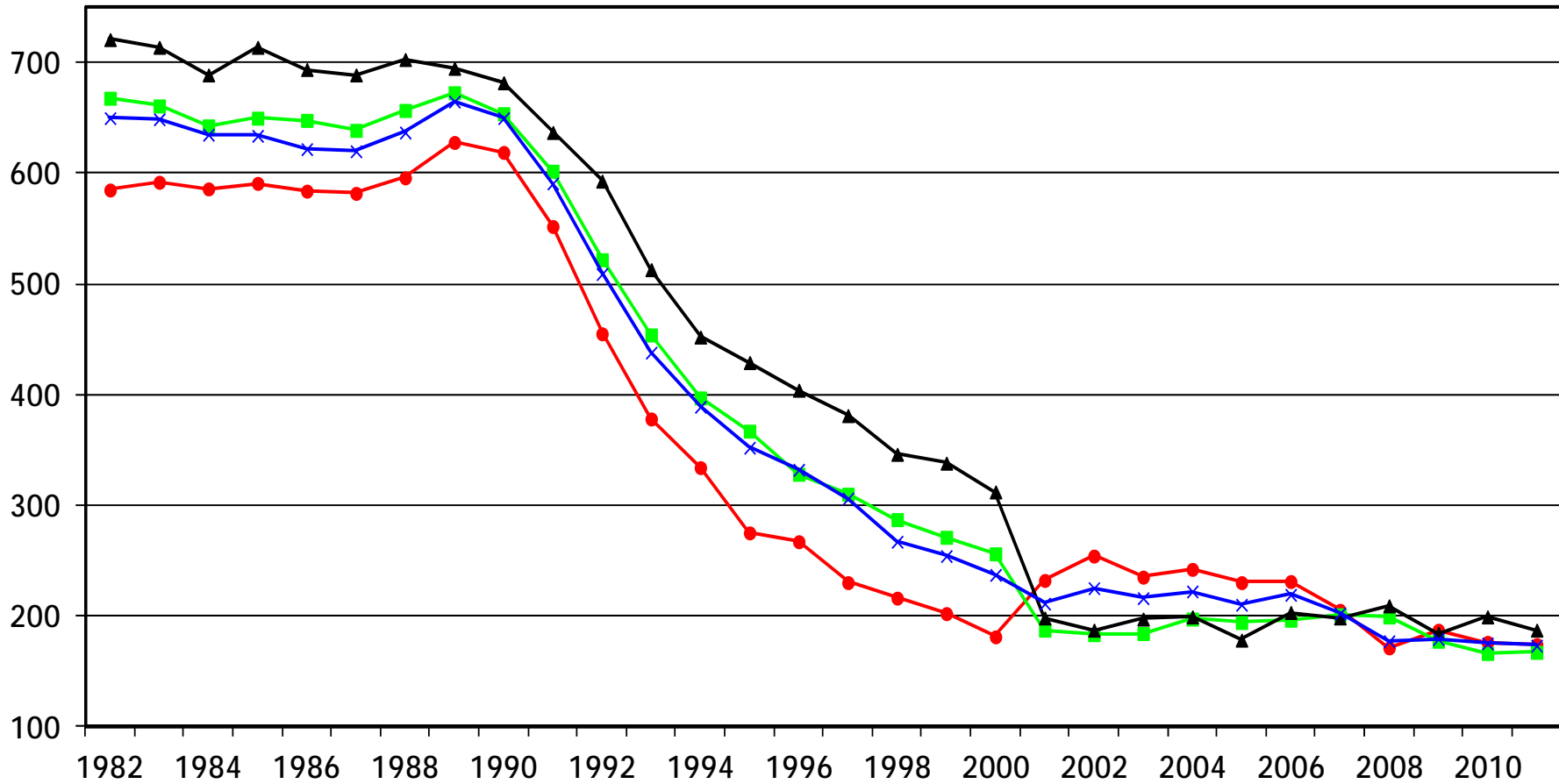
The oil / oil products listed above account for 89 % of all oil / oil product releases within Region 6 since 2001

NRC Notifications to EPA Region 6 -- Top Other Substances Released (2002 - 2011)



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 - 2011)



● HAZ
 ■ OIL
 ▲ OTHER
 × CUMULATIVE

Hazardous Substances: 585 to 176 minutes	Other / Unknown: 721 to 199 minutes
Oil / Oil Products: 668 to 166 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