

What Difference Does It Make? Patterns in Drug-related Emergency Department Visits from DAWN

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Disclosure Information

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Drug Abuse Warning Network, SAMHSA

I have no financial or other disclosures

Drug Abuse Warning Network

- Public health surveillance system
- Direct review of emergency department (ED) patient records
- ED visits related to drugs
 - Direct cause or contributing factor
 - 4 million drug-related visits in 2008

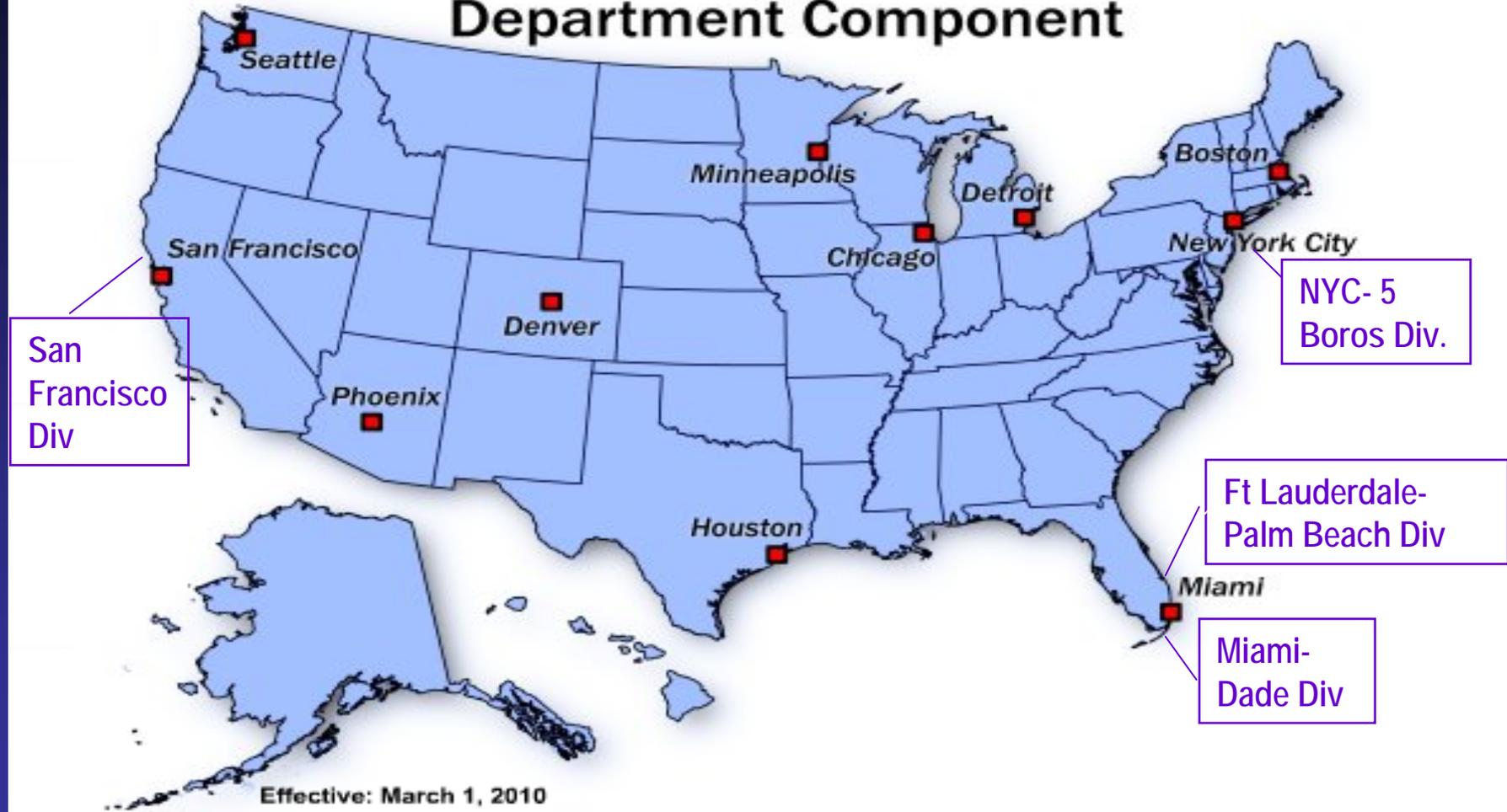
What Drugs are Covered?

- All types of drugs
 - Illegal drugs
 - Prescription and OTC pharmaceuticals
 - Dietary supplements
 - Non-pharmaceutical inhalants
- Alcohol-in-combination (any age)
- Alcohol alone (age < 21)

DAWN Emergency Department Component

- Data collected from non-Federal general hospitals with full-time EDs (24/7)
- Statistical sample
 - Nationally representative
 - 12 oversampled metropolitan areas/subareas
- ED visit counts from hospitals are used to produce estimates

Metropolitan Areas in DAWN Emergency Department Component



Effective: March 1, 2010

DAWN Emergency Department Component

- ED visits involving recent drug use
- All motives
 - Drug misuse/abuse
 - Nonmedical use of pharmaceuticals
 - Underage drinking
 - Drug-related suicide attempts
 - Seeking detox
 - Adverse reactions
 - Accidental ingestion
 - Malicious poisoning

Analytic Categories in this Presentation

- For illicit drugs
 - Includes all ED visits that involved an illicit drug, regardless of the reason for the ED visit.
- For pharmaceuticals
 - ED visits that involved the nonmedical use of a pharmaceutical

Nonmedical Use of Pharmaceuticals (NMUP) – Definition

- Taking a higher than prescribed or recommended dose of a pharmaceutical
- Taking a pharmaceutical prescribed for another individual
- Drug-related assault of the patient by another individual
- Substance abuse involving pharmaceuticals

National Trends, 2004 - 2008

Drug-related ED Visits – Nation, 2008

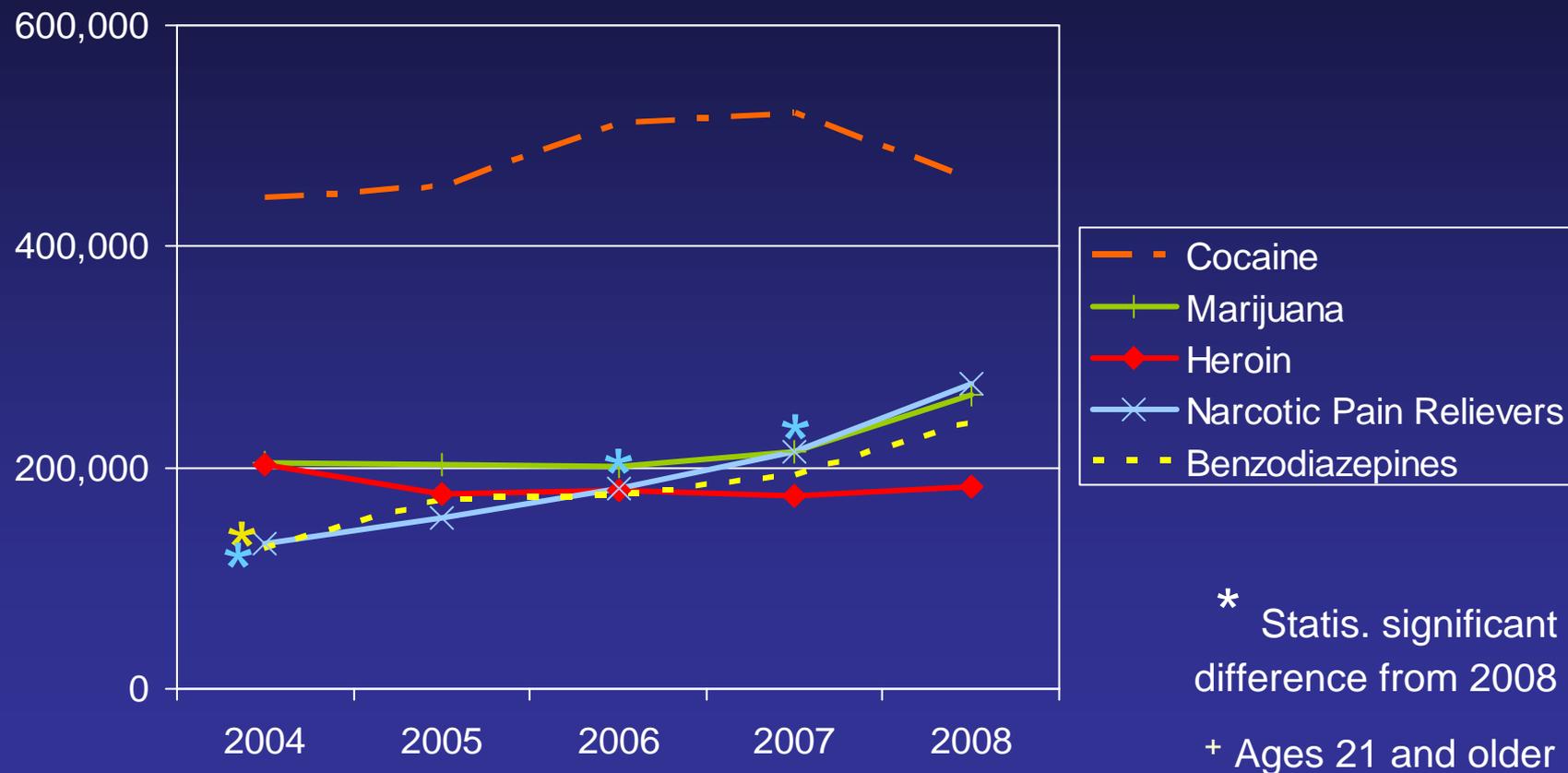
- Over 4.3 million drug-related ED visits
 - 73% increase from 2004 to 2008
 - 27% increase from 2006 to 2008
- Almost 2 million involved drug misuse/abuse (46% of total visits)
- Almost 1 million involved NMUP (22% of total visits)

Note: Trends were analyzed by comparing 2008 with 2004, 2006, and 2007 only.

Trends in ED Visits by Adults⁺ – 2004 compared to 2008

- Total of all illicit drugs stable
 - Cocaine, marijuana, heroin: stable
- Nonmedical use of pharmaceuticals increased 91%
 - Narcotic pain relievers increased 112%
 - Benzodiazepines increased 92%

ED Visits involving Selected Illicits and NMU Pharmaceuticals, Adults+– Nation, 2004 - 2008

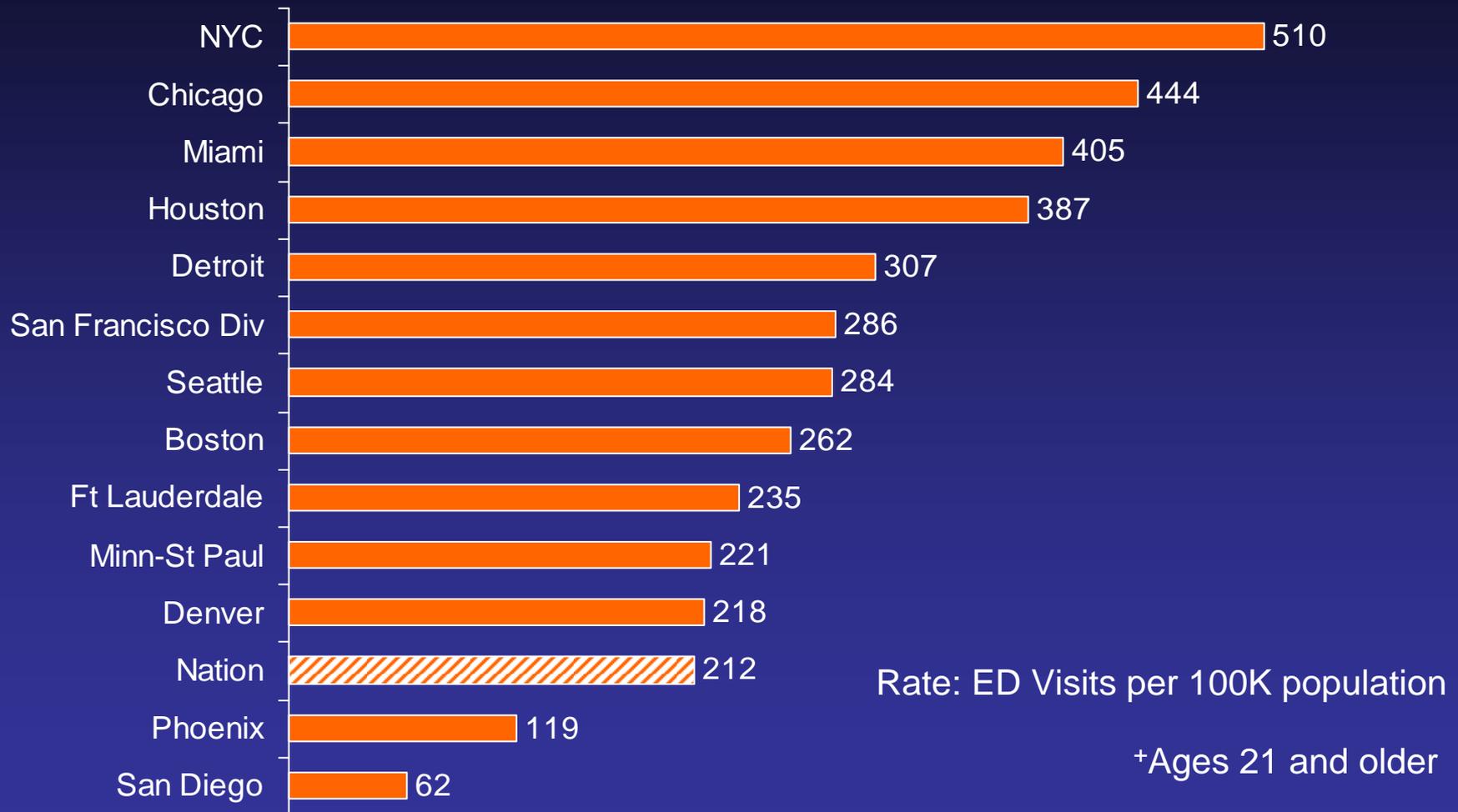


Metropolitan Areas, 2004 - 2008

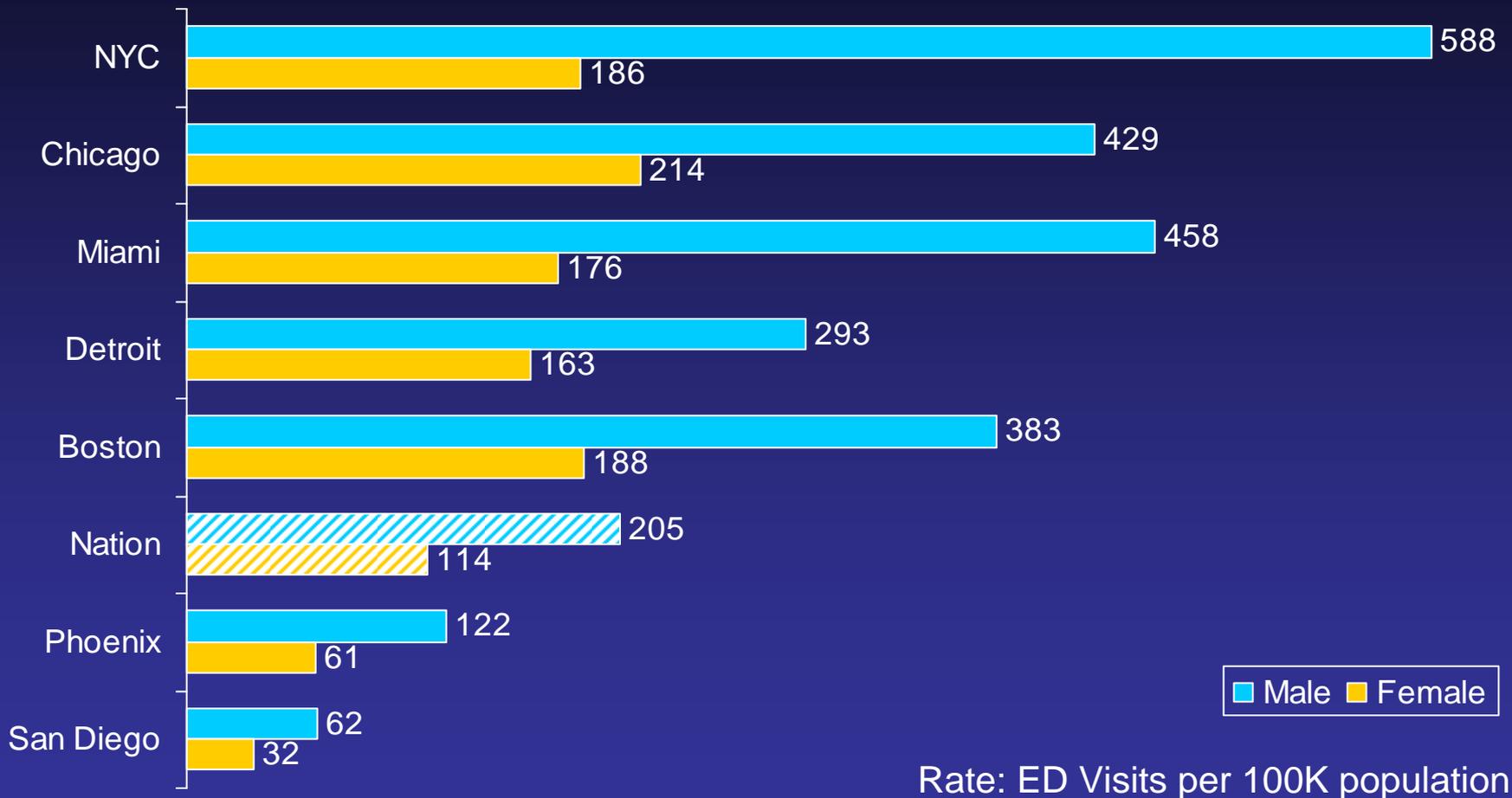
ED Visits involving Cocaine – Adults+, 2004 - 2008



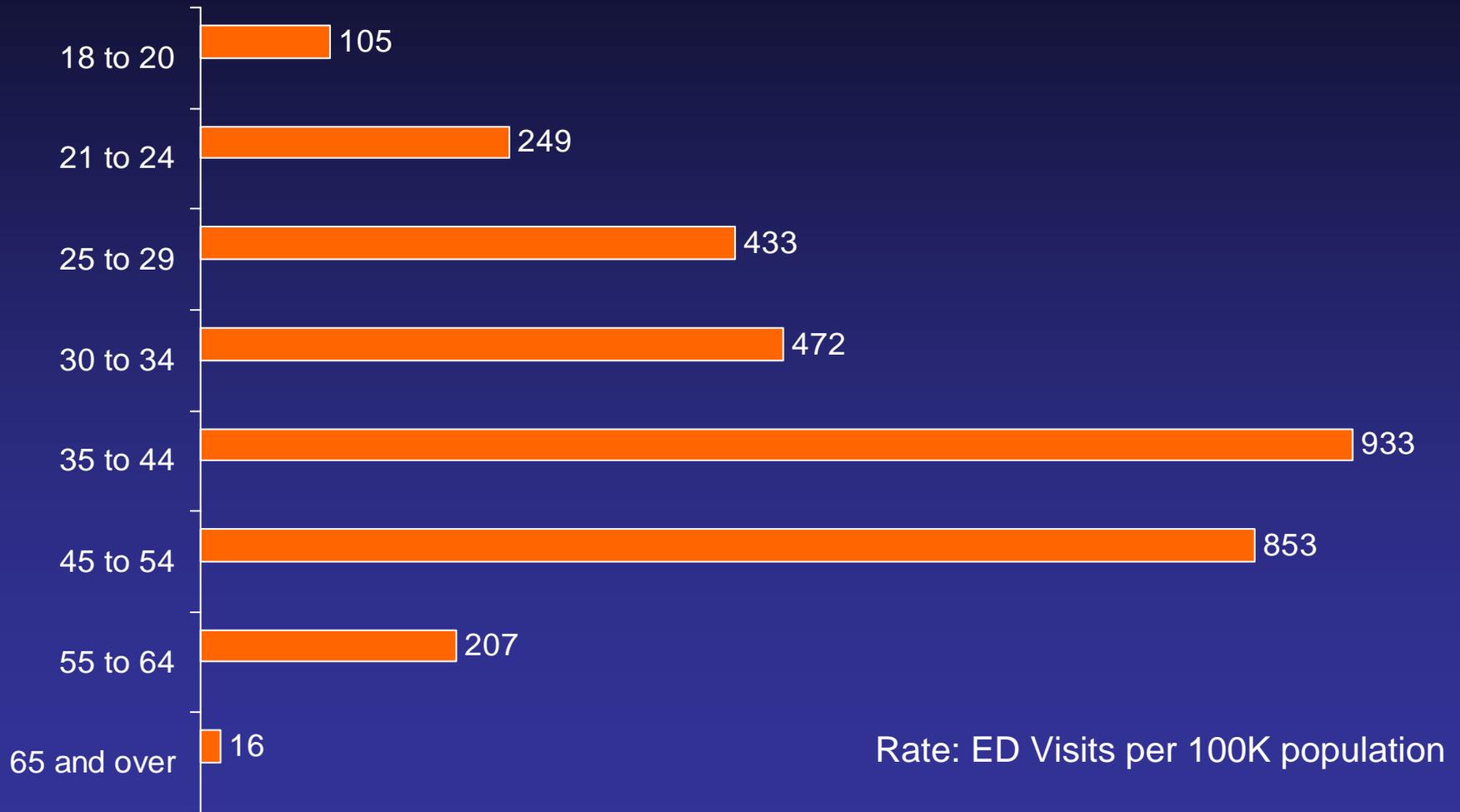
Rates of Cocaine-related ED Visits for Adults+ by Metro Area – 2008



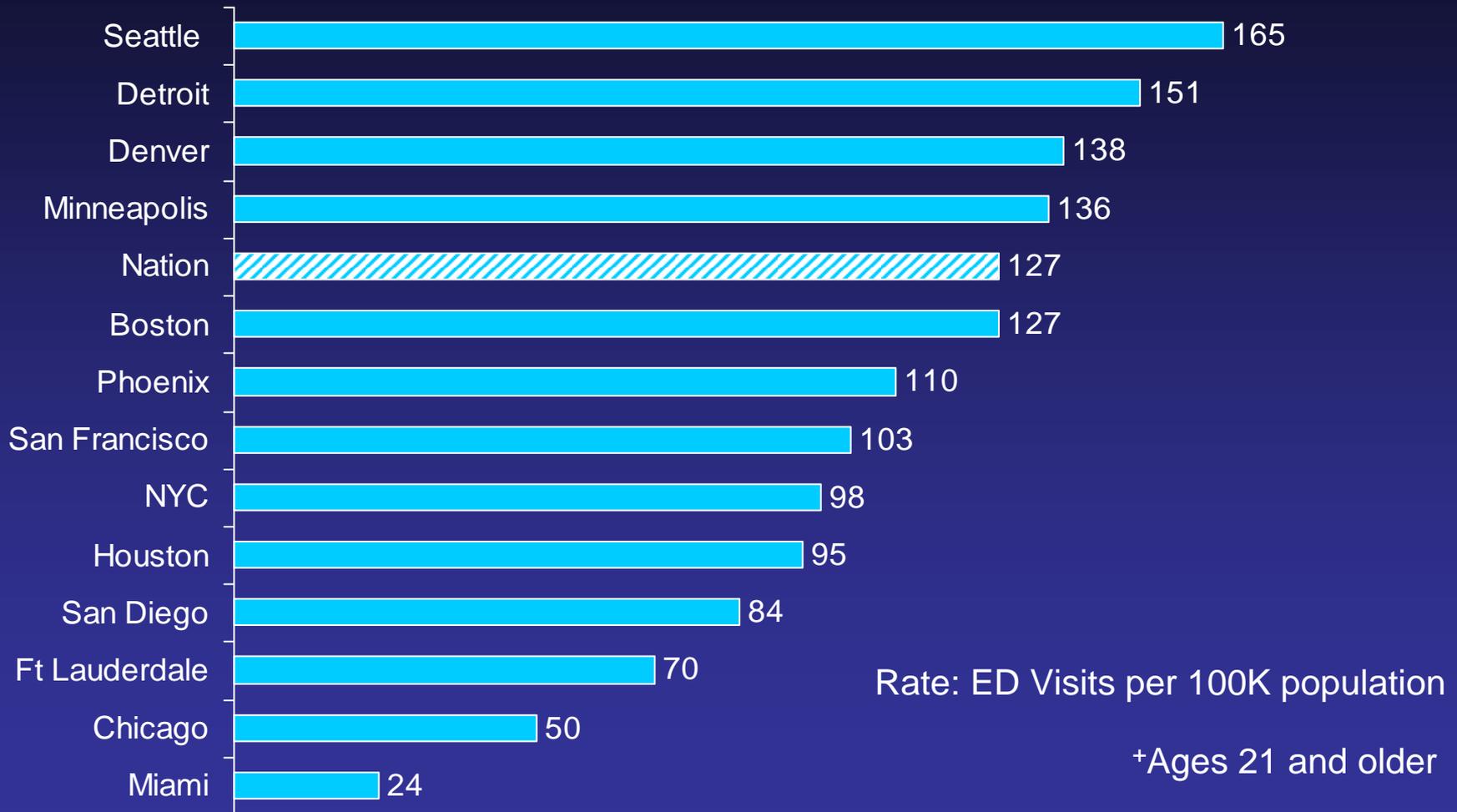
Rates of Cocaine-related ED Visits by Sex (all ages) – Selected Metro Areas, 2008



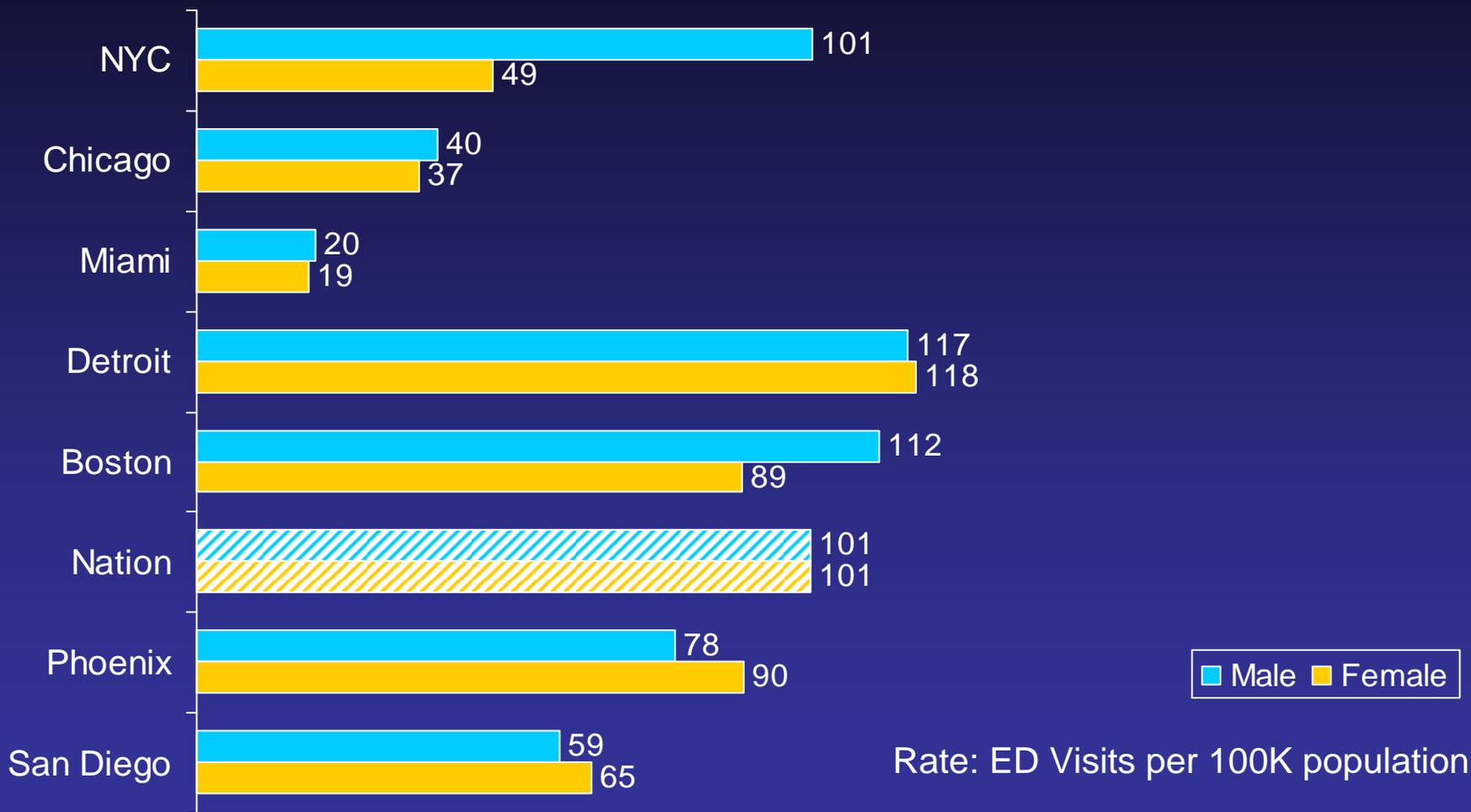
Rates of Cocaine-related ED Visits by Age Group – New York City, 2008



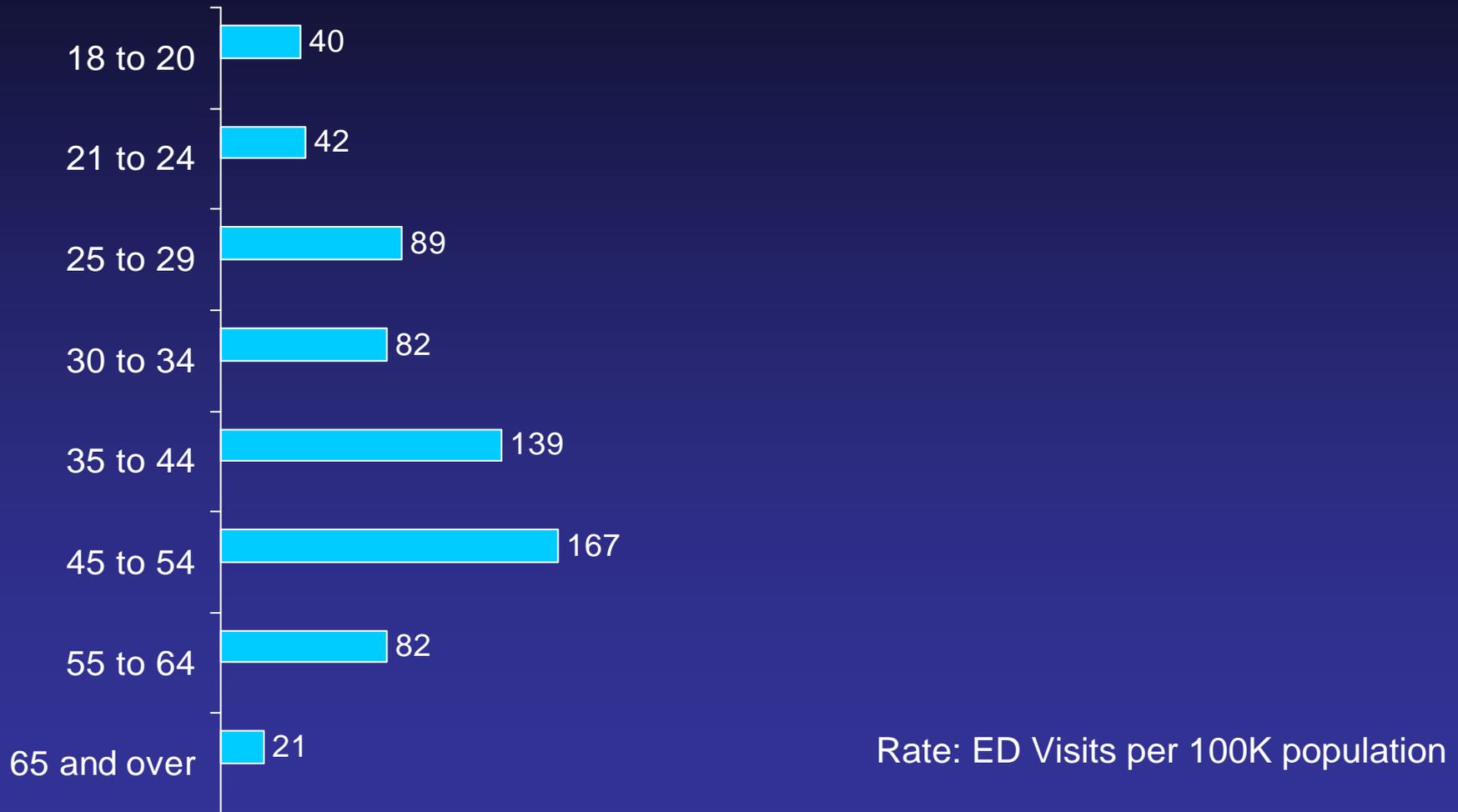
Rates of NMU Narcotic Pain Reliever ED Visits for Adults+ by Metro Area – 2008



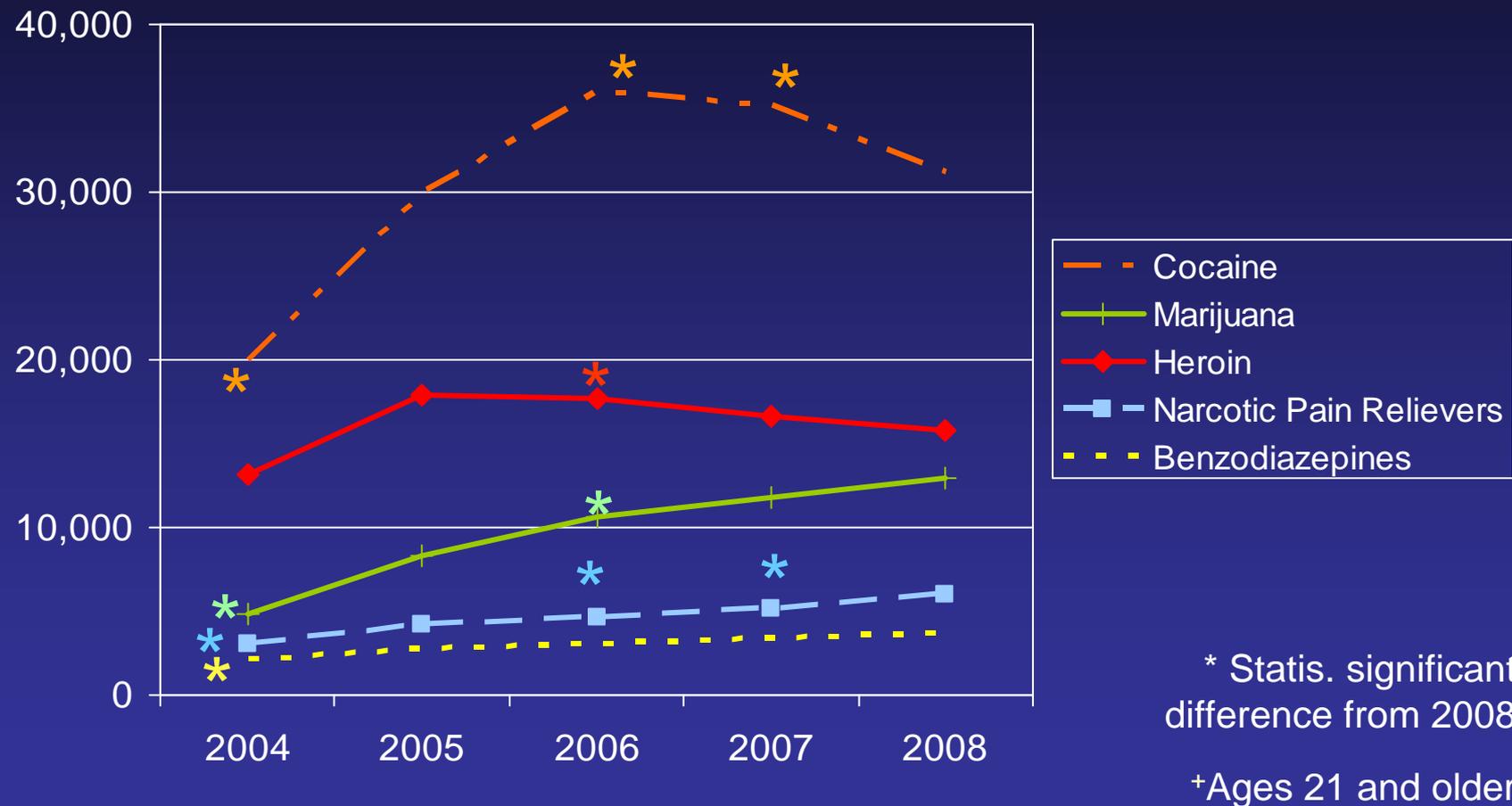
Rates of NMU Narcotic Pain Reliever ED Visits by Sex (all ages) – Selected Metro Areas, 2008



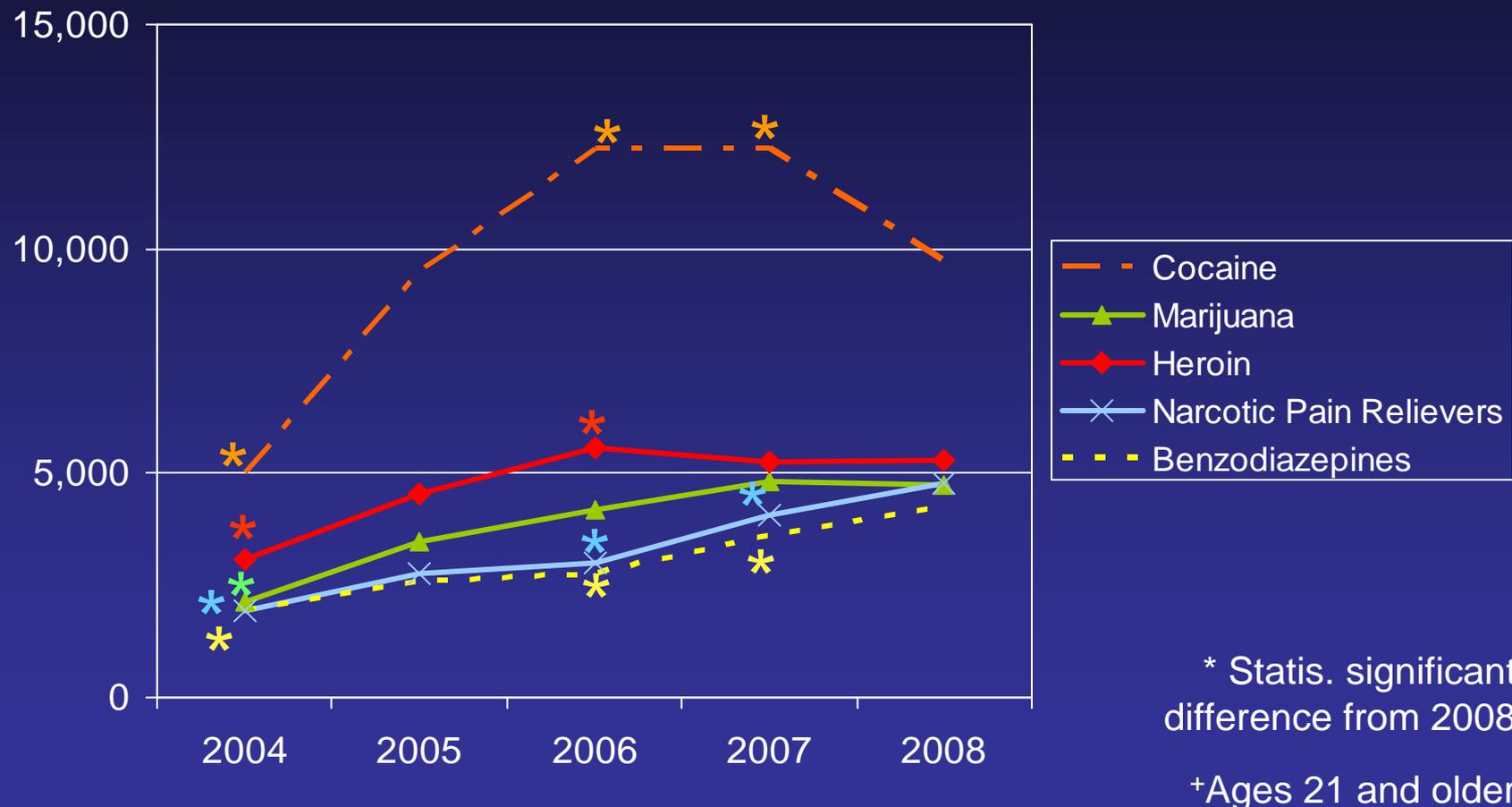
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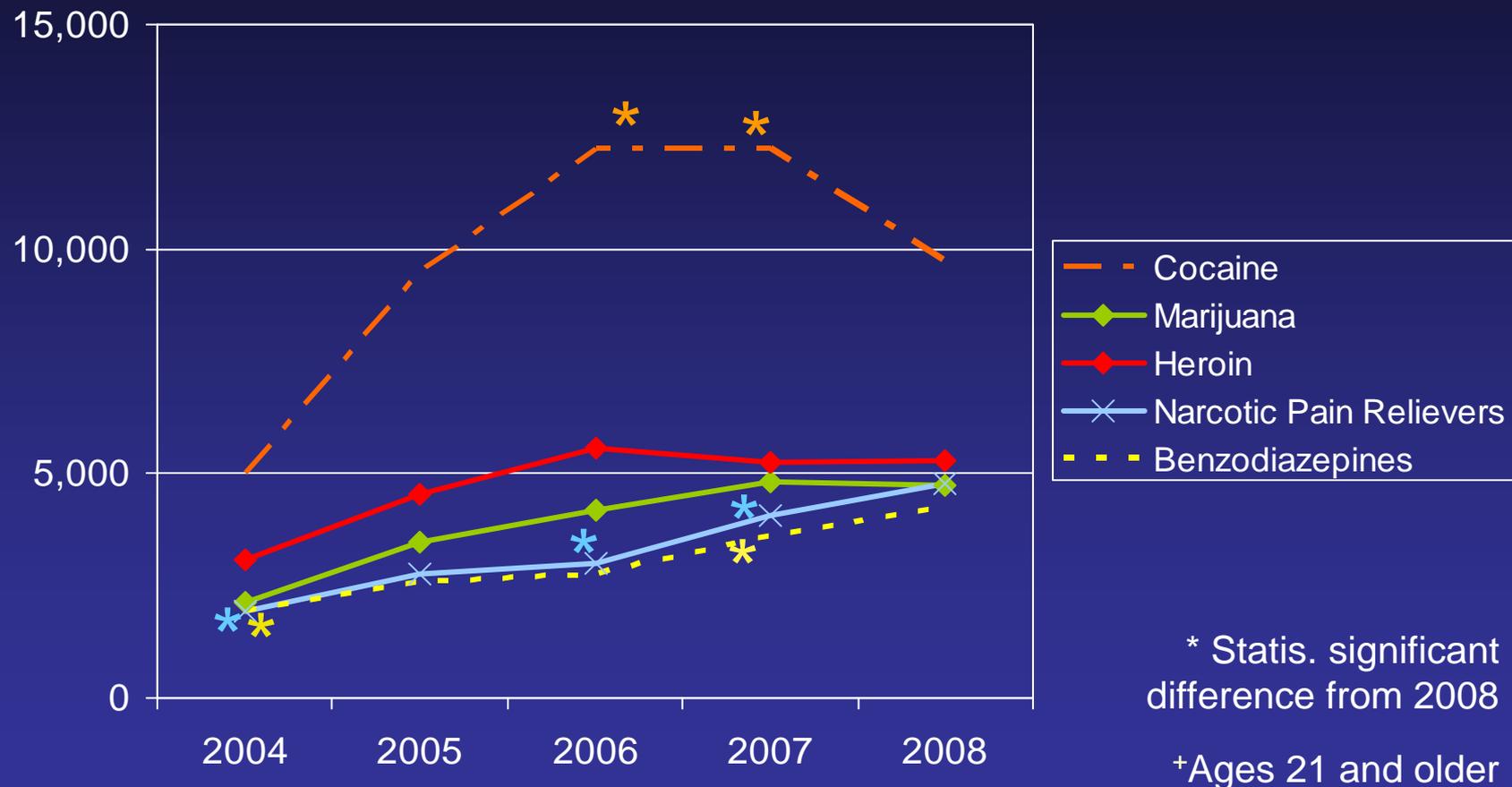
ED Visits involving Selected Illicits and NMU Pharmaceuticals, Adults+ – NYC, 2004 - 2008



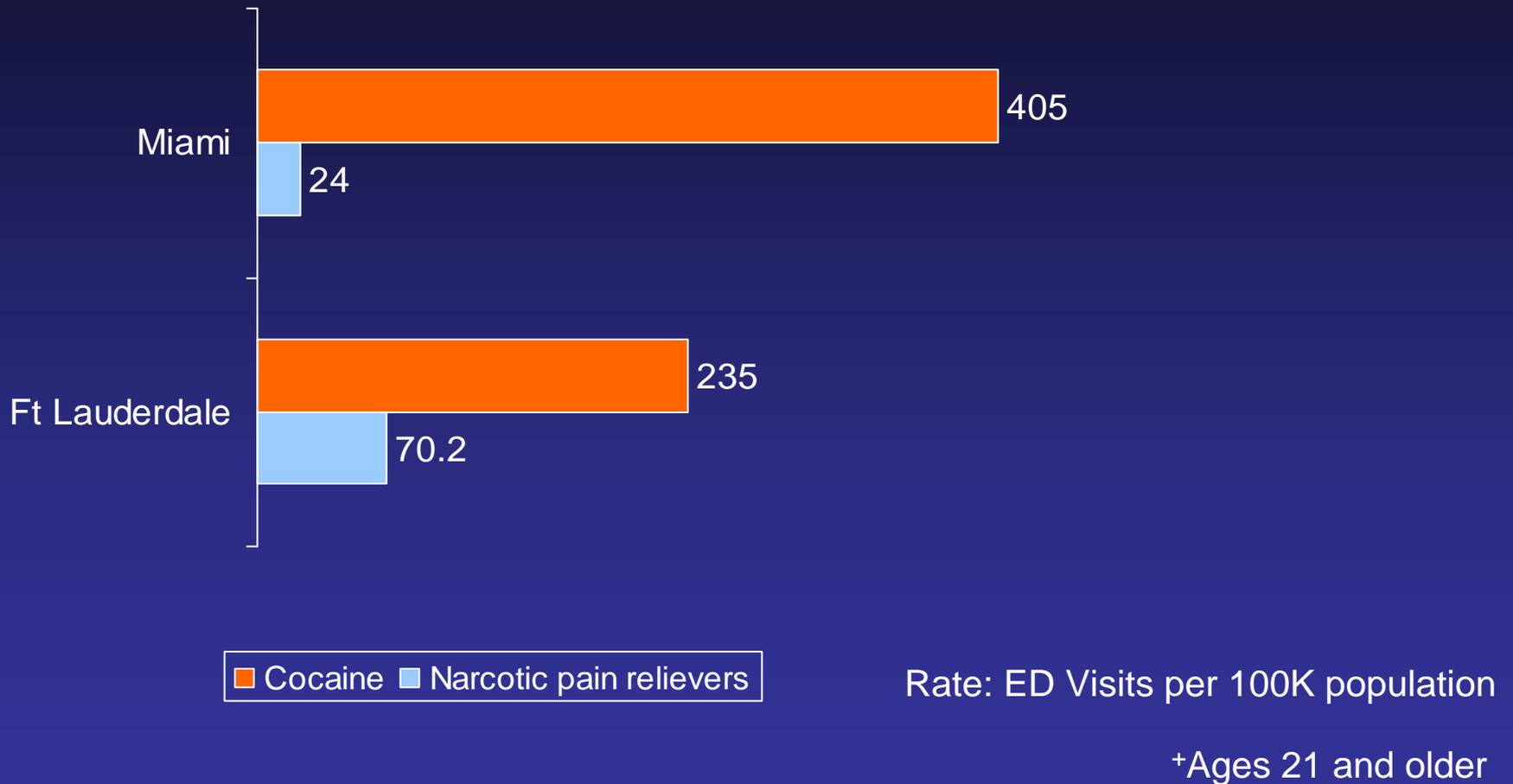
ED Visits involving Selected Illicits and NMU Pharmaceuticals, Adults+ – Detroit, 2004 - 2008



ED Visits involving Selected Illicits and NMU Pharmaceuticals, Adults+ – Phoenix, 2004 - 2008



ED Visit Rates for Cocaine and for NMU Narcotic Pain Relievers for Adults+ – Miami and Fort Lauderdale, 2008



Summary

- Nationally, cocaine, heroin, marijuana stable from 2004-2008
- Cocaine had overall increase from 2004 to 2008 in selected metros, but it has also decreased since 2006 in those areas
- Narcotic pain relievers, benzodiazepines increasing nationally and for the selected metropolitan areas

Summary, cont.

National rates are just that—national. There is variation between the metropolitan areas

- Rates of cocaine ED visits for adults ranged from 62 per 100,000 pop. in San Diego to 510 per 100,000 in NYC
- Rates of NMU narcotic pain reliever visits ranged from 24 per 100k pop. in Miami to 165 per 100k in Seattle

Summary, cont.

- Cocaine is still the leading drug in misuse/abuse ED visits for adults
- Emergence of nonmedical use of pharmaceuticals at both the national level and for the selected metropolitan areas
 - NMU pharmaceuticals account for half of the misuse/abuse ED visits among adults nationally
 - In selected metros, narcotic pain relievers and benzos are catching up with heroin and marijuana
- For NMU narcotic pain relievers and benzos, rates are similar for males and females—unlike what we're used to seeing for the major illicit drugs

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Detailed Tables: Metropolitan Area Estimates, Drug-Related Emergency Department Visits for 2004–2008

Select a metro area and an analytic category for emergency department tables.

Select a metro area:

- Boston
- Chicago
- Denver
- Detroit
- Houston
- Miami-Dade
- Miami-Fort Lauderdale
- Minneapolis
- New York-5 Boroughs
- Phoenix
- San Diego
- San Francisco
- Seattle

Select an analytic category:

- All Misuse and Abuse
- Illicits (excluding alcohol)
- Nonmedical Use of Pharmaceuticals
- All Alcohol
- Underage Drinking
- Suicide Attempts
- Seeking Detox
- Adverse Reactions
- Accidental Ingestions
- All Visits

Drug Abuse Warning Network

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