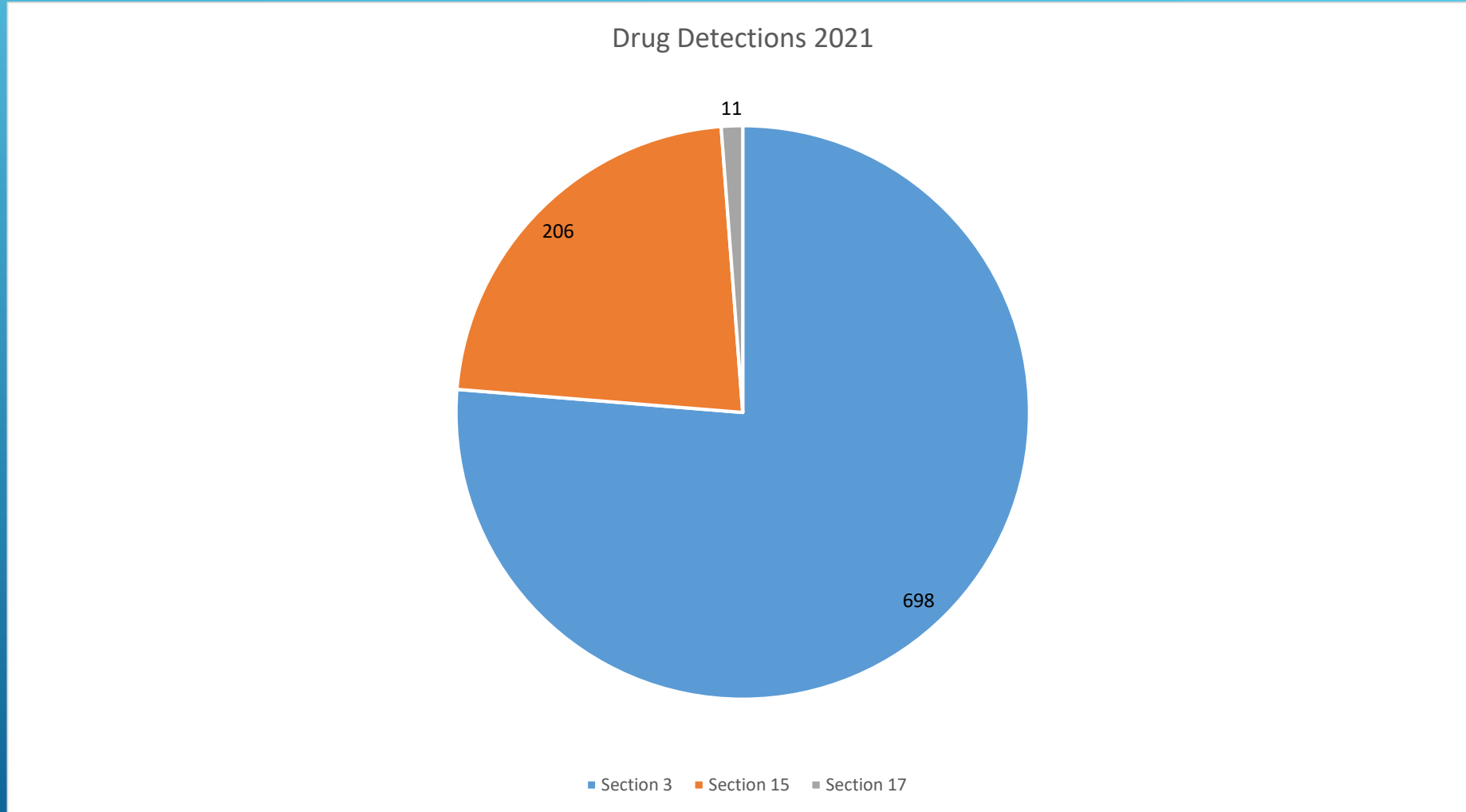


DIVISIONAL DRUG UNIT, LIMERICK

Drug Detections

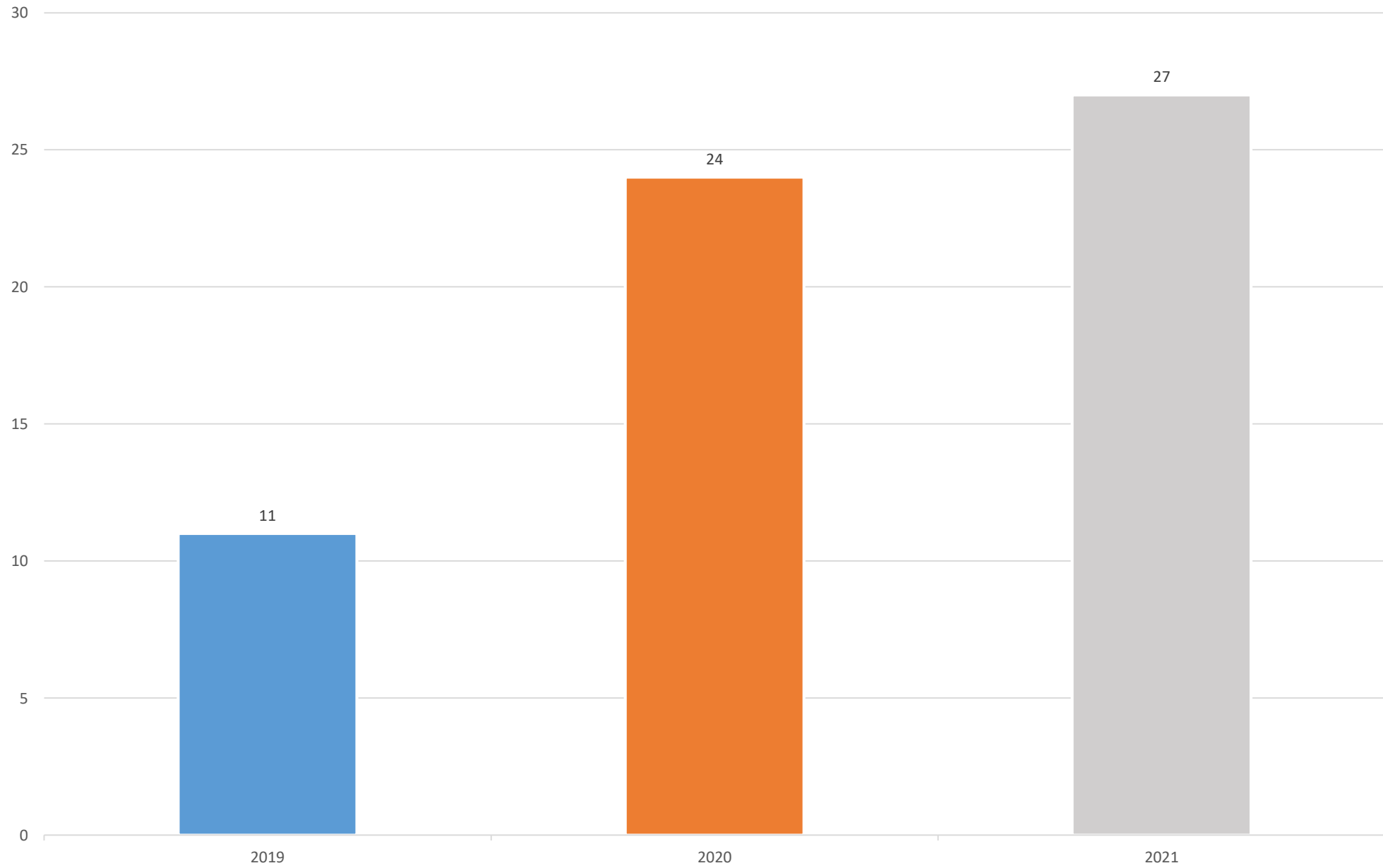
In relation to Drug detections for the year to date, the graph below illustrates the figures shown for the various offences detected



Section 15A – Possession of Drugs for Sale/Supply – Value of Drugs €13,000 or more

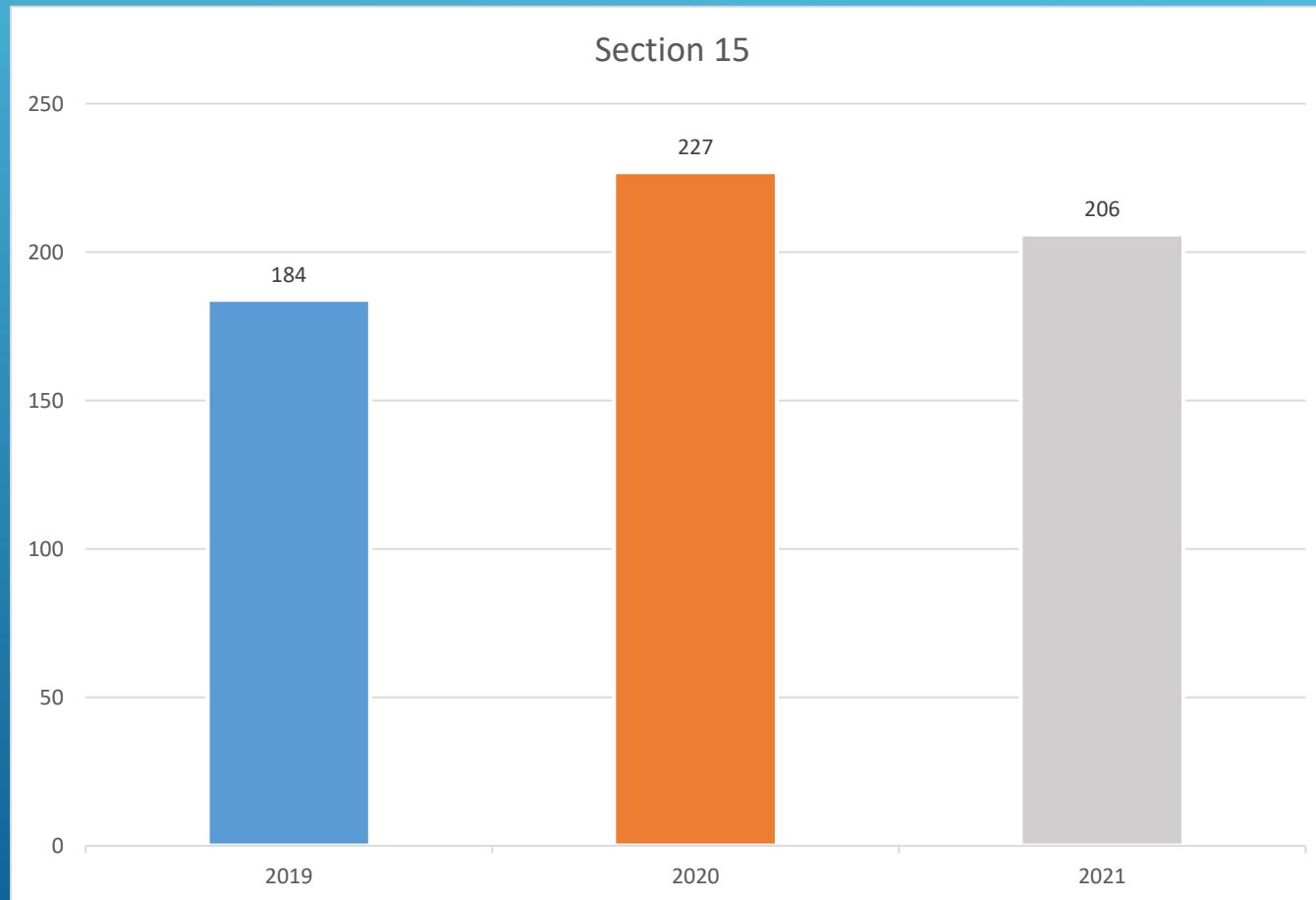
In relation to cases of Section 15A Misuse of Drugs Act, in total for 2021 there was 27 cases where drugs were seized with a value of €13,000 or more. This shows an increase of 13% in comparison to that of 2020. As can be seen from the graph below, there was a 118% increase from 2019 – 2020 and a further increase of 13% from 2020 – 2021. This is a welcomed increase as there are a large number of high level targets situated in the Limerick Division and they are involved in the wholesale distribution of controlled drugs. Gardai believe the increase in large seizures highlights the quantities of controlled drugs which are moving through the Limerick Division on a regular basis.

Section 15A



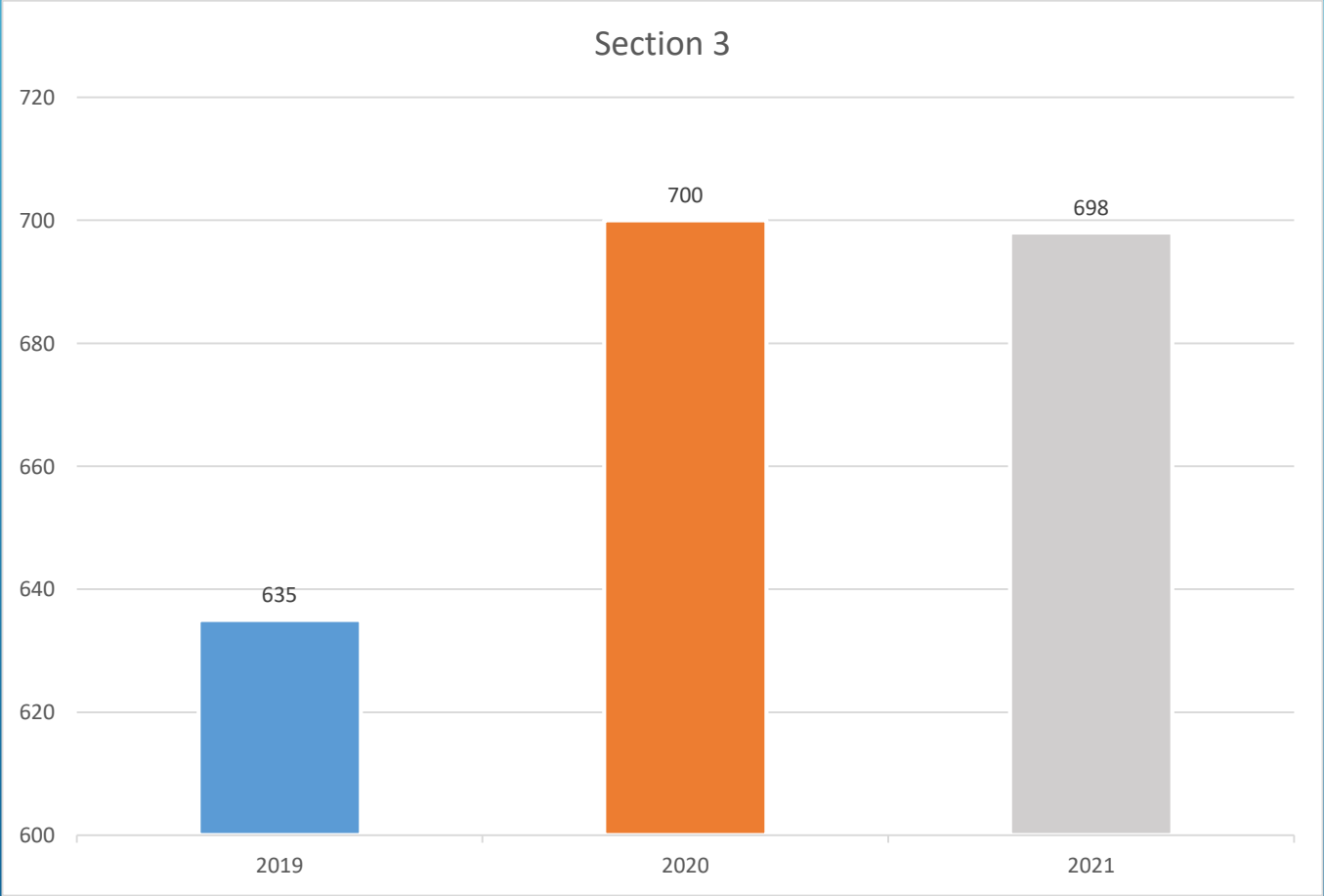
Section 15 – Possession of Drugs for Sale/Supply

In relation to cases of Section 15 Misuse of Drugs Act, up to the current date in 2021 there was 206 cases where persons were apprehended for offences of possession of drugs for the purpose of sale and/or supply.



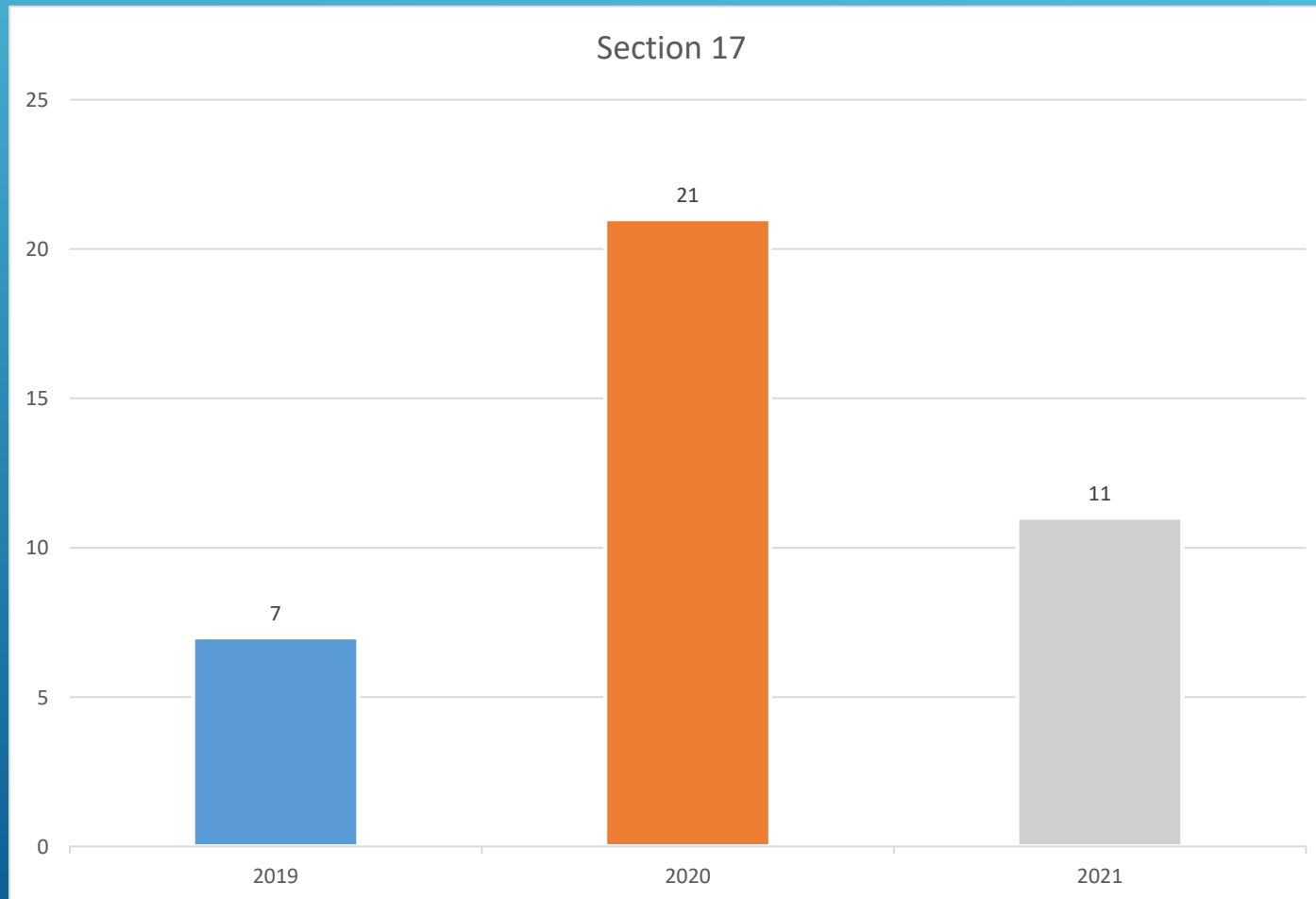
Section 3 – Simple Possession

In relation to case of Section 3 Misuse of Drugs Act, in total for 2020 there was 700 cases for the Division which showed an increase of 10% in comparison to that of 2019. At present date, for 2021 there has been 698 cases recorded within the Division. It is expected that by the end of the calendar year of 2021, the figure of 700 cases recorded in 2020 will be exceeded showing another increase.



Section 17 – Cultivation of Cannabis

With respect to cases of Section 17 Misuse of Drugs Act (Cultivation of Cannabis), it is widely accepted that the Cultivation of Cannabis is on the increase throughout the country. In 2021 there was a total of 11 cases under Section 17 Misuse of Drugs Act. It can be seen that this figure has decreased to that of 2020. This is an area where Gardai will focus further attention in efforts to increase detections in 2022.



Below is a breakdown of the various quantities of controlled drugs seized in the Division for the calendar year 2021

Section 26 Warrants	307
Total Value of Drugs Seized	€2,835,442
Cannabis	€1,922,141
Cannabis Resin	€16,817
Cannabis Plants	€75,200
Cannabis Juice	€810
Cannabis Jellies	€20
Cannabis Chocolate Bars	€570
Heroin	€41,934
Crack Cocaine	€3,312
Cocaine	€608,167
MDMA	€5,610
Alprazolam	€151,146
Acid	€350
Amphetamine	€1,658
Ketamine	€6,240
Magic Mushrooms	€130
LSD	€1,350
DMT	€100
Crystal Meth	€30
THC	€100
Morphine	€108
Total Cash Seized	€334,202 & £4,390

Cash Seized

In 2021, Gardai from the Divisional Drug Squad continued with investigations targeting the proceeds of crime and in particular cash accumulated by persons involved in the sale/supply of controlled drugs. In the year 2021, Gardai seized €334,202 and £4,390 in cash. This cash has been seized as exhibits in relation to on-going investigations.

In the past, the vast majority of cases where cash was seized, the cash itself just formed part of the investigation and was inevitably forfeited to the state. Gardai have in recent times and continue to focus investigations in efforts to obtain directions for Money Laundering offences against suspects. These investigations are often complex and contain various strands in efforts to secure Money Laundering charges. As part of these investigations, there has been 18 charges of Money Laundering preferred against suspects from various cases. There are a large number of cases currently being prepared or currently with the Director of Public Prosecutions where it is envisaged further charges of Money Laundering will be preferred.