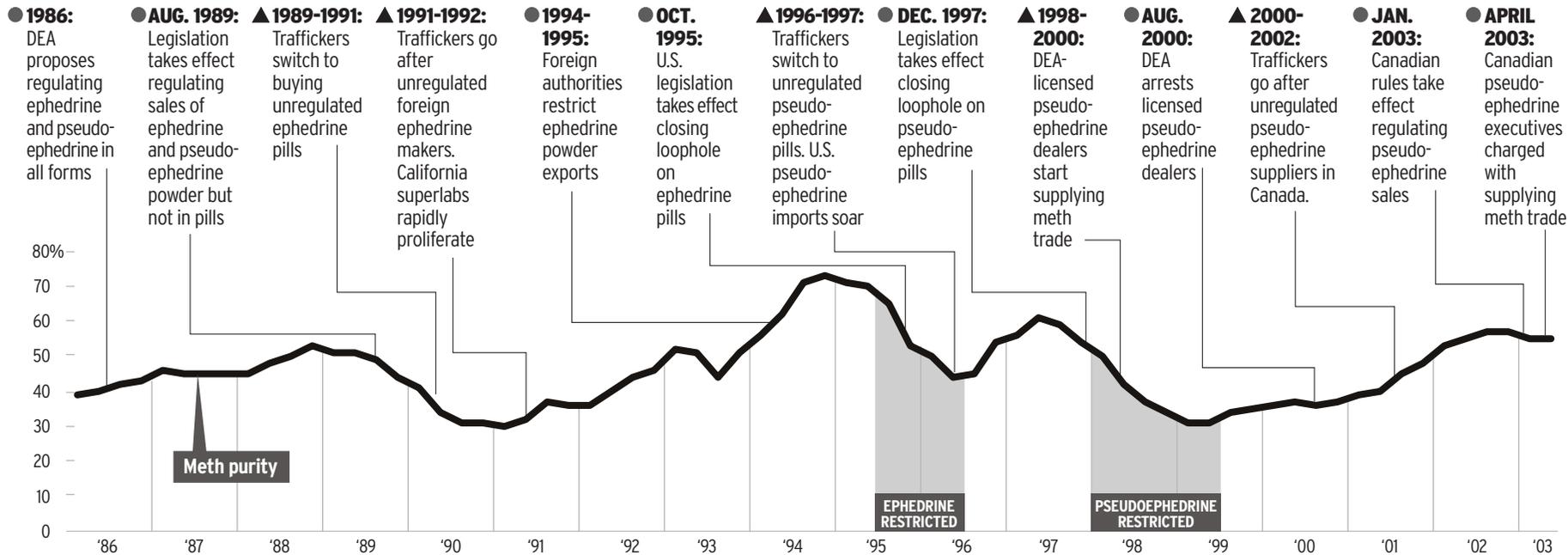


## HOW LEGISLATION CHANGED METH PURITY

● Legislation/law enforcement ▲ Traffickers

The methamphetamine supply is uniquely susceptible to disruption by government, as revealed by changes in the drug's purity over the past two decades. Whenever new legislation limited access to the essential chemicals, production slowed, and traffickers watered down their product. The declines in purity began between the time Congress voted to impose tighter scrutiny over legitimate chemical sales and when the rules took effect. Traffickers always adapted because lawmakers left them loopholes to exploit, and federal drug agents were slow to enforce the laws that were enacted.



Source: Purity estimates from RAND Corp., based on U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration data.

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