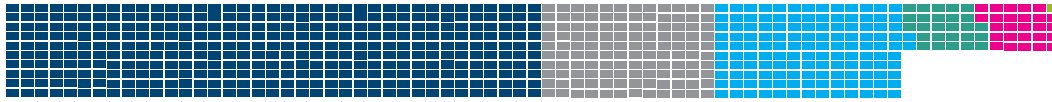


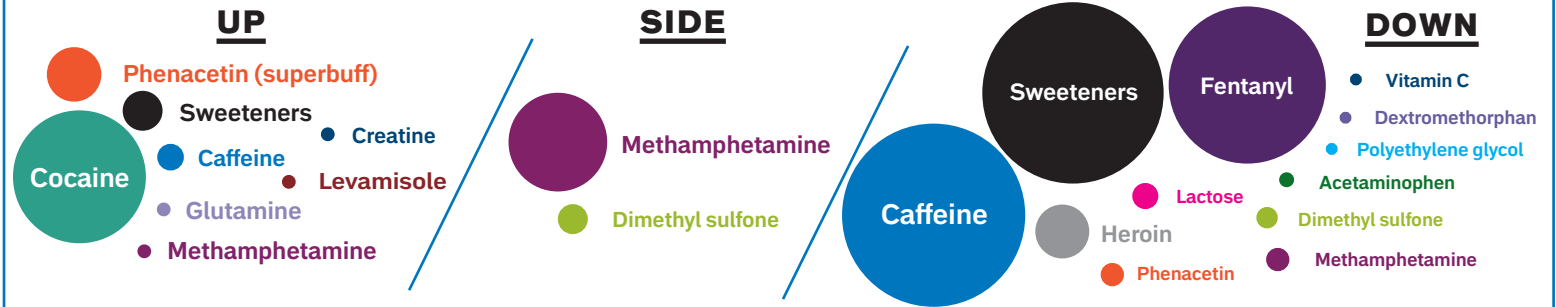
## # of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

675 Samples Tested

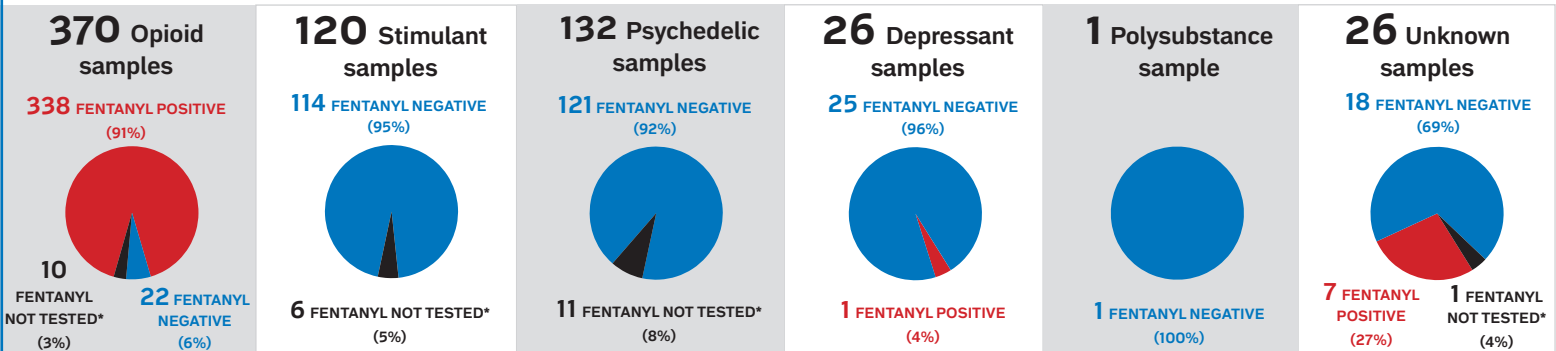
Opioid: 370 / Stimulant: 120 / Psychedelic: 132 / Unknown: 26 / Depressant: 26 / Other: 0 / Polysubstance: 1



## Common Components, Cuts and Buffs



## # of samples tested for fentanyl



## Public Health Notifications

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	Benzo Strip	Area Purchased	What does this mean?
28 May 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, fentanyl HCl, uncertain carbohydrate, erythritol (sweetener)	Positive	Positive	DTES	Use any local OPS or SCS to test your drugs for benzos!
27 May 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down (fentanyl)	Caffeine, erythritol (sweetener), sucrose (sugar), fentanyl or analogue	Positive	Positive	DTES	Check for benzos in your drugs at any OPS/SCS
21 May 2020- Nelson, BC	Down	Fentanyl or analogue, and unknown benzo	Positive	Positive	Nelson	Buddy up when using drugs and check your drugs at any OPS or SCS.
21 May 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, mannitol (sweetener)	Positive	Positive	DTES	Combining benzos and opioids can make OD symptoms worse; check your drugs!
20 May 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, mannitol (sweetener), fentanyl or analogue	Positive	Positive	DTES	Benzos can cause prolonged ODs
15 May 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, erythritol (sweetener), and lactose	Positive	Positive	DTES	Start slowly and don't use alone!
7 May 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, mannitol (sweetener)	Positive	Positive	DTES	Combining benzos and opioids can worsen OD symptoms
6 May 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, erythritol (sweetener), sucrose (sugar), fentanyl or analogue	Positive	Positive	DTES	Benzo OD symptoms may continue after Naloxone is given
3 May 2020- Get Your Drugs Tested, Vancouver	Down (unknown)	Caffeine, uncertain carbohydrate, fentanyl	Positive	Positive	DTES	Benzos can cause increased risk of overdose; don't use alone!

During the month of May, 23.0% of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using benzo test strips in British Columbia (68 samples of 298 tested)

**To receive drug contamination alerts in the VCH region, text "alert" to (236) 999-DOPE (3673)**

This report summarizes key indicators for Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done in British Columbia in May 2020.

As there is 5% fentanyl detection limit on the Bruker ALPHA Fourier-Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometer (McCrae, 2019), a drug check on any given sample consists of both the FTIR and BTNX fentanyl immunoassay test strip testing done in combination. When applicable, BTNX benzodiazepine or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) immunoassay test strips are also used. Benzodiazepine-positivity of opioid samples are determined using BTNX benzodiazepine test strips, which have not been formally evaluated for drug checking. Therefore, the results presented above are presumptive and tentative until confirmed by a laboratory.

\* "Fentanyl not tested" means that a fentanyl test strip wasn't done for the sample because the client declined to do the test, or they left before the test was able to be completed.

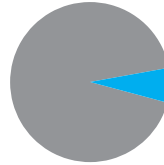
May  
2020

# Drug Checking in British Columbia

Total #: 675

## # of Samples Tested by Region:

629: Vancouver Coastal Health region (93%)



46: Interior Health region (7%)

Note: There were no drug checks in the Fraser Health region in May 2020

## # of samples that matched client expectation

*\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Depressant**

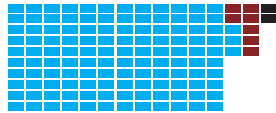
26 Samples Tested



Matched: 13  
Did not match: 13

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Psychedelic**

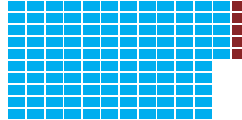
132 Samples Tested



Matched: 123  
Did not match: 7  
Match not determined: 2

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Stimulant**

120 Samples Tested



Matched: 115  
Did not match: 5

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Polysubstance**

1 Sample Tested



Match not determined: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Unknown**

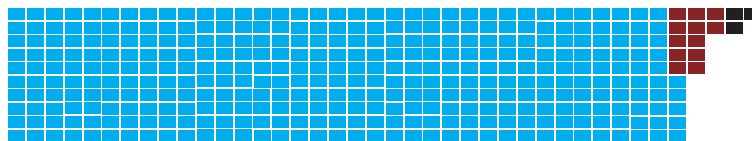
26 Samples Tested



Match not determined: 26

EXPECTED DRUG:  
**Opioid**

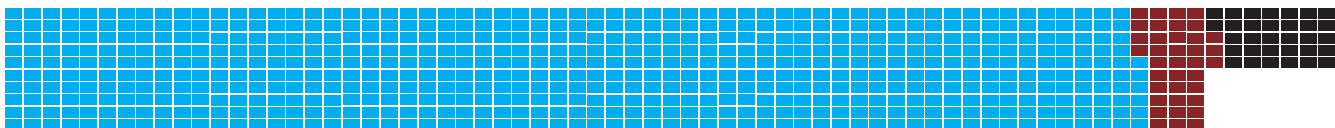
370 Samples Tested



Matched: 355  
Did not match: 12  
Match not determined: 3

### Total

675 Samples Tested

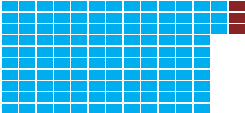



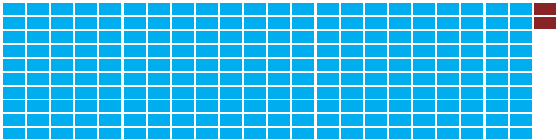




Matched: 606  
Did not match: 37  
Match not determined: 32

Please note that the presence of the expected substance does not imply purity, as samples frequently contain adulterating cutting agents

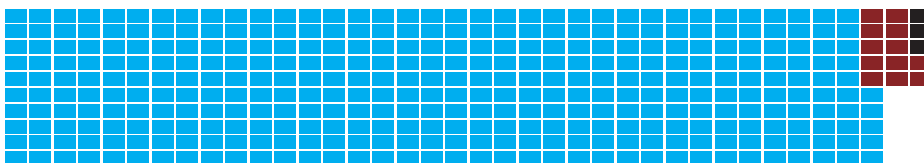
## # of opioid samples that matched client expectation

*\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Fentanyl</b> 126 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 123 Did not match: 3</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Heroin</b> 6 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 5 Did not match: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Fentanyl and Heroin</b> 2 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 1 Did not match: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Fentanyl Analogue</b> 1 Sample Tested</p>  <p>Did not match: 1</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Down</b> 223 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 221 Did not match: 2</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Opium</b> 2 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 2</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: <b>Pharmaceutical</b> 10 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 3 Did not match: 4 Match not determined: 3</p>	

### Total

370 Samples Tested



Matched: 355  
Did not match: 12  
Match not determined: 3

Please note that the presence of the expected substance does not imply purity, as samples frequently contain adulterating cutting agents  
\*‘Down’ can refer to any opioid drug present in any amount

**Depressant may include:**  
benzodiazepines,  
GHB, zopiclone

**Opioid may include:**  
“down,” heroin, fentanyl,  
fentanyl analogues,  
pharmaceutical opioids

**Polysubstance includes:**  
cross-category mixtures

**Psychedelic may include:**  
2C-family, tryptamines,  
ketamine, MDMA,  
LSD, cannabis

**Stimulant may include:**  
“speed”, crystal meth,  
cocaine, cathinones

**Unknown includes:**  
all samples in which the  
client could not identify the  
expected substance

## BCCSU gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following partners:

Portland Hotel Society | Insite | Molson Overdose Prevention Site | SisterSpace | Overdose Prevention Society | SafePoint  
The Abbotsford Community Hub | ANKORS | ASK Wellness | St. Paul’s Overdose Prevention Site | Powell Street Getaway | Three Bridges

