

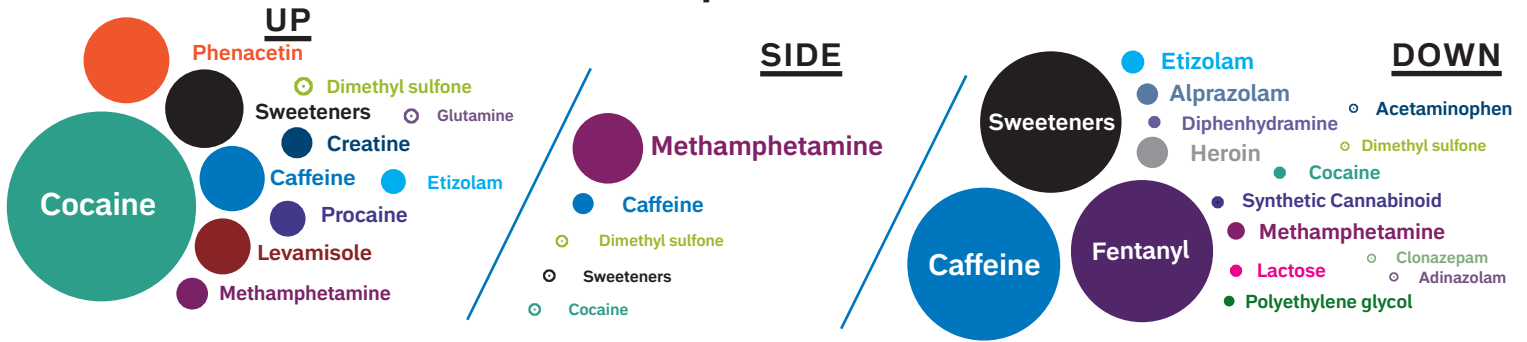
of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

838 Samples Tested

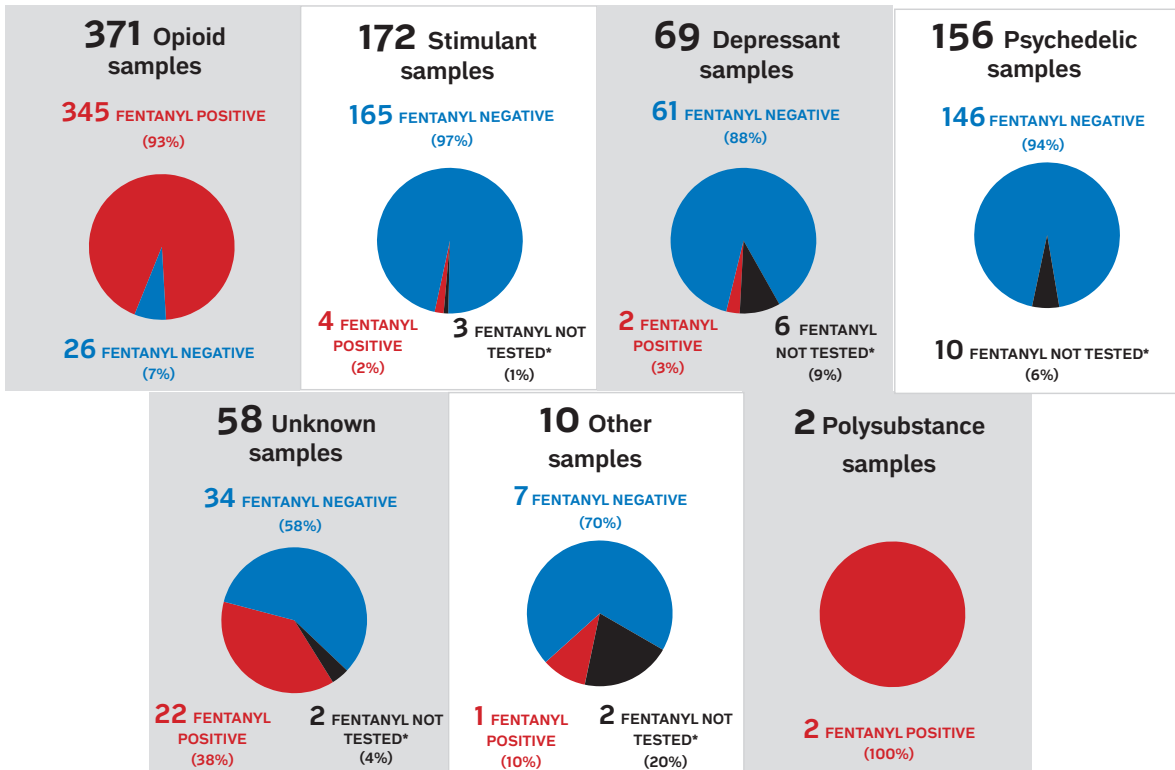
Opioid: 371 / Stimulant: 172 / Depressant: 69 / Psychedelic: 156 / Unknown: 58 / Other: 10 / Polysubstance: 2



Common Components, Cuts and Buffs



of samples tested for fentanyl



This report summarizes key indicators for Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done with our partner sites around British Columbia in September 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 fentanyl test strip testing done in combination. When applicable, benzodiazepine or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) test strips are also used.

Benzodiazepine-positivity of opioid samples are determined using 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.



PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATIONS

| Date & Location | Expected Drug | Drugs Detected | Fentanyl Strip | Benzo Strip | Area Purchased | What does this mean? |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---|----------------|-------------|-----------------|---|
| 25 September 2020-Vancouver | Down | Fentanyl | N/A | N/A | Vancouver | High level of fentanyl may cause overdose; take a tester shot and use at any OPS/SCS |
| 25 September 2020-Vancouver | Unknown | Etodesnitazene (a novel opioid-like drug), crystal meth, cocaine, fentanyl and caffeine | N/A | N/A | Vancouver | Etodesnitazene is a new opioid-like drug and it's safety is unknown. Check your drugs and don't use alone! |
| 25 September 2020-ASK Wellness | Down | Etizolam, fentanyl | N/A | N/A | Kamloops | High risk of overdose that may not respond to Naloxone. |
| 17 September 2020-ASK Wellness | Down | AMB-FUBINACA (synthetic cannabinoid), fentanyl, caffeine | N/A | N/A | Kamloops | Check your drugs for unknown and unexpected substances at any local OPS/SCS! |
| 16 September 2020-ANKORS | Down | AMB-FUBINACA (synthetic cannabinoid) | N/A | N/A | Vernon | AMB-FUBINACA can cause serious symptoms such as seizures, agitation, confusion, decreased breathing and hallucinations. |
| 9 September 2020-ASK Wellness | Fentanyl | Etizolam (benzo), fentanyl | Positive | Positive | Vernon | Combining benzos and down can cause extreme and prolonged symptoms |
| 4 September 2020-Vancouver | Unknown | Furanyl UF-17, fentanyl and caffeine | N/A | N/A | North Vancouver | Check your drugs! |

For information about Public Health alerts, please visit:
<https://www.interiorhealth.ca/AboutUs/Leadership/MHO/Pages/PHEmergency.aspx>

During the month of September, **6.42%** of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using benzo test strips in our partner sites around BC
(21 samples of 327 tested)

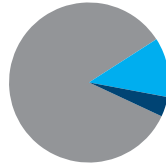
September
2020

Drug Checking in British Columbia

of Samples Tested by Region:

Total #: 838

706: Vancouver Coastal
Health region (84%)



102: Interior Health region (12%)

30: Fraser Health region (4%)

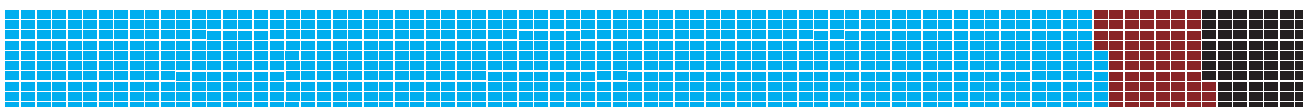
of samples that matched client expectation

**using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

| | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Depressant 69 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 43 Did not match: 25 Match not determined: 1</p> | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Psychedelic 156 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 140 Did not match: 14 Match not determined: 2</p> | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Stimulant 172 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 163 Did not match: 9</p> | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Other 10 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 8 Did not match: 1 Match not determined: 1</p> |
| <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Unknown 58 Samples Tested</p> <p>Match not determined: 58</p> | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Opioid 371 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 348 Did not match: 18 Match not determined: 5</p> | | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Polysubstance 2 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 2</p> |

Total

838 Samples Tested



Matched: 706





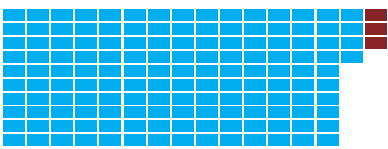

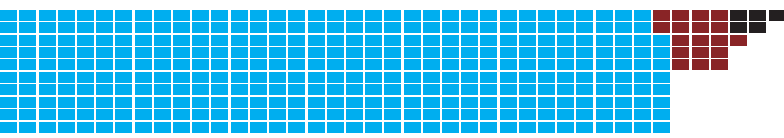
Did not match: 67

Match not determined: 67

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: Fentanyl 185 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 184 Did not match: 1</p> | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Heroin 12 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 8 Did not match: 4</p> | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl and heroin 8 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 4 Did not match: 4</p> | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Opium 3 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 3</p> |
| <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Down 147 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 144 Did not match: 3</p> | <p>EXPECTED DRUG: Pharmaceutical 16 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 5 Did not match: 6 Match not determined: 5</p> | | |
| <p>Total 371 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 348 Did not match: 18 Match not determined: 5</p> | | | |

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

