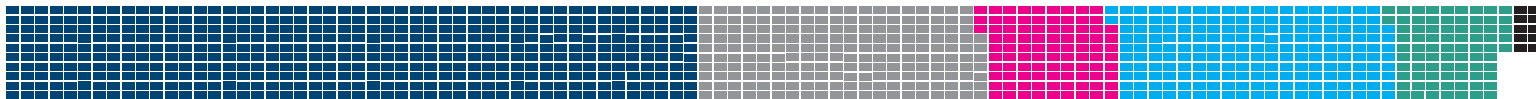


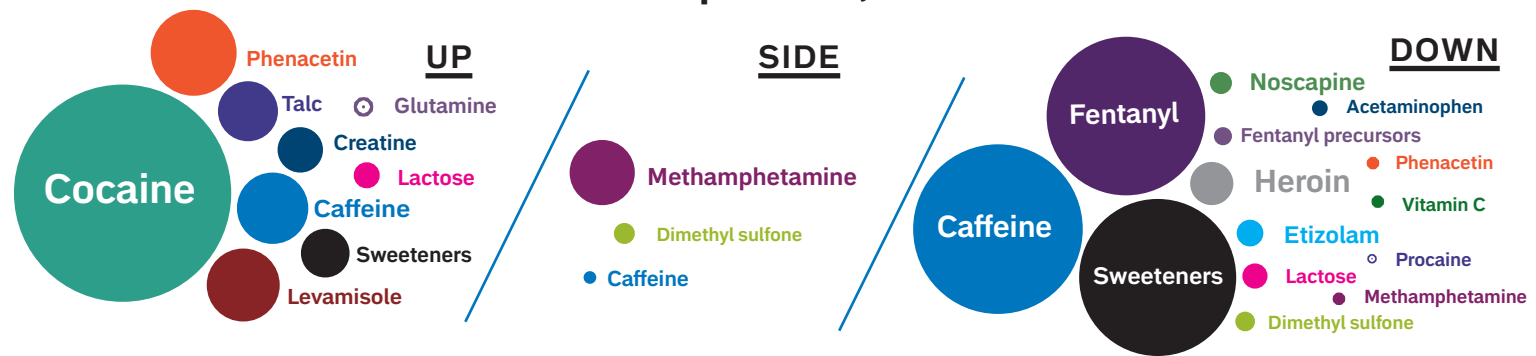
of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

1,035 Samples Tested

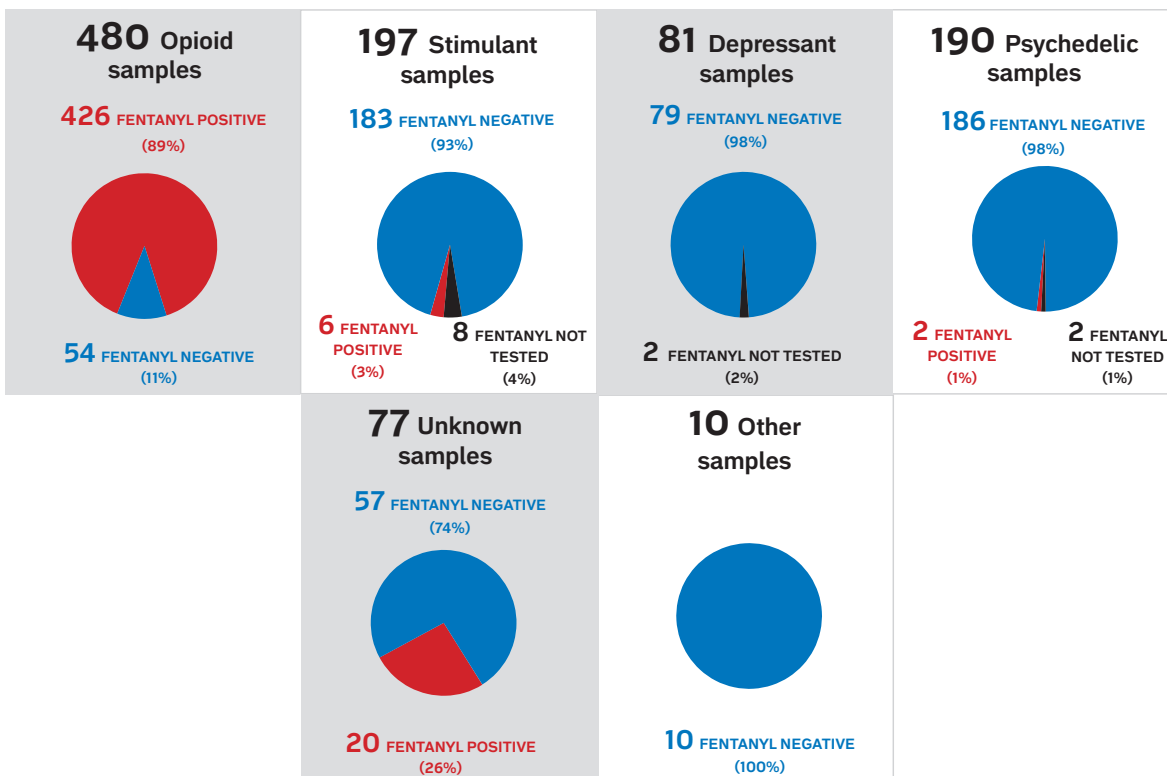
Opioid: 480 / Stimulant: 197 / Depressant: 81 / Psychedelic: 190 / Unknown: 77 / Other: 10 / Polysubstance: 0



Common Components, Cuts and Buffs



of samples tested for fentanyl



Data represented here are collected from our partner sites across the province. Drug samples are tested using the Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometer in combination with fentanyl test strips and benzodiazepine test strips.

There is 5% fentanyl detection limit on the 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 immunoassay test strips are also used.



PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATIONS

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	Benzo Strip	Area Purchased	What does this mean?
29 October 2020- ANKORS, Cranbrook	MDMA	Fentanyl (No MDMA)	N/A	N/A	Cranbrook	Check your drugs and use at any OPS/SCS!
27 October 2020- SafePoint, Surrey	Down	Caffeine, mannitol, fentanyl, etizolam	Positive	Positive	Unknown	Combining benzos and down can cause extreme and prolonged symptoms; test your drugs at any OPS.
22 October 2020- Overdose Prevention Society OPS, Vancouver	Down	Fentanyl, benzodiazepines	Positive	Positive	Vancouver	High risk of overdose that may not respond to Naloxone.
5 October 2020- Vancouver	Samples of cocaine, crack and MDA	Etizolam	Positive	Positive	Vancouver	Check your drugs for unknown and unexpected substances at any local OPS/SCS!

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

During the month of October, **12.65%** of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using benzo test strips in our partner sites around BC (**43 samples of 340 tested**)

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.

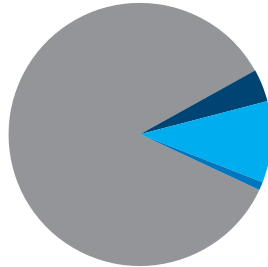
October
2020

Drug Checking in British Columbia

of Samples Tested by Region:

Total #: 1,035

886: Vancouver Coastal Health region (85%)



39: Fraser Health region (4%)

104: Interior Health region (10%)

6: Vancouver Island Health Region (1%)

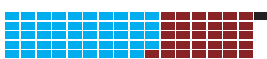
of samples that matched client expectation

**using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

EXPECTED DRUG:

Depressant

81 Samples Tested

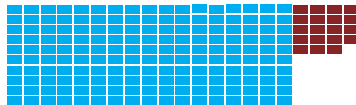


Matched: 49
Did not match: 31
Match not determined: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Psychedelic

190 Samples Tested

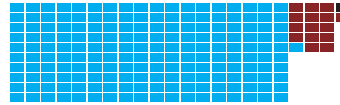


Matched: 171
Did not match: 19

EXPECTED DRUG:

Stimulant

197 Samples Tested



Matched: 181
Did not match: 15
Match not determined: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Other

10 Samples Tested



Matched: 5
Did not match: 4
Match not determined: 1

EXPECTED DRUG:

Unknown

77 Samples Tested

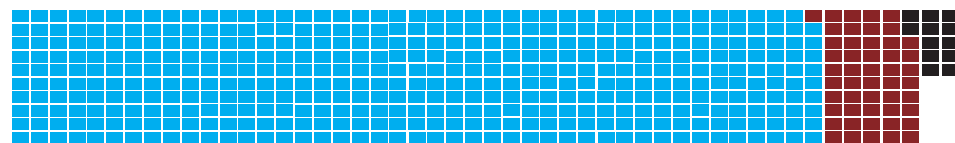


Match not determined: 77

EXPECTED DRUG:

Opioid

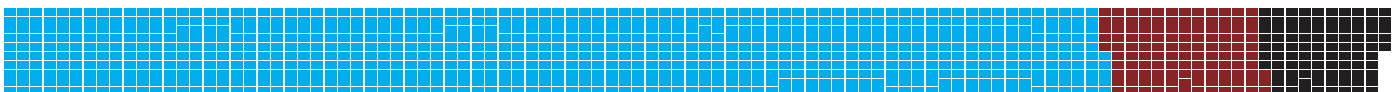
480 Samples Tested



Matched: 419
Did not match: 49
Match not determined: 12

Total

1,035 Samples Tested

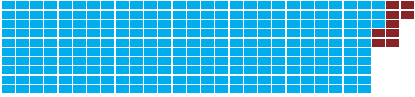
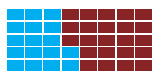


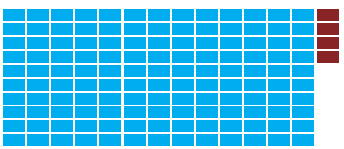

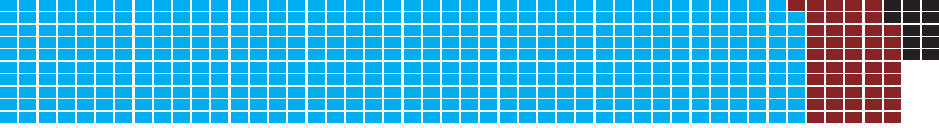


Matched: 825
Did not match: 118
Match not determined: 92

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 272 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 263 Did not match: 9</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Heroin 40 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 17 Did not match: 23</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Other opioid 2 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Did not match: 2</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl and heroin 3 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 2 Did not match: 1</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Down 134 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 130 Did not match: 4</p>		<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Pharmaceutical 29 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 7 Did not match: 10 Match not determined: 12</p>	
<p>Total 480 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 419 Did not match: 49 Match not determined: 12</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

