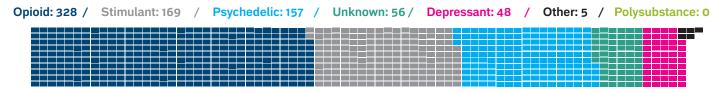
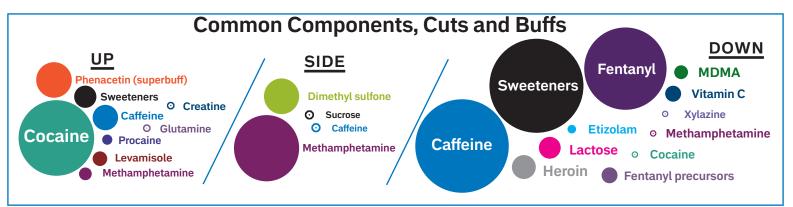
## **Drug Checking in Vancouver Coastal Health**

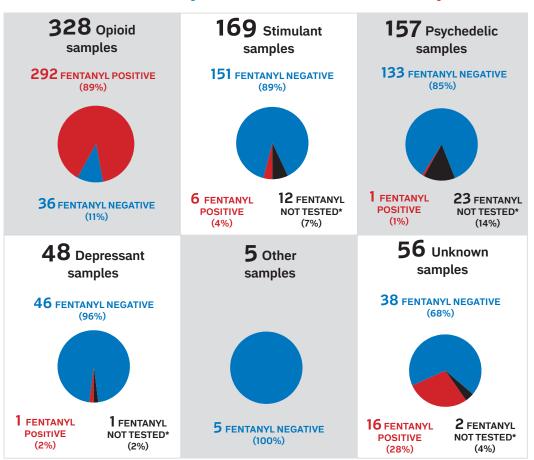
## # of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

763 Samples Tested





# # of samples tested for fentanyl





# **Drug Checking in Vancouver Coastal Health**



## **PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATIONS**

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	Benzo Strip	Area Purchased	What does this mean?
15 July 2020- Overdose Prevention Site, Vancouver	Unknown	Methylamine HCl	Negative	N/A	DTES	
14 July 2020- Get Your Drugs Tested, Vancouver	Methamphetamine	Methamphetamine, methylamine HCl	Negative	N/A	DTES	Methylamine causes irritation and buring when used; there are no other known health issues related.  Check your drugs at any OPS or SCS for any unexpected substances!
14 July 2020- Get Your rugs Tested, Vancouver	Methamphetamine	Methamphetamine, dimethyl sulfone, methylamine HCl	Negative	N/A	DTES	
14 July 2020- Get Your Drugs Tested, Vancouver	Methamphetamine	Methylamine HCl	Negative	N/A	DTES	
14 July 2020- Get Your Drugs Tested, Vancouver	Methamphetamine	Methylamine HCl	Negative	N/A	DTES	
14 July 2020- Get Your Drugs Tested, Vancouver	Methamphetamine	Methylamine HCl	Negative	N/A	DTES	
12 July 2020- Get Your Drugs Tested, Vancouver	Down	Mannitol (sweetener), caffeine, fentanyl HCl	N/A	Positive	DTES	Combining benzos and opioids can make OD symptoms worse; Check your drugs!
12 July 2020- Get Your Drugs Tested, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine	Positive	Positive	DTES	Start slowly and don't use alone!
9 July 2020- Get Your Drugs Tested, Vancouver	Down	Etizolam	Negative	Negative	DTES	Etizolam is a potent benzodiazepine; Check your drugs at any OPS/SCS!
2 July 2020- Overdose Prevention Site, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, erythritol and sucrose (sweeteners), fentanyl HCl	Positive	Positive	DTES	Use any local OPS or SCS to check drugs for benzos
2 July 2020- Overdose Prevention Site, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, fentanyl HCl, sucrose and erythritol (sweeteners)	Positive	Positive	DTES	Combining benzos and opioids can make OD symptoms worse.

During the month of July, **9.2**% of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using benzo test strips in the Vancouver Coastal Health region **(26 samples of 284 tested)** 

### To receive drug contamination alerts, 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 Vancouver Coastal Health in July 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 <u>both</u> the FTIR <u>and</u> 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 benzodiazeoine 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 stip 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.





# # of drugs checks and hours at each respective site:

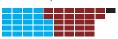
Location	# of Drug Checks	Hours	
Overdose Prevention Society OPS	169	56	
Get Your Drugs Tested	594	248	
Total	763	304	

# # of samples that matched client expectation

\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking



48 Samples Tested



Matched: 23

Did not match: 24 Match not determined: 1

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

### Unknown

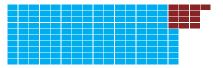
56 Samples Tested



Match not determined: 56

Stimulant

169 Samples Tested



Matched: 156
Did not match: 13

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

### **Opioid**

328 Samples Tested

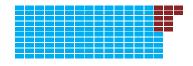


Matched: 291
Did not match: 26
Match not determined: 11

EXPECTED DRUG:

### **Psychedelic**

157 Samples Tested



Matched: 145 Did not match: 12

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### Other

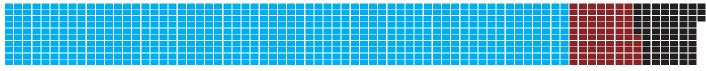
5 Samples Tested



Matched: 5

#### **Total**

763 Samples Tested



Matched: 620

Did not match: 75

Match not determined: 68

# # of opioid samples that matched client expectation

\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### Heroin

22 Samples Tested



Matched: 12

Did not match: 10

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

## Fentanyl and Heroin

1 Sample Tested

Did not match: 1

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

### Opium

4 Samples Tested



Matched: 1

Match not determined: 3

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

Down

160 Samples Tested



Matched: 157

Did not match: 3

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### **Fentanyl**

123 Samples Tested



Matched: 118 Did not match: 5 **EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### **Pharmaceutical**

18 Samples Tested



Matched: 5

Did not match: 5

Match not determined: 8

#### **Total**

328 Samples Tested



Matched: 291 Did not match: 26 Match not determined: 11

> 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

KARMIK

### BCCSU and VCH gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the following partners:

Portland Hotel Society | Insite | Molson Overdose Prevention Site | SisterSpace | Overdose Prevention Society

Powell Street Getaway | Three Bridges St. Paul's Overdose Prevention Site















