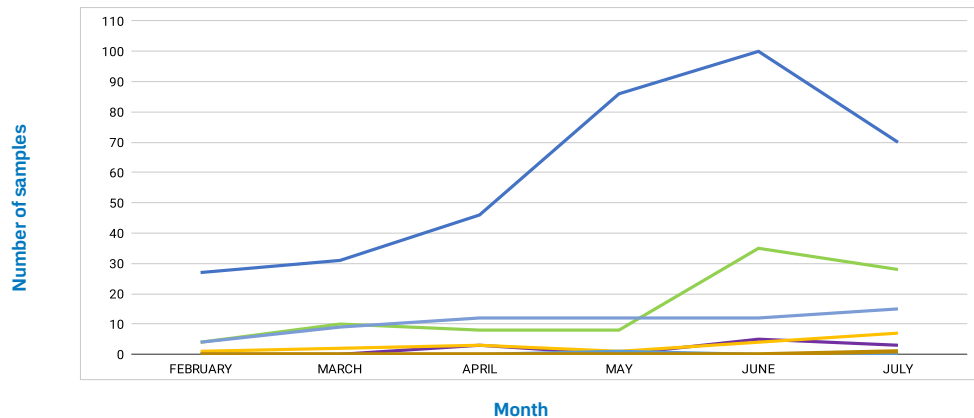


Key Findings

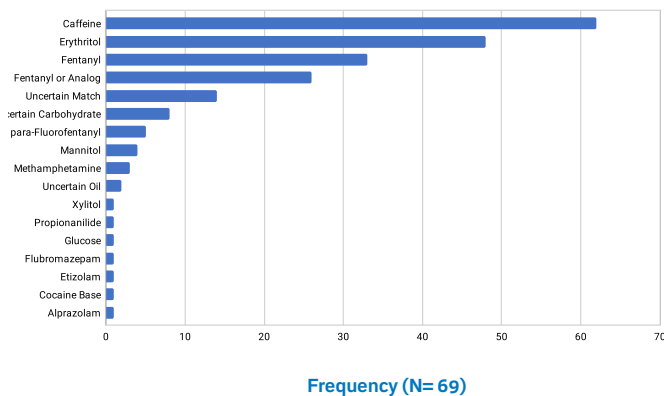
- The percentage of opioids testing positive for benzodiazepines in the region decreased from 55.0% to 30.0% (21 of 70 samples). Trends may be hard to infer due to the small number of samples over a large region. The true rate may be higher than reported here because etizolam, a benzodiazepine-like substance in expected opioids, may be missed by drug checking technologies.
- There was a slight decrease in total drug checks in Fraser this month, but an upward trend is continuing as services grow in the region.
- Drug checking services in Fraser Health are rapidly expanding! Services are now available in Chilliwack, Abbotsford, and White Rock. For updated locations and hours, see the Fraser Health website: <https://www.fraserhealth.ca/drugchecking>

Number of drug samples checked in the past 6 months

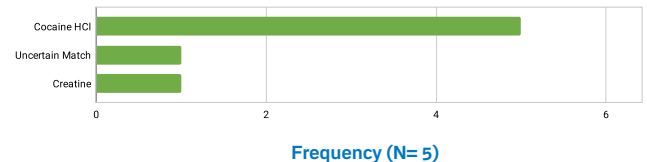


Components found in drug samples in July

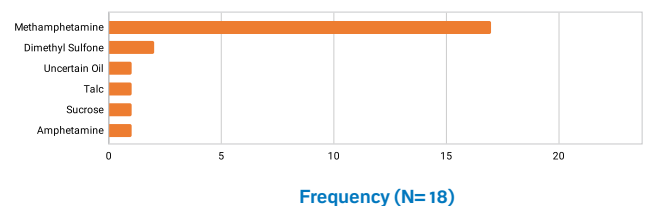
Components in opioids



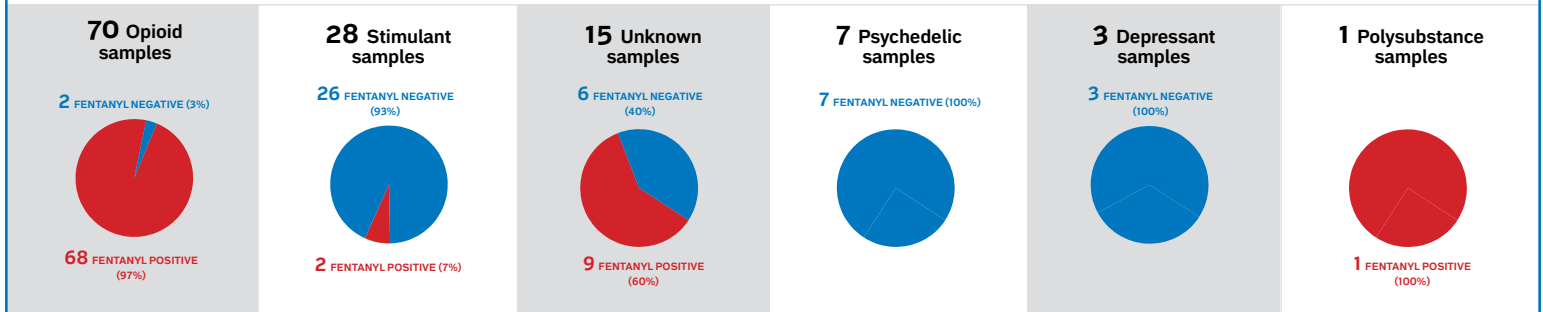
Components in cocaine



Components in methamphetamine



Number of samples tested with fentanyl present

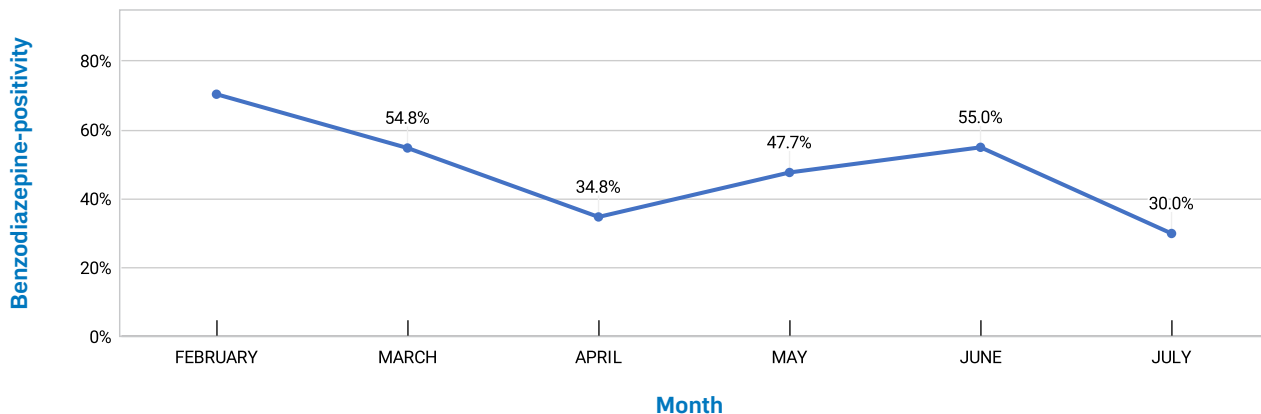


PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATIONS

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	Benzo Strip	Alert Message
No alerts from Fraser Health partners this month					

For information about current substances in the Fraser Health region: overdose@fraserhealth.ca

Percentage of opioids testing positive for benzodiazepines in the past 6 months



During the month of July, **30.0%** of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using test strips in our partner site in Fraser Health (**21 samples of 70 checked**). Opioid samples are checked for benzodiazepine-positivity using BTNX test strips and the FTIR spectrometer. The results presented here are derived from both of these technologies and are presumptive until confirmed by a laboratory.

Number of drugs checks at each site

Location	# of drug checks
Purpose Society	43
SafePoint	8
Foxglove Housing	16
Mountainside Harm Reduction	3
PeacePoint	12

Location	# of drug checks
FVDED in the Park	26
Pacific Community Resources	1
Ruth & Naomi's Mission	13
Warm Zone	2

of samples that matched client expectation

using FTIR/test strip drug checking

EXPECTED DRUG:	EXPECTED DRUG:	EXPECTED DRUG:	EXPECTED DRUG:	EXPECTED DRUG:	EXPECTED DRUG:
Opioid 70 Samples Tested	Stimulant 28 Samples Tested	Psychedelic 7 Samples Tested	Unknown 15 Samples Tested	Depressant 3 Samples Tested	Polysubstance 1 Samples Tested
Matched: 67 Did not match: 2 Match not determined: 1	Matched: 27 Did not match: 1	Matched: 7	Match not determined: 15	Matched: 3	Matched: 1

Total

124 Samples Tested



Matched: 105
Did not match: 3
Match not determined: 16

Number of opioid samples that matched client expectation

using FTIR/test strip drug checking

EXPECTED DRUG:	EXPECTED DRUG:	EXPECTED DRUG:	EXPECTED DRUG:
Fentanyl 15 Samples Tested	Down 53 Samples Tested	Heroin 1 Samples Tested	Pharmaceutical 1 Samples Tested
Matched: 14 Did not match: 1	Matched: 53	Did not match: 1	Match not determined: 1

Total

70 Samples Tested



Matched: 67
Did not match: 2
Match not determined: 1

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

Depressant July include:
benzodiazepines, etizolam,
GHB, hypnotics

Opioid July include:
"down," heroin, fentanyl,
pharmaceutical opioids

Polysubstance includes:
cross-category mixtures

Psychedelic July include:
MDMA and related,
2C-family, tryptamines,
ketamine, LSD

Stimulant July include:
methamphetamine,
"speed," cocaine and crack
cocaine, cathinones

Unknown includes:
Samples where the individual
was unable to identify an
expected substance. This
includes found samples.

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), and 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.

BCCSU gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following partners: