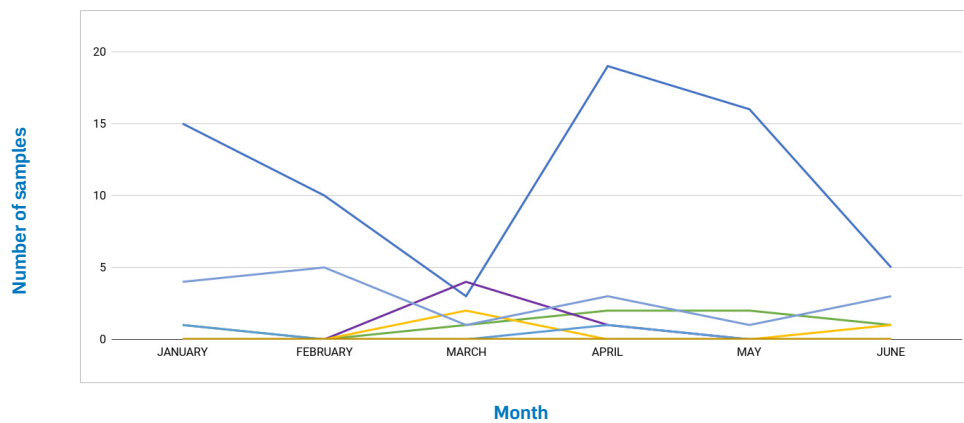


Key Findings

- 60% of opioid samples (3 of 5) tested positive for benzodiazepines. Etizolam, the predominant benzodiazepine in expected opioids, may be missed by drug checking technologies. This means that the true rate may be higher than reported here.
- Carfentanil is increasingly being detected by point-of-care and confirmatory drug checking in Fraser Health. When carfentanil is detected, fentanyl is detected alongside it over half of the time. It is recommended to be cautious even when fentanyl is expected in a sample, as there may also be carfentanil in the dose as well.
- Safepoint is currently operating a drop-off drug checking service. Samples can be dropped-off during operating hours (7am–1am) and results are available after Tuesday morning each week.

Number of drug samples checked in the past 6 months



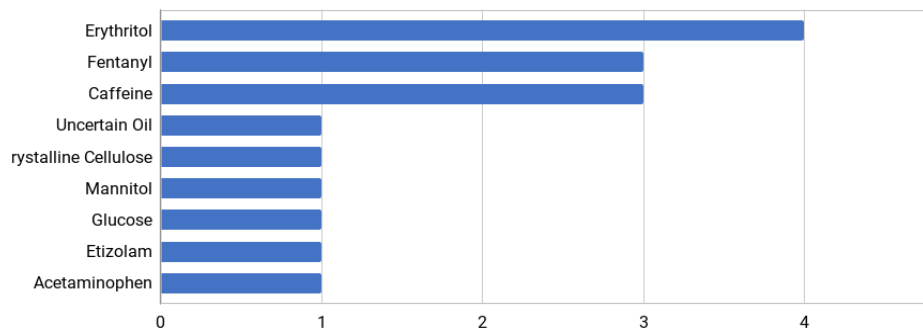
Number of samples by drug category in June

Opioid	5
Stimulant	1
Depressant	0
Psychedelic	1
Polysubstance	0
Other	0
Unknown	3

TOTAL: 10

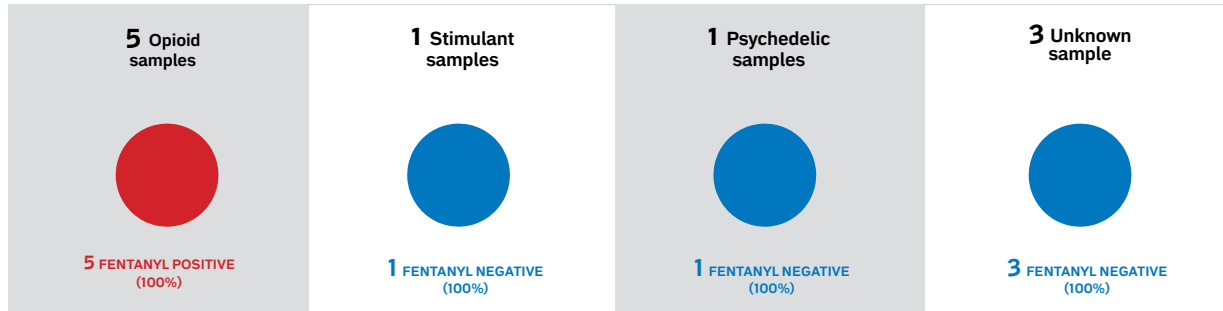
Components found in drug samples in June

Components in opioids



Frequency (N= 5)

Number of samples tested with fentanyl present

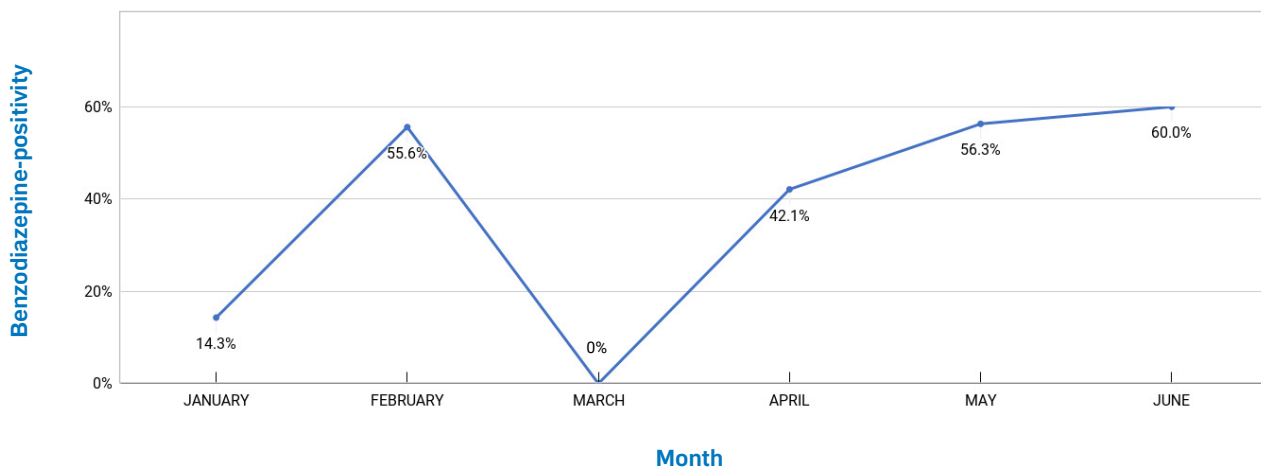


PUBLIC HEALTH NOTIFICATIONS

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

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 June, **60%** of expected opioid samples tested positive for benzodiazepines using test strips in our partner sites in the Fraser Health Region (**3 samples of 5 checked**). These numbers should be taken with caution as this trend is based on low samples.





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	Hours
SafePoint (Surrey)	10	SafePoint is currently accepting samples for checking during operating hours. A technician checks samples every Tuesday morning and results are available after 12PM. For details visit https://drugcheckingbc.ca/drug-checking-sites/fraser-health/

of samples that matched client expectation

using FTIR/test strip drug checking

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Opioid 5 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 3 Did not match: 2</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Stimulant 1 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Psychedelic 1 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Did not match: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Unknown 3 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched not determined: 3</p>
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Total




10 Samples Tested



Matched: 4
Did not match: 3
Matched not determined: 3

Number of opioid samples that matched client expectation

using FTIR/test strip drug checking

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl and Heroin 2 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Did not match: 2</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Down 2 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 2</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl 1 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 1</p>	<p>Total 5 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 3 Did not match: 2</p>
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Please note that the presence of the expected substance does not imply purity, as samples frequently contain adulterating cutting agents

Depressant may include:
benzodiazepines, etizolam,
GHB, hypnotics

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

Polysubstance includes:
cross-category mixtures

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

Stimulant may 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 in the Fraser Health region. Drug samples are tested using the Fourier-transform infrared (FTIR) spectrometer in combination with fentanyl test strips and benzodiazepine test strips.

There is a 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 test strip checking done in combination. When applicable, BTNX benzodiazepine test strips are also used.

BCCSU gratefully acknowledges the contributions of the following partners: