

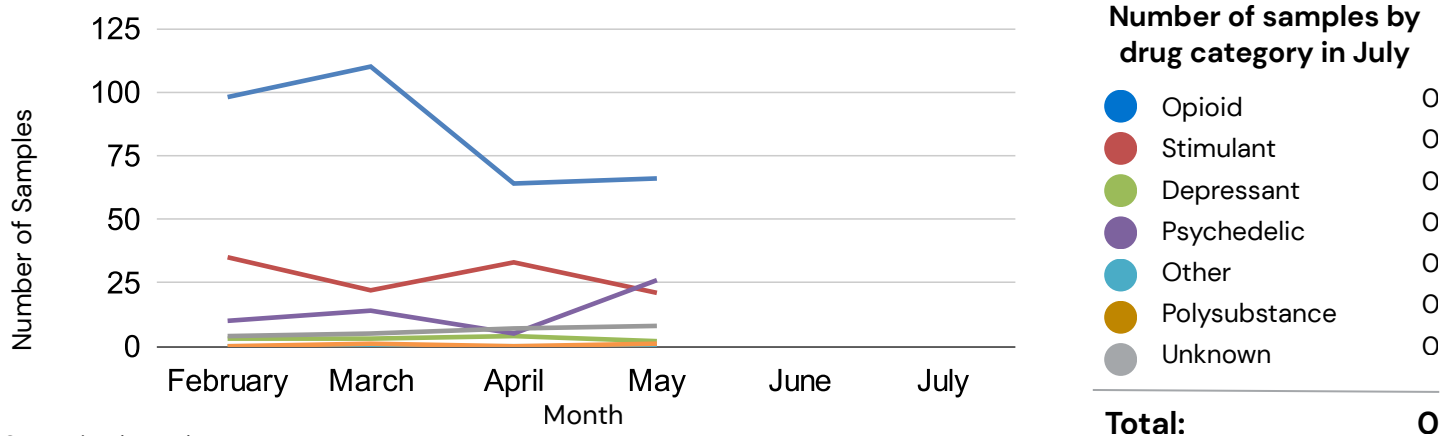


### Key findings

We are in the process of including data from Substance (University of Victoria) in this report. In the interim, we provide the number of samples tested at Substance and the BCCSU-partnered CMHA Mid-Island locations to show the total samples tested in the region. The remainder of this report details results only from the CMHA Mid-Island site. For more information on Substance sites, please visit their [website](#).

- In July, there was no drug checking available at the BCCSU-partnered CMHA Mid-Island Albert Street site in Nanaimo.
- Substance (University of Victoria) performed a total of 794 drug checks on samples collected by their various partnered sites.

### Number of drug samples checked in the past 6 months\*



### Number of drug checks at each site

| BCCSU-Partnered Locations         | # of Drugs Checked |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Albert St. OPS (CMHA Nanaimo)     | 0                  |
| Substance (UVic) Locations        | # of Drugs Checked |
| Substance                         | 542                |
| Outreach                          | 144                |
| Comox Valley                      | 41                 |
| Campbell River                    | 31                 |
| Duncan                            | 21                 |
| Port Alberni                      | 15                 |
| <b>Island Health Region Total</b> | <b>794</b>         |

## Number of samples with expected drug present\*

No data collected in July

\*CMHA site data only

## Opioids

## Number of opioid samples with expected drug present\*

No data collected in July

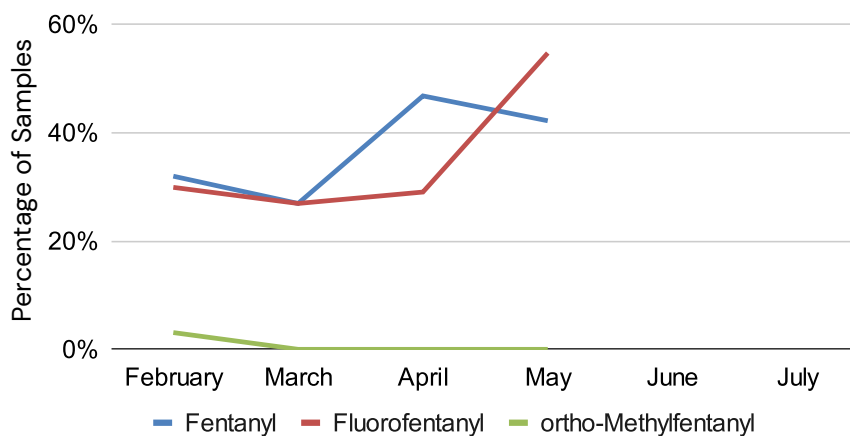
\*CMHA site data only

## Components detected in unregulated opioids (N=0)\*

No data collected in July

\*CMHA site data only

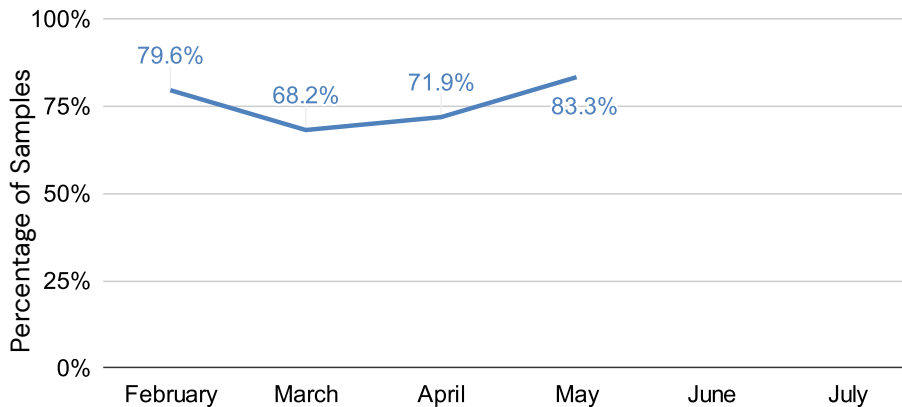
## Fentanyl analogs detected in unregulated opioids, past 6 months\*



- The number of unregulated opioid samples containing fluorofentanyl has been increasing since the beginning of the year among samples tested by the CMHA Nanaimo Albert St. OPS site.
- We note that no samples were tested in the month of July.

\*CMHA site data only

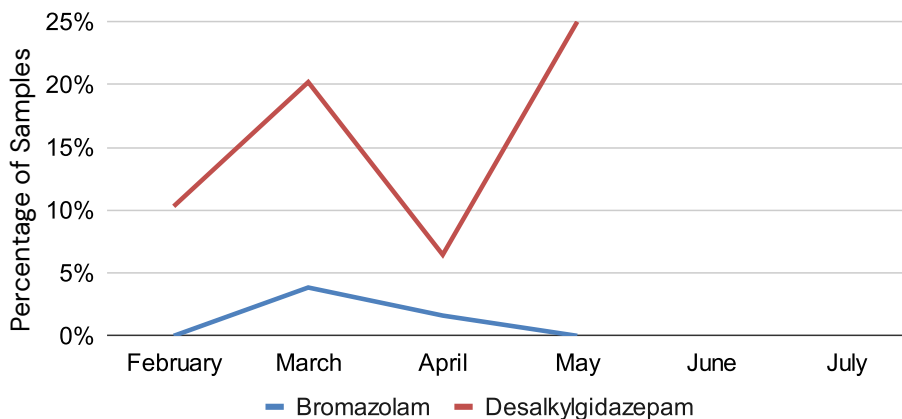
## Percentage of opioids testing positive for benzodiazepines, past 6 months\*



\*CMHA site data only

- Benzodiazepine-positivity of opioid samples (determined by FTIR and/or test strip) has been increasing among samples tested by the CMHA Nanaimo Albert St. OPS site since the beginning of the year.
- We note that no samples were tested in the month of July.

## Benzodiazepines detected in unregulated opioids, past 6 months\*



\*CMHA site data only

- Since the beginning of the year, desalkylgizapam has been the most common benzodiazepine detected by FTIR in unregulated opioids submitted to the CMHA Nanaimo Albert St. OPS site.
- We note no samples were tested in the month of July.

## Non-Opioids

### Components detected in stimulants\*

Components in methamphetamine (N=0)

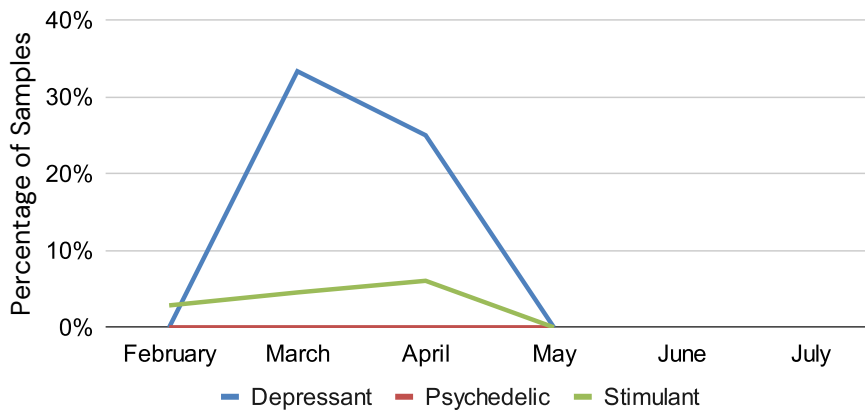
No data collected in July

Components in cocaine (N=0)

No data collected in July

\*CMHA site data only

## Fentanyl detected in non-opioids, past 6 months\*



- No samples were tested by the CMHA Nanaimo Albert St. OPS site in July.

\*CMHA site data only

## PSMS Secondary Testing Results Summary

A subset of samples were sent for secondary testing provided by Substance at the University of Victoria, using Paper-Spray Mass Spectrometry (PSMS). PSMS is a highly sensitive technology, and can detect components in samples below the detection limit of the FTIR (<5%). Below is a summary of all active components detected in opioid samples sent in confirmatory testing. For more information about Substance please visit their [website](#).

### Active components in opioids submitted (N=0)

No data collected in July

## Public Health Notifications

| Date & Location                         | Expected Drug | Spectrometry Results | Fentanyl Strip | Benzo Strip | Alert Message |
|-----------------------------------------|---------------|----------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| No alerts for Island Health this month. |               |                      |                |             |               |

To subscribe to the provincial drug alert and response system, text the word JOIN to 253787 (ALERTS).

### About this data

Data represented in this report is collected from our partner sites across the province using Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometry in combination with BTNX fentanyl test strips and benzodiazepine test strips when applicable. We note the FTIR spectrometer has a detection limit of approximately 5% concentration (McCrae, 2019).

**Depressant includes:**  
benzodiazepines,  
etizolam, GHB, hypnotics

**Opioid includes:**  
"down", heroin, fentanyl  
(unregulated opioids), and  
pharmaceutical opioids

**Polysubstance includes:**  
cross-category mixtures

**Psychedelic includes:**  
MDMA and related, 2C-family,  
tryptamines, ketamine, LSD

**Stimulant includes:**  
methamphetamine,  
"speed," cocaine and  
crack cocaine,  
cathinones

**Unknown includes:**  
samples where the individual  
was unable to identify an  
expected substance - this  
includes found samples.

We gratefully acknowledge the contribution of [our partners](#) to collect this data.

To find drug checking services in your area please visit our [site locator](#).