

October
2019

Drug Checking in British Columbia

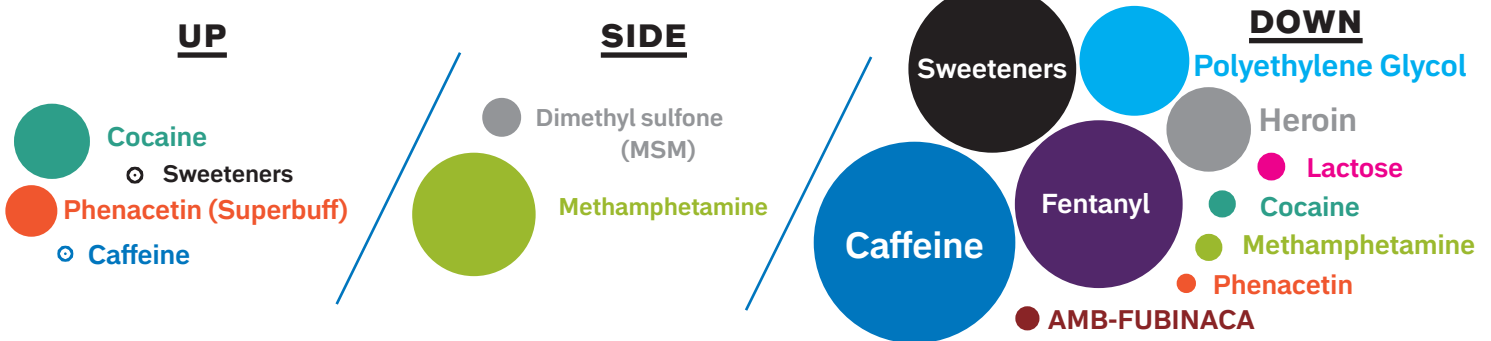
of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

375 Samples Tested

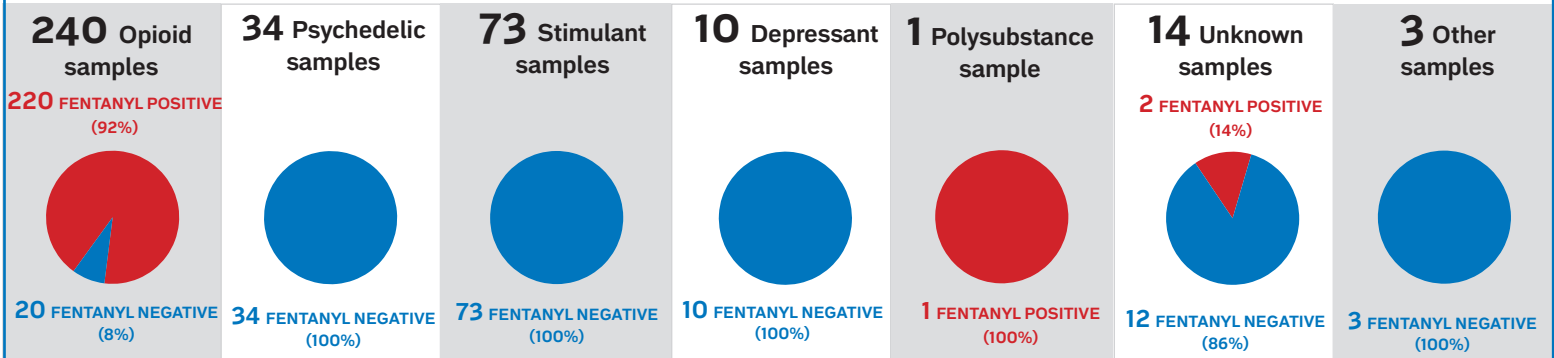
Opioid: 240 / Stimulant: 73 / Psychedelic: 34 / Unknown: 14 / Depressant: 10 / Other: 3 / Polysubstance: 1



Common Components, Cuts and Buffs



of samples tested for fentanyl



Public Health Notifications

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	What does this mean?
3 October 2019- MOPS, Vancouver	Fentanyl	Suspected Etizolam and Carfentanil	Positive	Benzo OD's can recur after Naloxone; Check your drugs at any OPS or SCS
30-October 2019- Safepoint, Surrey	Down	Synthetic cannabinoid (suspected AMB-FUBINACA)	Positive	May cause cannabis-like hallucinations; Use at an OPS/SCS

To receive drug contamination alerts in the VCH region, text "alert" to (236) 999-DOPE (3673)

This report summarizes key indicators for Fourier Transform Infrared (FT-IR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done in British Columbia in October 2019.

As the FT-IR spectrometer has a detection limit of 3-4% by weight (Sherman et al., 2018), unless otherwise stated, a drug check on any given sample consists of **both** Bruker ALPHA Fourier-Transform Infrared (FTIR) spectrometer **and** BTNX fentanyl immunoassay test strip testing done in combination. When applicable, BTNX benzodiazepine or lysergic acid diethylamide (LSD) immunoassay test strips are also used.

Please note that these data are not finalized and are subject to change.

* "Fentanyl not tested" means that a fentanyl test strip 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.

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of Samples Tested by Region:

Total #: 375

233: Vancouver Coastal
Health region (62%)



53: Interior Health region (14%)

89: Fraser Health region (24%)

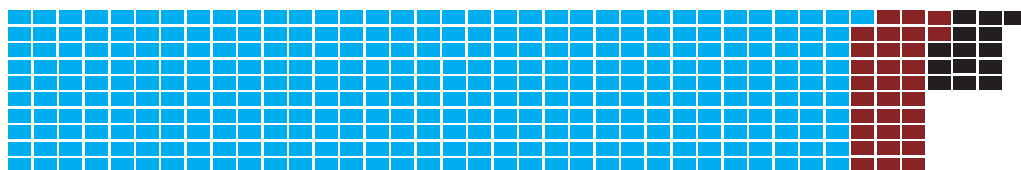
of samples that matched client expectation

**using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Depressant 10 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 3 Did not match: 7</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Psychedelic 34 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 33 Did not match: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Stimulant 73 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 72 Did not match: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Polysubstance 1 Sample Tested</p> <p>Matched: 1</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Unknown 14 Samples Tested</p> <p>Match not determined: 14</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Opioid 240 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 220 Did not match: 20</p>		<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Other 3 Samples Tested</p> <p>Matched: 2 Did not match: 1</p>

Total

375 Samples Tested


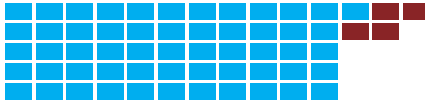






Matched: 331
Did not match: 20
Match not determined: 14

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

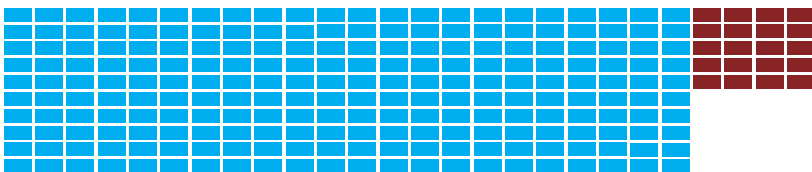
of opioid samples that matched client expectation

**using FTIR/test strip drug checking*

<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl & Heroin 1 Sample Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 1</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Down 60 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 56 Did not match: 4</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl Analogue 5 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 3 Did not match: 2</p>
<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Heroin 21 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 12 Did not match: 9</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Fentanyl 151 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Matched: 148 Did not match: 3</p>	<p>EXPECTED DRUG: Pharmaceutical 2 Samples Tested</p>  <p>Did not match: 2</p>

Total

240 Samples Tested



Matched: 220
Did not match: 20

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

