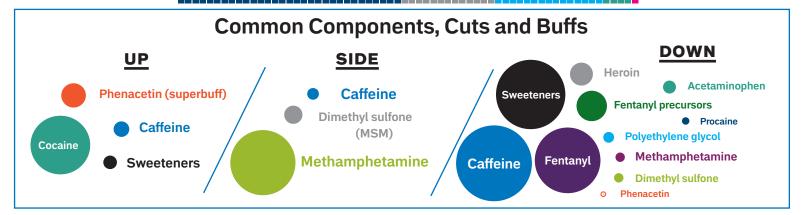
# **Drug Checking in British Columbia**

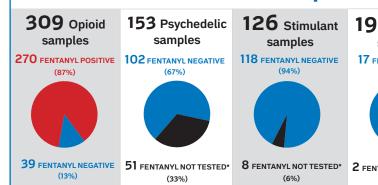
## # of Samples Tested by Expected Drug Category:

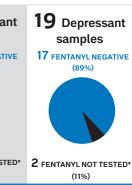
653 Samples Tested \*

Opioid: 309 / Stimulant: 126 / Psychedelic: 153 / Unknown: 37 / Depressant: 19 / Other: 7 / Polysubstance: 2

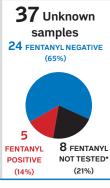


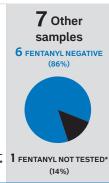
# # of samples tested for fentanyl













## **Public Health Notifications**

Date & Location	Expected Drug	Drugs Detected	Fentanyl Strip	Benzo Strip	What does this mean?
26 February 2020- Insite, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, sugars, Fentanyl or analogue	Positive	Positive	Benzos can cause prolonged ODs
26 February 2020- Insite, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, Mannitol and inositol (sugars), Fentanyl HCl	Positive	Positive	Check for benzos in your drugs at any OPS/SCS
21 February 2020 - OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, Erythritol (sugar)	Positive	Positive	Test your drugs for fentanyl at any local OPS or SCS
14 February 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, Mannitol, Fentanyl or analogue	Positive	Positive	Use at an OPS or SCS
7 February 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Down	Caffeine, Mannitol, Fentanyl or analogue	Positive	Positive	Benzo-complicated ODs can recur after Naloxone
6 February 2020- OPS, Vancouver	Fentanyl	Caffeine, Mannitol, Fentanyl	Positive	Positive	Test your drugs!

### 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 (FTIR)/fentanyl test strip combination drug checking done in British Columbia in February 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.
- \* Please note that reports now include sample data collected at the Get Your Drugs Tested site located in Vancouver and that these data are not finalized and are subject to change.

# **Drug Checking in British Columbia**

# of Samples Tested by Region:

Total #: 653

535: Vancouver Coastal Health region (82%)



**107: Interior Health region (16%)** 

11: Fraser Health region (2%)

## # of samples that matched client expectation

\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking

EXPECTED DRUG:

Depressant

19 Samples Tested



Matched: 10 Did not match: 9

Unknown
37 Samples Tested



Match not determined: 37

Psychedelic

153 Samples Tested



Matched: 136
Did not match: 15
Match not determined: 2

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

Other

7 Samples Tested



Matched: 4
Did not match: 1
Match not determined: 2

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

Stimulant 126 Samples Tested



Matched: 120 Did not match: 6 EXPECTED DRUG:

Polysubstance

2 Samples Tested

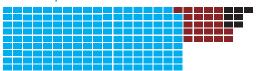


Matched: 2

EXPECTED DRUG:

**Opioid** 

309 Samples Tested



Matched: 279
Did not match: 23
Match not determined: 7

**Total** 

653 Samples Tested



# **Drug Checking in British Columbia**

## # of opioid samples that matched client expectation

\*using FTIR/test strip drug checking

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### Down

117 Samples Tested



Matched: 110 Did not match: 7 **EXPECTED DRUG:** 

#### Heroin

10 Samples Tested



Matched: 9 Did not match: 1 **EXPECTED DRUG:** 

### **Heroin & Fentanyl**

4 Samples Tested



Matched: 4

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

### **Pharmaceutical**

14 Samples Tested



Matched: 5

Did not match: 2 Match not determined: 7

**EXPECTED DRUG:** 

### **Fentanyl**

164 Samples Tested



Matched: 151 Did not match: 13

### **Total**

309 Samples Tested



Matched: 279 Did not match: 23 Match not determined: 7

> 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 Abbotstford Community Hub | ANKORS | ASK Wellness | St. Paul's Overdose Prevention Site | Powell Street Getaway | Three Bridges



























