



# Are fentanyl concentrations changing over time?

## WHAT DID WE DO?

We looked at how fentanyl concentrations change in Vancouver drug checking opioid samples over time and if these same trends were present in the blood of people who died from fentanyl poisoning.

## WHAT WE USED:



## WHAT WE FOUND:



Fentanyl concentrations in opioid samples **increased** from 2020 through 2022



High concentrations of fentanyl were more common in people's blood after 2020

Blood concentrations of fentanyl were unreliable and the average decreased over time



## WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

Rising fentanyl concentrations in opioid samples increases the risk for people who use unregulated opioids. This changing factor is important to remember when considering patterns in drug toxicity.

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