2022 BC Harm Reduction Client Survey

The B.C. Harm Reduction Program administered a survey to its distribution site clients across BC from November 2022 to January 2023 to assess regional differences in drug use and inform harm reduction planning and service quality improvement.

Northern Health

Who took part?



Prince George

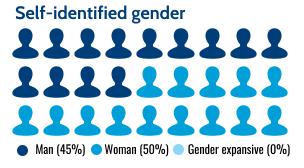


Fort St. John

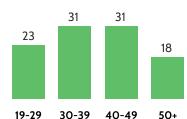






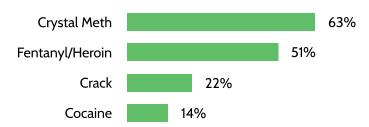


Age distribution



Substance Use Patterns

Reported substance use in the past 3 days



Frequency of use

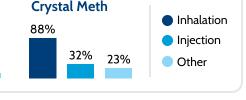


96%

Fentanyl/Heroin

40%

13%



Overdose

experienced an **OPIOID OVERDOSE** in the past six months

> experienced a **STIMULANT OVERDOSE** in the past six months

witnessed an OPIOID OVERDOSE in the **60%** past six months

Method of use in the past 3 days, by substance

Potential harms



Of 84 people that have smoked/inhaled in the past 6 months and used a bowl/straight pipe:

- 31% used a second-hand pipe
- 14% injected instead when they couldn't get new bowl/straight pipes

Participants reported difficulty picking up harm reduction supplies due to:

- site not being open when needed (19%)
- site was too far (16%)

Keeping safe and harm reduction



71% of participants owned a Take Home Naloxone kit, while 50% owned a cell phone and 73% had access to the internet.



In the past 6 months, 33% had used drugs at an overdose prevention site or supervised consumption site.

Participation was limited to people who access harm reduction sites, and results are therefore not representative of all people who use substances in BC. As of 2022, this project is made possible with funding from the Ministry of Mental Health and Addictions



