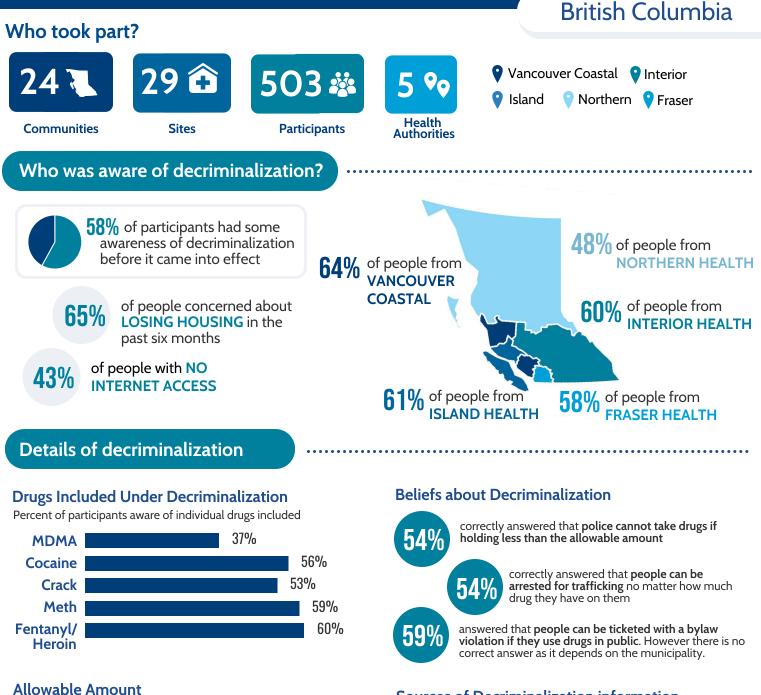
Harm Reduction Client Survey 2022: Knowledge of Decriminalization

The B.C. Harm Reduction Program administered a survey to its distribution site clients across BC from November 2022 to mid-January 2023. We asked participants "Did you know that British Columbia has a new decriminalization policy starting January 31, 2023? Under this policy, it is not a crime to possess small amounts of some illegal drugs for personal use."



4.99 2.59 On average, participants estimated the allowable amount of substances was 4.9g. The actual allowable amount under decriminalization is 2.5g. 44% of respondents estimated correctly

Sources of Decriminalization information



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Top sources of information about decriminalization were from harm reduction sites/community organizations, from friends, and health care providers.

Ongoing education including online and local initiatives are needed to ensure the policy can equitably reduce criminalization.

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

