**Who took part on the Island?**

5 communities 8 sites 98 participants

Campbell River Courtenay Nanaimo Port Alberni Victoria

**Drug use**

More than half of respondents identified INJECTION as the preferred method of drug use, while 40% preferred smoking or inhalation, and 6% preferred snorting.

**Past week self-reported drug use**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Proportion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crystal Meth</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fentanyl</td>
<td>55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crack</td>
<td>32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>26%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Potential harms**

Of 68 people that used pipes from harm reduction sites to smoke drugs:
- 31% used a second-hand pipe
- 16% injected instead when they couldn’t find unused smoking equipment

Of 56 people that injected drugs in the past month:
- 27% had trouble getting unused needles
- 14% had fixed with a needle used by someone else

About half of participants reported using drugs alone some of the time. Reasons for using drugs alone included:
- convenience and comfort;
- not having anyone else around;
- not wanting to share drugs; and,
- not wanting others to know.

**Self-identified gender**

Female Male Trans, gender non-conforming, or other

**Overdose**

18% experienced an OPIOID OVERDOSE in the past six months

19% experienced a STIMULANT OVERDOSE in the past six months

66% witnessed an OPIOID OVERDOSE in the past six months

**Keeping safe and harm reduction**

More than two thirds of participants owned a Take Home Naloxone kit, but less than half owned a cell phone.

Of those that injected drugs, 68% had injected at an Overdose Prevention Services site in the past month.

Of 66 people that had tried to access opioid agonist therapy (OAT) in the past six months, about 1 in 3 reported difficulties including:
- unable to find a prescribing physician
- were not offered preferred OAT
- worry about being stigmatized at clinic
- prescription stopped due to positive urine test