

# Harm Reduction Client Survey 2024

Since 2012, the British Columbia Centre for Disease Control has asked people who use substances about their health and access to harm reduction and healthcare services. Between September - November 2024, we asked participants questions about substance and harm reduction supply use as well as experiences in their communities. All responses are self-reported.

## British Columbia

### Who took part?



Sites

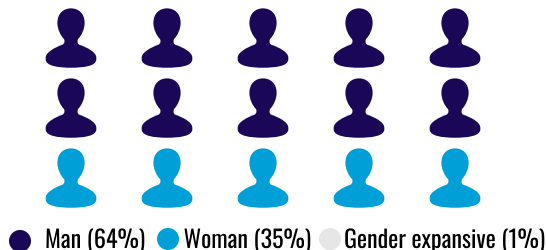
Vancouver Coastal  
Island



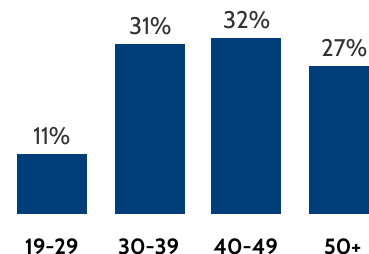
Participants

Interior  
Northern  
Fraser

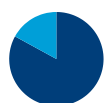
### Gender



### Age distribution



### Substance use patterns



83% of participants reported  
**USING EVERY DAY**

### Overdose

34%

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

15%

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

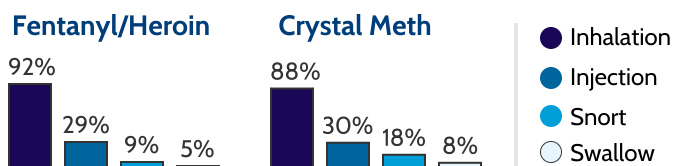
82%

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

### Substances used in the past 3 days



### Method of use in the past 3 days, by substance



### Potential harms



Among the 94% of respondents who inhaled (smoked) substances in the past six months:

- 72% borrowed or shared a used pipe
- 55% borrowed or shared a pipe that was used for opioids/down to use stimulants
- 55% used a cracked or broken pipe
- 31% had an injury because of smoking



- 27% were unable to get smoking supplies when they wanted them (e.g., due to volume limits).

### Harm reduction



76% of respondents owned a Take Home Naloxone kit.



Overdose prevention services and supervised consumption site (OPS/SCS) usage:

- 67% of respondents used substances at OPS/SCS
- 64% of respondents accessed other services there (e.g., picked up supplies, peer support, wound care, and referrals).



60% of respondents were connected to a regular health care provider.

Participation was limited to people who access harm reduction sites and want to participate, and results are not representative of all people who use substances in BC. This survey is made possible with funding from the Ministry of Health.

toward  
THE heart.com  
BCCDC HARM REDUCTION SERVICE



BC Centre for Disease Control