

# 2021 BC Harm Reduction Client Survey

The B.C. Harm Reduction Program administered a survey to harm reduction supply distribution site clients across BC from March 2021 to January 2022 to assess regional differences in drug use and inform harm reduction planning and service quality improvement. Key findings from the survey are presented here. The total number of respondents for each question may differ.

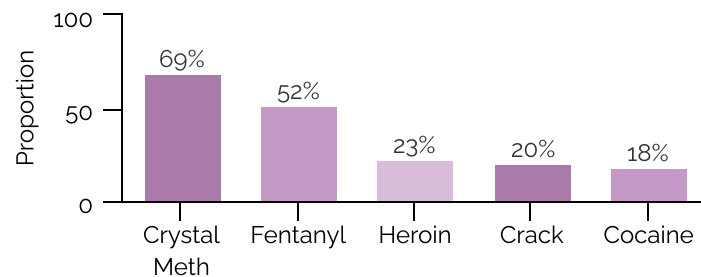
## Who took part in Fraser?



## Drug use

72% of respondents identified **SMOKING** or **INHALATION** as the preferred method of drug use, while 11% preferred injection, and 5% preferred snorting.

### Past 3-days self-reported drug use



## Potential harms



Of 66 people that used glass pipes to smoke drugs in the past 6 months:

- 23% used a **second-hand pipe**
- 5% **injected instead** when they couldn't find unused smoking equipment



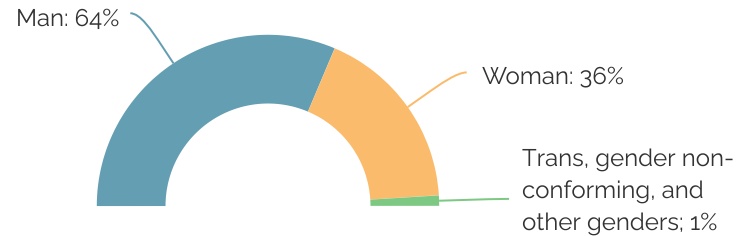
Of 28 people that injected drugs in the past month:

- 14% had **trouble getting unused needles**
- 11% had fixed with a **needle used by someone else**



More than half of participants (53%) reported using drugs alone often or always.

## Self-identified gender



## Overdose

**18%** experienced an **OPIOID OVERDOSE** in the past six months

**8%** experienced a **STIMULANT OVERDOSE** in the past six months

**72%** witnessed an **OPIOID OVERDOSE** in the past six months

## Keeping safe and harm reduction



72% of participants owned a **Take Home Naloxone kit**, but only half (52%) owned a cell phone.



Of those that injected drugs, 25% had used drugs at an **Overdose Prevention Services site** in the past 6 months.



Of 22 people that accessed opioid agonist therapy (OAT) in the past six months, 37% **since discontinued its use**, reporting difficulties that include:

- unable to access pharmacy during working hours
- OAT treatment wasn't effective
- unable to make clinic appointment time
- OAT dose was too low

