

Topic	Changes in usage, possession, and the supply of substances post-decriminalization in British Columbia: Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023
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Authors	Lisa Liu, Mieke Fraser, Katie Fajber, O. Kara Loewen, Christie Wall, Chloé G. Xavier, Jessica Xavier, Brooke Kinniburgh, Dr. Alexis Crabtree

Key messages

- Most respondents get their substances by buying them. A similar proportion of respondents bought substances only for themselves compared with respondents who also bought for others. These results are comparable to results from 2022.
- Almost half of respondents reported travelling 15 minutes or less to get to their dealer.
- The median number of days per month that people used opioids (i.e., ‘down’, heroin, or fentanyl) and methamphetamine was daily; people reported using powder cocaine and crack cocaine less frequently.
- For both single-substance and polysubstance users, the median total amount of substances used in a typical day was no more than 2.5g. However, people with lived and living experience of substance use explained that the amount of substances used in a day depends on mode of consumption, the potency of substances, personal tolerance, and if they use more than one type of substance.
- Over 40% of individuals reported the substances they use have become more toxic/potent since February 2023.
- The results presented here represent the perspectives of respondents in the 2022 and 2023 Harm Reduction Client Surveys. While these results cannot be generalized to the experiences of all people who use substances (PWUS) in BC, they may be generalizable to PWUS who access harm reduction supply distribution sites.

Introduction

The aim of this analysis was to assess the way people access substances and the typical amounts used in day, as well as to examine changes in the unregulated substance supply after the temporary exemption to the Controlled Substances and Substances Act came into effect on January 31, 2023.

More about the HRCS and evaluation of decriminalization

- Health Canada granted the province of BC an exemption to section 56.1 of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* (CDSA) as of January 31, 2023. Specifically, this exemption decriminalized personal possession of up to 2.5 cumulative grams of opioids, methamphetamine, powder cocaine, crack cocaine, and MDMA for adults in BC. This document will refer to this exemption as decriminalization. More information about the exemption is available [here](#) (Government of British Columbia, 2024a). More information about the exemption and the province's monitoring and evaluation activities is available [here](#). Data collection for the 2022 HRCS occurred before implementation of decriminalization and data collection for the 2023 HRCS occurred after the September 8, 2023 amendment came into effect. Please see [this document](#) for a timeline of the HRCS and the decriminalization exemption.
- The 2022 Harm Reduction Client Survey (HRCS) was conducted to gather baseline information about substance purchasing and possession patterns before decriminalization was implemented.
- The 2023 HRCS collected information about substance purchasing and possession patterns in the first year after decriminalization was implemented to monitor the impacts of the policy change.
- For additional reports related to decriminalization from the 2022 and 2023 HRCS, please see the [Harm Reduction Client Survey webpage](#) and [Harm Reduction Reports pages](#).

Study Design and Methods

- The 2023 HRCS includes responses from 433 eligible respondents at 23 harm reduction supply distribution sites in BC. Eligible respondents were 19 years or older and reported use of unregulated substances in the last six months. Survey responses were self-reported, anonymous, cross-sectional, and collected between December 5, 2023 and March 8, 2024 (after implementation of decriminalization). Respondents received a \$20 honorarium for completing the survey. See the Appendix for more information on survey methods.
- Results from the 2022 and 2023 HRCS are presented together when the same question was asked in both surveys. Statistical comparisons between 2022 and 2023 results cannot be done, but general

comparisons can offer insight into the experiences of respondents (see the limitations section for details).

- Interpretation of these results were done in collaboration with the Professionals for the Ethical Engagement of Peers, a consulting and advisory board comprised of People with lived and living experience of substance use (PWLLE), to ensure appropriate contextualization of these results.

Results

- In both 2022 and 2023, the most common ways respondents got substances for personal use were (in descending order): buying substances, having substances given to them, and trading services for substances (Table 1; respondents could select more than one option). In 2023, 35% of respondents reported trading goods for substances, especially for people who did not have a regular place to stay. This response was added as an option in the 2023 survey. In 2023, trading goods for substances and having substances given to them were more common among individuals living in large urban population centres.
- As in 2022, a similar proportions of 2023 respondents bought substances only for themselves (41%) and bought for others (40%) (Table 2).
- Approximately 50% of individuals responding to the question reported travelling 15 minutes or less to get to their dealer, while 26% reported travelling between 15 to 30 minutes and another 26% reported travelling for more than 30 minutes. A lower proportion of respondents who participated at sites in Vancouver Coastal Health reported travelling more than 30 minutes to their dealer (Table 3).
- People who use opioids or methamphetamine used them a median of 28 days per month, or daily. Few respondents reported using less than 28 days a month. Crack and powder cocaine were used less frequently, with a median of eight and four days per month, respectively (Table 4).
- For any substance, people used a median quantity of one gram or less per day, with a minimum amount of 0.5 grams and a maximum amount of seven grams reported (Table 5).
 - For people who reported using only opioids or only meth every day, the median daily quantity was 0.4 grams and 0.5 grams, respectively (Table 6a).
 - For people who reported using multiple substances every day, the median daily quantity used was 2.1 grams (Table 6b, Figure 1). People who used both opioids and methamphetamine daily

made up over 75% of the people who use more than one type of substance daily and reported using a median of 1.7 grams per day (for opioids and methamphetamine combined).

- Only 17% of respondents reported no change in the substances they use since February 2023 (Table 7; respondents could select more than one option). Over 40% of respondents reported that the substances they use have become more toxic or potent since February 2023. While 22% reported that substances were more expensive, 19% reported that the substances they use were less expensive. Similarly, 19% reported that substances were harder to find, while 21% reported that substances have become easier to find. The smallest proportion of individuals reported that substances were available in smaller amounts (15%).

Interpretation

- Analyses of data collected from the HRCS provide some insight into the relationship between some factors that may influence how people access substances and the typical amounts used in day. In reality, there are many factors that influence a person's experience with substance use and it is not possible to consider all factors in our analyses. Because of this, we cannot conclude from our results that one factor directly influences another. More work is needed to describe the relationships between specific factors that may influence a person's substance use and related experiences.
- There continues to be varying patterns and preferences in the way people get their substances.
 - While most people continued to report buying substances as their method of getting substances, fewer respondents purchased their substances in 2023 compared to 2022. Changes in how people got substances in 2023 compared to 2022 may be due to differences in respondent characteristics or the new response option added in 2023 for trading goods for substances.
 - There were no changes in the proportion of respondents who got substances only for themselves between 2022 and 2023.
- The threshold amount for decriminalization of personal possession of some illegal substances is a cumulative 2.5g; most individuals report using less than this amount on a typical day, regardless of the number of substances they use. People who use substances may get enough supply for multiple days, when possible, to take advantage of better pricing, to share with others, or for other convenience-related reasons. People who typically use less than 2.5g may still exceed the personal possession limit under decriminalization, especially if they need to obtain a multi-day supply (McAdam et al., 2023).

- People with lived and living experience have shared that the amount of substance people use in a day depends on mode of consumption, potency of substances, personal tolerance, or if someone uses more than one type of substance.
- While results may vary by geography, market prices dictate both the frequency and amount of substance used. For example, the high price of powder cocaine limits how often people use it, whereas crack cocaine is often much cheaper, and when smoked, can be used in especially large quantities.
- Almost half of the respondents reported that the substances they use have become more toxic or potent since February 2023. Toxic and unexpectedly potent unregulated substances are a leading contributor to the high rates of poisoning and death in BC (Government of British Columbia, 2024b), which can increase the risk of experiencing a substance poisoning or death, or other negative health outcomes. Prescription medications that replace or reduce the use of unregulated substances, such as opioid agonist therapy and prescribed alternatives, can mitigate the effects of the increasingly toxic substance supply, and access to these medications should be enhanced (Government of British Columbia, 2024c).

Limitations

- Respondents in the 2023 HRCS are a convenience sample of clients who visited a participating Harm Reduction supply distribution site in BC. These results are not generalizable to the experience of all people who use harm reduction services or to all PWUS in BC and their diverse experiences of getting and using substances.
- Respondents in the HRCS are anonymous, thus it is not possible to determine if respondents are the same in the 2022 and 2023 survey. This limits the ability to do statistical tests. Comparisons between results from the 2023 and 2022 HRCS presented in this knowledge update should be interpreted with caution.
- Although results from the HRCS provide some insights into the experiences of PWUS during the first year of decriminalization, these results must be interpreted alongside other quantitative and qualitative sources of information to evaluate the impacts of decriminalization. These results reflect the perspectives of people who accessed harm reduction sites at the time of data collection, but not all PWUS visit harm reduction supply distribution sites. This report summarizes experiences of people who access harm reduction sites, as part of the broader evaluation of decriminalization. Some questions asked in the 2022 survey were modified for the 2023 survey so responses may not be directly comparable.

- Survey responses are self-reported, and the accuracy of responses cannot be assessed. Many sites had someone available to support people to complete the survey; however, the presence of a support person may have affected how respondents answered. BCCDC continues to look for new ways to support people completing the survey and help them provide honest responses that can be used to improve services and supports for people who use harm reduction services.
- Consistent with BCCDC policies to reduce the risk of respondents being identified, subgroup results are only presented when there are at least 20 respondents.
- A large proportion of individuals did not respond to the question “How long does it take to get to your dealer?”. Therefore, these results may be either underestimated or overestimated and caution is required interpreting these results.

Supporting Information

Acknowledgements

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Document citation

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Tables and Figures

Table 1. Usual way of getting substances (excluding tobacco, cannabis, and alcohol) among respondents who got substances in the last 30 days. Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

	I got substances in the last 30 days *	I bought them	I traded services for them	I traded goods for them	People gave them to me
Total	N = 411	N = 326 (79%)	N = 71 (17%)	N = 145 (35%)	N = 178 (43%)
Health Authority (survey site)	411				
Interior	66	54 (82%)	11 (17%)	19 (29%)	26 (39%)
Fraser	85	63 (74%)	17 (20%)	35 (41%)	38 (45%)
Vancouver Coastal	70	62 (89%)	10 (14%)	25 (36%)	32 (46%)
Island	86	70 (81%)	19 (22%)	35 (41%)	44 (51%)
Northern	104	77 (74%)	14 (13%)	31 (30%)	38 (37%)
Community size (2021 census population centre)	411				
Small population centre (1,000 to 29,999)	175	139 (79%)	26 (15%)	52 (30%)	69 (39%)
Medium population centre (30,000 to 99,999)	53	37 (70%)	10 (19%)	13 (25%)	15 (28%)
Large urban population centre (100,000 or more)	183	150 (82%)	35 (19%)	80 (44%)	94 (51%)
Type of current residence	379				
Private or band owned residence	75	63 (84%)	10 (13%)	13 (17%)	28 (37%)
Another residence (e.g., hotel/motel, SRO, supportive housing)	105	89 (85%)	15 (14%)	38 (36%)	49 (47%)
Shelter	76	60 (79%)	12 (16%)	27 (36%)	36 (47%)
No regular place to stay (homeless, tent, couch-surf)	123	92 (75%)	27 (22%)	58 (47%)	52 (42%)
Age group	400				
19 to 29	29	20 (69%)	5 (17%)	12 (41%)	14 (48%)
30 to 39	125	92 (74%)	22 (18%)	50 (40%)	53 (42%)
40 to 49	127	108 (85%)	25 (20%)	45 (35%)	57 (45%)
50 or older	119	99 (83%)	18 (15%)	36 (30%)	47 (39%)

	I got substances in the last 30 days *	I bought them	I traded services for them	I traded goods for them	People gave them to me
Gender	404				
Man	257	197 (77%)	38 (15%)	90 (35%)	101 (39%)
Woman	134	114 (85%)	28 (21%)	44 (33%)	67 (50%)
Sexual orientation	406				
Heterosexual or straight	324	262 (81%)	50 (15%)	115 (35%)	136 (42%)
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual/Pansexual, Queer, Asexual, Unsure/questioning	62	47 (76%)	20 (32%)	27 (44%)	34 (55%)

* The analytic sample excluded respondents who selected "does not apply I did not get substances in the last 30 days" (N=411).

Table 2. In the past month, who did you usually buy substances for? Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

	I got substances in the last 30 days*	Only myself	Myself and someone else
Total	N = 410	N = 168 (41%)	N = 164 (40%)
Health Authority (survey site)	410		
Interior	66	33 (50%)	18 (27%)
Fraser	84	32 (38%)	33 (39%)
Vancouver Coastal	73	23 (32%)	41 (56%)
Island	85	38 (45%)	32 (38%)
Northern	102	42 (41%)	40 (39%)
Community size (2021 Census Population Centre)	410		
Small population centre (1,000 to 29,999)	175	69 (39%)	75 (43%)
Medium population centre (30,000 to 99,999)	53	25 (47%)	11 (21%)
Large urban population centre (100,000 or more)	182	74 (41%)	78 (43%)
Type of current residence	377		
Private or band owned residence	73	34 (47%)	25 (34%)
Another residence (e.g., hotel/motel, SRO, supportive housing)	105	42 (40%)	51 (49%)
Shelter	77	31 (40%)	32 (42%)
No regular place to stay (homeless, tent, couch-surf)	122	50 (41%)	46 (38%)
Age group	399		
19 to 29	29	14 (48%)	8 (28%)
30 to 39	122	39 (32%)	50 (41%)
40 to 49	130	53 (41%)	57 (44%)
50 or older	118	55 (47%)	47 (40%)

	I got substances in the last 30 days*	Only myself	Myself and someone else
Gender	403		
Man	253	114 (45%)	94 (37%)
Woman	135	47 (35%)	60 (44%)
Sexual orientation	385		
Heterosexual or straight	321	139 (43%)	128 (40%)
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual/Pansexual, Queer, Asexual, Unsure/questioning	64	19 (30%)	26 (41%)
* The analytic sample excluded respondents who selected "does not apply I did not get substances in the last 30 days" (N=410).			

Table 3. Time it takes to get to your dealer. Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

	Eligible Respondents*	15 minutes or less	Between 15 to 30 min (inclusive)	More than 30 minutes
Total	N = 270	N = 130 (48%)	N = 69 (26%)	N = 71 (26%)
Health Authority (survey site)	270			
Interior	38	17 (45%)	11 (29%)	10 (26%)
Fraser	59	23 (39%)	18 (31%)	18 (31%)
Vancouver Coastal	52	30 (58%)	15 (29%)	7 (13%)
Island	52	25 (48%)	7 (13%)	20 (38%)
Northern	69	35 (51%)	18 (26%)	16 (23%)
Community size (2021 Census Population Centre)	270			
Small population centre (1,000 to 29,999)	116	57 (49%)	30 (26%)	29 (25%)
Medium population centre (30,000 to 99,999)	26	9 (35%)	9 (35%)	8 (31%)
Large urban population centre (100,000 or more)	128	64 (50%)	30 (23%)	34 (27%)
Type of current residence	255			
Private or band owned residence	50	19 (38%)	11 (22%)	20 (40%)
Another residence (e.g., hotel/motel, SRO, supportive housing)	80	47 (59%)	15 (19%)	18 (23%)
Shelter	49	17 (35%)	18 (37%)	14 (29%)
No regular place to stay (homeless, tent, couch-surf)	76	41 (54%)	19 (25%)	16 (21%)
Age group	265			
19 to 29	20	8 (40%)	5 (25%)	7 (35%)
30 to 39	73	30 (41%)	20 (27%)	23 (32%)
40 to 49	87	49 (56%)	21 (24%)	17 (20%)
50 or older	85	42 (49%)	22 (26%)	21 (25%)

	Eligible Respondents*	15 minutes or less	Between 15 to 30 min (inclusive)	More than 30 minutes
Gender	265			
Man	166	87 (52%)	39 (23%)	40 (24%)
Woman	90	40 (44%)	26 (29%)	24 (27%)
Sexual orientation	256			
Heterosexual or straight	215	104 (48%)	56 (26%)	55 (26%)
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual/Pansexual, Queer, Asexual, Unsure/questioning	41	19 (46%)	9 (22%)	13 (32%)
* The analytic sample for this question was restricted to respondents who provided an answer to this question (n=270). More than one-third of all survey respondents did not answer this question. If a range was given, the upper limit was used.				

Table 4. Frequency of using substances in a typical month (28 days), by type of substance. Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

	Number who responded	Days per month Median (min, max)
Opioids (heroin, fentanyl/down)	276	28 (1, 28)
Methamphetamine	271	28 (1, 28)
Crack cocaine	152	8 (1, 28)
Powder cocaine	95	4 (1, 28)

Table 5. Amount of substance used on a typical day, by type of substance. Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

	Number who responded	Grams per day Median (min, max)
Opioids (heroin, fentanyl/down)	275	0.5 (0.005, 7)
Methamphetamine	199	0.5 (0.02, 7)
Crack cocaine	98	1 (0.05, 7)
Powder cocaine	59	0.5 (0.05, 6)

Table 6a. Amount of substance used for daily opioid and meth only users. Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

	Number who responded	Grams per day Median (min, max)
Opioids	28	0.4 (0.005, 4)
Methamphetamine	12	0.5 (0.1, 3.2)

Table 6b. Amount of substance used for daily polysubstance substance users. Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

	Number who responded	Grams per day Median (min, max)
More than one type of substance daily	108	2.1 (0.2, 9.5)
Daily opioid and daily meth*	82	1.7 (0.2, 8)

*Respondents used both opioids and methamphetamine daily; respondents may use other substances less regularly.

Figure 1. Cumulative daily amount (in grams) of decriminalized substances used by daily polysubstance users (n=108). Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

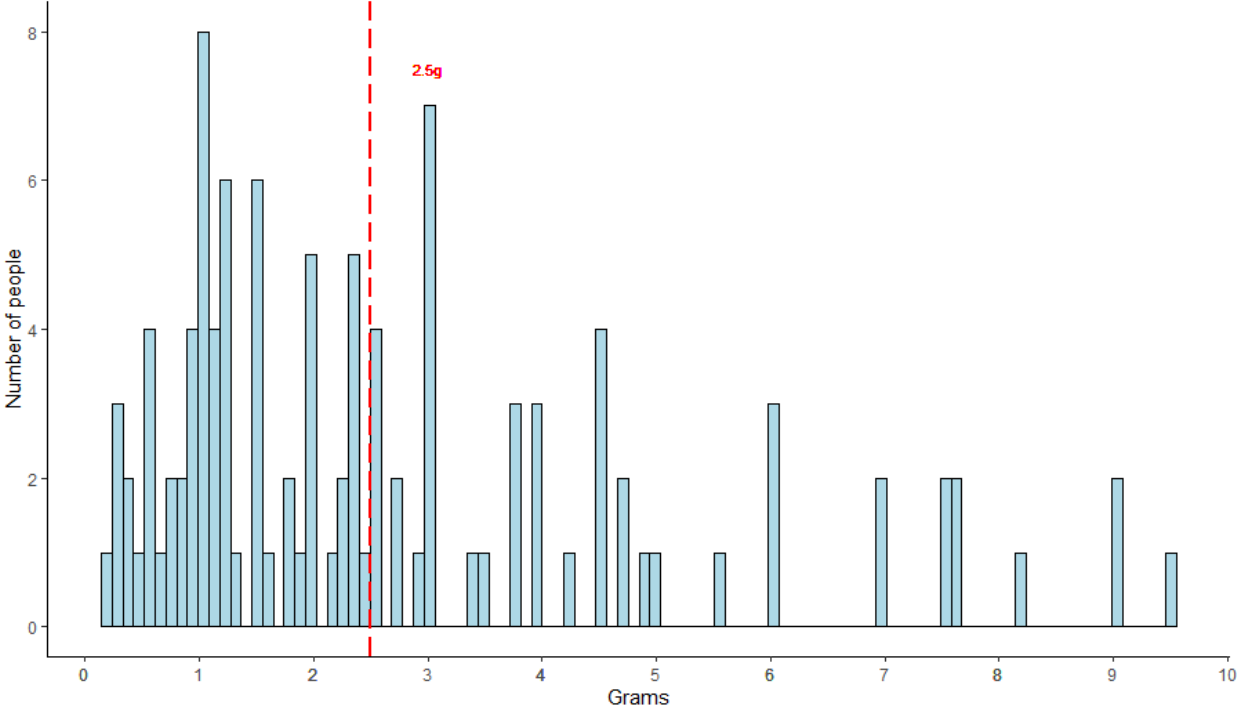


Table 7. How have the substances you use changed since February 2023? Harm Reduction Client Survey 2023.

	Respondents*	Does not apply, there has been no change	Harder to find	Easier to find	More expensive	Less expensive	More toxic or potent	Available in smaller amounts
Total	N = 433	N = 73 (17%)	N = 80 (19%)	N = 89 (21%)	N = 97 (22%)	N = 80 (19%)	N = 176 (41%)	N = 63 (15%)
Health Authority (survey site)	433							
Interior	69	17 (25%)	10 (14%)	8 (12%)	15 (22%)	10 (14%)	24 (35%)	9 (13%)
Fraser	89	9 (10%)	16 (18%)	27 (30%)	17 (19%)	23 (26%)	44 (49%)	12 (13%)
Vancouver Coastal	77	9 (12%)	14 (18%)	18 (23%)	16 (21%)	19 (25%)	36 (47%)	10 (13%)
Island	89	19 (21%)	17 (19%)	13 (15%)	18 (20%)	12 (13%)	35 (39%)	14 (16%)
Northern	109	19 (17%)	23 (21%)	23 (21%)	31 (28%)	16 (15%)	37 (34%)	18 (17%)
Community size (2021 census population centre)	433							
Small population centre (1,000 to 29,999)	186	37 (20%)	38 (20%)	28 (15%)	44 (24%)	31 (17%)	67 (36%)	29 (16%)
Medium population centre (30,000 to 99,999)	55	7 (13%)	8 (15%)	12 (22%)	16 (29%)	6 (11%)	17 (31%)	4 (7%)
Large urban population centre (100,000 or more)	192	29 (15%)	34 (18%)	49 (26%)	37 (19%)	43 (22%)	92 (48%)	30 (16%)
Type of current residence	398							
Private or band owned residence	84	20 (24%)	13 (15%)	17 (20%)	22 (26%)	10 (12%)	32 (38%)	5 (6%)
Another residence (e.g., hotel/motel, SRO, supportive housing)	108	15 (14%)	19 (18%)	23 (21%)	25 (23%)	23 (21%)	46 (43%)	23 (21%)
Shelter	79	18 (23%)	18 (23%)	18 (23%)	15 (19%)	14 (18%)	34 (43%)	12 (15%)
No regular place to stay (homeless, tent, couch-surf)	127	15 (12%)	23 (18%)	26 (20%)	29 (23%)	28 (22%)	57 (45%)	18 (14%)

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	Respondents*	Does not apply, there has been no change	Harder to find	Easier to find	More expensive	Less expensive	More toxic or potent	Available in smaller amounts
Age group	419							
19 to 29	33	6 (18%)	3 (9%)	8 (24%)	8 (24%)	6 (18%)	14 (42%)	1 (3%)
30 to 39	130	18 (14%)	28 (22%)	19 (15%)	32 (25%)	22 (17%)	48 (37%)	18 (14%)
40 to 49	134	22 (16%)	22 (16%)	39 (29%)	30 (22%)	30 (22%)	60 (45%)	25 (19%)
50 or older	122	25 (20%)	25 (20%)	20 (16%)	24 (20%)	21 (17%)	49 (40%)	18 (15%)
Gender	425							
Man	267	52 (19%)	39 (15%)	58 (22%)	51 (19%)	48 (18%)	104 (39%)	34 (13%)
Woman	142	19 (13%)	34 (24%)	28 (20%)	40 (28%)	27 (19%)	63 (44%)	23 (16%)
Sexual orientation	406							
Heterosexual or straight	337	64 (19%)	58 (17%)	73 (22%)	77 (23%)	59 (18%)	137 (41%)	44 (13%)
Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual/Pansexual, Queer, Asexual, Unsure/questioning	69	8 (12%)	19 (28%)	11 (16%)	16 (23%)	16 (23%)	27 (39%)	12 (17%)
*All survey respondents were included in the denominator (n-433).								

Appendix I - Methods

Additional details about the methods used for completing and analysing 2023 Harm Reduction Site Client Survey data:

- The 2023 HRCS included questions on substance use, barriers to accessing prescribed alternatives to the toxic supply, BC's decriminalization policy, experiences with overdose, and interactions with law enforcement. Questions about social and demographic characteristics of respondents were also included.
- Harm reduction supply distribution sites across BC were invited to participate based on geographical representation, site capacity, and interest of the site and its clients. Quantitative surveys were distributed at 23 harm reduction distribution sites in small, medium, and large population centres across the five regional health authorities (Interior: 4 sites, Fraser: 4 sites, Vancouver Coastal: 5 sites, Island: 4 sites, Northern: 6 sites). Each participating site completed between 10 and 30 surveys.
- People are eligible to participate in the survey if they:
 - Are 19 years of age or older and
 - Used a drug that is illegal or from the unregulated market (for example: opioids/down, heroin, fentanyl, powder cocaine, crack cocaine, methamphetamine, hallucinogens, etc.) in the previous six months.
- BCCDC received 447 completed surveys. We excluded fourteen ineligible surveys, resulting in a total of 433 eligible surveys.
- The HRCS is a paper survey, and BCCDC shares additional information with sites to help people understand and respond to questions. BCCDC recommends that site staff assist respondents to complete the survey, but this was not possible in all locations.
- Respondents received a \$20 cash honorarium for their time to do the survey. Sites were provided with \$5 per participant to cover any small costs for administering the survey (e.g., snacks, pens).
- The 2022 HRCS was implemented following similar methods. The 2022 survey followed the same inclusion criteria of 2023. Respondents in the 2022 survey could also participate if they took opioid agonist treatment or prescribed alternatives in the previous six months. The 2022 survey was distributed at 29 harm reduction sites across BC between November 2022 and January 2023; 503 eligible surveys were completed. Sites were selected from across British Columbia (Interior: 7 sites, Fraser: 6 sites, Vancouver Coastal: 4 sites, Island: 6 sites, Northern: 6 sites). Respondents received a stipend of \$15 to participate in the survey.

- For more HRCS reports and outputs see the [Harm Reduction Client Survey webpage](#) and [Harm Reduction Reports pages](#).

Appendix II - Supplementary methodological notes for converting reported quantity and frequency of use to grams

- Monthly frequency of using substances was calculated as the number of days per week multiplied by four. If a range was provided, the maximum value was used to calculate monthly frequency (e.g., a response of two to four times per month was analyzed as four times per month). The maximum number of days of use per month was 28.
- Quantity expressed in points or ounces was converted to grams as follows: 1 point = 0.1 gram; 1 ounce = 28.35 grams. If a range was provided, the maximum value was used.
- Quantity expressed in dollars was converted to grams by gathering data from sites and people with lived and living experience regarding the average price of substances in a particular community/site (Appendix Table 1). If a range was provided, the minimum value was used. When a site did not have an average available, consensus was not reached, or there was no closest community to use, the default conversions used were:
 - \$20 for 0.1 gram of opioids (fentanyl or down)
 - \$10 for 0.1 gram of crack cocaine, powder cocaine, or methamphetamine
- We reviewed the data in this section with PEEP, BCCDC's advisory group of people with lived and living experience of substance use, to identify responses that were unlikely to reflect quantities of substances that could be consumed by one person in a single day. Based on this input, responses in excess of the following quantities were excluded from all analyses:
 - Opioids: >7 grams per day
 - Methamphetamine: >7 grams per day
 - Crack cocaine: >12 grams per day
 - Powder cocaine: >10 grams per day

- These exclusions were applied before multi-substance quantities were calculated
- Even with these peer-informed adjustments, PEEP members highlighted that the responses provided on this survey may be biased. It is not possible to know whether respondents over- or underestimated the frequency and quantity of substances they use. These results should be interpreted as estimates and should be triangulated with additional data sources such as qualitative interviews with PWUS.

Appendix Table 1. Estimated prices of substances by community at the time of the 2023 HRCS. Prices are given in dollars per gram, unless otherwise indicated.

Community Name	Opioids	Cocaine	Crack	Meth
Abbotsford	150	100	80	25
Campbell River	280	80	100	51
Coquitlam	200	80	100	100
Cranbrook	200	100	100	20
Kamloops	100	80	80	50
Langley	157	87	87	75
Merritt	65	80	80	40
Nanaimo	200	100	100	100
Nelson	200	100	100	20
Pemberton	200	120	300	50
Powell River	200	100	100	100
Prince George	200	100	100	100
Prince Rupert	91.42	160	137.14	114.28
Quesnel	160	100	100	62.5

Community Name	Opioids	Cocaine	Crack	Meth
Sechelt	200	120	300	50
Smithers	200	120	120	100
Surrey	120	80	80	100
Terrace	91.42	160	137.14	114.28
Vancouver	110	90	90	70
Victoria	140	100	125	92.5
Castlegar (Nelson) *	200	100	100	20
Mission (Abbotsford)*	150	100	80	25
Saanich (Victoria) *	140	100	125	92.5
Sidney (Victoria) *	140	100	125	92.5
Trail (Nelson) *	200	100	100	20

*The city in parentheses represents the closest city location with dollar conversion values available that was used.