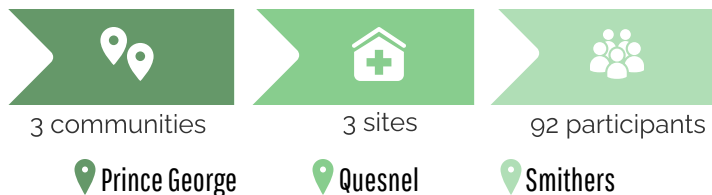


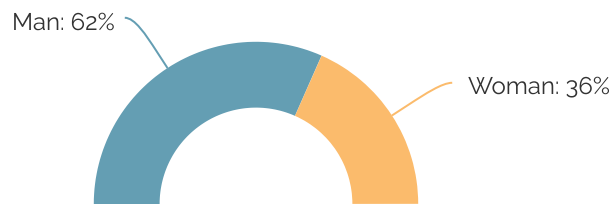
# 2021 BC Harm Reduction Client Survey

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 Northern?



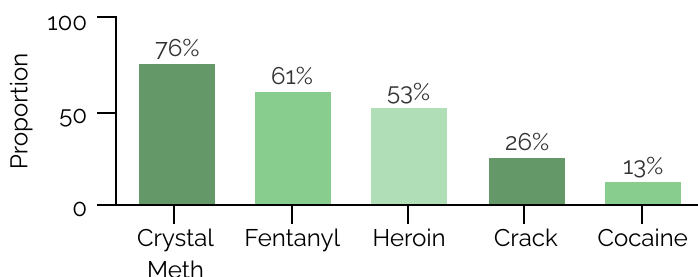
## Self-identified gender



## Drug use

About two thirds of respondents (66%) identified **SMOKING** or **INHALATION** as the preferred method of drug use, while 13% preferred injection, and 1% preferred snorting.

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



## Overdose

**29%** experienced an **OPIOID OVERDOSE** in the past six months

**7%** experienced a **STIMULANT OVERDOSE** in the past six months

**64%** witnessed an **OPIOID OVERDOSE** in the past six months

## Potential harms



Of 70 people that used glass pipes to smoke drugs in the past 6 months:

- 29% used a **second-hand pipe**
- 1% **injected** instead when they couldn't find unused smoking equipment



Of 42 people that injected drugs in the past 6 months:

- 10% had **trouble getting unused needles**
- 5% had **fixed with a needle used by someone else**



Half of participants (50%) reported using drugs alone often or always.

## Keeping safe and harm reduction



75% of participants owned a **Take Home Naloxone kit**, but only 45% owned a **cell phone**.



Of those that injected drugs, 29% had used drugs at an **Overdose Prevention Services site** in the past 6 months.



Of 38 people that had tried to access opioid agonist therapy (OAT) in the past six months, 63% 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
- had no pharmacies nearby

