

Unregulated Drug Deaths- Summary

2024 Summary

- There were 187 and 183 suspected unregulated drug deaths in August and September 2024, respectively. Note: Data are preliminary and subject to change as investigations are concluded.
- The number of unregulated drug deaths in August and September 2024 equates to about 6.0 and 6.1 deaths per day, respectively.
- The cumulative number of unregulated drug deaths in 2024 is 1749. This represents a 8% decrease from the number of deaths during the first nine months of 2023 (1896). Currently, the annualized rate of death in 2024 (41 per 100,000 persons) is less than the annual rates in any of the previous three years (2021-2023).
- In 2024, 70% of those dying were aged 30 to 59, and 74% were male. Please visit this [link](#) to view a report on youth drug toxicity deaths.
- The rate of female deaths have increased year over year. In 2024, the rate of death among females (21 deaths per 100,000 population) is 60% higher than the rate from 2020 (13 per 100,000). Female death rates are highest in Northern (51 per 100,000) and Island (30 per 100,000) Health Authority.
- By Health Authority, in 2024, the highest number of unregulated drug deaths were in Fraser and Vancouver Coastal Health Authorities (466 and 447 deaths, respectively), making up 52% of all such deaths during 2024. The highest rates were in Northern Health (70 deaths per 100,000 individuals) and Island Health (53 per 100,000). Overall, the rate in BC is 41 deaths per 100,000 individual in 2024.
- By Health Service Delivery Area (HSDA), in 2024, the highest rates were in Northern Interior, North Vancouver Island, Vancouver, Central Vancouver Island, and Thompson Cariboo Shuswap.
- By Local Health Area, in 2024, the highest rates were in Vancouver - Centre North, Terrace, Greater Campbell River, Prince George, and Grand Forks.
- In 2024, 81% of unregulated drug deaths occurred inside (48% in private residences and 32% in other inside residences including social and supportive housing, SROs, shelters, and hotels and other indoor locations) and 19% occurred outside in vehicles, sidewalks, streets, parks, etc.
- Smoking was the most common mode of consumption in 2024 with 68% showing evidence of smoking followed by nasal insufflation (14%), injection (12%), and oral (5%).
- In 2023-24, fentanyl was detected in 82%, cocaine in 49%, methamphetamine in 44%, bromazolam in 36%, and hydromorphone in 3% of unregulated drug deaths that have undergone expedited toxicology testing.

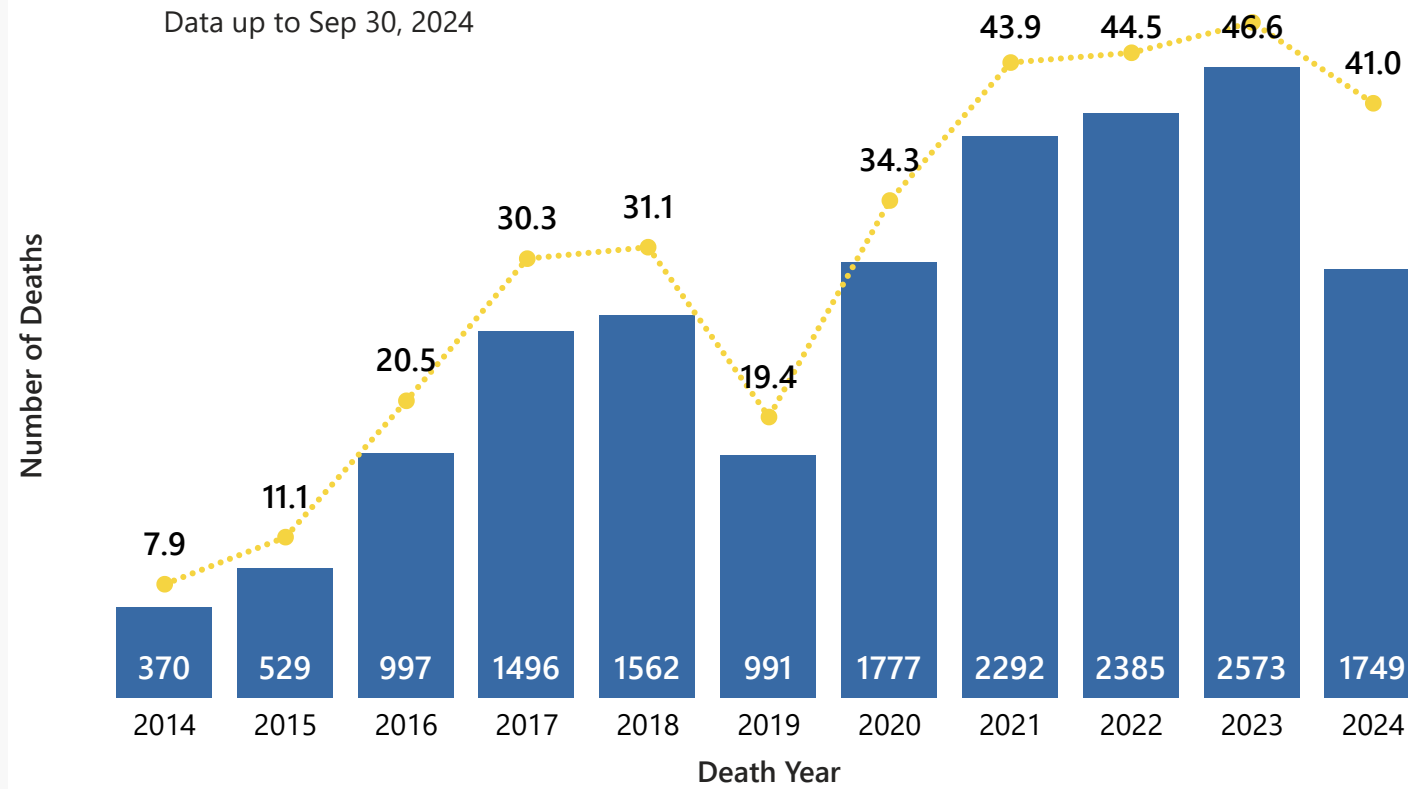
Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

Unregulated Drug Deaths - BC

Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

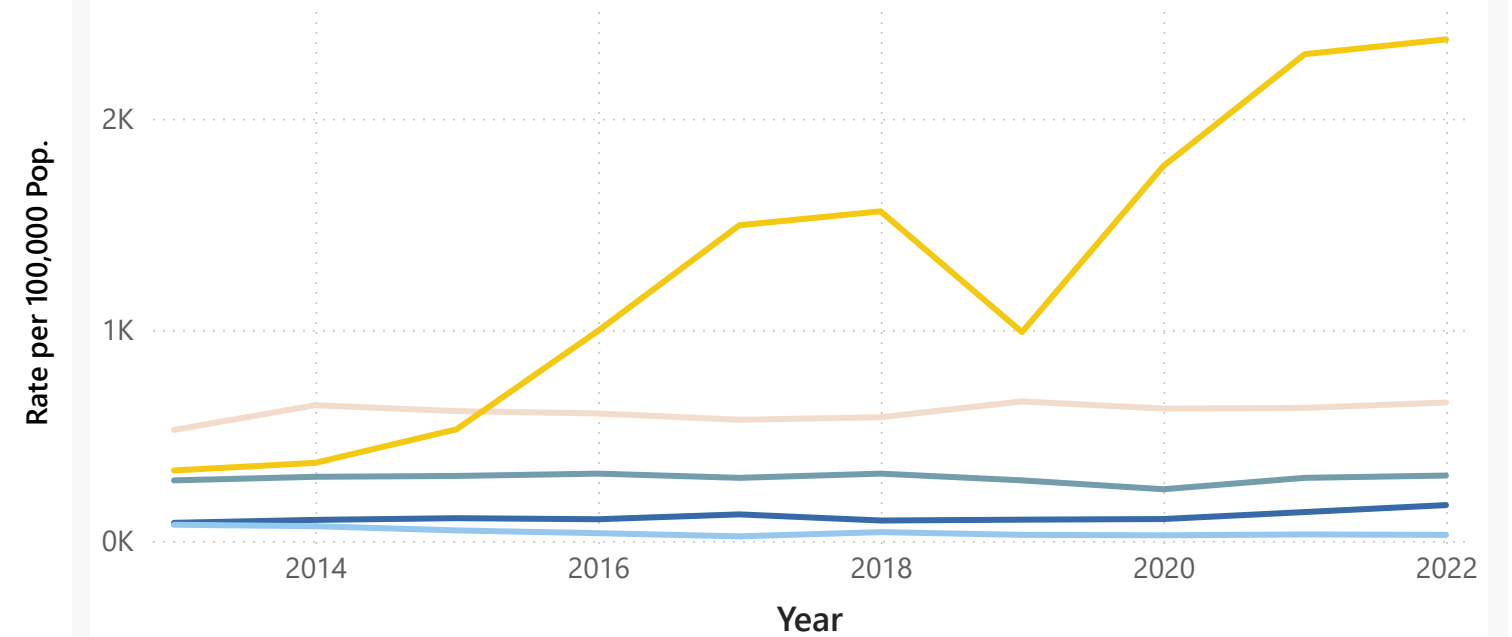
Unregulated Drug Deaths and Death Rate per 100,000 Population, 2014-2024

Data up to Sep 30, 2024



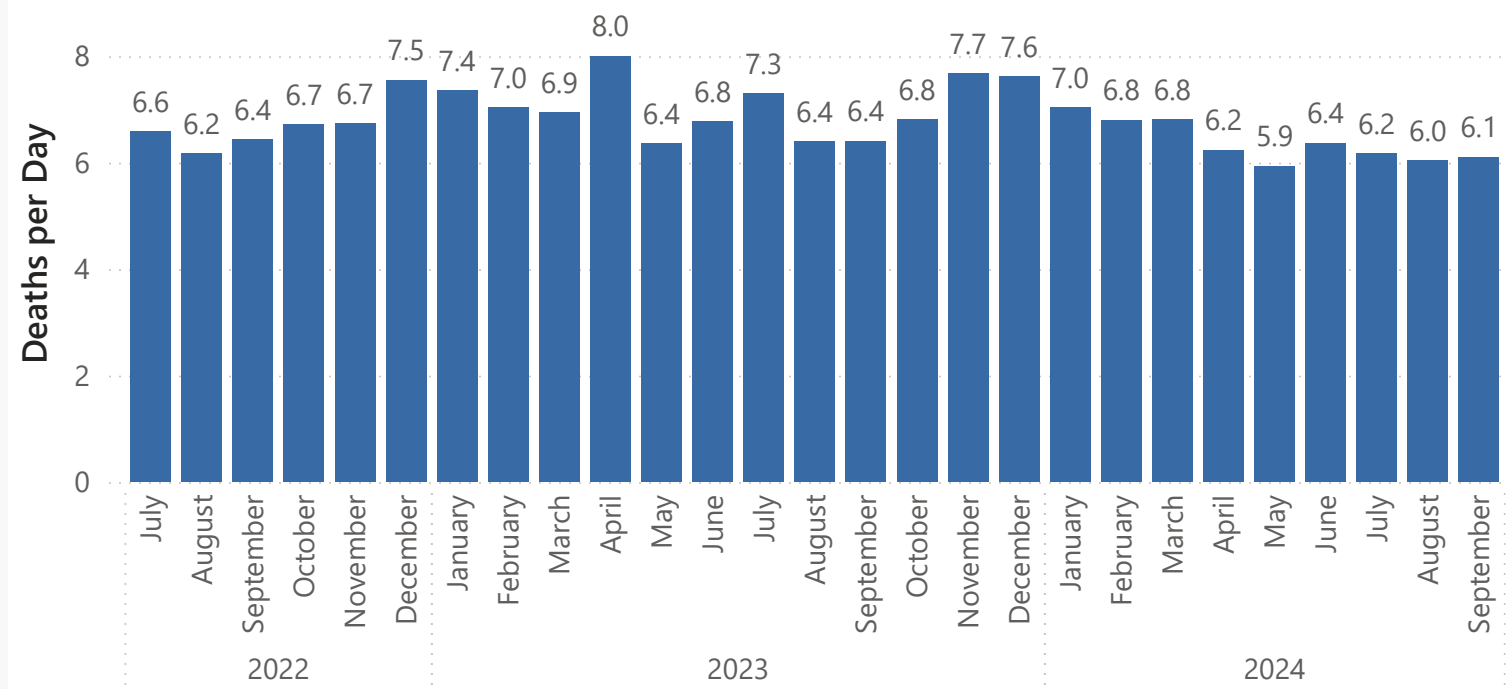
Causes of Unnatural Deaths in BC

Type of Death ● Homicide ● MVI ● Prescription drug ● Suicide ● Unregulated drug



Note: Numbers are preliminary and subject to change as investigations are completed.

Unregulated Drug Deaths per Day by Month



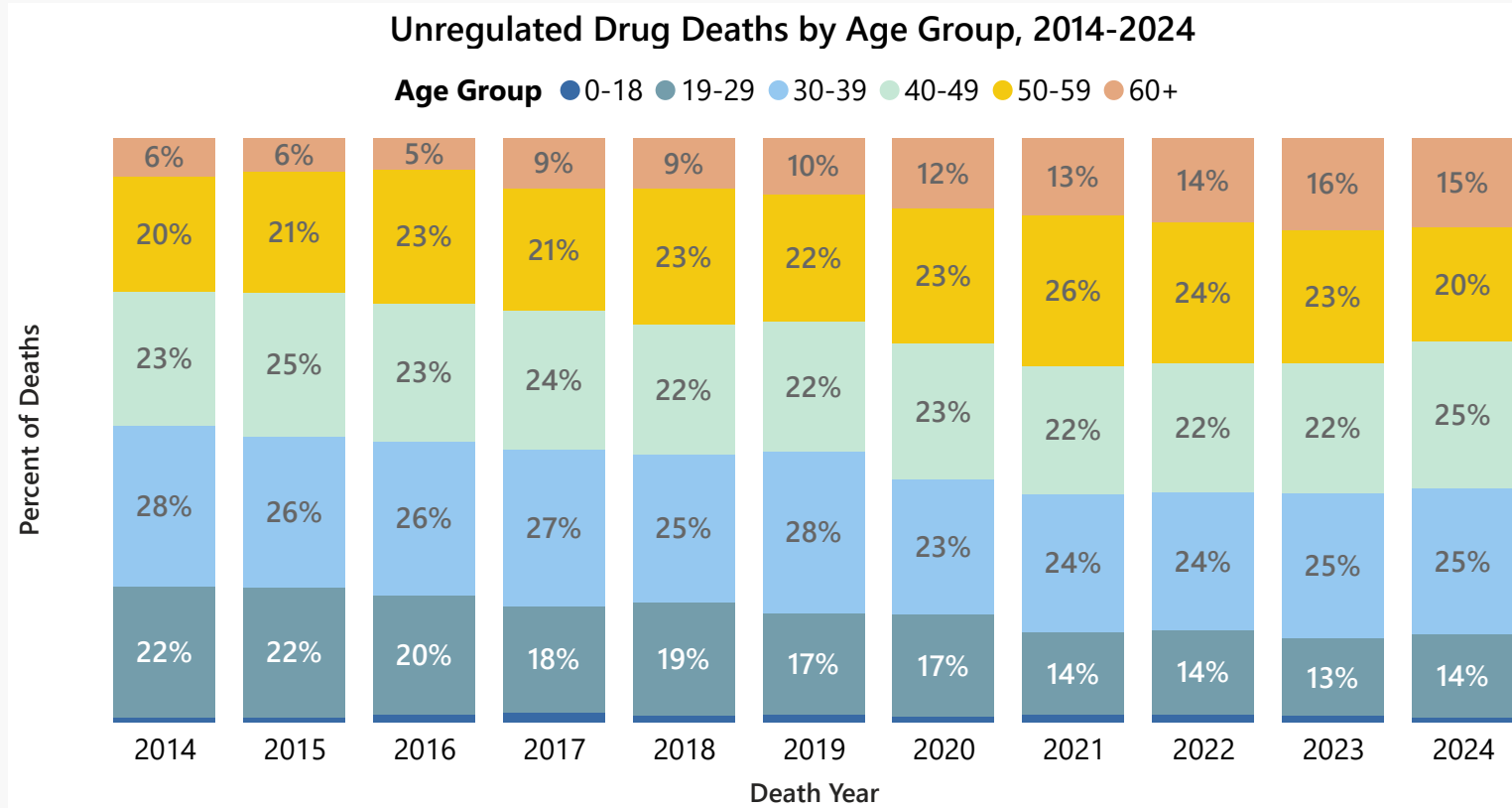
Unregulated Drug Deaths by Month, 2014-2024

Month	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
January	23	43	86	148	134	94	79	188	217	228	218
February	38	31	58	125	108	86	79	175	204	197	197
March	28	32	76	130	158	120	120	173	185	215	211
April	29	34	73	155	137	83	130	188	176	240	187
May	40	41	51	149	118	93	177	174	215	197	184
June	29	34	72	130	116	75	189	178	156	203	191
July	26	40	74	122	150	72	187	197	204	226	191
August	37	53	65	127	126	83	163	202	191	198	187
September	32	50	63	97	138	63	143	161	193	192	183
October	35	53	77	98	119	79	174	212	208	211	
November	28	52	140	111	131	81	169	215	202	230	
December	25	66	162	104	127	62	167	229	234	236	
Total	370	529	997	1496	1562	991	1777	2292	2385	2573	1749

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Age Group

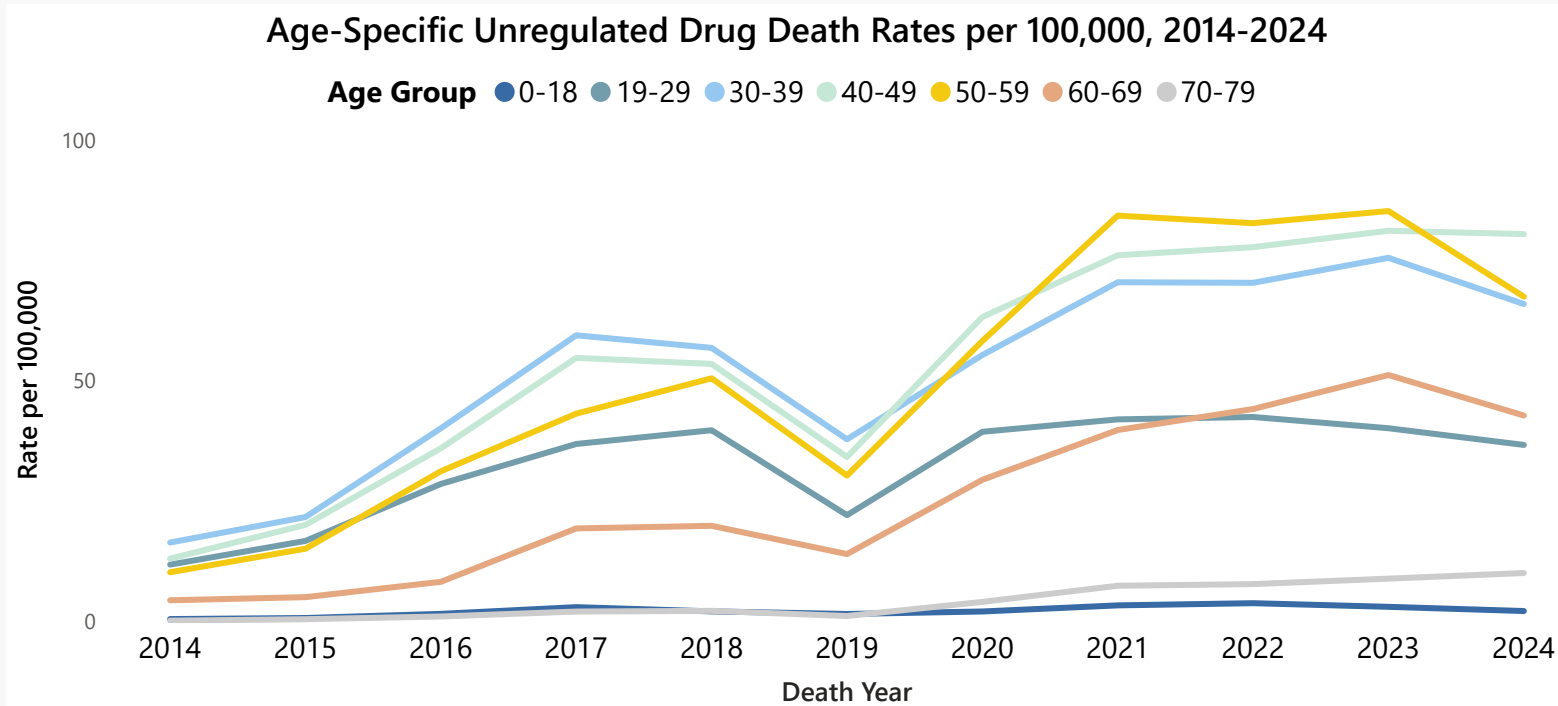
Yearly Monthly

Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes



Unregulated Drug Deaths by Age Group, 2014-2024

Age Group	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
0-18	3	5	13	26	18	13	18	30	35	28	15
19-29	83	117	204	271	303	173	309	324	340	340	248
30-39	102	137	263	401	396	273	413	542	563	641	436
40-49	85	130	234	355	346	221	412	502	527	572	438
50-59	73	110	230	315	364	216	412	591	575	585	342
60-69	24	29	50	121	127	91	196	270	305	360	228
70-79		1	3	7	8	4	17	33	36	43	38
80+									1		
Not available									3	4	4
Total	370	529	997	1496	1562	991	1777	2292	2385	2573	1749



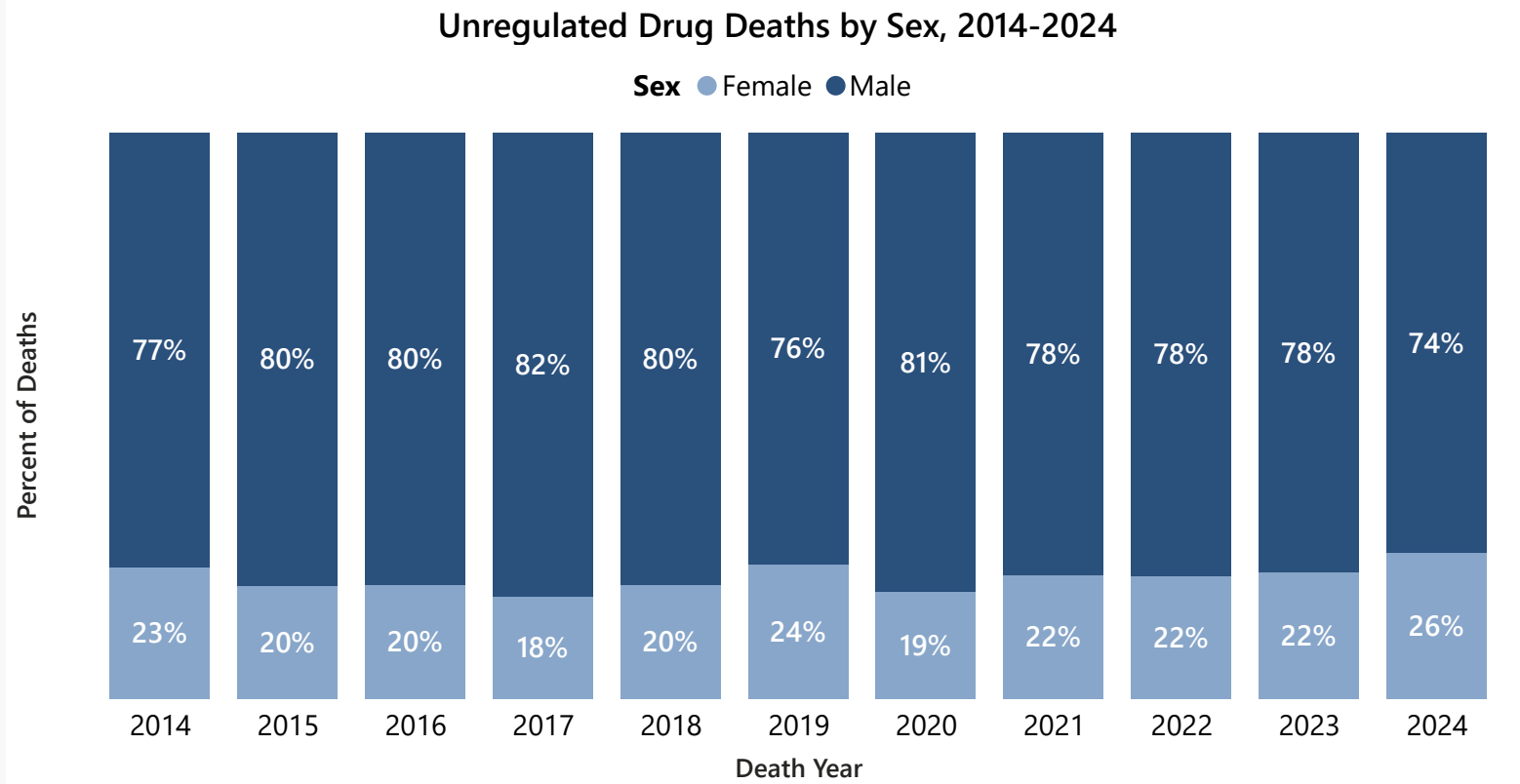
Age-Specific Unregulated Drug Death Rates per 100,000, 2014-2024

Age Group	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
0-18	0.3	0.6	1.4	2.8	1.9	1.4	1.9	3.2	3.6	2.9	2.0
19-29	11.7	16.6	28.4	36.8	39.6	21.9	39.3	41.9	42.4	40.0	36.6
30-39	16.3	21.6	40.0	59.4	56.8	37.7	55.3	70.4	70.3	75.5	65.9
40-49	12.9	19.9	35.9	54.7	53.4	34.1	63.2	76.0	77.7	81.1	80.4
50-59	10.1	15.0	31.1	43.1	50.4	30.2	58.2	84.3	82.7	85.2	67.4
60-69	4.2	4.9	8.1	19.2	19.7	13.9	29.3	39.7	44.0	51.1	42.7
70-79	0.0	0.3	0.9	1.9	2.0	1.0	3.9	7.3	7.6	8.7	9.9

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Sex

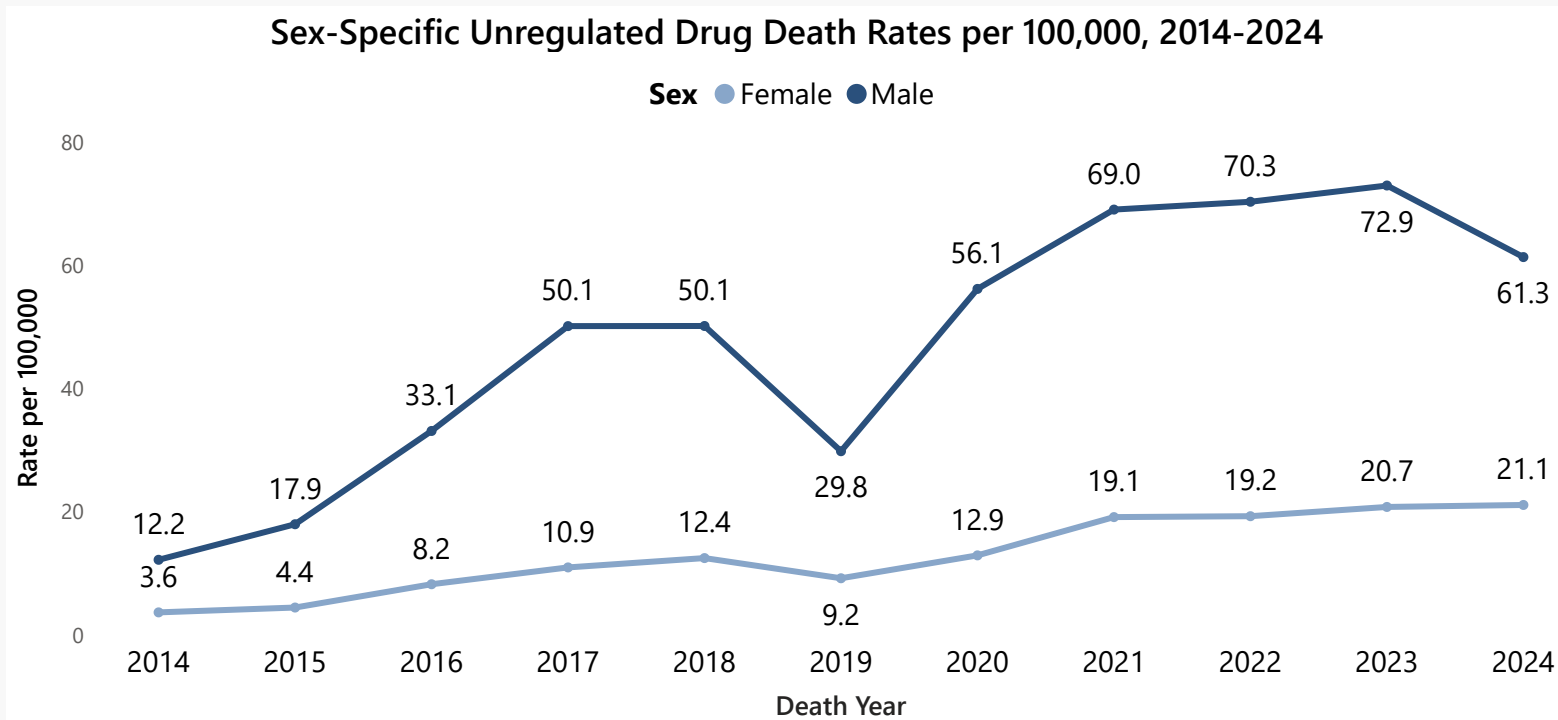
Yearly
Monthly
British Columbia
Interior
Fraser
Vancouver Coastal
Island
Northern

Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes



Unregulated Drug Deaths by Sex, 2014-2024

Sex	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Female	86	106	201	272	315	236	336	503	520	577	452
Male	284	423	796	1224	1247	755	1441	1789	1865	1996	1297
Total	370	529	997	1496	1562	991	1777	2292	2385	2573	1749

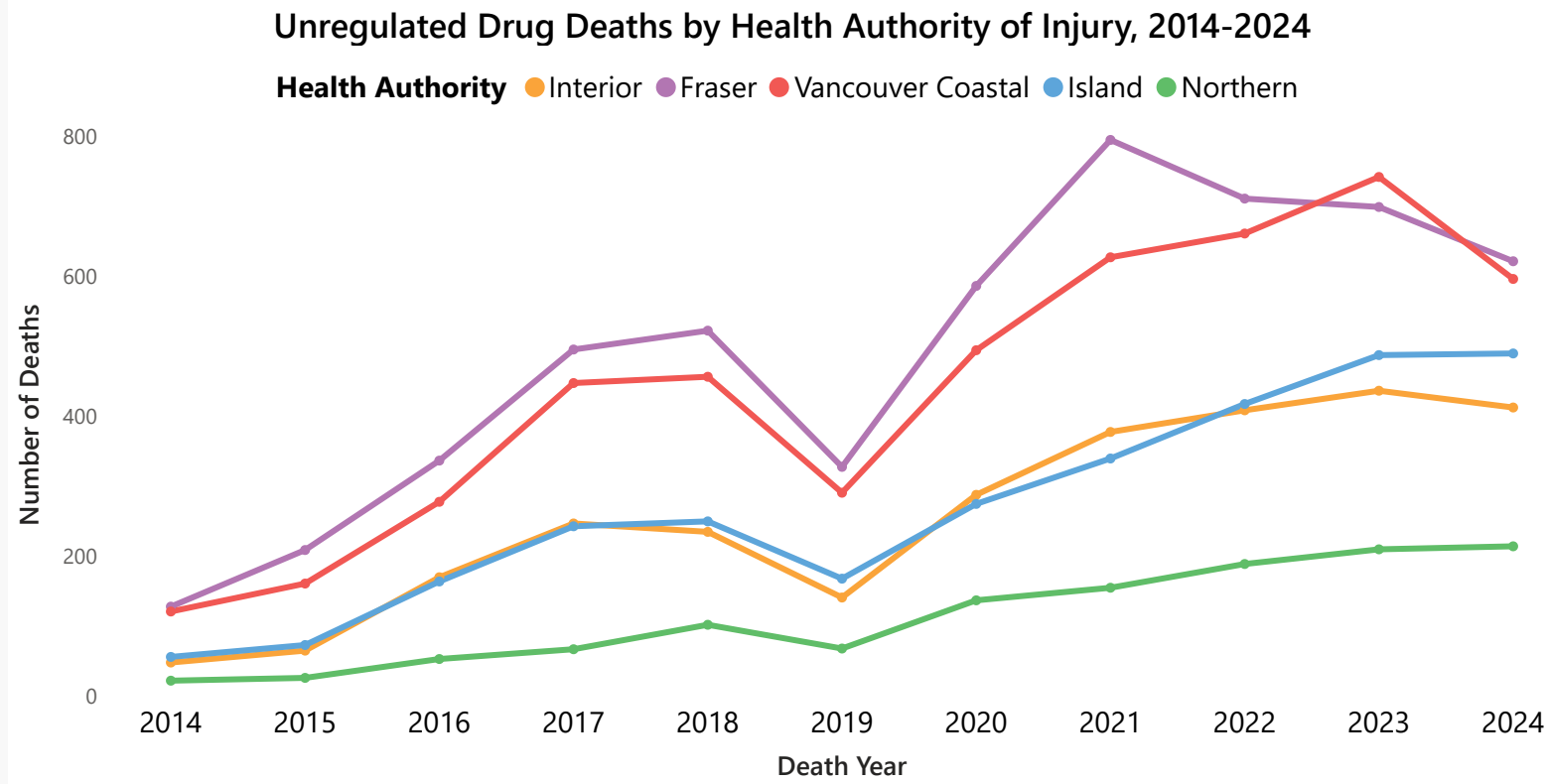


Sex-Specific Unregulated Drug Death Rates per 100,000, 2014-2024

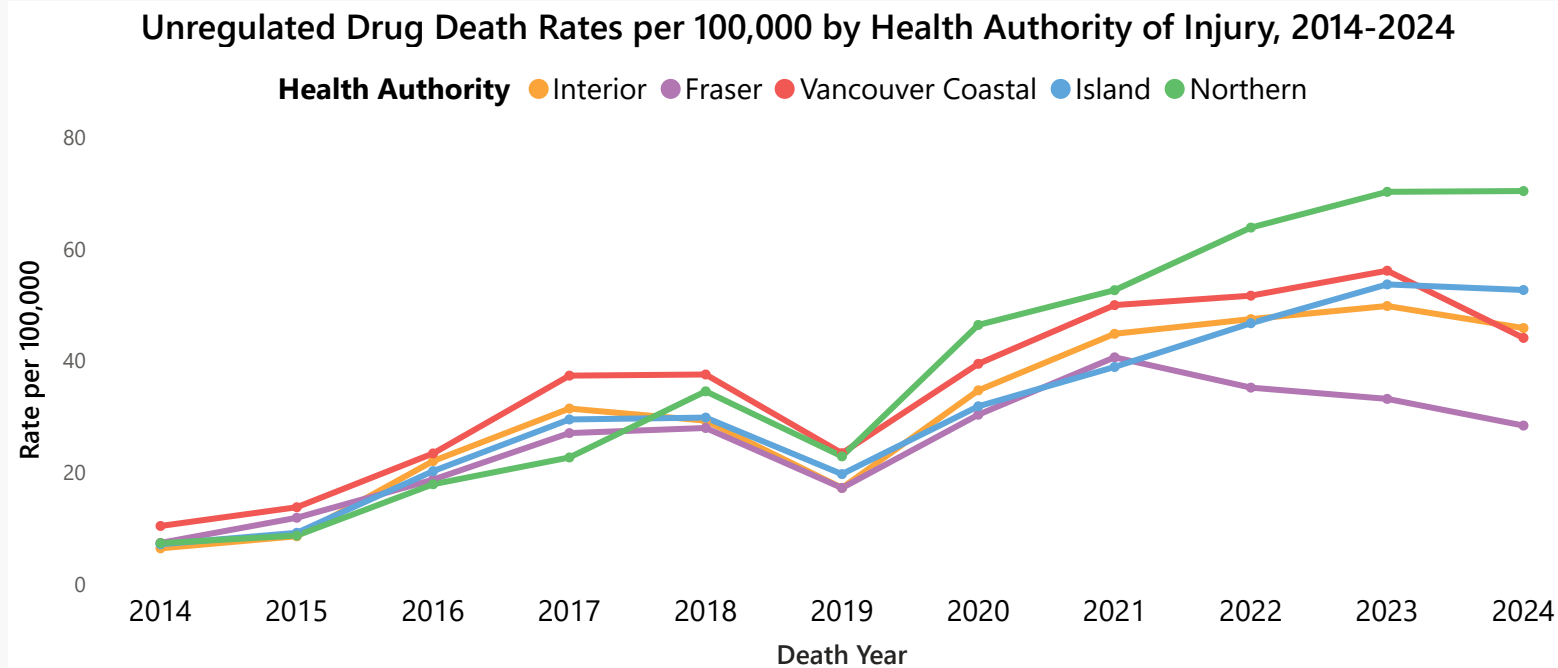
Sex	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Female	3.6	4.4	8.2	10.9	12.4	9.2	12.9	19.1	19.2	20.7	21.1
Male	12.2	17.9	33.1	50.1	50.1	29.8	56.1	69.0	70.3	72.9	61.3

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Health Authority of Injury (Year)

- Summary
- BC
- Age Group
- Sex
- HA (Year)**
- HA (Month)
- HSDA
- LHA
- Township of Injury
- Place of Injury
- Drugs Involved
- Fentanyl Detected
- Fentanyl Concentration
- Expedited Tox 1
- Expedited Tox 2
- Mode of Consumption
- Income Assistance Day
- Notes



HA_Name	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Interior	47	64	169	246	234	140	287	377	408	436	309
Fraser	127	208	336	495	522	327	586	795	711	699	466
Vancouver Coastal	120	160	277	447	456	290	494	627	661	742	447
Island	55	72	163	242	249	167	274	339	417	487	367
Northern	21	25	52	66	101	67	136	154	188	209	160
British Columbia	370	529	997	1496	1562	991	1777	2292	2385	2573	1749

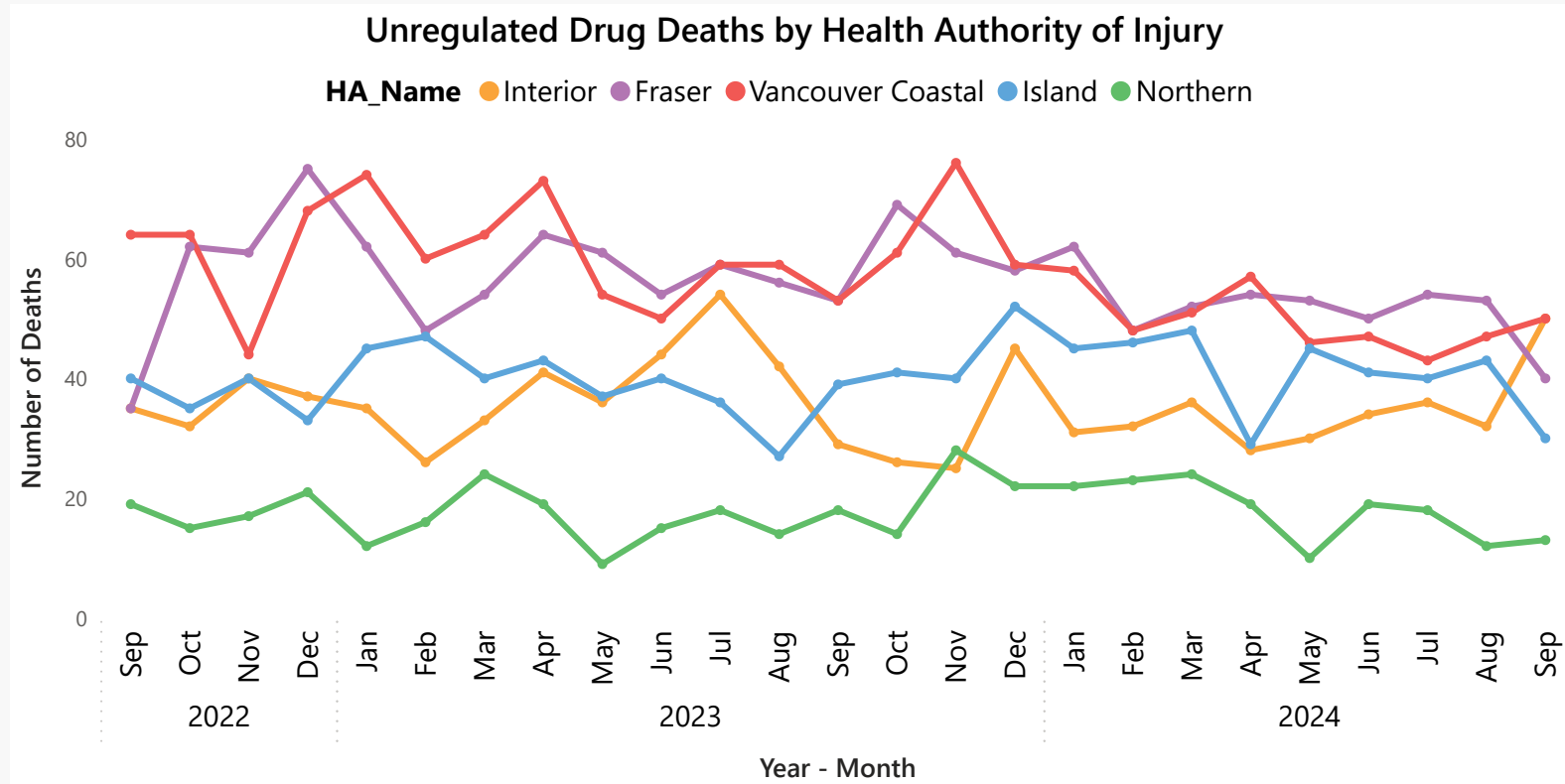


Health Authority	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Interior	6.3	8.5	22.0	31.4	29.2	17.2	34.6	44.8	47.4	49.7	45.8
Fraser	7.3	11.8	18.6	27.0	27.9	17.1	30.3	40.5	35.1	33.1	28.3
Vancouver Coastal	10.3	13.7	23.3	37.3	37.5	23.4	39.4	49.9	51.6	56.1	44.0
Island	7.1	9.1	20.2	29.4	29.7	19.6	31.8	38.8	46.6	53.6	52.6
Northern	7.3	8.6	17.8	22.6	34.5	22.8	46.3	52.6	63.8	70.2	70.3
British Columbia	7.9	11.1	20.5	30.3	31.1	19.4	34.3	43.9	44.5	46.6	41.0

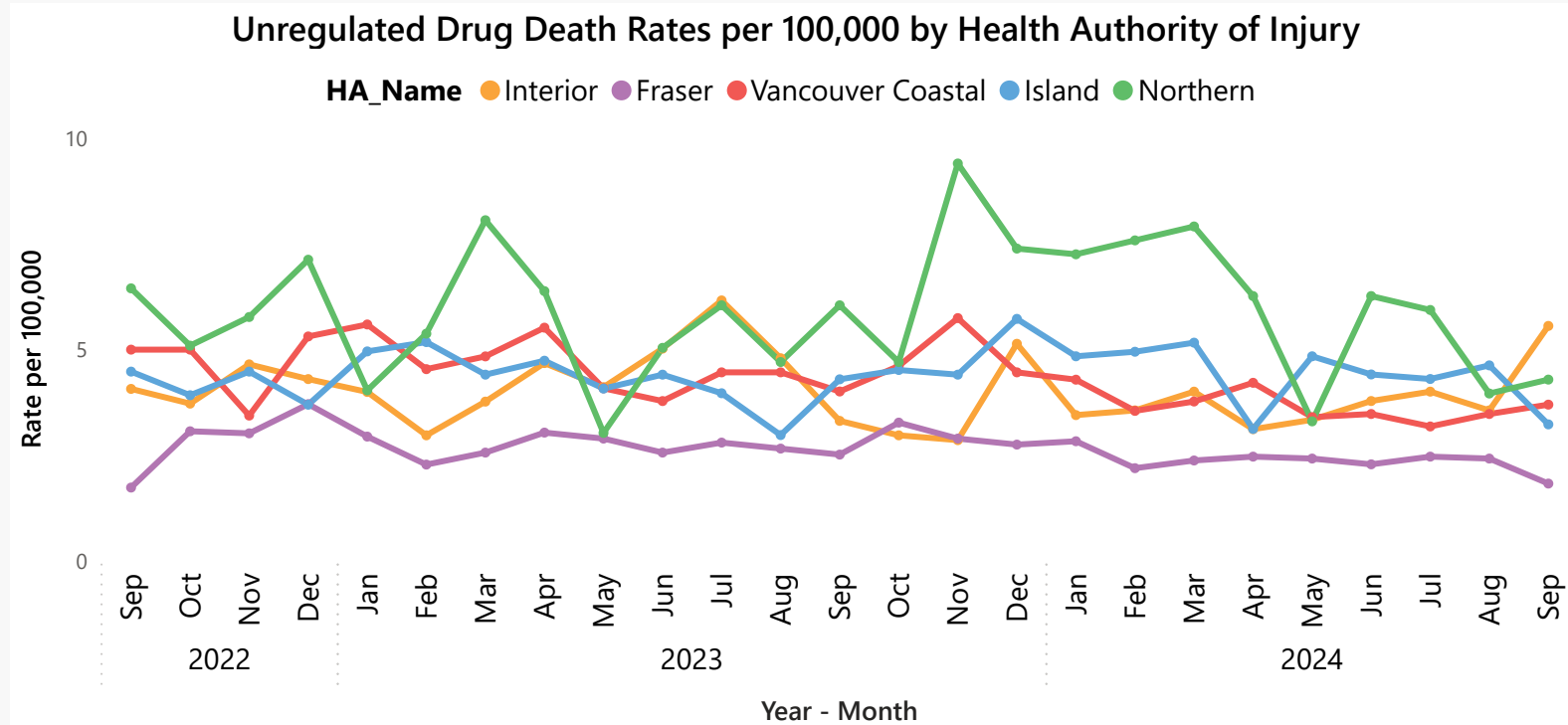
Note: In the figures, 2024 numbers and rates are annualized for the year.

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Health Authority of Injury (Month)

Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
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Notes



HA_Name	2023					2024							
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Interior	29	26	25	45	31	32	36	28	30	34	36	32	50
Fraser	53	69	61	58	62	48	52	54	53	50	54	53	40
Vancouver Coastal	53	61	76	59	58	48	51	57	46	47	43	47	50
Island	39	41	40	52	45	46	48	29	45	41	40	43	30
Northern	18	14	28	22	22	23	24	19	10	19	18	12	13
British Columbia	192	211	230	236	218	197	211	187	184	191	191	187	183



HA_Name	2023					2024							
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Interior	3.3	3.0	2.9	5.1	3.4	3.6	4.0	3.1	3.3	3.8	4.0	3.6	5.6
Fraser	2.5	3.3	2.9	2.7	2.8	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.4	2.3	2.5	2.4	1.8
Vancouver Coastal	4.0	4.6	5.7	4.5	4.3	3.5	3.8	4.2	3.4	3.5	3.2	3.5	3.7
Island	4.3	4.5	4.4	5.7	4.8	4.9	5.2	3.1	4.8	4.4	4.3	4.6	3.2
Northern	6.0	4.7	9.4	7.4	7.3	7.6	7.9	6.3	3.3	6.3	5.9	4.0	4.3
British Columbia	3.5	3.8	4.2	4.3	3.8	3.5	3.7	3.3	3.2	3.4	3.4	3.3	3.2

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Health Service Delivery Area (HSDA) of Injury

Click to filter by health authority (HA) or ctrl + click to filter by multiple HAs. Click again on a highlighted HA to remove it from the selection.

Yearly
Monthly
Select all
Interior
Fraser
Vancouver Coastal
Island
Northern

Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

Unregulated Drug Deaths by HSDA of Injury, 2014-2024

HSDA	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
East Kootenay	4	2	13	7	6	1	18	24	19	26	16
Kootenay Boundary	3	6	11	17	15	14	23	30	32	42	28
Okanagan	27	43	78	156	128	84	147	172	201	223	145
Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	13	13	67	66	85	41	99	151	156	145	120
Fraser East	17	42	68	105	97	84	122	183	195	201	115
Fraser North	51	73	105	148	152	85	182	243	199	189	128
Fraser South	59	93	163	242	273	158	282	369	317	309	223
Richmond	3	6	14	28	12	14	19	33	29	27	20
Vancouver	102	138	232	374	400	250	425	533	578	656	385
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	15	16	31	45	44	26	50	61	54	59	42
South Vancouver Island	23	26	78	106	125	74	139	143	175	178	130
Central Vancouver Island	25	33	58	99	94	64	102	128	170	218	155
North Vancouver Island	7	13	27	37	30	29	33	68	72	91	82
Northwest	2	6	10	8	14	16	18	44	58	49	35
Northern Interior	11	15	24	35	63	34	86	79	104	127	107
Northeast	8	4	18	23	24	17	32	31	26	33	18
Total	370	529	997	1496	1562	991	1777	2292	2385	2573	1749

Unregulated Drug Death Rates per 100,000 by HSDA of Injury, 2014-2024

HSDA	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
East Kootenay	5.0	2.5	15.7	8.3	7.0	1.1	20.4	26.7	20.7	28.0	22.5
Kootenay Boundary	3.8	7.5	13.5	20.7	18.0	16.6	27.1	34.9	36.7	47.6	41.4
Okanagan	7.5	11.7	20.7	40.5	32.4	20.8	35.7	40.9	46.7	50.7	42.7
Thompson Cariboo Shuswap	5.8	5.8	29.3	28.4	35.7	17.0	40.5	61.2	62.0	56.7	61.1
Fraser East	5.8	14.0	22.0	33.2	29.9	25.4	36.5	54.1	56.7	56.9	42.1
Fraser North	7.8	11.1	15.6	21.8	22.0	12.1	25.6	33.8	26.9	24.5	21.4
Fraser South	7.5	11.6	19.8	28.9	31.9	18.0	31.6	40.8	33.7	31.3	28.8
Richmond	1.5	2.9	6.7	13.4	5.6	6.5	8.7	14.9	12.7	11.5	11.1
Vancouver	15.2	20.5	33.9	54.2	57.2	35.0	58.9	74.3	79.4	86.9	66.7
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	5.2	5.5	10.5	15.0	14.4	8.4	15.9	19.2	16.6	17.7	16.3
South Vancouver Island	5.9	6.6	19.5	26.0	30.2	17.6	32.5	33.0	39.3	39.3	37.3
Central Vancouver Island	9.2	12.0	20.6	34.5	32.2	21.6	34.0	42.1	54.9	69.3	64.3
North Vancouver Island	5.7	10.5	21.3	28.7	22.9	21.8	24.6	49.9	51.9	64.6	76.0
Northwest	2.7	8.1	13.4	10.7	18.8	21.4	23.9	58.0	76.0	63.6	59.4
Northern Interior	7.6	10.4	16.4	23.8	42.4	22.8	57.8	53.3	69.7	84.1	92.6
Northeast	11.3	5.6	25.4	32.7	34.2	24.3	46.2	45.0	37.5	47.3	33.9

Note: 2024 rates should be interpreted with caution due to small numbers.

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Local Health Area (LHA) of Injury

Click to filter by health authority (HA) or ctrl + click to filter by multiple HAs. Click again on a highlighted HA to remove it from the selection.

LHA Search

- Summary
- BC
- Age Group
- Sex
- HA (Year)
- HA (Month)
- HSDA
- LHA**
- Township of Injury
- Place of Injury
- Drugs Involved
- Fentanyl Detected
- Fentanyl Concentration
- Expedited Tox 1
- Expedited Tox 2
- Mode of Consumption
- Income Assistance Day
- Notes

Unregulated Drug Deaths by LHA of Injury, 2016-2024 ***DATA TO AUG 2024

LHA Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Fernie	2	0	0	1	3	0	1	1	1
Cranbrook	2	3	2	0	10	16	11	20	11
Kimberley	3	0	2	0	0	2	0	1	2
Windermere	4	3	1	0	3	1	1	1	0
Creston	1	0	0	0	1	3	3	1	0
Golden	1	1	1	0	1	2	3	2	0
Kootenay Lake	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0
Nelson	5	4	2	2	7	7	12	17	6
Castlegar	3	2	0	5	3	6	6	4	5
Arrow Lakes	0	1	2	1	2	2	2	1	0
Trail	2	5	2	3	4	6	5	11	5
Grand Forks	0	4	9	3	3	5	4	6	7
Kettle Valley	1	1	0	0	2	3	2	2	1
Southern Okanagan	1	3	6	2	3	4	10	9	4
Penticton	7	17	16	22	17	28	31	25	18
Keremeos	0	3	3	2	4	2	4	1	3
Princeton	0	6	5	1	3	3	1	3	0
Armstrong/Spallumcheen	1	0	1	0	3	2	1	1	0

Unregulated Drug Death Rates per 100,000 by LHA of Injury, 2016-2024 ***DATA TO AUG 2024

LHA Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Fernie	12.4	0.0	0.0	5.8	17.0	0.0	5.5	5.4	8.0
Cranbrook	7.3	11.0	7.3	0.0	35.5	56.4	38.1	68.6	55.8
Kimberley	31.5	0.0	20.6	0.0	0.0	19.7	0.0	9.4	27.6
Windermere	40.4	29.1	9.4	0.0	25.8	8.2	8.1	8.0	0.0
Creston	7.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.4	22.2	21.6	7.0	0.0
Golden	14.0	13.8	13.6	0.0	13.3	26.1	38.3	25.1	0.0
Kootenay Lake	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	27.5	27.3	0.0	25.8	0.0
Nelson	18.9	15.0	7.4	7.3	25.3	25.2	43.0	59.6	30.7
Castlegar	21.0	13.9	0.0	33.9	20.1	40.0	38.7	25.4	46.3
Arrow Lakes	0.0	20.9	41.5	21.0	41.3	40.8	40.4	20.3	0.0
Trail	10.0	24.8	9.8	14.6	19.4	28.7	23.8	52.5	35.5
Grand Forks	0.0	44.5	99.8	33.3	33.3	54.1	42.6	63.1	109.0
Kettle Valley	27.8	26.8	0.0	0.0	46.5	66.9	44.1	42.4	30.7
Southern Okanagan	5.0	14.6	28.6	9.3	13.7	18.0	44.7	39.8	26.0
Penticton	16.3	38.8	35.5	48.1	36.9	60.0	65.8	52.8	56.2
Keremeos	0.0	54.9	54.2	35.8	70.6	34.2	66.8	16.5	73.5
Princeton	0.0	122.5	100.8	20.0	57.4	56.6	18.9	55.7	0.0

Notes: *Blank cells indicate suppressed data. Data last updated to **Aug 2024**. Data will be updated for the April, August, and December update. Data prepared by BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC). For additional graphics and data preparation notes including suppression guidelines, please visit the BCCDC website ([Unregulated Drug Poisoning Emergency Dashboard \(bccdc.ca\)](https://www.bccdc.ca)). Due to small numbers of deaths and population sizes in some LHAs, rates may be unstable and need to be interpreted with caution.

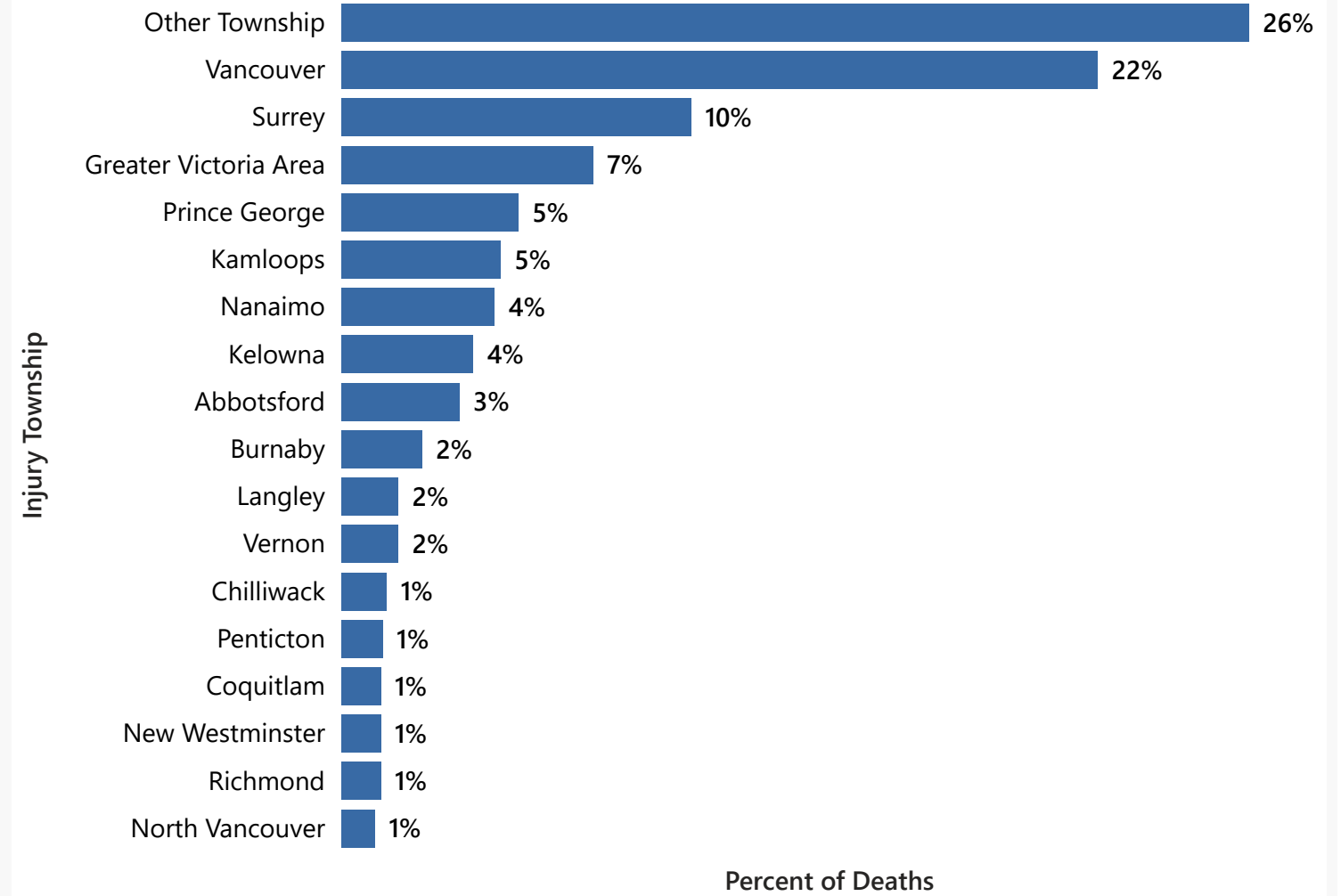
Unregulated Drug Deaths - Township of Injury

- Summary
- BC
- Age Group
- Sex
- HA (Year)
- HA (Month)
- HSDA
- LHA
- Township of Injury**
- Place of Injury
- Drugs Involved
- Fentanyl Detected
- Fentanyl Concentration
- Expedited Tox 1
- Expedited Tox 2
- Mode of Consumption
- Income Assistance Day
- Notes

Injury Township	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Abbotsford	7	27	40	52	41	44	65	86	92	90	60
Burnaby	11	15	40	44	49	29	59	80	69	51	41
Chilliwack	7	10	14	22	37	21	38	63	49	59	23
Coquitlam	10	11	15	30	22	11	28	30	35	25	20
Greater Victoria Area	21	26	76	106	124	73	137	140	171	173	128
Kamloops	7	7	44	37	47	26	60	77	92	83	81
Kelowna	12	20	47	73	54	34	60	74	84	104	67
Langley	10	10	31	37	33	24	37	58	43	45	29
Nanaimo	16	18	30	56	38	27	39	52	79	115	78
New Westminster	9	12	10	24	35	20	36	47	32	38	20
North Vancouver	9	7	13	19	17	12	22	18	20	23	17
Other Township	83	123	236	349	348	227	424	592	612	677	462
Penticton	3	3	7	15	16	21	17	27	31	24	21
Prince George	10	12	18	24	51	25	60	55	84	91	90
Richmond	3	6	14	28	12	14	19	33	29	27	20
Surrey	44	76	118	182	215	119	223	284	241	236	178
Vancouver	102	138	232	374	400	250	425	533	578	656	385
Vernon	6	8	12	24	23	14	28	43	44	56	29
Total	370	529	997	1496	1562	991	1777	2292	2385	2573	1749

Note: Only specific townships are shown.

Unregulated Drug Deaths by Township of Injury, 2024



Unregulated Drug Deaths by Township of Injury and Month of Death

Injury Township	2023				2024								
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep
Greater Victoria Area	17	14	17	20	12	11	19	11	18	14	16	11	16
Surrey	14	23	20	21	20	14	23	20	23	18	17	24	19
Vancouver	45	50	67	52	47	46	41	49	40	39	36	42	45

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Place of Injury

- Summary
- BC
- Age Group
- Sex
- HA (Year)
- HA (Month)
- HSDA
- LHA
- Township of Injury
- Place of Injury**
- Drugs Involved
- Fentanyl Detected
- Fentanyl Concentration
- Expedited Tox 1
- Expedited Tox 2
- Mode of Consumption
- Income Assistance Day
- Notes

Unregulated Drug Deaths by Place of Injury, BC, 2021-2024

Place of Injury	2021		2022		2023		2024	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Private Residence	1283	56.0%	1306	54.8%	1213	47.1%	845	48.3%
Other Residence	573	25.0%	566	23.7%	721	28.0%	487	27.8%
Outside	339	14.8%	365	15.3%	488	19.0%	323	18.5%
Public Building: Other	33	1.4%	60	2.5%	68	2.6%	42	2.4%
Not available	26	1.1%	30	1.3%	27	1.0%	15	0.9%
Public Building: Washroom	13	0.6%	28	1.2%	22	0.9%	14	0.8%
Medical Facility	8	0.3%	8	0.3%	14	0.5%	12	0.7%
Industrial/Construction/Manufacturing/ Natural Resource Sites	9	0.4%	10	0.4%	13	0.5%	5	0.3%
Correctional Facility/Police Cell	8	0.3%	12	0.5%	7	0.3%	6	0.3%
Total	2292	100.0%	2385	100.0%	2573	100.0%	1749	100.0%

Notes:

Private Residence – includes driveways garages, trailer homes and either decedent’s own or another’s residence.

Other Residence – includes hotels, motels, rooming houses, SRO (single room occupancy, shelters, social/supportive housing etc.)

Medical facility – includes hospitals, community care facilities, etc

Industrial/Construction/Manufacturing/Natural Resource Site – includes locations where the decedent was on an industrial (e.g. factory, plant, warehouse), construction (e.g., construction, renovation, demolition), manufacturing (e.g., mill), or natural resource (e.g., mining, oil, forestry) site. The decedent may or may not have been employed at the site.

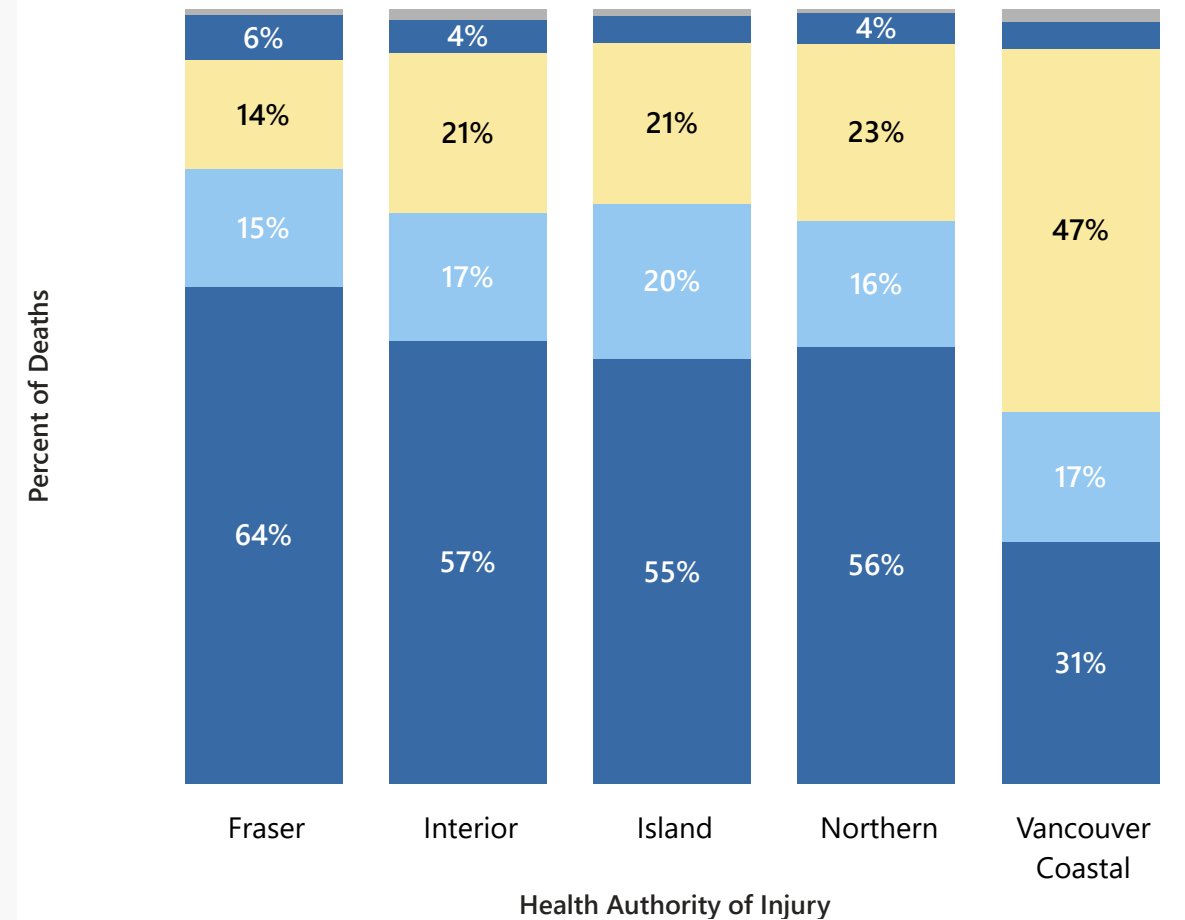
Public buildings – includes restaurants, community centres, businesses, clinics, etc.

Outside – includes vehicles, streets, sidewalks, parking lots, public parks, wooded areas, and campgrounds.

There has been one death at an overdose prevention site (OPS) (in 2022). Please see the notes page for definition of death at OPS.

Unregulated Drug Deaths by Place of Injury and Health Authority, 2021-2024

Place of Injury ● Private Residence ● Outside ● Other Residence ● Other Locations ● Not available



Unregulated Drug Deaths - Drugs Involved

Click to filter by health authority (HA) or ctrl + click to filter by multiple HAs. Click again on a highlighted HA to remove it from the selection.

Select all	Interior	Fraser	Vancouver Coastal	Island	Northern
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Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

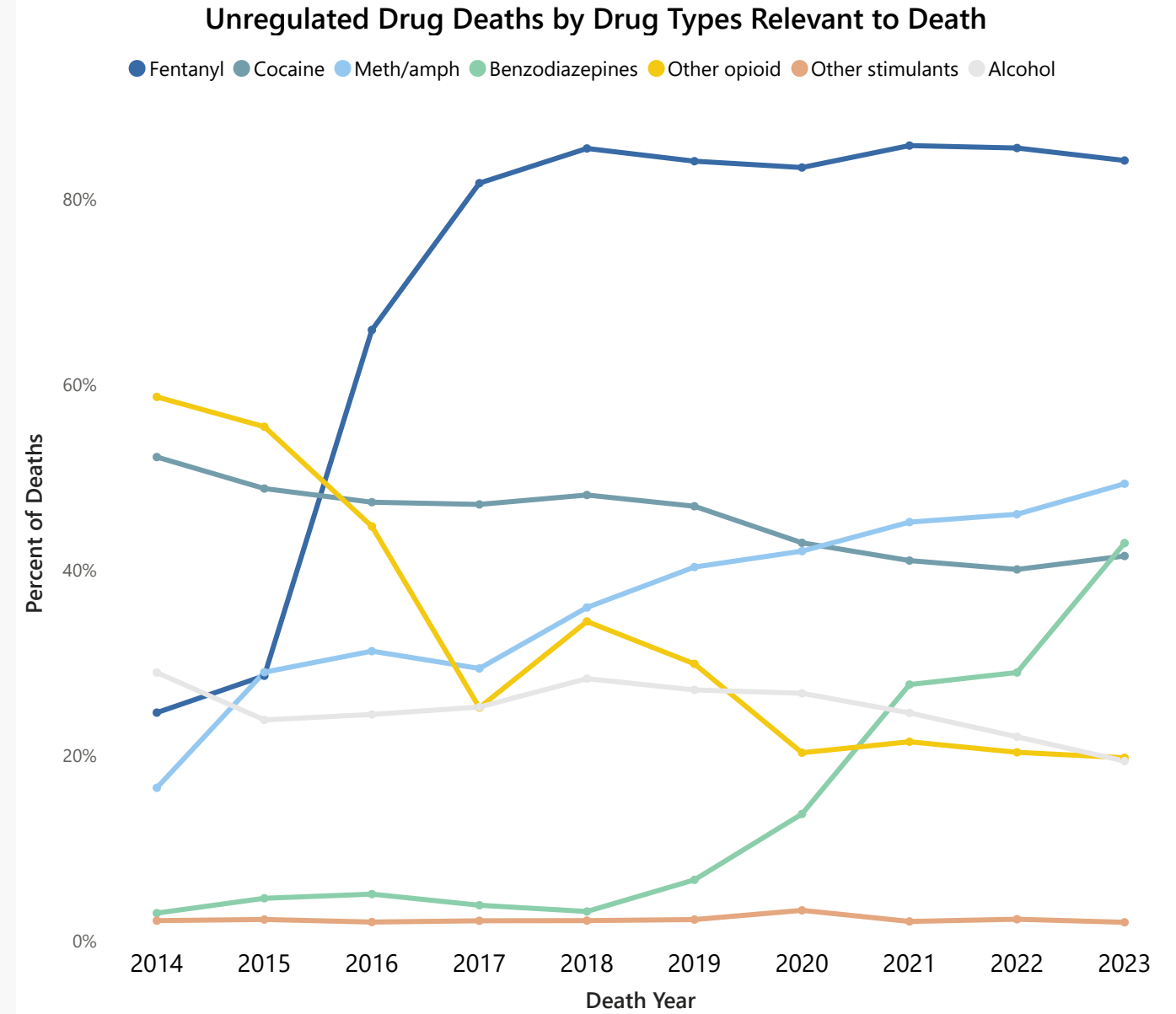
Unregulated Drug Deaths by Drug Types Relevant to Death

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Fentanyl	24.6%	28.6%	65.9%	81.7%	85.4%	84.1%	83.4%	85.8%	85.5%	84.1%
Cocaine	52.2%	48.8%	47.3%	47.1%	48.1%	46.9%	42.9%	41.0%	40.0%	41.5%
Meth/amph	16.5%	29.0%	31.2%	29.4%	35.9%	40.3%	42.0%	45.1%	46.0%	49.3%
Benzodiazepines	3.0%	4.6%	5.0%	3.8%	3.1%	6.6%	13.7%	27.6%	28.9%	42.9%
Other opioid	58.6%	55.4%	44.7%	25.1%	34.4%	29.9%	20.3%	21.5%	20.3%	19.7%
Other stimulants	2.2%	2.3%	2.0%	2.1%	2.2%	2.3%	3.3%	2.1%	2.3%	2.0%
Alcohol	28.9%	23.8%	24.4%	25.2%	28.3%	27.0%	26.7%	24.6%	22.0%	19.4%

Notes:

This data is only available for completed unregulated drug toxicity death investigations. Drugs involved are noted by the coroner as being relevant to the death. Data does not indicate when a substance was taken.

- **Fentanyl & analogues** includes fentanyl, acetylfentanyl, 3-methylfentanyl, furanylfentanyl, carfentanil, cyclopropyl fentanyl, methoxyacetylfentanyl, 4-fluoroisobutyryl fentanyl, and norfentanyl.
- **Meth/amph** includes methamphetamine and amphetamine.
- **Other opioids** include heroin, codeine, oxycodone, morphine, hydromorphone, methadone, etc but excludes fentanyl and analogues.
- **Other stimulants** include MDMA, MDA, paramethoxymethamphetamine, paramethoxyamphetamine, pseudophedrine, methylbenzodioxylbutamine, methylone, methylphenidate, caffeine, and ephedrine.

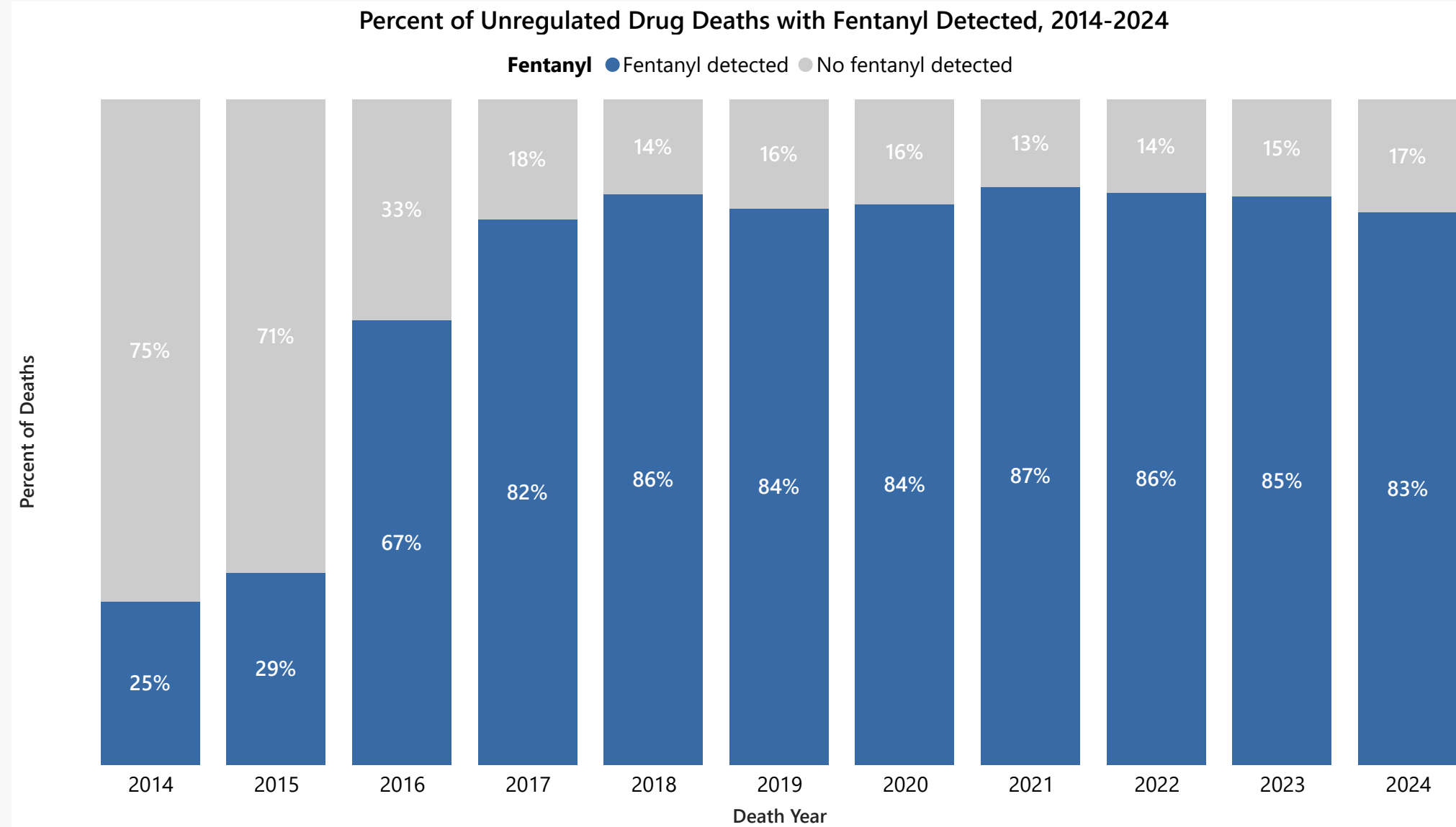


Unregulated Drug Deaths - Fentanyl Detected

Click to filter by health authority (HA) or ctrl + click to filter by multiple HAs. Click again on a highlighted HA to remove it from the selection.

- Select all
- Interior
- Fraser
- Vancouver Coastal
- Island
- Northern

Click to switch chart.



- Fentanyl
- Carfentanil

Note: Percent of unregulated drug deaths with fentanyl or fentanyl analogues detected by year of death among all confirmed and suspected unregulated drug deaths. Data is preliminary and subject to change as further toxicology results are received.

- Summary
- BC
- Age Group
- Sex
- HA (Year)
- HA (Month)
- HSDA
- LHA
- Township of Injury
- Place of Injury
- Drugs Involved
- Fentanyl Detected**
- Fentanyl Concentration
- Expedited Tox 1
- Expedited Tox 2
- Mode of Consumption
- Income Assistance Day
- Notes

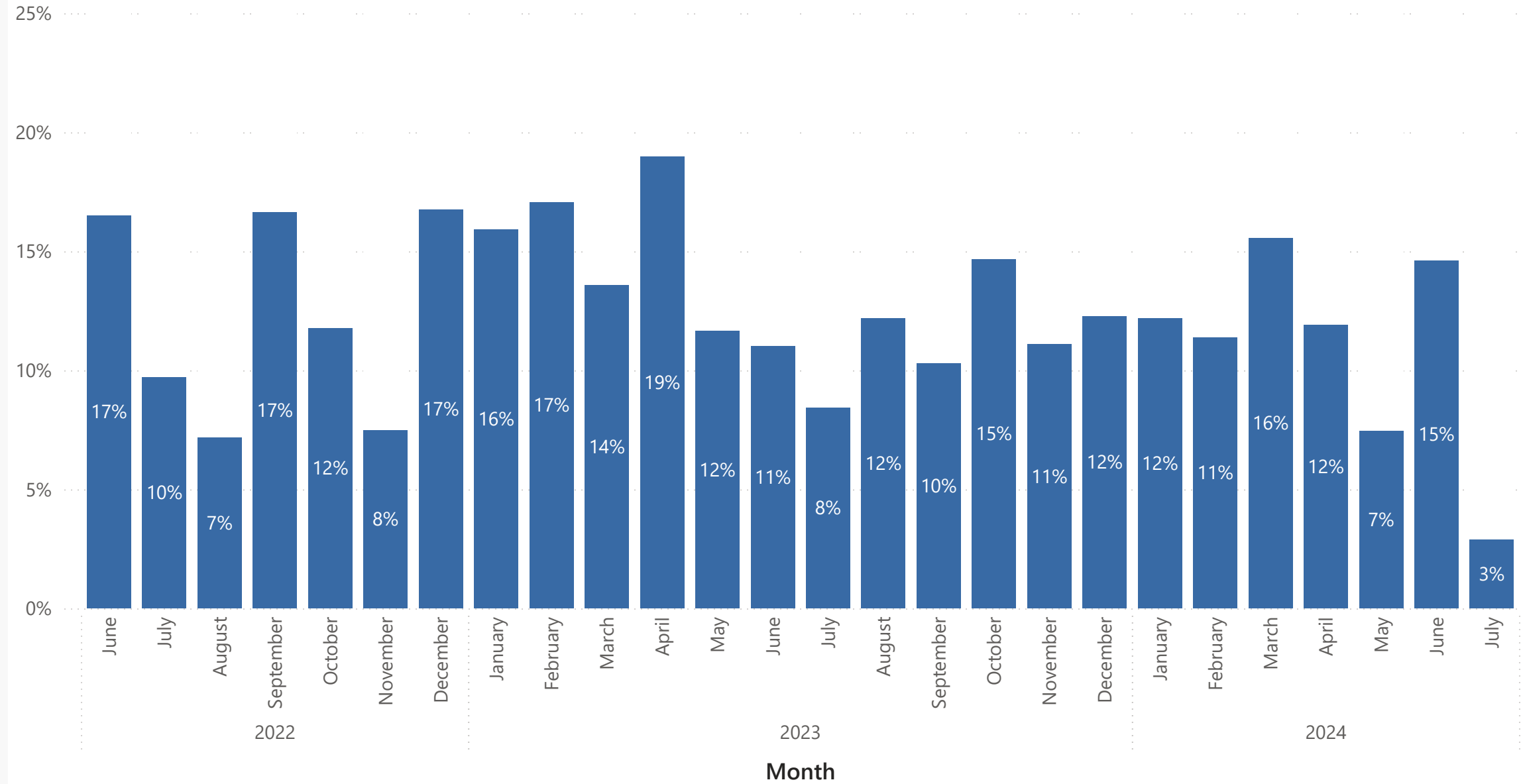
Unregulated Drug Deaths - Fentanyl Concentration

Click to filter by health authority (HA) or ctrl + click to filter by multiple HAs. Click again on a highlighted HA to remove it from the selection.

- Select all
- Interior
- Fraser
- Vancouver Coastal
- Island
- Northern

Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

Percent of Fentanyl Detected Unregulated Drug Deaths with Fentanyl Concentration >50ug/L



Note: Data from most recent months are unavailable. Fentanyl concentrations greater than 50ug/L (micrograms/litre) is considered extreme (Provincial Toxicology Centre). Data is based only on cases where fentanyl concentrations were available. Data is preliminary and subject to change as further toxicology results are received.

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Expedited Toxicology Drug Type

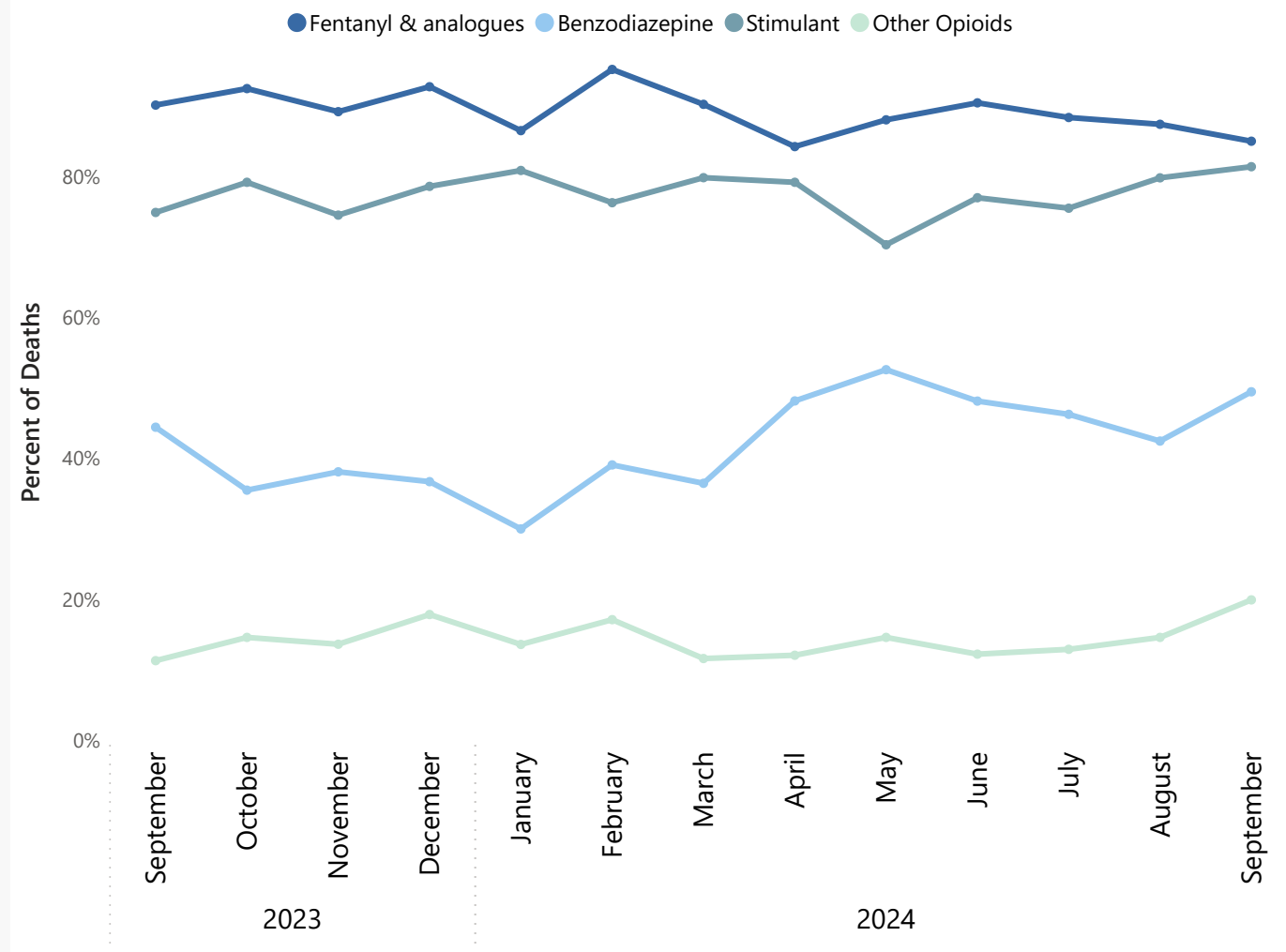
Click to filter by health authority (HA) or ctrl + click to filter by multiple HAs. Click again on a highlighted HA to remove it from the selection.

Summary
BC
Age Group
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HA (Year)
HA (Month)
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Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

Drug Types Detected in Expedited Toxicology Among Unregulated Drug Deaths

Year	Fentanyl & analogues	Stimulant	Other Opioids	Benzodiazepine
<input type="checkbox"/> 2023				
October	92.4%	79.1%	14.6%	35.4%
November	89.1%	74.5%	13.6%	38.0%
December	92.7%	78.5%	17.8%	36.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> 2024				
January	86.4%	80.8%	13.6%	29.9%
February	95.1%	76.2%	17.1%	39.0%
March	90.2%	79.8%	11.6%	36.4%
April	84.2%	79.1%	12.0%	48.1%
May	88.0%	70.3%	14.6%	52.5%
June	90.4%	76.9%	12.2%	48.1%
July	88.3%	75.4%	12.9%	46.2%
August	87.3%	79.7%	14.6%	42.4%
September	84.9%	81.3%	19.9%	49.4%

Drug Types Detected in Expedited Toxicology Among Unregulated Drug Deaths



Notes:

As of July 1, 2020, the B.C. Coroners Service implemented a new expedited testing protocol that tests 21 drugs in a semi-quantitative manner and results are generated within a few days of samples being received. Samples from suspected drug toxicity deaths are sent for expedited testing and reported presumptively prior to completing confirmatory testing. The following substances are screened in expedited testing: fentanyl & analogues (acetylfentanyl, carfentanil, fentanyl, and norfentanyl), stimulants (cocaine (inc. cocaethylene, benzoylecgonine), methamphetamine/amphetamine, MDMA/MDA), other opioids (6-monoacetylmorphine, codeine, hydromorphone, methadone (inc. EDDP), morphine, oxycodone), and benzodiazepines & analogues (alprazolam, etizolam, flualprazolam). In 2023, detection of fluorofentanyl (fentanyl), bromazolam, and desalkylgizapam (benzodiazepines) were added. The data includes **only** unregulated drug toxicity deaths that have undergone expedited testing. The data is preliminary and subject to change as further toxicology results are received.

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Expedited Toxicology Substances

Click to filter by health authority (HA) or ctrl + click to filter by multiple HAs. Click again on a highlighted HA to remove it from the selection.

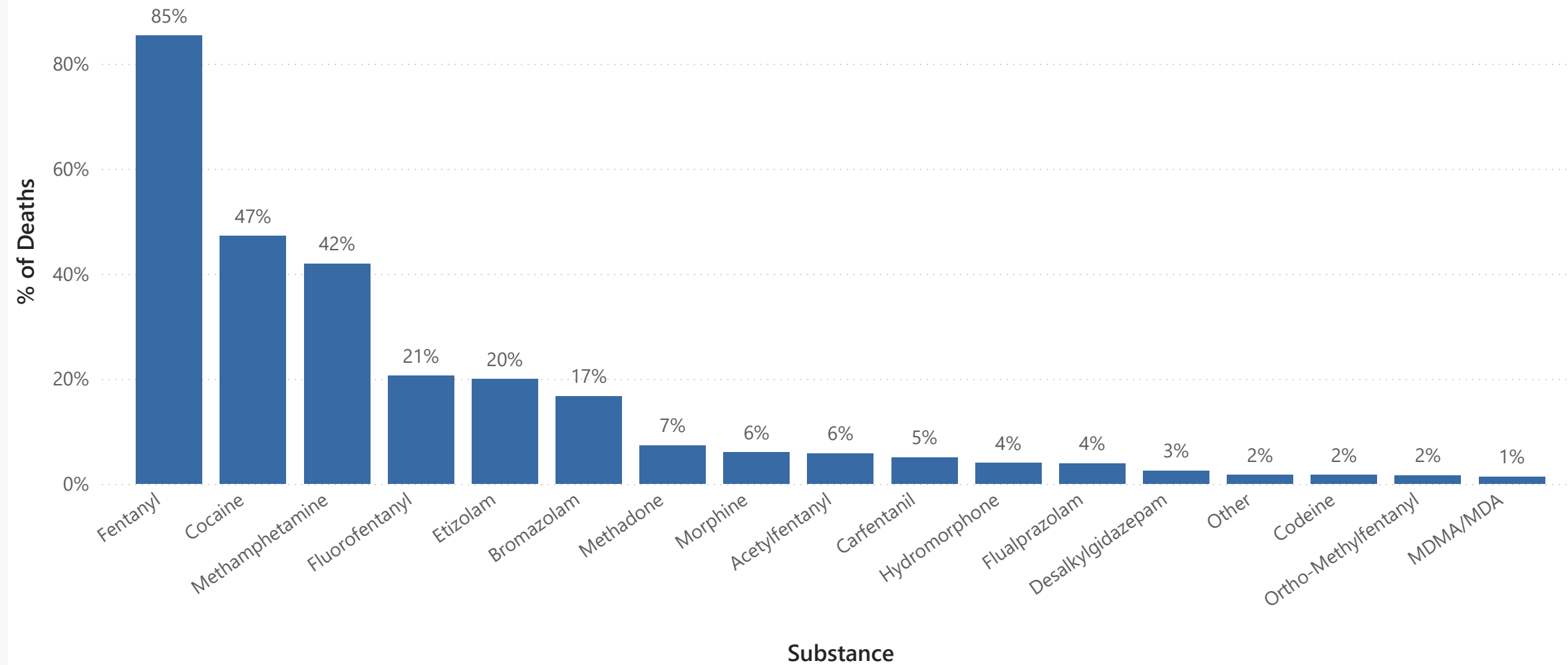
- Select all
- Interior
- Fraser
- Vancouver Coastal
- Island
- Northern

Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

Year of Death ▼

- 2020
- 2021
- 2022
- 2023
- 2024

Substances Detected in Expedited Toxicology Among Unregulated Drug Deaths



Notes:

As of July 1, 2020, the B.C. Coroners Service implemented a new expedited testing protocol that tests 21 drugs in a semi-quantitative manner and results are generated within a few days of samples being received. Samples from suspected drug toxicity deaths are sent for expedited testing and reported presumptively prior to completing confirmatory testing. The following substances are screened in expedited testing: fentanyl & analogues (acetylfentanyl, carfentanil, fentanyl, and norfentanyl), stimulants (cocaine (inc. cocaethylene, benzoylecgonine), methamphetamine/amphetamine, MDMA/MDA), other opioids (6-monoacetylmorphine, codeine, hydromorphone, methadone (inc. EDDP), morphine, oxycodone), and benzodiazepines & analogues (alprazolam, etizolam, flualprazolam). In 2023, detection of fluorofentanyl (fentanyl), bromazolam, and desalkylgizapam (benzodiazepines) were added. The data includes **only** unregulated drug toxicity deaths that have undergone expedited testing. The data is preliminary and subject to change as further toxicology results are received.

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Mode of Consumption

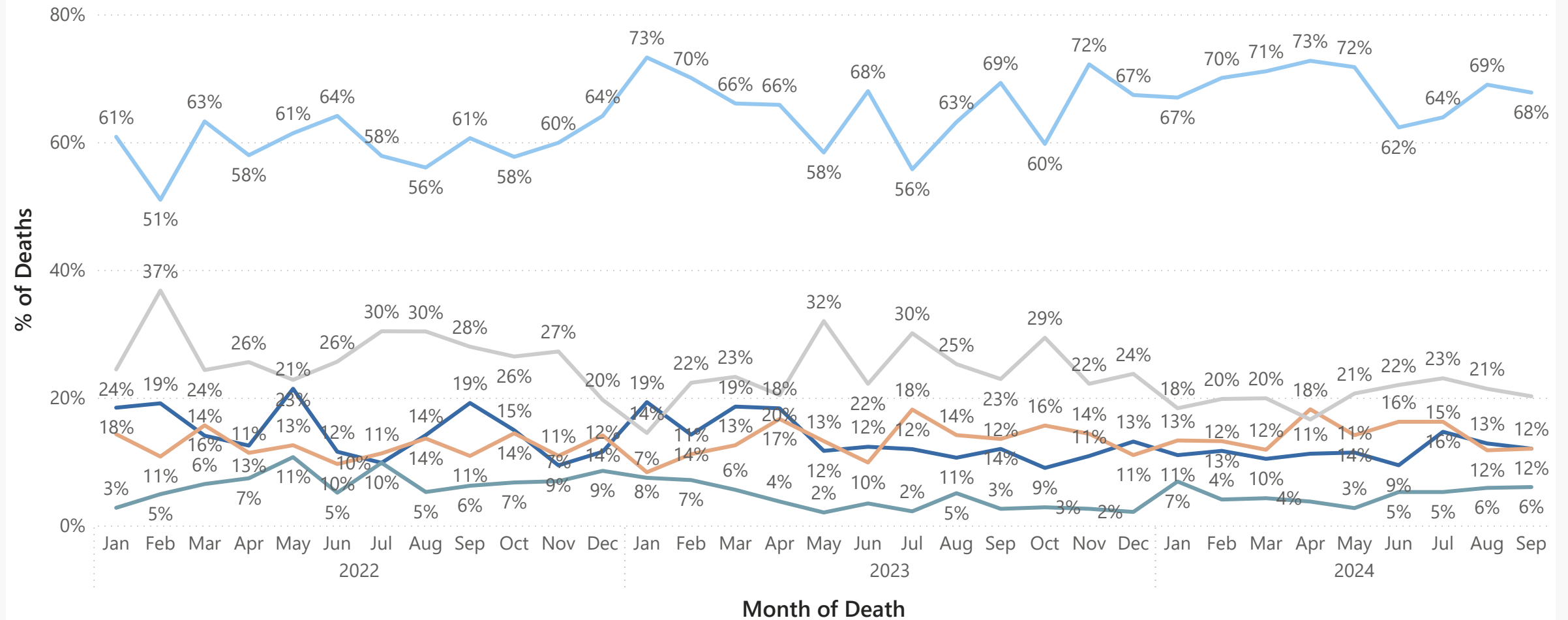
Click to filter by health authority (HA) or ctrl + click to filter by multiple HAs. Click again on a highlighted HA to remove it from the selection.

Select all	Interior	Fraser	Vancouver Coastal	Island	Northern
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Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

Mode of Consumption Among Unregulated Drug Deaths

Mode of Consumption ● Injection ● Nasal insufflation/snorting ● Oral ● Smoking ● Unknown/Unavailable



Notes:

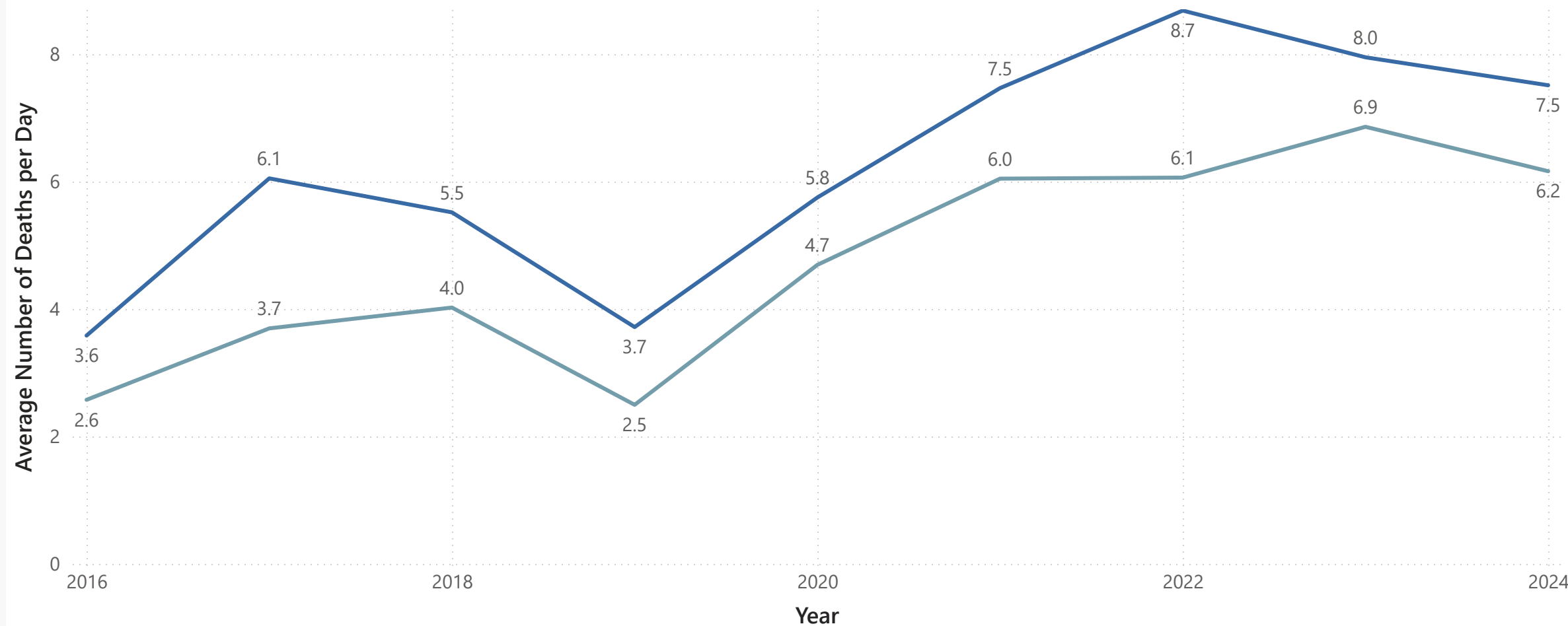
Percentages can add up to more than 100% as individuals could have had multiple modes of consumption. Data is based on information gathered by the coroner which may include scene investigation, witness interviews, or a review of circumstances. Data is preliminary and subject to change.

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Income Assistance Day

- Summary
- BC
- Age Group
- Sex
- HA (Year)
- HA (Month)
- HSDA
- LHA
- Township of Injury
- Place of Injury
- Drugs Involved
- Fentanyl Detected
- Fentanyl Concentration
- Expedited Tox 1
- Expedited Tox 2
- Mode of Consumption
- Income Assistance Day**
- Notes

Average Number of Unregulated Drug Toxicity Deaths per Day Following Income Assistance Payment Day

● Days Following Income Assistance ● Other Days of the Year



Notes:

The days following income assistance payment day include the payment day (Wednesday) to the Sunday. Income assistance payment dates can be found at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/income-assistance/payment-dates>.

Unregulated Drug Deaths - Notes

Summary
BC
Age Group
Sex
HA (Year)
HA (Month)
HSDA
LHA
Township of Injury
Place of Injury
Drugs Involved
Fentanyl Detected
Fentanyl Concentration
Expedited Tox 1
Expedited Tox 2
Mode of Consumption
Income Assistance Day
Notes

Inclusion Criteria: Unregulated drugs and/or drugs sold illicitly:

- Controlled drugs: heroin, cocaine, MDMA, methamphetamine, illicit fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, etc.;
- Medications not prescribed to the deceased but obtained/purchased from unknown means or where origin of drug not known;
- Combinations of the above with prescribed medications;
- Includes accidental or undetermined deaths;
- Does not include intentional drug toxicity deaths; and
- Does not include unintentional deaths due solely to one's own prescribed medications.

Definition:

The definition of unregulated drug death at an overdose prevention site (OPS) is:

- Deaths are included if the injury is sustained while receiving overdose prevention services and the person dies on-site. This is inclusive of waiting rooms, indoor OPS, and outdoor OPS, but not the areas surrounding an OPS (e.g., parking lots, sidewalks) or areas of the building where overdose prevention services are not delivered.
- Deaths are excluded if the injury occurred at an OPS site and the death occurred during or after transportation for a higher level of care (e.g., in hospital).

Notes:

1. The BCCS operates in a live database environment. Some data for more recent years are based on preliminary circumstances and are subject to change as investigations are concluded. Data are not directly comparable to published counts from previous years.
2. Date of death was used in tables where date of injury was unknown.
3. Population estimates were taken from:
<https://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/apps/PopulationProjections.aspx>
4. Health Region breakdowns can be found at:
<http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/geographicdata-services/land-use/administrative-boundaries/health-boundaries>

Please submit a request to BCCS.Stats@gov.bc.ca for questions.