

This report summarizes all accidental and undetermined illicit drug overdose deaths in British Columbia that occurred between January 1, 2007 and May 31, 2016, inclusive.

Inclusion Criteria: The illicit drug overdose category includes the following:

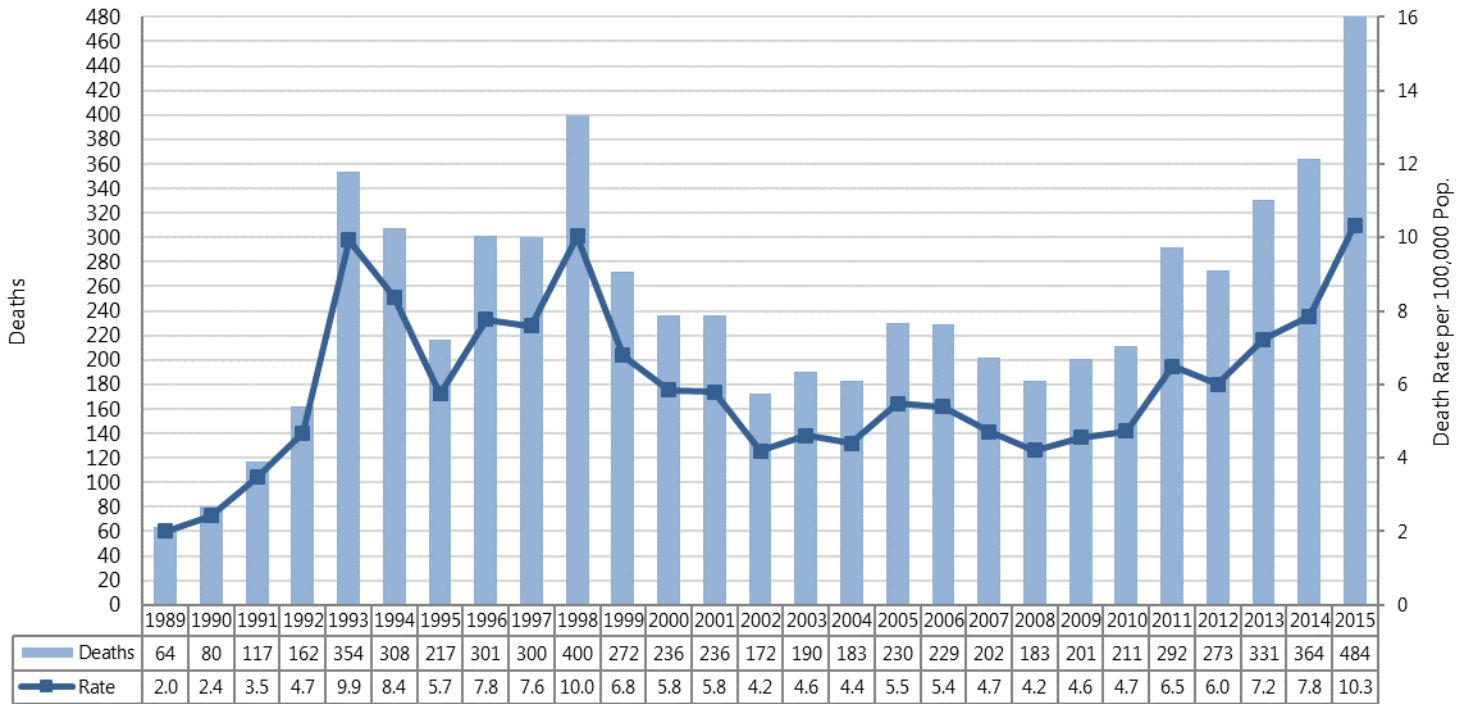
- Street drugs (heroin, cocaine, MDMA, methamphetamine, etc.)
- Medications that were not prescribed to the deceased
- Combinations of the above, with prescribed medications
- Origin of drug not known

Caveat: The BCCS operates in a live database environment. Some data for more recent years is based on preliminary circumstances and is subject to change as investigations are concluded. Data are not directly comparable to published counts from previous years.

Summary

- There were 308 apparent illicit drug overdose deaths from January to May 2016. This is a 75% increase over the number of deaths occurring during the same time period in 2015 (176).
- From January to May 2016, an average of 61.6 apparent illicit drug overdose deaths occurred each month. In 2015, the average number of illicit drug overdose deaths per month was 40.3.
- There were 77 apparent illicit drug overdose deaths in January 2016. This is the largest number of deaths in a single month for the examined period (January 2007-May 2016).
- Preliminary data suggest that individuals aged 20-29 and 30-39 have accounted for the largest percentages of illicit drug overdose deaths in 2016 (26% and 30%, respectively).
- Preliminary data for January – April 30, 2016, suggest that the proportion of illicit drug overdose deaths in which fentanyl was detected (alone or in combination with other drugs) increased to approximately 56% in 2016. In previous years, the proportion was:
 - 2012 = 5%
 - 2013 = 15%
 - 2014 = 25%
 - 2015 = 31%

Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths and Death Rate per 100,000 Population



Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths by Month, British Columbia, 2007-2016*										
Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Jan	15	18	23	16	24	20	20	23	41	77
Feb	14	8	15	14	24	17	21	39	30	56
Mar	19	17	10	15	25	25	32	28	30	73
Apr	24	18	8	9	26	31	31	29	33	60
May	10	18	19	22	21	20	28	41	42	42
Subtotal	82	79	75	76	120	113	132	160	176	308
Jun	18	18	16	21	22	25	25	27	33	
Jul	11	24	19	23	33	29	37	25	32	
Aug	21	16	27	24	22	20	21	35	51	
Sep	14	12	16	20	22	17	28	31	39	
Oct	15	10	13	18	23	20	19	35	50	
Nov	19	9	18	18	26	28	31	27	40	
Dec	22	15	17	11	24	21	38	24	63	
Total	202	183	201	211	292	273	331	364	484	308
Average	16.8	15.3	16.8	17.6	24.3	22.8	27.6	30.3	40.3	61.6

* 2016 data include Jan-May

Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths by Region, 2007-2016*										
Region	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Metro	75	60	77	63	93	87	112	127	159	72
Fraser	45	51	49	74	99	90	88	113	175	93
Interior	32	20	33	35	37	31	50	45	61	57
Island	36	44	34	24	47	46	59	56	61	66
Northern	14	8	8	15	16	19	22	23	28	20
Total	202	183	201	211	292	273	331	364	484	308

* 2016 data include Jan-May

Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths by Age Group, 2007-2016*										
Age Group	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
10-19	6	6	4	7	8	6	13	7	11	9
20-29	32	36	44	37	70	60	87	80	109	81
30-39	53	48	51	49	74	61	78	99	129	91
40-49	70	42	57	66	76	67	73	85	115	67
50-59	36	43	33	45	54	59	59	69	97	52
60-69	4	8	12	7	10	19	21	24	22	7
70-79	1	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Total	202	183	201	211	292	273	331	364	484	308

* 2016 data include Jan-May

Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths by Gender, 2007-2016*										
Gender	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Female	47	49	55	49	81	77	79	82	100	58
Male	155	134	146	162	211	196	252	282	384	250
Total	202	183	201	211	292	273	331	364	484	308

* 2016 data include Jan-May

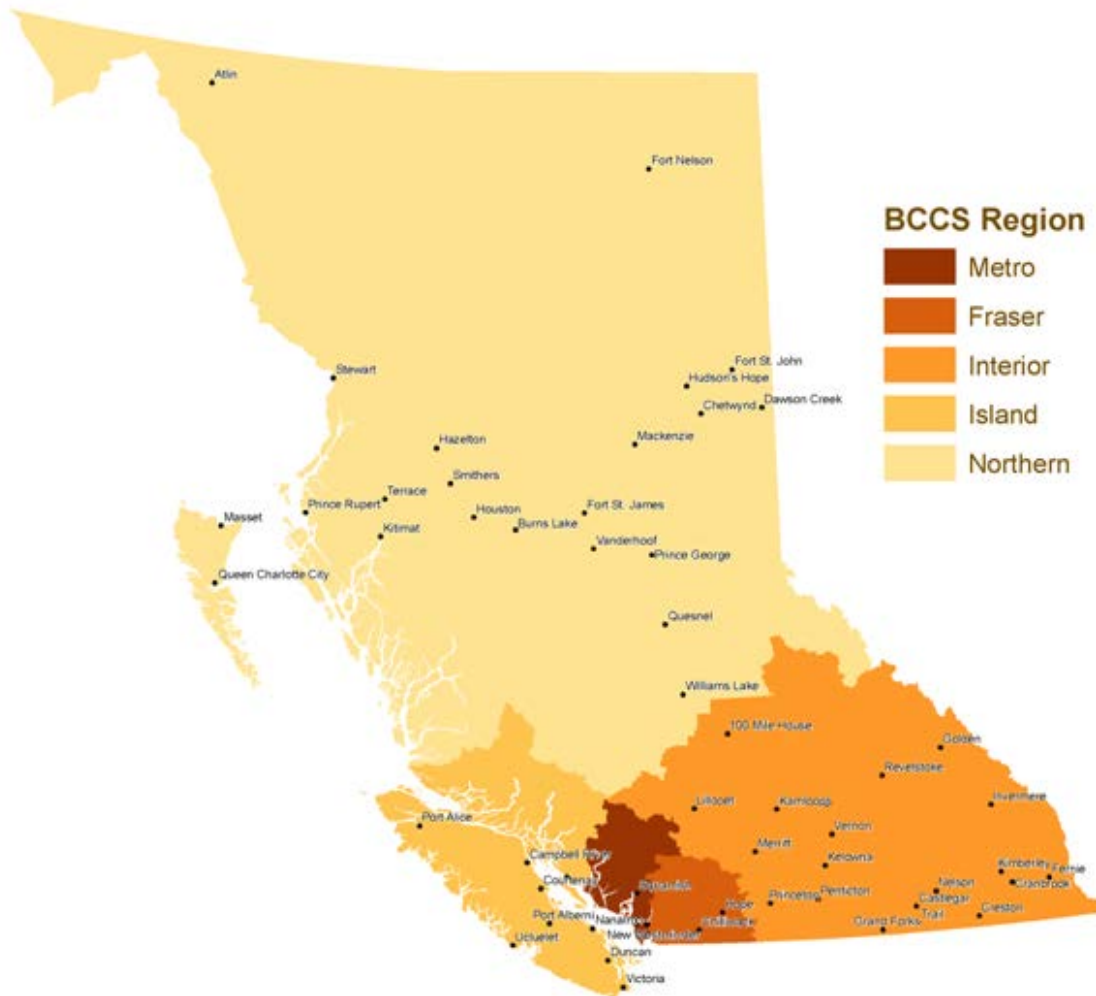
Illicit Drug Overdose Deaths by Township of Injury, 2007-2016*										
Township [†]	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016*
Vancouver	59	38	60	42	68	67	80	98	120	53
Surrey	21	20	23	32	42	44	36	44	70	37
Victoria	19	29	13	13	17	17	25	19	17	24
Burnaby	9	12	8	9	10	10	13	11	16	10
Kelowna	6	2	5	9	14	8	12	12	19	18
Abbotsford	3	4	4	10	16	7	9	7	24	13
Nanaimo	2	2	6	4	8	6	20	15	19	15
Maple Ridge	5	2	6	3	4	5	10	14	26	13
Kamloops	11	7	7	10	2	5	8	8	7	18
Langley	3	5	2	3	9	5	10	10	10	8
Prince George	5	2	4	1	6	10	7	10	13	6
New Westminster	1	4	2	6	6	3	5	9	12	6
Chilliwack	3	4	2	2	8	8	6	6	9	2
Vernon	3	1	4	6	7	1	11	6	8	3
Coquitlam	2	2	5	2	3	6	1	10	11	5
Mission	3	6	2	9	5	3	3	3	4	3
North Vancouver	2	3	1	3	2	2	4	9	7	2
Delta	3	2	1	2	6	3	3	2	3	2
Campbell River	2	1	1	2	6	3	-	5	3	3
Richmond	-	1	3	4	4	1	3	3	5	2
Penticton	1	2	4	1	3	2	4	3	3	1
Port Coquitlam	1	1	1	5	-	4	3	2	2	2
Courtenay	1	1	2	1	2	1	4	2	3	2
Fort St John	1	1	-	-	3	1	3	4	1	5
Powell River	1	1	1	1	3	-	2	2	2	5
Port Alberni	1	-	1	1	4	3	-	3	3	-
Williams Lake	3	1	2	2	-	1	2	1	2	-
Quesnel	1	-	-	5	2	2	1	-	2	-
West Kelowna	-	-	-	1	-	3	2	3	2	2
White Rock	1	1	-	-	1	2	1	4	1	2
Duncan	2	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	3	2
Pitt Meadows	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	3	3	1
Cranbrook	2	-	-	-	1	1	1	2	2	1
Merritt	1	1	2	-	-	2	1	1	-	2
Parksville	-	-	-	-	3	3	1	-	2	1
Dawson Creek	-	-	1	-	1	3	1	2	-	1
Whistler	1	2	2	1	-	1	1	1	-	-

Castlegar	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	2	2	2
Prince Rupert	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	5
Qualicum Beach	-	1	4	-	-	1	1	1	-	-
Terrace	-	2	-	2	-	-	1	-	1	2
West Vancouver	1	1	-	-	-	2	1	1	2	-
Port Moody	-	1	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	1
Sooke	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	2	2
Lake Country	-	1	-	-	2	1	-	-	2	-
Saanich	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5
Salmon Arm	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	2
Chase	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
Chetwynd	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	1	-
Princeton	-	-	-	1	1	-	2	-	1	-
Sechelt	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	-	-
Trail	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-
U/k Township	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3
Other Township	17	19	15	13	18	15	26	22	35	15
Total	202	183	201	211	292	273	331	364	484	308

* 2016 data include Jan-May

† Table only includes townships with five or more deaths in 2007-2016 combined. All other townships are grouped into "other"

BC CORONERS SERVICE REGIONS



Northern Region: Includes the region north, east and west from 100 Mile House to all Provincial borders, and Haida Gwaii.

Metro Region: Sunshine Coast, Sea to Sky Corridor, North Shore, Vancouver, UBC, Burnaby, Richmond, and Delta.

Fraser Region: Includes Coquitlam and Surrey to the Coquihalla Highway summit, east to Manning Park and north to Jackass Mountain bordering Merritt.

Interior Region: Includes the region north to 100 Mile House and Blue River, east to the Alberta border, south to the USA border and west to the Manning Park gate, including Ashcroft, Lytton and Lillooet.

Island Region: All of Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands, and Powell River.