

# Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths in BC January 1, 2010 – August 31, 2020

This report summarizes all unintentional illicit drug toxicity deaths in British Columbia (accidental and undetermined) that occurred between January 1, 2010, and August 31, 2020, inclusive. It includes confirmed and suspected illicit toxicity deaths (inclusion criteria below). *Please note that data is subject to change as investigations are concluded.*<sup>1</sup>

**Inclusion Criteria:** The illicit drug toxicity category includes the following:

- Street drugs (Controlled and illegal drugs: heroin, cocaine, MDMA, methamphetamine, illicit fentanyl etc.).
- Medications not prescribed to the decedent but obtained/purchased on the street, from unknown means or where origin of drug not known.
- Combinations of the above with prescribed medications.

Note: 2020 data is up to the month of August. Due to the short time frame, rates, numbers and percentages should be interpreted with caution and are subject to change as investigations are completed.

#### 2020 Summary

- In August 2020, there were 147 suspected illicit drug toxicity deaths. This represent a 71% increase over the number of deaths seen in August 2019 (86) and a 16% decrease over the number of deaths seen in July 2020 (176).
- The number of illicit drug toxicity deaths in August 2020 equates to about 4.7 deaths per day.
- In 2020, 69% of those dying were aged 30 to 59. Males accounted for 81% of deaths in 2020 to date.
- The townships experiencing the highest number of illicit drug toxicity deaths in 2020 are Vancouver, Surrey, and Victoria.
- By Health Authority (HA), in 2020, the highest **number** of illicit drug toxicity deaths were in Fraser and Vancouver Coastal Health Authorities (343 and 295 deaths, respectively), making up 60% of all such deaths during this period.
- By Health Authority (HA), in 2020, the highest **rates** were in Northern Health (40 deaths per 100,000 individuals) and Vancouver Coastal Health (36 per 100,000). Overall, the rate in BC is 31 deaths per 100,000 individuals in 2020, similar to rates in 2017 and 2018.
- By Health Service Delivery Area (HSDA), in 2020, the highest **rates** were in Vancouver, Northern Interior, Northeast, Thompson Cariboo and South Vancouver Island.
- By Local Health Area (LHA), in 2018 to 2020, the highest **rates** were in Hope, Lillooet, Vancouver, Terrace and Princeton.

- In 2020, 84% of illicit drug toxicity deaths occurred inside (56% in private residences and 28% in other residences including social and supportive housing, SROs, shelters, and hotels and other indoor locations) and 15% occurred outside in vehicles, sidewalks, streets, parks, etc.
- In Vancouver Coastal, other residences (48%) were the most common place of illicit drug toxicity deaths followed by private residences (36%) between 2017 and 2020 (see Table 2, Page 5).
- No deaths have been reported at supervised consumption or drug overdose prevention sites.<sup>2</sup>

#### **Observations of Past Few Months**

- Male illicit drug toxicity death rates have increased in recent months and have remained high whereas female rates have declined in August 2020 to average levels (see Figure 4, Page 8).
- Illicit drug toxicity death rates among 19-39 and 40-59 years have increased in recent months and have remained high (see Figure 6, Page 10).
- Northern Health Authority illicit drug toxicity death rates have increased in recent months and have remained high whereas Interior, Vancouver Coastal and Island rates have seen declines in August 2020 (see Figure 7, Page 13). Rates for Fraser Health has remained stable over the past few months.

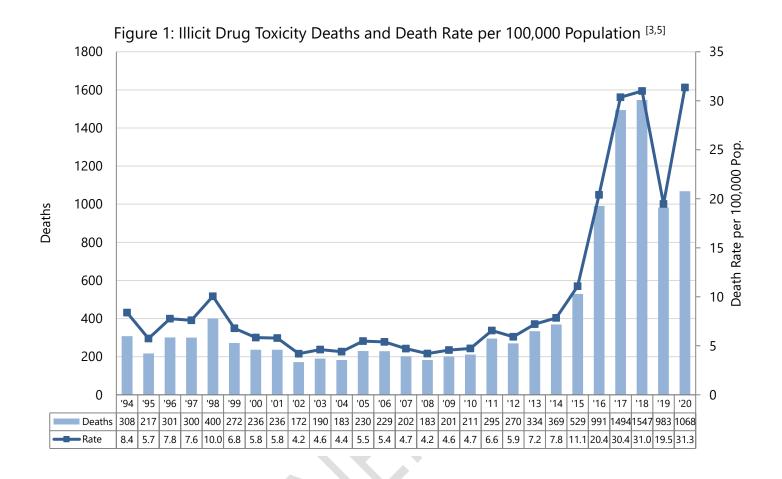


Table 1: Illici	t Drug T	oxicity	Deaths	by Mon	th, Briti	sh Colu	mbia, 2	010-202	.0 <sup>[3]</sup>		
Month	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Jan	16	24	20	20	23	43	85	147	134	94	78
Feb	14	24	17	21	38	31	58	125	108	85	73
Mar	15	25	25	33	28	32	76	130	157	116	113
Apr	9	27	31	31	29	34	72	154	136	84	120
May	22	22	19	28	40	41	51	149	119	88	180
Jun	21	22	25	25	29	34	71	128	116	76	181
Jul	23	33	29	39	25	40	74	123	147	74	176
Aug	24	22	20	21	37	53	64	127	123	86	147
Subtotal	144	199	186	218	249	308	551	1,083	1,040	703	1,068
Sep	20	22	16	28	32	50	63	97	135	59	-
Oct	18	23	19	19	35	53	76	98	118	75	_
Nov	18	27	28	31	28	52	140	112	132	79	_
Dec	11	24	21	38	25	66	161	104	122	67	-
Total	211	295	270	334	369	529	991	1,494	1,547	983	1,068
Average	17.6	24.6	22.5	27.8	30.8	44.1	82.6	124.5	128.9	81.9	133.5

## Comparison to Other Common Causes of Unnatural Deaths from 2010 to 2019:

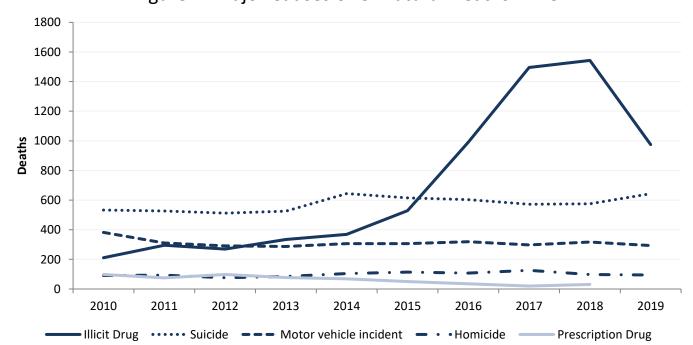


Figure 2: Major Causes of Unnatural Deaths in BC

<sup>\*</sup>Prescription drug toxicity deaths (accidental and undetermined) include cases where only a prescription drug is involved and reported for closed investigations only to 2018.

## **BC Data by Place of Injury**

Table 2: Illicit Drug Toxicity Death	ns by Place of Ir	njury, BC, 2017	-2020 <sup>[3]</sup>	
	2017	2018	2019	2020
Inside:				
Private Residence	898 (60.1%)	922 (59.6%)	562 (57.2%)	595 (55.7%)
Other Residence	366 (24.5%)	371 (24.0%)	259 (26.4%)	277 (25.9%)
Correctional facility/police cell	3 (0.2%)	6 (0.4%)	4 (0.4%)	3 (0.3%)
Medical facility	2 (0.1%)	5 (0.3%)	5 (0.5%)	5 (0.5%)
Occupational site	10 (0.7%)	6 (0.4%)	6 (0.6%)	4 (0.4%)
Public building				
Public washroom	26 (1.7%)	23 (1.5%)	11 (1.1%)	3 (0.3%)
Other area of building	7 (0.5%)	11 (0.7%)	8 (0.8%)	9 (0.8%)
Outside	177 (11.9%)	194 (12.5%)	118 (12.0%)	158 (14.8%)
Unknown	5 (0.3%)	9 (0.6%)	10 (1.0%)	14 (1.3%)
Total	1,494	1,547	983	1,068

Table 3: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths by Place of Injury and Health Authority, BC, 2017-2020 <sup>[3]</sup>											
	Interior	Fraser	Vancouver Coastal	Vancouver Island	Northern						
Inside:											
Private Residence	513 (65.9%)	1,215 (72.0%)	528 (35.7%)	509 (60.9%)	212 (68.0%)						
Other Residence	136 (17.5%)	190 (11.3%)	709 (48.0%)	184 (22.0%)	54 (17.3%)						
Other Inside	30 (3.9%)	60 (3.6%)	38 (2.6%)	18 (2.2%)	11 (3.5%)						
Outside	98 (12.6%)	208 (12.3%)	190 (12.9%)	116 (13.9%)	35 (11.2%)						
Unknown	2 (0.3%)	14 (0.8%)	13 (0.9%)	9 (1.1%)	0 (0%)						
Total	779	1,687	1,478	836	312						

<u>Private Residence</u> – includes driveways garages, trailer homes and either decedent's own or another's residence.

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

Medical facility – includes hospitals, community care facilities, etc

Occupational site – includes locations where the decedent was at their place of work.

<u>Public buildings</u> – includes restaurants, community centres, businesses, clinics, etc.

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

## **BC Data by Drugs Involved:**

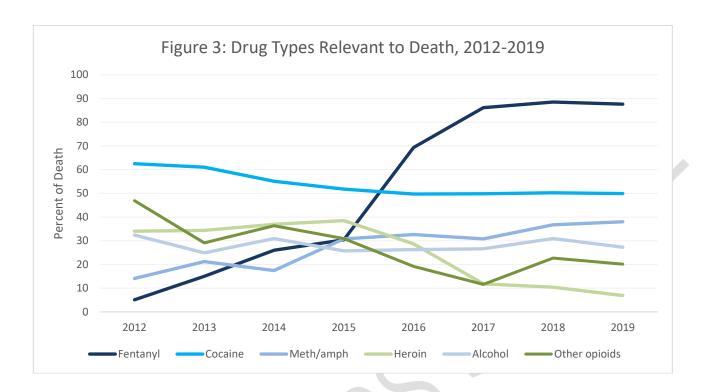
- Preliminary data suggests that the proportion of illicit drug toxicity deaths for which illicit
  fentanyl was detected (alone or in combination with other drugs) was approximately 79% in
  2020 and 85% in 2019. 2020 data will change as further toxicology results are received.
- Post-mortem toxicology results suggest that there has been a greater number of cases with extreme fentanyl concentrations in Apr-Aug 2020 compared with previous months (concentrations exceeded >50ug/L (micrograms/litre)). From Apr-Aug 2020, approximately 14% of cases had extreme fentanyl concentrations as compared to 8% from Jan 2019 to Mar 2020.
- Carfentanil has been detected in 132 suspected illicit drug toxicity deaths in 2019 and 30 deaths in 2020. There were 24 deaths with carfentanil detected in June-August 2020. This is subject to change as further toxicology results are received.
- A review of <u>completed cases</u> from 2016-19 indicates that the top four detected drugs relevant to illicit drug toxicity deaths were fentanyl (83%), cocaine (50%), methamphetamine/amphetamine (34%), and heroin (15%).
- Among the drug types involved in completed illicit drug toxicity death investigations, illicit
  fentanyl has increased from 5% in 2012 to 88% in 2019. Methamphetamine has also
  increased from 14% in 2012 to 38% in 2019. Cocaine, heroin, and other opioids have
  steadily declined from 2012 to 2019; however, cocaine remains involved in 50% of illicit
  drug toxicity deaths in 2019.

Table 5: Top Drugs Involved Among	Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths, 2016-19
Drug Detected	BC (n=3,890)
Illicit fentanyl & analogues	82.8%
Cocaine	49.8%
Methamphetamine/amphetamine	33.9%
Ethyl alcohol	27.8%
Heroin	14.9%
Other opioids	17.3%
Methadone	6.6%
Other drugs	16.2%

#### Notes:

Drugs involved are noted by the coroner as being relevant to the death (this data is only available for concluded investigations). Data does not indicate when a substance was taken.

6-monoacetyl morphine (heroin) is unstable in biological fluids and can degrade during storage; therefore, the occurrence of heroin in cases may be underestimated. As deaths could involve multiple drugs, percentages can add up to more than 100%.
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 codeine, oxycodone, morphine, hydromorphine etc but excludes heroin, fentanyl, fentanyl analogues, and methadone. Other drug includes benzodiazepines & Z-drugs, antidepressants, antiepileptics, antipsychotics, MDMA/MDA, cannabinoids, over-the-counter drugs, and other drugs not listed.



### **Income Assistance Week:**

Table 4: Illicit Dr 2019-2020 <sup>[3,4]</sup>	rug To	kicity [	Deaths	per d	ay by	Incom	ie Assi	stanc	e Payn	nent \	Week,		
	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Avg
Income Assistance Payment Week (Wed-Sun)	2.2	3.0	2.6	3.2	2.8	3.4	7.0	3.4	7.8	8.2	5.8	3.6	4.4
All other days of the month	1.9	2.3	2.6	2.0	2.5	2.3	3.0	4.1	5.4	5.6	5.7	5.0	3.5
Total	2.0	2.4	2.6	2.2	2.5	2.5	3.6	4.0	5.8	6.0	5.7	4.7	3.7

More illicit drug toxicity deaths occurred during the days following income assistance
payment (Wed-Sun) than all other days in 2019-20. Income assistance payment dates can
be found at <a href="https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/income-assistance/payment-dates">https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/family-social-supports/income-assistance/payment-dates</a>.

## **BC Data by Gender/Age:**

Table 6: III	Table 6: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths by Gender, 2010-2020 <sup>[3]</sup>													
Gender	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020			
Female	49	82	76	79	86	106	199	270	313	234	206			
Male	162	213	194	255	283	423	792	1,223	1,234	749	862			
Unknown	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0			
Total	211	295	270	334	369	529	991	1,494	1,547	983	1,068			

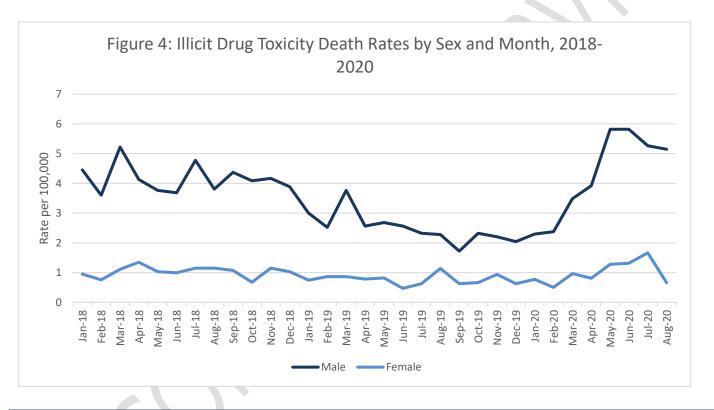


Table 7: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths by Age Group, 2010-2020 <sup>[3]</sup>											
Age Group	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<19	4	4	5	6	3	5	12	25	18	13	14
19-29	40	75	61	94	83	117	204	273	301	174	211
30-39	49	75	61	77	101	137	261	400	399	273	248
40-49	66	77	67	74	85	130	232	355	343	217	249
50-59	45	54	56	62	73	110	229	313	355	211	235
60-69	7	10	19	21	24	29	50	121	123	91	101
70-79	0	0	1	0	0	1	3	7	8	4	10
Total	211	295	270	334	369	529	991	1,494	1,547	983	1,068

Table 8: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths by Age Group and Month, 2020[3]												
Age Group	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug				
<19	1	0	4	1	0	4	3	1				
19-29	17	19	21	26	33	36	31	28				
30-39	23	16	27	29	43	36	41	33				
40-49	19	24	24	24	45	42	34	37				
50-59	8	9	29	27	43	38	48	33				
60-69	9	5	7	12	16	20	18	14				
70-79	1	0	1	1	0	5	1	1				
Total	78	73	113	120	180	181	176	147				

Figure 5: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths by Age Group, 2010-2020

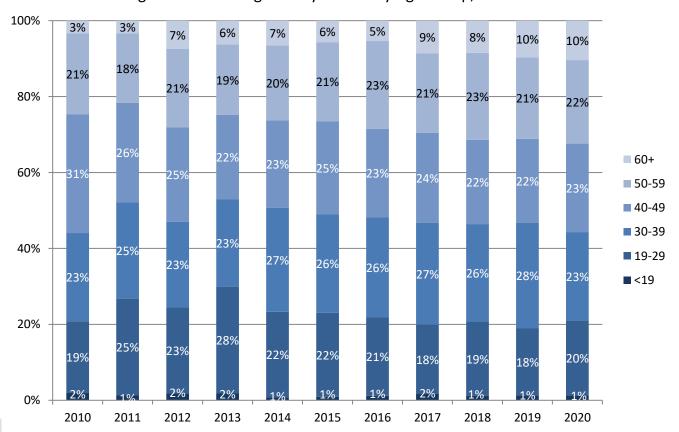
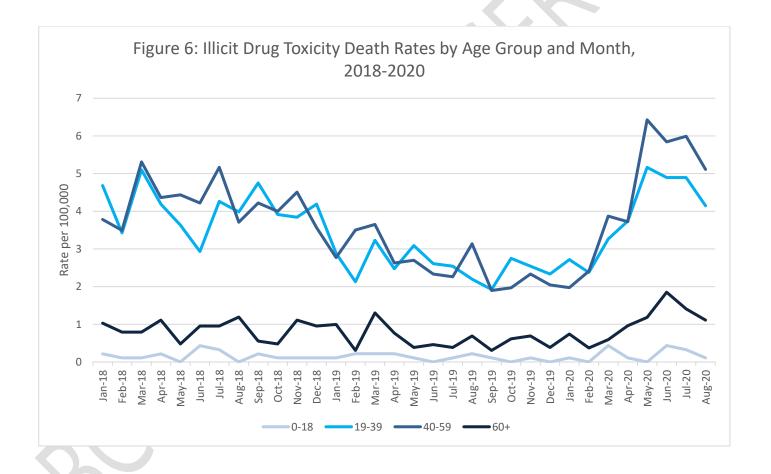


Table 9: Ag	je-Spec	ific Illici	t Drug <sup>·</sup>	Toxicity	Death I	Rates pe	er 100,00	00, 2010	)-2020 <sup>[3</sup>	,5]	
Age Group	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
<19	0.4	0.4	0.6	0.7	0.3	0.6	1.3	2.7	1.9	1.4	2.3
19-29	5.9	11.1	8.8	13.5	11.7	16.5	28.5	37.8	40.8	23.4	42.7
30-39	8.3	12.6	10.1	12.6	16.1	21.4	39.7	59.3	57.6	38.3	50.9
40-49	9.7	11.4	10.0	11.1	12.9	19.9	35.5	54.6	53.0	33.6	57.7
50-59	6.8	8.0	8.1	8.8	10.1	15.0	30.9	42.6	48.8	29.1	48.9
60-69	1.5	2.0	3.7	3.9	4.2	4.9	8.1	19.2	19.1	13.8	22.4
70-79	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.9	1.9	2.0	1.0	3.4
Total	4.7	6.6	5.9	7.2	7.8	11.1	20.4	30.4	31.0	19.5	31.3



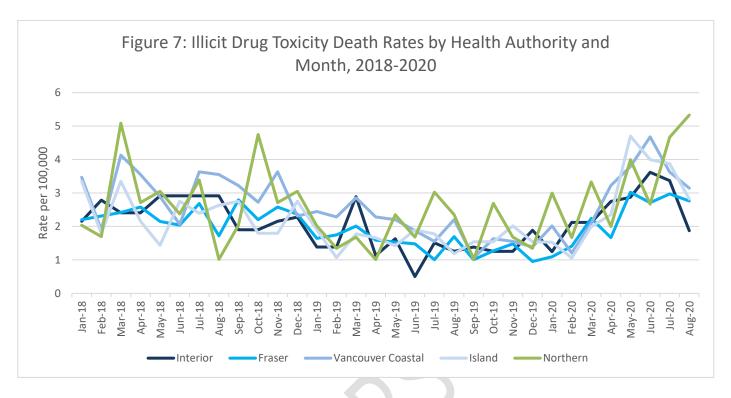
# **BC Data by Township of Injury:**

Table 10: Illicit Dru	ug Toxi	icity De	aths by	/ Top T	ownship	os of Inju	iry in 202	20, 2010	-2020 <sup>[3]</sup>		
Township	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Vancouver	42	69	65	80	102	138	231	375	395	247	259
Surrey	33	42	44	36	44	76	118	181	214	119	130
Victoria	13	17	18	25	20	23	68	94	97	61	95
Kelowna	9	14	8	12	12	20	47	73	56	33	36
Kamloops	10	2	5	8	7	7	44	38	46	26	36
Abbotsford	10	16	7	10	7	27	40	52	41	45	35
Burnaby	9	10	10	13	11	15	40	44	48	31	30
Prince George	1	6	10	7	10	12	18	24	50	25	29
Nanaimo	4	8	6	20	16	18	29	56	37	27	27
Langley	3	10	5	10	10	10	31	36	33	21	25
New Westminster	6	6	3	5	9	12	10	24	36	19	23
Chilliwack	2	8	8	6	6	10	13	22	37	21	22
Coquitlam	2	3	6	1	10	11	15	30	21	11	19
Maple Ridge	4	4	5	10	14	29	28	33	29	13	17
Delta	2	6	3	4	2	6	11	20	20	14	13
Other Township	61	74	67	87	89	115	248	392	387	270	272
Total	211	295	270	334	369	529	991	1,494	1,547	983	1,068

# **Health Authority Data:**

Table 11: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths by Health Authority, 2010-2020[3,6]													
НА	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020		
Interior	37	38	31	54	47	64	168	246	234	139	160		
Fraser	86	115	104	106	126	208	334	493	522	329	343		
Vancouver Coastal	52	81	72	95	120	160	276	448	449	286	295		
Island	23	45	45	60	55	72	161	241	242	163	190		
Northern	13	16	18	19	21	25	52	66	100	66	80		
BC	211	295	270	334	369	529	991	1,494	1,547	983	1,068		

Table 12: Illicit Dru	ıg Tox	icity D	eath Ra	ates by	Health	Authoi	ity per	100,000	, 2010-	2020 <sup>[3,5</sup>	,6]
НА	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Interior	5.2	5.3	4.4	7.5	6.5	8.5	21.9	31.6	29.7	17.5	30.0
Fraser	5.3	7.0	6.2	6.3	7.3	11.8	18.6	27.0	28.1	17.4	26.8
Vancouver Coastal	4.7	7.3	6.3	8.2	10.0	13.5	23.3	37.4	37.1	23.3	35.7
Island	3.1	6.0	6.0	7.9	7.2	9.1	19.8	29.2	29.0	19.3	33.5
Northern	4.6	5.6	6.3	6.5	7.1	8.7	17.8	22.5	33.9	22.2	40.0
ВС	4.7	6.6	5.9	7.2	7.8	11.1	20.4	30.4	31.0	19.5	31.3



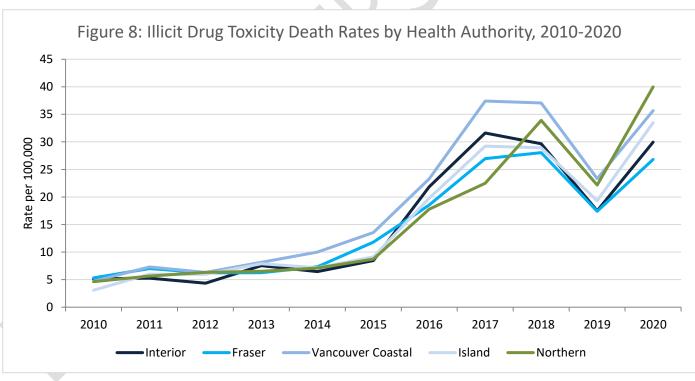


Table 13: Illicit Drug Toxicity Deaths by Month of Death and Health Authority and Township, 2019-2020<sup>[3,6]</sup>

2019-202				Health Autho			T	ownship	
Year	Month	Interior	Fraser	Vancouver Coastal	Vancouver Island	Northern	Vancouver	Surrey	Victoria
2019	Jan	11	31	30	16	6	24	10	5
	Feb	11	33	28	9	4	24	14	2
	Mar	23	38	35	15	5	33	14	7
	Apr	9	30	28	14	3	25	10	4
	May	13	29	27	12	7	24	10	6
	June	4	28	23	16	5	20	13	5
	Jul	12	19	19	15	9	17	8	5
	Aug	10	32	27	10	7	21	5	3
	Sep	11	19	13	13	3	12	12	6
	Oct	10	24	20	13	8	15	9	6
	Nov	10	28	19	17	5	18	7	6
	Dec	15	18	17	13	4	14	7	6
2020	Jan	10	21	25	13	9	22	9	7
	Feb	17	27	15	9	5	13	10	3
	Mar	17	43	26	17	10	21	15	9
	Apr	22	32	40	20	6	34	15	10
	May	23	58	47	40	12	41	25	22
	Jun	29	52	58	34	8	54	19	16
	Jul	27	57	45	33	14	41	21	17
	Aug	15	53	39	24	16	33	16	11
Total		299	672	581	353	146	506	249	156
Average		15.0	33.6	29.1	17.7	7.3	25.3	12.5	7.8

Table 14: Illicit Drug Toxio	ity Dea	aths by	Health	n Servio	es Del	ivery A	rea (HS	SDA), 20	10-202	O <sup>[3,6]</sup>	
HSDA	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
East Kootenay	0	1	2	4	4	2	13	7	6	1	13
Kootenay Boundary	3	4	4	2	3	6	11	17	14	13	13
Okanagan	18	28	16	33	27	43	77	155	129	84	73
Thompson Cariboo	16	5	9	15	13	13	67	67	85	41	61
Fraser East	22	31	20	20	16	42	67	105	98	86	69
Fraser North	26	25	30	35	51	73	105	148	151	88	104
Fraser South	38	59	54	51	59	93	162	240	273	155	170
Richmond	4	4	1	3	3	6	14	28	12	13	10
Vancouver	42	69	65	80	102	138	231	375	395	247	259
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	6	8	6	12	15	16	31	45	42	26	26
South Vancouver Island	13	17	21	26	23	26	78	105	122	73	107
Central Vancouver Island	6	17	20	25	25	33	56	99	90	61	61
North Vancouver Island	4	11	4	9	7	13	27	37	30	29	22
Northwest	3	1	0	6	2	6	10	8	14	15	12
Northern Interior	7	8	12	8	11	15	24	35	62	34	48
Northeast	3	7	6	5	8	4	18	23	24	17	20
Total	211	295	270	334	369	529	991	1,494	1,547	983	1,068

Table 15: Illicit Drug Toxicity	/ Death	ns by H	SDA an	d Mon	th, 202	O <sup>[3,6]</sup>		
HSDA	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
East Kootenay	2	2	0	0	3	3	2	1
Kootenay Boundary	0	3	2	1	0	4	1	2
Okanagan	5	6	9	10	9	14	13	7
Thompson Cariboo	3	6	6	11	11	8	11	5
Fraser East	2	8	9	5	7	14	11	13
Fraser North	7	7	13	10	18	14	16	19
Fraser South	12	12	21	17	33	24	30	21
Richmond	2	2	0	1	0	2	2	1
Vancouver	22	13	21	34	41	54	41	33
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	1	0	5	5	6	2	2	5
South Vancouver Island	7	3	10	12	24	18	19	14
Central Vancouver Island	5	4	6	5	11	14	10	6
North Vancouver Island	1	2	1	3	5	2	4	4
Northwest	1	0	3	2	0	1	2	3
Northern Interior	4	2	5	4	9	3	9	12
Northeast	4	3	2	0	3	4	3	1
Total	78	73	113	120	180	181	176	147

Table 16: Illicit Drug Tox	cicity D	eath F	Rates b	v Heal	th Ser	vices D	eliver	v Area	per 100	,000,	
2010-2020 <sup>[3,5,6]</sup>											
HSDA	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
East Kootenay	0.0	1.3	2.6	5.2	5.1	2.4	15.7	8.1	6.8	1.1	22.9
Kootenay Boundary	3.9	5.1	5.2	2.6	3.8	7.5	13.5	19.9	16.1	14.9	23.4
Okanagan	5.2	8.0	4.7	9.6	7.7	11.7	20.5	40.0	32.6	20.9	27.7
Thompson Cariboo	7.4	2.3	4.2	6.9	5.9	5.8	29.3	27.8	34.5	16.5	38.5
Fraser East	7.8	10.9	7.0	6.9	5.5	13.9	21.6	33.0	30.2	26.0	31.7
Fraser North	4.3	4.0	4.8	5.5	7.9	11.1	15.7	21.9	22.1	12.7	22.1
Fraser South	5.3	8.0	7.1	6.6	7.6	11.6	19.7	28.6	31.7	17.6	28.8
Richmond	2.0	2.0	0.5	1.5	1.4	2.9	6.7	13.6	5.8	6.2	6.7
Vancouver	6.6	10.9	9.9	12.0	14.8	20.4	34.0	55.7	58.5	36.1	54.9
North Shore/Coast Garibaldi	2.2	2.9	2.1	4.1	5.0	5.4	10.4	15.1	14.0	8.7	12.7
South Vancouver Island	3.5	4.6	5.6	6.8	6.0	6.7	19.4	25.5	29.1	17.1	38.1
Central Vancouver Island	2.3	6.5	7.6	9.4	9.4	12.0	19.8	34.0	30.2	20.3	30.9
North Vancouver Island	3.4	9.2	3.4	7.6	5.9	10.6	21.2	28.7	22.8	21.8	24.8
Northwest	4.1	1.4	0.0	7.7	2.5	7.9	13.4	10.8	19.0	20.2	23.5
Northern Interior	5.0	5.6	8.4	5.4	7.4	10.4	16.3	24.3	42.8	23.3	47.7
Northeast	4.5	10.4	9.3	7.5	11.9	6.0	25.4	35.7	37.4	26.5	41.3
Total	4.7	6.6	5.9	7.2	7.8	11.1	20.4	30.4	31.0	19.5	31.3

Peace River North

**New Westminster** 

North Thompson

Ouesnel

Keremeos

Kamloops

Revelstoke

Penticton

Table 17: Top 15 Illicit Drug Toxicity Death Rates (per 100,000 person-years) in 2018-2020 by Local Health Area (LHA)[3,5,6] Number of 2014-16 2015-17 2016-18 2017-19 2018-20 Deaths 2018-20 Hope 12.3 27.7 49.1 61.9 14 38.5 Lillooet 23.7 29.8 27.6 32.2 50.8 6 Vancouver 23.0 36.7 49.4 50.0 49.8 901 Terrace 12.4 15.7 20.8 25.7 44.4 23 6.7 43.9 Princeton 44.7 64.9 66.6 7 42.9 **Grand Forks** 0.0 14.4 41.5 49.9 12 41.7 Prince George 13.6 19.4 33.0 35.1 111

28.9

19.2

36.6

30.9

37.5

20.8

29.0

23.5

24.7

26.1

47.7

34.2

31.5

19.4

39.6

31.2

40.5

38.9

38.7

38.0

36.5

35.4

35.3

34.9

37

23

6

78

118

9

45

17.5

13.6

31.0

20.7

26.9

0.0

19.7

15.7

Note that for this table, Vancouver includes 6 LHAs. Surrey includes 2 LHAs. Victoria, Sooke, and Saanich LHAs were aggregated. Both Surrey and Victoria aggregate did not rank in the top 15.

#### **Notes:**

- 1. 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.
- 2. This does not include circumstances where the injury event occurred at an overdose prevention site and death occurred in hospital.
- 3. 2020 data includes January 1, 2020 to August 31, 2020.

19.2

4.0

12.8

14.3

17.9

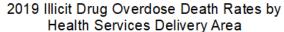
0.0

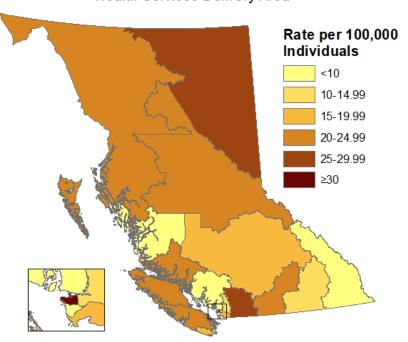
10.2

8.0

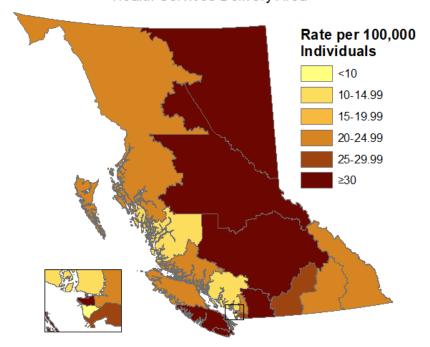
- 4. Date of death was used in tables where date of injury was unknown.
- 5. Population estimates were taken from: https://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/apps/PopulationProjections.aspx
- 6. Health Region breakdowns can be found at: <a href="http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/geographic-data-services/land-use/administrative-boundaries/health-boundaries">http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/geographic-data-services/land-use/administrative-boundaries/health-boundaries</a>

# Figure 9: Illicit Drug Toxicity Death Rate Maps by Health Services Delivery Area





2020 Illicit Drug Overdose Death Rates by Health Services Delivery Area



References for health regions can be found at: <a href="http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/geographic-data-services/land-use/administrative-boundaries/health-boundaries">http://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/data/geographic-data-services/land-use/administrative-boundaries/health-boundaries</a>

List of Townships and	Corresponding Healt	h Regions
Township Name	Health Authority	Health Services Delivery Area
100 Mile House	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
108 Mile Ranch	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
150 Mile House	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Abbotsford	Fraser	Fraser East
Alert Bay	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Armstrong	Interior	Okanagan
Arras	Northern	Northeast
Beasley	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Beaver Falls	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Blue River	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Bowen Island	Vancouver Coastal	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Bowser	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Burnaby	Fraser	Fraser North
Burns Lake	Northern	Northern Interior
Cache Creek	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Campbell River	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Canal Flats	Interior	East Kootenay
Castlegar	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Cawston	Interior	Okanagan
Cedar	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Central Saanich	Vancouver Island	South Vancouver Island
Charlie Lake	Northern	Northeast
Chase	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Chemainus	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Chetwynd	Northern	Northeast
Chilliwack	Fraser	Fraser East
Christina Lake	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Clearwater	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Cobble Hill	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Coldstream	Interior	Okanagan
Colwood	Vancouver Island	South Vancouver Island
Comox	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Coombs	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Coquitlam	Fraser	Fraser North
Cortes Island	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Courtenay	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Cowichan Bay	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Cranbrook	Interior	East Kootenay
Crescent Valley	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Creston	Interior	East Kootenay
Cultus Lake	Fraser	Fraser East

List of Townships and	<b>Corresponding Healt</b>	h Regions
Township Name	Health Authority	Health Services Delivery Area
Cumberland	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Dawson Creek	Northern	Northeast
Dease Lake	Northern	Northwest
Delta	Fraser	Fraser South
Duncan	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Edgewood	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Elkford	Interior	East Kootenay
Enderby	Interior	Okanagan
Errington	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Esquimalt	Vancouver Island	South Vancouver Island
Fairmont Hot Springs	Interior	East Kootenay
Falkland	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Fort Nelson	Northern	Northeast
Fort St. James	Northern	Northern Interior
Fort St. John	Northern	Northeast
Gabriola Island	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Galiano Island	Vancouver Island	South Vancouver Island
Gibsons	Vancouver Coastal	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Gillies Bay	Vancouver Coastal	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Gold River	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Golden	Interior	East Kootenay
Grand Forks	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Harrison Hot Springs	Fraser	Fraser East
Норе	Fraser	Fraser East
Horsefly	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Houston	Northern	Northwest
Invermere	Interior	East Kootenay
Isle Pierre	Northern	Northern Interior
Kamloops	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Kaslo	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Kelowna	Interior	Okanagan
Kent	Fraser	Fraser East
Kimberley	Interior	East Kootenay
Kispiox	Northern	Northwest
Kitamaat Village	Northern	Northwest
Kitimat	Northern	Northwest
Kitseguecla (Gitsegukla)	Northern	Northwest
Lac La Hache	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Ladysmith	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Lake Country, District Of	Interior	Okanagan
Lake Cowichan	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island

Township Name Langford Langley Lantzville Lee Creek Lillooet Liogan Lake Logan Lake Langley Lealth Authority Health Services Delivery Area South Vancouver Island Fraser Fraser South Central Vancouver Island Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Thompson Cariboo Shuswap North Shore/Coast Garibaldi Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Langley Fraser Fraser South  Lantzville Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island  Lee Creek Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap  Lillooet Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap  Lions Bay Vancouver Coastal North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Lantzville Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island Lee Creek Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Lillooet Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Lions Bay Vancouver Coastal North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Lee Creek Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Lillooet Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Lions Bay Vancouver Coastal North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Lillooet Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap Lions Bay Vancouver Coastal North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Lions Bay Vancouver Coastal North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
•
Logan Lake Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Lumby Interior Okanagan
Mabel Lake Interior Okanagan
Mackenzie Northern Northern Interior
Madeira Park Vancouver Coastal North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Malakwa Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Maple Ridge Fraser Fraser North
Mayne Island Vancouver Island South Vancouver Island
Merritt Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Mill Bay Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island
Mission Fraser Fraser East
Nakusp Interior Kootenay Boundary
Nanaimo Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island
Nanoose Bay Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island
Nelson Interior Kootenay Boundary
New Denver Interior Kootenay Boundary
New Hazelton Northern Northwest
New Westminster Fraser Fraser Fraser North
North Cowichan Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island
North Vancouver
Oak Bay Vancouver Island South Vancouver Island
Okanagan Falls Okanagan
Olalla Interior Okanagan
Oliver Interior Okanagan
Osoyoos Interior Okanagan
Parksville Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island
Peachland Interior Okanagan
Pemberton Vancouver Coastal North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Pender Island Vancouver Island South Vancouver Island
Penticton Interior Okanagan
Pink Mountain Northern Northeast
Pitt Meadows Fraser Fraser North
Port Alberni Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island
Port Alice Vancouver Island North Vancouver Island
Port Coquitlam Fraser Fraser North

List of Townships and	Corresponding Heal	th Regions
Township Name	Health Authority	Health Services Delivery Area
Port Hardy	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Port Mcneill	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Port Moody	Fraser	Fraser North
Powell River	Vancouver Coastal	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Prince George	Northern	Northern Interior
Prince Rupert	Northern	Northwest
Princeton	Interior	Okanagan
Prophet River	Northern	Northeast
Quadra Island	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Qualicum Beach	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Queen Charlotte City	Northern	Northwest
Quesnel	Northern	Northern Interior
Radium Hot Springs	Interior	East Kootenay
Revelstoke	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Richmond	Vancouver Coastal	Richmond
Roberts Creek	Vancouver Coastal	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Rock Creek	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Saanich	Vancouver Island	South Vancouver Island
Salmo	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Salmon Arm	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Salt Spring Island	Vancouver Island	South Vancouver Island
Sayward	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Sechelt	Vancouver Coastal	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Seton Portage	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Shawnigan Lake	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Sicamous	Interior	Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Smithers	Northern	Northwest
Sointula	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Sooke	Vancouver Island	South Vancouver Island
South Slocan	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
South Wellington	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Sparwood	Interior	East Kootenay
Squamish	Vancouver Coastal	North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
Sullivan Bay	Vancouver Island	North Vancouver Island
Summerland	Interior	Okanagan
Surrey	Fraser	Fraser South
Terrace	Northern	Northwest
Trail	Interior	Kootenay Boundary
Tumbler Ridge	Northern	Northeast
Ucluelet	Vancouver Island	Central Vancouver Island
Vancouver	Vancouver Coastal	Vancouver

Township Name Health Authority Health Services Delivery Area  Vanderhoof Northern Northern Interior  Vernon Interior Okanagan  Victoria Vancouver Island South Vancouver Island
Vernon Interior Okanagan
Victoria Vancouver Island South Vancouver Island
Victoria Valledaver Islana South valledaver Islana
West Kelowna Interior Okanagan
West Vancouver
Whisky Creek Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island
Whistler Vancouver Coastal North Shore/Coast Garibaldi
White Rock Fraser Fraser South
Williams Lake Interior Thompson Cariboo Shuswap
Winlaw Interior Kootenay Boundary
Wonowon Northern Northeast
Yale Fraser Fraser East
Ymir Interior Kootenay Boundary
Youbou Vancouver Island Central Vancouver Island
Zeballos Vancouver Island North Vancouver Island