

# 2018 BC Harm Reduction Client Survey

The B.C. Harm Reduction Program administered a survey to harm reduction supply distribution site clients across BC in 2018 to assess regional differences in drug use and inform harm reduction planning and quality improvement.

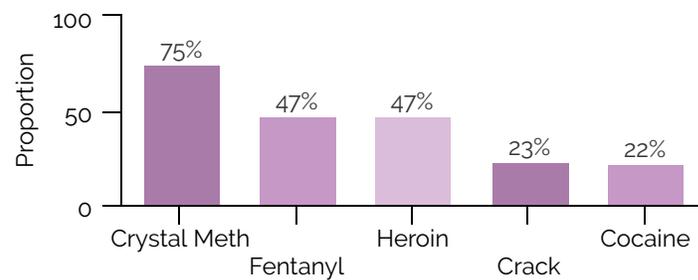
## Who took part in Fraser?



## Drug use

More than half of respondents identified **SMOKING** or **INHALATION** as the preferred method of drug use, while 28% preferred injection, and 6% preferred snorting.

### Past week self-reported drug use



## Potential harms



Of 133 people that used pipes from harm reduction sites to smoke drugs:

- 27% used a **second-hand pipe**
- 15% **injected instead** when they couldn't find unused smoking equipment



Of 75 people that injected drugs in the past month:

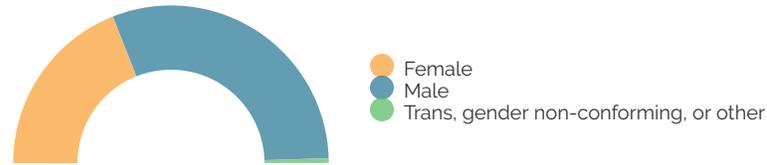
- 18% had **trouble getting unused needles**
- 11% had fixed with a **needle used by someone else**



About **half of participants reported using drugs alone** some of the time. Reasons for using drugs alone included:

- convenience and comfort;
- not having anyone else around;
- not wanting to share drugs; and,
- not wanting others to know.

## Self-identified gender



## Overdose

- 19%** experienced an **OPIOID OVERDOSE** in the past six months
- 15%** experienced a **STIMULANT OVERDOSE** in the past six months
- 64%** witnessed an **OPIOID OVERDOSE** in the past six months

## Keeping safe and harm reduction



**70% of participants owned a Take Home Naloxone kit**, but less than half owned a cell phone.



Of those that injected drugs, half had injected at an **Overdose Prevention Services site** in the past month.



Of 91 people that tried to access opioid agonist therapy (OAT) in the past six months, **1 in 5 reported difficulties** including:

- unable to find prescribing physician
- clinic fees were too high
- prescription stopped due to positive urine test
- worry about being stigmatized at clinic