

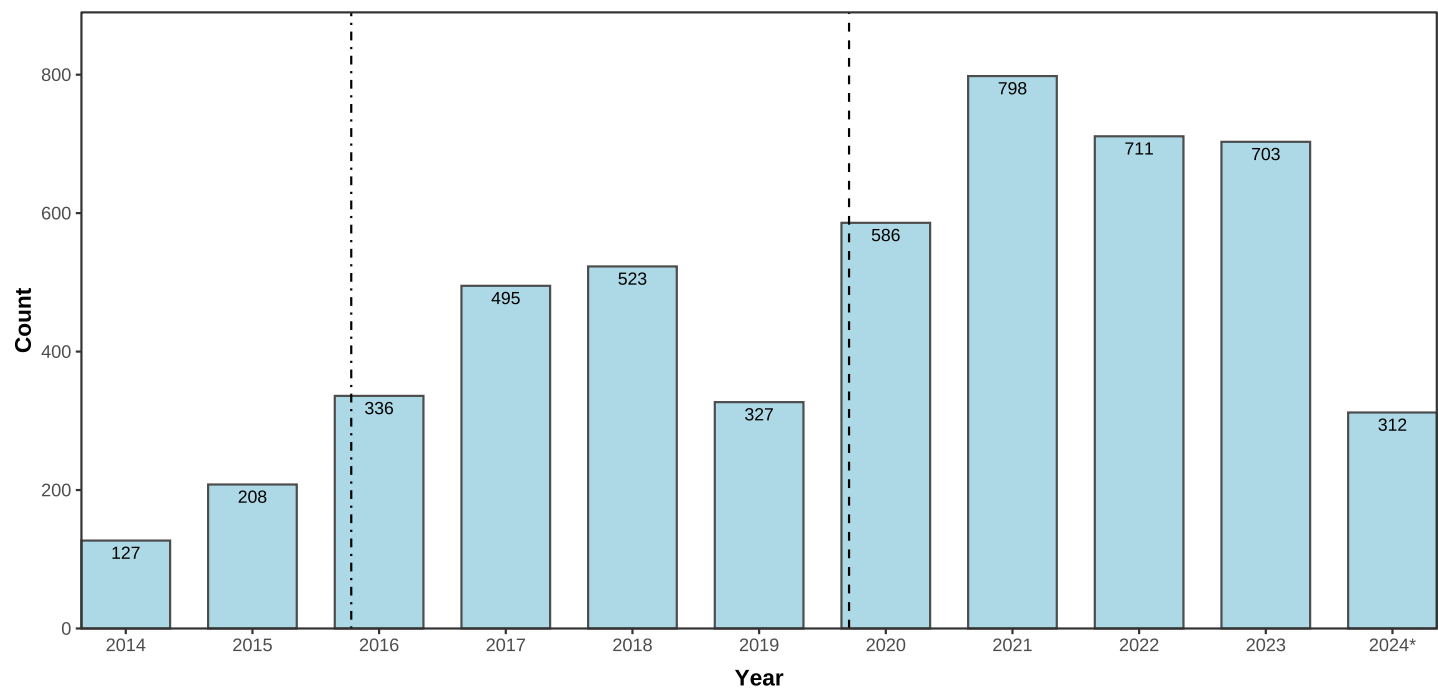
TOXIC DRUG POISONING RESPONSE

PUBLIC REPORT, JUNE 2024

ILLICIT DRUG TOXICITY DEATHS

- According to BC Coroners Service, there were 48 illicit drug toxicity deaths in Fraser Health in June 2024.
- This is a 8% decrease from the number of deaths reported in the previous month, with 52 deaths in May 2024.
- Compared to 2023, the greatest increases in (projected) drug toxicity deaths in 2024 have been seen in Langley (+9%) and Burnaby (+6%) (Table 1).

Figure 1: Illicit drug toxicity deaths within Fraser Health, January 2013 to June 2024



Toxic drug supply emergency declared on 14 April 2016 (two dash grey line)
 COVID-19 emergency declared on 17 March 2020 (short dash grey line)
 Data source: BC Coroners Service. Preliminary data, numbers subject to change. Numbers include both open and closed cases.
 Illicit drug toxicity deaths reported by BC Coroners Service include those involving street drugs (heroin, cocaine, MDMA, methamphetamine, etc.), medications that were not prescribed to the deceased but obtained on the street, from unknown means, and where the origin of drug is unknown.
 * To June 2024.

Table 1: Illicit drug toxicity deaths within Fraser Health, January 2023 to June 2024

Community**	Jan-Jun 2024	Jan-Dec 2023	% Change (2024* vs. 2023)
Fraser East			
Abbotsford	45	91	-1
Chilliwack	11	59	-63
Fraser North			
Burnaby	27	51	6
Coquitlam	13	25	4
New Westminster	14	39	-28
Fraser South			
Langley	25	46	9
Surrey	111	237	-6
Other Fraser Health Communities	66	155	-15
Fraser Health	312	703	-11

Data source: BC Coroners Service to Jun 30, 2024.

Preliminary data, numbers subject to change. Numbers include both open and closed cases.

Illicit drug toxicity deaths reported by BC Coroners Service include those involving street drugs (heroin, cocaine, MDMA, methamphetamine, etc.), medications that were not prescribed to the deceased, combinations of the above, with prescribed medications, and where the origin of drug is not known.

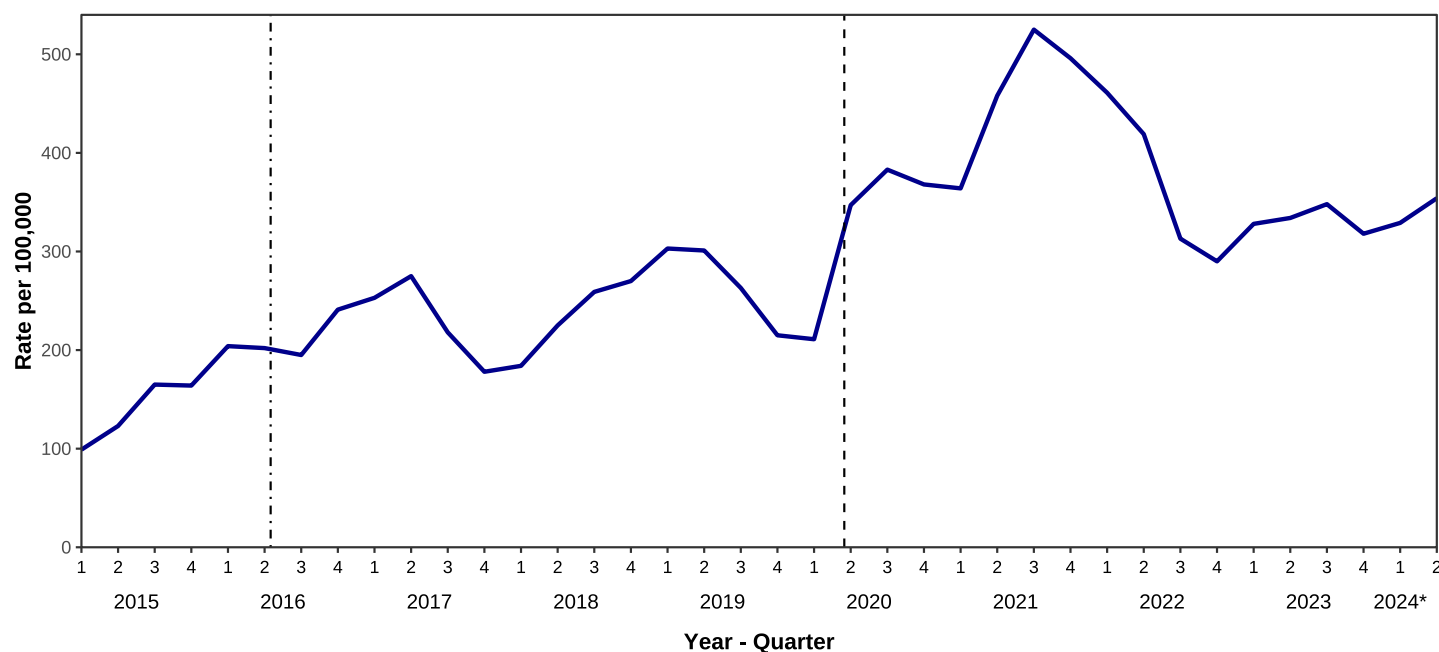
**Community assigned based on location of injury and if that is missing, location of death.

*Year to date; count annualized based on available months for 2024.

PARAMEDIC-ATTENDED TOXIC DRUG POISONING EVENTS

- Paramedics responded to 665 suspected toxic drug poisoning events across Fraser Health in June 2024; this is a 11% increase compared to the average of the previous 12 months (Table 2).
- Compared to 2023, the greatest increases in the projected rate of paramedic-attended toxic drug poisoning events in 2024 have occurred in Coquitlam (+24%), Port Coquitlam (+24%), and City of Langley (+20%) (Table 2).
- Compared to 2023, the largest decreases in the projected rate of paramedic-attended toxic drug poisoning events in 2024 have occurred in Pitt Meadows (-72%), Delta (-45%), and Hope*** (-33%) (Table 2).

Figure 2: Quarterly rate of suspected paramedic-attended drug poisoning events in Fraser Health, January 2015 to June 2024



Toxic drug supply emergency declared on 14 April 2016 (two dash grey line)

COVID-19 emergency declared on 17 March 2020 (short dash grey line)

Data source: Patient Care Record data from BC Emergency Health Services. Preliminary data, numbers subject to change.

Suspected toxic drug poisoning events include those associated with opioids or other drugs.

* To June 2024; rates for incomplete quarters are projected based on available months for 2024.

Table 2: Suspected paramedic-attended toxic drug poisoning events within Fraser Health, January 2023 to June 2024

Community**	2024*			2023		
	Jun (Avg. past 12 months~)	Jan-Jun	Rate per 100,000 Jan-Jun	Jan-Dec	Rate per 100,000 Jan-Dec	% Rate change 2024* vs. 2023
Fraser East						
Abbotsford	107 (89.5)	563	655	990	592	11
Agassiz / Harrison***	5 (<5)	19	328	46	408	-20
Chilliwack	72 (61.3)	397	669	715	624	7
Hope***	<5 (<5)	21	440	61	653	-33
Mission	25 (20.1)	129	494	266	523	-6
Fraser North						
Burnaby	40 (46.6)	277	189	533	188	0
Coquitlam	40 (29.1)	212	244	329	197	24
Maple Ridge	31 (40.2)	234	441	472	461	-4
New Westminster	28 (36.1)	179	394	469	530	-26
Pitt Meadows	<5 (<5)	5	46	35	165	-72
Port Coquitlam	19 (13.1)	93	272	147	219	24
Port Moody / Anmore / Belcarra	<5 (<5)	25	117	48	117	0
Fraser South						
City of Langley	27 (17.8)	128	730	204	607	20
Delta	<5 (9.8)	40	63	139	113	-45
South Surrey / White Rock	15 (10.8)	68	104	129	103	1
Surrey	224 (191.9)	1248	433	2203	399	8
Township of Langley	20 (17.8)	107	132	223	144	-9
Fraser Health	665 (598.4)	3745	341	7009	332	3

Data source: Patient Care Record data from BC Emergency Health Services to Jun 30, 2024.

Preliminary data, numbers subject to change. Numbers for the most recent month are likely an underestimate and will increase as entry of BC Ambulance Patient Care Form is completed. Numbers may change with data quality and analysis refinements and are not directly comparable to numbers reported previously.

Suspected toxic drug poisoning events include those associated with opioids or other drugs.

**Community assigned based on location where the paramedics attended the event.

*Rate annualized based on available months for 2024.

~Average of past 12 months, does not include the most recent month.

***Rates may fluctuate due to small population size.

Counts under five are reported as <5 as they are potentially identifiable.