

FRASER HEALTH OVERDOSE EMERGENCY PUBLIC REPORT – JULY 2018

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Fraser Health and its partners are taking a number of steps to reduce opioid/fentanyl-related overdoses, including the following new actions in July 2018:

- Announcement of a three month pilot project making fentanyl test strip drug checking available at selected community locations, including some Public Health Units. For a full list of locations, please [click here](#).
- Community Action Team grants were awarded to teams in Abbotsford, Chilliwack, Maple Ridge, Langley, and Surrey. Planned projects will touch on stigma reduction, education and peer engagement.
- Fraser Health supported implementation of Overdose Prevention Sites at the three new modular house locations in Surrey.
- Continued engagement and initiation of patients to iOAT services in Surrey, ramping up to capacity of 50 patients.

FATAL OVERDOSES

According to the BC Coroners Service, there were 44 illicit drug overdose deaths in Fraser Health in July 2018 compared with 31 in June 2018.

Table 1: Illicit drug overdose deaths within Fraser Health (BC Coroner's Service)

Community [^]	Jan-Jul 2018	Projected 2018*	2017	% Change (2018* vs. 2017)
Abbotsford	18	31	52	-41
Burnaby	23	39	44	-10
Chilliwack	16	23	23	0
Coquitlam	14	24	29	-17
Langley (City + Township)	20	34	36	-5
Maple Ridge	16	27	31	-12
New Westminster	17	29	24	21
Surrey	125	214	176	22
Other communities	34	58	66	-12
Fraser Health	283	485	481	1
BC	878	1,505	1,451	4

Data source: BC Coroner Service. Preliminary data, numbers subject to change.

[^] BC Coroner assigns location based on location of injury (i.e. overdose) and if that is missing, location of death.

- Data not yet available

** Projected based on available months in 2018.*

SUPERVISED CONSUMPTION AND OVERDOSE PREVENTION SITES

Supervised Consumption Sites

In July 2018, there were 3,107 visits for substance use and 29 overdoses reversed at Supervised Consumption Sites. In the previous month, there were 4,108 visits and 46 overdoses reversed.

Overdose Prevention Sites

In July 2018, there were 6,208 visits for any reason, 2,477 visits for substance use, and 5 overdoses at Overdose Prevention Sites. In the previous month, there were 5,585 visits for any reason and 12 overdoses reversed.

OVERDOSES ATTENDED BY BC AMBULANCE

In June 2018 there were 448 overdoses responded to by BC Ambulance Services, compared to 510 in May 2018. The majority of overdoses year to date occurred in males (70%) and in people aged 19 to 39 years (54%). 28% of persons declined transportation to medical services from BC Ambulance.

Table 2: Suspected overdose events attended by BC Ambulance Service within Fraser Health Region.

Community	2018*			2017		Rate Change (2018* vs. 2017)
	Jun 2018 (12 mo avg~)	Events Jan-Jun	Rate per 100,000	Events	Rate per 100,000	
Abbotsford	40 (48.6)	285	477	645	539	-12
Agassiz-Harrison	5 (<5)	14	341	36	438	-22
Burnaby	34 (45.4)	260	246	568	269	-8
Chilliwack	28 (35.1)	208	503	475	574	-12
City of Langley	9 (15.8)	80	713	285	1,269	-44
Coquitlam	18 (26.3)	174	290	332	276	5
Delta	10 (17.5)	106	239	202	228	5
Hope	<5 (<5)	18	552	38	582	-5
Maple Ridge	35 (27.4)	157	450	406	582	-23
Mission	14 (13.9)	77	419	202	550	-24
New Westminster	29 (22.6)	136	411	296	447	-8
Pitt Meadows	0 (<5)	9	114	57	360	-68
Port Coquitlam	11 (11.8)	64	255	169	336	-24
Port Moody	8 (<5)	24	169	48	169	0
Surrey	187 (185.7)	1,170	534	2,599	593	-10
Township of Langley	14 (16.1)	94	191	223	226	-16
White Rock	<5 (<5)	24	260	43	233	12
Fraser Health	448 (483.0)	2,900	380	6,624	434	-12

Data Source: Patient Care Records data from BC Emergency Service.

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 Forms is completed. Counts under 5 reported as <5 as they are potentially identifiable. Restricted to those 13 years of age or older.

^ Community based on location where the paramedics attended to the suspected overdose event

~ Average of past 12 months, including the current month.

* Rate annualized based on available months for 2018

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- For more information on Fraser Health's response to the overdose public health emergency, go to <http://www.fraserhealth.ca/overdose>.
- For information on the provincial response to the public health emergency, go to <http://www.bccdc.ca/our-services/programs/overdose-response>
- To access reports from the BC Coroners Service on illicit drug fatalities, click [here](#).