

FRASER HEALTH OVERDOSE EMERGENCY PUBLIC REPORT – DECEMBER 2018

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Fraser Health and its partners are working hard to reduce opioid/fentanyl-related overdoses, including the following:

- Opened new Opioid Agonist Treatment (OAT) clinics in White Rock and Langley. A list of all Fraser Health OAT clinics is available [here](#).
- Continued to collaborate with community partners in all communities developing and implementing community-based projects related to stigma reduction, education and peer network development.
- Continued to support participation of the 363 sites registered in the BCCDC Take Home Naloxone Program, with an average of 1,250 Take Home Naloxone kits distributed per month in the Fraser Health region in 2018.

FATAL OVERDOSES

According to the BC Coroners Service, there were 42 suspected illicit drug overdose deaths in Fraser Health in November 2018, compared with 38 in October 2018.

Table 1: Suspected illicit drug overdose deaths within Fraser Health, January 2017 to November 2018

Community [^]	Jan-Nov 2018	Projected 2018*	2017	% Change (2018* vs. 2017)
Abbotsford	37	40	52	-22
Burnaby	36	39	44	-11
Chilliwack	33	36	23	57
Coquitlam	20	22	29	-25
Langley (City + Township)	28	31	36	-15
Maple Ridge	27	29	33	-11
New Westminster	30	33	25	31
Surrey	195	213	178	20
Other communities	56	61	70	-13
Fraser Health	462	504	490	3
BC	1,380	1,505	1,486	1

Data source: BC Coroners 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.

* Projected based on available months in 2018.

SUPERVISED CONSUMPTION AND OVERDOSE PREVENTION SITES

Supervised Consumption Sites

In December 2018, there were 3,842 visits for substance use and 40 overdoses reversed at Supervised Consumption Sites. In the previous month, there were 3,101 visits and 31 overdoses reversed.

Overdose Prevention Sites

In December 2018, there were 4,454 visits for any reason, 3,374 visits for substance use, and 3 overdoses reversed at Overdose Prevention Sites. In the previous month, there were 4,202 visits for any reason, 2,873 visits for substance use and 4 overdoses reversed.

OVERDOSES ATTENDED BY BC AMBULANCE

In November 2018 there were 564 overdoses responded to by BC Ambulance Services across Fraser Health, compared to 552 in October 2018. The majority of overdoses year to date occurred among males (71%) and people aged 19 to 39 years (55%). 28% of persons declined transportation to medical services from BC Ambulance.

Table 2: Suspected overdose events attended by BC Ambulance Service within Fraser Health, January 2017 to November 2018

Community [^]	2018*			2017		Rate Change (2018* vs. 2017)
	Nov 2018 (12 mo avg~)	Events Jan-Nov	Rate per 100,000	Events	Rate per 100,000	
Abbotsford	65 (53.0)	598	546	645	539	1
Agassiz/Harrison	<5 (<5)	31	412	36	438	-6
Burnaby	41 (46.3)	498	257	568	269	-4
Chilliwack	46 (39.8)	441	581	474	573	1
City of Langley	25 (15.6)	175	850	285	1,269	-33
Coquitlam	33 (31.6)	346	314	331	275	14
Delta	29 (18.4)	206	254	203	229	11
Hope	<5 (<5)	37	619	38	582	6
Maple Ridge	33 (27.8)	315	492	406	582	-15
Mission	14 (15.0)	166	493	202	550	-10
New Westminister	28 (24.9)	270	445	298	450	-1
Pitt Meadows	<5 (<5)	19	131	57	360	-64
Port Coquitlam	10 (12.3)	138	300	170	338	-11
Port Moody/Anmore/Belcarra	6 (<5)	50	192	48	169	14
South Surrey/White Rock	12 (15.6)	175	227	159	189	20
Surrey	196 (186.9)	2,113	584	2,486	630	-7
Township of Langley	17 (19.3)	207	229	224	227	1
Fraser Health	564 (519.0)	5,785	413	6,630	434	-5

Data Source: Patient Care Record data from BC Emergency Health Services. 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 Records is completed.

[^] 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*

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

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](#).