

Rapid Analysis of Drugs

CENTER FOR HARM REDUCTION SERVICES
MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

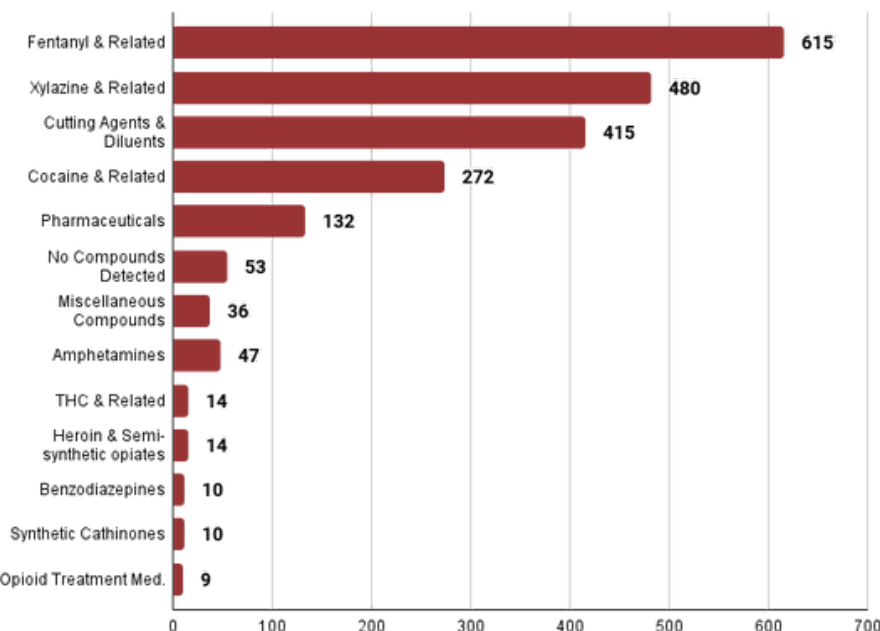
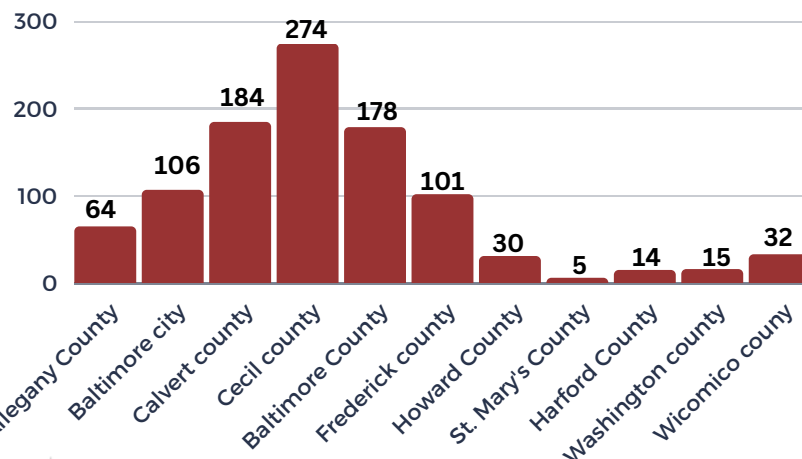


WHAT IS RAD?

The Rapid Analysis of Drugs (RAD) is a state wide drug checking program that tests routinely returned paraphernalia voluntarily provided by Maryland Syringe Services Program (SSP) participants in partnership with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). RAD was piloted in 8 SSPs from October 2021 through September of 2022, when it expanded to be an ongoing service for any interested SSP.

RAD ADDRESSES 3 MAJOR GOALS

1. Improve the understanding of the Maryland drug market landscape
2. Empower people who use drugs with knowledge about the drug supply to help inform their decisions and reduce risk
3. Provide critical information about new and emerging trends in the drug supply

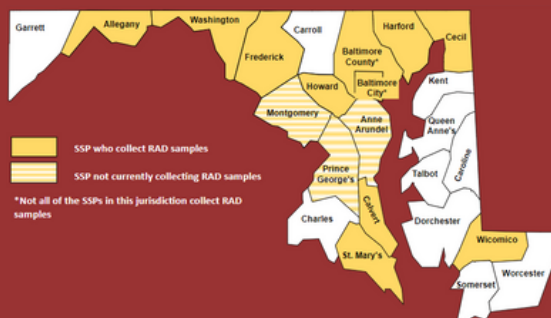


KEY FINDINGS (AS OF 2/28/2023)

- **73.1%** of samples were collected through **street outreach** or **mobile units**.
- **61.5%** of analyzed samples **contained opioids**.
 - Of those samples, *99.8% contained fentanyl*.
- 71.9% of samples had **multiple active ingredients**.
- Identification of **emerging substances** in MD:
 - **Medetomidine** (vet sedative similar to xylazine) seen in 8 samples from 6 jurisdictions since 10/2022.
 - **High-potency synthetic opioids**: Metonitazene (2) and protonitazene (1)
 - **Benzodiazepines derivatives (3)**

1,000+

samples have been analyzed
through RAD



47.9%

of all analyzed samples have
contained xylazine



TO LEARN MORE , FIND A SITE NEAR YOU, OR SEE THE MOST UP TO DATE DATA,
VISIT [HTTPS://HEALTH.MARYLAND.GOV/PHA/NALOXONE/PAGES/RAD.ASPX](https://health.maryland.gov/pha/naloxone/pages/rad.aspx)