



Rapid Analysis of Drugs (RAD)

Collaborative Call

November 20th, 2024

Goals of Rapid Analysis of Drugs (RAD)

The Center for Harm Reduction Services (CHRS) RAD project tests routine paraphernalia from Maryland Syringe Services Program (SSP) participants.

The goals of RAD are to:

- Better understand the drug market landscape in MD
- Empower people who use drugs with knowledge about the drug supply to inform their decisions and reduce risks
- Provide critical information about new and emerging trends in the drug supply

Agenda

1. Updates and Reminders
2. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Updates
3. Recent Results
4. Emerging Trends
5. Program Report Out

Updates and Reminders

Materials from Calls

- Materials from [September Training](#) can be found here.
- Materials from collaborative calls can be found in the folder corresponding to the meeting date [here](#).
- Here is the link to the [RAD submission Cognito form](#).
- Law enforcement [memo](#)
- [RAD Flyer](#)

Completing Cognitio Form

- The [Cognito web form](#) must be completed for EVERY sample **before** the sample is mailed.
- If a webform is not completed for a sample, you will receive an email - ***please stay alert to emails!***

Requesting Supplies

- Supply requests go directly to NIST.
- The link for the supply request is:
forms.gle/FHUXCT8GwrZhkWcw5

RAD Data/Publication Updates

- Internal RAD dashboard is now operational
- [NIST October Newsletter](#)
 - If you want to sign up to receive the newsletter, you can do so at the bottom on the link above

Want to get started?

- If you are an SSP not currently sampling for RAD and you want to get involved, please reach out to Maggie
- If you are applying to become an SSP, you are not able to sample until that your SSP application is approved, but you can go through training while waiting for approval.

NPHL Maryland SSP Law Fact Sheet

- The Network for Public Health Law recently put out a fact sheet on the [Maryland SSP Law](#).

NIST Updates

NIST Updates

- Starting 11/21, NIST will begin directly emailing results to each program
 - Goal is to shorten wait time on results
 - CHRS will still update the RAD Database with the results and Cognito form submission.
- Quantitative Sampling options

Recent Results

RAD Data Disclaimers

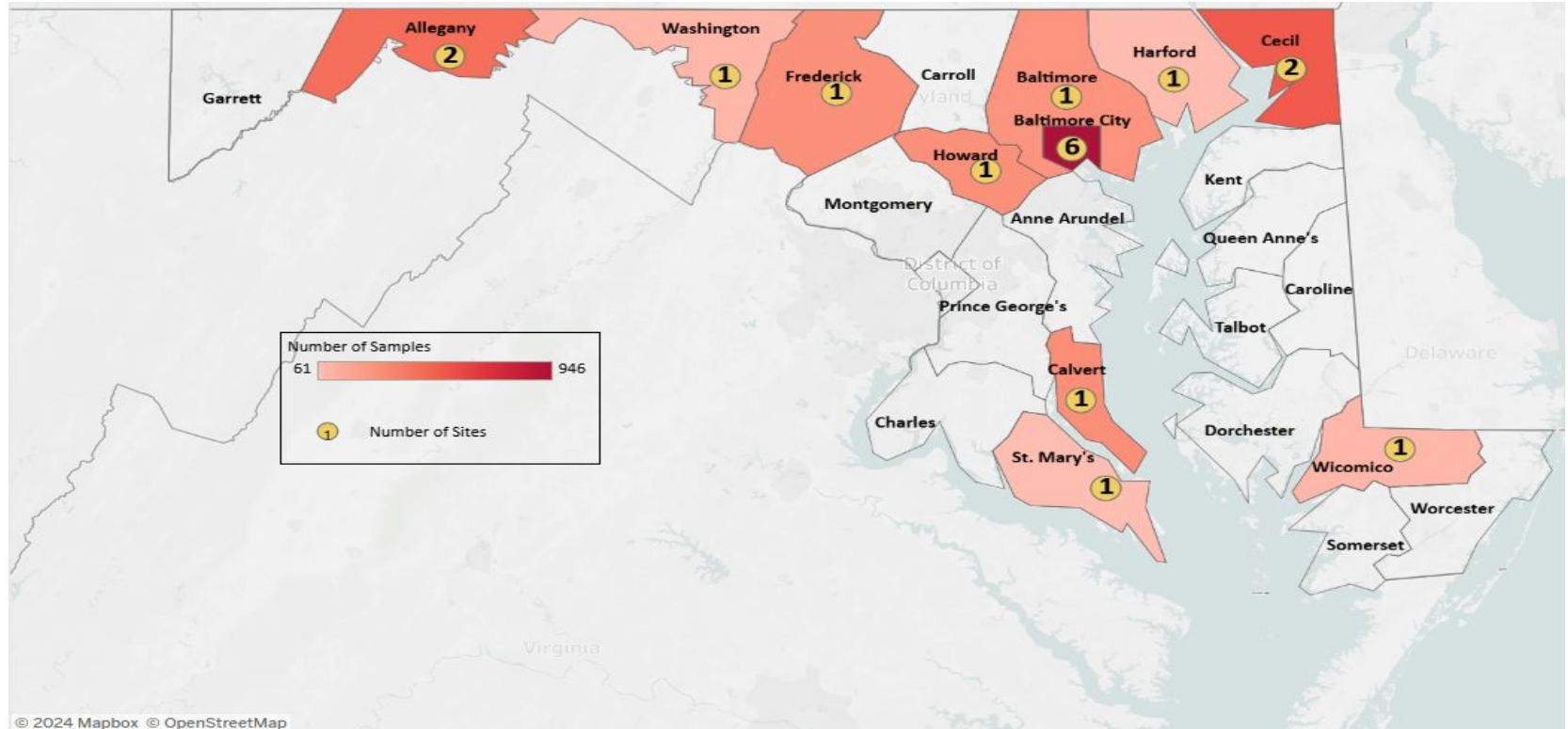
- Convenience Sampling -
 - RAD is a completely voluntary program that Maryland SSP participants can choose to engage in
 - Not all MD jurisdictions have an SSP that participate in RAD
- No personally identifiable data is collected, therefore we do not know how many participants are accounted for in the sample size

RAD gives us some indication of the near real time drug market in Maryland, but it should not be considered as fully representative.

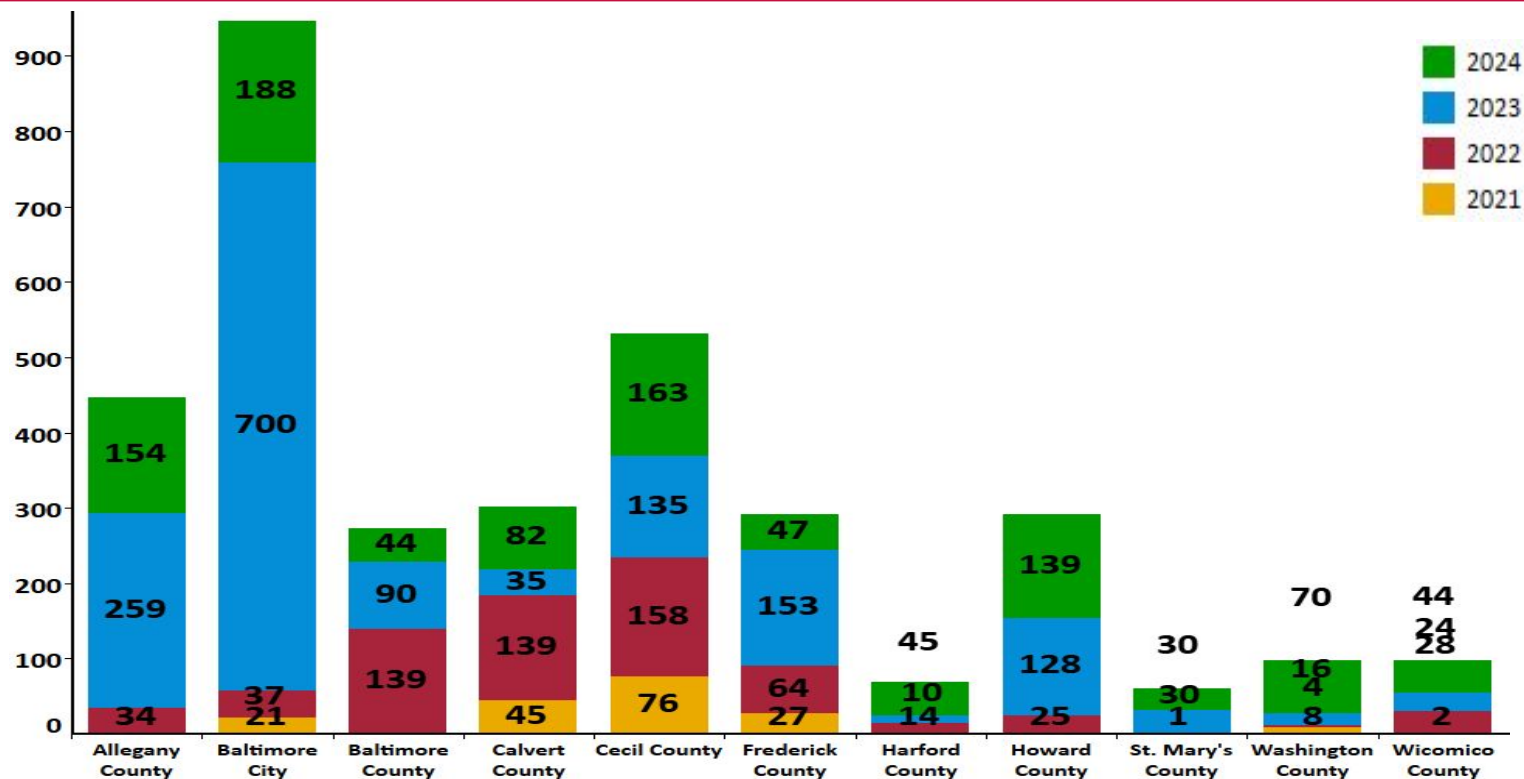
Samples Collected

- Sample Collection began in October 2021 and is continuing
- As of November 18th, 3030 samples have been tested via NIST
- 17 of the 26 SSPs in Maryland collect samples.
 - Covering 11 jurisdictions

RAD Sampling by Jurisdiction

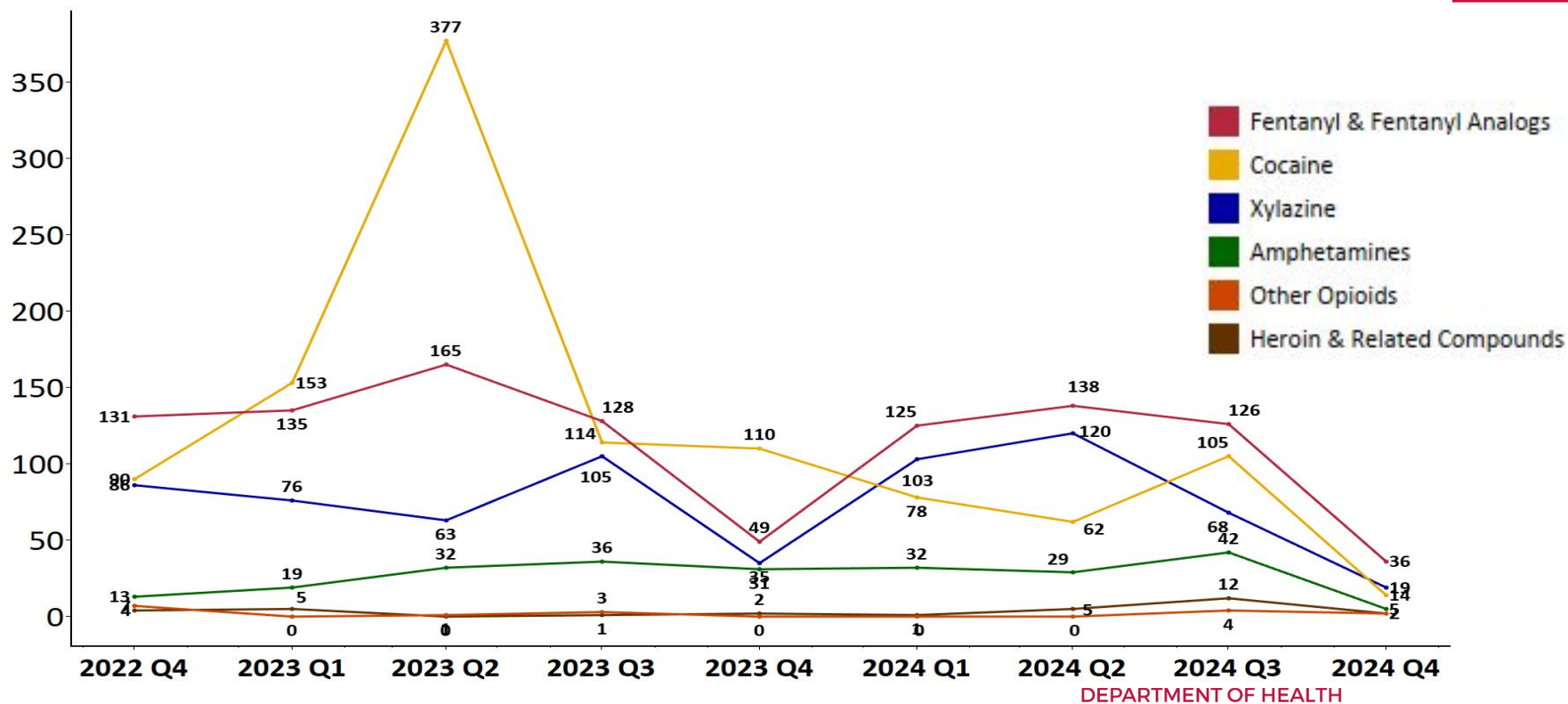


RAD Sampling by Jurisdiction, OCT 2021- OCT 2024



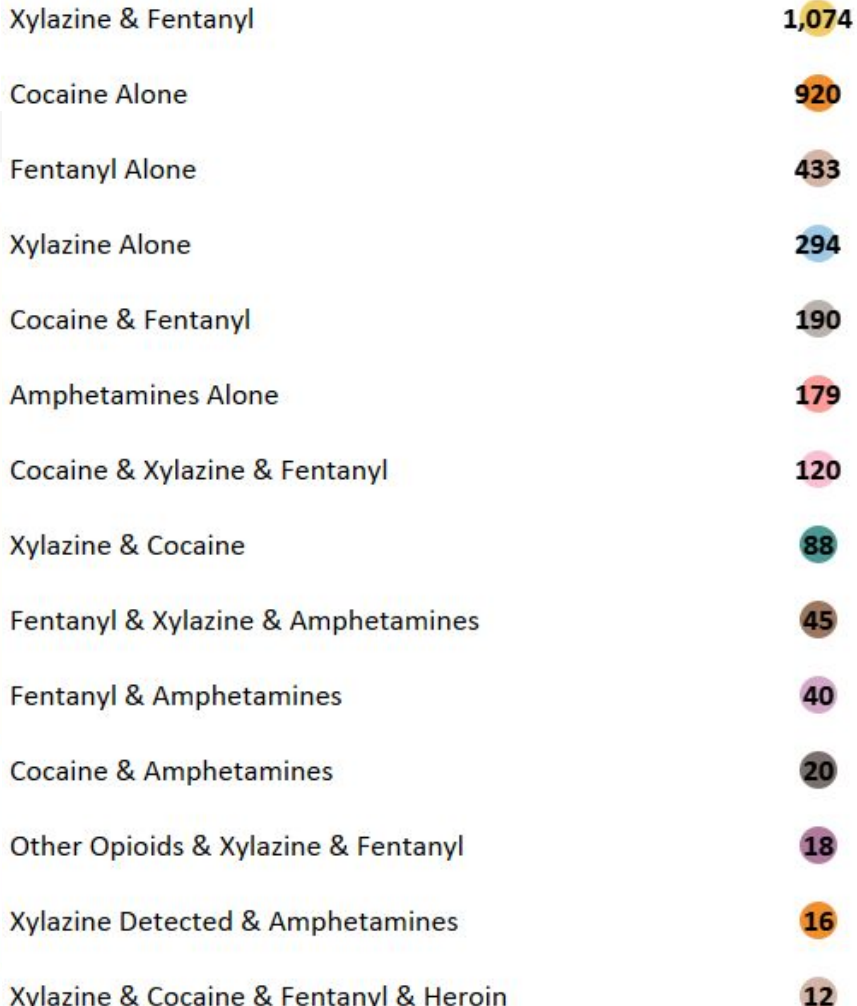
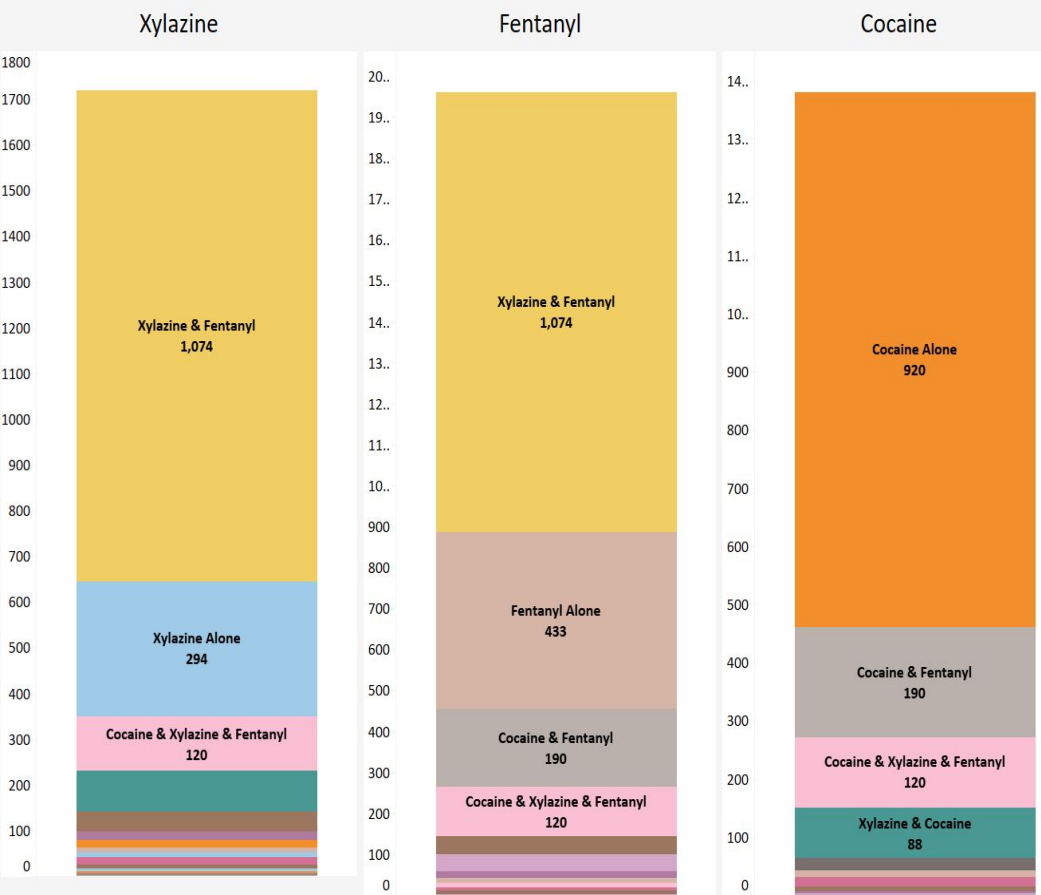
Note: Data is preliminary and subject to change.

RAD Compounds, OCT 2021 - OCT 2024

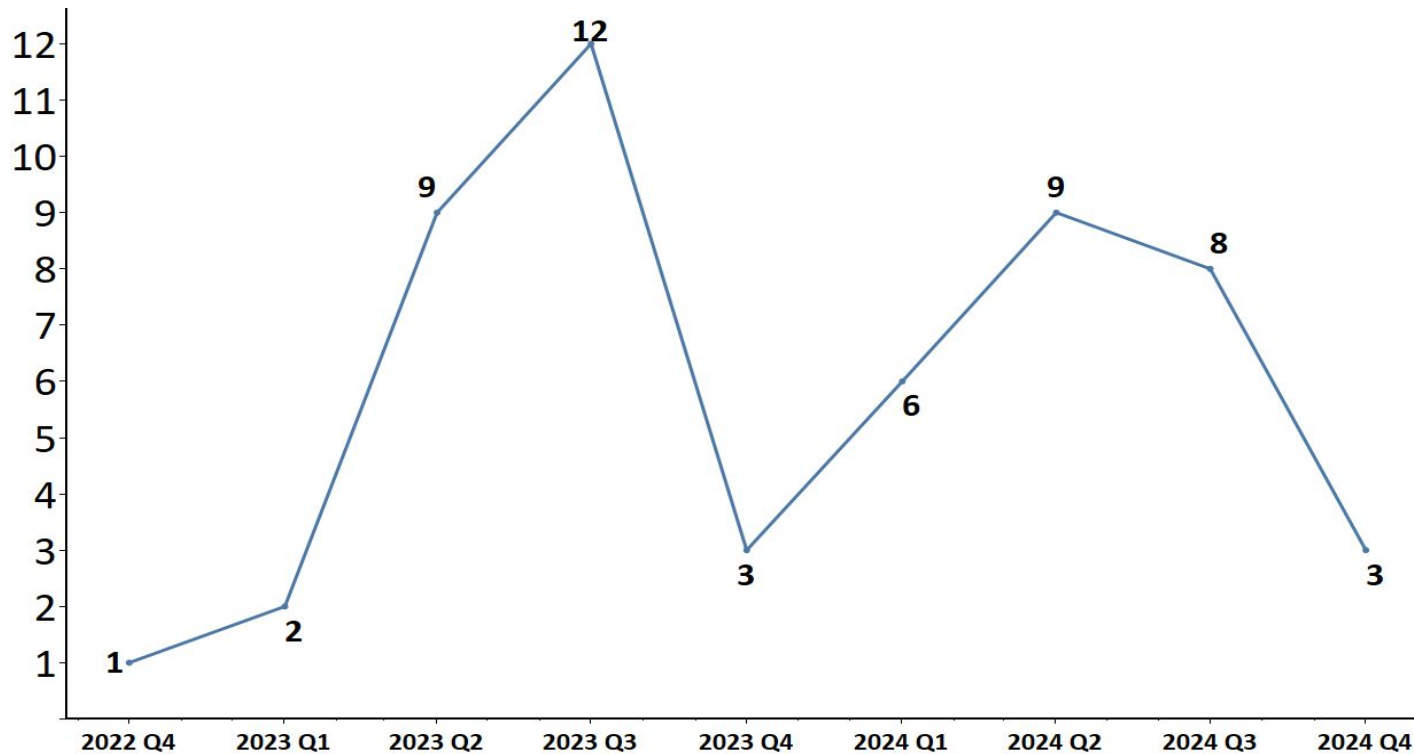


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Polysubstance in RAD Samples



Bromazepam, OCT 2021 - OCT 2024

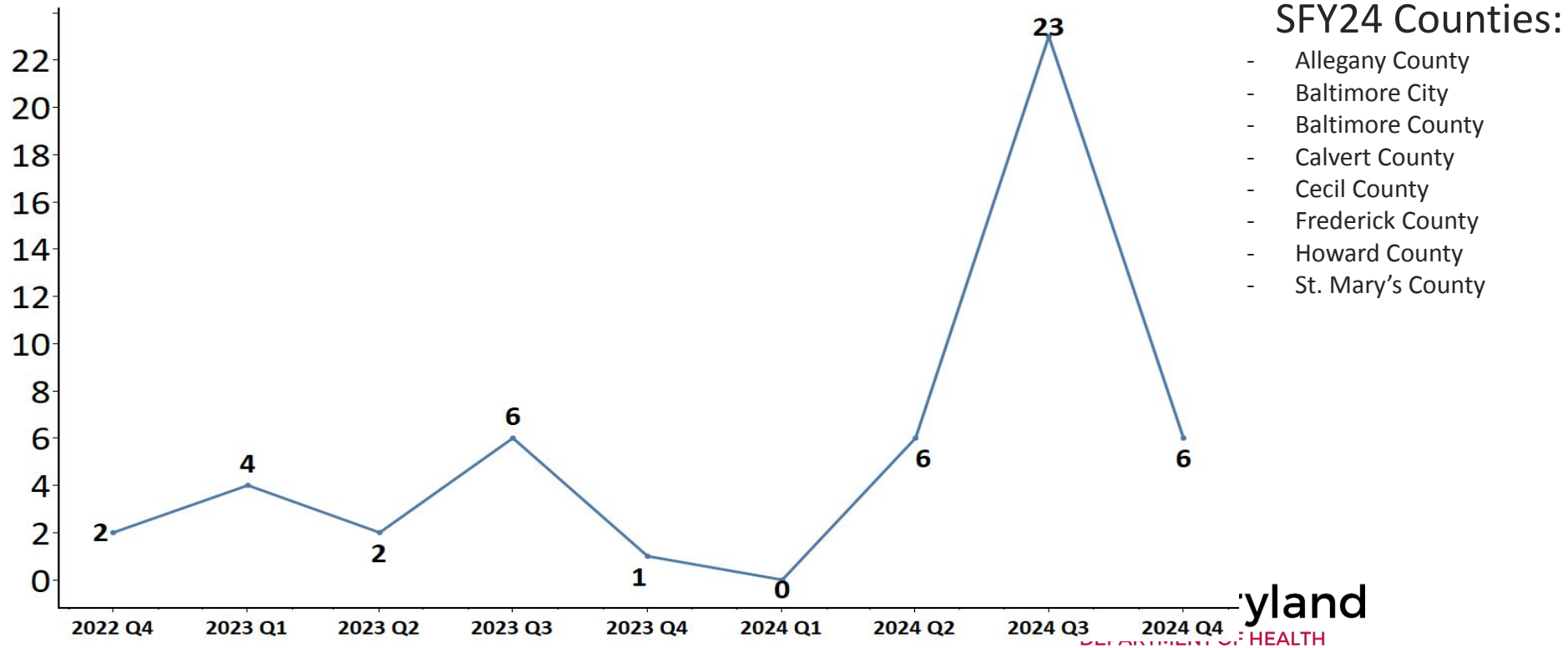


SFY24 Counties:

- Allegany County
- Baltimore City
- Baltimore County
- Calvert County
- Cecil County
- Frederick County
- Harford County
- Howard County
- St. Mary's County
- Washington County
- Wicomico County

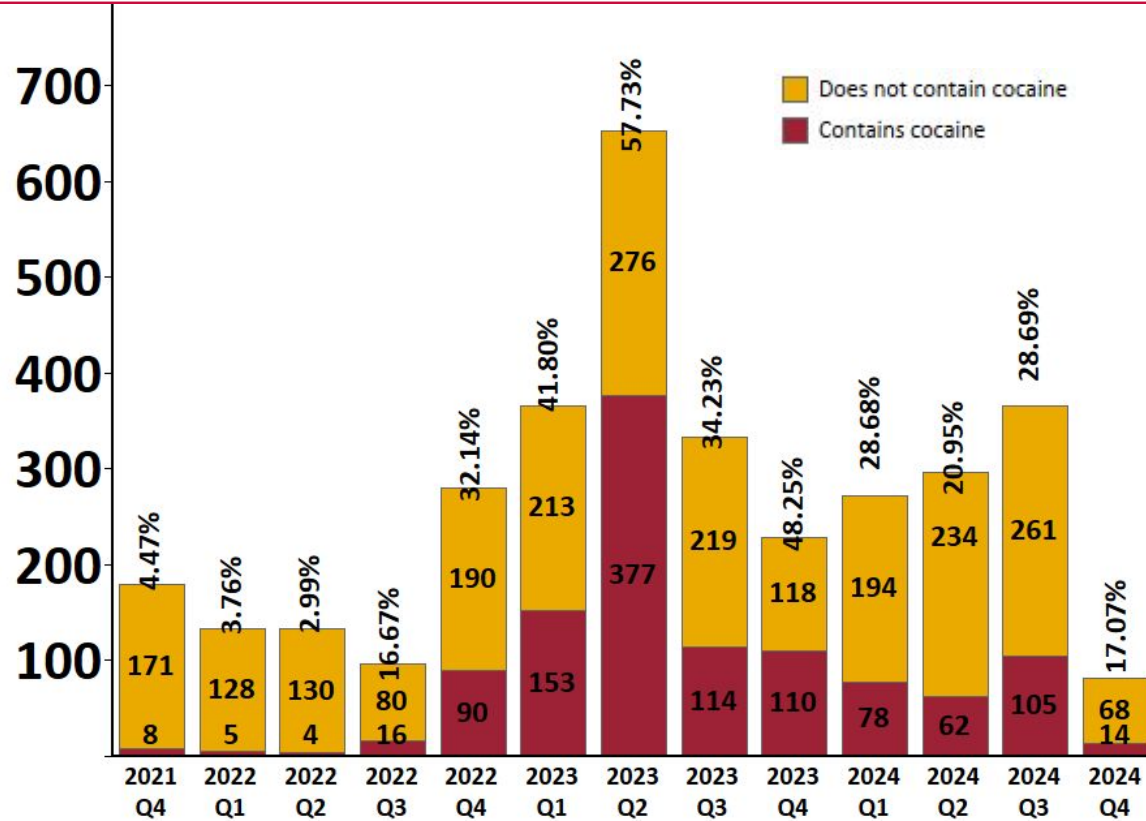
Bromazepam is a type of benzodiazepine (sedative)

Medetomidine, OCT 2021 - OCT 2024



Samples Containing Cocaine

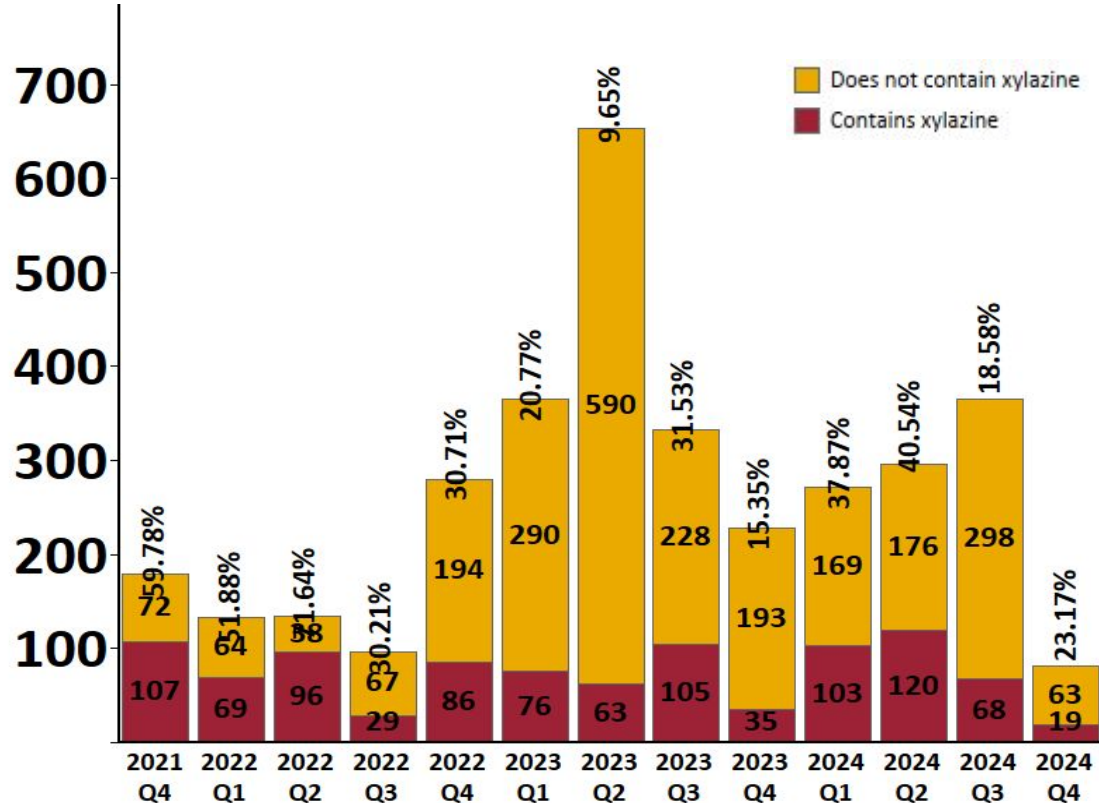
- 32.34% of samples tested contained cocaine in in FY24 (July 2023 - June 2024)
- In FY24 there were a total of 364 samples that contained cocaine.
 - 42.8% decrease from the previous fiscal year(FY23)
- So far in FY25, 26.56% of samples have contained cocaine.



Note: Data is preliminary and subject to change

Samples Containing Xylazine

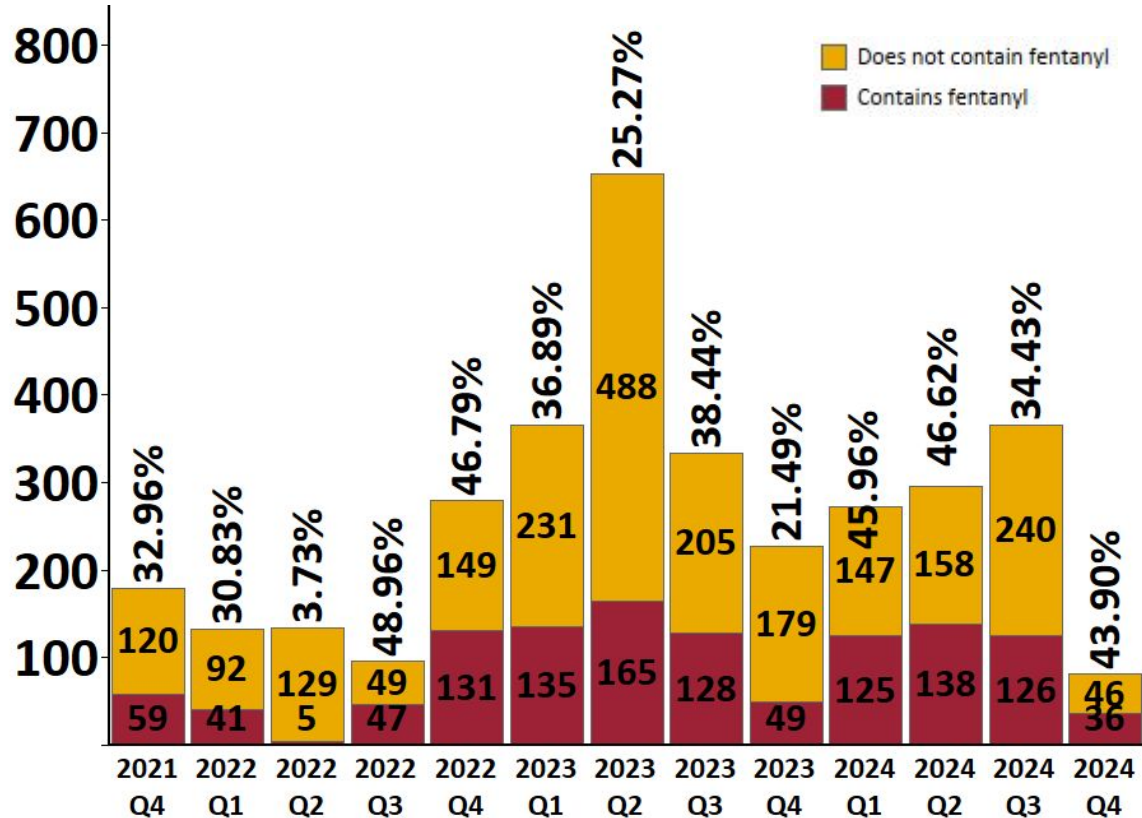
- 32.15% of samples tested contained Xylazine in FY24 (July 2023 - June 2024)
- In FY24 there were a total of 363 samples that contained xylazine.
 - 42.9% increase from the previous fiscal year(FY23)
- So far in FY25, 19.42% of samples have contained Xylazine.



Note: Data is preliminary and subject to change.

Samples Containing Fentanyl & Fentanyl Analogs

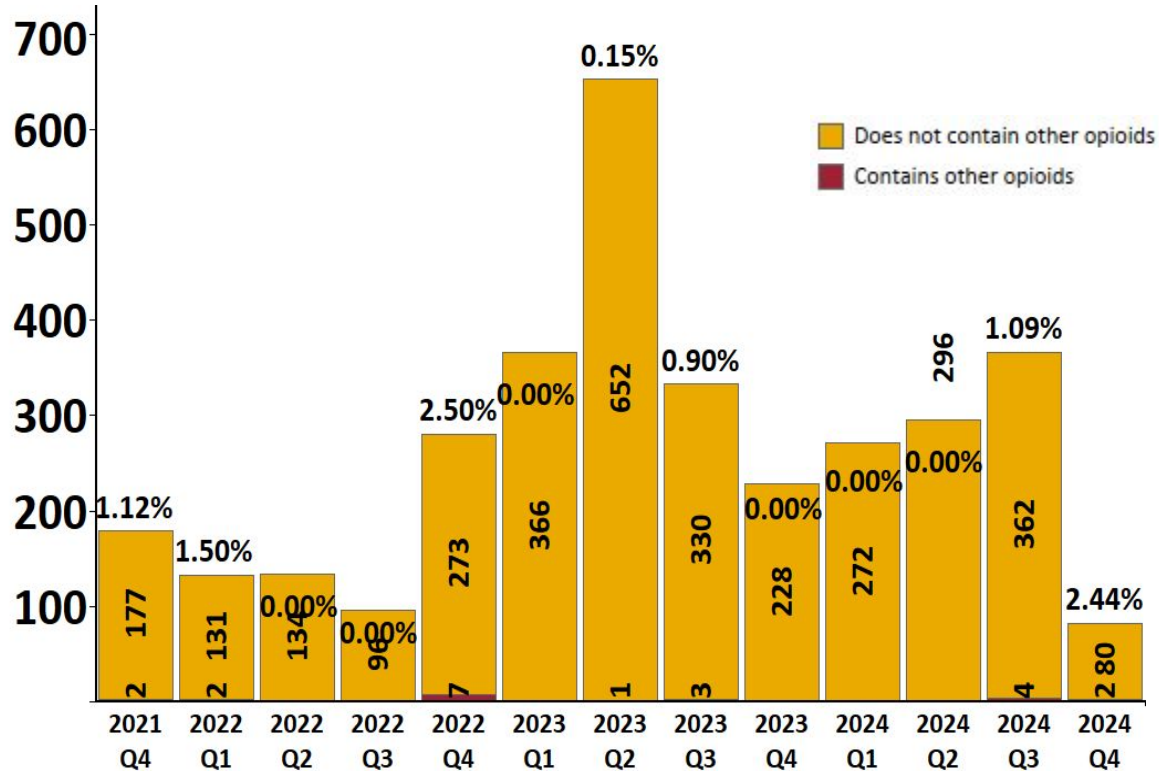
- 38.97% of samples tested contained fentanyl in FY24 (July 2023 - June 2024)
- In FY24 there were a total of 440 samples that contained fentanyl.
 - 7.9% decrease from the previous fiscal year(FY23)
- So far in FY25, 36.16% of samples have contained fentanyl & fentanyl Analogs.



Note: Data is preliminary and subject to change

Samples Containing Other Opioids

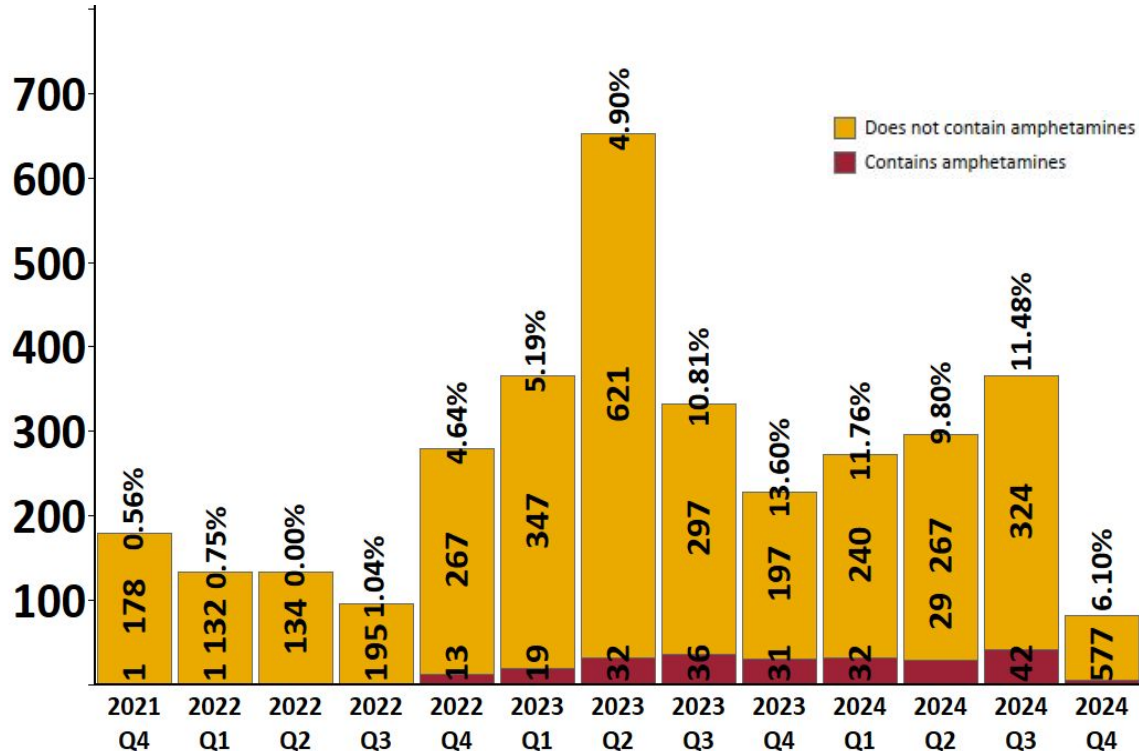
- 0.27% of samples tested contained other opioids in FY24 (July 2023 - June 2024)
- In FY24 there were a total of 3 samples that contained other opioids.
 - 62.5 % decrease from the previous fiscal year(FY23)
- So far in FY25, 1.34% of samples have contained other opioids.



Note: Data is preliminary and subject to change

Samples Containing Amphetamines

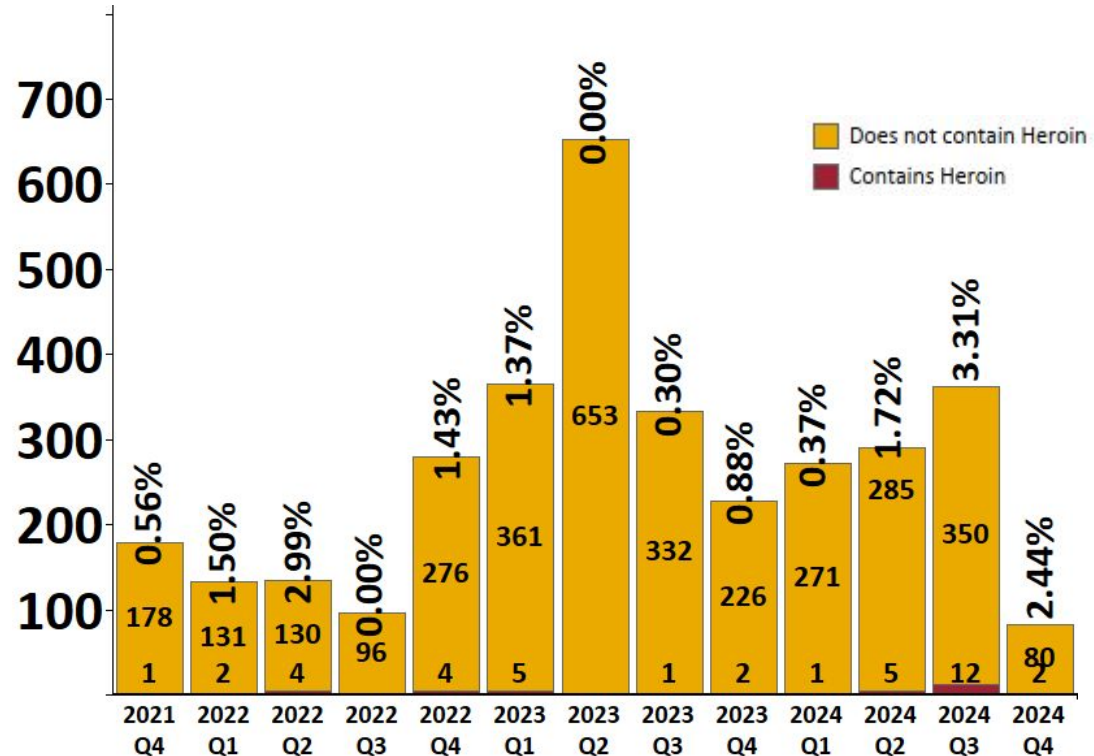
- 11.34% of samples tested contained amphetamines in FY24 (July 2023 - June 2024)
- In FY24 there were a total of 128 samples that contained amphetamines.
 - 96.9 % increase from the previous fiscal year(FY23
- So far in FY25, 10.49% of samples have contained amphetamines.



Note: Data is preliminary and subject to change.

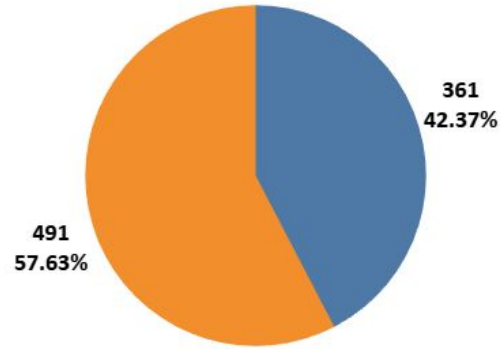
Samples Containing Heroin & Related Compounds

- 0.80% of samples tested contained heroin in FY24 (July 2023 - June 2024)
- In FY24 there were a total of 9 samples that contained heroin.
 - No change from the previous fiscal year(FY23)
- So far in FY25, 3.13% of samples have contained heroin & related compounds.



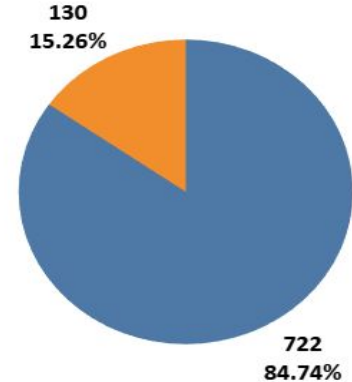
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Intent vs. Actual OCT 21 - OCT 24



At least 1 intended drug is present in ingredient 1-10

- Does not contain at least 1 intended drug
- Contains at least 1 intended drug



All Intended Drugs

- Does not contain all intended drugs
- contains all intended drugs

Emerging Trends Discussion

Bis (2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidyl) sebacate (BTMPS)

- BTMPS has been seen emerging in the drug markets around the US.
- BTMPS is a hindered amine light stabilizer used in plastics manufacturing, as an adhesive, and as a sealant.
- NIST put out a report [available here](#), specifically focusing on the LA and Philly outbreaks.
 - Ed to comment on this report and BTMPS findings
- Maryland currently has 39 confirmed samples containing BTMPS
 - AHEC West (Allegeny) - 4
 - Howard - 4
 - OOH (Baltimore City) -15
 - VOH (Cecil) - 10
 - Wicomico - 1
 - Washington -5

Bromazolam, Medetomidine, and Carfentanil

- We are continuing to use RAD to monitor Bromazolam, Medetomidine, and Carfentanil
 - All of these compounds have had spikes in neighboring states.
 - We continue to see low but steadily growing numbers of Bromazolam and Medetomidine.
 - Carfentanil has not been seen in RAD samples
- All of these substances are often seen in combination of a opioid (mainly fentanyl) and naloxone should still be administered.

**Have you heard of any other
emerging trends?**

Program Report Out

How are things going?

How is testing going?

- Any new barriers?
- What would get more SSP participants interested in RAD?
 - Conversation around incentivising RAD
- How can we support?

Future Collaborative Call Schedule

The next call will be Wednesday, January 15th at 11 a.m.

CHRS Contacts

Maggie Rybak - margaret.rybak@maryland.gov (programmatic)

Janelle Acevedo Hodgson - janelle.hodgson@maryland.gov (data)

Thank you! We appreciate you!