



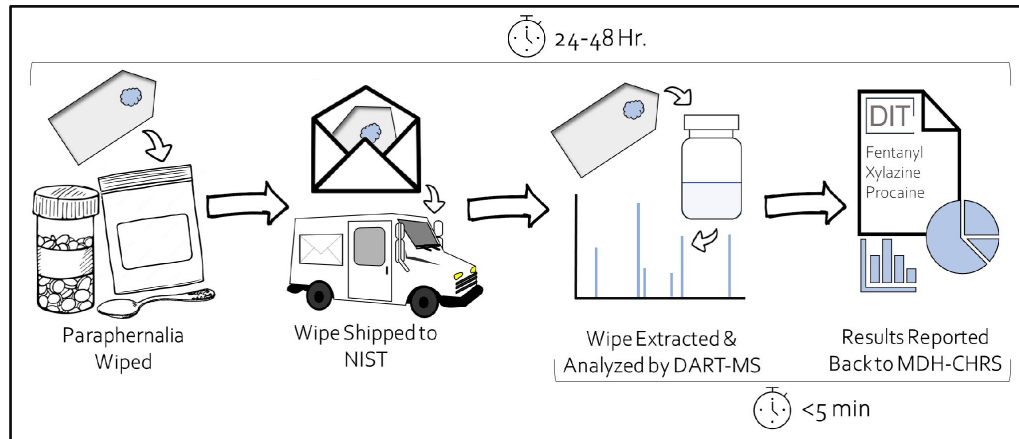
Rapid Analysis of Drugs (RAD)

Collaborative Call

August 19th, 2026

Rapid Analysis of Drugs (RAD)

RAD tests equipment that are routinely returned to Maryland Opioid-Associated Disease Prevention and Outreach Programs (OADPOP) participants.



Goals of Rapid Analysis of Drugs (RAD)

- Increase stakeholder understanding of the Maryland drug market landscape.
- Empower people who use drugs with knowledge about the drug supply that enables them to make informed decisions and employ risk reduction strategies.
- Provide critical, timely information about new and emerging trends in the drug supply, informing the statewide and local response to mitigate harm.

Agenda

1. Recent Results
2. Emerging Trends
3. Program Report Out
4. Updates and Reminders

Recent Results

NIST Updates

NIST Updates

- Do not mail equipment
- Avoid swabbing blood or other biohazards
- Reach out to NIST if you are interested in quantitative sampling
- NIST can pay for overnight/rush shipping for priority samples when needed - ***reach out to NIST directly (radar@nist.gov) and copy Maggie***

RAD Data

RAD Data Disclaimers

- Convenience Sampling -
 - RAD is a voluntary program that Maryland OADPOP participants can choose to engage
 - Not all MD jurisdictions have an OADPOP 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

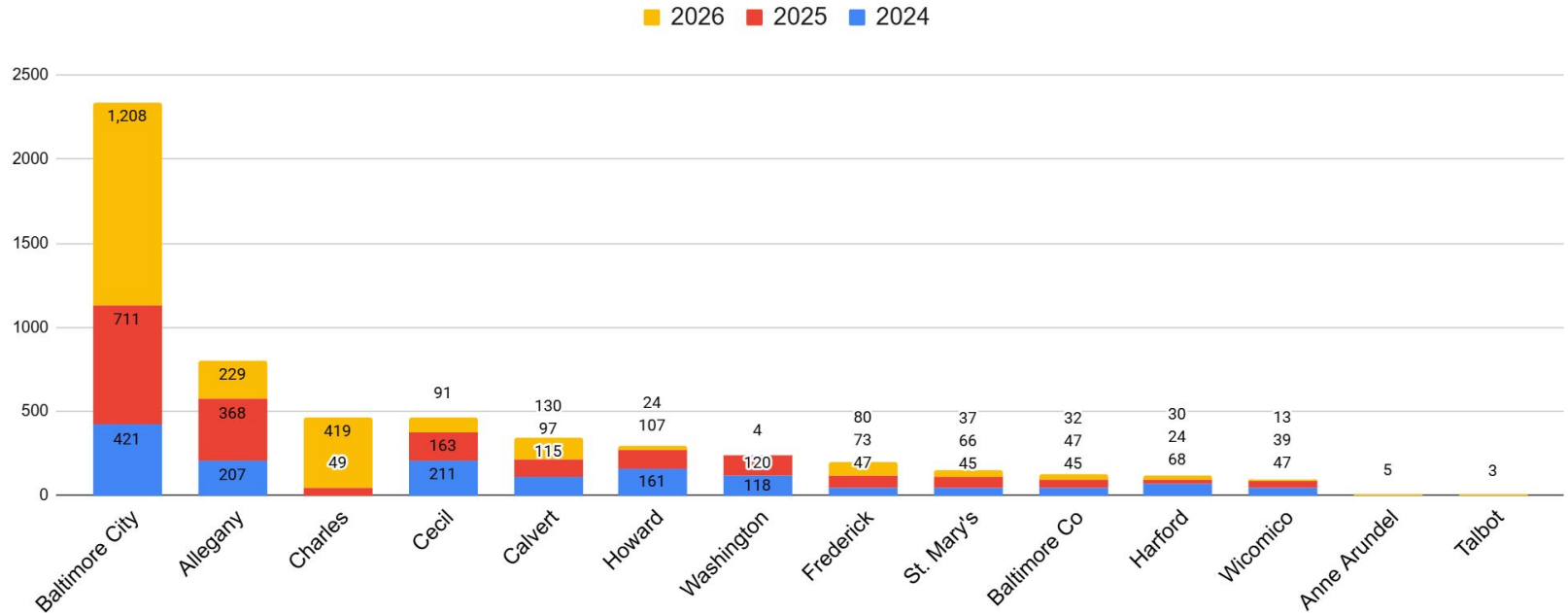
RAD gives us some indication of the near real time drug market in Maryland, but it should not be considered as fully representative.

Key Findings

Q2 CY 2026 (Apr-June) data as of 8/11/2026

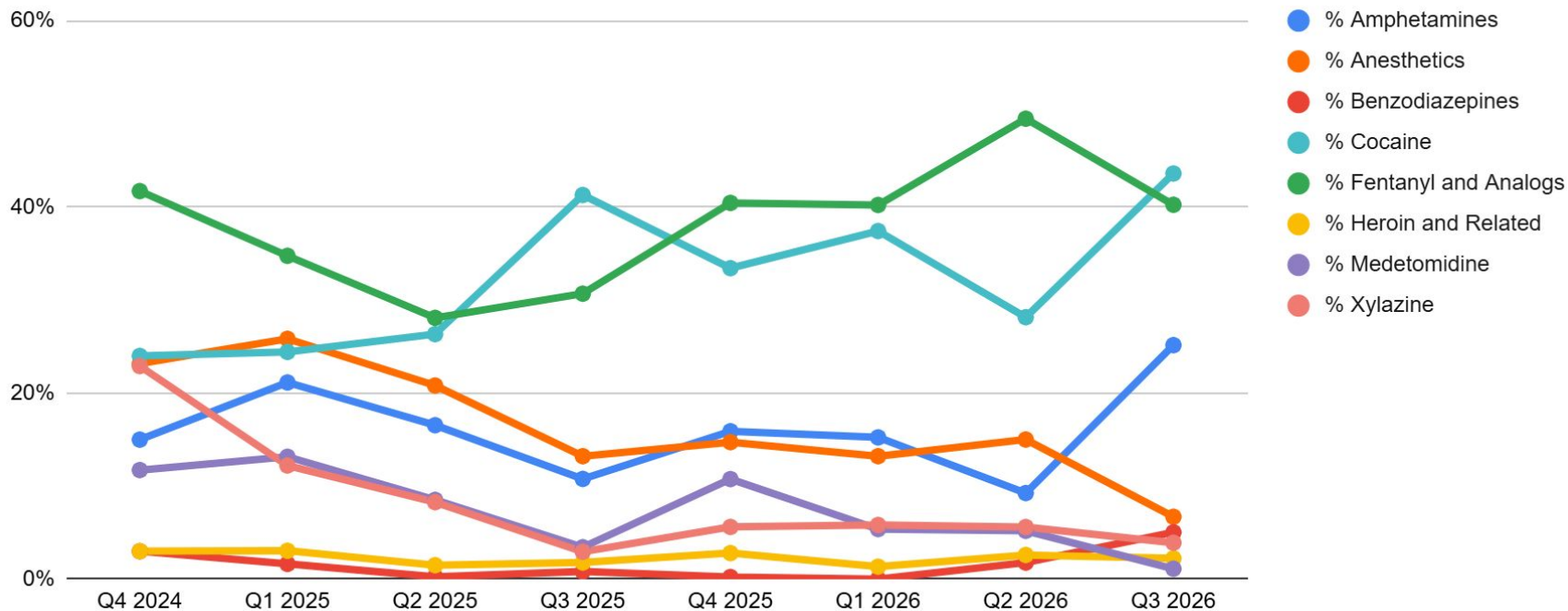
- In Q2 CY2026 (4/1/2026-6/30/2026), **1223 samples** were collected from 22 OADPOPs in 16 jurisdictions. Of those samples:
 - **77.2% contained opioids**
 - Of those samples, **96.2% contained fentanyl.**
 - **28.14% contained cocaine**
 - **9.25% contained amphetamines**
 - **5.19% contained medetomidine**
 - **5.60% contained xylazine**
- **60.67% of samples had multiple active ingredients.**

RAD Sampling by Jurisdiction, JAN 2024- AUG 2026



Note: Data are preliminary and subject to change. Data as of 8/11/2026.

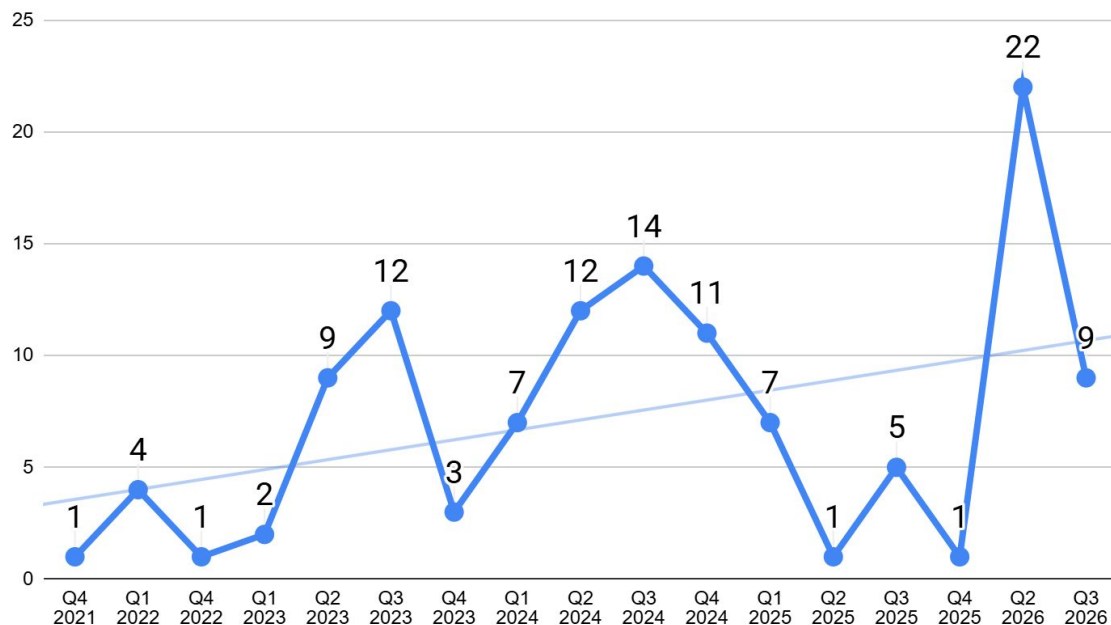
RAD Compounds, OCT 2024- AUG 2026



DEPARTMENT

Note: Data are preliminary and subject to change. Data as of 6/16/2026

Benzodiazepines, OCT 2021 - AUG 2026

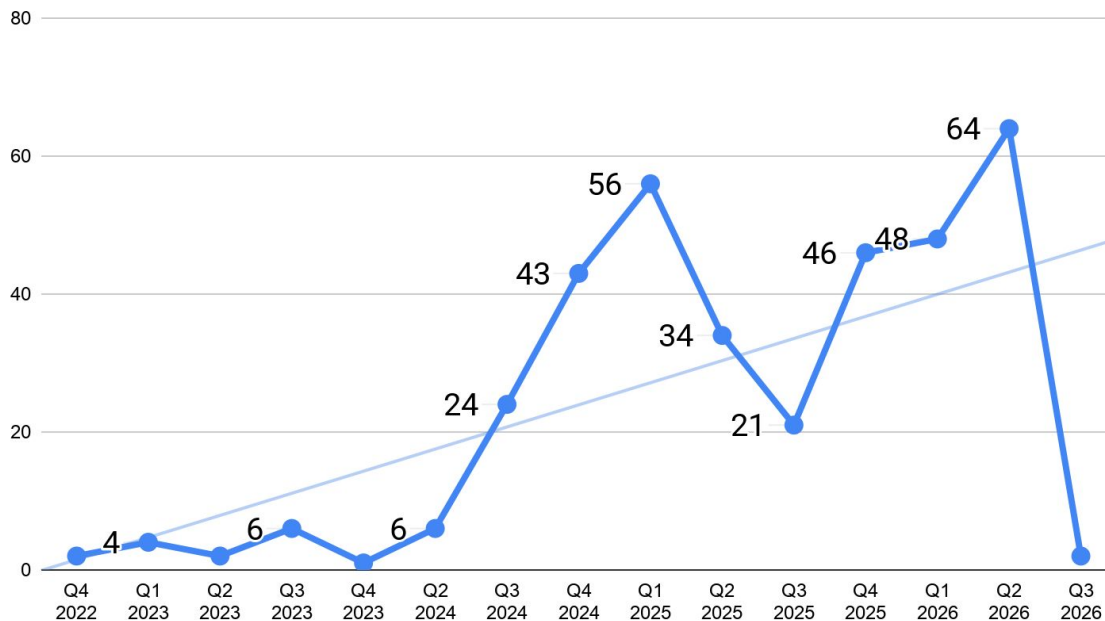


Counties seen in 2026:

- Baltimore City
- Calvert County
- Charles County
- Frederick County
- Talbot County

Note: Data are preliminary and subject to change. Data as of 8/11/2026.

Medetomidine, OCT 2021 - AUG 2026

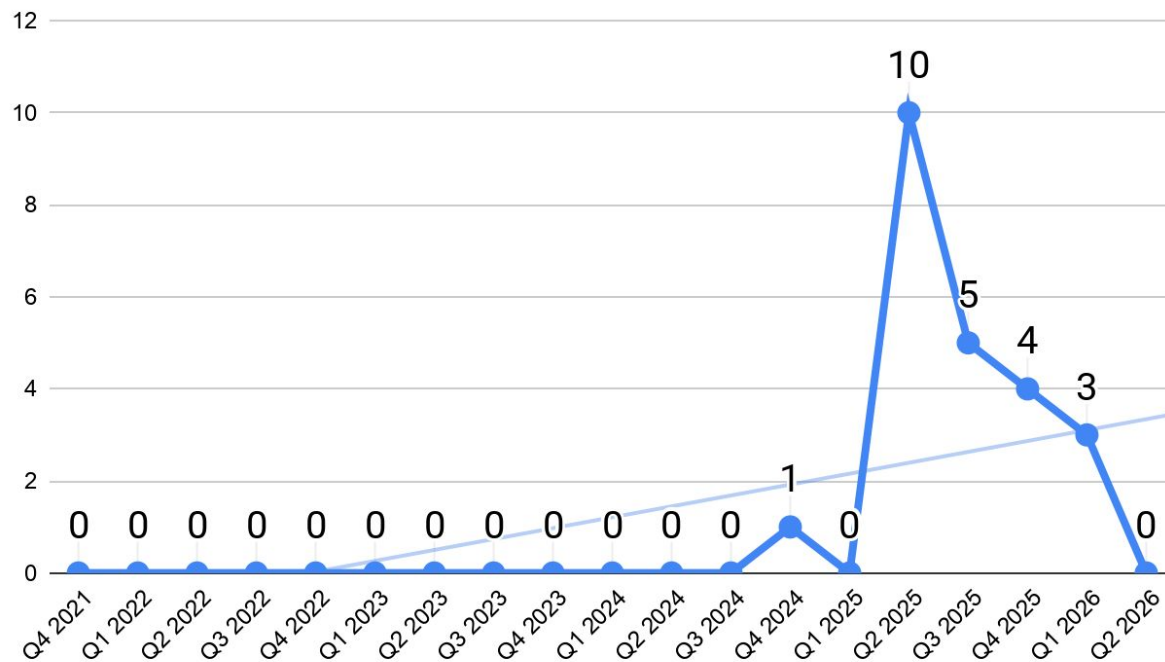


Counties seen in 2026:

- Allegany County
- Baltimore City
- Baltimore County
- Cecil County
- Harford County
- Wicomico County

Note: Data are preliminary and subject to change. Data as of 8/11/2026.

5-fluoro ADB, OCT 2021 - JUNE 2026

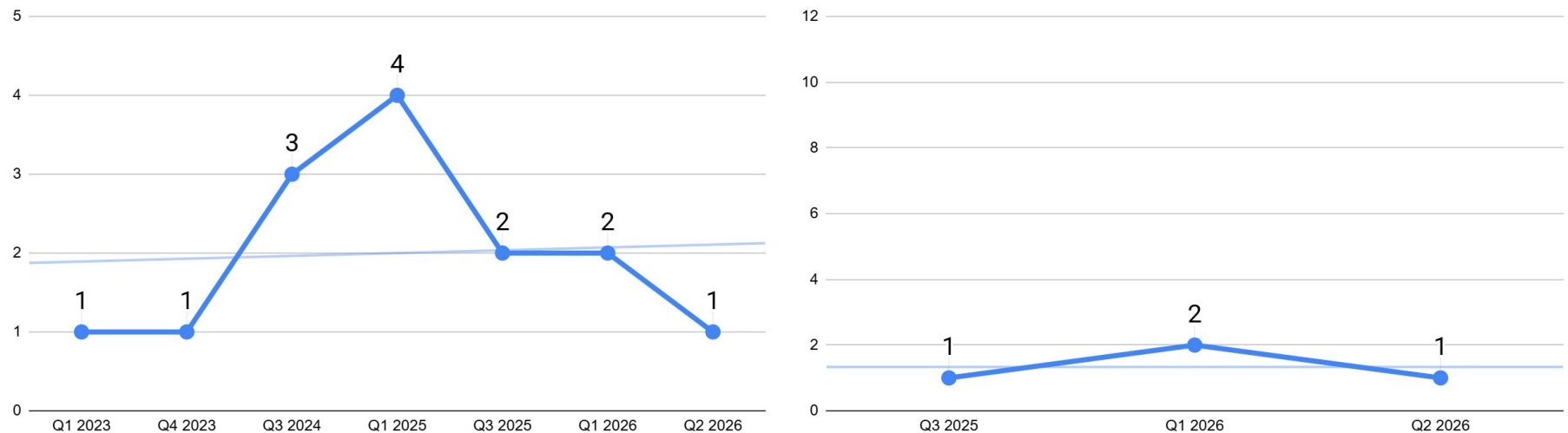


Counties:

- Baltimore City
- Frederick County
- St. Mary's County

Note: Data are preliminary and subject to change. Data as of 6/16/2026.

Mitragynine and 7-OH Mitragynine OCT 2021 - AUG 2026



Counties seen in 2026:

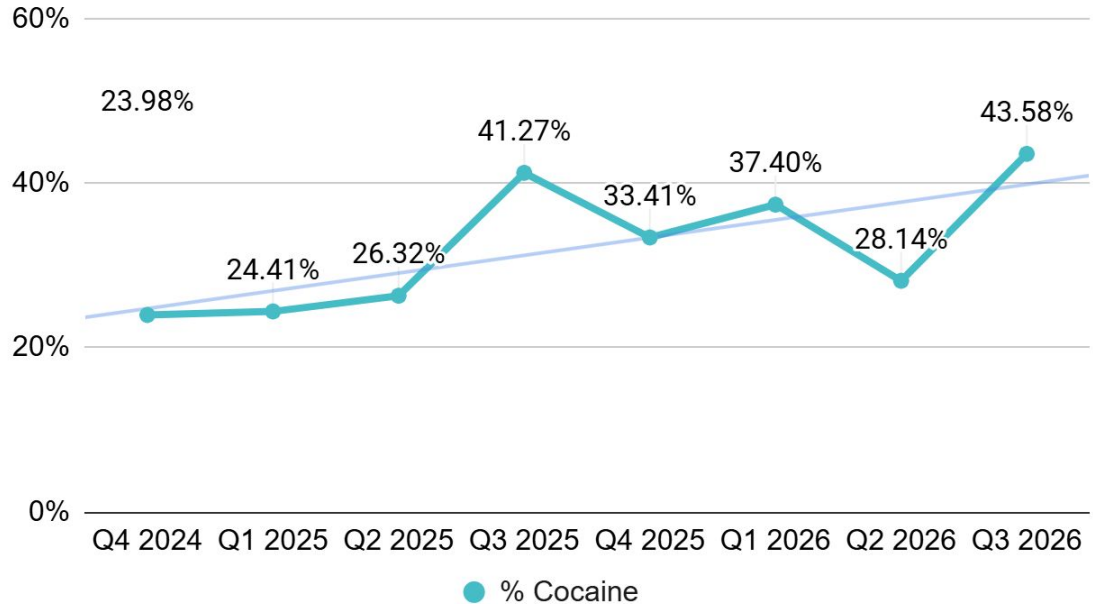
- Baltimore City
- Cecil County



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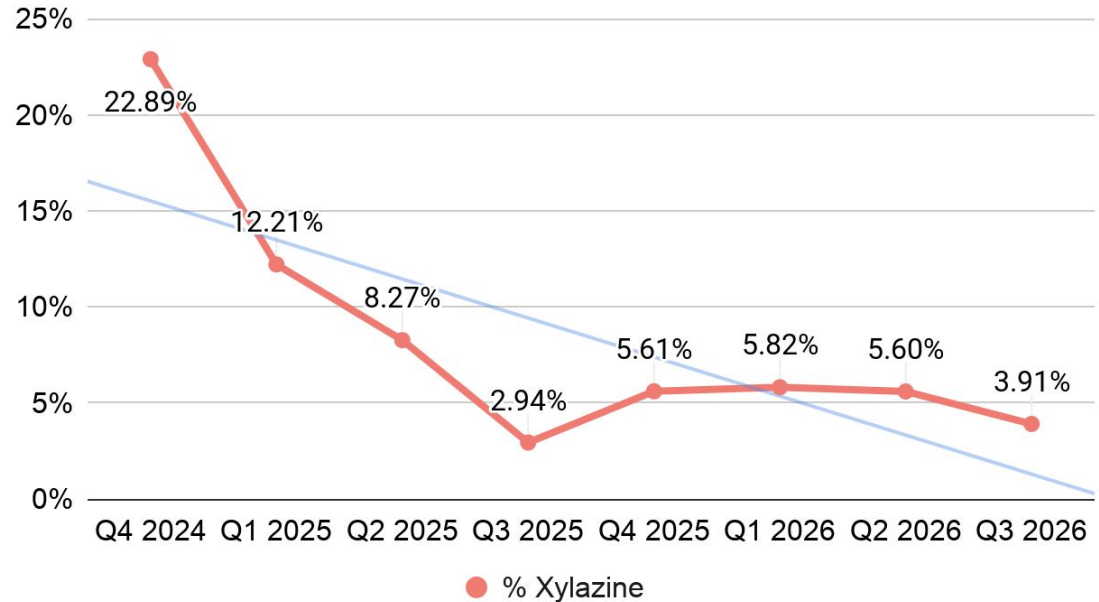
Samples Containing Cocaine

- Present in 43.58 % of samples (78) so far in Q3 CY26
- 6.9% increase in prevalence between Q2 CY25 and Q2 CY26



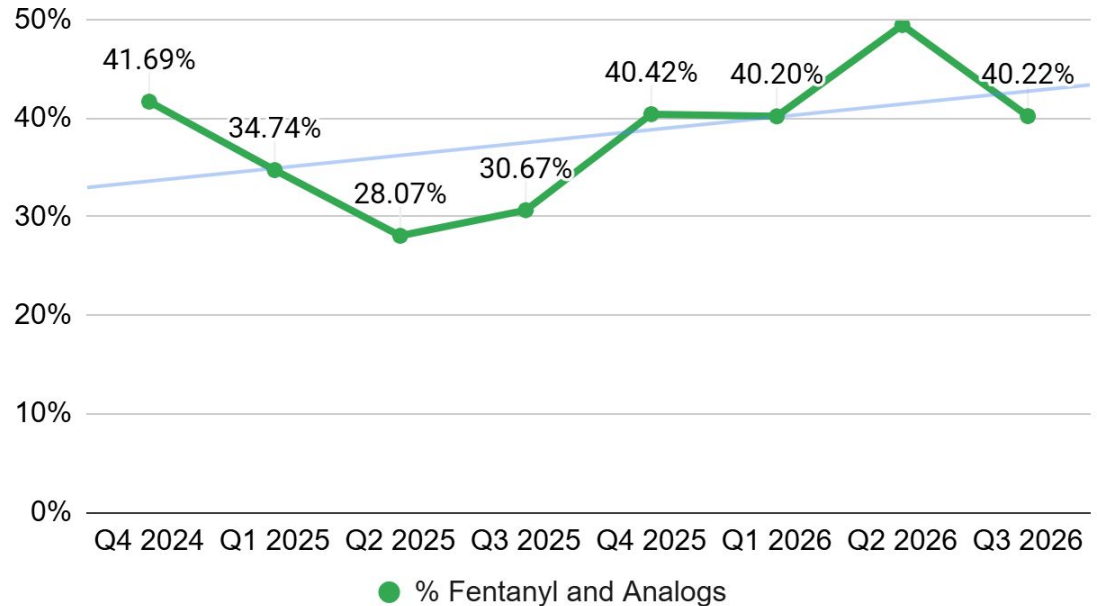
Samples Containing Xylazine

- Present in 3.91 % of samples (7 samples) so far in Q3 CY26
- 32.3% decrease in prevalence between Q2 CY25 and Q2 CY26



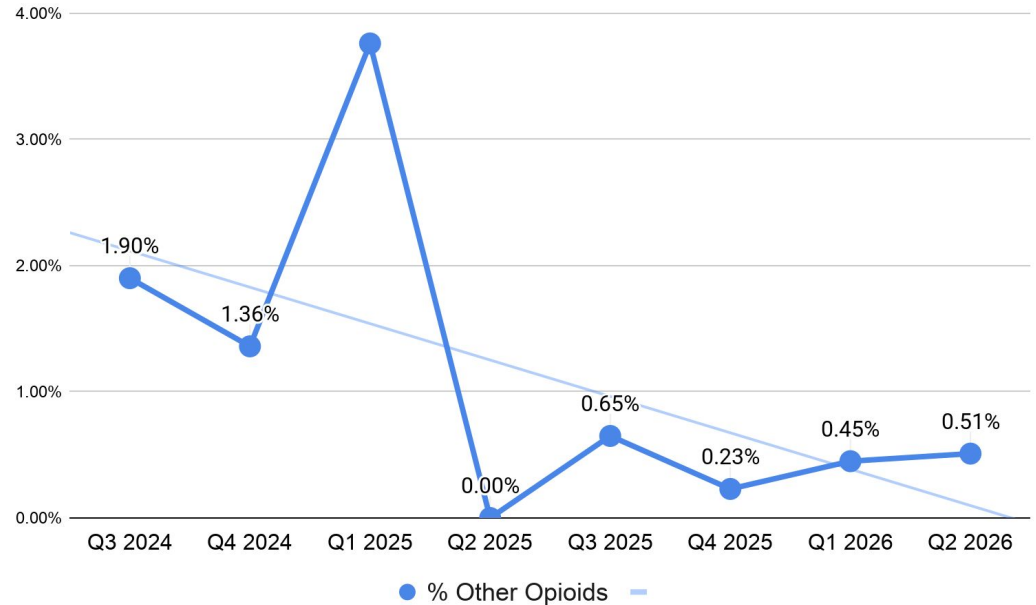
Samples Containing Fentanyl & Fentanyl Analogs

- Present in 40.22% of samples (72 samples) so far in Q3 CY26
- 43.3% increase in prevalence between Q2 CY25 and Q2 CY26



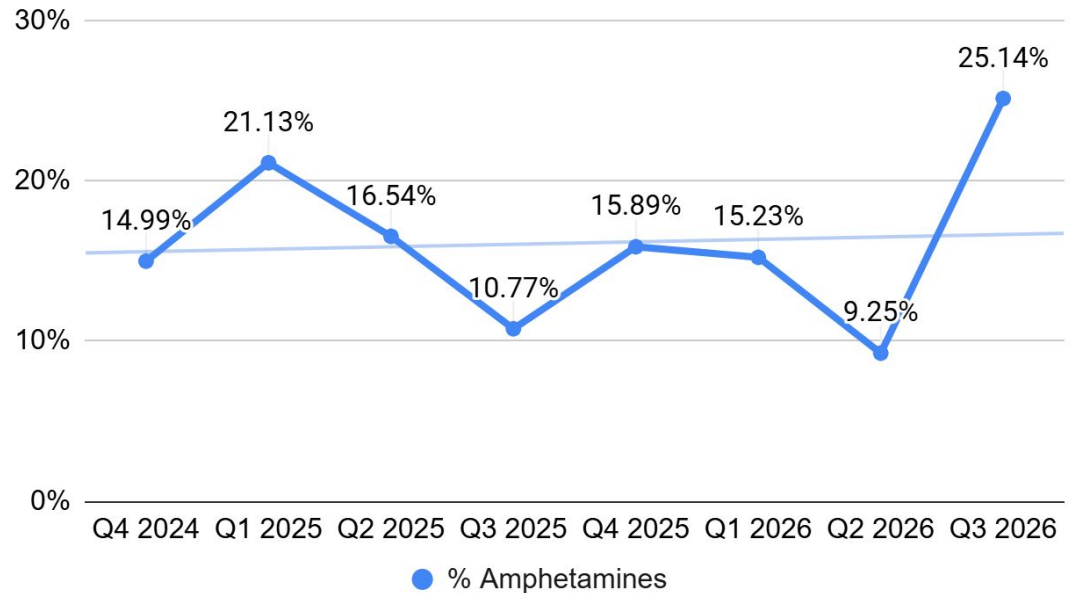
Samples Containing Other Opioids

- Present in 0.51 % of samples (5 samples) so far in Q2 CY26
- Was present in .45% of samples last quarter



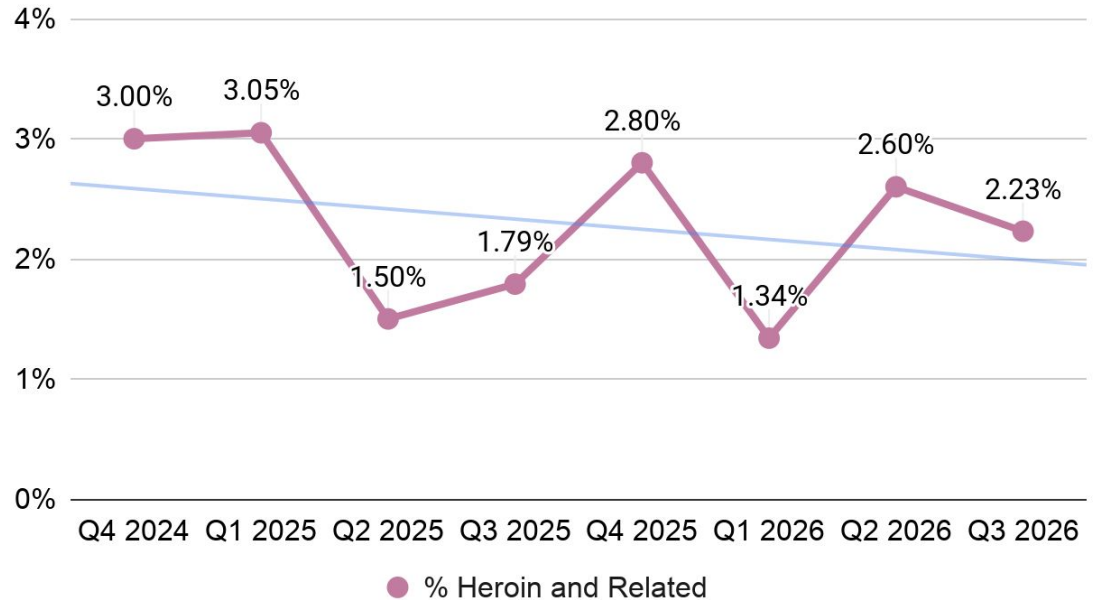
Samples Containing Amphetamines

- Present in 25.14 % of samples (45 samples) so far in Q3 CY26
- 52% increase in prevalence between Q2 CY25 and Q2 CY26



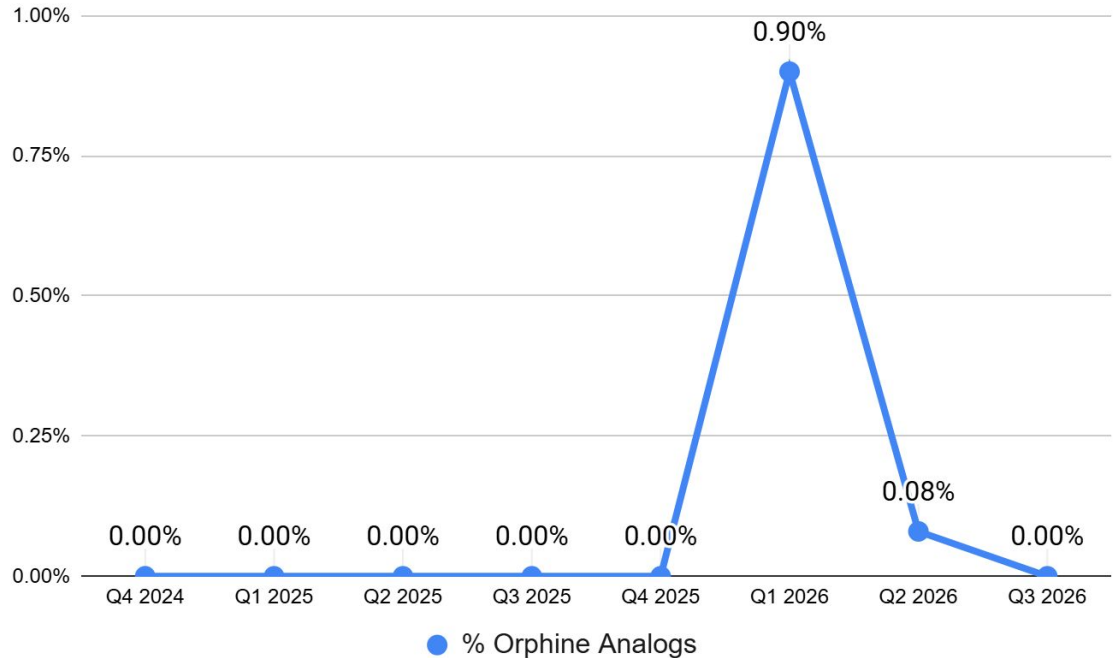
Samples Containing Heroin & Related Compounds

- Present in 2.23 % of samples (4 samples) so far in Q3 CY26
- 7.33% increase in prevalence between Q2 CY25 and Q2 CY26



Samples Containing Orphine Analogs

- Present in 0% of samples so far in Q3 of CY 26.
- Was present in .08 percent of samples last quarter

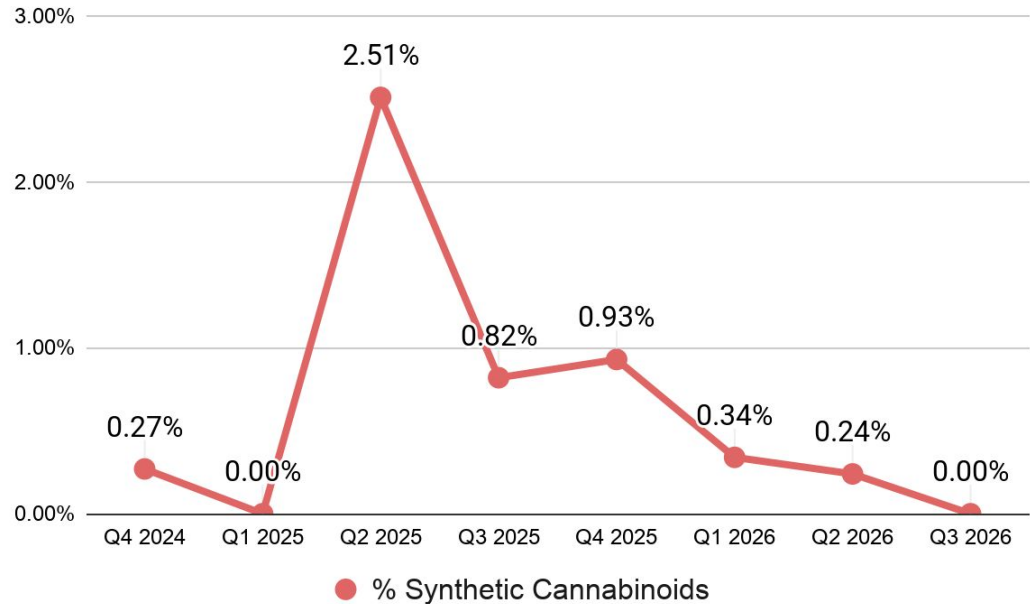


DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Samples Containing Synthetic Cannabinoids

- Present in 0 % of samples so far in Q2 CY26
- Was present in .24% of samples last quarter.



Emerging Trends Discussion

Benzodiazepine Increase: April - July 2026

Benzodiazepines were present in 1% of April (n=659), 4% of June (n=390), and 5% of July (n=179) RAD samples.

Bromazolam

Calvert (5)
Charles (1)
Frederick (1)

Deschlorodemethyldiazepam

Charles (18)

Bromazolam and Deschlorodemethyldiazepam

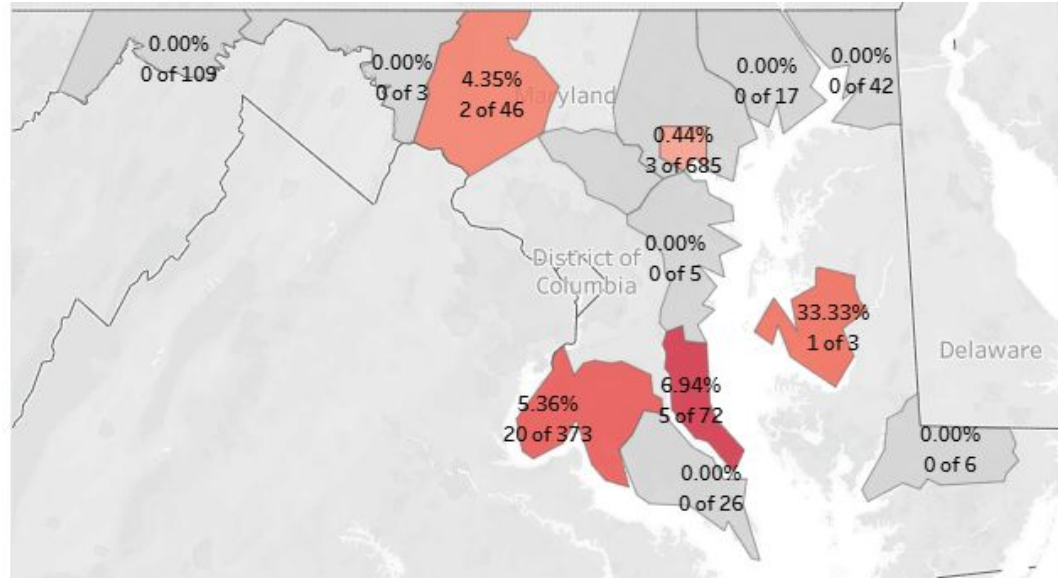
Charles (1)

Ethylbromazolam

Baltimore City (3)
Frederick (1)

Lorazepam

Talbot (1)



Reminder: All ORPs can [order](#)
BTS through our office!

Medetomidine

- Medetomidine has now been seen in 12 of the 15 RAD jurisdictions. In 2026 seen:
 - Allegany County
 - Baltimore City
 - Baltimore County
 - Cecil County
 - Harford County
 - Wicomico County
- Encourage administration of naloxone and responding with rescuing breathing/ CPR.
- Philadelphia has published [comprehensive withdrawal management protocols](#) for medetomidine.
- [Maryland Addiction Consultation Services \(MACS\) withdrawal one - pager](#)
- Palm Cards for PWUD ([English](#) and [Spanish](#))

Orphines

- Cychlorophine identified in 8 RAD samples from Jan - March 2026
- Cychlorophine is a novel synthetic opioid that is more potent than fentanyl. (Also referred to as N-Propionitrile Chlorphine)
- It has been identified in NIST samples from the Appalachian Region. Other orphines have been seen across the country.
- Orphines are associated with an increased risk of overdose because of their potency, but naloxone should still be administered.
- [CFSRE resource](#)

Synthetic Cannabinoids

- Common names: K2, spice
- Preliminary data from other fatal and non-fatal overdose sources has show an increased risk among individuals in carceral settings.
- RAD sees a very low prevalence in synthetic cannabinoids.

Resources:

[Maryland Addiction Consultation Services](#)

[Nevada Opioid Center for Excellence](#)

[New York State Department of Health](#)

[New York City Health](#)

Other Trends

- **Local Anesthetics** - [Anesthetics](#) are most commonly seen in combination with fentanyl and sedatives (medetomidine / xylazine). Associated with [increased risk of seizures](#).
- **Kratom/ Mitragynine/7-OH** - Seen in 11 samples from 5 jurisdictions Most reported they were purchased in WV. 9 out of 11 were kratom alone, about half were 7-OH. MD regulations went into effect in July, monitoring to see the effects.
- **Carfentanil** - found in 5 RAD samples (4 Baltimore City, 1 Cecil), all from [2025](#). No samples in 2026.
- **Amphetamines** - samples containing amphetamines are on the rise in July 2026. Not sure if this is sampling bias or a shift in supply.

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

Program Report Out

How are things going?

How is testing going?

- Any new barriers?
- Any new successes?
- How can we support?

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](#)
- [Maryland OADPOP Law Fact Sheet](#)

Complete Cognito Webform

- 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

If you are running low on mailing envelopes, mail Maggie
(margaret.rybak@maryland.gov)

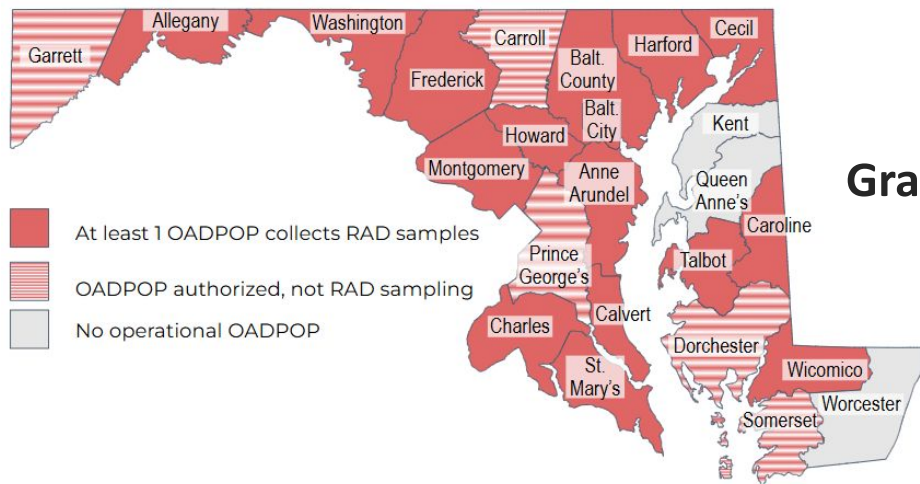
RAD Data/Publication Updates

- [Public overdose dashboard](#)
- [RAD CY2026 Q1 Newsletter](#) (Q2 coming soon!)
- [NIST July Newsletter](#) - NEW!

- [JHU RAD Intent to Purchase Paper](#)
- [RAD Impacts Paper](#) - Journal of Harm Reduction

Want to get started?

- If you are an OADPOP not currently sampling for RAD and you want to get involved, please reach out to Maggie



Grace Street Recovery began testing in June!

Future Collaborative Call Schedule

The next call will be Wednesday, October 21th, 2026 @ 11AM

OPE Contacts

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

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

Thank you! We appreciate you!