
ILLICIT DRUG STATISTICS

for

BRITISH COLUMBIA

*Office of the Chief Coroner
- British Columbia -*

ILLICIT DRUG STATISTICS SUMMARY

The following table represents the number of Non Therapeutic (Illicit) cases in B.C. where the CAUSE OF DEATH was due to or as a consequence of a DRUG OVERDOSE. This category includes cocaine, heroin, and illicitly purchased methadone. This table does NOT include cases where illicit drugs may have contributed to but were not the cause of death.

Year	# of deaths
1988	39
1989	67
1990	82
1991	124
1992	164
1993	357
1994	314
1995	222
1996	310
* 1997	310

* Note: 1997 figures are preliminary until all coroners cases have been finalized. Note that the Coroners Service operates in a 'live' database environment, and as such, data is continuously updated.

ILLICIT DRUG DEATHS BY AGE/SEX

	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988
Breakdown by AGE:										
Under 20 yrs	6	16	6	8	8	3	3	0	2	1
21 - 30	62	76	57	71	63	40	33	29	18	12
31 - 40	142	129	94	163	191	80	58	42	37	19
41 - 50	79	74	52	59	77	31	20	9	8	7
51 - 60	17	11	11	10	13	8	8	2	2	0
Over 60 yrs	4	4	2	2	5	2	2	0	0	0
Total	310	310	222	313	357	164	124	82	67	39
Breakdown by SEX:										
Male	265	253	190	264	291	136	97	66	52	33
Female	45	57	32	50	66	28	27	16	15	6
Total	310	310	222	314	357	164	124	82	67	39

Note *** one case for 1994 for which age undetermined.

ILLCIT DRUG DEATHS BY TOWNSHIP

Vancouver Island:

	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988
Victoria	15	24	15	17	28	4	2	5	0	2
Port Alberni	1	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nanaimo	9	3	6	11	10	3	4	2	0	0
Campbell River	2	3	3	2	7	7	0	1	1	0
Courtenay	4	4	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cumberland	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Powell River	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1
Coombs	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Drury Inlet	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clearwater	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sayward	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Sooke	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Cedar	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Colwood	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Alert Bay	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sidney	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Comox	1	0	0	2	1	1	2	0	0	0
Port Clements	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Esquimalt	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	1
Ganges	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Lake Cowichan	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Duncan	2	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Royston	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Skidegate	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parksville	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	0
Port Hardy	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Ladysmith	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Saltspring Island	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	40	42	31	46	53	19	11	9	2	5

Lower Mainland:

	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988
Vancouver	141	151	116	160	200	91	67	50	48	18
Surrey	24	17	13	16	17	11	7	2	2	3
Burnaby	14	15	8	10	10	9	7	6	3	4
New Westminster	16	11	10	23	8	4	4	5	2	1
Abbotsford	7	7	4	1	2	2	0	0	1	0
North Vancouver	7	7	4	4	2	3	1	1	1	2
Richmond	2	4	2	3	4	7	3	1	1	1
Langley	1	4	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0
Port Coquitlam/Coquitlam	6	4	5	7	5	6	2	2	0	1
West Vancouver	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0
Whistler	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hope	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Port Moody	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Delta	5	2	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Mission	3	1	1	2	2	1	1	0	1	0
Agassiz	1	1	0	0	2	1	2	0	0	0
Gibsons	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Aldergrove	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Chilliwack	6	1	4	3	5	1	1	0	0	0
White Rock	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
Maple Ridge	0	1	2	1	2	1	1	0	0	0
Sardis	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pender Harbour	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Squamish	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Harrison Mills	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Cultas Lake	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Lions Bay	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sechelt	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	240	237	177	237	265	139	99	68	60	31

Interior/North:

	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988
Prince George	6	7	1	9	12	1	2	1	1	0
Kamloops	10	5	5	10	3	1	3	1	0	0
Vernon	2	4	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0
Prince Rupert	4	3	2	0	10	1	3	0	0	1
Kelowna	2	2	0	2	3	0	0	0	0	0
Cranbrook	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	1
Merritt	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
Monte Lake	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Penticton	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
100 Mile House	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Fort St. John	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Williams Lake	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Mackenzie	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Edgewood	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Barriere	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Field	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Westbank	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hope	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Kitimat	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Winlaw	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Chase	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Enderby	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Rossland	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canyon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cache Creek	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Terrace	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Quesnel	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
Salmon Arm	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Lovel Cove	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Trail/Fruitvale	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Chetwynd	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Morrisey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Lumby	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Osoyoos	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Castlegar	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Grandforks	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	30	31	14	31	39	6	14	5	5	3
Yearly Totals	310	310	222	314	357	164	124	82	67	39

Illicit Drug Statistics

PRELIMINARY - to September 25th

The following statistics represent the # of illicit drug deaths in B.C. by region up to September 25th 1997 & same period 1998. The numbers include both confirmed & unconfirmed deaths (autopsy/toxicology results not available). These statistics are preliminary and should not be cited as the final figures until all coroners cases have been completed.

Region	Jan - Sept. 25th, 1997	Jan - Sept. 25th, 1998
Vancouver	115	155
New Westminster	41	43
Abbotsford	17	19
Kamloops	4	15
Kelowna	3	4
Prince George	7	5
Nanaimo	18	21
Victoria	13	15
British Columbia	218	277