



DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DFS
DEPARTMENT OF
FORENSIC SCIENCES

Forensic Science Laboratory | Public Health Laboratory | Crime Scene Sciences

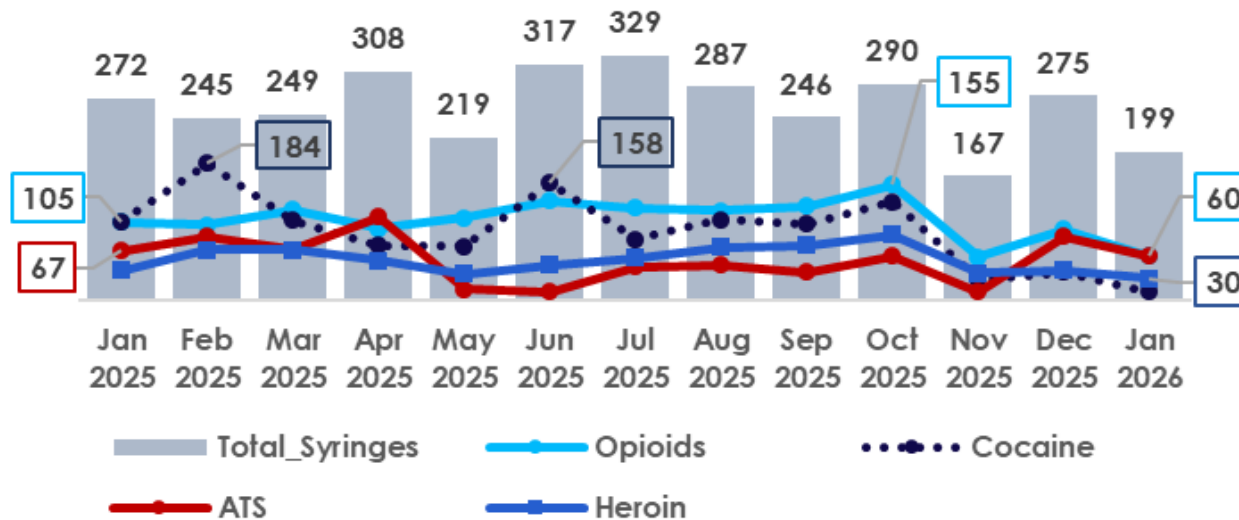
DFS Public Health Laboratory (PHL)

***Needle Exchange Intelligence Services (NEXIS)
Annual Summary Report***

January 2026

Count of Analyzed Syringes (Jan 2025 – Jan 2026)

Count of Analyzed Syringes by Drug Class
January 2025 - January 2026

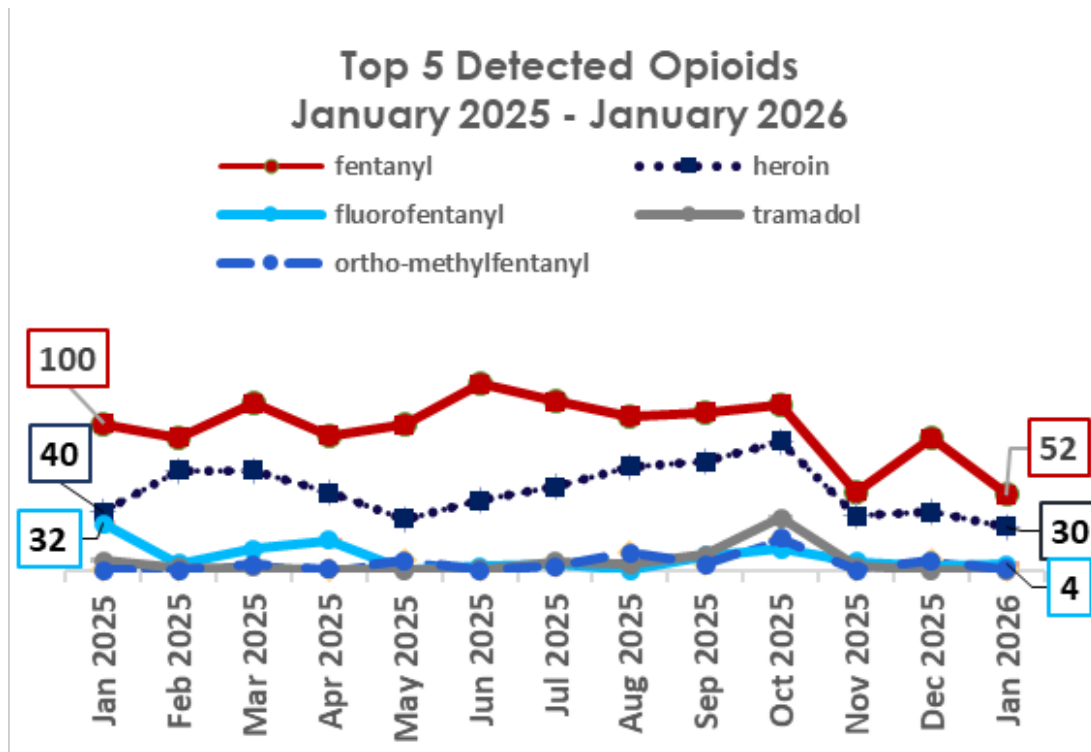


Summary

- 3,403 syringes were analyzed between January 2025 to January 2026.
- The top five controlled dangerous substances (CDS) detected over the 13-month period were:
 - fentanyl (37%)
 - cocaine (35%)
 - heroin (21%)
 - methamphetamine (20%)
 - fluorofentanyl (3%)

Line Graph of Drug Class Trends. Lines represent the number of syringes that contain a given substance or combination of given substances over the 13-month period. Bars represent the total number of syringes analyzed by month.

Top 5 Detected Opioids (Jan 2025 – Jan 2026)

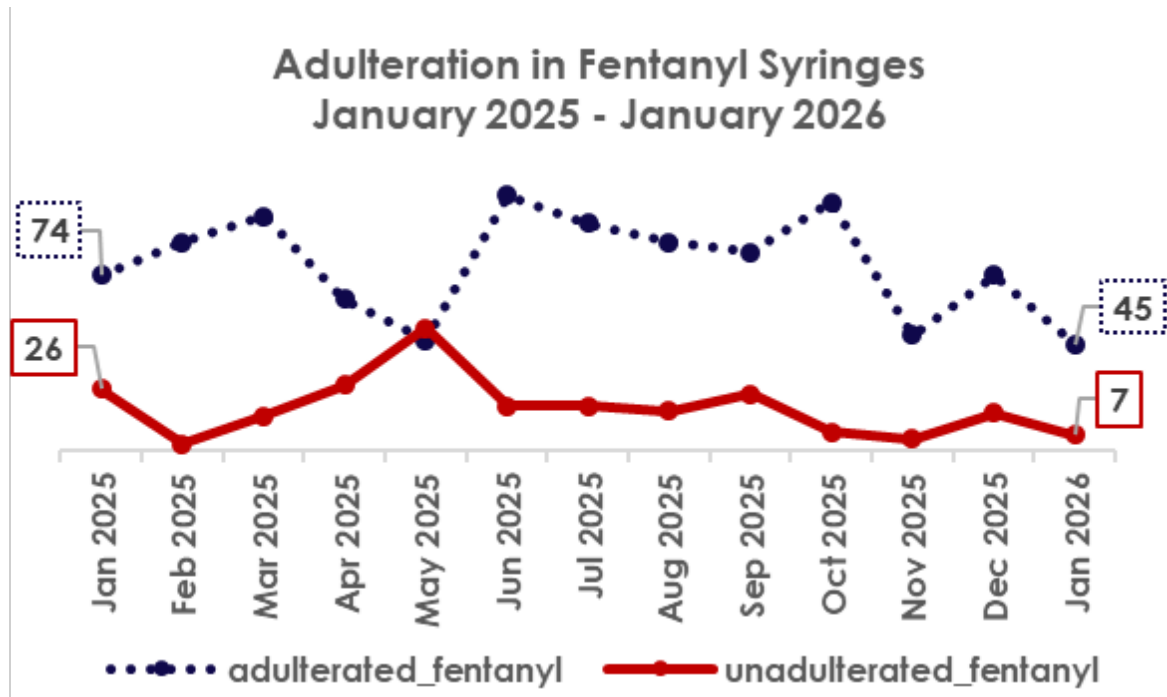


Scatter Plot of Top Opioids. Each line represents the number of syringes analyzed in each of the top 5 detected opioids over the 13-month period.

Summary

- The most common synthetic opioids were:
 - fentanyl (1,260 syringes)
 - heroin (709 syringes)
 - fluorofentanyl (119 syringes)
- Papaverine (29 syringes) was the most common non-synthetic opioid.

Composition of Fentanyl Syringes (Jan 2025 – Jan 2026)

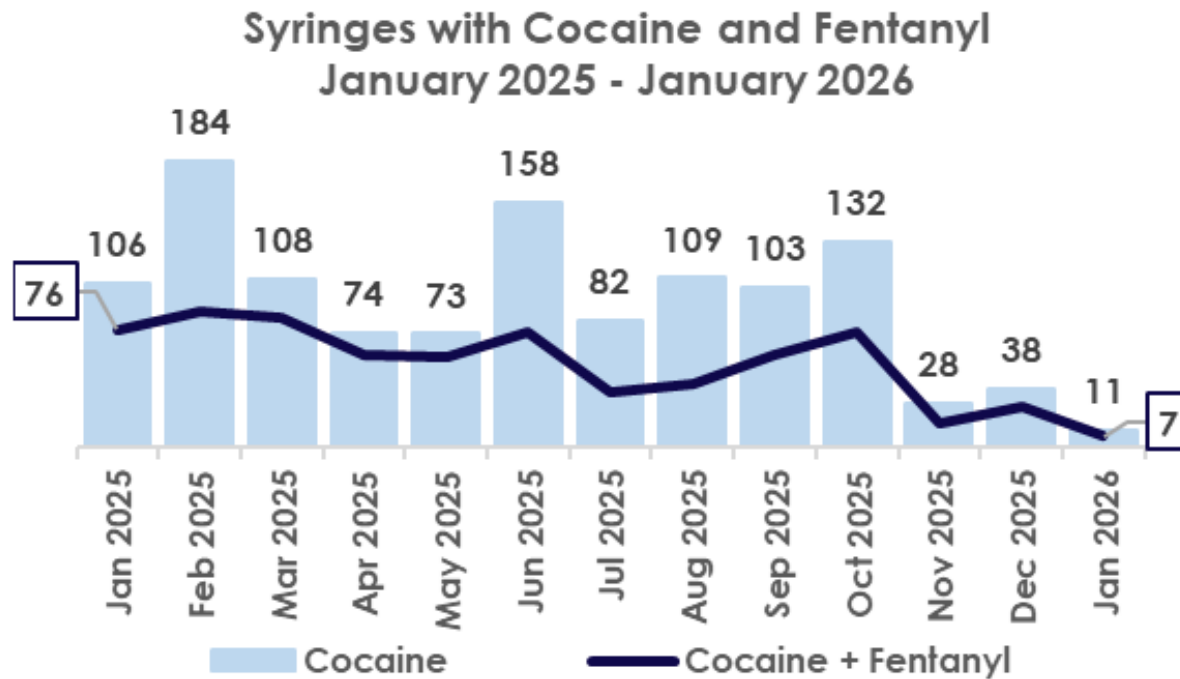


Scatter Plot of Adulterated vs. Unadulterated Fentanyl. Lines represent the number of syringes with adulterated (blue) vs unadulterated (red) fentanyl over the 13-month period.

Summary

- From January 2025 to 2026, there were 1.78 as many syringes with fentanyl than heroin, the second most common opioid.
- Fentanyl is frequently found in syringes containing:
 - cocaine (58% of cocaine syringes)
 - heroin (85% of heroin syringes)
 - xylazine (85% of xylazine syringes)

Composition of Cocaine Syringes (Jan 2025 – Jan 2026)

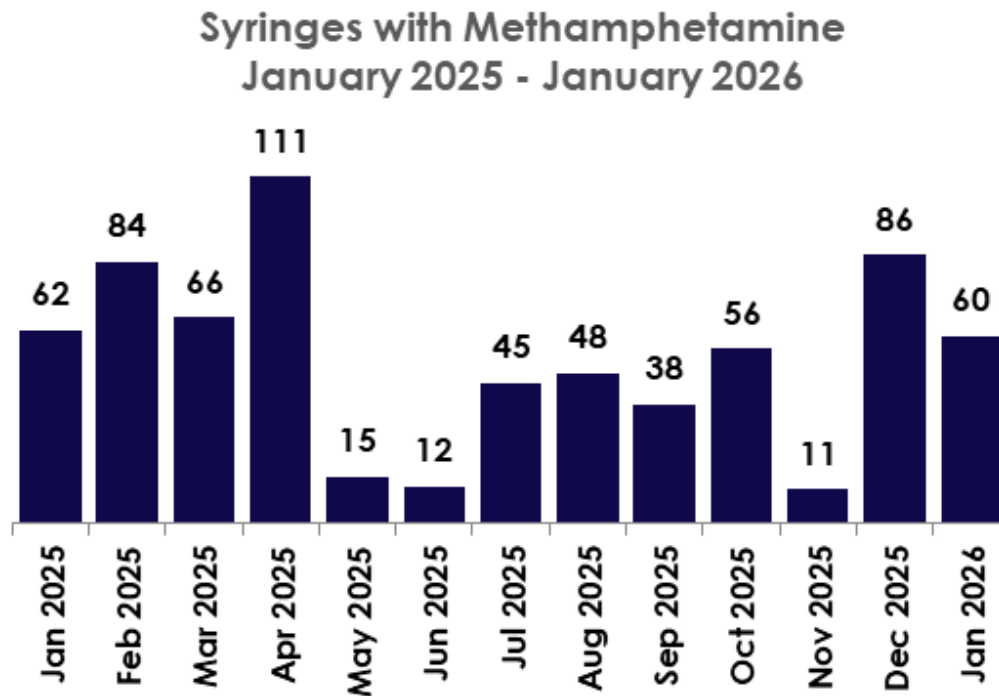


Summary

- From January 2025 to 2026, 35% of syringes analyzed contained detectable amounts of cocaine.
- Methamphetamine was the most common controlled stimulant detected with cocaine (11% of cocaine syringes).

Combination Line and Bar Chart of Syringes with Cocaine and Fentanyl. Bars represent the total number of syringes analyzed with cocaine. The line represent the number of syringes with cocaine and fentanyl analyzed over the 13-month period.

Composition of ATS Syringes (Jan 2025 – Jan 2026)



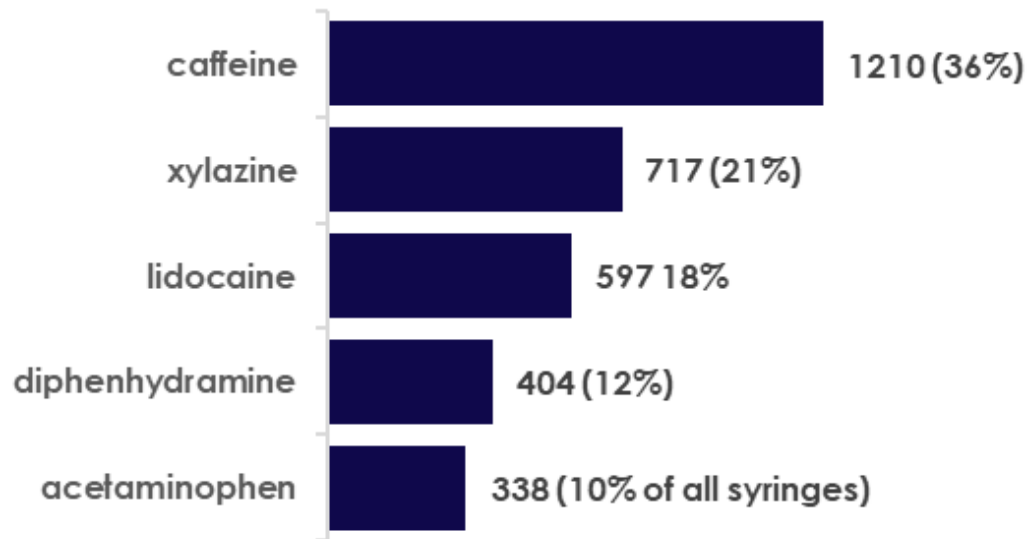
Bar Chart of Syringes with Methamphetamine. Bars represent the total number of syringes analyzed with methamphetamine over the 13-month period.

Summary

- From January 2025 to 2026, 21% of CDS syringes analyzed contained detectable amounts of an amphetamine-type stimulant (ATS).
- The most common ATS detected were:
 - methamphetamine (694 syringes)
 - 3,4-MDMA (6 syringes)
 - isopropyl butylone (5 syringes)

Composition of Adulterants in Syringes (Jan 2025 – Jan 2026)

Top 5 Non-Controlled Adulterants
January 2025 - January 2026



Bar Chart of Top 5 Non-Controlled Adulterants. Bars represent total number and percentage of syringes analyzed with a non-CDS adulterant over the past 13-month period.

Summary

- Among the major drug classes, substances detected with the highest rate of adulterants were:
 - tramadol within opioids (99% of syringes)
 - cocaine (62% of syringes)
 - methamphetamine within ATS (27% of syringes)
- Fentanyl was the most prevalent opioid found with xylazine (608 syringes) over the 13-month period.