



What's in Reno's Drug Supply?

Summary - March 2026



What the Cut is a free, confidential, and anonymous **drug checking program** that analyzes tiny samples of drugs or residue to understand what's actually in them.



Since May 2024, we have analyzed **154 samples** from Washoe County.

March samples



This publication was made possible by the State Opioid Response Grant #H79TI087835 awarded by the State of Nevada DHS DPBH Bureau of Behavioral Health, Wellness and Prevention. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the State of Nevada or the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. Information on treatment, naloxone, & test strips:

behavioralhealthnv.org 988lifeline.org



samples in March: 29

Expected methamphetamine: 26

26 (100%) contained methamphetamine.
14 (54%) had only methamphetamine.

12 (46%) had methamphetamine and additional adulterants:

7/12 had DMA*

(3/7 had trace amounts of DMA)

2/12 had traces of triisopropanolamine*

1/12 had MSM as its primary ingredient*

1/12 had traces of benzphetamine*

Expected fentanyl: 3

3/3 contained fentanyl.

2/3 also had methamphetamine and fentanyl manufacturing byproducts

1/3 also had xylozine*

1/3 also had BTMPS*, lidocaine, acetaminophen, and traces of cocaine

While most samples we test still contain only the expected drug(s), we've also seen a few concerning adulterants.

New & notable



On the back page, a timeline summarizes important adulterants we've found locally.

We highlight when and in what drug an adulterant was first found locally, and the total number of samples we've tested containing this substance.

DRUG

WHEN?

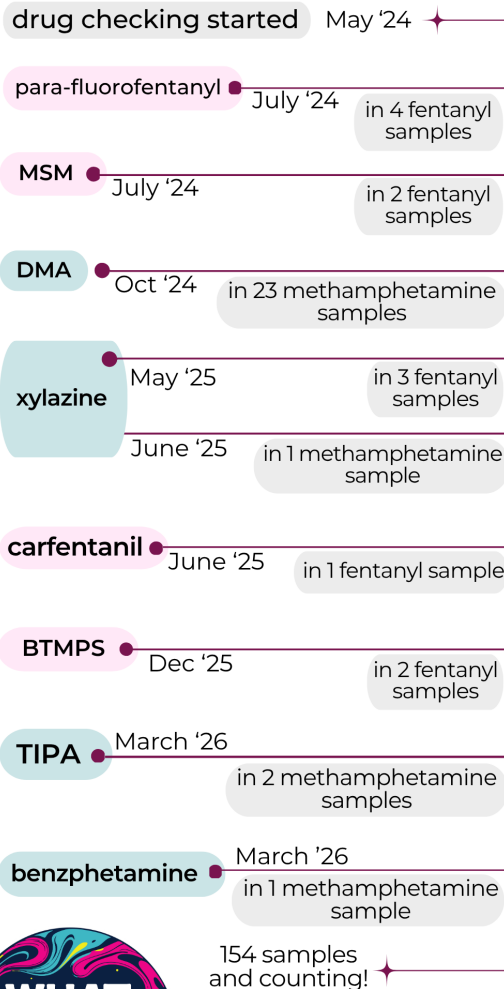
seen in how many samples in total since?

Then, we'll explore what we currently know about each of these substances and their risks, symptoms, and the severity of harms.

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Publish date: 5/6/2026
Discard after: 7/6/2026

Found: what & how often?



Adulteration we've seen locally

para-fluorofentanyl (opioid)

A fentanyl-related opioid with higher risks of toxicity, overdose, and post-Narcan withdrawal.

MSM (dimethyl sulfone)

Natural anti-inflammatory compound

- May help form crystal-like structures during the manufacturing process

xylazine (also called "tranq")

While Xylazine is often found in opioid samples, it's a sedative, not an opioid.

It's used in veterinary surgeries, but it's harmful to humans and can cause:

- Dangerously low heart rate, blood pressure, and oxygen intake
- Unusual overdose experiences

Someone OD'ing on fentanyl with xylazine in it may start breathing after getting narcan, but may not wake up

- Complex opioid withdrawal
- Skin wounds that won't heal

Injection users are at highest risk, but any use can cause unusual skin wounds that may require medical intervention to heal.

carfentanil (opioid)

A stronger fentanyl-related chemical

- Found in one local fentanyl June 2025

DMA (N,N-Dimethylamphetamine)

A milder form of methamphetamine

- Made during the manufacturing process.

BTMPS (industrial chemical)

Thought to be a filler or stabilizing agent

- First discovered in street drugs in 2024

TIPA (triisopropanolamine)

A chemical used in manufacturing to help stabilize, mix, or coat other materials.

benzphetamine (stimulant)

A stimulant and controlled substance sometimes prescribed for weight loss

In summary, we see some adulteration in drugs locally, but overall, sample results reliably reflect participant's expectations of the sample!



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