

OPIOID SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY



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This summary¹ provides local and provincial surveillance information. For some indicators, there is a lag time to receive data, so data are shown for the most recent complete month available. For more detailed provincial and local data visit [Public Health Ontario's Interactive Opioid Tool](#) and the [Ontario Prescription Opioid Tool](#)

EMERGING ISSUES

- The month of May saw the highest volume of opioid overdose-related ED visits and EMS calls to date in Chatham-Kent.
- [London](#) has confirmed carfentanil in street drugs from seizures in March and April and [Windsor](#) has also confirmed the presence of the drug from seizures in March.
- The Ontario Provincial Police recently released a report, [Opioid and Overdoses: Impacts and Strategies](#).
- Public Health Ontario, the Ontario Drug Policy and Research Network and the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario released an [Opioid Mortality Surveillance Report](#) that describes current trends and characteristics of confirmed opioid-related deaths in Ontario between July 1, 2017 and June 30, 2018.

CHATHAM-KENT ACTIVITY

EMS Calls ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 20 suspected opioid overdose-related calls in May (41 to date in 2019; 36 in 2018)
Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 15 opioid overdose-related ED visits in May (36 to date in 2019; 67 in 2018)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 deaths between January and September 2018 (5 in 2017)
Naloxone Distribution ⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 90 naloxone kits distributed by CK Public Health in May (195 to date in 2019; 184 in 2018)• 72 naloxone kits distributed by CK pharmacies in January 2019
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of opioid-overdose related EMS calls and ED visits remained elevated in May compared to all previous months since weekly hospital reporting began in April 2017• The year-to-date local rate of ED visits (34.2 per 100,000) is slightly higher than the provincial rate (30.3 per 100,000)

PROVINCIAL ACTIVITY

Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 926 ED visits in May (4,434 to date in 2019; 9,221 in 2018)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1469 deaths in 2018 (1,265 in 2017)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of ED visits was lower in May compared to April but still higher than all previous months since September 2017

Figure 1. Opioid overdose-related ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths in Chatham-Kent, 2003-2017

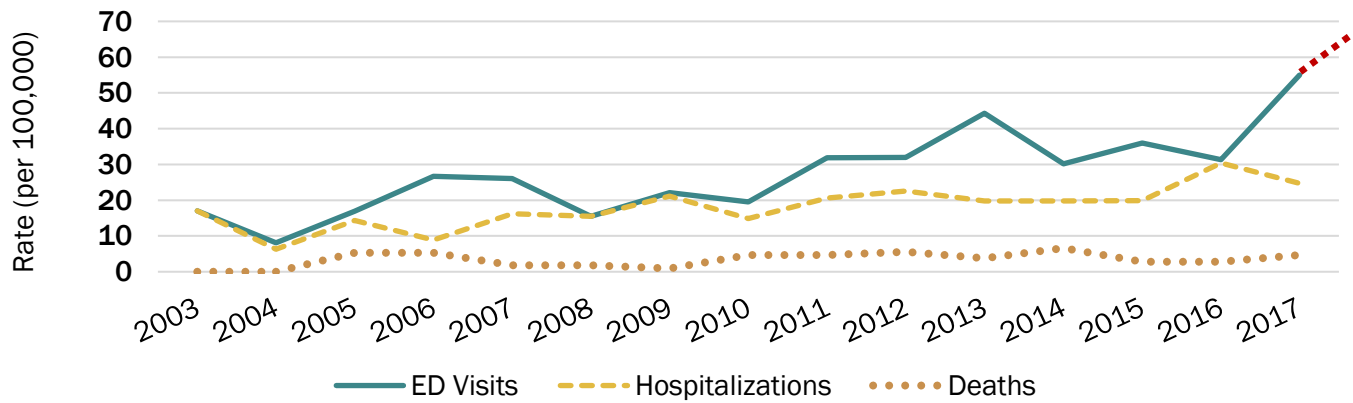
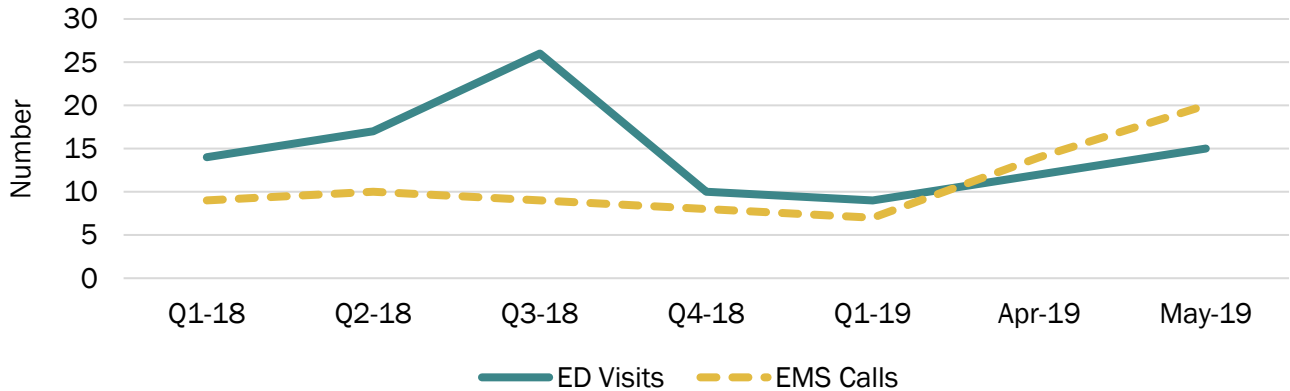


Figure 2. Opioid overdose-related ED visits and EMS calls, Chatham-Kent, 2018-2019



NOTES

¹Content and format of this information bulletin has been adapted from Lambton Public Health

²EMS calls were provided by Chatham-Kent EMS (May 30, 2019)

³Emergency department visits were provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Weekly emergency department visits for opioid overdose Week 10: June 3-June 9, 2019). All Ontario hospitals are required to report cases of opioid overdose presenting in their EDs to the Canadian Institute for Health Information. Results are considered preliminary and subject to change as emergency departments continue to submit data. Rates were based on 2019 population projections.

⁴Deaths were obtained from [Public Health Ontario's Interactive Opioid Tool](#). Data for 2018 are considered preliminary and are subject to change as remaining cases are closed by the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario. The data include both confirmed and probable cases.

⁵Naloxone kits distributed by CK Public Health are tracked internally. The number of kits distributed in 2019 by Chatham-Kent pharmacies was only available for January from the [Ontario Drug Policy Research Network Prescription Opioid Tool](#).

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