

OPIOID SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY

CK Public Health • 435 Grand Avenue West, Chatham, ON N7M 5L8
Tel: 519.352.7270 • Fax: 519.352.2166 • Email: ckpublichealth@chatham-kent.ca



NOVEMBER 2019

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

- On October 19, 2019, increased communication went out to stakeholders based on a higher than normal number of opioid-overdose related EMS calls - there were 4 calls for service in 2 days (October 17th /18th)

CHATHAM-KENT ACTIVITY

EMS Calls ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 11 suspected opioid overdose-related calls in October (78 to date in 2019) (Figure 1)• 12 suspected non-opioid drug overdose-related calls in October (68 to date in 2019)
Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9 opioid overdose-related ED visits in October (70 to date in 2019) (Figure 1)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No confirmed deaths between January and June 2019 (4 deaths in 2018 or 3.8 per 100,000)
Naloxone Distribution ⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 40 naloxone kits distributed by CK Public Health in October (410 to date in 2019; 184 in 2018)• 179 naloxone kits distributed through CK pharmacies in April 2019 (increased from Feb 2019)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of opioid-overdose related EMS calls and ED visits was slightly elevated in October compared to previous months• The year-to-date local rate of ED visits (66.4 per 100,000) was slightly higher than the provincial rate (59.7 per 100,000)

PROVINCIAL ACTIVITY

Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 462 ED visits in October (8,732 to date in 2019)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 780 deaths between January and June 2019 (1,474 deaths in 2018)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of ED visits in October was similar to September and lower than previous months

Figure 1. Opioid overdose-related ED visits and EMS calls, Chatham-Kent, January to October 2019

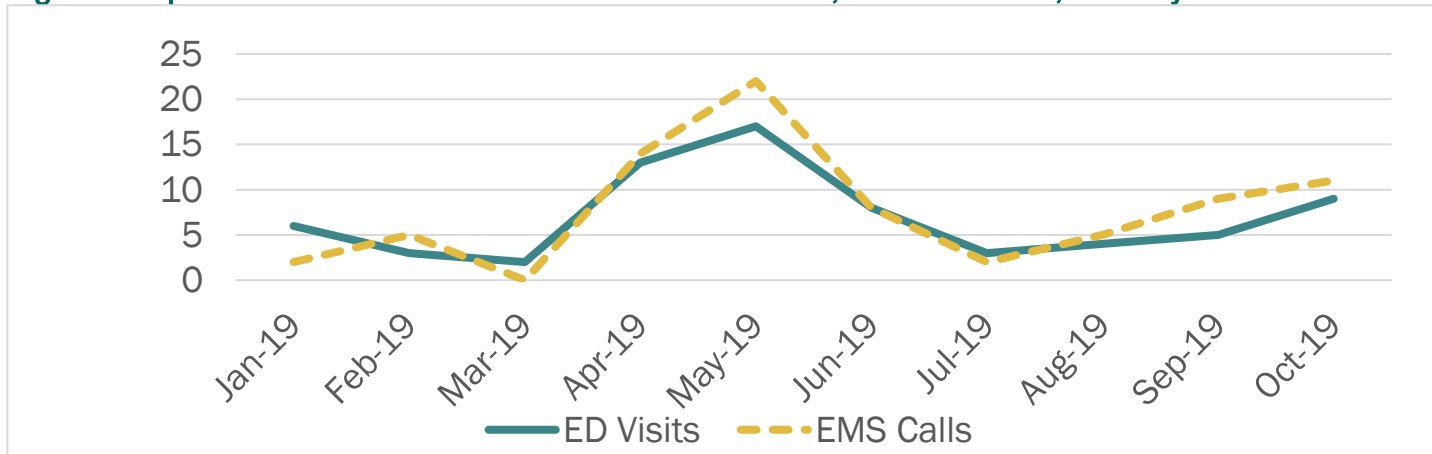
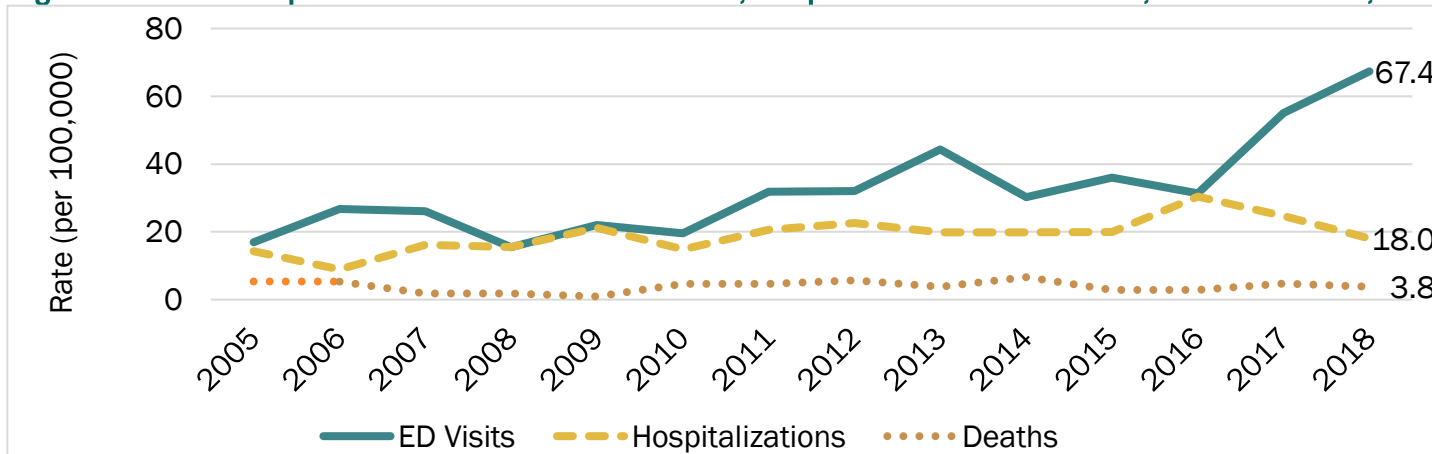


Figure 2. Rates of opioid overdose-related ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths, Chatham-Kent, 2005-18⁶



NOTES

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

²EMS calls were provided by Chatham-Kent EMS (November 25, 2019)

³Emergency department visits were provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Weekly emergency department visits for opioid overdose Week 32: Nov 4-Nov 10, 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 are based on 2019 population projections.

⁴Preliminary deaths for 2019 were obtained from the Quarterly Public Health Unit Opioid-related Deaths Report (November 15, 2019). Data 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 confirmed cases for which death investigation results have indicated opioid directly contributed to the cause of death.

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

⁶2005 to 2018 ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths obtained from [Public Health Ontario's Interactive Opioid Tool](#).

CONTACT:

Laura Zettler

Epidemiologist, CK Public Health

Phone: 226.312.2023 ext. 2407

Email: lauraz@chatham-kent.ca

#WeAreCKPublicHealth