

OPIOID SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY



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OCTOBER 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

- KFL&A Public Health has released information about the suspected circulation of Etizolam in their region - an illicit drug which has been implicated in several overdose deaths in Ontario. A briefing note prepared by KFL&A is attached for more information.

CHATHAM-KENT ACTIVITY

EMS Calls²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9 suspected opioid overdose-related calls in September (67 to date in 2019) - see Figure 1
Emergency Department Visits³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <5 opioid overdose-related ED visits in September (60 to date in 2019) - see Figures 1 and 2
Deaths⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 deaths in 2018 or 3.8 per 100,000 (5 deaths in 2017 or 4.7 per 100,000) - see Figure 2
Naloxone Distribution⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 26 naloxone kits distributed by CK Public Health in September (392 to date in 2019; 184 in 2018)• 179 naloxone kits distributed through CK pharmacies in April 2019 (increasing from Feb 2019)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of opioid-overdose related EMS calls was slightly elevated in September compared to August• The year-to-date local rate of ED visits (56.9 per 100,000) is comparable to the provincial rate (54.9 per 100,000)

PROVINCIAL ACTIVITY

Emergency Department Visits³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 343 ED visits in September (8,030 to date in 2019)
Deaths⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 459 deaths between January and March 2019 (1,469 deaths in 2018 or 10.2 deaths per 100,000)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of ED visits in September was lower than previous months

Figure 1. Opioid overdose-related ED visits and EMS calls, Chatham-Kent, Apr 2017- Sept 2019

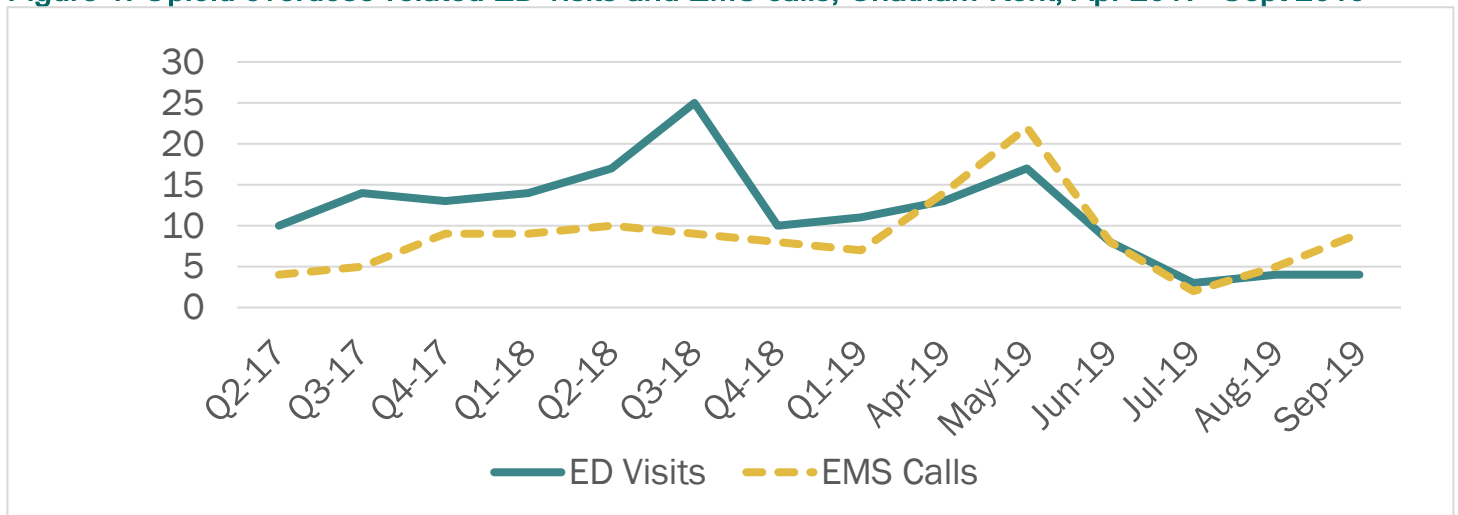
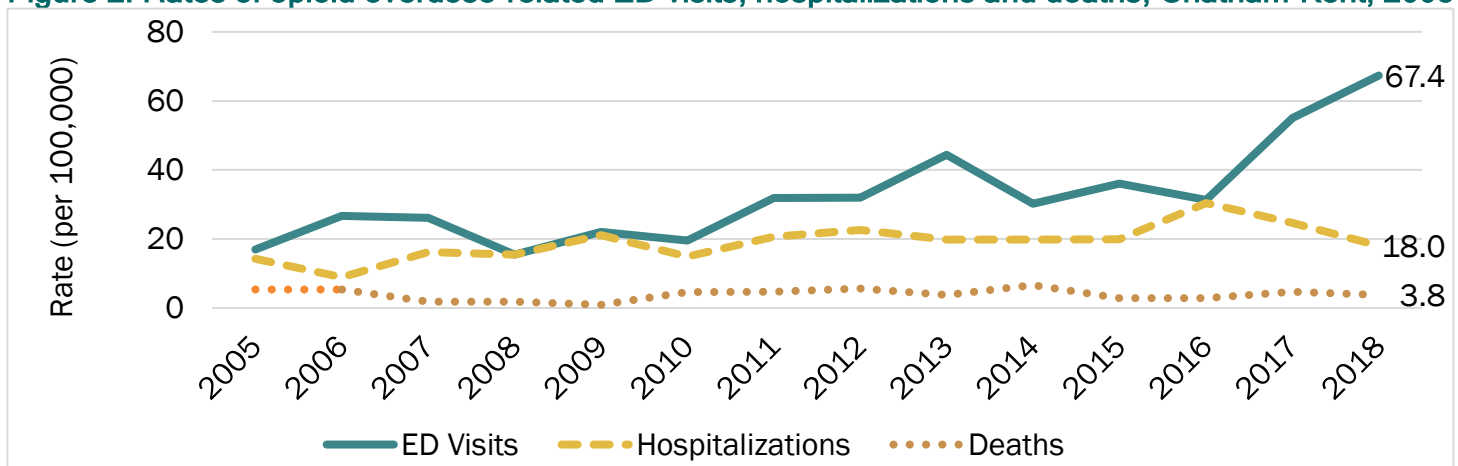


Figure 2. Rates of opioid overdose-related ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths, Chatham-Kent, 2005-18



NOTES

- ¹Content and format of this information summary has been adapted from Lambton Public Health
- ²EMS calls were provided by Chatham-Kent EMS (October 16, 2019)
- ³Emergency department visits were provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Weekly emergency department visits for opioid overdose Week 27: Sept 30-Oct 6, 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.
- 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 available up to April 2019 through the [Ontario Drug Policy Research Network Prescription Opioid Tool](#).

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