

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

- CK Drug Awareness Council organized a campaign around International Overdose Awareness Day, recognized on August 31, 2020
- Last month the Municipal Drug Strategy Coordinators Network of Ontario (MDSCNO) called upon the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario to increase funding for safer supply initiatives to improve the health, safety and well-being of people who use drugs in Ontario (see Change.org petition: <http://chnng.it/ygCVrMgK>)

CHATHAM-KENT ACTIVITY

EMS Calls ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 suspected opioid overdose-related calls in August (112 to date in 2020) (Figure 1)• 11 suspected non-opioid drug overdose-related calls in August (68 to date in 2020)
Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9 opioid overdose-related ED visits by CK residents in August (89 to date in 2020 or 83.7 per 100,000) (Figure 1)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 deaths between January and May 2020 (4.7 per 100,000; 6 deaths in 2019)
Naloxone Distribution ⁵	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 28 naloxone kits distributed by CK Public Health in August (326 to date in 2020)• 141 naloxone kits distributed through CK pharmacies in May 2020 (May 2020 YTD: 591; 2018 Total: 1,413)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of opioid-overdose related EMS calls and ED visits in August were similar to the previous month. The year to date rate of ED visits was higher in Chatham-Kent compared to Ontario (83.7 versus 46.5 per 100,000)

PROVINCIAL ACTIVITY

Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 712 ED visits in August (6,914 to date in 2020 or 46.5 per 100,000)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 771 deaths between January and May 2020 (5.2 per 100,000; 1,509 deaths in 2019)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of ED visits in August was comparable to previous months.

Figure 1. Opioid overdose-related ED visits and EMS calls, Chatham-Kent, January 2019 to August 2020

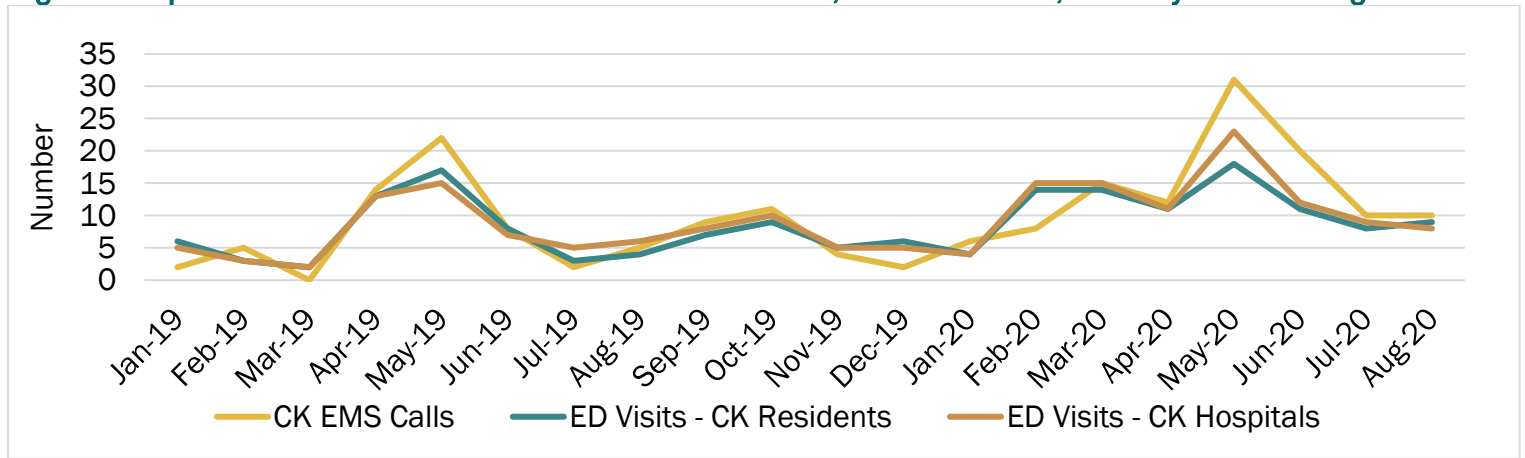
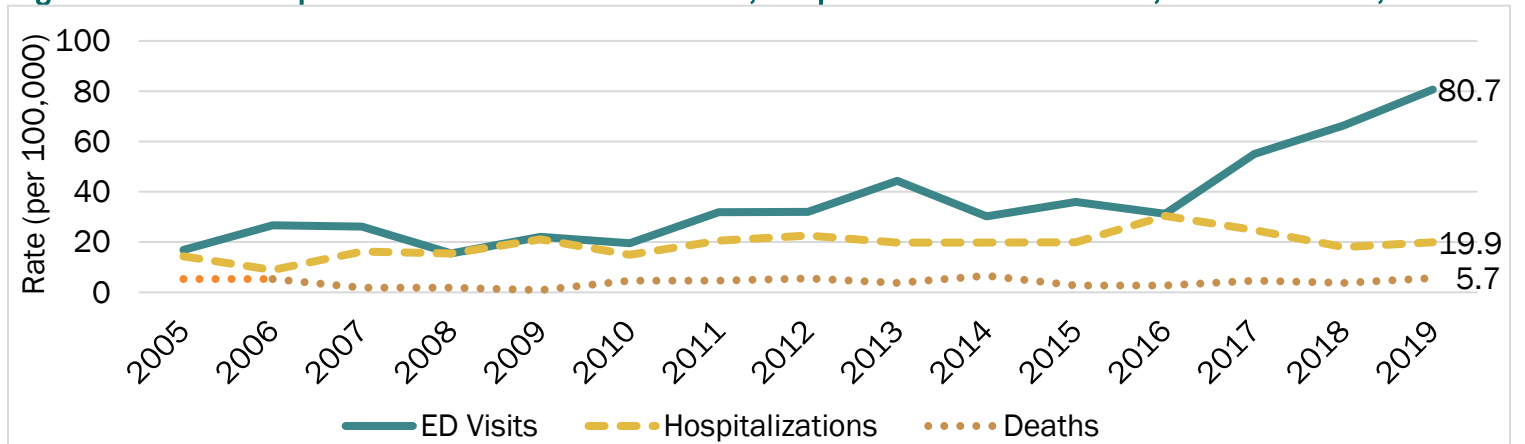


Figure 2. Rates⁴ of opioid overdose-related ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths, Chatham-Kent, 2005-19



NOTES

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

²EMS calls were provided by Chatham-Kent EMS (September 9, 2020)

³Emergency department visits were provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Weekly emergency department visits for opioid overdose Week 23: Aug 31 - Sep 6, 2020). 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 2020 population projections.

⁴2020 death data are based on the Coroner's Opioid Investigative Aid, January 2019 to May 2020, Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario, extracted Aug 17, 2020. Data include confirmed deaths only, are considered preliminary and are subject to change. 2005 to 2019 ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths were obtained from Public Health Ontario's [Interactive Opioid Tool](#). 2019 death data are also considered preliminary and are subject to change as remaining cases are closed by the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario - the data includes confirmed deaths only.

⁵Naloxone kits distributed by CK Public Health are tracked through NEO as part of the Ontario Harm Reduction Database initiative. The number of kits distributed in 2020 by Chatham-Kent pharmacies was available up to May 2020 through the [Ontario Drug Policy Research Network Prescription Opioid Tool](#).

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