

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 Opioid Indicator Tool](#).

EMERGING ISSUES & NEW RESOURCES

- Lambton Public Health issued an [advisory](#) on October 28th due to an increase in reported suspect drug-related deaths and concern about elevated risk in the illicit drug supply.
- The [Ontario Opioid Indicator Tool](#) has recently been updated with an indicator dashboard specific to harm reduction.

CHATHAM-KENT ACTIVITY

EMS Calls ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 suspect opioid overdose-related calls to CK EMS in October (62 to date in 2022) (Figure 1)• 8 non-opioid drug overdose-related calls to CK EMS in October (96 to date in 2022)
Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 4 opioid overdose-related ED visits by CK residents in October (74 to date in 2022 or 69.1 per 100,000) (Figure 1)• 8 opioid overdose-related ED visits to CK hospitals in October (88 to date in 2022)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 suspect drug-related deaths in CK in October (37 to date in 2022 or 34.5 per 100,000) (Figure 1)• 16 confirmed opioid poisoning deaths in CK between January and July 2022 (14.9 per 100,000; 19 deaths in 2021 or 17.8 per 100,000) (Figure 1)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of opioid-overdose related EMS calls in October were comparable to previous months. ED visits were lower and suspect drug deaths were higher. CK's rate of ED visits for 2022 to date is slightly higher than the province overall and the rate of monthly suspect drug deaths continues to be significantly higher than the province. For the first 7 months of 2022, CK experienced a higher rate of opioid poisoning deaths compared to the province (14.9 versus 7.5 per 100,000). Males, age 25 to 44, continue to be impacted most by opioid deaths locally, with fentanyl contributing to the majority of deaths.

PROVINCIAL ACTIVITY

Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 694 ED visits in October (9490 to date in 2022 or 62.7 per 100,000)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 268 suspect drug-related deaths in October (2731 to date in 2022 or 18.1 per 100,000)• 1134 confirmed opioid poisoning deaths between January and July 2022 (7.5 per 100,000; 2893 deaths in 2021 or 19.5 per 100,000)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of ED visits were lower and suspect drug deaths higher compared to previous months. Suspect drug and opioid-related deaths for 2022 so far are trending lower than the same time in 2021 but still higher than pre-pandemic. Opioid deaths continue to impact age groups 30 to 59 the most; 3 in 4 opioid deaths have been among males since the start of the pandemic.

Figure 1. Opioid overdose-related ED visits and EMS calls and suspect drug-related and confirmed opioid-related deaths in Chatham-Kent, January 2019 to October 2022

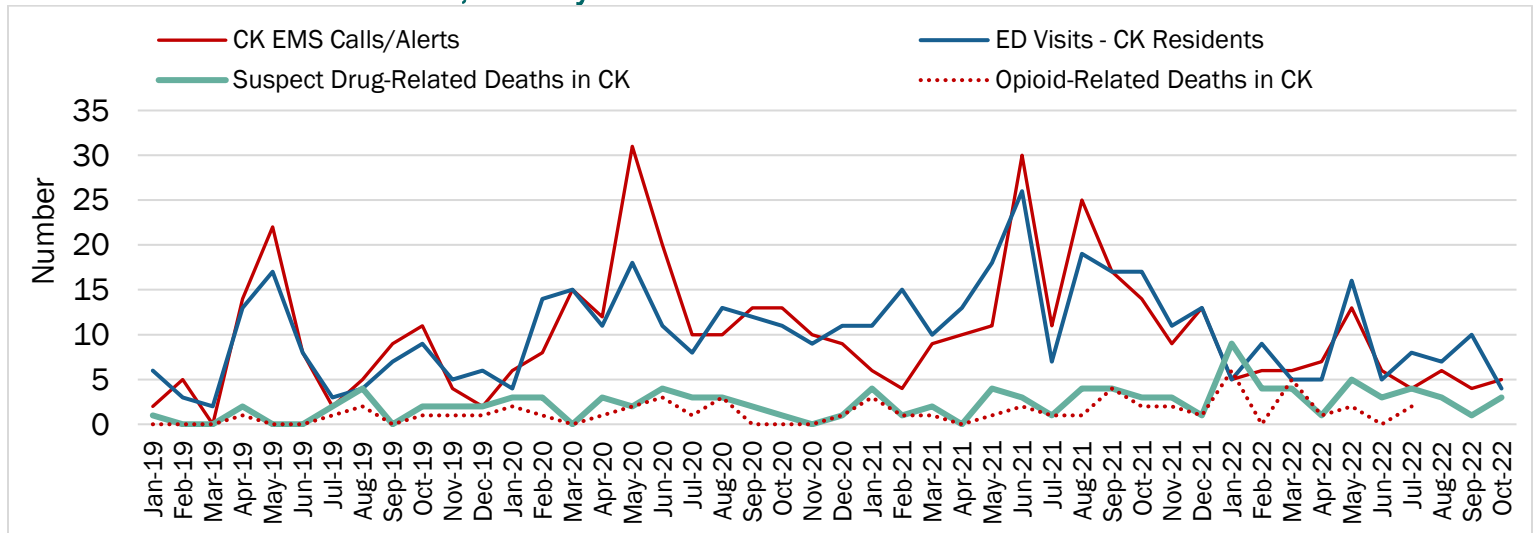
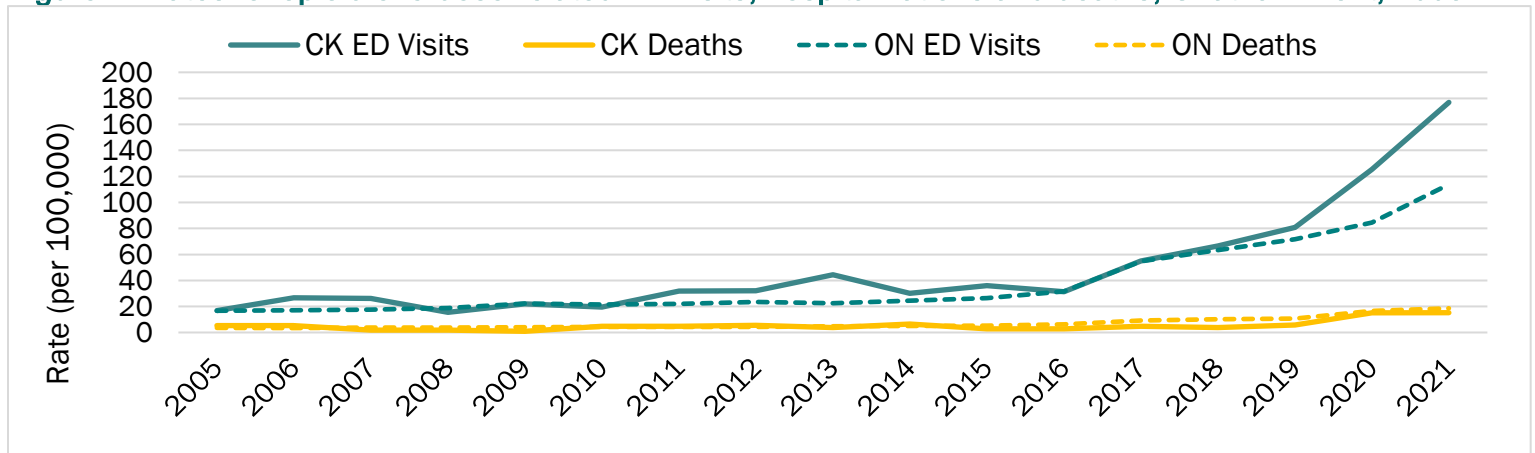


Figure 2. Rates⁴ of opioid overdose-related ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths, Chatham-Kent, 2005-21



NOTES

¹Content and format of this information summary has been adapted from Lambton Public Health
²EMS calls up to and including October 2022 are based on calls for service by month provided by Chatham-Kent EMS.
³Emergency department visits were provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Weekly emergency department visits for opioid overdose Week 34: Nov 14 to 20, 2022). 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 2021 and 2022 population projections, and 2020 population estimates.
⁴ 2019 to 2022 suspect drug-related deaths and confirmed opioid deaths are based on the Monthly Summary table provided by the Office of the Chief Coroner for Ontario, November 15, 2022. 2005 to 2021 ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths were obtained from Public Health Ontario's [Interactive Opioid Tool](#). Opioid-related deaths include confirmed deaths only, are considered preliminary and are subject to change as remaining cases are closed by the Office of the Chief Coroner of Ontario.

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