

OPIOID SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY

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MAY 2023

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

- The Municipality of Chatham-Kent is working in collaboration with experienced consultants, organizations, and community members to create a coordinated drug strategy for Chatham-Kent. To learn more about CK's Drug Strategy, who is involved, and when key tasks will take place - head to www.LetsTalkChatham-Kent.ca/CKMunicipalDrugStrategy

CHATHAM-KENT ACTIVITY

EMS Calls ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 5 suspect opioid poisoning-related calls to CK EMS in April (21 to date in 2023) (Figure 1)• 13 non-opioid drug related calls to CK EMS in April (41 to date in 2023)
Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 opioid poisoning-related ED visits <u>by CK residents</u> in April (26 to date in 2023 or 23.9 per 100,000) (Figure 1)• 3 opioid poisoning-related ED visits <u>to CK hospitals</u> in April (32 to date in 2023)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 suspect drug-related deaths in CK in April (8 to date in 2023 or 7.4 per 100,000; 44 deaths in 2022) (Figure 1)• 32 confirmed opioid poisoning deaths in CK between January and December 2022 (29.6 per 100,000; 19 deaths in 2021 or 17.6 per 100,000) (Figure 1)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of opioid poisoning-related EMS calls in April were comparable to previous months, ED visits were lower and suspect drug deaths were higher. CK's rate of ED visits and suspect drug deaths for 2023 to date are comparable to the province overall. Preliminary 2022 data shows CK experienced a higher rate of opioid poisoning deaths compared to the province (29.6 versus 15.8 per 100,000).

PROVINCIAL ACTIVITY

Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 732 opioid poisoning-related ED visits in April (3235 to date in 2023 or 21.0 per 100,000)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 272 suspect drug-related deaths in April (1083 to date in 2023 or 7.2 per 100,000; 3484 deaths in 2022)• 2387 confirmed opioid poisoning deaths between January and December 2022 (15.8 per 100,000; 2849 deaths in 2021 or 19.2 per 100,000)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of ED visits and suspect drug deaths were comparable to previous months. Suspect drug deaths for the last 3 months of are higher compared to the previous 3 months but lower compared to the same time period in 2022 and 2021, and still higher than pre-pandemic.

Figure 1. Opioid poisoning-related ED visits and EMS calls and suspect drug-related and confirmed opioid poisoning deaths in Chatham-Kent, January 2019 to April 2023

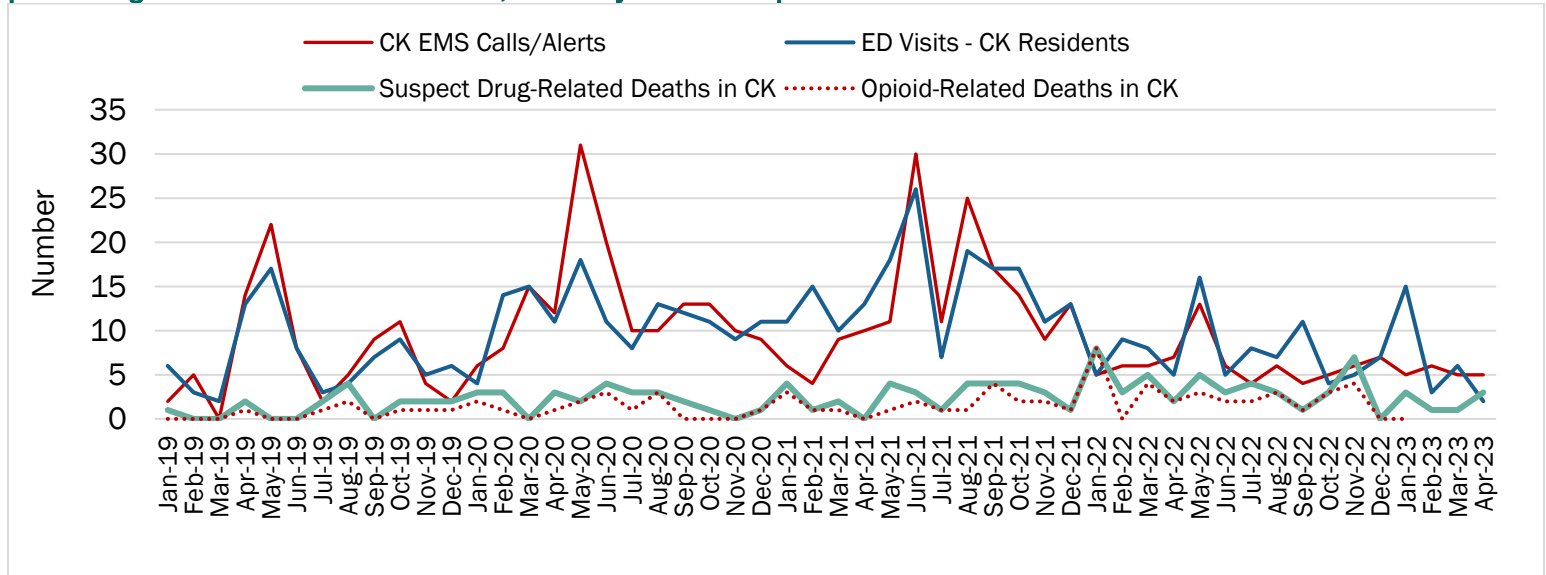
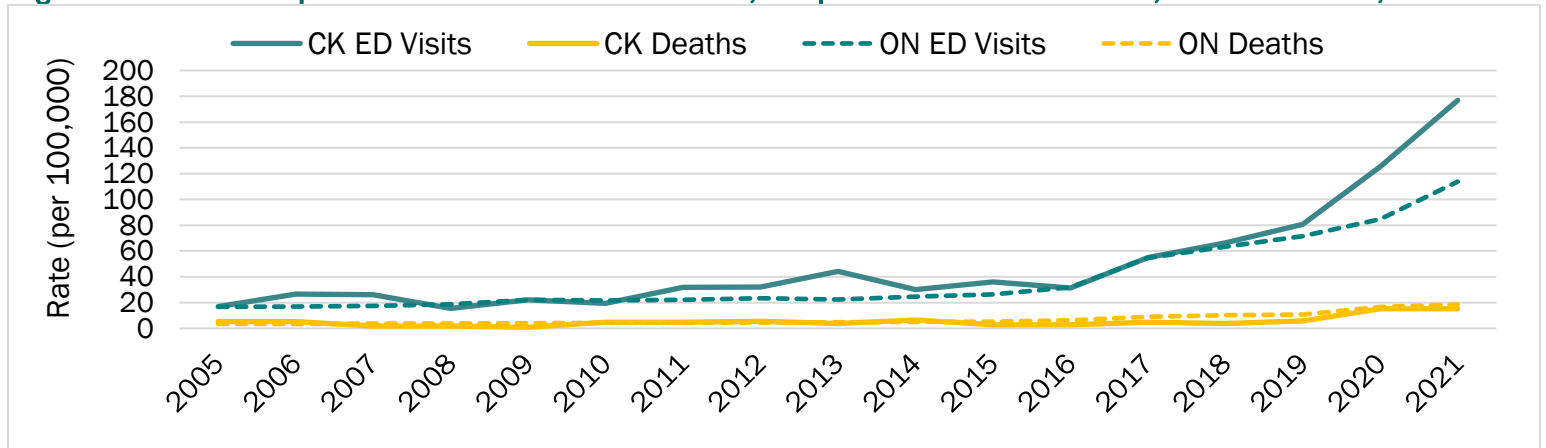


Figure 2. Rates⁴ of opioid overdose-related ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths, Chatham-Kent, 2005-21



NOTES

- ¹Content and format of this information summary has been adapted from Lambton Public Health
- ²EMS calls up to and including April 2023 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 5: May 1 to 7, 2023). 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 2022-2023 population projections, and 2019-2021 population estimates.
- ⁴2019 to 2023 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, May 12, 2023. 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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