

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

- International Overdose Awareness Day is this Thursday, August 31st. ROCK Missions will host drop-ins from 4pm-7pm at 39 Richmond St., Chatham and 719 James St., Wallaceburg. Please see Chatham-Kent Drug Awareness Council (CKDAC) Facebook page for more information: [Chatham-Kent Drug Awareness Council | Chatham ON | Facebook](#)
- To learn more about CK's Drug Strategy development, visit www.LetsTalkChatham-Kent.ca/CKMunicipalDrugStrategy

CHATHAM-KENT ACTIVITY

EMS Calls ²	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 10 suspect opioid poisoning-related calls to CK EMS in July (40 to date in 2023) (Figure 1)• 14 non-opioid drug related calls to CK EMS in July (70 to date in 2023)
Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 opioid poisoning-related ED visits <u>by CK residents</u> in July (51 to date in 2023 or 46.9 per 100,000) (Figure 1)• 7 opioid poisoning-related ED visits <u>to CK hospitals</u> in July (64 to date in 2023)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 suspect drug-related death in CK in July (17 to date in 2023 or 15.6 per 100,000; 45 deaths in 2022) (Figure 1)• 5 confirmed opioid poisoning deaths in CK between January and April 2023 (36 deaths in 2022 or 33.3 per 100,000) (Figure 1)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of opioid poisoning-related EMS calls were higher in July than previous months, ED visits were lower and suspect drug deaths remained low. CK's rate of ED visits and suspect drug deaths for 2023 to date are slightly higher than the province. Data for 2022 shows CK experienced a significantly higher rate of opioid poisoning deaths compared to the province (33.3 versus 16.2 per 100,000). Deaths continued to impact males aged 25 to 44 year olds the most, and fentanyl directly contributed to over 90% of accidental deaths.

PROVINCIAL ACTIVITY

Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 874 opioid poisoning-related ED visits in July (6586 to date in 2023 or 42.9 per 100,000)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 278 suspect drug-related deaths in July (1993 to date in 2023 or 13.0 per 100,000; 3525 deaths in 2022)• 653 confirmed opioid poisoning deaths between January and April 2023 (2449 deaths in 2022 or 16.2 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 although decreasing are still higher compared to pre-pandemic (2019).

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 July 2023

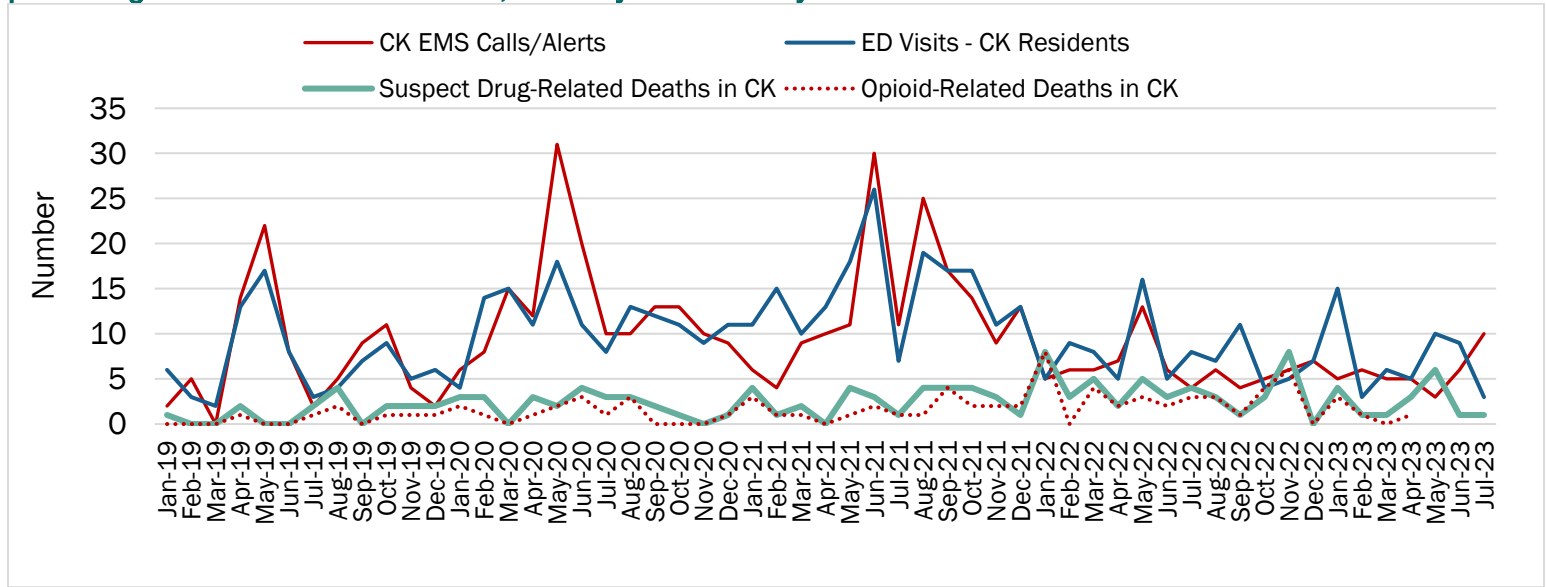
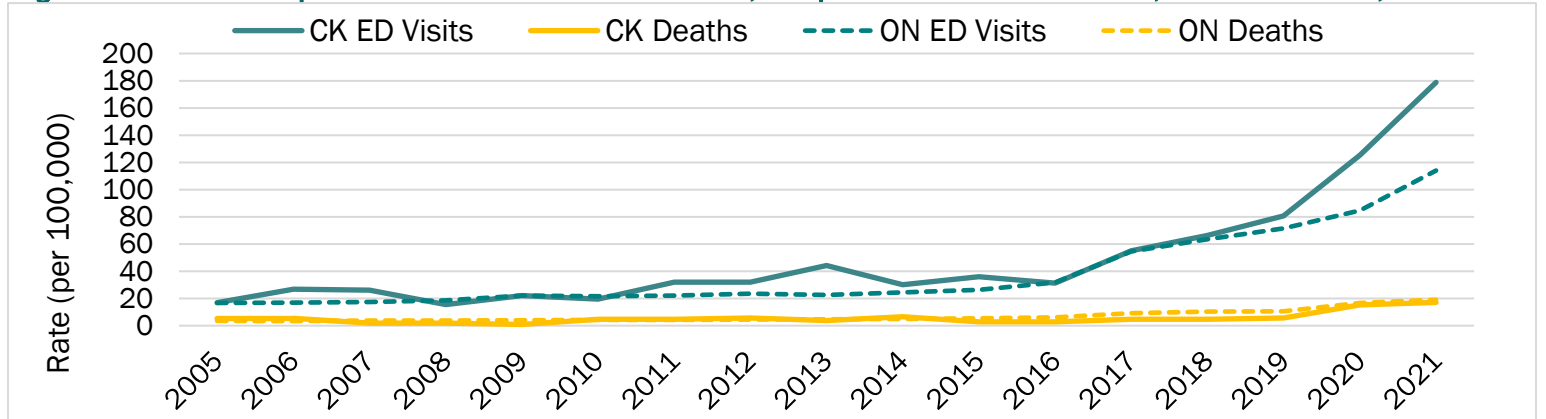


Figure 2. Rates⁴ of opioid overdose-related ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths, Chatham-Kent, 2005-21



NOTES

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

²EMS calls up to and including July 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 19: August 7-13, 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, August 11, 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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