

OPIOID SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY

CK Public Health • 435 Grand Avenue West, Chatham, ON N7M 5L8
Tel: 519.352.7270 • Fax: 519.352.2166 • Email: ckpublichealth@chatham-kent.ca



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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

- New research on stimulant, alcohol, benzodiazepine, and opioid-related deaths can be found here: <https://odprn.ca/research/publications/characteristics-of-substance-related-toxicity-deaths-in-ontario/>
- Recently published Xylazine Basics fact sheet can be found here: <https://hhrctraining.org/knowledge-resources/fact-sheet/17897/xylazine-basics>
- 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">• 8 alerts for suspect opioid poisoning-related calls to CK EMS in August (48 to date in 2023) (Figure 1)
Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 8 opioid poisoning-related ED visits <u>by CK residents</u> in August (69 to date in 2023 or 63.5 per 100,000) (Figure 1)• 8 opioid poisoning-related ED visits <u>to CK hospitals</u> in August (84 to date in 2023)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 suspect drug-related deaths in CK in August (21 to date in 2023 or 19.3 per 100,000; 48 deaths in 2022) (Figure 1)• 7 confirmed opioid poisoning deaths in CK between January and May 2023 (37 deaths in 2022 or 34.2 per 100,000) (Figure 1)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of opioid poisoning-related EMS calls and ED visits remained relatively high in August and suspect drug deaths remained low. CK's rate of ED visits and suspect drug deaths for 2023 to date are higher than the province. Data for 2022 shows CK experienced a significantly higher rate of opioid poisoning deaths compared to the province (34.2 versus 16.4 per 100,000).

PROVINCIAL ACTIVITY

Emergency Department Visits ³	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 772 opioid poisoning-related ED visits in August (8354 to date in 2023 or 54.4 per 100,000)
Deaths ⁴	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 266 suspect drug-related deaths in August (2380 to date in 2023 or 15.5 per 100,000; 3652 deaths in 2022)• 861 confirmed opioid poisoning deaths between January and May 2023 (2470 deaths in 2022 or 16.4 per 100,000)
OVERALL	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The number of ED visits and suspect drug deaths were lower compared 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 August 2023

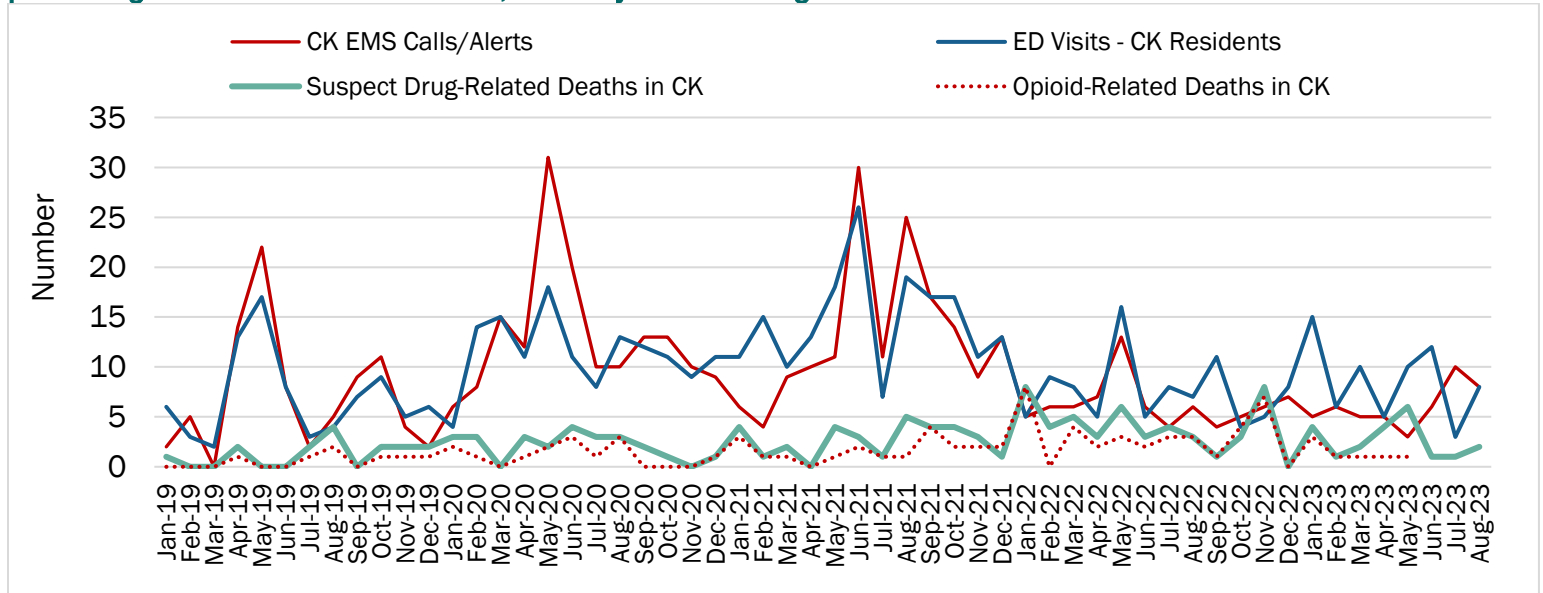
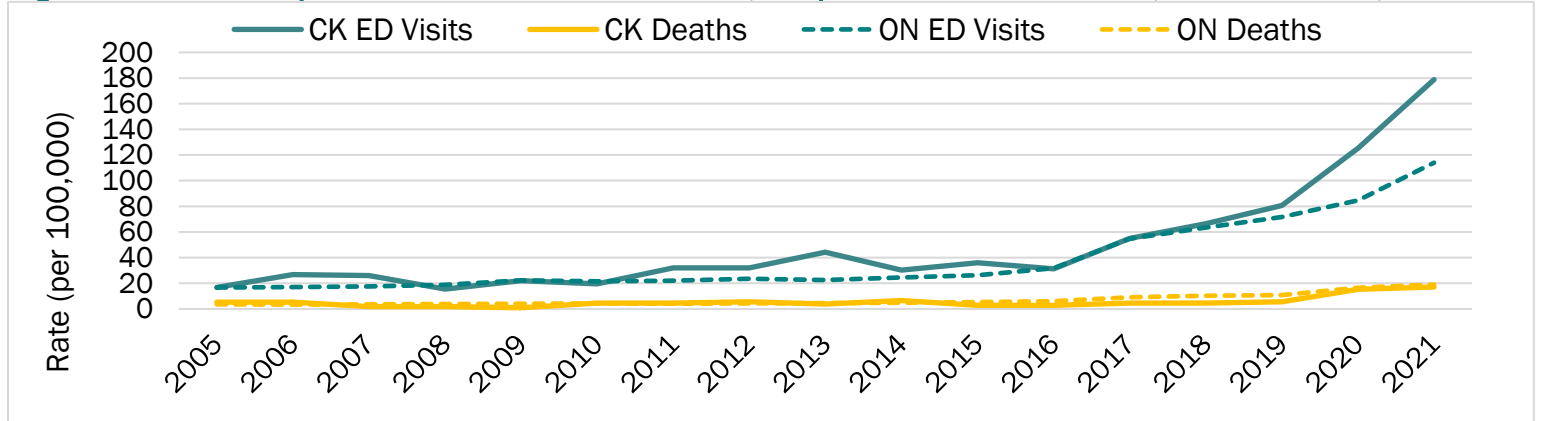


Figure 2. Rates⁴ of opioid overdose-related ED visits, hospitalizations and deaths, Chatham-Kent, 2005-21



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; August call data has been approximated using number of alerts for suspected opioid-related calls.
- ³Emergency department visits were provided by the Ontario Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care (Weekly emergency department visits for opioid overdose Week 24: September 11-17, 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, September 15, 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.

CONTACT:

Laura Zettler, Epidemiologist, CK Public Health
 Phone: 226.312.2023 ext. 2407; Email: lauraz@chatham-kent.ca
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