Opioid-related Harms in Canada

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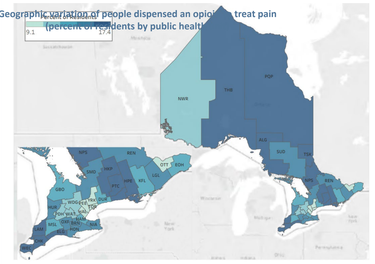
Why People take opioid Drugs

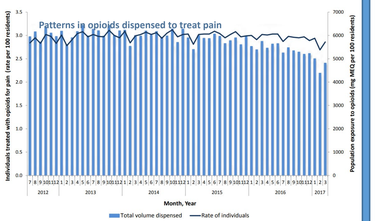
Healthcare system usage by people dispensed an opioid prescription
April 2015 –March 2016

	PAIN	COUGH	ADDICTION
Median Physician visits annually	7	6	42
Emergency Department Visits(N,%)	721,795(43 %)	82,463(25%)	25,850(47%)
Hospitalization(N,%)	205,845(12 %)	17,587(5%)	5302(10%)
Opioid Toxicity Event (N, rate/10000)	1292(8)	55(2)	744(135)

PAIN

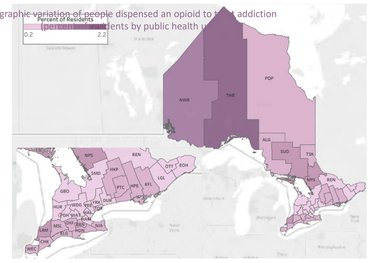


- North Bay Parry Sound (17.4% of residents) and Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge (17.4% of residents) Health Units had the highest percent of residents receiving opioids for pain.
- In comparison, the lowest percent of residents who received prescription opioids to treat pain occurred in York Region (9.1% of residents), the City of Toronto (9.5% of residents) and Peel Regional (9.6% of residents) Health Units.

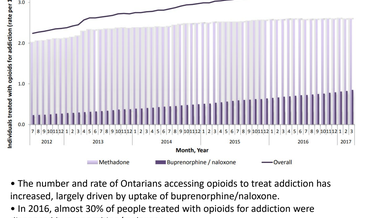


- The quantity of individuals consuming opioids to treat pain has remained moderately consistent in the course of the most recent 4 years in Ontario.

ADDICTION

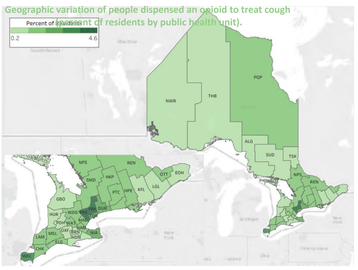


- the highest percentages of residents dispensed opioids to treat addiction were in Thunder Bay District (2.2% of residents), Northwestern Ontario (1.4% of residents), Lambton (1.0% of residents), North Bay Parry Sound (1.0% of residents), and Sudbury and District (1.0% of residents) Health Units

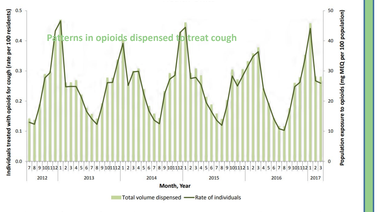


- The number and rate of Ontarians accessing opioids to treat addiction has increased, largely driven by uptake of buprenorphine/naloxone.
- In 2016, almost 30% of people treated with opioids for addiction were dispensed buprenorphine/ naloxone.

COUGH

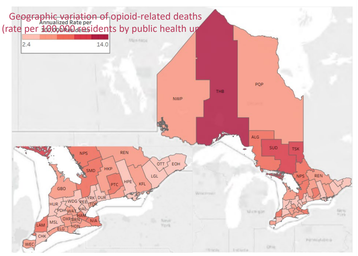


- The percentage of residents dispensed an opioid to treat cough was highest in Peel Region (4.6% of residents), York Region (3.6% of residents), Windsor-Essex County (3.6% of residents) and the City of Toronto (2.8% of residents) Health Units

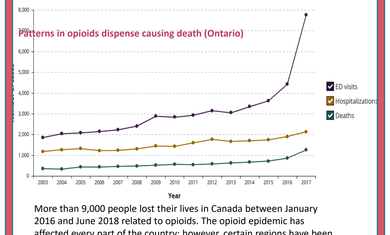


- The use of opioids for cough suppression varied seasonally, as expected, with the majority of use occurring in the winter months.
- The average daily dose of opioids to treat cough was very low.

DEATHS



The rates were highest in Thunder Bay District (14.0 per 100,000 residents), Timiskaming (10.9 per 100,000 residents), and Sudbury and District (10.5 per 100,000 residents) Health Units. In contrast, the lowest rates were observed in Eastern Ontario (2.6 per 100,000 residents) and York Region (2.4 per 100,000 residents) Health Units



More than 9,000 people lost their lives in Canada between January 2016 and June 2018 related to opioids. The opioid epidemic has affected every part of the country; however, certain regions have been impacted more than others
In 2016, 3,014 apparent opioid related deaths, death rate of 8.3 per 100,000 population
In 2017, 3998 apparent opioid related deaths, death rate of 10.9 per 100,000 population

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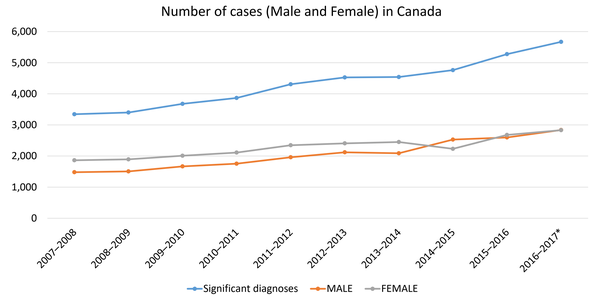
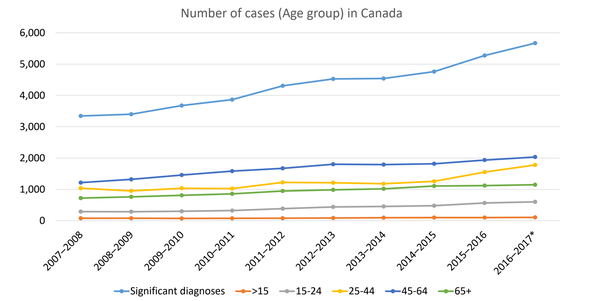
Who is taking more Opioid Drugs

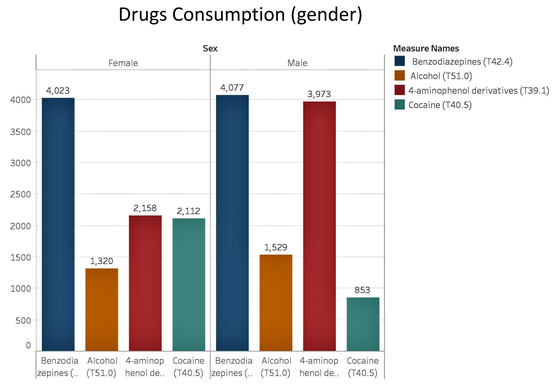


- The growth of opioid consumption is rising gradually with males consuming less opioid drugs than females.
- 2016–2017 was the first year in which the rate of hospitalizations was higher among males than among females. Over the past 3 years, the rate increased 24% among males and 10% among female

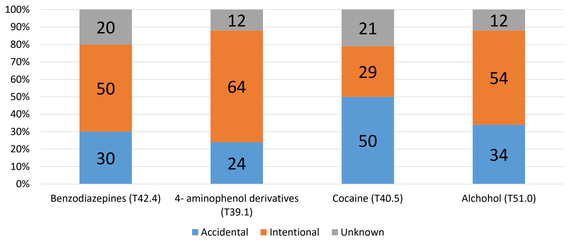


- 45-64 Age group has highest number cases
- The fastest-growing rates of hospitalizations and emergency department visits due to opioid poisoning were seen among males age 25 to 44

What types of drugs are consumed

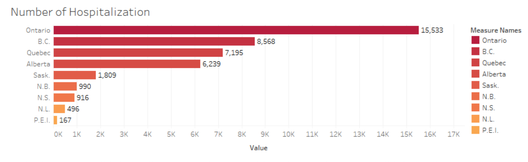


- Benzodiazepines (T42.4) consumption is found highest among both gender.
- Male consumption of 4-aminophenol derivatives (T39.1) is almost double than females.
- Female consume double amount of cocaine than males.



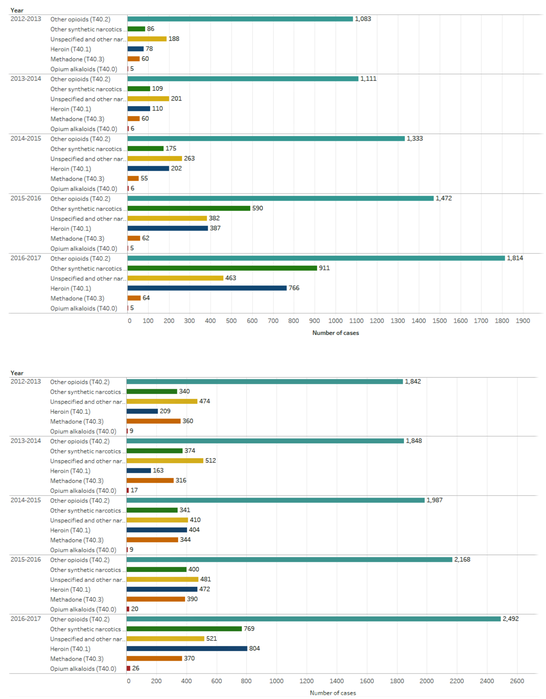
- more than half of opioid poisonings were accidental, 31% were intentional and 17% were of unknown reason.

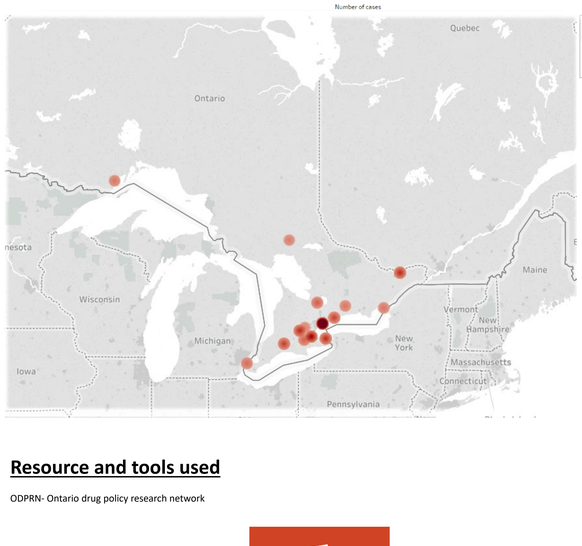
Hot Spots of Canada



Alberta, B.C., N.B., N.L., N.S., Ontario, P.E.I., Quebec and Sask.. Color shows details about Alberta, B.C., N.B., N.L., N.S., Ontario, P.E.I., Quebec and Sask..

- opioid poisoning were seen among males age 25 to 44
- the rate of emergency department visits for opioid poisonings increased by 73% in Ontario and 23% in Alberta.
- An average of 17 individuals were hospitalized for opioid poisonings in Canada every day in 2017– an expansion from 16 every day in 2016.
- opioid poisonings influence little and rural communities crosswise over Canada just as huge urban focuses. In 2017, narcotic harming hospitalization rates in small communities were 2.5 occasions higher than rates in Canada's largest urban cities.





Resource and tools used

ODPRN- Ontario drug policy research network