

FIRST NATIONS PEOPLE OF ONTARIO

Date: May 1st, 2026

This report is tailored to your community to show the current situation regarding opioid use and its related harms. We hope this report will equip your community with the necessary data to advocate for improved programs and services to tackle these issues effectively.

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Throughout this report, data is provided for all members of your community where in the province they live. Some numbers are reported separately for those living in your community ("on reserve") and those living outside of your community. There are differences based on where people in your community live.

The data in this example report include statistics for all First Nations People in Ontario. In your report, this would be replaced with statistics specific to your community.

Prescription Opioids for the Treatment of Pain



Opioid prescribing for pain **lowered** between 2013 and 2023

In 2013

15.0% of people were prescribed opioids for pain (25,499 people)

In 2023

11.7% of people were prescribed opioids for pain (17,654 people)

In 2023, use of opioids for pain was **HIGHER** among **females**, people aged **45 and over**, and those living **outside of** your community



13.2% of females



10.2% of males



7.1% of people aged under 45



18.6% of people aged 45 and over

9.6% of people (4,709 people) living **within** your community were prescribed opioids for pain



12.7% of people (12,802 people) living **outside** of your community were prescribed opioids for pain

Comparisons to Ontario-level data in 2023

All members of your community	Among all First Nations People in Ontario	Among all non-First Nations People in Ontario
	11.7% of people were prescribed opioids for pain	8.2% of people were prescribed opioids for pain

This column will include data specific to your community, while the other columns will remain the same, allowing comparisons with all First Nations People and all non-First Nations People in Ontario

Opioid Agonist Therapy (OAT) for Opioid Use Disorder (OUD)

Opioid agonist therapy (OAT) are medications to treat OUD—such as methadone and buprenorphine (often prescribed as Suboxone® or Sublocade®)—to reduce cravings and withdrawal.



OAT prescribing for OUD among people aged 15+ **increased** between 2013 and 2023

In 2013

3.6% of people were prescribed OAT (**4,793** people)

In 2023

6.1% of people were prescribed OAT (**8,518** people)

Types of OAT

	Types of OAT		
2013	2.7% of people received methadone (3,549 people)	1.1% of people received Suboxone® (1,395 people)	<i>Sublocade® was not available in 2013</i>
2023	2.5% of people received methadone (3,549 people)	3.7% of people received Suboxone® (5,191 people)	0.9% of people received Sublocade® (1,236 people)

In 2023, OAT use was **HIGHER** among **females**, people aged **15-44**, and those living **within** your community



6.1% of **females**



6.0% of **males**



8.1% of people aged **15 - 44**



3.4% of people aged **45 and over**

8.3% of people (**3,712** people) living **within** your community were prescribed OAT



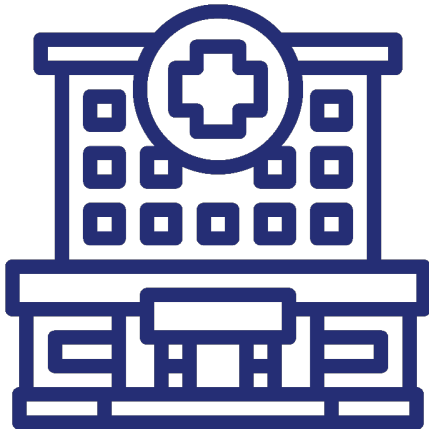
5.0% of people (**4,776** people) living **outside** of your community were prescribed OAT

Comparisons to Ontario-level data in 2023

All members of your community	Among all First Nations People in Ontario	Among all non-First Nations People in Ontario
	6.1% of people were prescribed OAT	0.4% of people were prescribed OAT

Details can be found in Table 2

Hospital Visits for Opioid-Related Toxicity



Hospital visits for opioid-related toxicities **increased** between 2013-2014 and 2022-2023

In 2013 and 2014

There were **19** opioid-related hospital visits for every 10k people in your community (**325** total visits)

In 2022 and 2023

There were **136** opioid-related hospital visits for every 10k people in your community (**2,048** total visits)

In 2023, rate of hospital visits were **HIGHER** among **males**, people aged **under 45**, and those living **outside of** your community



57 of every 10k **females**



82 of every 10k **males**



88 of every 10k people aged **under 45**



41 of every 10k people aged **45 and over**

37 of every 10k people living **within** your community visited the hospital for an opioid-related toxicity (**181** people)



85 of every 10k people living **outside** of your community visited the hospital for an opioid-related toxicity (**859** people)

Comparisons to Ontario-level data in 2022 and 2023 combined

Among all members of your community	Among all First Nations People in Ontario	Among all non-First Nations People in Ontario
	136 of every 10k people visited the hospital for an opioid-related toxicity	13 of every 10k people visited the hospital for an opioid-related toxicity

Details can be found in Table 3

Opioid-Related Deaths



38 of every 10k people died from an opioid-related toxicity from 2019 to 2022 (**597** total people)



Fentanyl directly contributed to **513** of these deaths, accounting for **85.9%** of all opioid-related deaths in your community

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Non-prescribed fentanyl has become a major part of the drug supply across Canada. Its strength can vary widely, making it hard to know how strong a dose might be. The drug supply is also often mixed with other substances, such as benzodiazepines and xylazine, which can increase the risk of overdose.

From 2019 to 2022, rate of opioid-related deaths were **HIGHER** among **males**, people aged **under 45**, and those living **outside of your community**



29 of every 10k **females**



47 of every 10k **males**



42 of every 10k people aged **under 44**



32 of every 10k people aged **45 and over**

17 of every 10k people living **within** your community died from an opioid-related toxicity (**86** people)



36 of every 10k people living **outside** of your community died from an opioid-related toxicity (**375** people)

Comparisons to Ontario-level data from 2019 to 2022

Among all members of your community	Among all First Nations People in Ontario	Among all non-First Nations People in Ontario
	38 of every 10k people died from an opioid-related toxicity	5 of every 10k people died from an opioid-related toxicity

Details can be found in Table 4

If you have any questions or need help understanding this report, please contact the Indigenous Partnerships, Data & Analytics Team at ICES (Indigenous@ices.on.ca).

Table 1: Prescription opioids for the treatment of pain among First Nations People in Ontario

	Total Number of Community Members Prescribed Opioids for Pain	Total Population of Community Members	Percent
Overall by Year			
2013	25,499		
2023	17,654		
In 2023 Only			
Age			
0 to 44	6,417		
45+	11,237		
Sex			
Female	9,893		
Male	7,761	75,891	10.2%
Location of Residence			
Within First Nations Communities	4,709	49,073	9.6%
Outside First Nations Communities	12,802	100,878	12.7%

In this example report, these tables include data for all First Nations People. In your community-specific report, they will instead include data for your community only.

Table 2: Opioid agonist therapy (OAT) for the treatment of opioid use disorder (OUD) among First Nations People in Ontario

	Total Number of Community Members Prescribed OAT	Total Population of Community Members	Percent
Overall by Year			
2013	4,793	131,898	3.6%
2023	8,518	140,697	6.1%
In 2023 Only			
Age			
15 to 44	6,483	80,392	8.1%
45+	2,035	60,305	3.4%
Sex			
Female	4,282	69,992	6.1%
Male	4,236	70,705	6.0%
Location of Residence			
Within First Nations Communities	3,712	44,575	8.3%
Outside First Nations Communities	4,776	95,245	5.0%
Medication Type			
2013			
Overall	4,793	131,898	3.6%
Methadone	3,549	131,898	2.7%
Suboxone®	1,395	131,898	1.1%
2023			
Overall	8,518	140,697	6.1%
Methadone	3,549	140,697	2.5%
Suboxone®	5,191	140,697	3.7%
Sublocade®	1,236	140,697	0.9%

Note: Sublocade® data is not included for 2013 as it only became available in 2020

Table 3: Hospital visits for opioid-related toxicity among First Nations People in Ontario

	Hospital Visits for Opioid-Related Toxicity Among Community Members	Total Population of Community Members	Rate (per 10,000 People)
Overall by Year			
2013/2014 Combined	325	168,121	19.3
2022/2023 Combined	2,048	150,836	135.8
In 2023 Only			
Age			
0 to 44	801	90,524	88.5
45+	250	60,305	41.5
Sex			
Female	430	74,938	57.4
Male	621	75,891	81.8
Location of Residence			
Within First Nations Communities	181	49,073	36.9
Outside First Nations Communities	859	100,878	85.2

Note: The middle date between the combined years was used to determine community population and demographic characteristics

Table 4: Opioid-related deaths from 2019 to 2022 among First Nations People in Ontario

	Opioid-Related Toxicity Deaths Among Community Members	Total Population of Community Members	Rate (per 10,000 People)
Overall	597	156,370	38.2
Age			
0 to 44	403	96,417	41.8
45+	194	59,953	32.4
Sex			
Female	227	77,545	29.3
Male	370	78,825	46.9
Location of Residence			
Within First Nations Communities	86	51,533	16.7
Outside First Nations Communities	375	103,695	36.2
Deaths Involving Other Substances			
Fentanyl	513	597	29.3

Note: The middle date between the combined years was used to determine community population and demographic characteristics