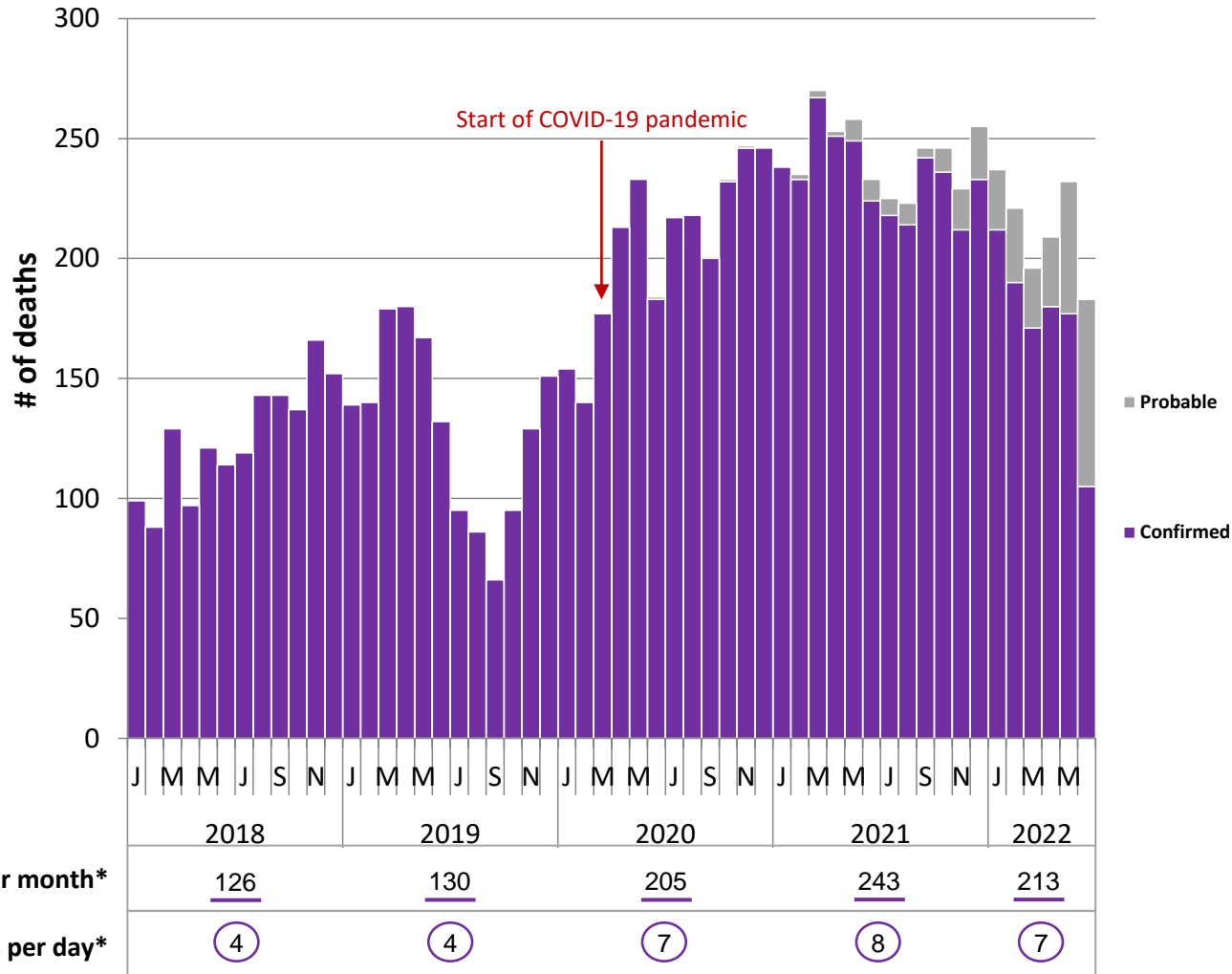


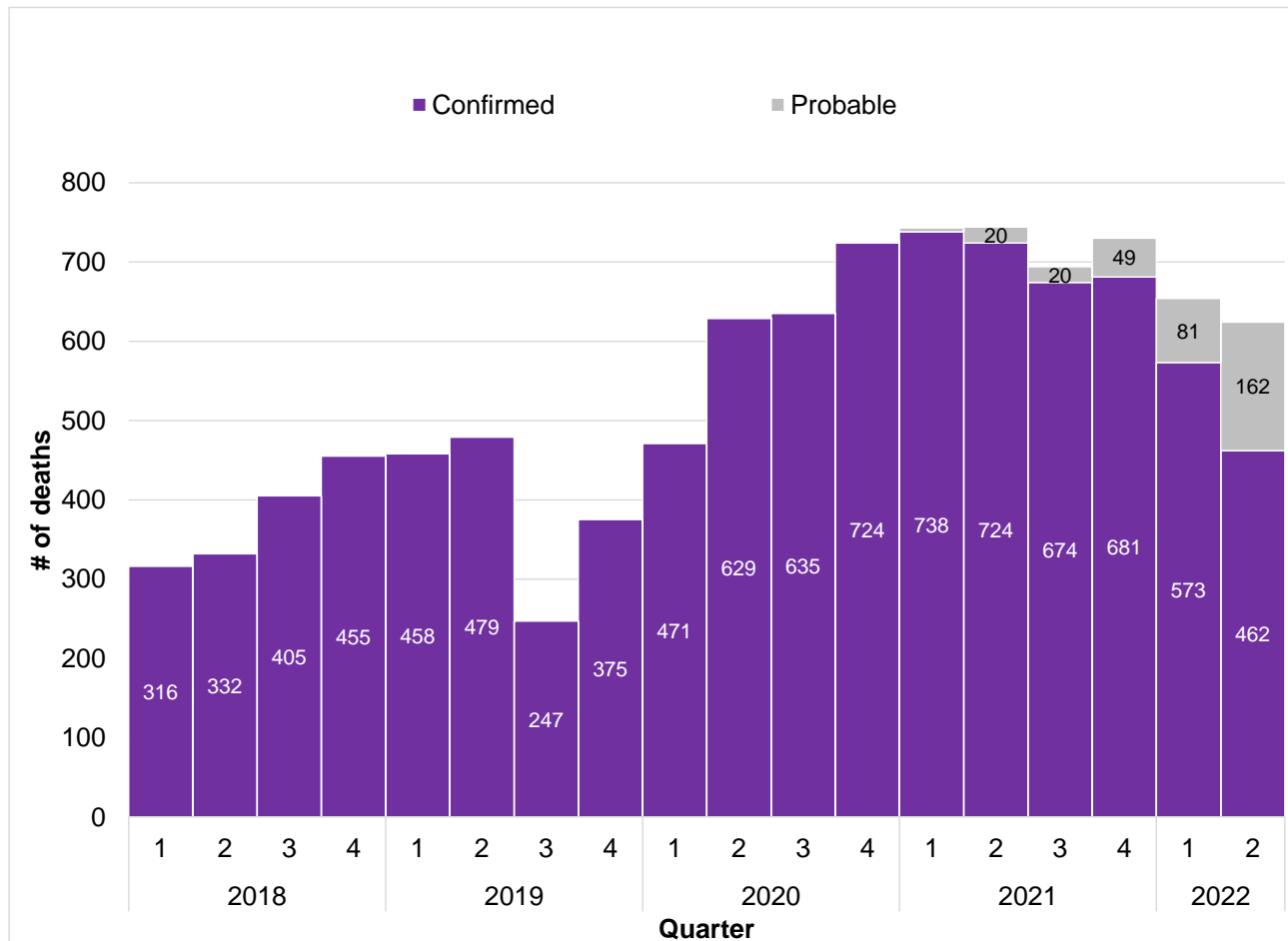
Quarterly Update from the Office of the Chief Coroner

Opioid-related Deaths in Ontario

Opioid-related deaths in Ontario by month, Jan 2018-Jun 2022

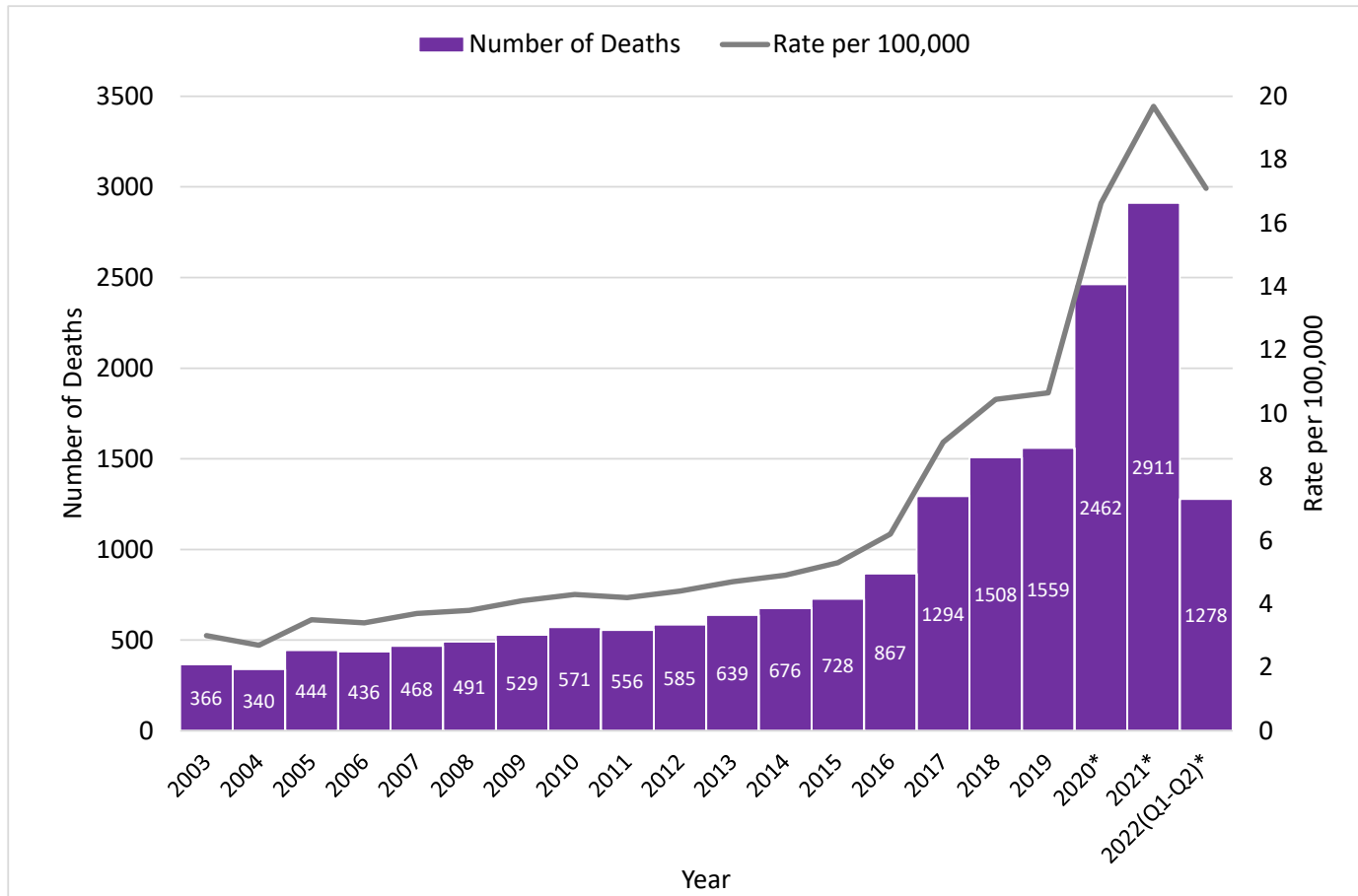


Opioid-related deaths in Ontario by quarter, 2018-2022(Q2)



There was a **5% decrease** in the number of opioid-related deaths* in the most recent quarter (Q2 2022; 624 deaths) compared to the quarter prior (Q1 2022; 654 deaths) (preliminary).

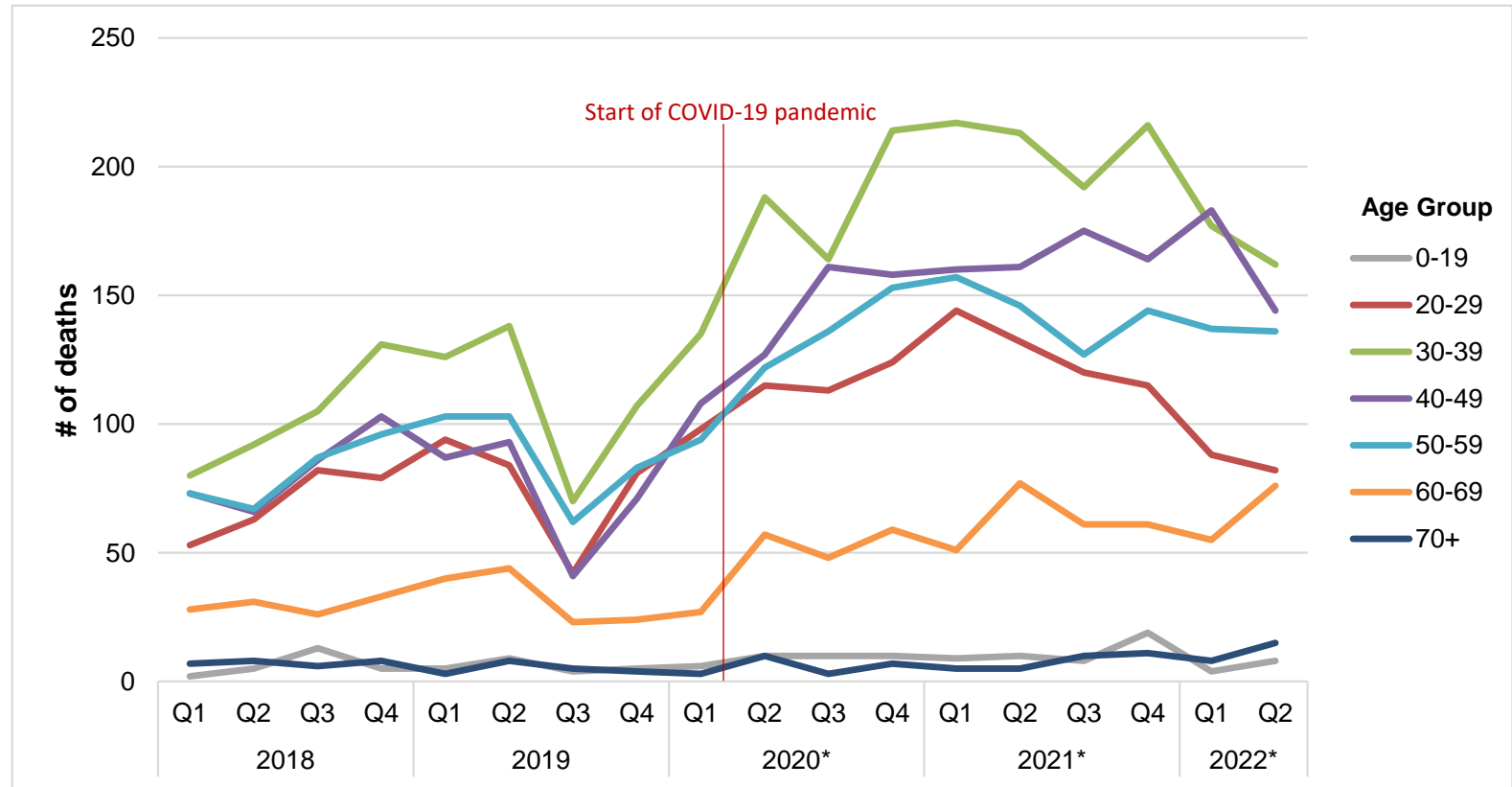
Opioid-related deaths in Ontario by year, 2003-2022(Q2)



In **2021**, the mortality rate for opioid toxicity in Ontario was 19.7 per 100,000 population; **more than double** the rate in 2017 (9.1).

In **2022** (up to Q2), the mortality rate **decreased by 13%** compared to 2021 (preliminary), however remains **55% higher** than the mortality rate in 2019 (pre-pandemic).

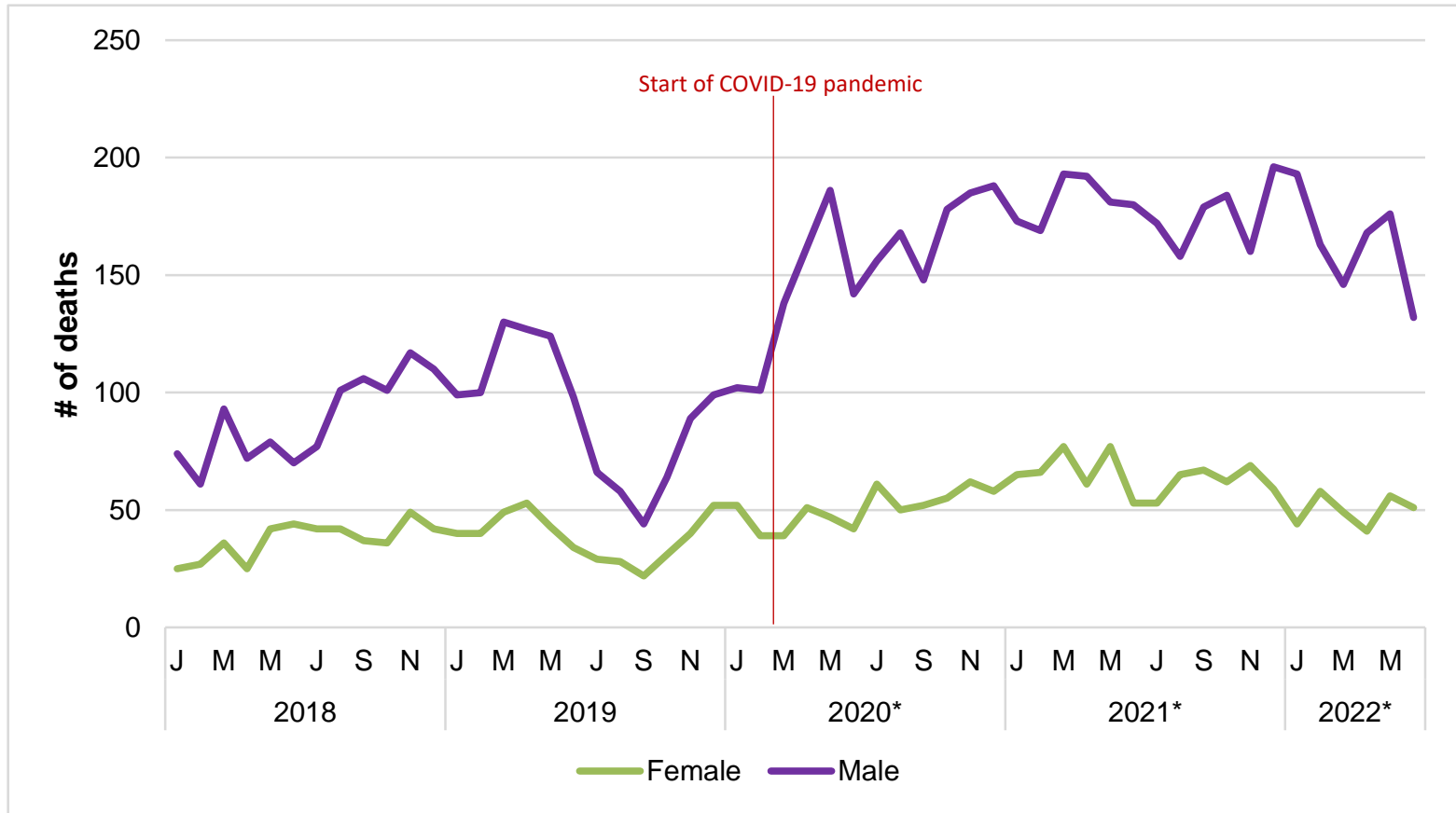
Opioid-related deaths in Ontario by age group, 2018-2022(Q2)



Age groups **30-59** continue to be **most impacted**, accounting for 71% of deaths in Q2 2022.

Relative to Q1, deaths during Q2 **decreased** among **ages 20-49** (-13%) and **increased** among **ages 60+** (+44%).

Opioid-related deaths in Ontario by month & sex, Jan 2018-Jun 2022



3 in 4 deaths have been among **males** since the start of the pandemic.

Substances involved in opioid toxicity deaths in Ontario, 2018-2022(Q2)

	2018 (N=1508)		2019 (N=1559)		2020* (N=2459)		2021* (N=2817)		2022(Q1-Q2)* (N=1035)	
	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%	n	%
Non-Pharmaceutical Opioids										
Total Fentanyl/Fentanyl Analogues	1023	68%	1170	75%	2108	86%	2504	89%	880	85%
Fentanyl	969	64%	833	53%	2102	85%	2479	88%	877	85%
Carfentanil	96	6%	490	31%	12	0%	120	4%	50	5%
Nitazenes	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	5	0%	12	1%
Heroin	108	7%	64	4%	43	2%	22	1%	4	0%
Opioids Indicated for Pain										
Hydromorphone	163	11%	158	10%	148	6%	164	6%	73	7%
Oxycodone	167	11%	142	9%	121	5%	105	4%	59	6%
Morphine***	161	11%	124	8%	128	5%	110	4%	47	5%
Codeine	69	5%	40	3%	45	2%	38	1%	9	1%
Tramadol	17	1%	10	1%	11	0%	5	0%	3	0%
Opioid Agonist Treatment										
Methadone	195	13%	201	13%	255	10%	289	10%	112	11%
Buprenorphine	1	0%	4	0%	7	0%	3	0%	1	0%
Other Substances										
Stimulants	653	43%	751	48%	1399	57%	1673	59%	615	59%
Cocaine	485	32%	536	34%	1022	42%	1135	40%	393	38%
Methamphetamine	245	16%	320	21%	634	26%	848	30%	328	32%
Alcohol	207	14%	196	13%	314	13%	297	11%	111	11%
Benzodiazepines	179	12%	131	8%	225	9%	305	11%	74	7%
Detection of non-pharmaceutical benzodiazepines****	493	33%	464	30%	1108	45%	1809	64%	593	57%

Fentanyl continues to contribute to the majority (85%) of opioid toxicity deaths.
Stimulants are involved in 3 in 5 opioid toxicity deaths.

*Preliminary and subject to change – does not include 340 probable cases pending conclusion on cause of death (3 in 2020; 94 in 2021; 243 in 2022).

**Nitazenes include isotonitazene, metonitazene and protonitazene. Due to evolving toxicology methods and best practices around quantifying and defining toxic levels of nitazenes, these substances may not be consistently characterized in the cause of death. Nitazenes have been detected in an additional 54 deaths (31 in 2021; 23 in 2022) where they were either not attributed or conclusion on cause of death is pending.

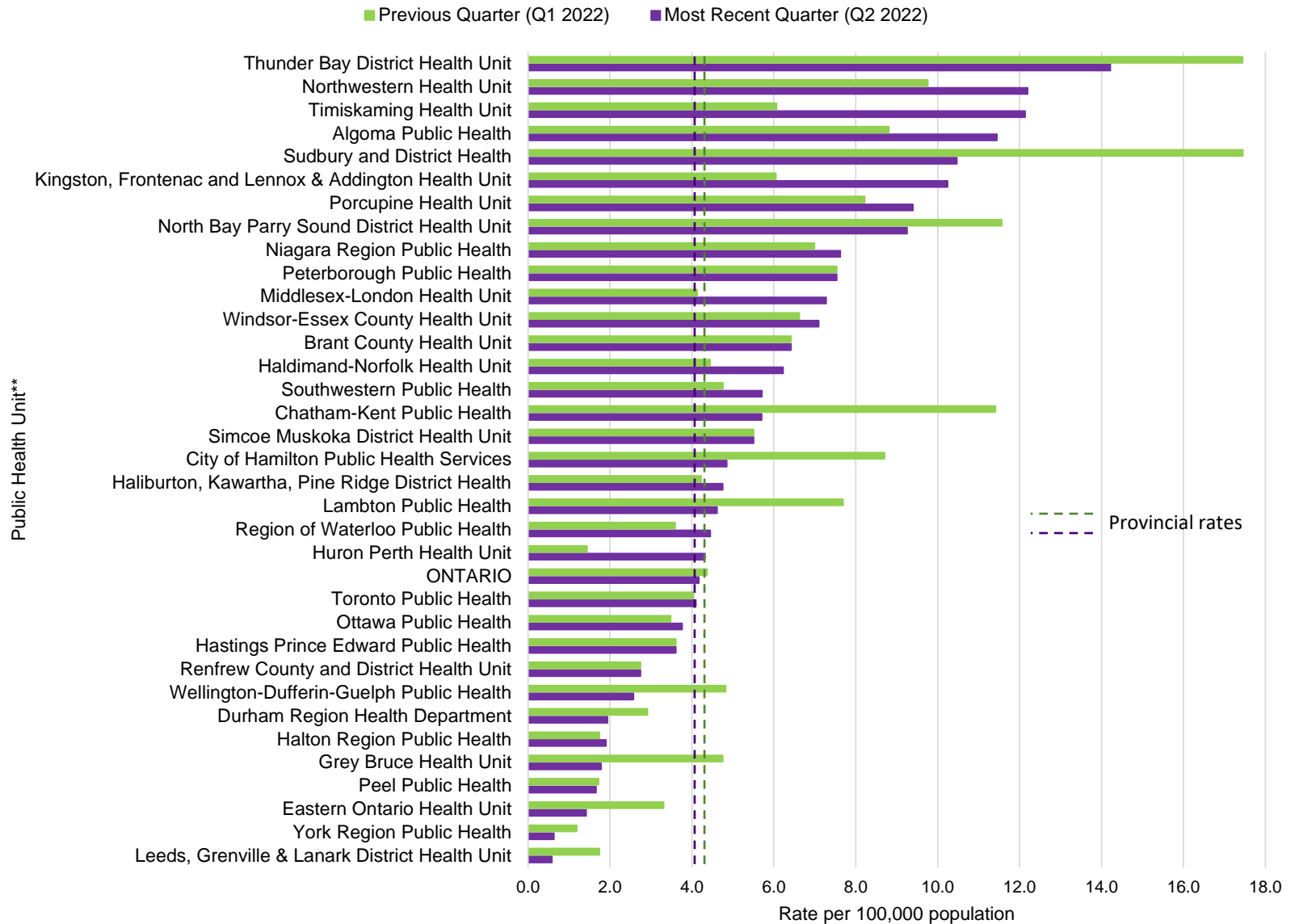
***Some deaths where morphine was identified as a direct contributor may reflect metabolism of heroin or codeine into morphine.

****Non-pharmaceutical benzodiazepines include etizolam, flualprazolam, flubromazolam, and bromazolam. Due to evolving toxicology methods and best practices around quantifying and defining toxic levels of non-pharmaceutical benzodiazepines, these substances may not be consistently characterized in the cause of death.

Opioid-Related Deaths by Public Health Unit (PHU) Region

PHU BY QUARTER

Opioid toxicity mortality rate by PHU region, Q1-Q2 2022*



Source: Office of Chief Coroner (OCC) - Data effective Nov 1, 2022

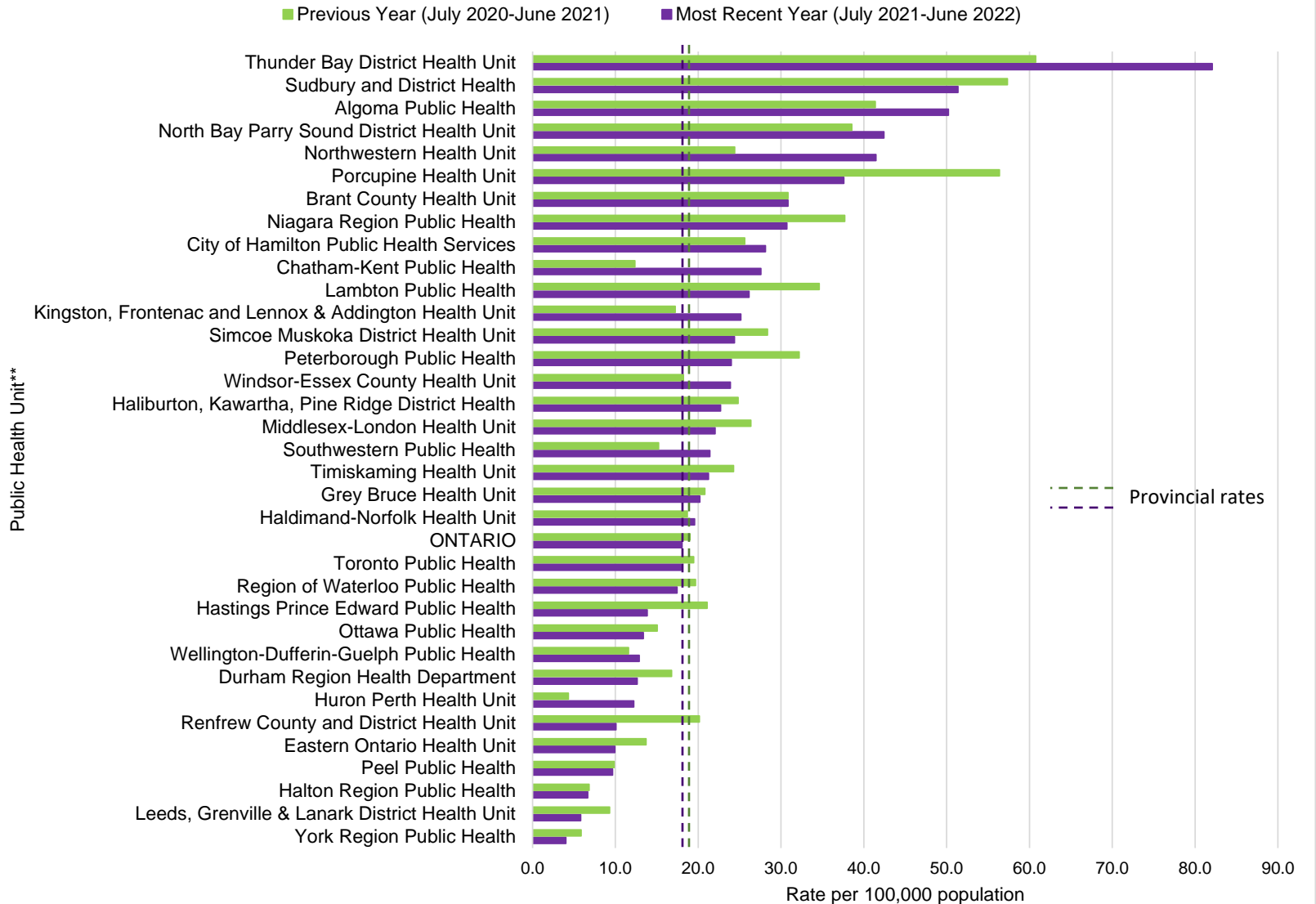
*includes both confirmed and probable opioid-related deaths, preliminary and subject to change

**based on location of incident

PHU BY YEAR

Opioid toxicity mortality rate by PHU region

Most recent two years of data available*



Source: Office of Chief Coroner (OCC) - Data effective Nov 1, 2022

*includes both confirmed and probable opioid-related deaths, preliminary and subject to change

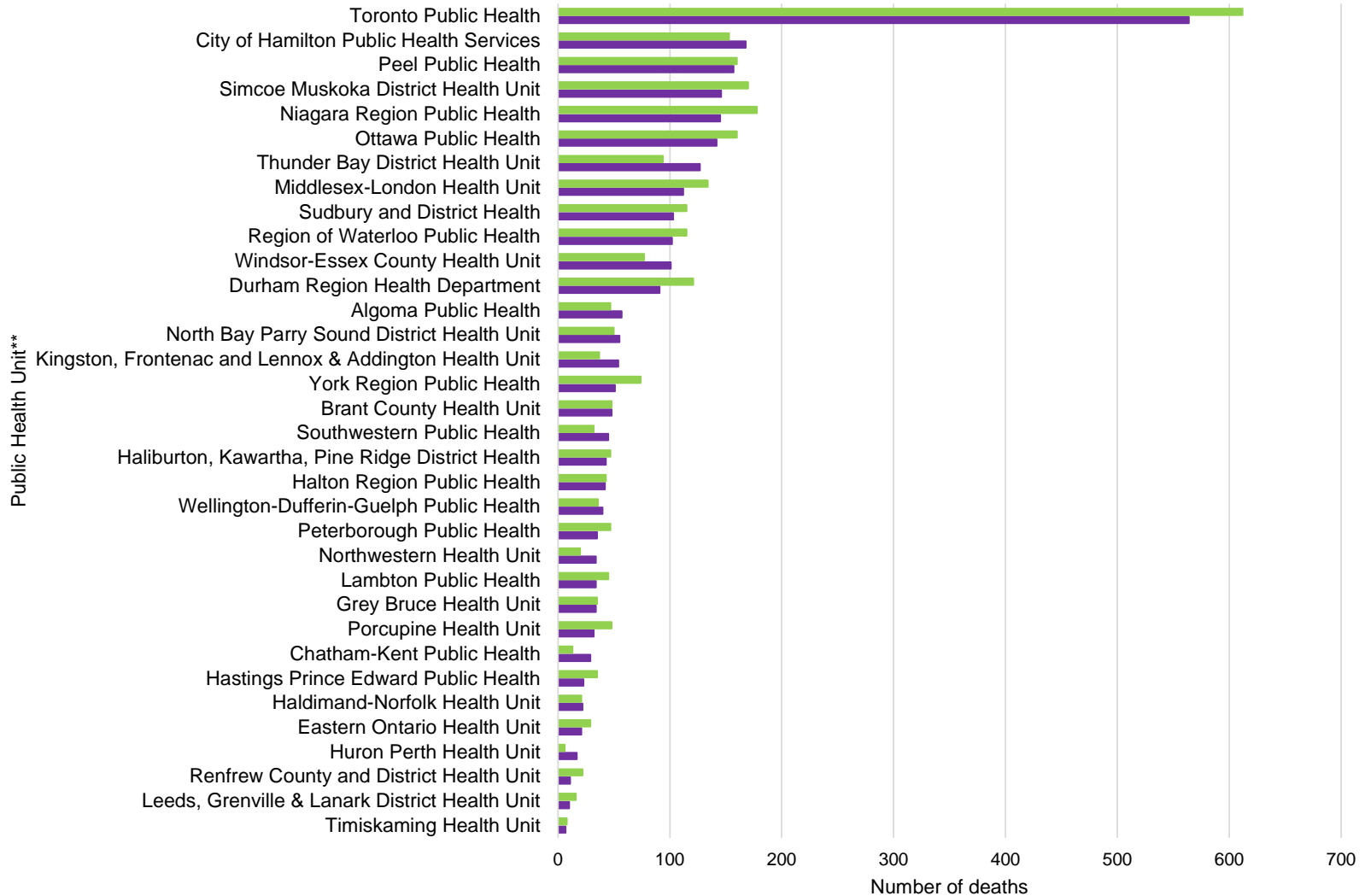
**based on location of incident

PHU BY YEAR

Number of opioid toxicity deaths by PHU region

*Most recent two years of data available**

■ Previous Year (July 2020-June 2021) ■ Most Recent Year (July 2021-June 2022)



Source: Office of Chief Coroner (OCC) - Data effective Nov 1, 2022

*includes both confirmed and probable opioid-related deaths, preliminary and subject to change

**based on location of incident

Opioid Toxicity Mortality Rate in 2022(Q1-Q2)* by Census Subdivision (CSD)**

Ten (10) CSDs with the highest mortality rates during the first half of 2022(Q1-Q2):

Census Subdivision	Opioid toxicity* mortality rate per 100,000 population
Thunder Bay	42.4
Greater Sudbury	29.0
Timmins	28.6
North Bay	25.8
Peterborough	25.7
Sault Ste. Marie	24.1
Kingston	22.9
Niagara Falls	21.8
St. Thomas	20.8
Windsor	20.8
<i>Ontario (for reference)</i>	<i>8.5</i>

Source: Office of Chief Coroner (OCC) - Data effective Nov 1, 2022

*Includes both confirmed and probable opioid-related deaths; **preliminary and subject to change.**

**Based on location of incident. Among CSDs with >30,000 population.

Appendix 1: Opioid-related deaths in Ontario, 2022

Year	Quarter	Confirmed	Probable	Combined (Confirmed + Probable)
2018	Q1	316	0	316
	Q2	332	0	332
	Q3	405	0	405
	Q4	455	0	455
2019	Q1	458	0	458
	Q2	479	0	479
	Q3	247	0	247
	Q4	375	0	375
2020	Q1	471	0	471
	Q2	629	1	630
	Q3	635	0	635
	Q4	724	2	726
2021	Q1	738	5	743
	Q2	724	20	744
	Q3	674	20	694
	Q4	681	49	730
2022	Q1	573	81	654
	Q2	462	162	624

Source: Office of Chief Coroner (OCC) - Data effective Nov 1, 2022
Data are preliminary and subject to change.