



# Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy

A brief introduction to our Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy

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[hnhu.org](http://hnhu.org)

What does substance use look like in Haldimand-Norfolk?

# Opioids in Haldimand-Norfolk

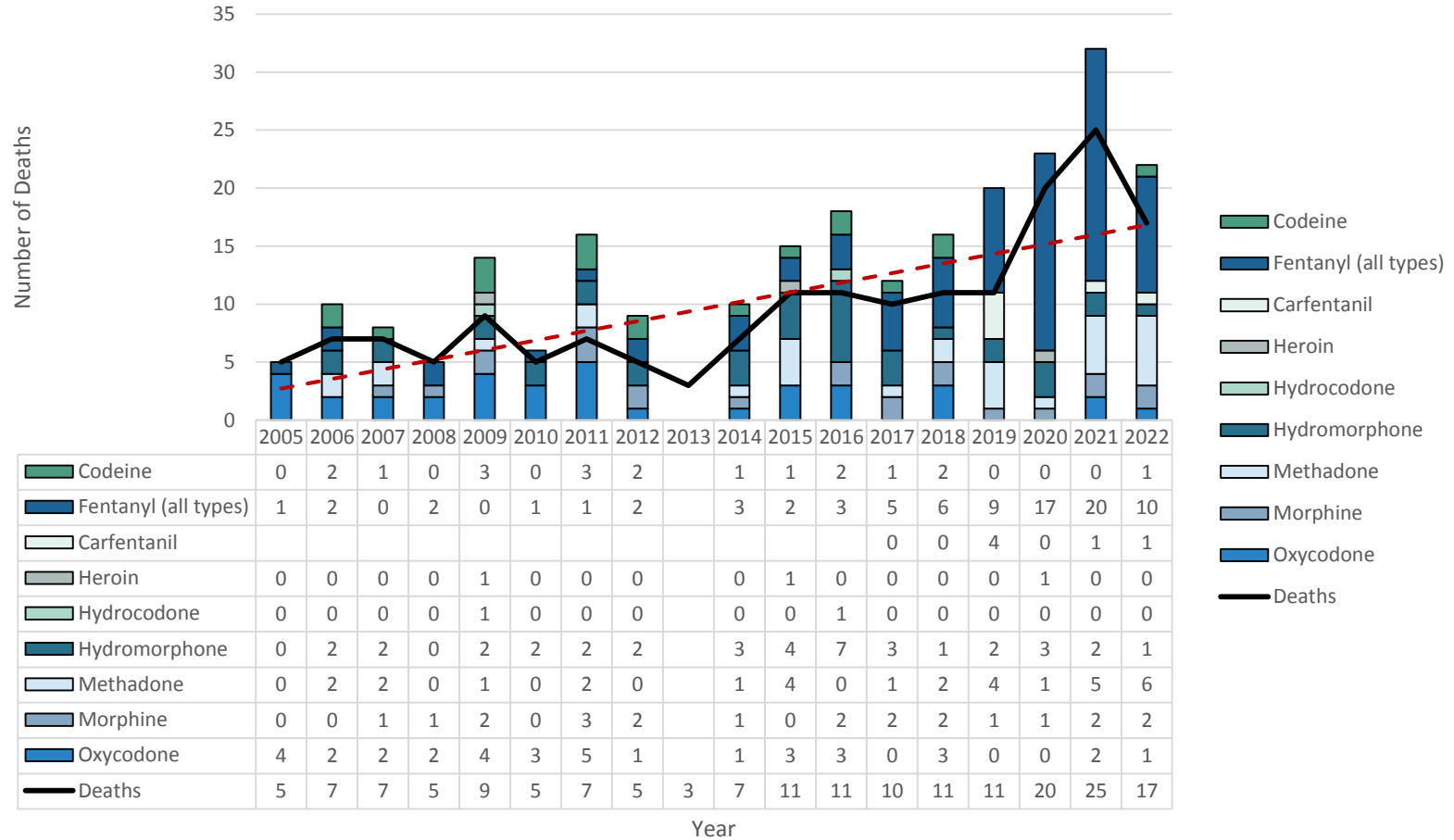
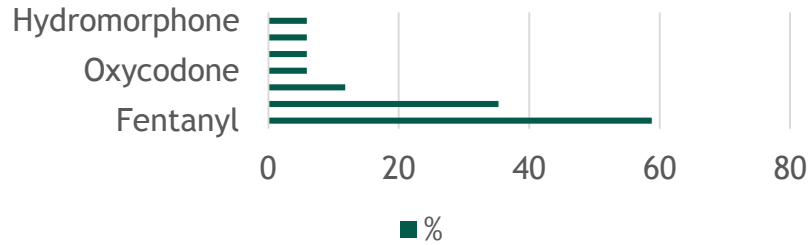
19

Naloxone doses provided in 2022:

Deaths in 2022 related to opioids.

6500

Type of opioid present at death, Haldimand-Norfolk Health Unit Area, 2022



Data Notes:

1. Drug categories are not mutually exclusive; multiple drugs may have been present in a single death.
2. Fentanyl (all types) includes fentanyl, carfentanil and other fentanyl analogues.
3. Data for carfentanil are only available from 2017 onward.
4. 2013 deaths by drug type were suppressed due to the small number of deaths that year (<5).

# Alcohol in Haldimand-Norfolk

**557** ED visits for conditions entirely attributable to alcohol in 2021.

**10%** Higher self-reported rate of current drinking than the Ontario provincial average in 2019.  
(We are the third highest per population in all of Ontario)

**Highest** Self-reported rate of consuming seven or more standard drinks in the past seven days

# Smoking in Haldimand-Norfolk

In an average year for Haldimand-Norfolk region, an estimated:

- **201 deaths**
- **763 hospitalizations**
- **1,824 emergency departments visits**

were attributed to smoking in people age 35 and older.

These smoking attributable outcomes for Haldimand-Norfolk made up:

- **18.1% of deaths**
- **9.3% of hospitalizations**
- **4.2% of emergency department visits**

from all causes in people age 35 and older in Haldimand-Norfolk

# Cannabis in Haldimand-Norfolk

# 55%

higher rate of ED Visits  
(per 100,000) for cannabis related  
poisonings than Ontario in 2021.

Haldimand-Norfolk has the

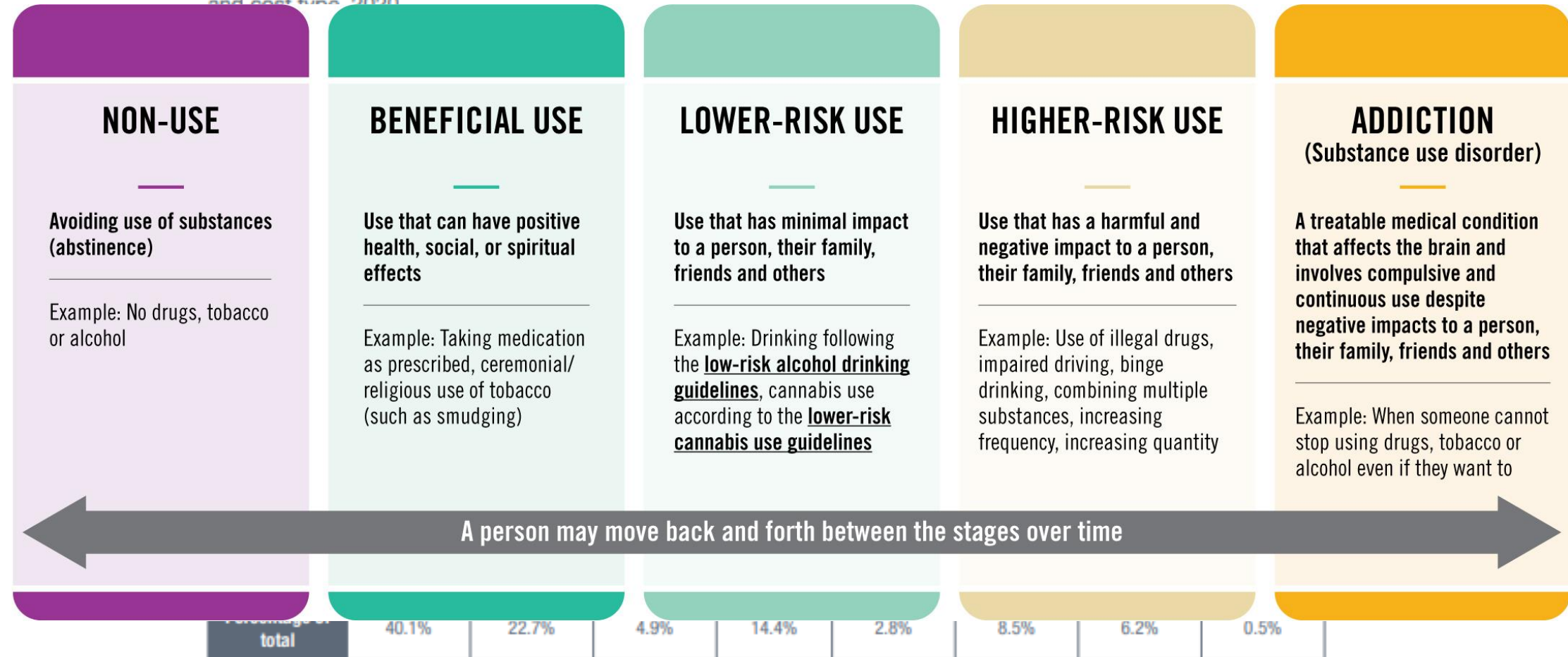
# HIGHEST

rate of ED visits for cannabis  
related poisonings in youth  
(age 0 to 12) in 2021.



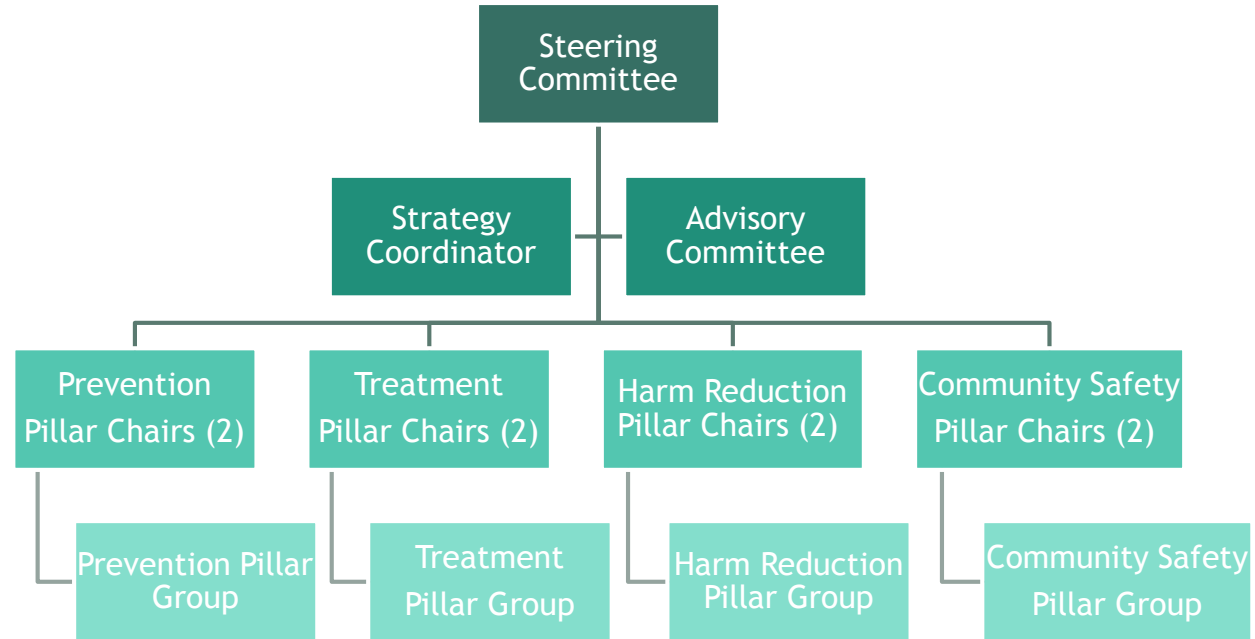
# What else do we know?

Figure 1. Costs (in billions) and percentage of total costs attributable to substance use in Canada by substance and cost type, 2020



# Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy - Structure

- Comprehensive
- Community Driven
- Evidence-Based
- Four-pillar Approach
- Fulfills Mandates
- Collective Impact
- Address Local Needs
- Equitable





# Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy – The River

## Prevention

“Making the people realize they don’t need to be near the river through focusing on education and belonging.”



## Treatment

“To swim to shore to get them out of the water.”



## Harm Reduction

“The river is too dangerous to swim in. We need to keep those people alive and out of the water above water.”



“To make the river safer by making the river harder to swim in. We need to make it a punishment for anyone pushing the river.”



# Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy – Four Pillars

## Prevention

Preventing or delaying the onset of substance use and addressing root causes of use beginning with youth that fits within a broader context of the social determinants of health.

## Treatment

To help individuals with problematic substance use make decisions about their personal health, support recovery as defined by the individual, and move towards decreasing/eliminating problematic substance use.

## Harm Reduction

Considered a pragmatic, evidence-based approach to drug use, which seeks to reduce substance use-related harms to individuals and communities, without discontinuing substance use itself.

## Community Safety

Addresses the crime and social disorder related to problematic drug and alcohol use. As an integral component of this strategy, human connection is at the core of community safety and is prioritized, in addition to the enforcement components of the broader criminal justice system.

# Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy - Committees

## Steering Committee

Coordination and overseeing the overall direction and implementation of the drug and alcohol strategy. This oversight includes strategic planning, decision making, support to complete tasks, fostering collaboration between pillars, and ensuring timely completion of actions.



## Advisory Committee

Members provide valuable insights, perspectives, and recommendations based on their personal journeys. The primary focus of the group is to ensure that decisions and strategies developed are informed by real-life experiences.



# Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy - Development



# Thank you for your time and consideration.

We invite any members of the community, representing an organization or not, to reach out to us if they would like to participate in the Community Drug & Alcohol Strategy or have any questions by emailing [substanceuse@hnhss.ca](mailto:substanceuse@hnhss.ca).