

# Opioid toxicity deaths

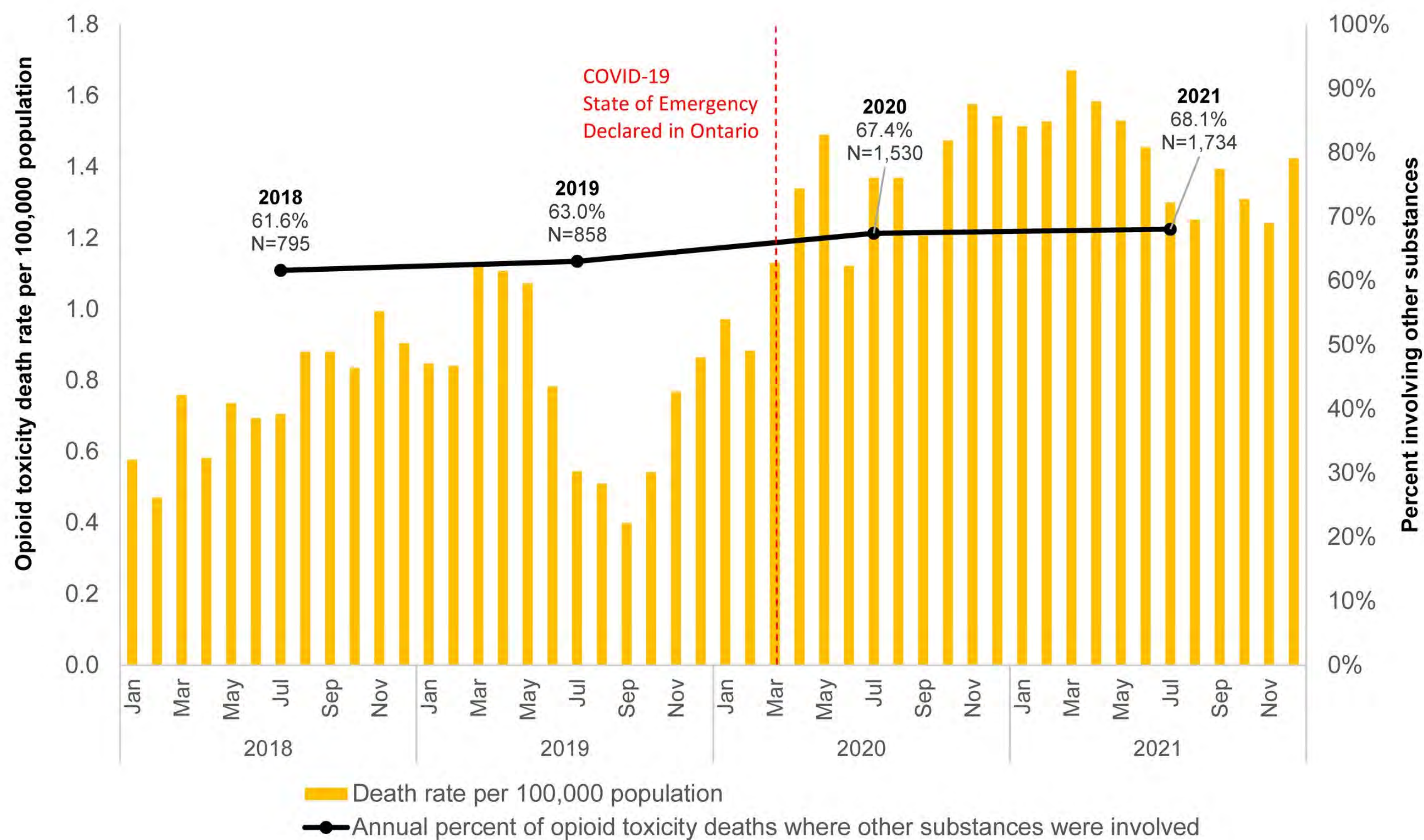
Trends & characteristics

# SUMMARY

**2X Increase** in the number of opioid toxicity deaths from 2018 to 2021

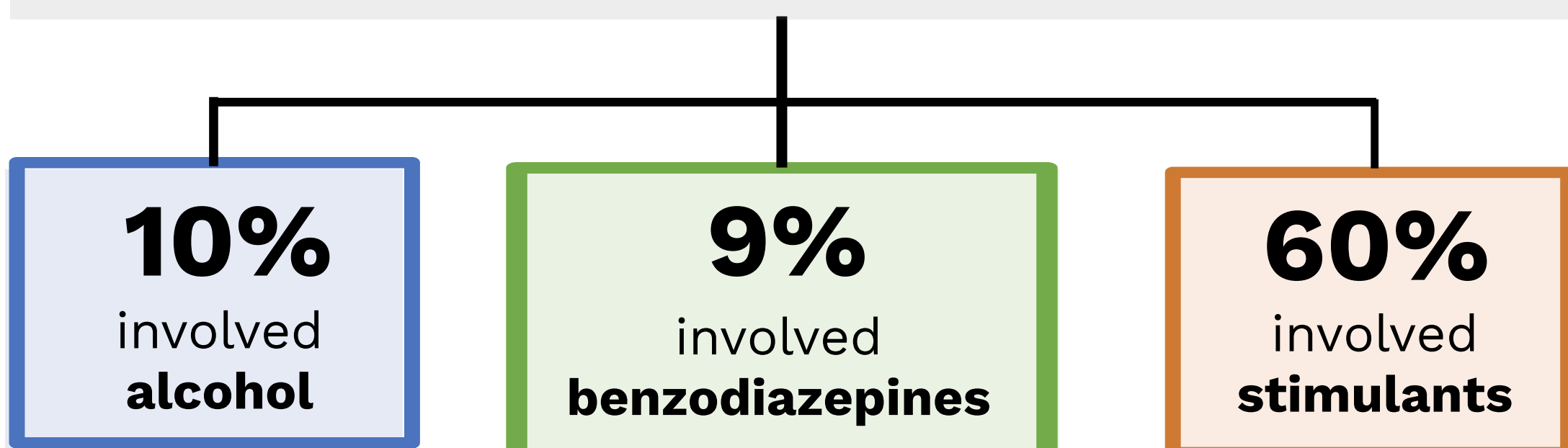
**85%** of all substance-related deaths from 2018 to 2021 **involved opioids** as a direct contributor to death

**2547** Opioid toxicity deaths in 2021  
**90%** were caused by **non-pharmaceutical** opioids



## Opioid Toxicity Deaths in 2021

**68%** of deaths had **other substances** directly contribute to death

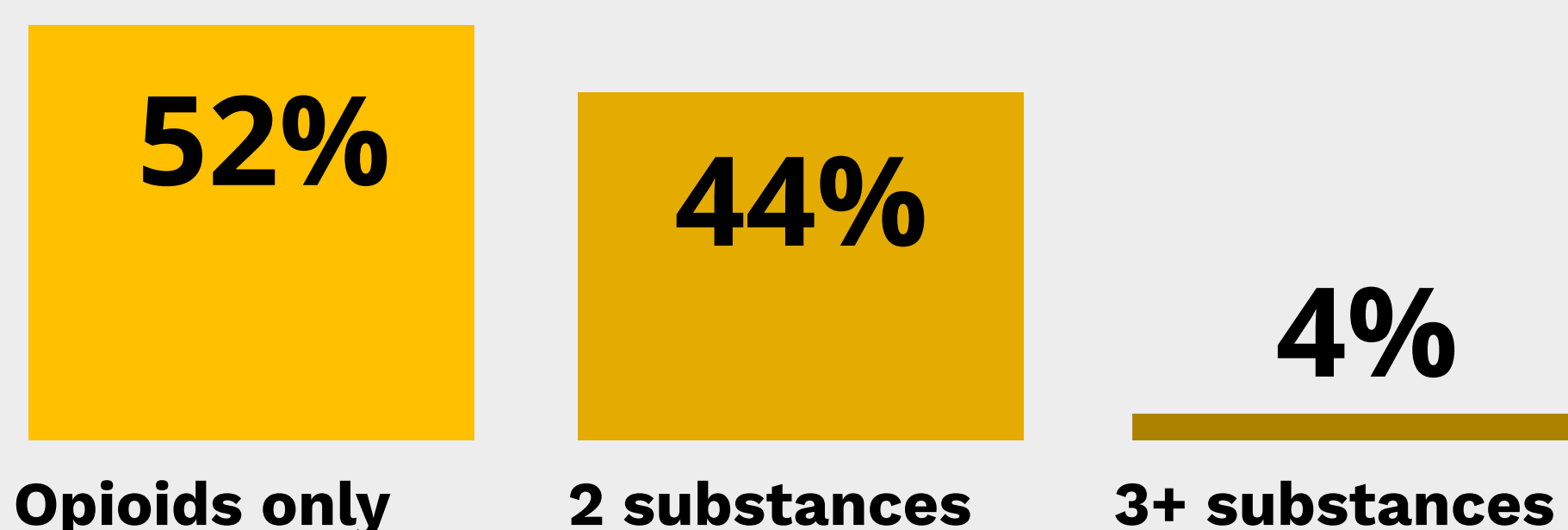


Proportion of deaths by **number of substances** directly contributing to death

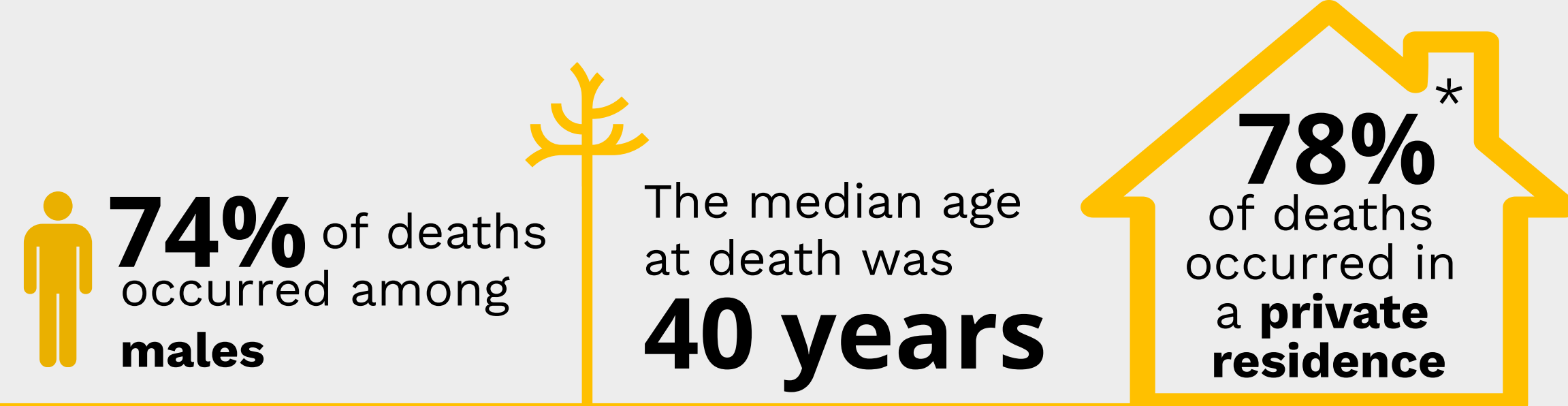
**Non-pharmaceutical opioids** N = 2,303



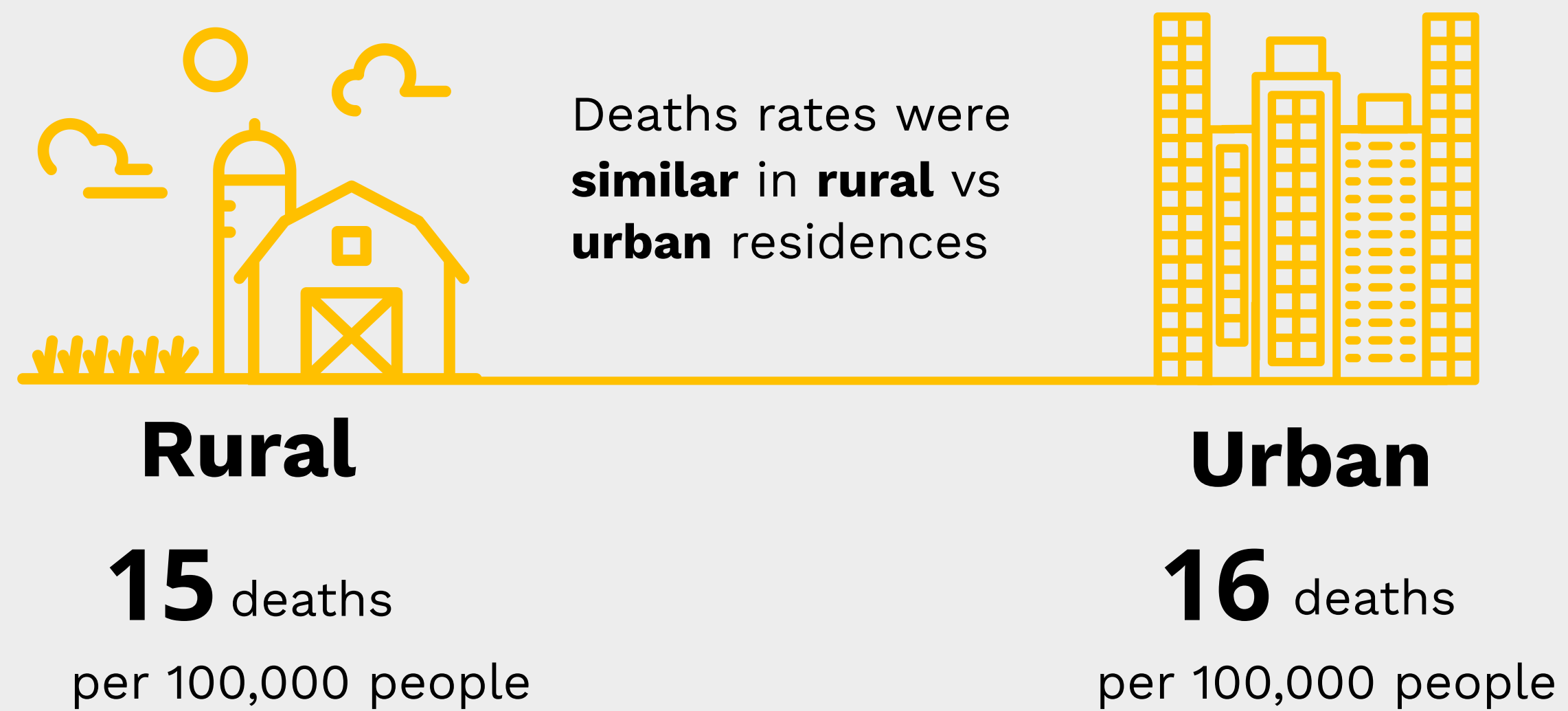
**Pharmaceutical opioids only** N = 204



## Demographics



Death rates for **non-pharmaceutical** and **pharmaceutical** opioids were **3x higher** in **Northern** vs. **Southern Ontario**



\*This proportion is among cases where location of incident was known

This infographic provides a high-level overview of the findings of the report. The complete methods and results are available at <https://odprn.ca/research/publications/characteristics-of-substance-related-toxicity-deaths-in-ontario/>