This document considers the supplementary issue of population age distribution for the comparisons in the Dmetrichuk et al. (2021) paper, focusing primarily on suicide rates. It uses Statistics Canada Table 17-10-0005-01, Population estimates on July 1st, by age and sex, to track Ontario’s population by year in five-year age ranges, and see how that might affect our suicide rate estimates.

It is indeed true that there are differences in the suicide rate for different ages in the population, with the highest rates near age 50:

![Suicide Rate (2009–2020) by 5-Year Age Range](image)

However, the percentages of the Ontario population in different age ranges remain roughly constant during the time period 2009–2020, as the following 19 figures show. There are some minor trends, but these minor trends will not have a very large effect on our conclusions regarding the death rate changes in 2020. For example, the percentage of teenagers has decreased over time, but teenagers have a lower suicide rate anyway. And, the percentage aged 50–54 decreased somewhat, but the percentages aged 55–59 and 60–64 increased somewhat and approximately cancel out.
Overall, we feel that the changes in population age distribution over the period 2009–2020 are minor and will not significantly affect our conclusions, thus not justifying the additional complication and uncertainty of introduce age-adjustments into our analyses.