

Opioid Overdose Surveillance

Preliminary Report

Georgia, 2019

Drug Surveillance Unit
Epidemiology Section
Georgia Department of Public Health

<https://dph.georgia.gov/drug-surveillance-unit>



Opioid Overdose Surveillance, Georgia, 2019

The purpose of this report is to describe fatal (mortality) and nonfatal (morbidity) opioid-involved overdoses, which occurred in Georgia during 2019, including prescription opioids, and illicit opioids such as heroin, fentanyl, and fentanyl analogs. Opioid overdose data were analyzed by the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) Epidemiology Program, Drug Surveillance Unit, using Georgia hospital discharge inpatient and emergency department (ED) visit data, and DPH Vital Records death data.

Key Findings

- Opioid-involved overdose deaths rapidly increased in Georgia starting in 2010, driven largely by increased use and misuse of prescription opioids (e.g., Oxycodone and Hydrocodone). Beginning in 2013, illicit opioids, such as heroin and fentanyl, drove the sharp increase in opioid-involved overdose deaths through 2017. Opioid-involved overdose deaths decreased from 2017 to 2019.
 - From 2010 to 2019, the total number of opioid-involved overdose deaths occurring in Georgia increased by 78%, from 514 to 913 deaths.
- From 2018-2019, all drug overdose death categories decreased except for synthetic opioids and fentanyl.
- In 2019, among Georgia residents:
 - Any opioid-involved overdoses accounted for 4,858 ED visits, 2,174 hospitalizations, and 860 deaths.
 - Heroin-involved overdoses accounted for 1,416 ED visits, 339 hospitalizations, and 307 deaths.
 - Fentanyl-involved overdoses accounted for 360 deaths.
 - Quarterly opioid-involved overdose ED visit rates trended upwards from 2019 Quarter 1 (Q1) (9.9) to 2019 Q3 (12.1) then decline slightly in 2019 Q4 (11.4).
 - Quarterly heroin-involved overdose ED visit rates trended upwards during 2019.
 - Quarterly opioid-involved ED visit rates among males trended upwards from 2019 Q1 (10.2) to 2019 Q3 (13.6) then slightly downwards in 2019 Q4 (13.2).
 - Quarterly opioid-involved ED visit rates among females slightly trended upwards during 2019, with the exception of Q4.
 - Persons aged 35-44 years died from an opioid- or heroin-involved overdose more frequently than persons of other age categories.
 - Persons aged 25-34 years more frequently died from fentanyl-involved overdose, and visited an ED for an opioid-involved overdose than persons of other age categories, yet persons aged 45 and older were more frequently hospitalized because of an opioid-involved overdose.
 - Males aged 35-44 years died from an opioid-involved overdose more frequently than any other age category, and were 2.3 times more likely to die from an overdose than females of the same age.
 - Males were 2.1 times more likely to die from any opioid-involved overdose, and 4.1 times more likely to die from a heroin-involved overdose than females. However, females, particularly those aged 55-64 years, were more frequently hospitalized for an opioid-involved overdose than males.
 - Quarterly opioid-involved overdose death rates among males remained steady in 2019 with the exception of Q3.
 - Quarterly opioid-involved overdose deaths rates among females remained steady through most of 2019 with a slight downward trend in Q4.
 - Quarterly opioid-involved ED visit rates among Whites trended upwards from 2019 Q1 (13.7) to 2019 Q3 (16.9) then slightly downwards in 2019 Q4 (16.3).

- Quarterly opioid-involved ED visit rates among Blacks trended upwards during the first half of 2019 and then trended back down.
- Whites were 2.4 times more likely to die from an opioid-involved overdose, 2.2 times more likely to visit an ED for any opioid-involved overdose, and 3.9 times more likely to visit an ED for a heroin-involved overdose than Blacks.
- Quarterly opioid-involved overdose death rates among Whites remained steady in 2019.
- Quarterly opioid-involved overdose death rates among Blacks remained steady from 2019 Q1 (1.4) to 2019 Q2 (1.4) then trended downward slightly in 2019 Q3 (1.1).
- The highest numbers of heroin- and opioid-involved overdose deaths, ED visits, and hospitalizations occurred predominantly among residents in urban areas (Atlanta Metropolitan Area, Augusta, Macon, Columbus, and Savannah). However, high rates of opioid overdose-involved ED visits and hospitalizations occurred among residents in both urban and rural areas, particularly in North, South Central, and Southeast Georgia.

For more information:

- County level data and other Georgia drug surveillance reports:
<https://dph.georgia.gov/drug-surveillance-unit>
- Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) Main Opioid Page:
<https://dph.georgia.gov/stopopioidaddiction>
- Georgia drug overdose mortality interactive maps and statistics:
<https://oasis.state.ga.us/PageDirect.aspx?referer=MortalityDrugOverdoses>
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) information: GA PDMP Overview and FAQs
<https://dph.georgia.gov/pdmp>

Fatal Drug Overdoses (Mortality), Georgia, 2019

Data Source

Overdose-involved deaths were derived from DPH Vital Records death certificates. The following data include all deaths that occurred in Georgia among Georgia residents and deaths that occurred outside of Georgia among Georgia residents, unless otherwise specified.

Case Definitions

(Note: categories are not mutually exclusive, includes only drug overdose deaths caused by acute poisoning)

Any drug overdose death

May involve any over-the-counter, prescription, or illicit drug

- Deaths with any of the following ICD-10 codes as any underlying cause of death: X40-44, X60-64, X85, Y10-14

Drug overdose death involving any opioid

Involves both prescription opioid pain relievers (e.g., hydrocodone, oxycodone, and morphine), opioids used to treat addiction (e.g., methadone), as well as heroin, opium, and synthetic opioids (e.g., tramadol and fentanyl that may be prescription or illicitly manufactured)

- Deaths with any of the following ICD-10 codes as any underlying cause of death: X40-44, X60-64, X85, Y10-14 AND one of the following:
- Any of the following ICD-10 codes as any other listed cause of death: T40.0, T40.1, T40.2, T40.3, T40.4, T40.6
- Any cause of death text field contains one of the following terms (or common misspelling): heroin, fentanyl (and fentanyl analogs), methadone, buprenorphine, butalbital, codeine, eddp, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, levorphanol, meperidine, norbuprenorphine, oxycodone, oxymorphone, tapentadol, tramadol

OR (for cases without an X or Y code in the underlying cause of death):

- Any cause of death text field contains the word “TOXIC” AND at least one of the following terms (or common misspelling): heroin, fentanyl (and fentanyl analogs), methadone, buprenorphine, butalbital, codeine, eddp, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, levorphanol, meperidine, norbuprenorphine, oxycodone, oxymorphone, tapentadol, tramadol

Drug overdose death involving synthetic opioids other than methadone

Involves synthetic opioids other than methadone (e.g., tramadol and fentanyl that may be prescription or illicitly manufactured). Note: polysubstance abuse deaths may also involve methadone or other opioids

- Deaths with any of the following ICD-10 codes as any underlying cause of death: X40-44, X60-64, X85, Y10-14 AND one of the following:
- The following ICD-10 code as any other listed cause of death: T40.4
- Any cause of death text field contains the following keywords and common misspellings: fentanyl (and fentanyl analogs), tramadol

OR (for cases without an X or Y code in the underlying cause of death):

- Any cause of death text field contains the word “TOXIC” AND at least one of the following terms (or common misspelling): fentanyl (and fentanyl analogs), tramadol

Drug overdose death involving heroin

Involves heroin. Note: polysubstance abuse deaths may also involve other opioids

- Deaths with any of the following ICD-10 codes as any underlying cause of death: X40-44, X60-64, X85, Y10-14 AND one of the following:
- The following ICD-10 code as any other listed cause of death: T40.1
- Any cause of death text field contains the following keywords and common misspellings: heroin, morphine

OR (for cases without an X or Y code in the underlying cause of death):

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any cause of death text field contains the word “TOXIC” AND at least one of the following terms (or common misspelling): heroin, morphine
<p><i>Drug overdose death involving fentanyl</i> <i>Note: polysubstance abuse deaths may also involve other opioids</i> Any cause of death text field contains the word “TOXIC” AND at least one of the following terms (or common misspelling): fentanyl (and fentanyl analogs)</p>
<p>Other Definitions or Limitations</p>
<p>Deaths represent individual people who died in Georgia and deaths among Georgia residents outside of Georgia.</p>
<p>Overdose death county represents the county of residence, or the place of injury (where the overdose occurred) as specified; when the place of injury field or the county of residence field was blank the county of the death certifier was used.</p>
<p>Rate indicates the number of deaths among Georgia residents per 100,000 population using 2018 Census data as the denominator, and all rates are age- adjusted unless age category is presented.</p>
<p>Rates for categories with fewer than 5 deaths may not be accurate and are not presented in this report.</p>
<p>ICD-10 Code Description</p>
<p>X40-X44 (accidental poisonings by drugs), X60-X64 (intentional self-poisoning by drugs), X85 (assault by drug poisoning), Y10-Y14 (drug poisoning of undetermined intent), T40.0 (opium), T40.1 (heroin), T40.2 (natural and semisynthetic opioids), T40.3 (methadone), T40.4 (synthetic opioids, other than methadone), T40.6 (other and unspecified narcotics)</p>

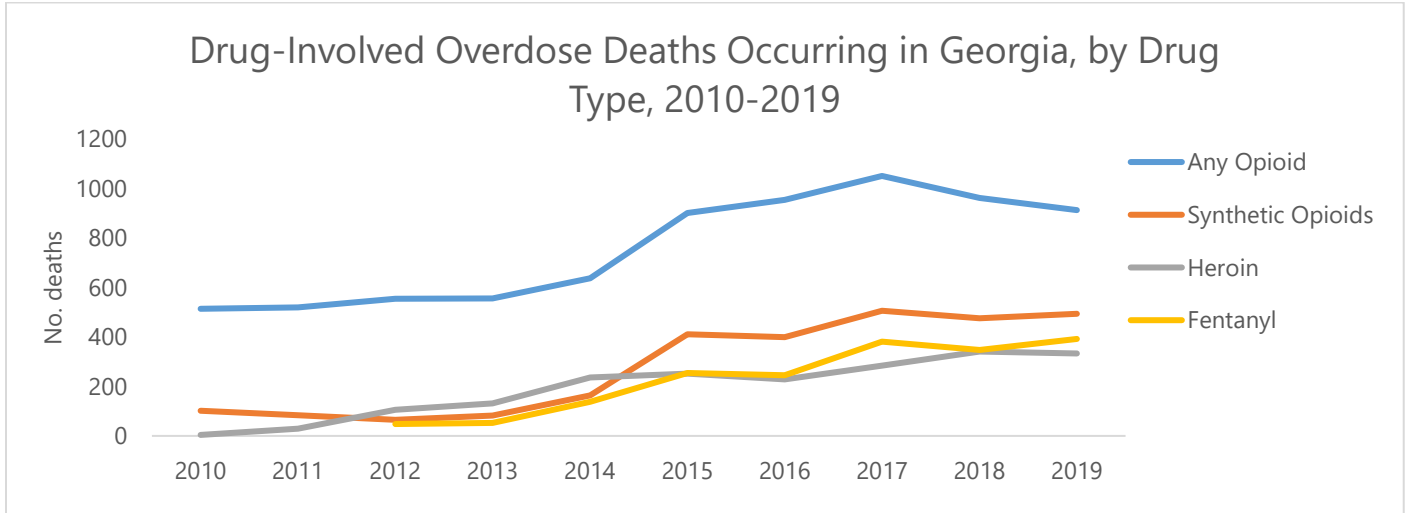
<p>Nonfatal Overdoses (Morbidity), Georgia, 2019</p>
<p>Data Source</p>
<p>Nonfatal overdose counts were derived from Georgia hospitalization and emergency department (ED) visit discharge data, and included all ED visits or hospitalizations occurring in a non-Federal acute care hospital in Georgia, among Georgia residents, with a discharge diagnosis indicating acute drug overdose during 2019.</p>
<p>Case Definitions (categories are not mutually exclusive)</p>
<p><i>ED visit or hospitalization involving any drug overdose</i> <i>May include any over-the-counter, prescription, or illicit drug</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any mention of ICD-10CM codes: T36-T50 <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6th character: 1-4, and a 7th character of A or missing
<p><i>ED visit or hospitalization involving any opioid overdose</i> <i>Includes prescription opioid pain relievers (e.g., hydrocodone, oxycodone, and morphine), opioids used to treat addiction (e.g., methadone), as well as heroin, opium, and synthetic opioids (e.g., tramadol and fentanyl that may be prescription or illicitly-manufactured)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any mention of ICD-10CM codes: T40.0X, T40.1X, T40.2X, T40.3X, T40.4X, T40.60, T40.69 <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6th character: 1-4, and a 7th character of A or missing
<p><i>ED visit or hospitalization involving a heroin overdose</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any mention of ICD-10CM code: T40.1X <p>AND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6th character: 1-4, and a 7th character of A or missing

Other Definitions or Limitations
Any opioid may include prescription or illicit opioids.
ED Visits and Hospitalization categories are not mutually exclusive. Hospitalizations may also appear in the ED Visits category if they were admitted to the hospital through the ED.
ED visits and hospitalizations may represent multiple visits by individuals in Georgia.
County indicates the patient's county of residence.
Only Black and White are indicated for race because of incomplete or sparse data on other races and ethnicities.
Rate indicates the number of ED visits or hospitalizations among Georgia residents per 100,000 population using 2018 Census data as the denominator, and all rates are age-adjusted unless age category is presented.
Rates for categories with fewer than 5 ED visits or hospitalizations may not be accurate and are not presented in this report.
ICD-10 CM Code Description
<p>Poisoning by: T36-T50 (range includes all drugs), T40.0X (opium), T40.1X (heroin), T40.2X (other opioids), T40.3X (methadone), T40.4X (synthetic narcotics), T40.60 (unspecified narcotics), T40.69 (other narcotics)</p> <p>6th Character: 1 (accidental, unintentional), 2 (intentional self-harm), 3 (assault), 4 (undetermined intent)</p> <p>7th Character: A (initial encounter) or missing</p>

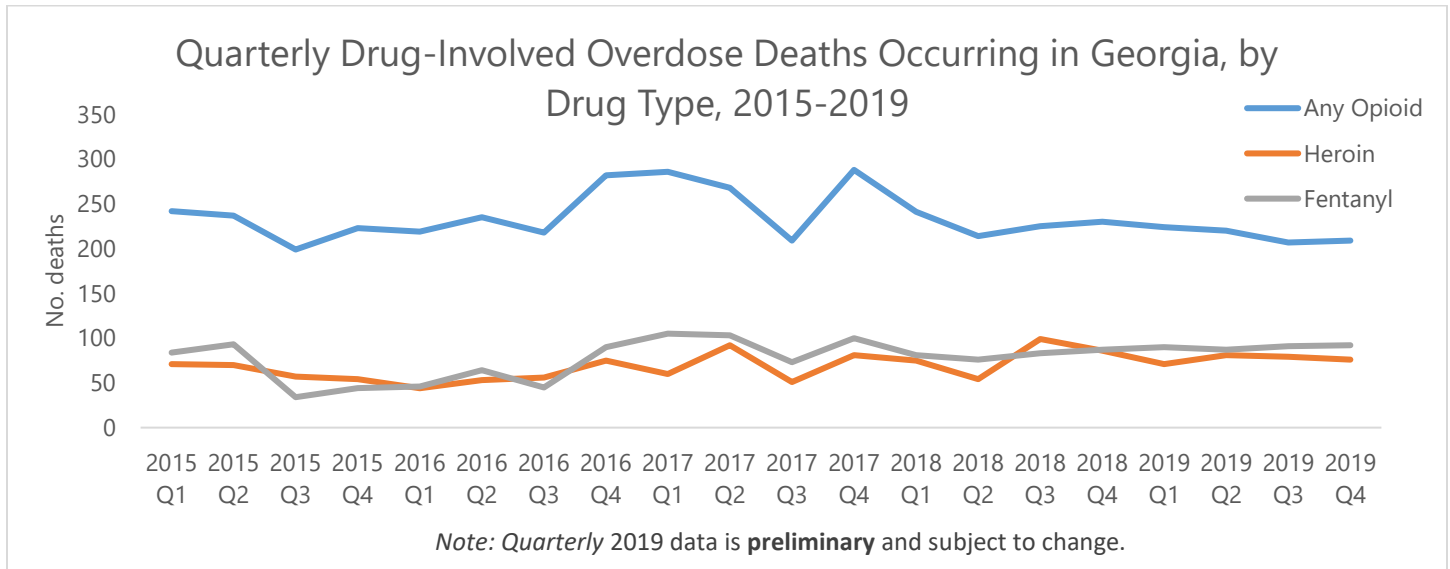
Drug-Involved Overdose Deaths (Mortality)

Note: Any opioid may include prescription or illicit opioids. Categories are not mutually exclusive. Overdose-involved deaths were derived from DPH Vital Records death certificates.

The following data include deaths that occurred in Georgia regardless of the patient’s residence state.

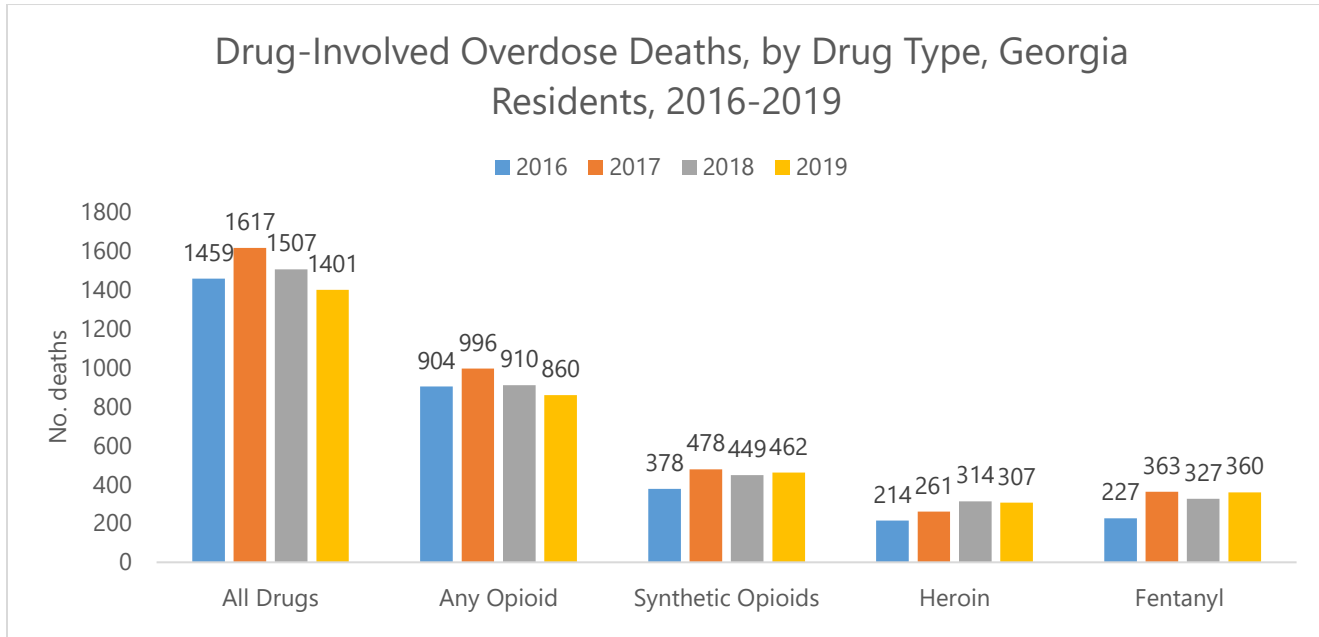


- From 2010 to 2019, the number of opioid-involved overdose deaths increased by 78%, from 514 to 913 deaths.
- Beginning in 2013, illicit opioids, such as heroin and fentanyl, drove the sharp increase in opioid-involved overdose deaths through 2017. Note: fentanyl is included in the synthetic opioid category.
- From 2018 to 2019, drug-involved overdose death categories decreased except for synthetic opioids and fentanyl.

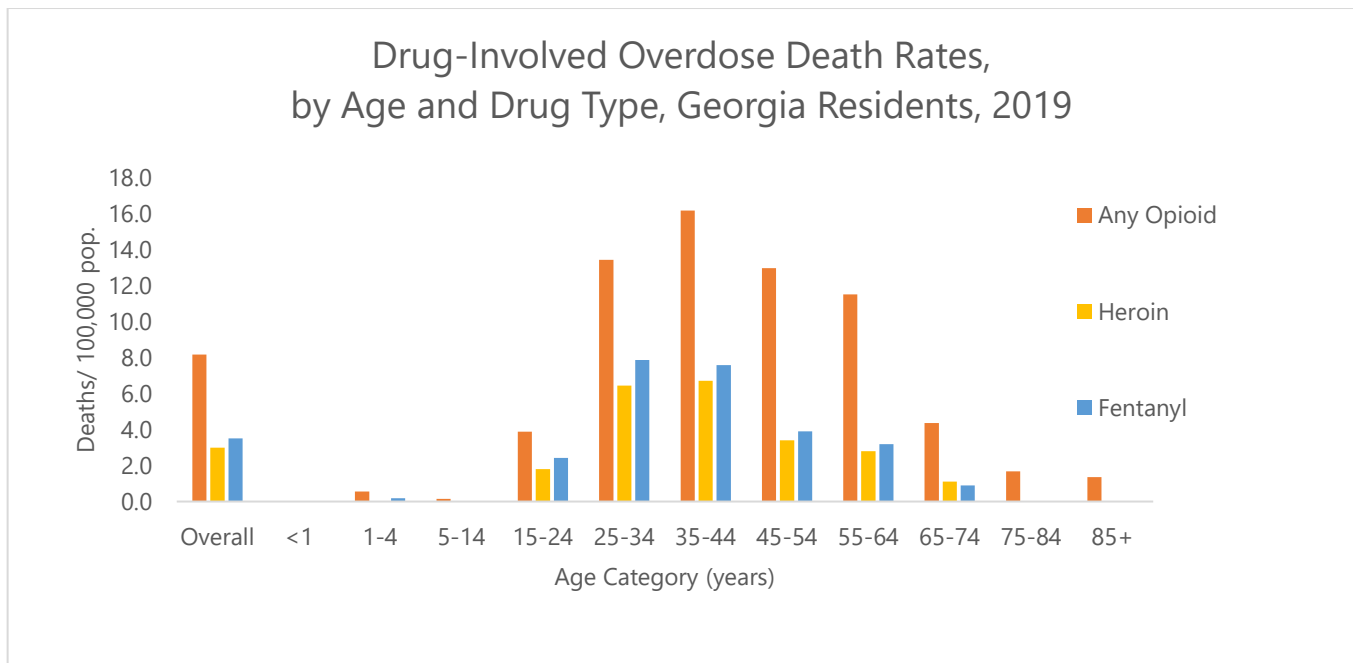


- Opioid-involved overdose deaths remained fairly steady from 2019 Q1 to 2019 Q2, then trended slightly downward during 2019 Q2 to 2019 Q3.
- Fentanyl-involved overdose deaths remained steady during 2019.

Note: The following data include all deaths that occurred in Georgia among Georgia residents and deaths that occurred outside of Georgia among Georgia residents, unless otherwise specified.

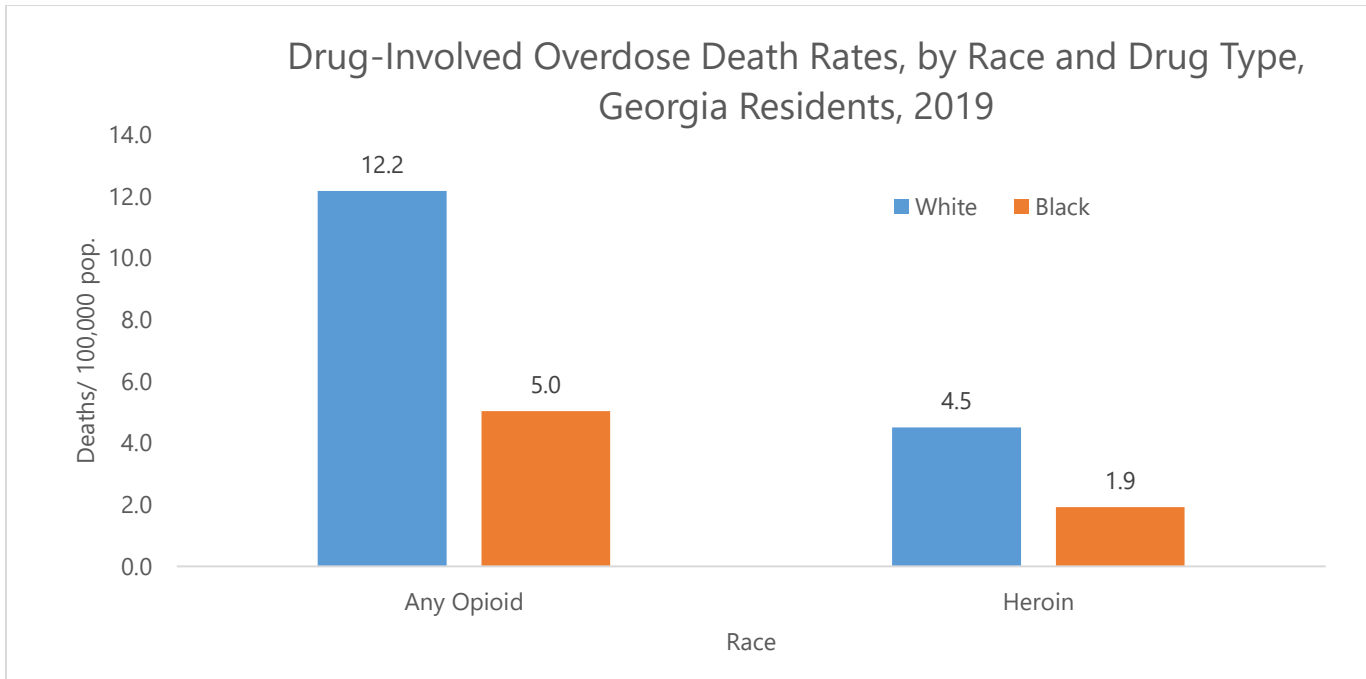


- In 2019, overdose deaths involving fentanyl (360) were higher than deaths involving heroin (307). Note: fentanyl is included in the synthetic opioid category.
- From 2018 to 2019, drug-involved overdose death categories decreased except for synthetic opioids and fentanyl.

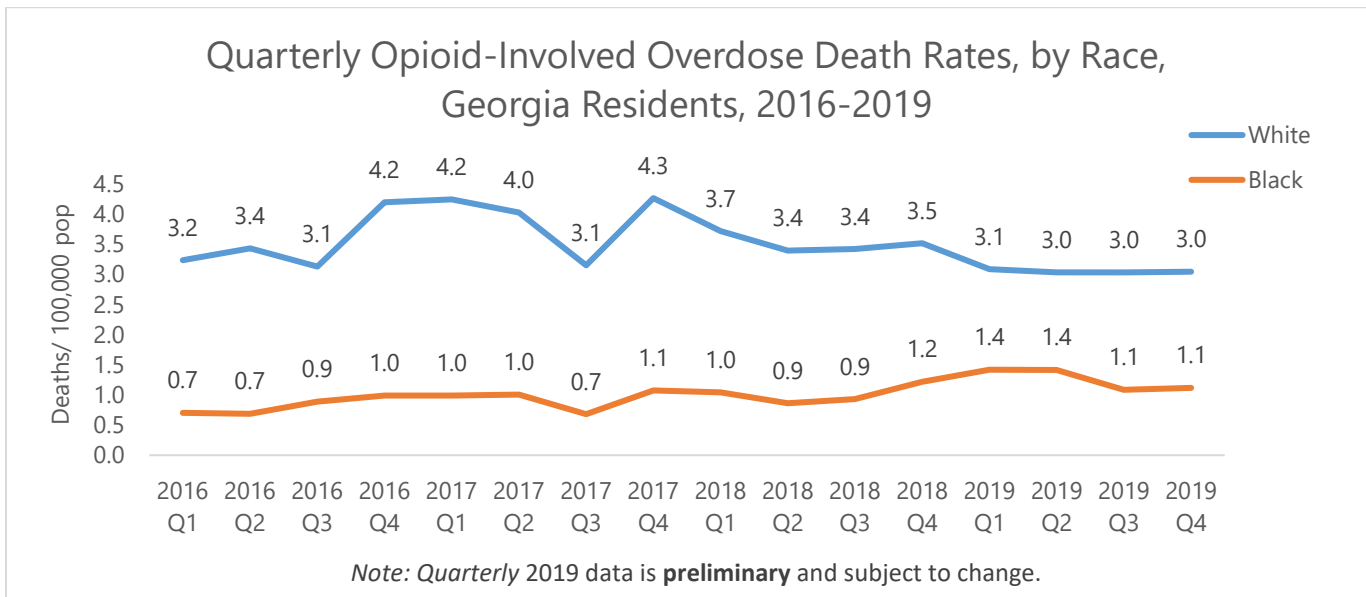


- Persons aged 35-44 years died from any opioid- and heroin-involved overdose more frequently than persons of other age categories.

- Persons aged 25-34 years died from a fentanyl-involved overdose more frequently than persons of other age categories.

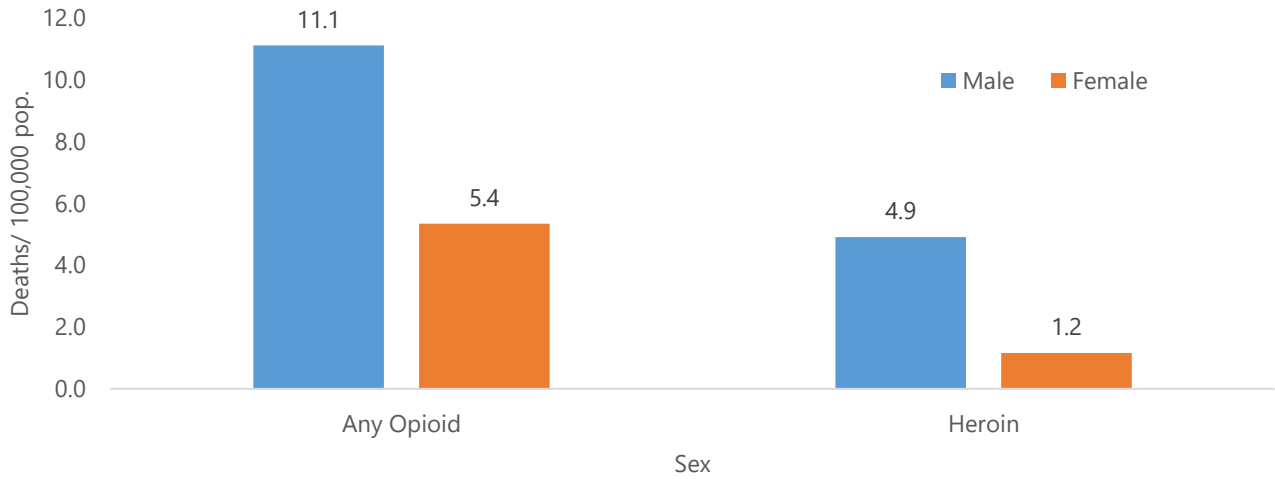


- Whites were 2.4 times more likely to die from an any opioid- and heroin-involved overdose than Blacks.



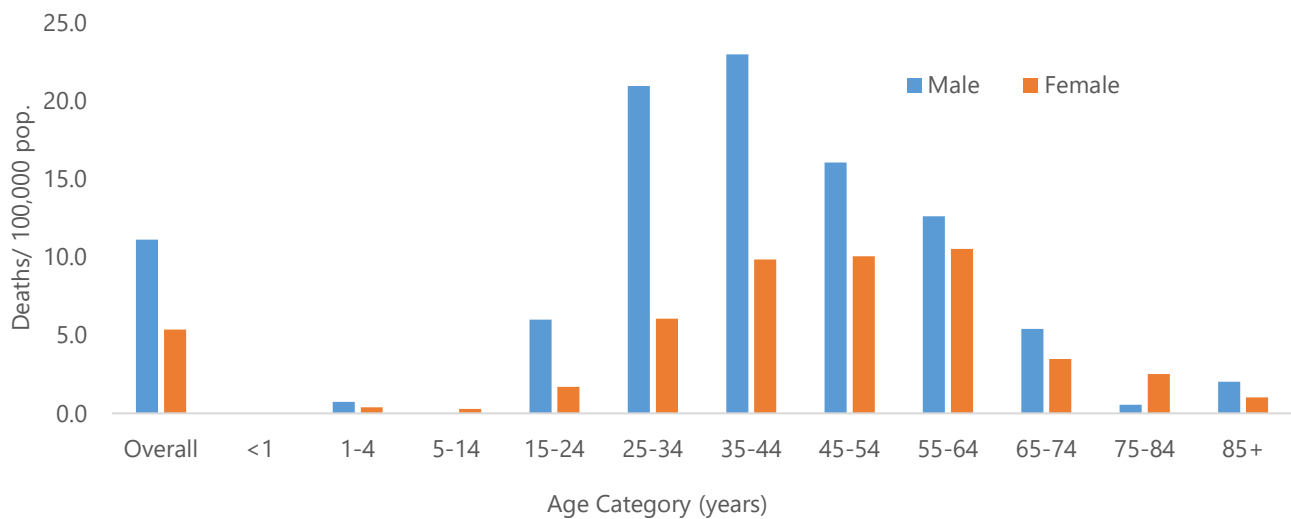
- Opioid-involved overdose death rates among Whites remained steady in 2019.
- Opioid-involved overdose death rates among Blacks remained steady from 2019 Q1 to 2019 Q2 then trended downward slightly in 2019 Q3.

Drug-Involved Overdose Death Rates, by Sex and Drug Type, Georgia Residents, 2019



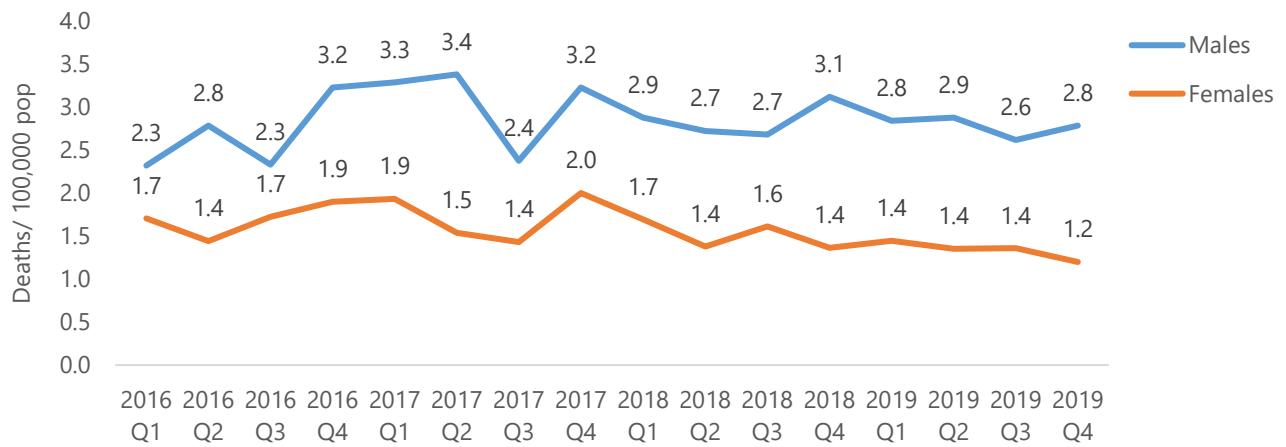
- Males were 2.1 times more likely to die from any opioid-involved overdose, and 4.1 times more likely to die from a heroin-involved overdose than females.

Opioid-Involved Overdose Death Rates, by Age and Sex, Georgia Residents, 2019



- Males aged 35-44 years died from an opioid-involved overdose more frequently than persons of any other age category, and were 2.3 times more likely to die from an overdose than females of the same age.

Quarterly Opioid-Involved Overdose Death Rates, by Sex, Georgia Residents, 2016-2019



Note: Quarterly 2019 data is **preliminary** and subject to change.

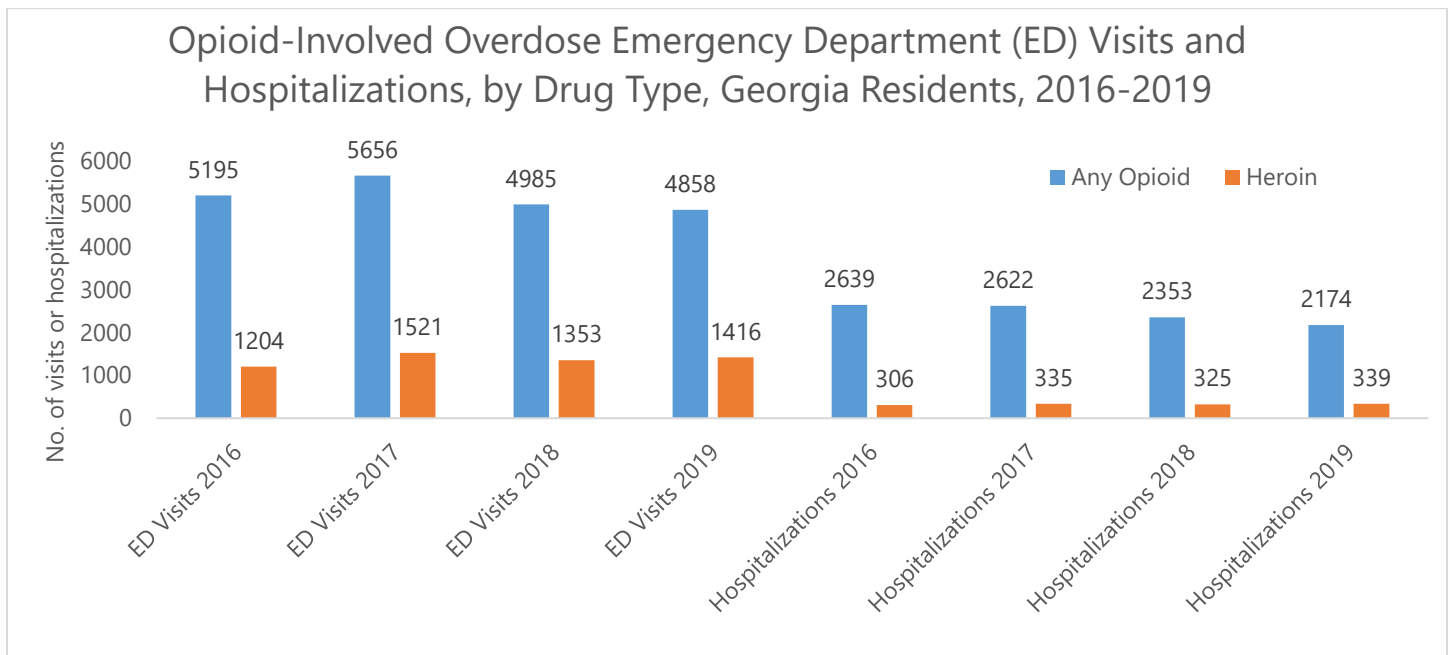
- Opioid-involved overdose death rates among males remained steady in 2019 with the exception of Q3.
- Opioid-involved overdose deaths rates among females remained steady through most of 2019 with a slight downward trend in Q4.

Opioid-Involved Overdose Emergency Department Visits and Hospitalizations (Morbidity)

Any opioid may include prescription or illicit opioids. ED visits and hospitalization categories are not mutually exclusive. Hospitalizations may also appear in the ED visits category if they were admitted to the hospital through the ED (95% of opioid hospitalizations were admitted from the ED in 2019).

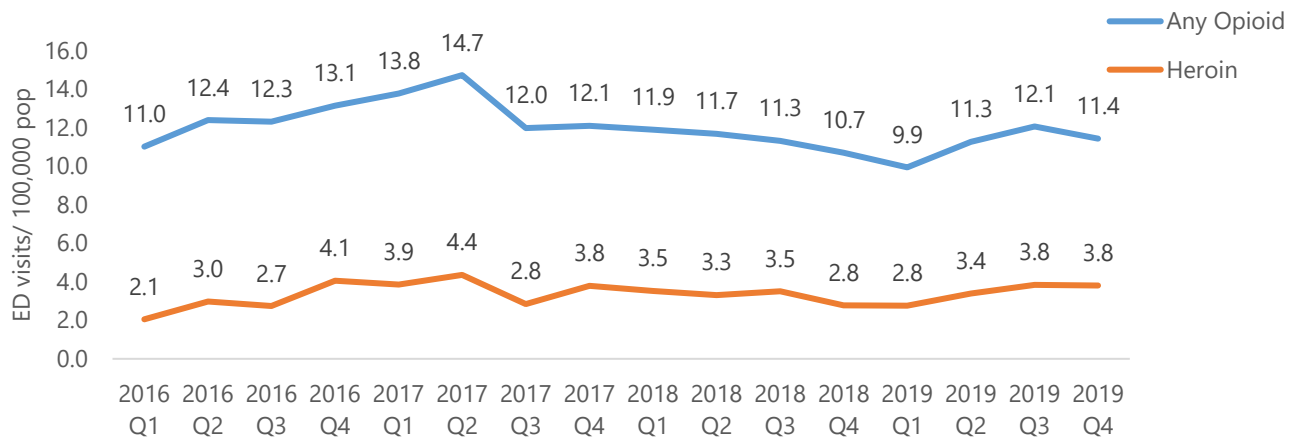
Opioid-Involved Overdose Emergency Department Visits and Hospitalizations, by Drug Type, Georgia, 2019		
Any opioid may include prescription and/or illicit opioids; categories are not mutually exclusive		
	Number represents events that occurred in Georgia regardless of the patient's residence state	Number represents events that occurred in Georgia among Georgia residents
Drug Category	No.	No.
Any Opioid ED Visits	5283	4858
Any Opioid Hospitalizations	2336	2174
Heroin ED Visits	1586	1416
Heroin Hospitalizations	371	339

Note: The following data include all ED visits and hospitalizations that occurred in Georgia among Georgia residents.



- From 2018 to 2019, ED visits for opioid-involved overdoses decreased by 3% while heroin-involved overdoses increased by 5%.
- Hospitalizations for opioid-involved overdoses decreased by 8% while heroin-involved overdoses increased by 4%.

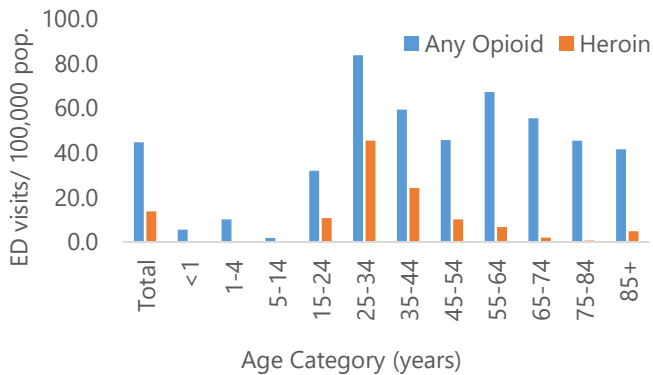
Quarterly Opioid-Involved Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Visit Rates, by Drug Type, Georgia Residents, 2016-2019



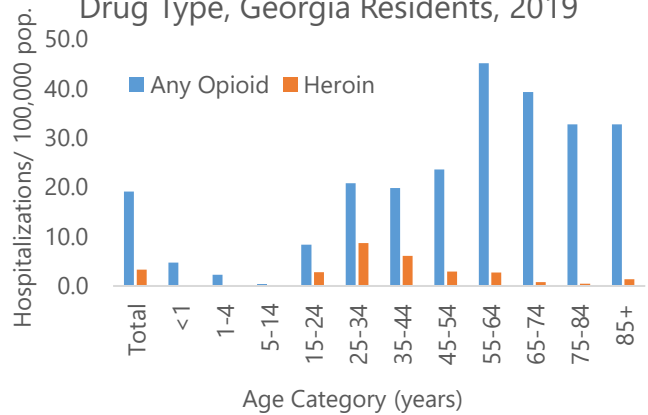
Note: Quarterly 2019 data is preliminary and subject to change.

- Opioid-involved overdose ED visit rates trended upwards from 2019 Q1 to 2019 Q3 then slightly downwards in 2019 Q4.
- Heroin-involved overdose ED visit rates trended upwards during 2019.

Opioid-Involved Overdose ED Visit Rates, by Age and Drug Type, Georgia Residents, 2019

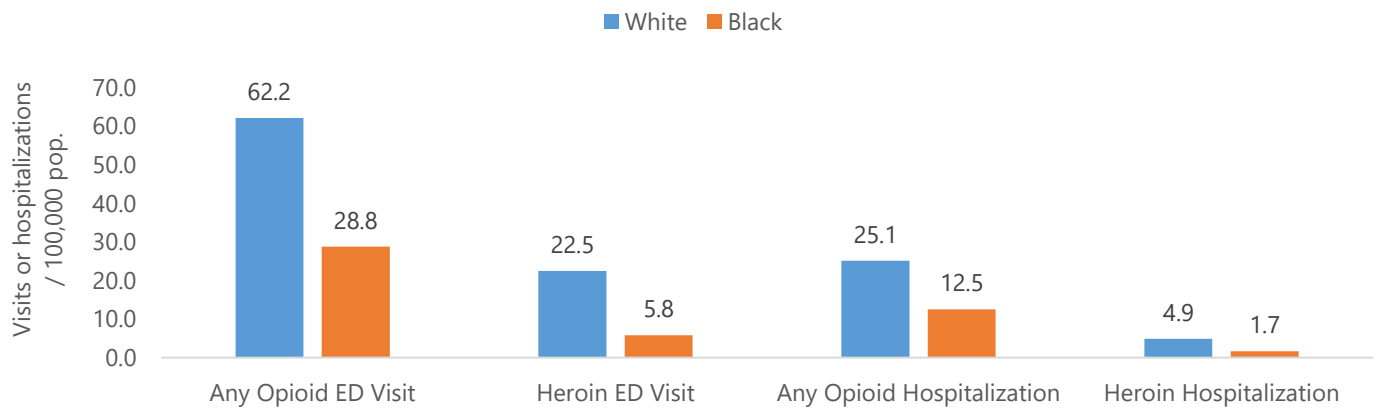


Opioid-Involved Overdose Hospitalization Rates by Age and Drug Type, Georgia Residents, 2019



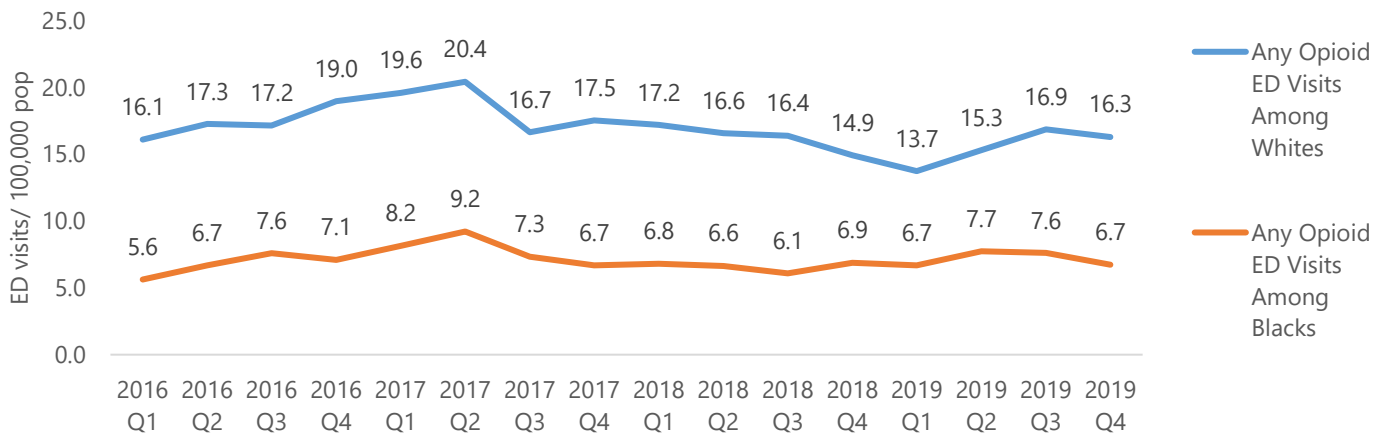
- Persons aged 25-34 years were more likely to visit an ED because of an opioid-involved overdose than persons of other age categories, yet persons aged 45 and older were more frequently hospitalized because of an opioid-involved overdose.
- Heroin-involved overdoses occurred most frequently among persons aged 25-34 years, and were less common among younger and older persons.

Opioid-Involved Overdose Emergency Department Visit and Hospitalization Rates, by Race and Drug Type, Georgia Residents, 2019



- Whites were 2.2 times more likely to visit an ED for any opioid-involved overdose, 3.9 times more likely to visit an ED for a heroin-involved overdose, and 2.0 times more likely to be hospitalized for an opioid-involved overdose than Blacks.

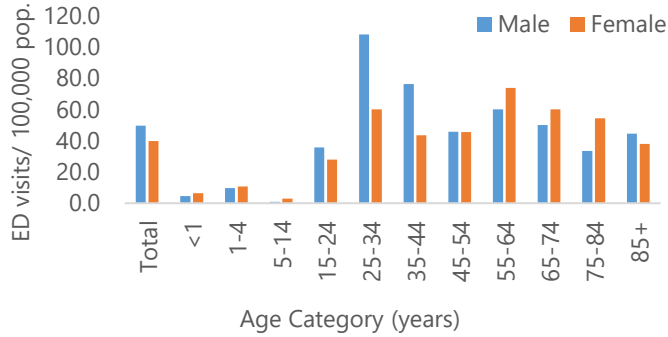
Quarterly Opioid-Involved Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Visit Rates, by Race, Georgia Residents, 2016-2019



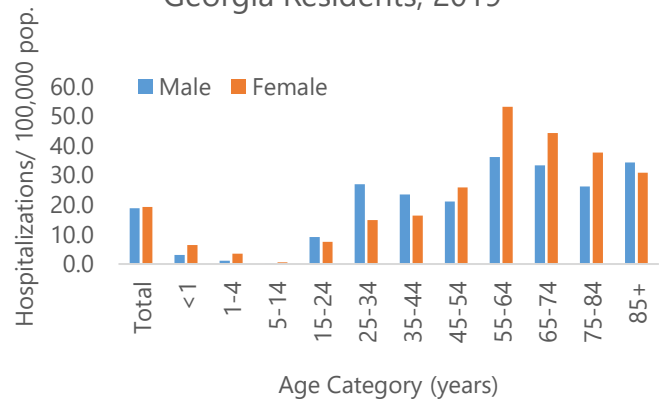
Note: Quarterly 2019 data is preliminary and subject to change.

- Opioid-involved ED visit rates among Whites trended upwards from 2019 Q1 to 2019 Q3 then slightly downwards in 2019 Q4.
- Opioid-involved ED visit rates among Blacks trended upwards during the first half of 2019 and then trended back down.

Opioid-Involved Overdose ED Visit Rates, by Age and Sex, Georgia Residents, 2019

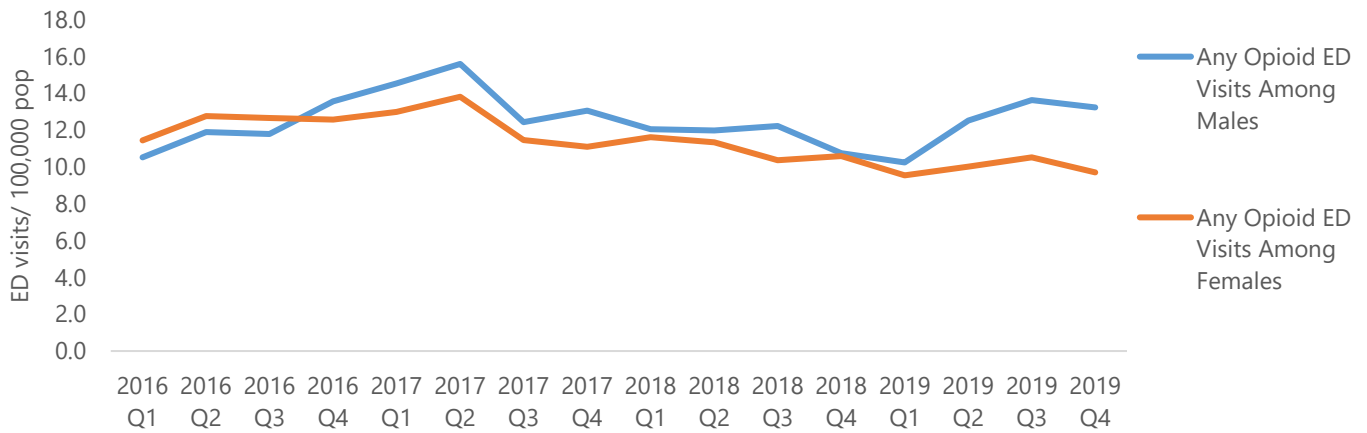


Opioid-Involved Overdose Hospitalization Rates by Age and Sex, Georgia Residents, 2019



- Males aged 25-34 years visited an ED and/or died from an opioid-involved overdose more frequently than females of the same age category.
- Females, particularly those aged 55-64 years, more frequently visited an ED, and were more frequently hospitalized for an opioid-involved overdose than males.

Quarterly Opioid-Involved Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Visit Rates, by Sex, Georgia Residents, 2016-2019

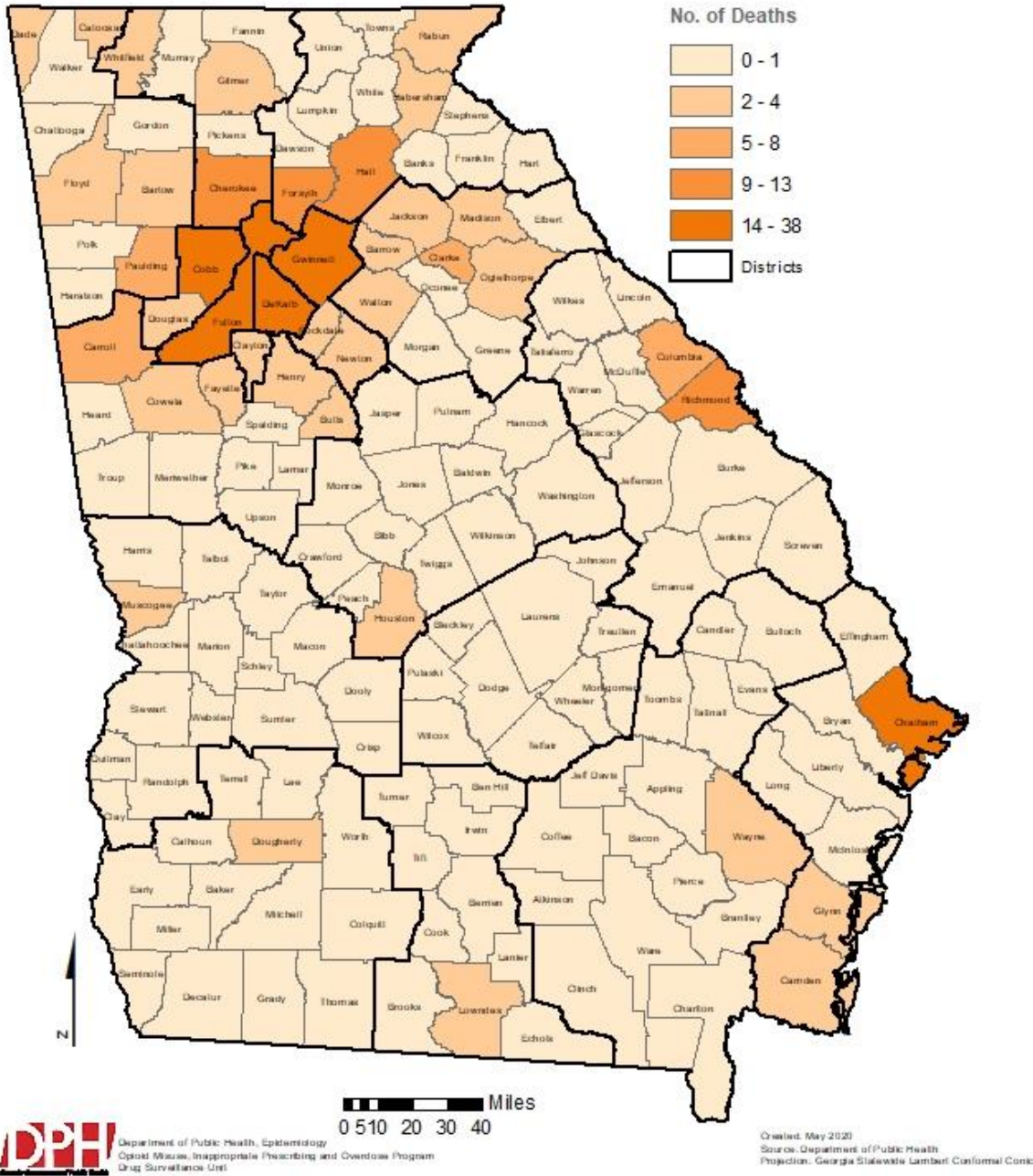


Note: Quarterly 2019 data is **preliminary** and subject to change.

- Opioid-involved ED visit rates among males trended upwards from 2019 Q1 to 2019 Q3 then slightly downwards in 2019 Q4.
- Opioid-involved ED visit rates among females slightly trended upwards during 2019, with the exception of Q4.

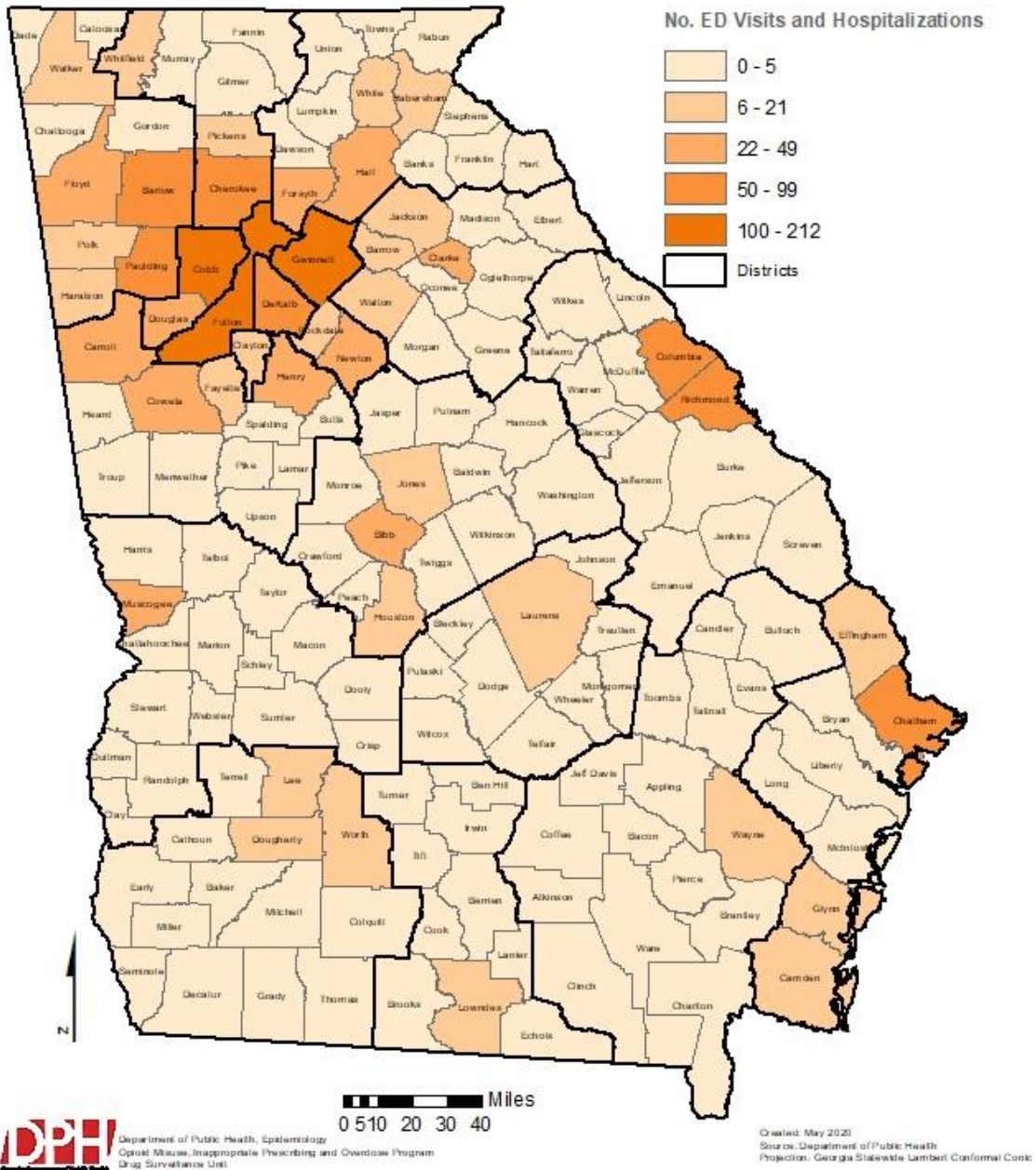
HEROIN-INVOLVED OVERDOSES

Heroin-Involved Overdose Deaths, by County of Residence, Georgia, 2019



NOTE: Rates could not be calculated for most counties due to the low number of heroin-involved overdose deaths, ED visits and hospitalizations. Therefore, the number (not rate) of overdoses are presented in this map.

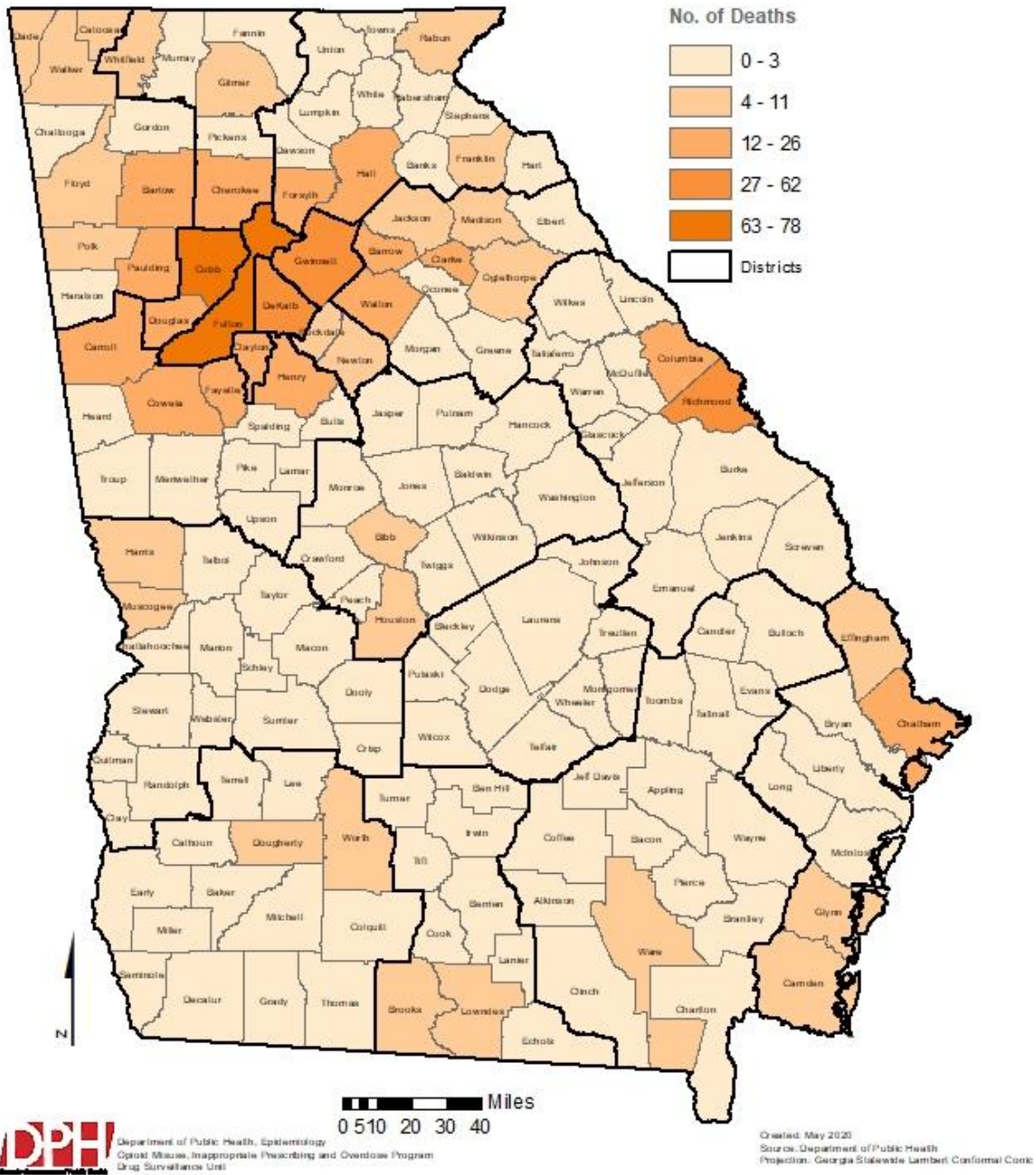
Heroin-Involved Overdose Emergency Department Visits and Hospitalizations, by County of Residence, Georgia, 2019



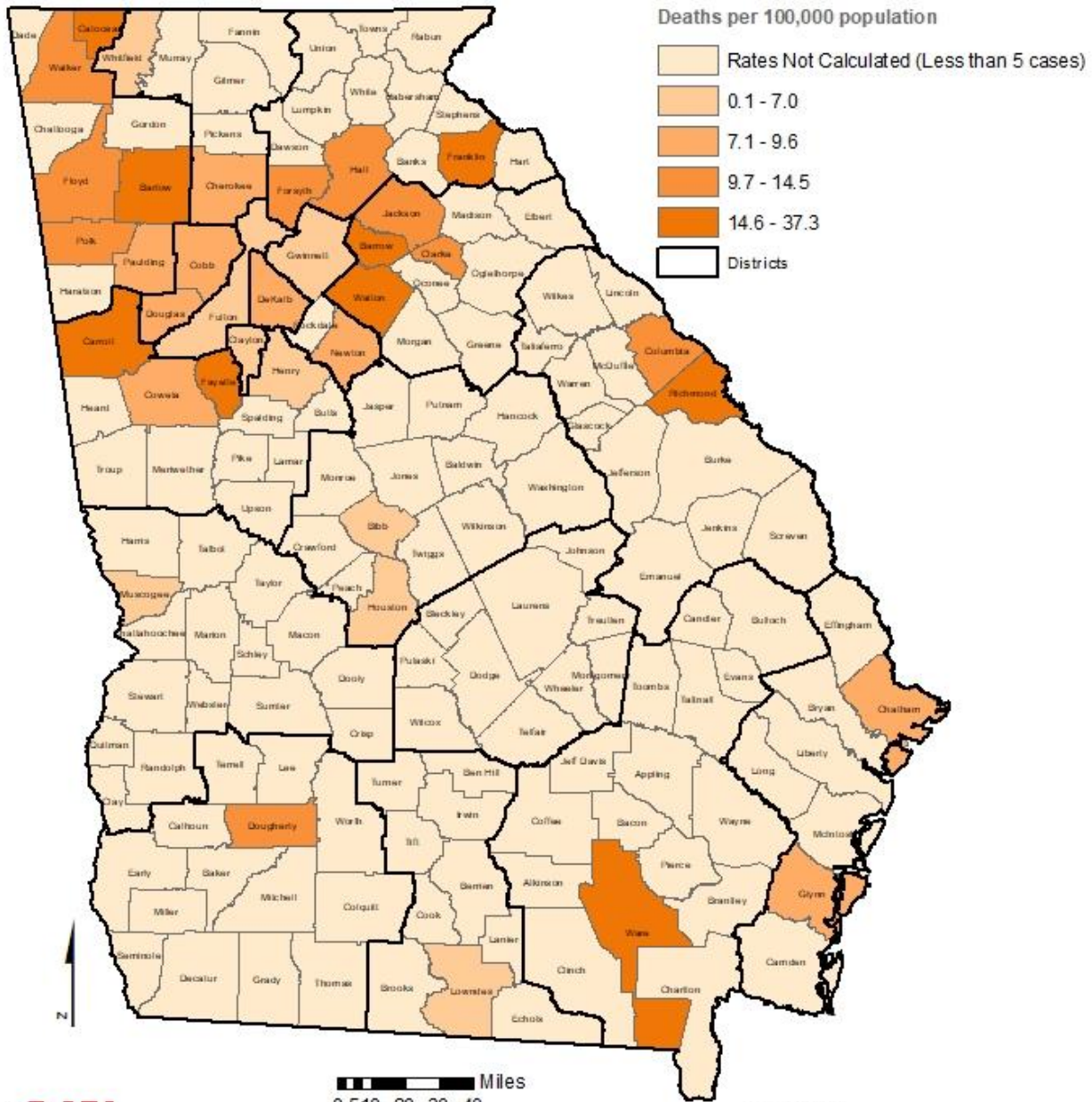
NOTE: Rates could not be calculated for some counties due to the low number of heroin-involved overdose deaths, ED visits and hospitalizations. Therefore, the number (not rate) of overdoses are presented in this map.

ANY OPIOID-INVOLVED OVERDOSES

Any Opioid-Involved Overdose Deaths, by County of Residence, Georgia, 2019



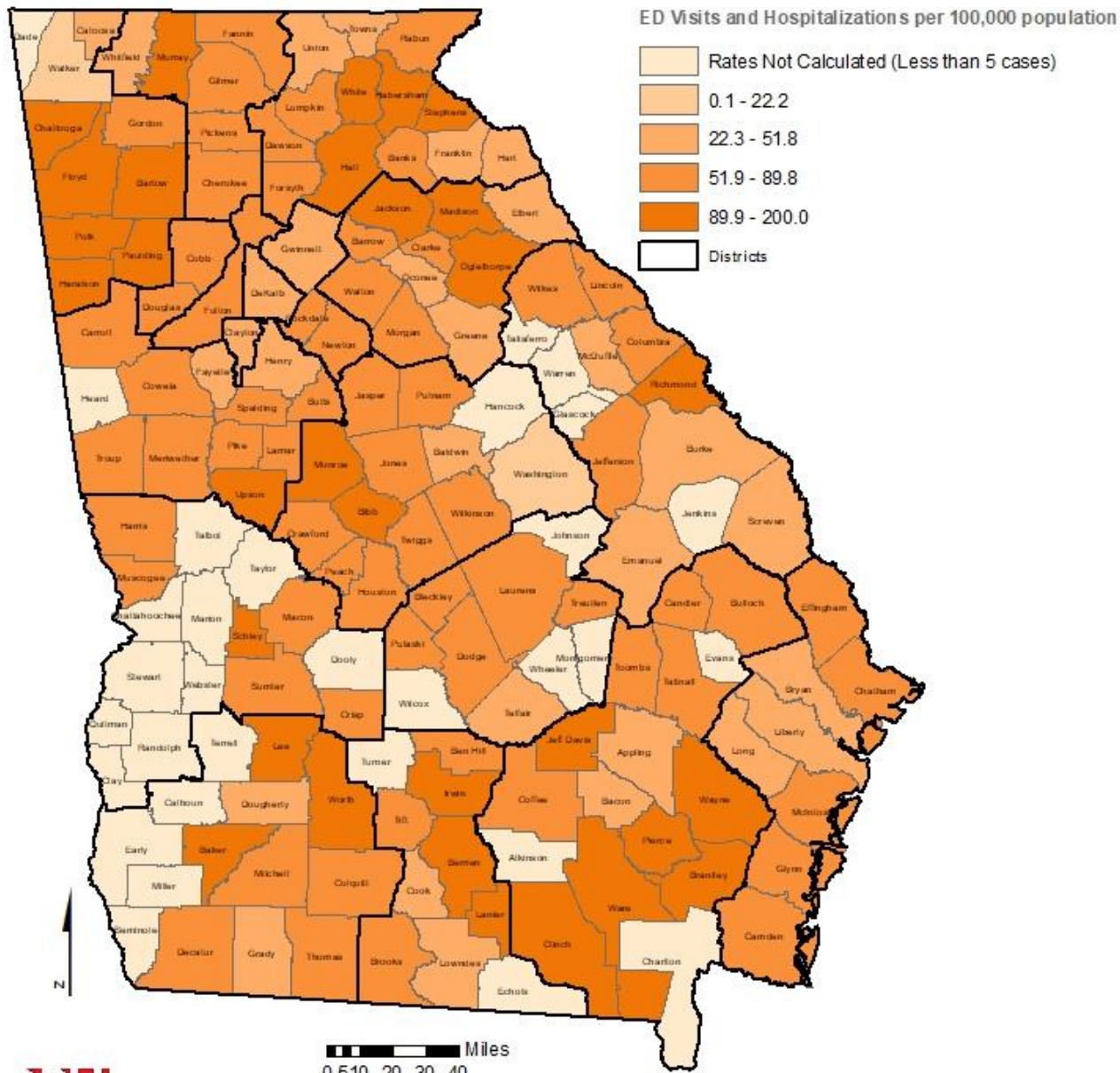
Any Opioid-Involved Overdose Death Rate, by County of Residence, Georgia, 2019



DPH Department of Public Health, Epidemiology
 Opioid Misuse, Inappropriate Prescribing and Overdose Program
 Drug Surveillance Unit

Created: May 2020
 Source: Department of Public Health
 Projection: Georgia Statewide Lambert Conformal Conic

Any Opioid-Involved Overdose Emergency Department Visit and Hospitalization Rates, by County of Residence, Georgia, 2019

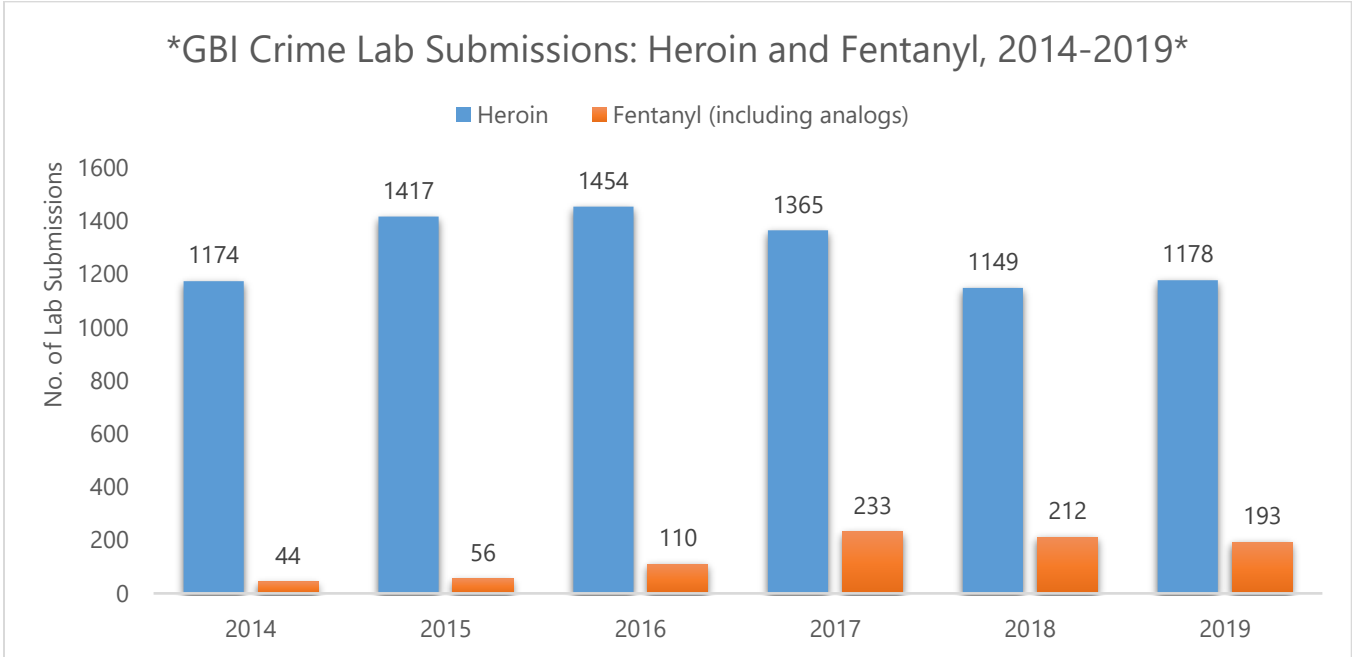


DPH Department of Public Health, Epidemiology
 Opioid Misuse, Inappropriate Prescribing and Overdose Program
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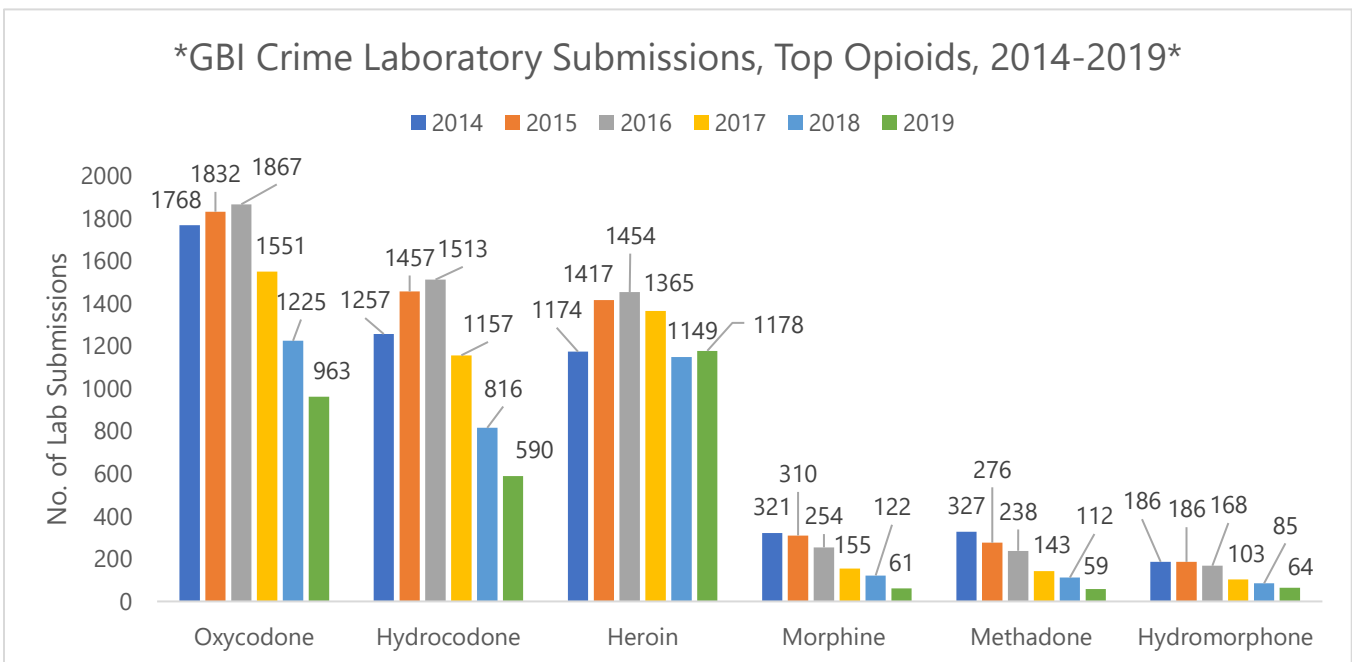
Created: May 2020
 Source: Department of Public Health
 Projection: Georgia Statewide Lambert Conformal Conic

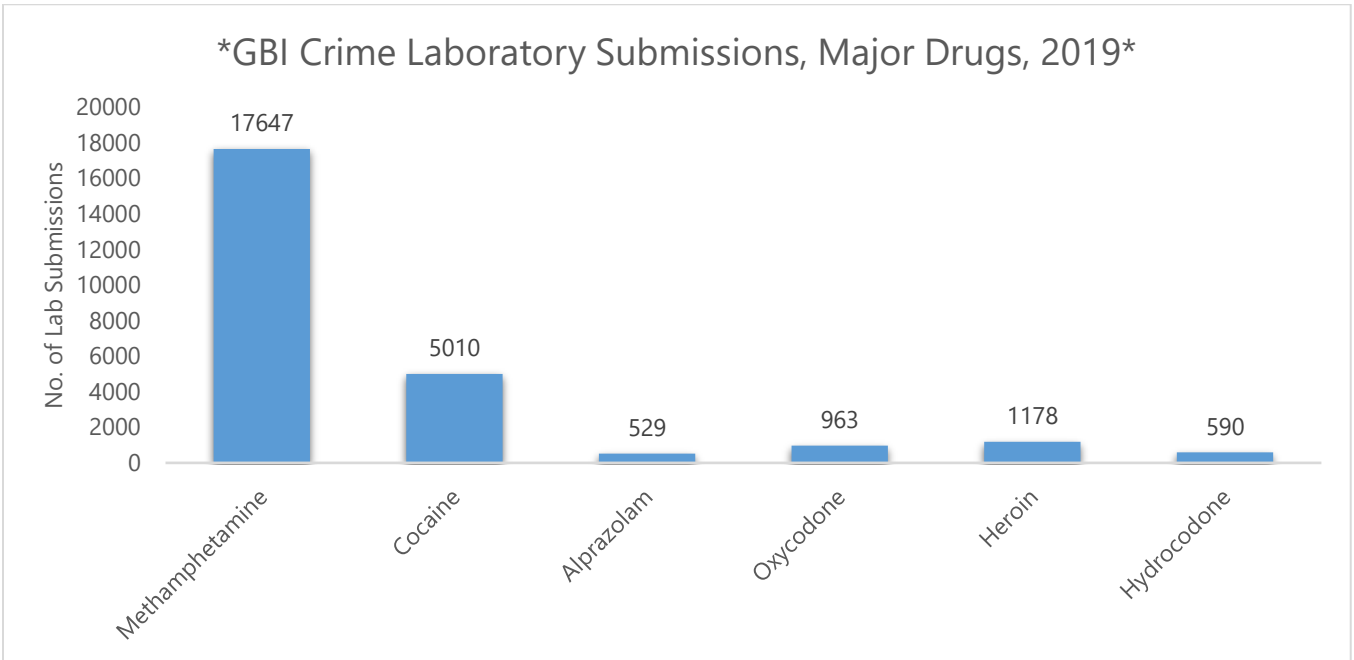
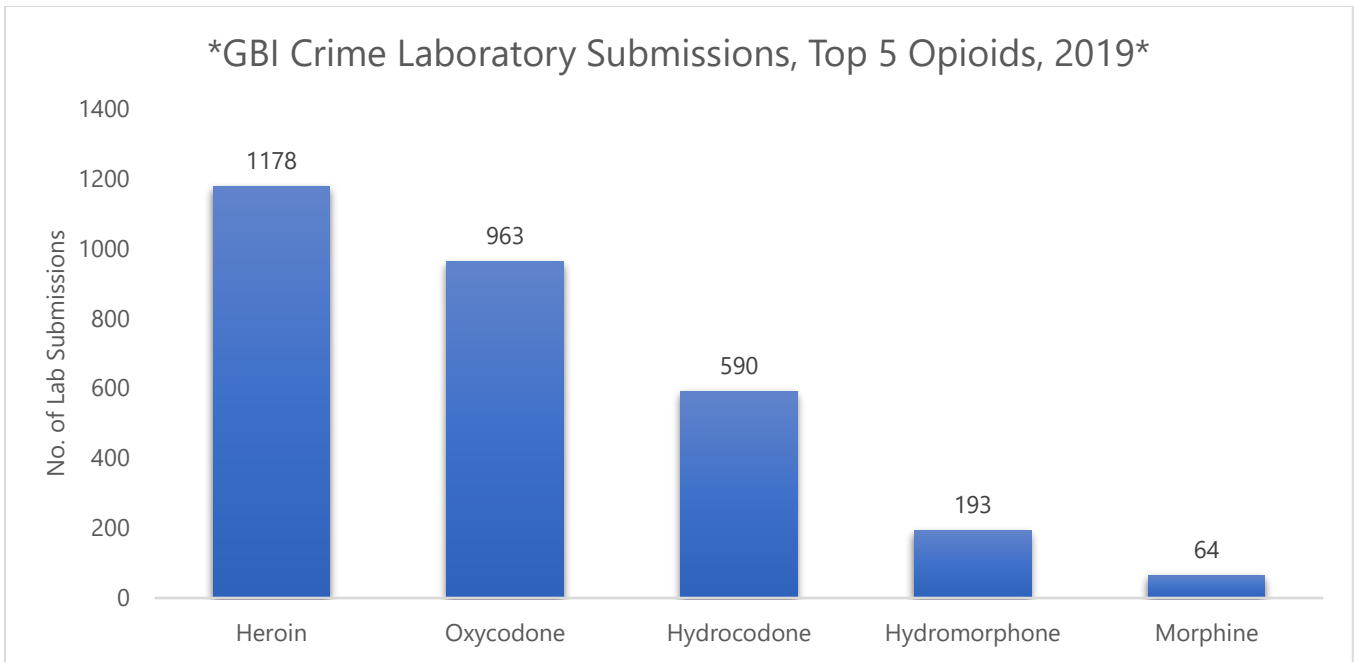
Georgia Bureau of Investigations (GBI) Crime Laboratory Submissions

Crime laboratory submissions are evidence items (pills, powders, etc.) seized by law enforcement and submitted to the GBI Crime Laboratory (<https://dofs-gbi.georgia.gov/>) for forensic chemical identification. A case may contain one submission or several. For example, a case may consist of a single plastic bag with powder material inside, or a case may have been a result of a massive search warrant and contain many bags of powder, plus pills and liquids. Each submission that is tested is recorded and tracked. These data represent only items tested during each calendar year; these numbers may change slightly as untested items are completed. Note: Data as of July 2020.



- From 2014 to 2019, heroin submissions to the GBI Crime Laboratory increased by 0.3% and Fentanyl submissions increased by 339%.





- Oxycodone, hydrocodone, and heroin were the opioids most frequently submitted to the GBI Crime Laboratory for identification, and in the top six drugs most commonly submitted.

Counties with the Highest Number or Rate of Any Opioid-Involved Overdose Deaths, Emergency Department (ED) Visits and Inpatient Hospitalizations — Georgia, 2019

Number, and age-adjusted rate per 100,000 population. Note: rates could not be calculated for some counties due to the low number of any opioid-involved overdose ED visits, hospitalizations, and deaths, only counties with >15 were included in the top 10 rate ranking.

Rank	No. deaths County of residence	No. deaths County of injury	Death rate County of residence	No. ED visits and hospitalizations County of residence	ED visit and hospitalization rate County of residence
1	Fulton (78)	Fulton (84)	Carroll (20.0)	Fulton (614)	Bartow (186.1)
2	Cobb (75)	DeKalb (71)	Fayette (16.6)	Cobb (443)	Chattooga (167.9)
3	DeKalb (60)	Cobb (70)	Richmond (15.5)	Gwinnett (422)	Polk (164.2)
4	Gwinnett (54)	Gwinnett (48)	Walton (15.1)	DeKalb (370)	Lanier (145.9)
5	Richmond (28)	Richmond (25)	Bartow (14.6)	Richmond (249)	Floyd (143.4)
6	Chatham (25)	Hall (24)	Hall (12.5)	Hall (234)	Lee (132.6)
7	Hall (24)	Carroll (20)	Columbia (11.1)	Bartow (204)	Pierce (132.0)
8	Forsyth (22)	Bartow (18)	Forsyth (9.8)	Chatham (176)	Brantley (128.8)
9	Carroll (21)	Cherokee (18)	Cobb (9.6)	Bibb (166)	Richmond (121.9)
10	Cherokee (21)	Chatham (17)	Paulding (9.1)	Cherokee (165)	Haralson (121.2)

Note: The following data include deaths that occurred in Georgia regardless of the patient's residence state.

Drug Overdose Deaths (Mortality) — Georgia, 2010–2019					
Any opioid may include prescription and/or and illicit opioids; categories are not mutually exclusive Number represents events that occurred in Georgia regardless of the patient's residence state.					
	Any Drug	Any Opioid	Synthetic Opioids	Heroin	Fentanyl
Year	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
2019	1490	913	494	333	392
2018	1582	962	476	341	348
2017	1591	1051	506	284	381
2016	1436	954	399	228	245
2015	1364	901	411	252	255
2014	1041	637	164	236	138
2013	1113	556	82	131	52
2012	1066	554	65	106	48
2011	1042	519	84	29	N/A
2010	1059	514	102	4	N/A

Drug Overdose Emergency Department (ED) Visits and Hospitalizations (Morbidity) — Georgia Residents, 2016-2019								
Number, and age-adjusted rate per 100,000 population Any opioid may include prescription and/or illicit opioids; categories are not mutually exclusive.								
	Any Opioid				Heroin			
	ED Visits		Hospitalizations		ED Visits		Hospitalizations	
Year	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
2019	4858	44.7	2174	19.1	1416	13.8	339	3.3
2018	4985	45.6	2353	20.7	1353	13.1	325	3.2
2017	5656	52.6	2622	23.5	1521	14.9	335	3.3
2016	5195	48.9	2639	24.3	1204	11.8	306	3.0

Opioid Related Overdose Morbidity and Mortality — Georgia Residents, 2019 (for emergency department (ED) visits, inpatient hospitalizations, and deaths)

Number and rate per 100,000 population (rate is age-adjusted except when age categories are presented)

Any opioid may include prescription and/or illicit opioids; categories are not mutually exclusive

Rates for counts under 5 may be unstable and are not presented.

Any Opioid						
	ED Visits		Hospitalizations		Deaths	
	No.	Rate	No.	Rate	No.	Rate
Total	4858	44.7	2174	19.1	860	8.2
Age group (yrs)						
<1 year	7	5.5	6	4.7	0	N/A
1-4 years	54	10.2	12	2.3	3	N/A
5 -14 years	26	1.8	6	0.4	2	N/A
15-24 years	461	31.9	121	8.4	56	3.9
25-34 years	1236	83.9	307	20.8	198	13.4
35-44 years	815	59.4	272	19.8	222	16.2
45-54 years	645	45.7	333	23.6	183	13.0
55-64 years	866	67.4	580	45.1	148	11.5
65-74 years	497	55.5	352	39.3	39	4.4
75-84 years	190	45.4	137	32.7	7	1.7
85+ years	61	41.6	48	32.7	2	N/A
Sex (age group)						
Male	2559	49.6	993	18.8	562	11.1
<1 year	3	N/A	2	N/A	0	N/A
1-4 years	26	9.6	3	N/A	2	N/A
5-14 years	6	0.8	2	N/A	0	N/A
15-24 years	262	35.7	67	9.1	44	6.0
25-34 years	790	108.1	197	27.0	153	20.9
35-44 years	505	76.3	156	23.6	152	23.0
45-54 years	314	45.8	145	21.2	110	16.0
55-64 years	367	60.1	221	36.2	77	12.6
65-74 years	204	50.0	136	33.4	22	5.4
75-84 years	60	33.5	47	26.2	1	N/A
85+ years	22	44.5	17	34.4	1	N/A
Female	2296	39.8	1179	19.3	298	5.4
<1 year	4	6.4	4	N/A	0	N/A
1-4 years	28	10.8	9	3.5	1	N/A
5-14 years	20	2.9	4	N/A	2	N/A
15-24 years	198	27.9	53	7.5	12	1.7
25-34 years	446	60.1	110	14.8	45	6.1
35-44 years	310	43.6	116	16.3	70	9.8
45-54 years	331	45.6	188	25.9	73	10.1
55-64 years	499	73.9	359	53.2	71	10.5

65-74 years	293	60.1	216	44.3	17	3.5
75-84 years	130	54.4	90	37.6	6	2.5
85+ years	37	38.1	30	30.9	1	N/A
Race						
White	3610	62.2	1630	25.1	670	12.2
Black	984	28.8	432	12.5	170	5.0

Opioid Overdose Surveillance and Response Information/Resources

To report an increase in overdoses, a potential overdose cluster, or any other unusual drug-related event, call the Georgia Poison Center at 1-800-222-1222.

Please see <https://dph.georgia.gov/stopopioidaddiction> for more information on how the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) is working to combat the opioid epidemic, including:

- Opioid and substance misuse response: <https://dph.georgia.gov/georgias-opioid-response>
- Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP): <https://dph.georgia.gov/pdmp>
- Drug Surveillance Unit: <https://dph.georgia.gov/drug-surveillance-unit>

Please see <https://dph.georgia.gov/opioid-epidemic-individuals-and-families> for information on the opioid epidemic for **individuals and families**, including:

- Addiction prevention
- Drug take-back
- Signs of an overdose and steps to take
- Naloxone information
- Georgia's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)
- Georgia's Medical Amnesty Law
- Harm reduction
- Neo-natal abstinence syndrome
- Treatment resources

Please see <https://dph.georgia.gov/opioid-epidemic-medical-providers-and-pharmacists> for information on the opioid epidemic for **medical providers and pharmacists**, including:

- Steps providers can take to help prevent opioid misuse and addiction in their patients
- Prescribing guidelines
- Georgia's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)
- Georgia's Naloxone Standing Order
- Georgia's Medical Amnesty Law

Please see <https://dph.georgia.gov/opioid-epidemic-first-responders-and-ems> for information on the opioid epidemic for **Law Enforcement and EMS**, including:

- Georgia's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)
- Responder safety
- Georgia's Medical Amnesty Law
- Georgia's Naloxone Standing Order
- Naloxone administration
- Case documentation guidelines

Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), Epidemiology Section, Drug Surveillance Unit
<https://dph.georgia.gov/drug-surveillance-unit>