Preliminary Quarterly Drug Overdose Surveillance Report Georgia, 2020

Fatal Drug Overdose (Mortality) Data Source: Overdose-involved deaths were derived from DPH Vital Records death certificates.

Nonfatal Drug Overdose (Morbidity) Data Source: Nonfatal overdose counts were derived from Georgia hospitalization and emergency department (ED) visit discharge data, and includes 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 2015–2020. Deaths in the most recent quarter are likely undercounted due to reporting lags, numbers will increase in subsequent reports.


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Opioids include 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).

Opioid-involved overdose ED visits decreased from 2020 Q3 to 2020 Q4