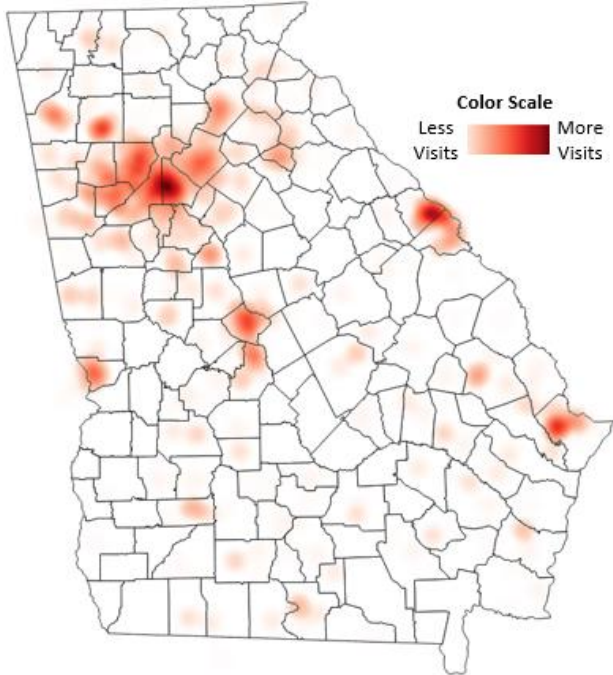


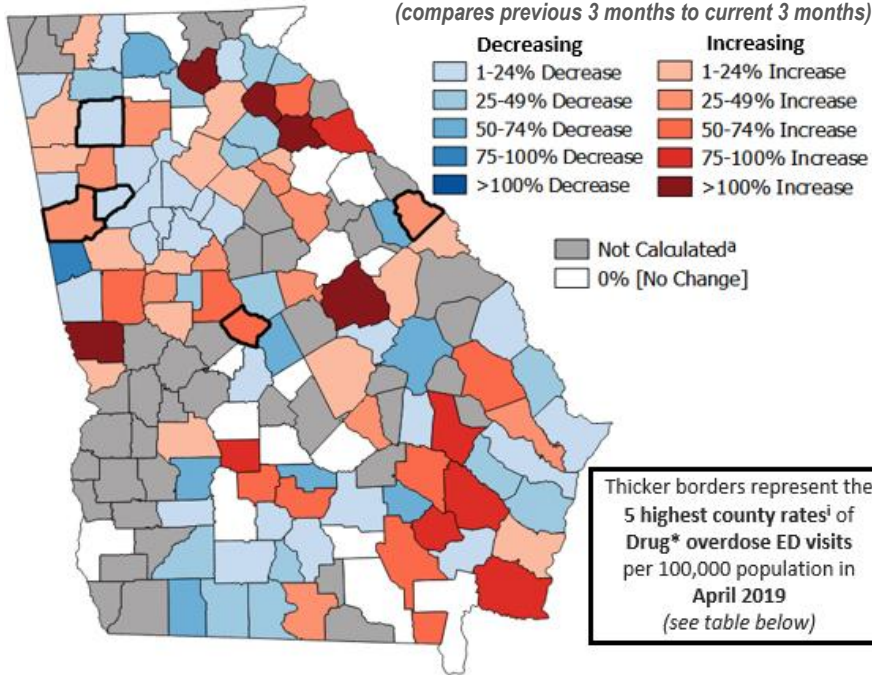
# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, April 2019

**What is Syndromic Surveillance (SS)?** SS is used as an early detection method for potential clusters or outbreaks, by tracking drug overdose-related emergency department (ED) visits based on the patient's chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis. Participating Georgia hospitals and urgent care facilities share these SS data within the State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (SendSS).

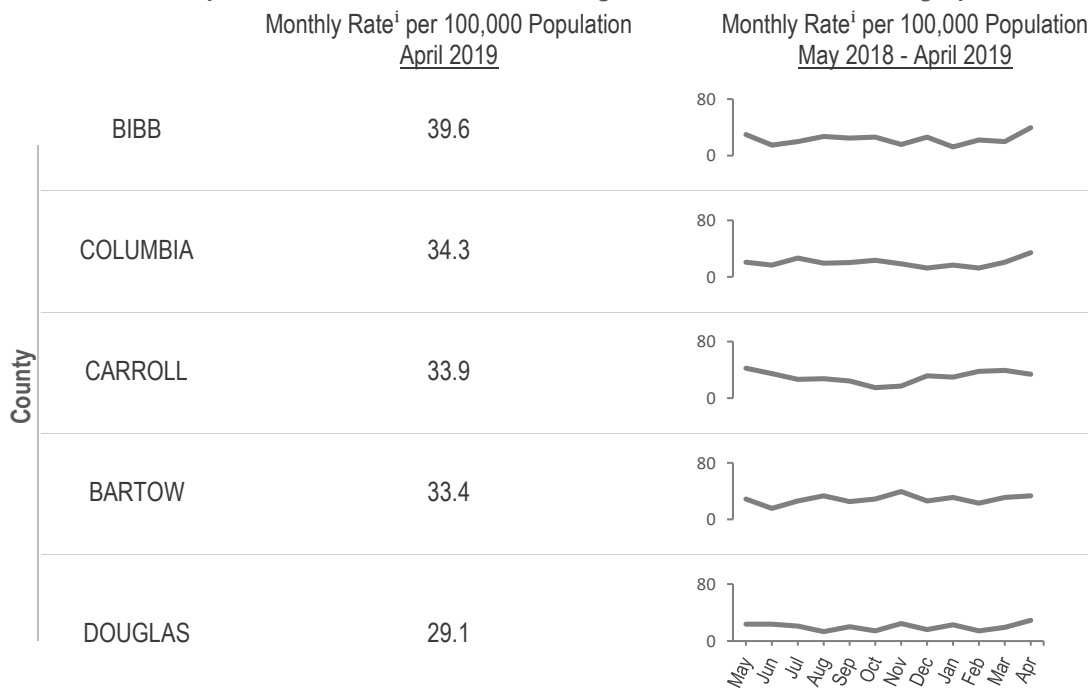
**Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Patient Zip Code<sup>^</sup>, Georgia, April 2019**



**Percent Change<sup>a</sup> of Drug\* Overdose ED Visits, Georgia, November 2018-January 2019 to February 2019-April 2019**  
(compares previous 3 months to current 3 months)



**Top 5 Counties<sup>^</sup> with 15 or More Drug\* Overdose ED Visits During April 2019**



**Statewide, 1,197 ED visits for Drug\* overdoses occurred in April 2019, compared to 1,195 in April 2018**

Data source: Suspected drug overdose ED/Urgent Care visits by chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis reported to DPH Syndromic Surveillance. See data limitations [here](#).

\*Drugs may include any over the counter, prescription, or illicit drug.

<sup>^</sup>Zip code and county are based on patient residence.

<sup>i</sup>Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2017 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

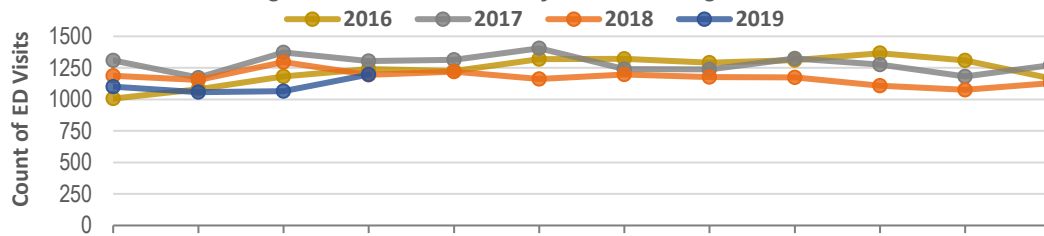
<sup>a</sup>Percent change data by county excludes counties with less than 3 visits.

Note: All data excludes patients ≤14 years of age. Counts represent the number of ED visits instead of the number of patients, therefore, patients with repeat visits may have been counted more than once.

Note: SS data is not the same as emergency department discharge data; drug overdose SS data is limited and based on accuracy of chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis and what is reported to DPH SS. Data is subject to change due to the current number of participating facilities and/or improvements to data quality. Data shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.

# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, April 2019

## Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2016-2019



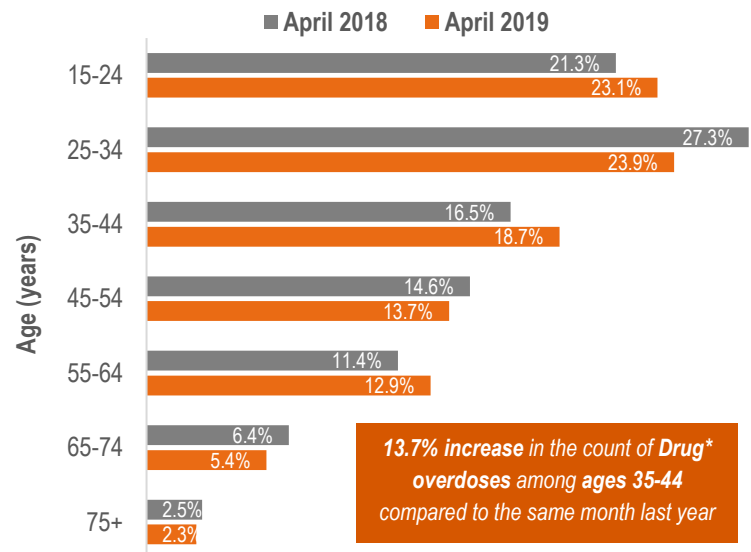
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>2016 Count of ED Visits</b>	1006	1081	1182	1240	1225	1319	1321	1292	1311	1366	1308	1167	14818
<b>2017 Count of ED Visits</b>	1308	1173	1373	1305	1315	1405	1240	1239	1325	1275	1181	1271	15410
<b>% Change from 2016 to 2017</b>	(+30%)	(+9%)	(+16%)	(+5%)	(+7%)	(+17%)	(-6%)	(-4%)	(+1%)	(-7%)	(-10%)	(+9%)	(+5%)
<b>2018 Count of ED Visits</b>	1187	1154	1296	1195	1220	1162	1197	1178	1174	1109	1076	1129	14077
<b>% Change from 2017 to 2018</b>	(-9%)	(-2%)	(-6%)	(-8%)	(-7%)	(-17%)	(-3%)	(-5%)	(-11%)	(-13%)	(-9%)	(-11%)	(-9%)
<b>2019 Count of ED Visits</b>	1102	1057	1064	1197									4420
<b>% Change from 2018 to 2019</b>	(-7%)	(-8%)	(-18%)	0%									(-8%)

## Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Sex, Race, and Age Group, Georgia, April 2018 and April 2019

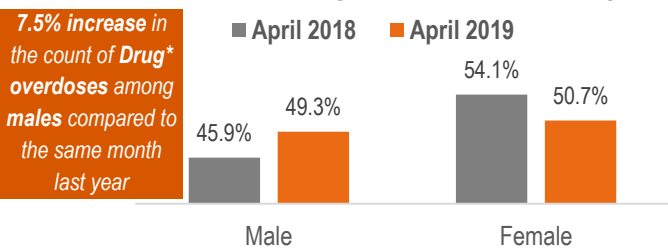
	April 2018 Rate <sup>i</sup> (per 100,000 Population)	April 2019 Rate <sup>i</sup> (per 100,000 Population)
<b>Overall</b>	14.3	14.3
<b>Sex<sup>o</sup></b>		
Male	13.7	14.7
Female	14.9	14.0
<b>Race<sup>o</sup></b>		
White	14.7	15.0
Black	9.1	10.9
Other	11.3	13.7
<b>Age Group<sup>o</sup> (years)</b>		
15-24	17.6	19.2
25-34	22.4	19.7
35-44	14.4	16.4
45-54	12.3	11.6
55-64	10.8	12.2
65-74	8.8	7.5
75+	5.6	5.0

**Drug\* overdose cases in April 2019 were predominantly: Female (50.7%), White (68.4%), and between 25-34 years of age (23.9%)**

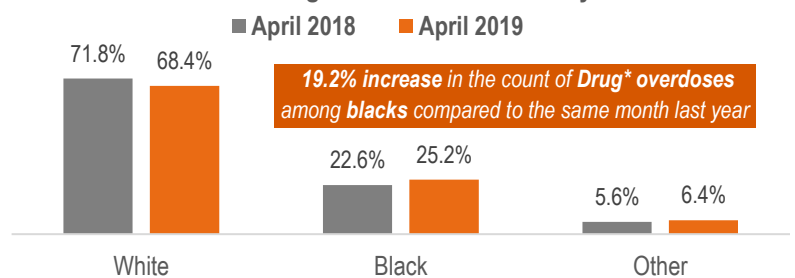
## Percent of All Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Age Group<sup>o</sup>



## Percent of All Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Sex<sup>o</sup>



## Percent of All Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Race<sup>o</sup>



### Link(s) of interest:

[CDC MMWR Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Cocaine and Psychostimulants with Abuse Potential — United States, 2003–2017](#)

[CDC MMWR Notes from the Field: Unintentional Drug Overdose Deaths with Kratom Detected — 27 States, July 2016–December 2017](#)

Data source: Suspected drug overdose ED/Urgent Care visits by chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis reported to DPH Syndromic Surveillance. See data limitations [here](#).

\*Drugs may include any over the counter, prescription, or illicit drug.

<sup>i</sup>Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2017 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

<sup>o</sup>Cases with unknown sex, race, and age group were excluded from respective analyses.

Note: All data excludes patients ≤14 years of age. Counts represent the number of ED visits instead of the number of patients, therefore, patients with repeat visits may have been counted more than once.

Note: SS data is not the same as emergency department discharge data; drug overdose SS data is limited and based on accuracy of chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis and what is reported to DPH SS. Data is subject to change due to the current number of participating facilities and/or improvements to data quality. Data shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.