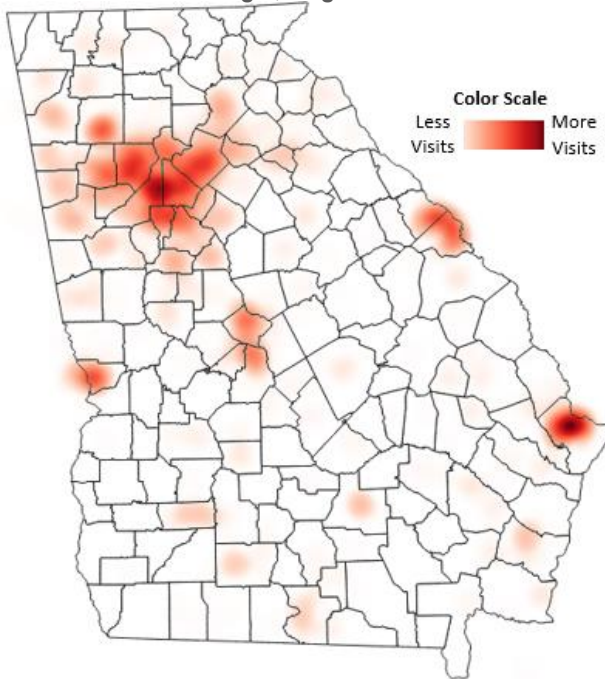


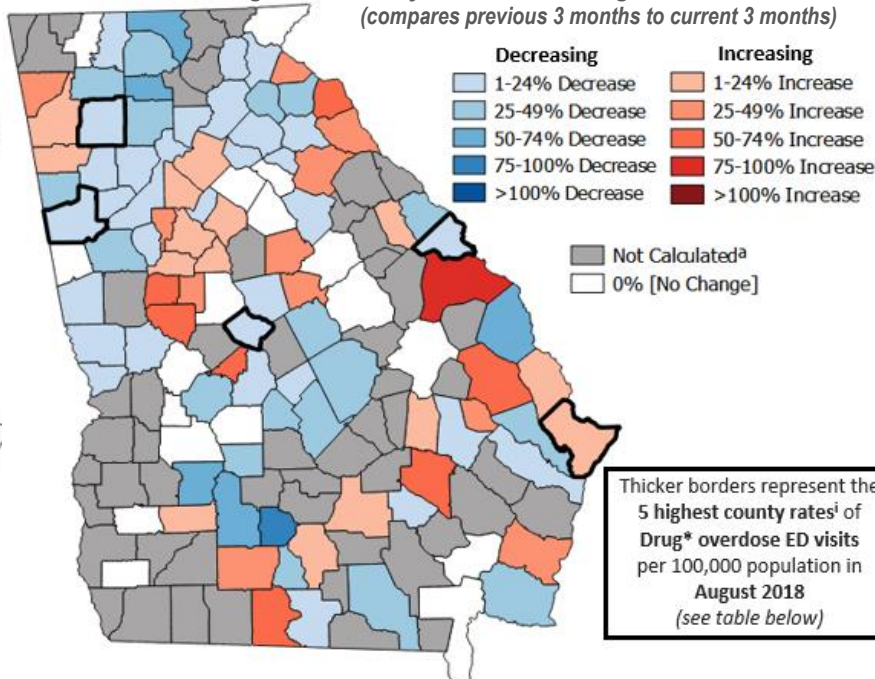
Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, August 2018

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. There are currently 127 Georgia hospitals and urgent care facilities that share these SS data within the State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (SendSS).

Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Patient Zip Code[^], Georgia, August 2018



Percent Change^a of Drug* Overdose ED Visits, Georgia, March-May 2018 to June-Aug 2018



Top 5 Counties[^] with 15 or More Drug* Overdose ED Visits During August 2018

County	Monthly Rate ⁱ per 100,000 Population	
	August 2018	September 2017- August 2018
BARTOW	26.7	
CHATHAM	24.1	
CARROLL	22.1	
BIBB	21.6	
RICHMOND	19.8	

Statewide, 1,179 ED visits for Drug* overdoses occurred in August 2018, compared to 1,239 in August 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.

[^]Zip code and county are based on patient residence.

ⁱRate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2017 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

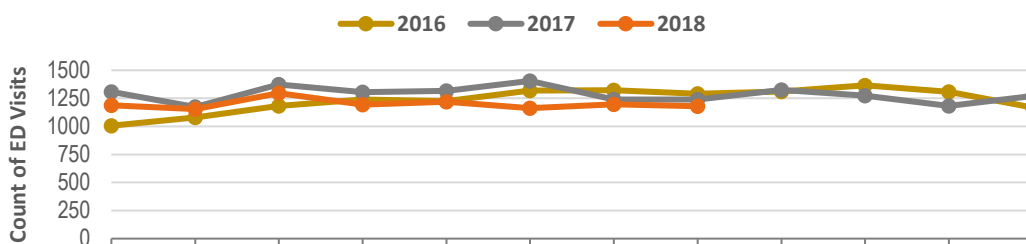
^aPercent change data by county excludes counties with less than 3 visits.

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 shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.

Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, August 2018

Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2016-2018



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2016 Count of ED Visits	1006	1081	1182	1240	1225	1319	1321	1292	1311	1366	1308	1167	14818
2017 Count of ED Visits	1308	1173	1373	1305	1315	1405	1240	1239	1325	1275	1181	1271	15410
% Change from 2016 to 2017	(+30%)	(+9%)	(+16%)	(+5%)	(+7%)	(+7%)	(-6%)	(-4%)	(+1%)	(-7%)	(-10%)	(+9%)	(+5%)
2018 Count of ED Visits	1187	1154	1296	1195	1220	1162	1197	1179					9590
% Change from 2017 to 2018	(-9%)	(-2%)	(-6%)	(-8%)	(-7%)	(-17%)	(-3%)	(-5%)					(-7%)

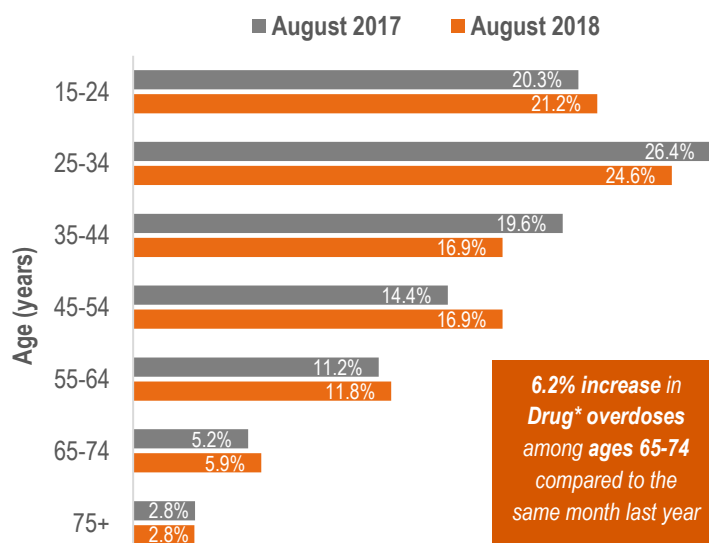
Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Sex, Race, and Age Group, Georgia, August 2017 and August 2018

Rateⁱ of Drug* Overdose ED Visits

	Aug 2017 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 Population)	Aug 2018 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 Population)
Overall	11.9	11.3
Sex^o		
Male	11.0	10.3
Female	12.7	12.2
Race^o		
White	13.7	11.7
Black	7.5	7.2
Other	6.2	9.5
Age Group^o (years)		
15-24	17.5	17.3
25-34	22.5	20.0
35-44	17.8	14.6
45-54	12.5	14.0
55-64	11.0	11.0
65-74	7.5	7.9
75+	6.5	6.1

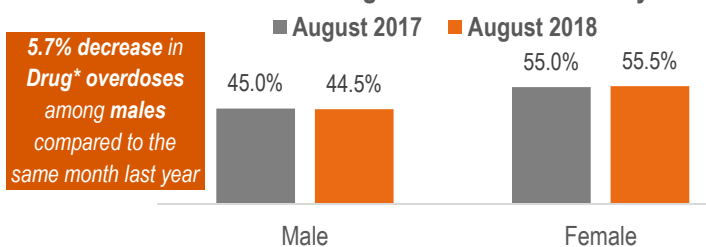
Drug* overdose cases in August 2018 were predominantly: Female (55.5%), White (70.5%), and between 25-34 years of age (24.6%)

Percent of All Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Age Group^o



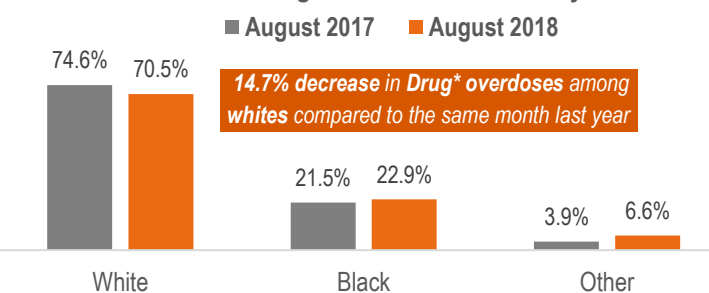
6.2% increase in Drug* overdoses among ages 65-74 compared to the same month last year

Percent of All Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Sex^o



5.7% decrease in Drug* overdoses among males compared to the same month last year

Percent of All Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Race^o



14.7% decrease in Drug* overdoses among whites compared to the same month last year

Link(s) of interest:

[Opportunities to Prevent Overdose Deaths Involving Prescription and Illicit Opioids, 11 States, July 2016–June 2017](#)

[Opioid Prescribing in the United States before and after the CDC's 2016 Opioid Guideline](#)

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.

ⁱRate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2017 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

^oCases 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 shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia. Please see the attached document for more information.