Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, January 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. 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, January 2019**

**Percent Change° of Drug* Overdose ED Visits, Georgia, August 2018-October 2018 to November 2018-January 2019** (compares previous 3 months to current 3 months)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Monthly Rate¹ per 100,000 Population January 2019</th>
<th>Monthly Rate¹ per 100,000 Population February 2018 - January 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HARALSON</td>
<td>64.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BARTOW</td>
<td>31.0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TROUP</td>
<td>30.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CARROLL</td>
<td>29.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHATHAM</td>
<td>23.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.

¹Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2017 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

°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 shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.
CDC Press Release: New Data Show Growing Complexity of Drug Overdose Deaths in America

CDC Notes from the Field: Fentanyl Drug Submissions — United States, 2010–2017

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

1Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2017 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

*Cases with unknown sex, race, and age group were excluded from respective analyses.

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2/12/19 https://dph.georgia.gov/drug-overdose-surveillance-unit