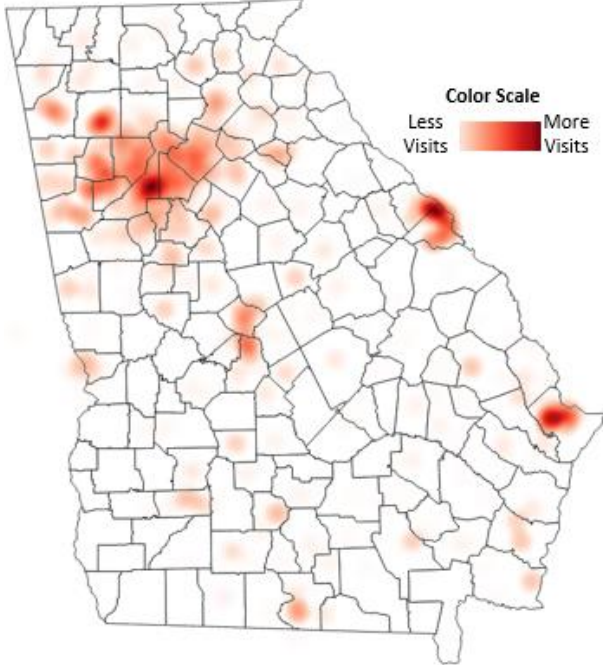


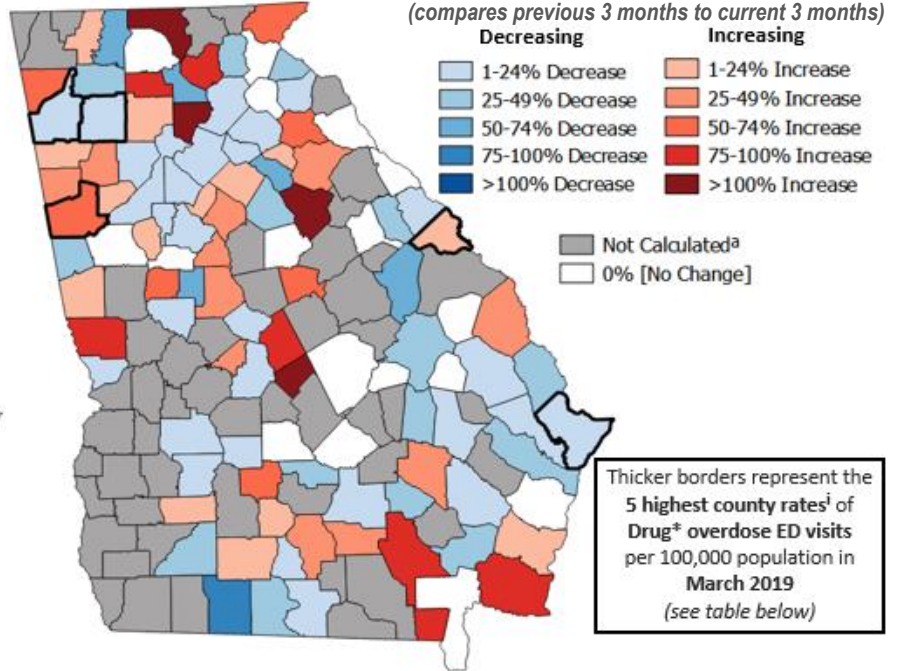
Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, March 2019

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).

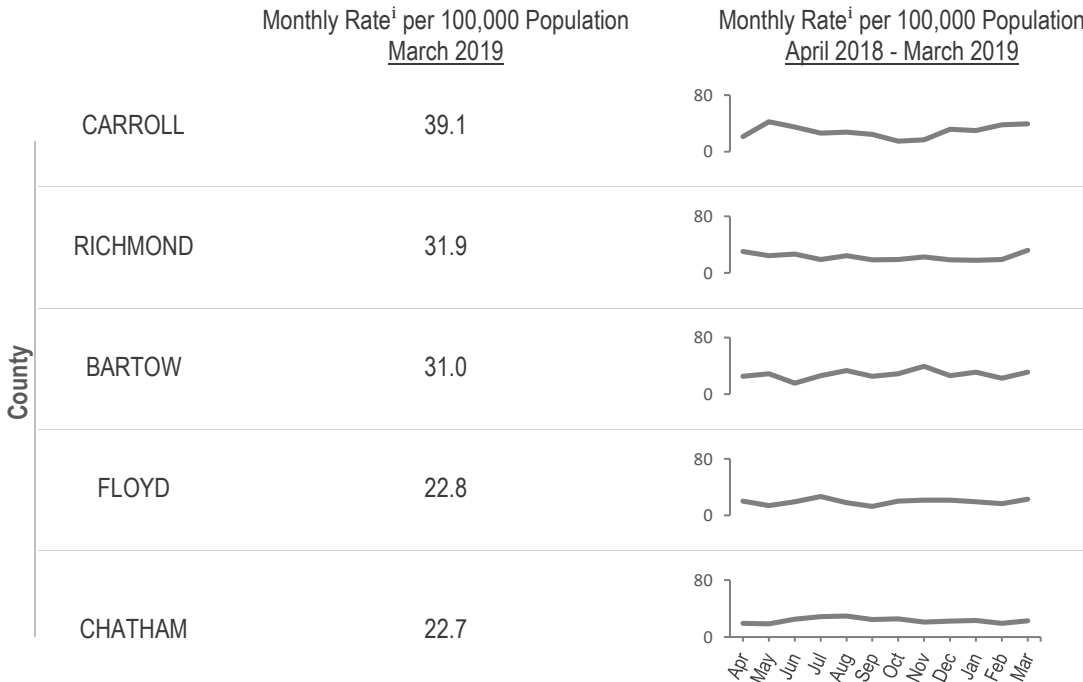
Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Patient Zip Code[^], Georgia, March 2019



Percent Change^a of Drug* Overdose ED Visits, Georgia, October-December 2018 to January-March 2019
(compares previous 3 months to current 3 months)



Top 5 Counties[^] with 15 or More Drug* Overdose ED Visits During March 2019



Statewide, 1,063 ED visits for Drug* overdoses occurred in March 2019, compared to 1,296 in March 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.

[^]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.

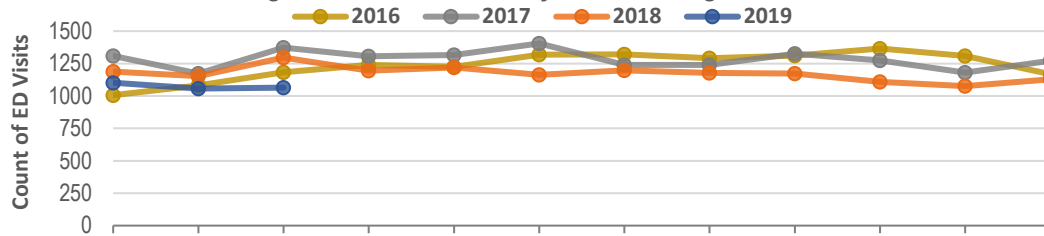
^aPercent change data by county excludes counties with less than 3 visits.

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 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, March 2019

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



	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%)	(+17%)	(-6%)	(-4%)	(+1%)	(-7%)	(-10%)	(+9%)	(+5%)
2018 Count of ED Visits	1187	1154	1296	1195	1220	1162	1197	1178	1174	1109	1076	1129	14077
% Change from 2017 to 2018	(-9%)	(-2%)	(-6%)	(-8%)	(-7%)	(-17%)	(-3%)	(-5%)	(-11%)	(-13%)	(-9%)	(-11%)	(-9%)
2019 Count of ED Visits	1102	1057	1063										3222
% Change from 2018 to 2019	(-7%)	(-8%)	(-18%)										(-11%)

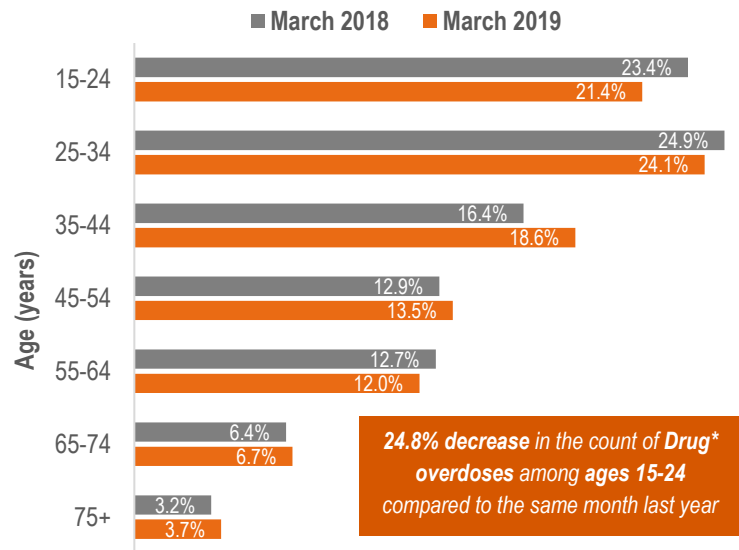
Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Sex, Race, and Age Group, Georgia, March 2018 and March 2019

Rateⁱ of Drug* Overdose ED Visits

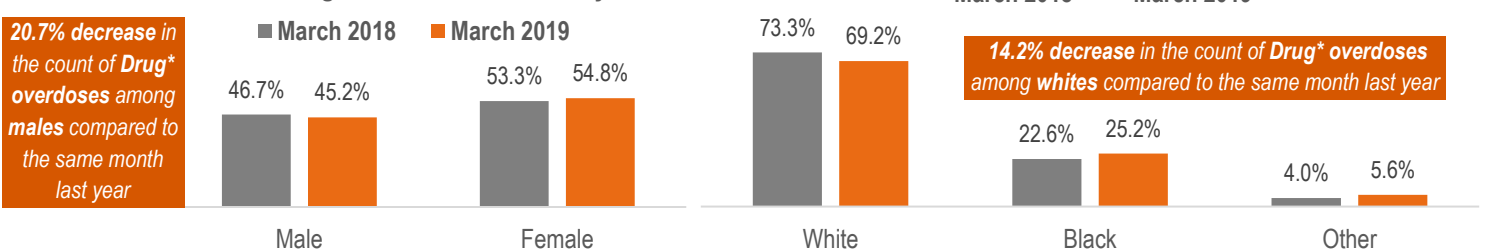
	March 2018 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 Population)	March 2019 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 Population)
Overall	15.5	12.7
Sex^o		
Male	15.1	11.9
Female	15.9	13.4
Race^o		
White	16.1	13.8
Black	9.8	9.9
Other	8.6	10.9
Age Group^o (years)		
15-24	21.0	15.8
25-34	22.2	17.6
35-44	15.6	14.5
45-54	11.8	10.1
55-64	13.1	10.1
65-74	9.5	8.2
75+	7.8	7.3

Drug* overdose cases in March 2019 were predominantly: Female (54.8%), White (69.2%), and between 25-34 years of age (24.1%)

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



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



Link(s) of interest:

[JAMA Article: Trends and Patterns of Geographic Variation in Opioid Prescribing Practices by States, United States, 2006-2017](#)

[CDC Infographic: Preventing an Opioid Overdose](#)

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 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.