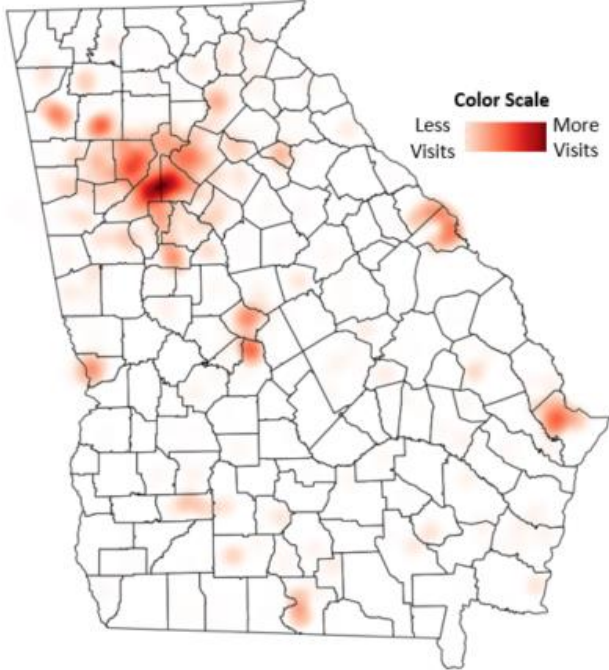


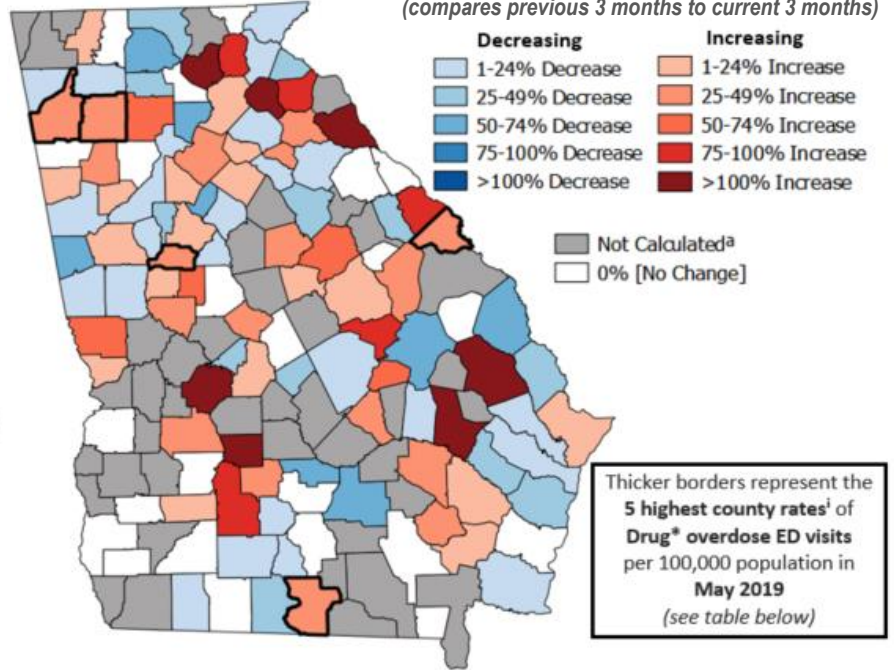
# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, May 2019

**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).

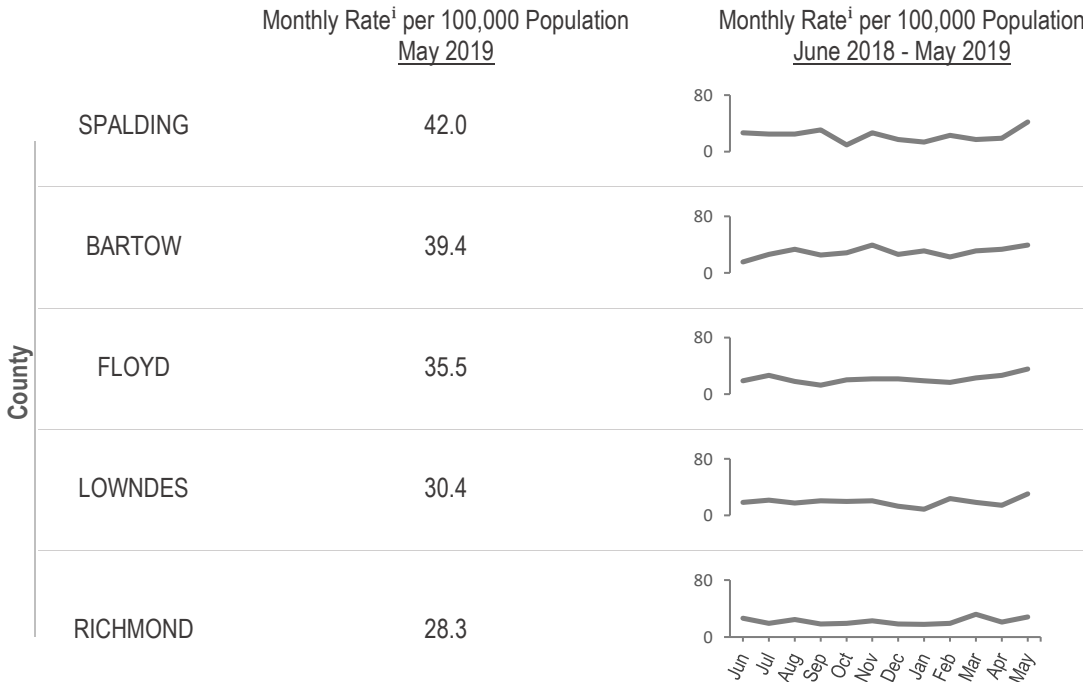
**Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Patient Zip Code<sup>^</sup>, Georgia, May 2019**



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



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



**Statewide, 1,299 ED visits for Drug\* overdoses occurred in May 2019, compared to 1,220 in May 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.

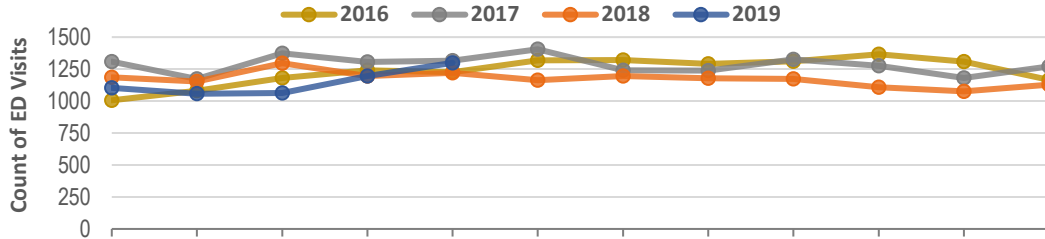
<sup>a</sup>Percent change data by county excludes counties with less than 3 visits.

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, May 2019

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



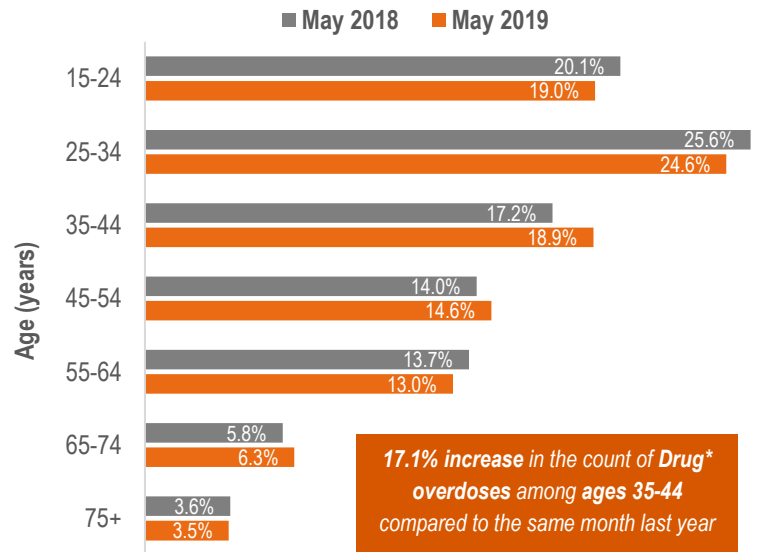
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<b>2016 Count of ED Visits</b>	1006	1081	1182	1240	1225	1319	1321	1292	1311	1366	1308	1167	14818
<b>2017 Count of ED Visits</b>	1308	1173	1373	1305	1315	1405	1240	1239	1325	1275	1181	1271	15410
<b>% Change from 2016 to 2017</b>	(+30%)	(+9%)	(+16%)	(+5%)	(+7%)	(+7%)	(-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	1299								5719
<b>% Change from 2018 to 2019</b>	(-7%)	(-8%)	(-18%)	0%	(+6%)								(-5%)

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

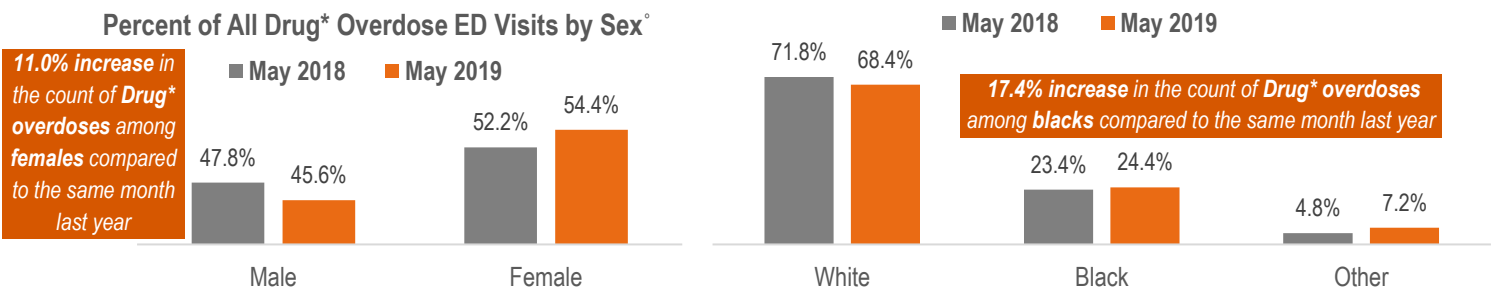
	May 2018 Rate <sup>i</sup> (per 100,000 Population)	May 2019 Rate <sup>i</sup> (per 100,000 Population)
<b>Overall</b>	14.6	15.6
<b>Sex<sup>o</sup></b>		
Male	14.5	14.7
Female	14.7	16.3
<b>Race<sup>o</sup></b>		
White	15.3	16.4
Black	9.8	11.5
Other	10.0	16.7
<b>Age Group<sup>o</sup> (years)</b>		
15-24	17.0	17.1
25-34	21.5	21.9
35-44	15.4	18.0
45-54	12.1	13.4
55-64	13.2	13.4
65-74	8.2	9.4
75+	8.2	8.6

**Drug\* overdose cases in May 2019 were predominantly: Female (54.4%), White (68.4%), and between 25-34 years of age (24.6%)**

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



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



### Link(s) of interest:

[Georgia Multi-Stakeholder Opioid and Substance Use Response Plan](#)

[CDC Infographic: Rise in Opioid Overdose Deaths in America](#)

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.