

# Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, December 2023

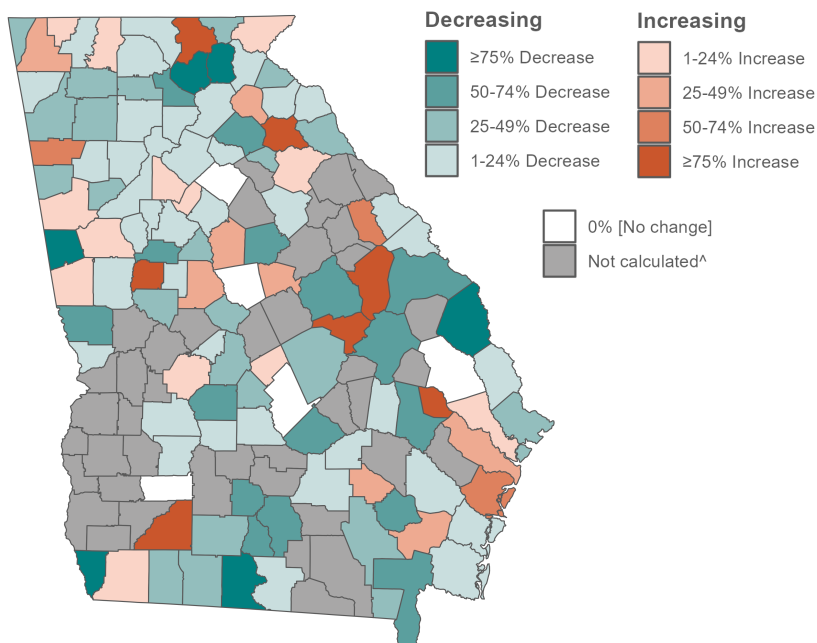
**EMS Data Overview:** This report was created with data from biospatial, which contains detailed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) trip narratives, patient demographic information, ICD-10 codes, and/or naloxone administration information obtained from various EMS agencies across the state. These data are generally available in biospatial within 24 hours of the patient's EMS trip. This report can be used to monitor trends in drug overdoses and detect overdoses that may not present to the emergency department (ED). Due to EMS data limitations, drug overdose (OD) related EMS trips are considered suspect overdoses.

**Note:** EMS overdose reports prior to November 2023 should not be compared to reports after November 2023 as the overdose case definitions have changed.

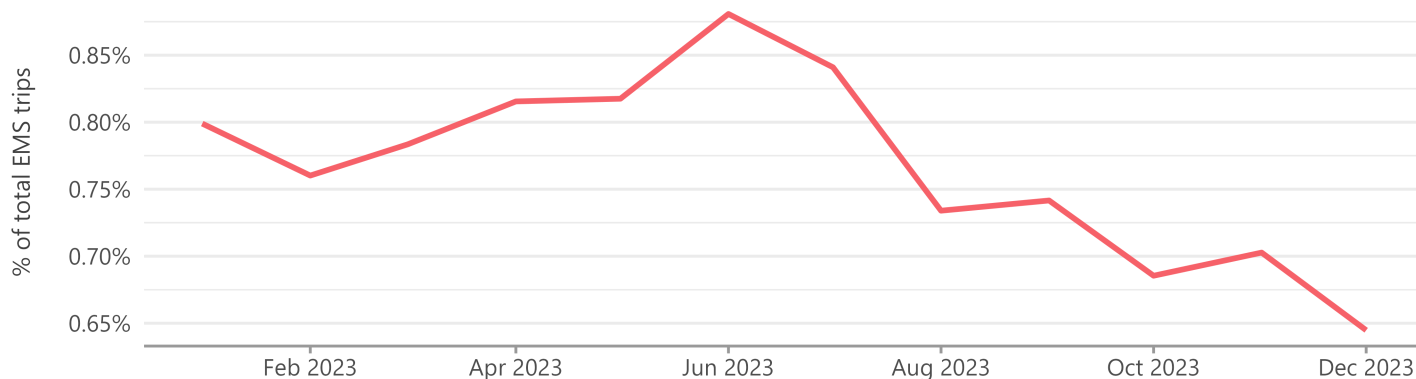
## Key Findings

- Total EMS overdose trips increased by 0.6% from November (n=1,496) to December 2023 (n=1,505).
- Five counties (Jefferson, Evans, Mitchell, Madison, and Pike) showed increases > 100% in EMS overdose trips between the current and previous 3 month periods.
- EMS overdose trips as a proportion of total EMS trips declined to 0.64% in December 2023.

Percent Change<sup>^</sup> of EMS Drug\* Overdose Trips, Georgia, Jul 2023 - Sep 2023 to Oct 2023 - Dec 2023



EMS Drug\* Overdose Trips as a Percent of Total EMS Trips Georgia, Jan 2023 - Dec 2023



Data source: See [case definitions](#) and [data limitations](#) here.

<sup>^</sup>Percent change data by county excludes counties with fewer than 5 incidents.

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

<sup>†</sup>Rate indicates trips per 100,000 persons using 2022 Census data as the denominator.

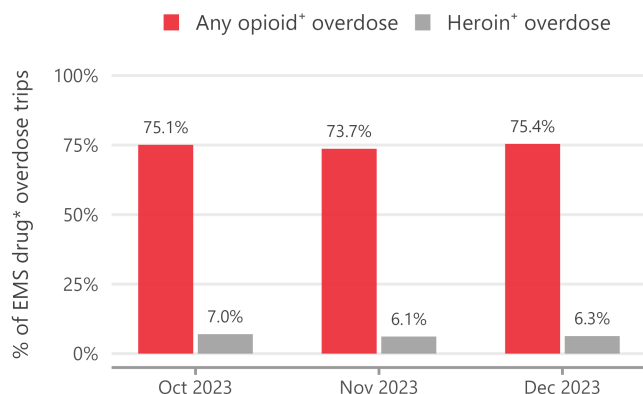
\*Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs.

**Note:** All data excludes patients ≤10 years of age. Counts represent the number of EMS trips instead of the number of patients, therefore, patients with repeat trips may have been counted more than once.

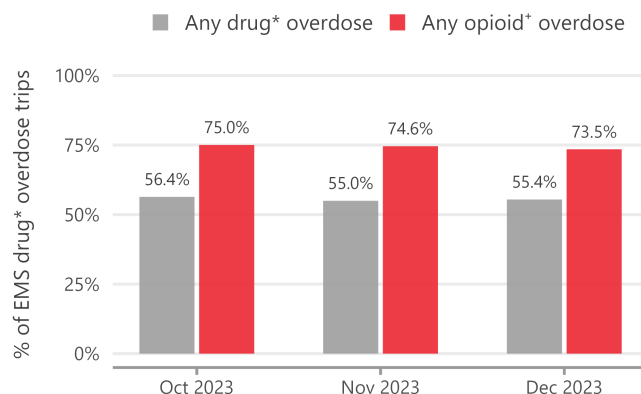
**Note:** Drug overdose EMS data is limited and based on accuracy of the patient incident report. Data is subject to change due to improvements to data quality. Data shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.

# Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, December 2023

**Proportion of EMS Drug\* Overdose Trips Involving Opioids\***



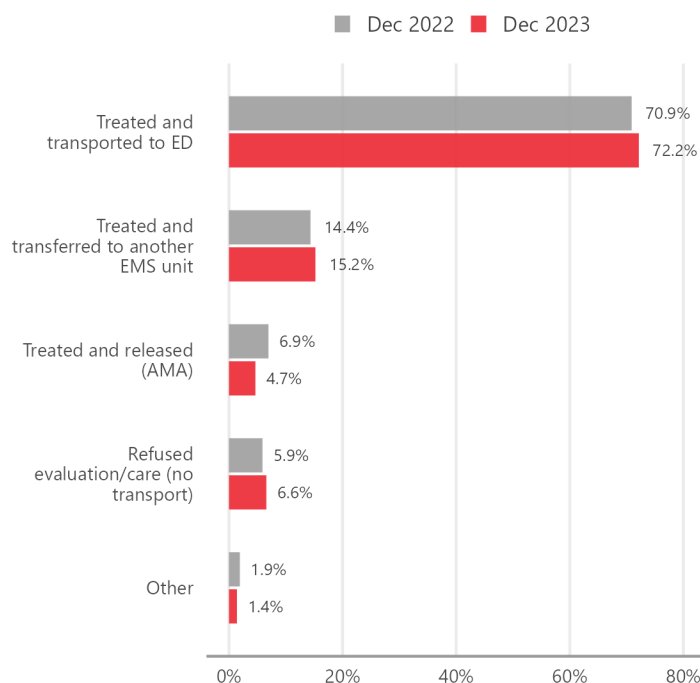
**Proportion of EMS Drug\* Overdose Trips with Naloxone Administered**



**Drug\* Overdose EMS Trips, Georgia, December 2022—December 2023**

EMS Trip Details	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23
Drug* Overdose	1,728	1,872	1,589	1,833	1,830	1,962	1,978	1,917	1,745	1,662	1,557	1,496	1,505
Opioid-involved*	1,312	1,370	1,185	1,342	1,346	1,465	1,490	1,409	1,266	1,216	1,169	1,102	1,135
Heroin-involved*	172	185	165	155	147	160	184	159	126	105	109	92	95
Naloxone Administered	992	1,044	903	1,004	1,006	1,136	1,108	1,065	948	919	877	821	834

**Patient Disposition as a Percentage of Total EMS Drug\* Overdose Trips**



## Key Findings

- Opioid-involved overdose EMS trips increased 3% from November to December 2023.
- The number of overdose trips where naloxone was administered increased slightly from the previous month but was 16% lower than in December 2022.
- Compared to the previous year, a greater proportion of trips resulted in patients being transported to the ED in December 2023 (87% vs. 85%).

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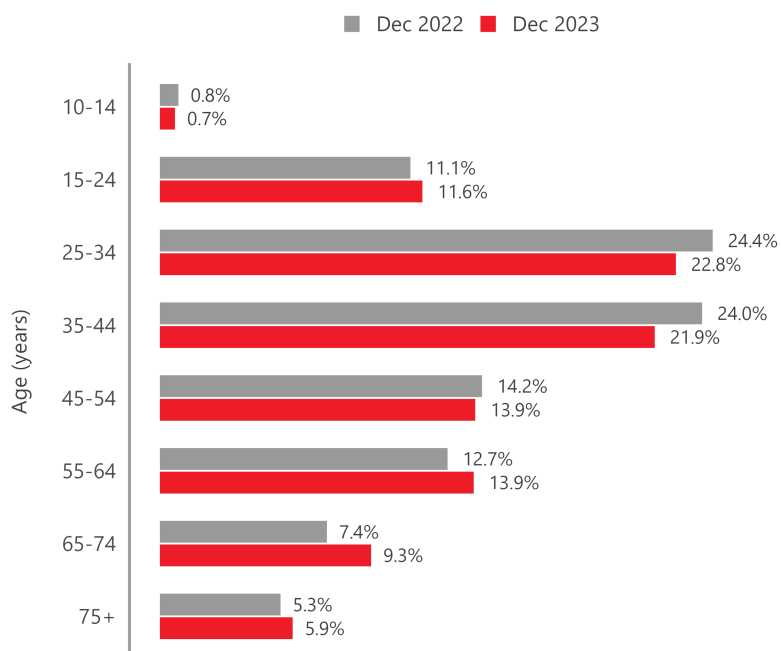
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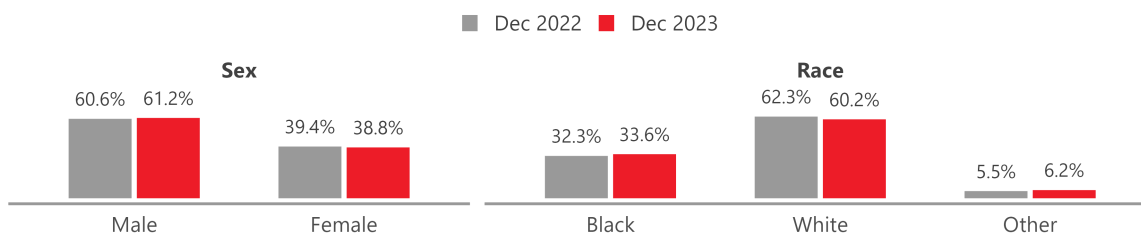
Percent of EMS Drug\* Overdose Trips by Age Group



Rate<sup>i</sup> of EMS Drug\* Overdose Trips

	Dec 2022 Rate <sup>i</sup> (per 100,000 population)	Dec 2023 Rate <sup>i</sup> (per 100,000 population)
<b>Overall</b>	17.8	15.6
<b>Sex</b>		
Female	13.6	11.7
Male	22.1	19.6
<b>Race</b>		
Black	17.1	15.5
White	18.1	15.2
Other	12.7	12.6
<b>Age Group (years)</b>		
10-14	1.9	1.4
15-24	12.4	11.4
25-34	27.6	22.6
35-44	28.3	22.7
45-54	17.4	15.0
55-64	16.2	15.6
65-74	12.7	14.1
75+	14.0	13.5

Percent of EMS Drug\* Overdose Trips by Sex and Race



## Key Findings

- Compared to 2022, the number of overdose trips decreased for all age groups except patients aged 65 to 74 in December 2023.
- Patients aged 55 and over represented 29% of all overdose EMS trips in December 2023, the highest level seen in the past year.
- While the number of EMS overdose trips decreased year-over-year for both Black and White patients, the decline was steeper among White patients (16%) than among Black patients (9%).

## Link(s) of interest:

[SAMHSA: Recovery from Substance Use and Mental Health Problems Among Adults in the United States](#)

[JAMA Network Open: Xylazine in Overdose Deaths and Forensic Drug Reports in US States, 2019-2022](#)

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