

Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, February 2025

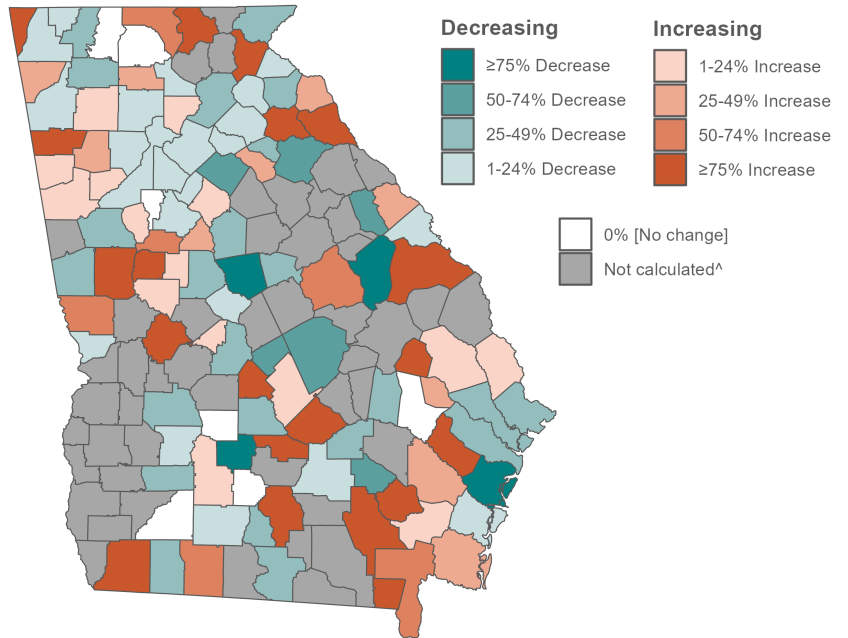
EMS Data Overview: This report was created with data from biospatial, which contains detailed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) trip narratives, patient demographic information, ICD-10 codes, and/or naloxone administration information obtained from various EMS agencies across the state. These data are 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.

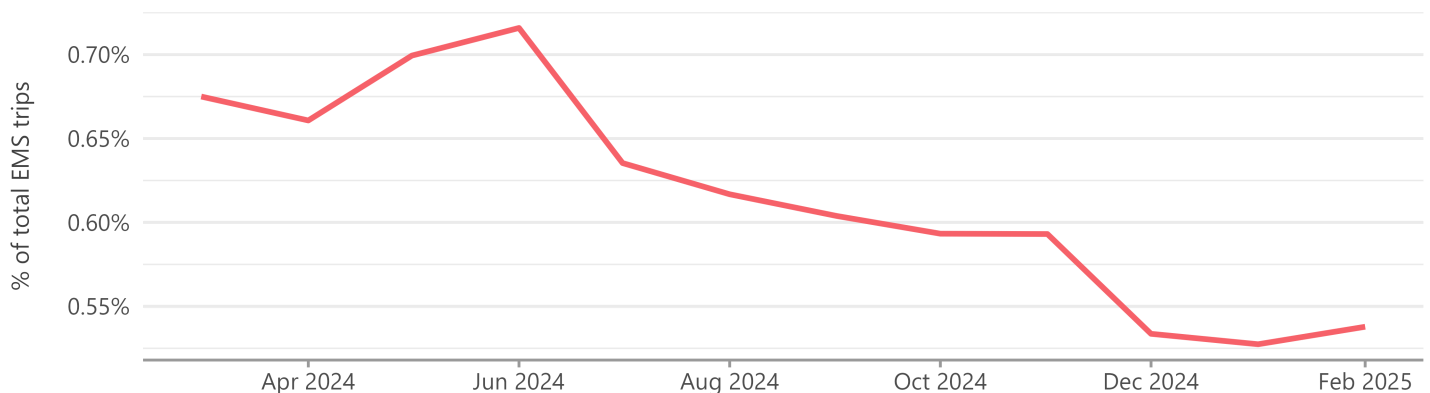
Key Findings

- Total EMS overdose trips showed a 9.4% decrease from January (n=1,250) to February 2025 (n=1,133).
- Of 112 counties with 5 or more EMS overdose trips, 55 showed decreases between the current and previous 3 month periods.
- Habersham, Spalding, Paulding, and Ben Hill Counties showed the greatest increases in overdose incident counts.
- The proportion of EMS trips involving suspect overdoses increased slightly to 0.54%.

Percent Change[^] of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips, Georgia, Sep 2024 - Nov 2024 to Dec 2024 - Feb 2025



EMS Drug* Overdose Trips as a Percent of Total EMS Trips Georgia, Mar 2024 - Feb 2025



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

[^]Percent change data by county excludes counties with fewer than 5 incidents.

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

[†]Rate indicates trips per 100,000 persons using 2023 Census data as the denominator.

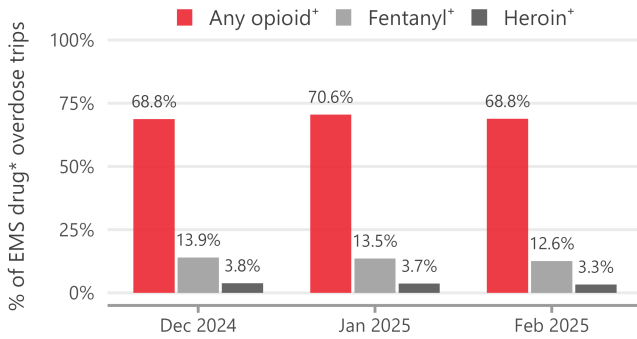
[‡]Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs.

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.

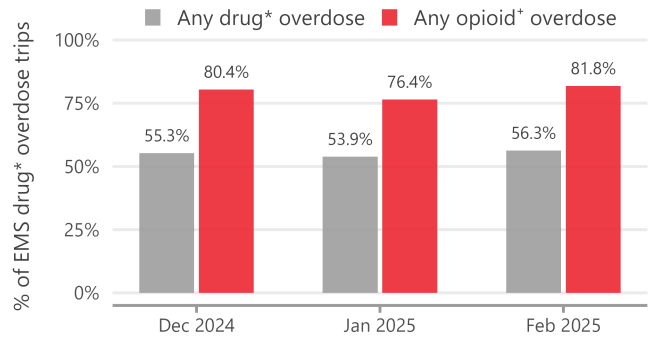
Note: Drug overdose EMS data is limited and based on accuracy of the patient incident report. Data is subject to change due to improvements to data quality. Data shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.

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Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips Involving Opioids*



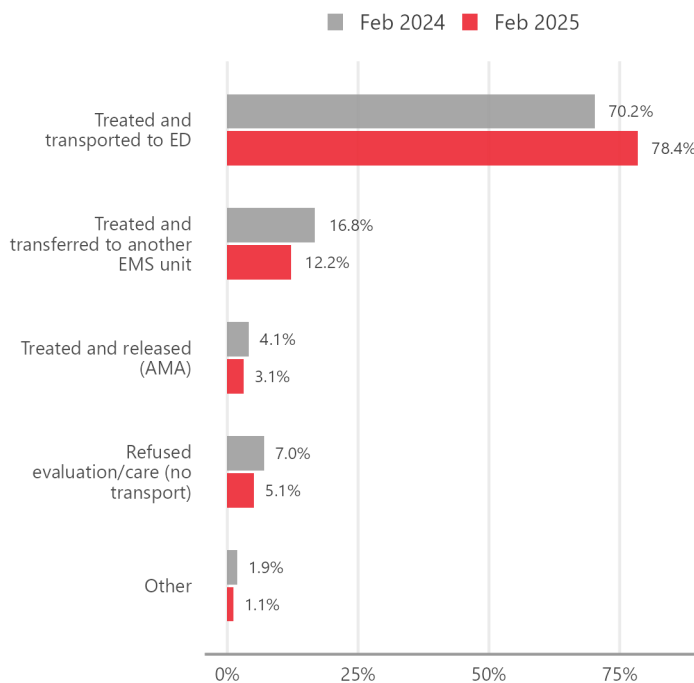
Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips with Naloxone Administered



Drug* Overdose EMS Trips, Georgia, February 2024—February 2025

EMS Trip Details	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
Drug* Overdose	1,426	1,505	1,447	1,610	1,551	1,390	1,448	1,344	1,373	1,304	1,242	1,250	1,133
Opioid-involved*	1,021	1,098	1,036	1,140	1,148	999	990	936	967	877	854	882	780
Fentanyl-involved*	212	191	195	218	210	193	212	202	216	198	173	169	143
Heroin-involved*	86	80	54	68	69	57	49	51	54	55	47	46	37
Naloxone Administered	762	833	807	858	848	787	757	706	729	654	687	674	637

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



Key Findings

- The count of opioid-involved overdose EMS trips decreased 11.6% from the previous month and 23.6% from the previous year.
- Both the count and proportion of suspect overdose trips involving fentanyl decreased year over year.
- Naloxone was administered in 81.8% of suspected opioid overdose incidents, the highest level seen in the past year.
- Compared to the previous year, a higher proportion of patients (78.4%) were transported directly to the ED.

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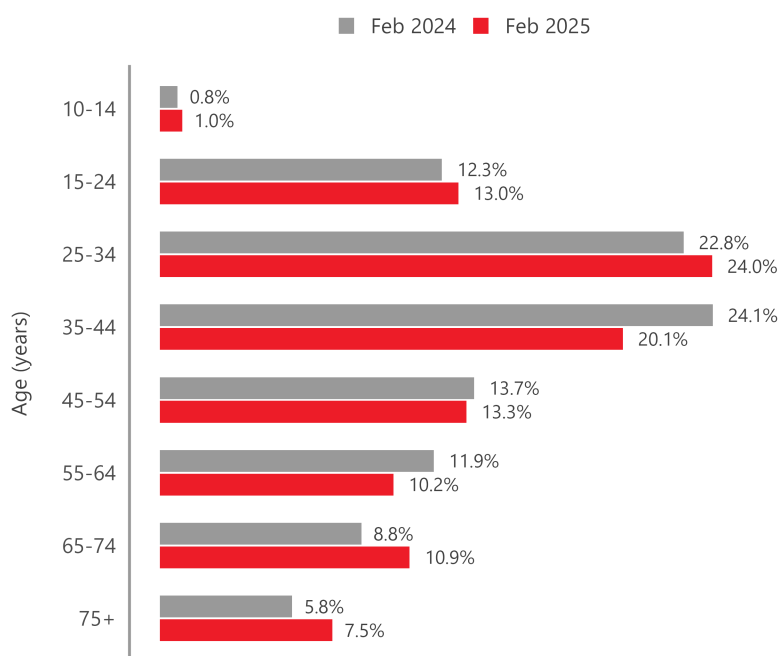
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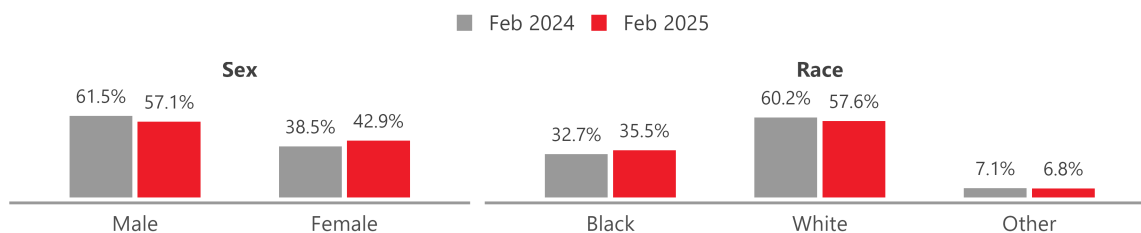
Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Age Group



Rateⁱ of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips

	Feb 2024 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 population)	Feb 2025 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 population)
Overall	14.7	11.7
Sex		
Female	10.9	9.7
Male	18.6	13.7
Race		
Black	14.1	12.5
White	14.4	11.3
Other	13.6	10.8
Age Group (years)		
10-14	1.5	1.5
15-24	11.5	9.7
25-34	21.3	17.8
35-44	23.3	15.5
45-54	13.9	10.8
55-64	12.6	8.5
65-74	12.2	12.0
75+	12.1	12.6

Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Sex and Race



Key Findings

- The overall rate of overdose EMS trips continued to decline from the rates seen in the previous month and year-over-year.
- Across all patient demographics shown (age, sex, and race), the only group experiencing an increase in the number of overdose EMS trips compared to February 2024 were patients ages 75 and over, with a 3.7% increase.

Link(s) of interest:

[JAMA Network Open: Fentanyl Test Strip Use and Risk Reduction Behaviors Among People Who Use Drugs](#)

[DEA: National Drug Threat Assessment 2025](#)

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