

Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, January 2024

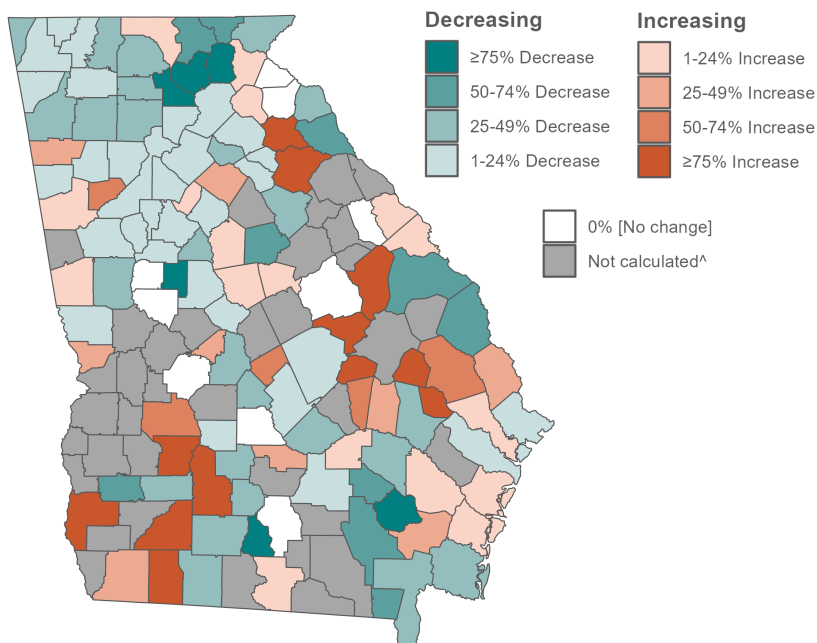
EMS Data Overview: This report was created with data from biospatial, which contains detailed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) trip narratives, patient demographic information, ICD-10 codes, and/or naloxone administration information obtained from various EMS agencies across the state. These data are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

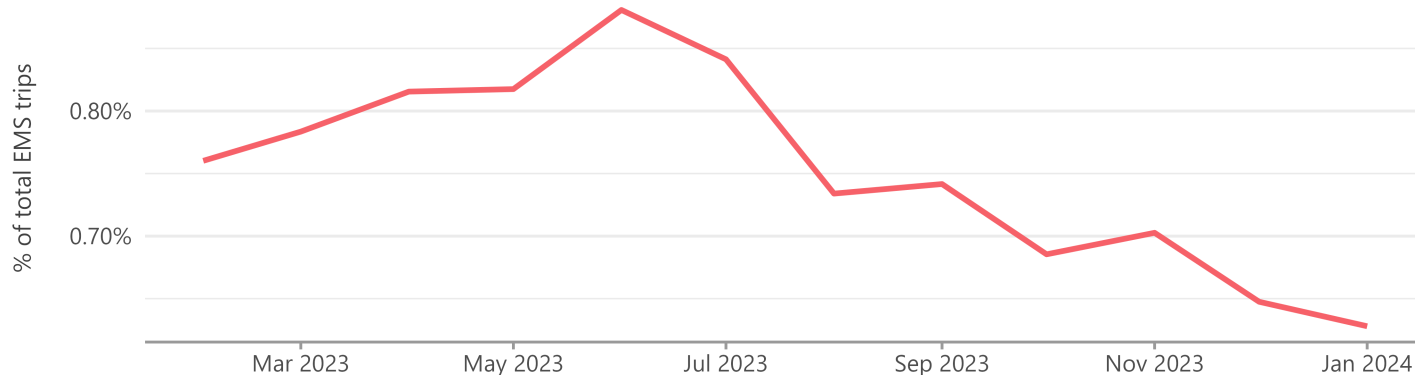
Key Findings

- Total EMS overdose trips decreased by 6.9% from December 2023 (n=1,517) to January 2024 (n=1,413).
- Of 123 counties with 5 or more EMS overdose trips, 71 showed decreases between the current and previous 3 month periods.
- EMS overdose trips as a proportion of total EMS trips declined to 0.63% in January 2024.

Percent Change[^] of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips, Georgia, Aug 2023 - Oct 2023 to Nov 2023 - Jan 2024



EMS Drug* Overdose Trips as a Percent of Total EMS Trips Georgia, Feb 2023 - Jan 2024



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 2022 Census data as the denominator.

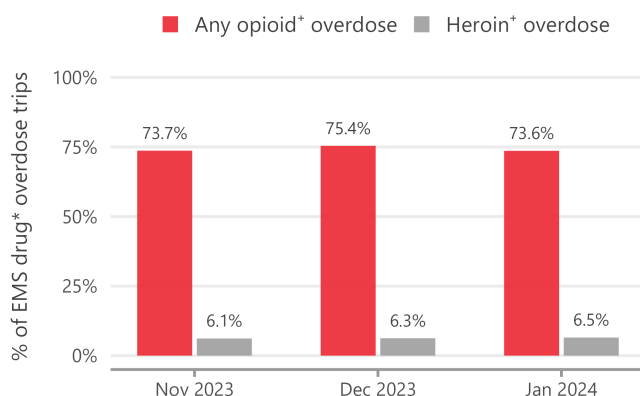
*Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs.

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.

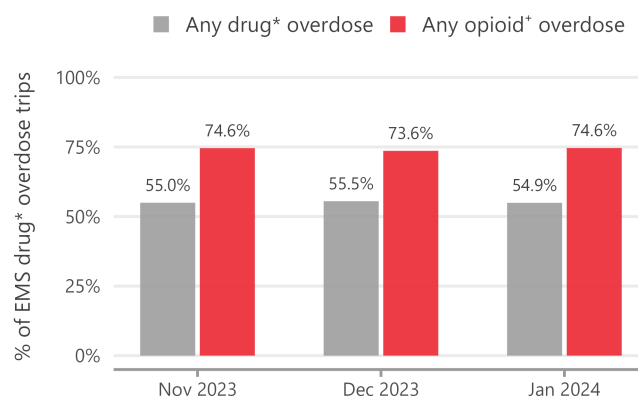
Note: Drug overdose EMS data is limited and based on accuracy of the patient incident report. Data is subject to change due to improvements to data quality. Data shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.

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Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips Involving Opioids*



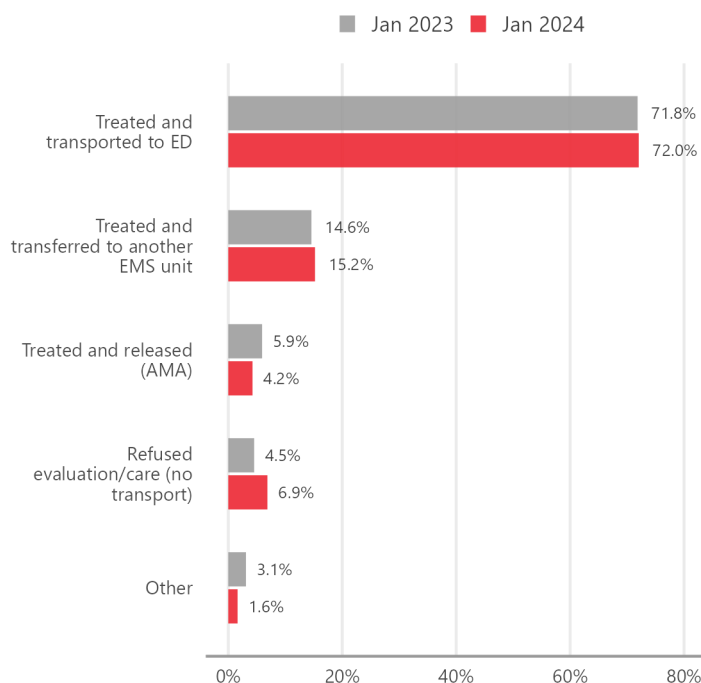
Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips with Naloxone Administered



Drug* Overdose EMS Trips, Georgia, January 2023—January 2024

EMS Trip Details	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23	Dec-23	Jan-24
Drug* Overdose	1,872	1,589	1,833	1,830	1,962	1,978	1,918	1,745	1,662	1,557	1,496	1,517	1,413
Opioid-involved*	1,370	1,185	1,342	1,346	1,465	1,490	1,409	1,266	1,216	1,169	1,102	1,144	1,040
Heroin-involved*	185	165	155	147	160	184	159	126	105	109	92	95	92
Naloxone Administered	1,044	903	1,004	1,006	1,136	1,108	1,065	948	919	877	821	842	776

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



Key Findings

- Opioid-involved overdose EMS trips decreased 9% from the previous month and 24% from the previous year.
- The number of overdose trips with naloxone administration decreased 8% month-over-month. The proportion of EMS overdose trips where naloxone was administered has remained relatively stable despite this decrease.
- The proportion of overdose EMS trips where a patient refused evaluation, care, and transport rose to 6.9% in January 2024, the highest level seen in the past year.

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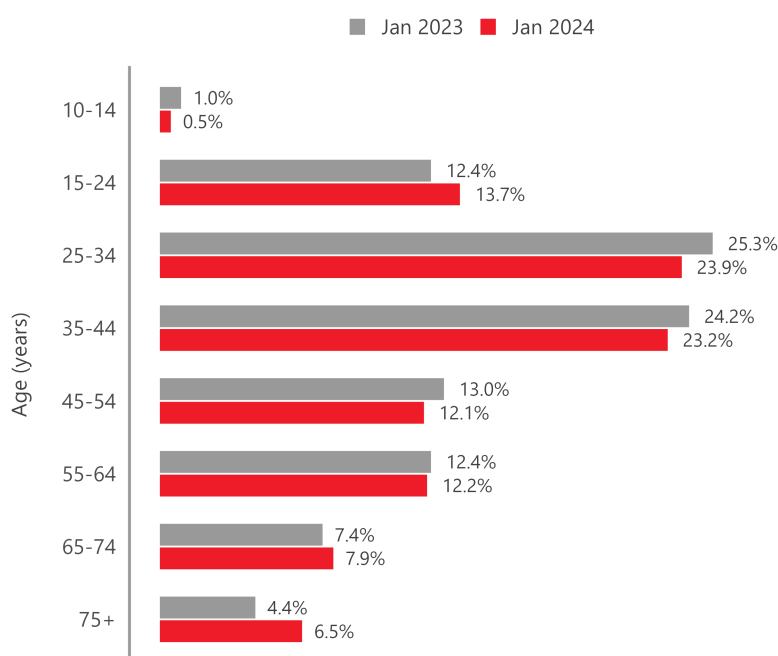
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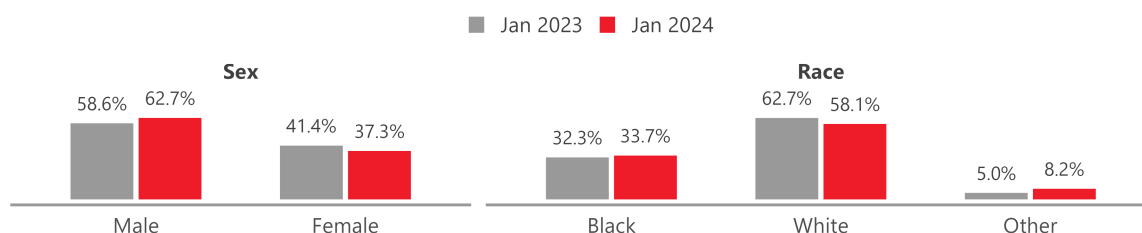
Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Age Group



Rateⁱ of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips

	Jan 2023 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 pop- ulation)	Jan 2024 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 pop- ulation)
Overall	19.3	14.6
Sex		
Female	15.6	10.5
Male	23.3	18.8
Race		
Black	18.5	14.4
White	19.7	13.6
Other	12.6	15.3
Age Group (years)		
10-14	2.5	1.0
15-24	15.1	12.6
25-34	31.0	22.1
35-44	31.1	22.5
45-54	17.2	12.1
55-64	17.2	12.8
65-74	13.9	11.2
75+	12.4	14.0

Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Sex and Race



Key Findings

- Compared to the previous year, the number of overdose trips decreased for all age groups except patients aged 75 and over; trips increased 12% among this age group.
- The year-over-year decrease in EMS overdose trips was more pronounced among White patients than among Black patients, leading the proportion of trips involving White patients to fall to 58.1%.
- The proportion of EMS overdose trips that involved male patients increased 4.1 percentage points compared to January 2023.

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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