

Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, November 2023

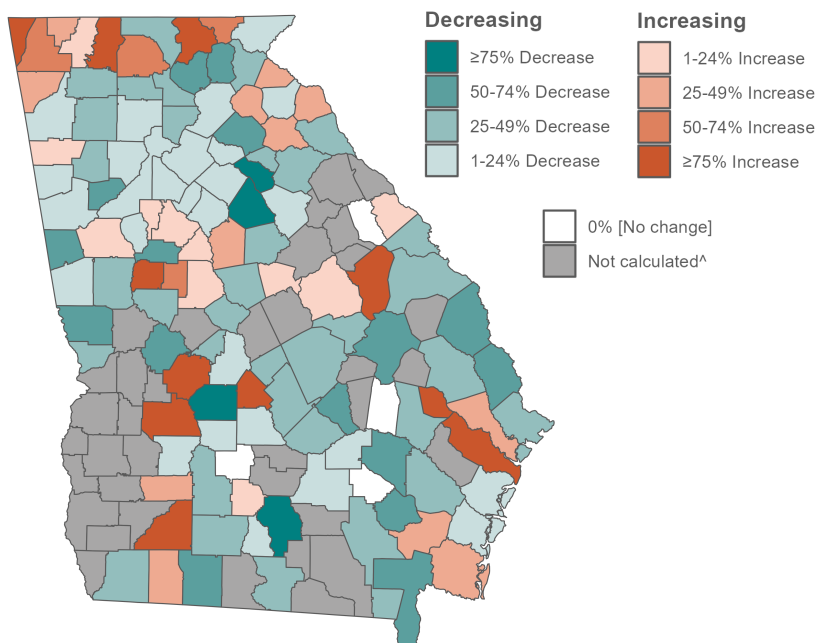
EMS Data Overview: This report was created with data from biospatial, which contains detailed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) trip narratives, patient demographic information, ICD-10 codes, and/or naloxone administration information obtained from various EMS agencies across the state. These data are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

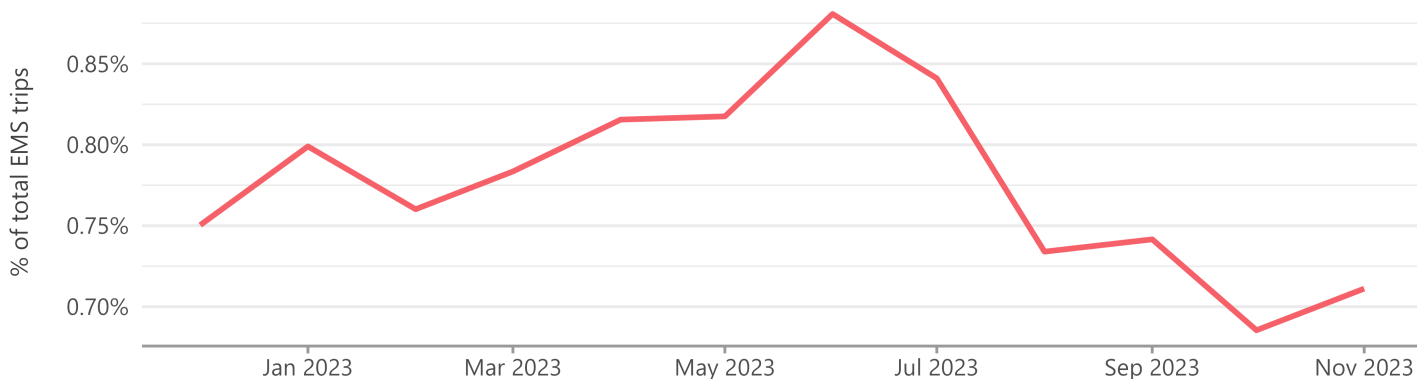
Percent Change[^] of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips, Georgia, Jun 2023 - Aug 2023 to Sep 2023 - Nov 2023

Key Findings

- Total EMS overdose trips decreased by 4.3% from October (n=1,557) to November 2023 (n=1,490).
- The majority of counties (n=81) showed decreases in trips compared to the previous 3 month period.
- Nine counties showed increases above 100% in EMS overdose trips between the current and previous 3 month periods.
- EMS overdose trips as a proportion of total EMS trips increased from 0.68% to 0.71% in November 2023.



EMS Drug* Overdose Trips as a Percent of Total EMS Trips Georgia, Dec 2022 - Nov 2023



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.

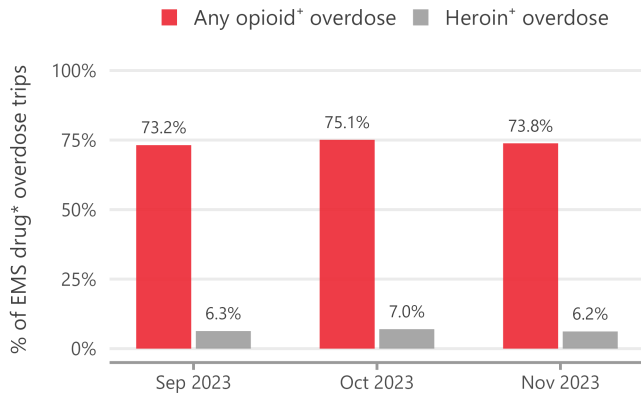
[‡]Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs.

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.

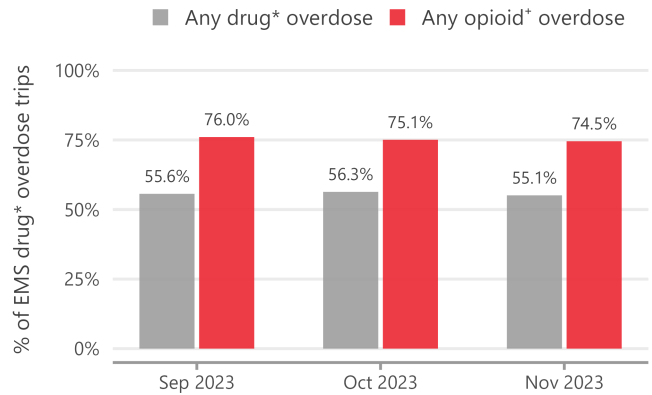
Note: Drug overdose EMS data is limited and based on accuracy of the patient incident report. Data is subject to change due to improvements to data quality. Data shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.

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Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips Involving Opioids*



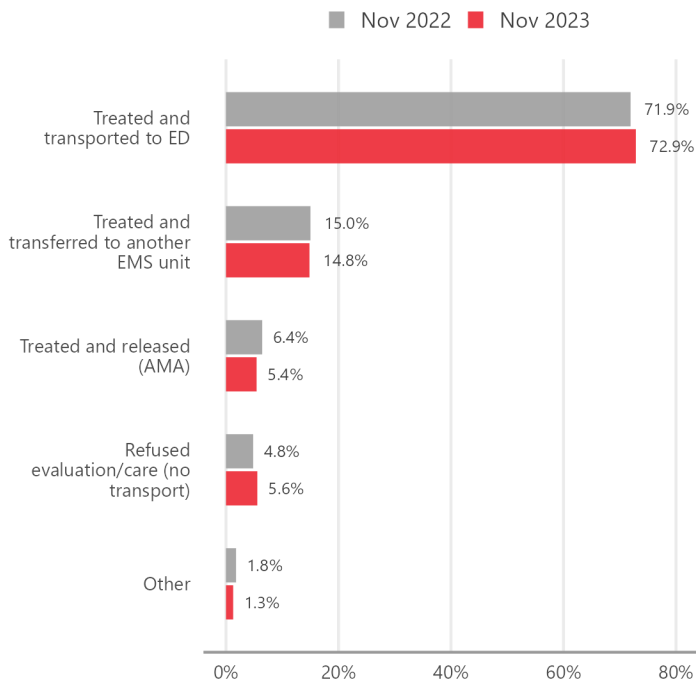
Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips with Naloxone Administered



Drug* Overdose EMS Trips, Georgia, November 2022—November 2023

EMS Trip Details	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23	Mar-23	Apr-23	May-23	Jun-23	Jul-23	Aug-23	Sep-23	Oct-23	Nov-23
Drug* Overdose	1,681	1,728	1,872	1,589	1,833	1,830	1,962	1,978	1,917	1,745	1,662	1,557	1,490
Opioid-involved*	1,249	1,312	1,370	1,185	1,342	1,346	1,465	1,490	1,409	1,266	1,216	1,169	1,100
Heroin-involved*	187	172	185	165	155	147	160	184	159	126	105	109	92
Naloxone Administered	943	992	1,044	903	1,006	1,007	1,136	1,108	1,066	949	920	879	820

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



Key Findings

- The number of opioid-involved overdose EMS trips declined steadily since June 2023 and showed a 5.9% decrease between October and November.
- After increasing slightly in September and October, the proportion of overdose EMS trips involving any opioid decreased to 73.8% in November 2023.
- Naloxone administration was recorded for 74.5% of trips with suspected opioid overdose, a decrease of 1 percentage point from the previous year.

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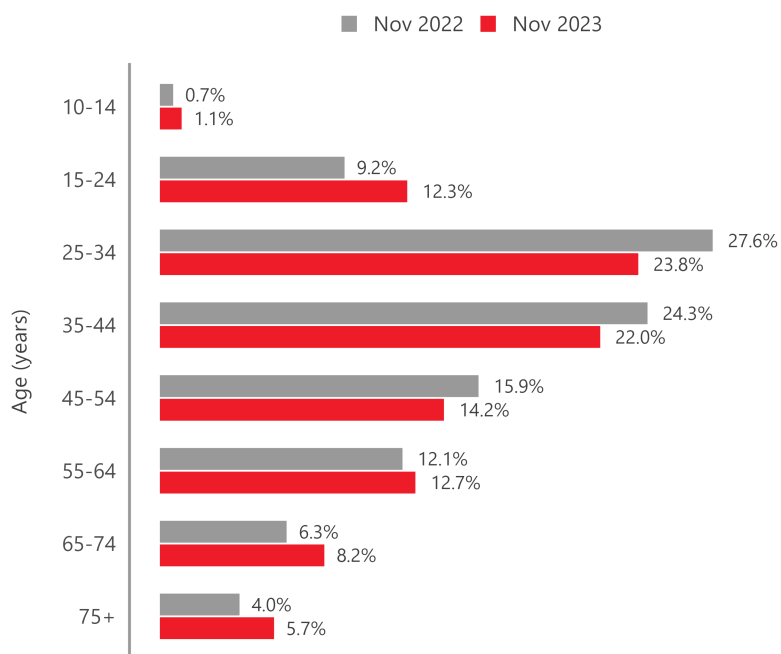
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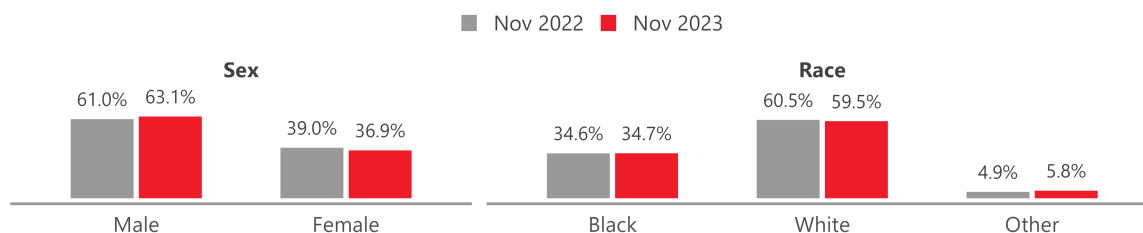
Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Age Group



Rateⁱ of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips

	Nov 2022 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 population)	Nov 2023 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 population)
Overall	17.3	15.4
Sex		
Female	13.1	11.0
Male	21.7	19.9
Race		
Black	17.8	15.7
White	17.0	14.8
Other	11.0	11.6
Age Group (years)		
10-14	1.5	2.2
15-24	10.0	11.9
25-34	30.3	23.3
35-44	28.0	22.4
45-54	18.9	15.0
55-64	15.0	14.1
65-74	10.6	12.2
75+	10.1	12.9

Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Sex and Race



Key Findings

- While total overdose EMS trips declined from the previous year, trips among patients aged 65 and over were 19.9% higher in November 2023.
- The number of trips among of patients aged 15-24 increased 19% compared to November 2022, and this age group also represented a greater proportion of total trips (12.3%).
- The proportion of female patients treated by EMS for possible overdose fell to 36.9%, down from 39% in the previous year and 38.8% in October 2023.

Link(s) of interest:

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

[JAMA Network Open: Presentation and Outcomes of Adults with Overdose-Related Out-of-Hospital Cardiac Arrest](#)

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