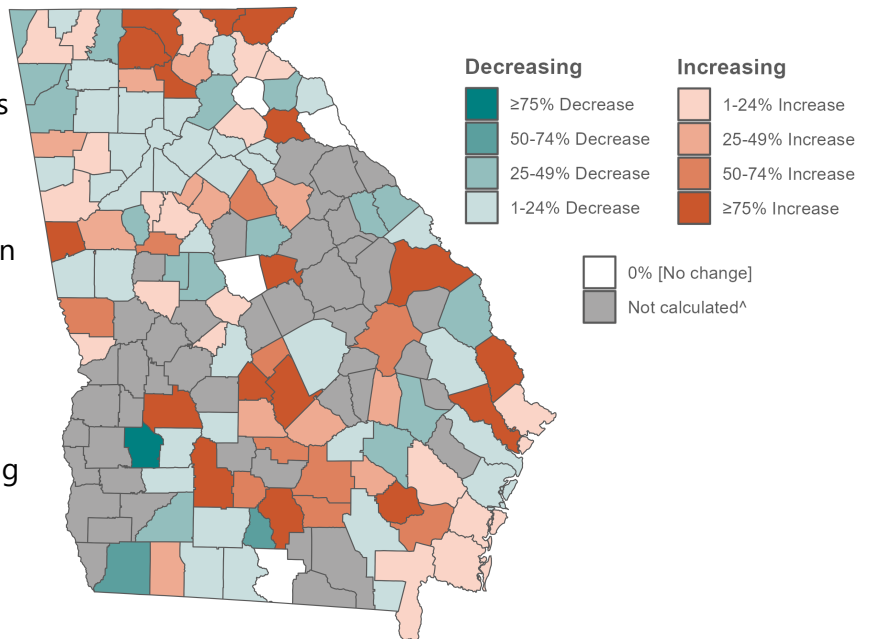


Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, February 2023

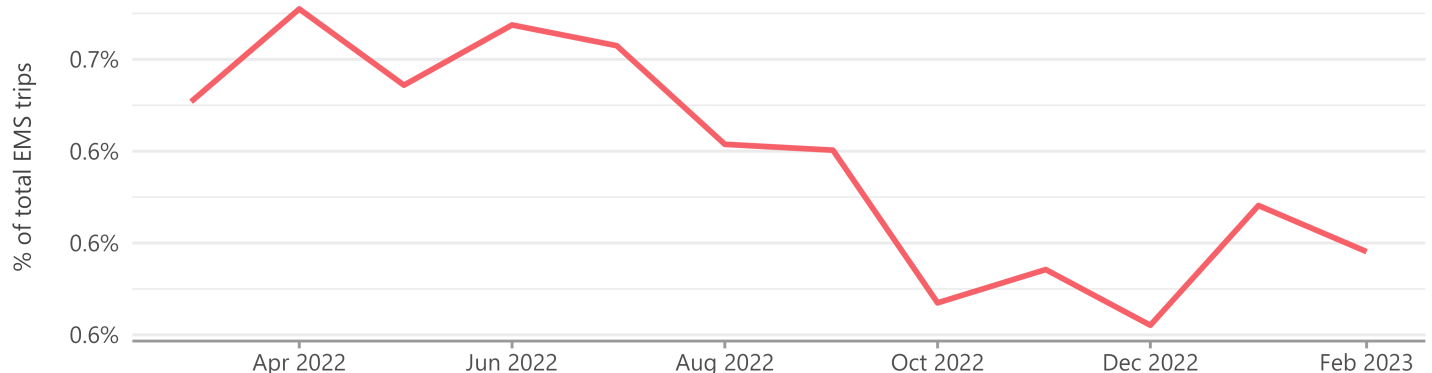
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Data Overview: This report was created with data from Biospatial, which contains detailed EMS trip narratives, patient demographic information, ICD-10 codes, and/or naloxone administration information obtained from various EMS agencies across the state. These data are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

Percent Change[^] of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips, Georgia, Sep 2022 - Nov 2022 to Dec 2022 - Feb 2023

- In 11 counties, the increase in EMS OD trips between the current and previous 3 month periods was 75% or higher.
- Baldwin, Dodge, Rabun, Sumter, and Berrien Counties had increases greater than 100% from the previous 3 month period to the current 3 month period.
- After a slight increase in January, the proportion of EMS trips that involved a drug overdose decreased to 0.62%.



EMS Drug* Overdose Trips as a Percent of Total EMS Trips Georgia, Mar 2022 - Feb 2023



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

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

ⁱRate indicates trips per 100,000 persons using 2021 Census data as the denominator.

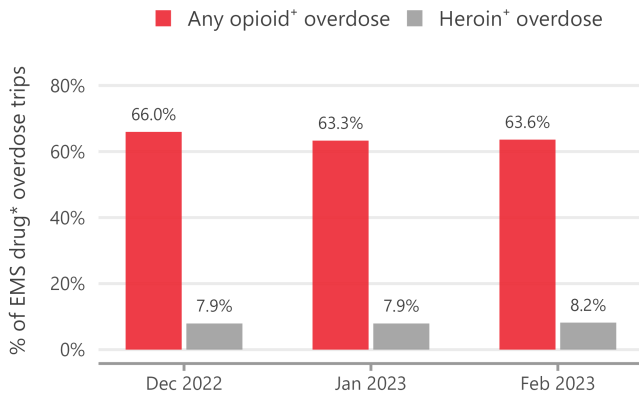
*Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs.

Note: All data excludes patients ≤15 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.

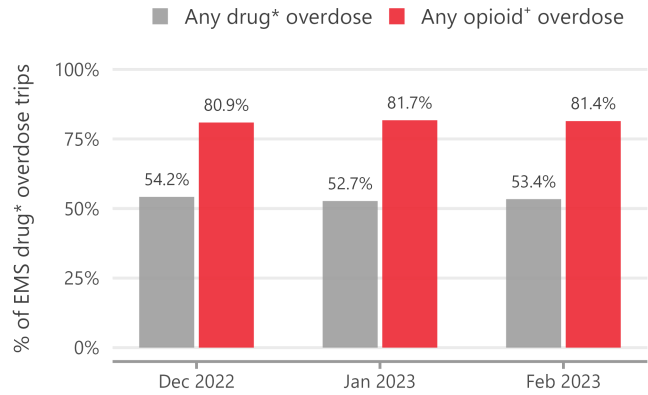
Note: EMS data is not the same as emergency department discharge data; drug overdose EMS data is limited and based on accuracy of chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis. Data is subject to change due to improvements to data quality. Data shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug overdose in Georgia.

Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, February 2023

Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips Involving Opioids[†]



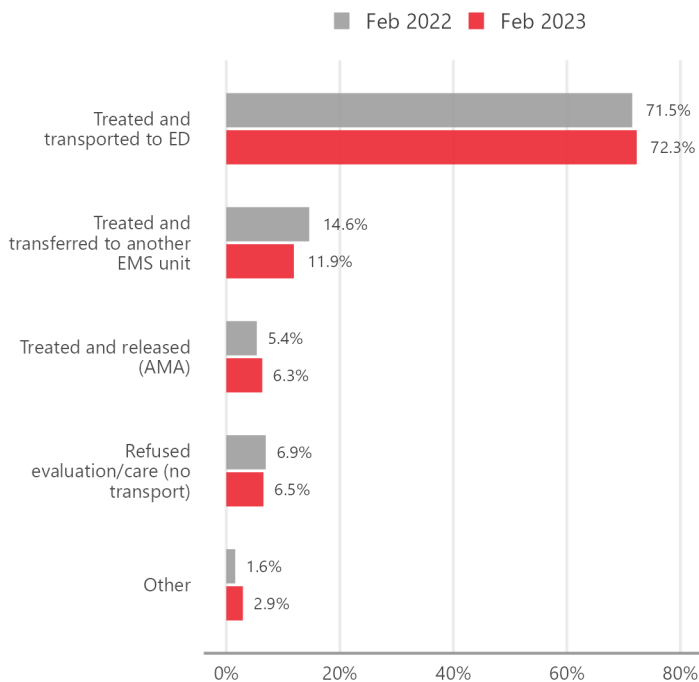
Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips with Naloxone Administered



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

EMS Trip Details	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-23	Feb-23
Drug* Overdose	1527	1785	1766	1840	1813	1876	1800	1708	1612	1593	1611	1723	1437
Opioid-involved [†]	1010	1165	1181	1271	1247	1261	1223	1158	1098	1034	1079	1111	942
Heroin-involved [†]	197	209	199	224	233	177	191	154	151	152	128	145	122
Naloxone Administered	797	957	963	1050	1029	1095	1009	935	903	842	873	908	767

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



- Suspect overdose EMS trips decreased 5.9% compared to February 2022.
- After decreasing 3 percentage points from December 2022 to January 2023, the proportion of overdose EMS trips that involved opioids remained stable at 63%.
- Naloxone was administered by EMS providers in 53.3% of overdose-related trips in February 2022, compared to 52.2% of trips in the same period last year.
- The proportion of trips transported directly to the ED remained stable from 2022 to 2023.

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

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

[†]Rate indicates trips per 100,000 persons using 2021 Census data as the denominator.

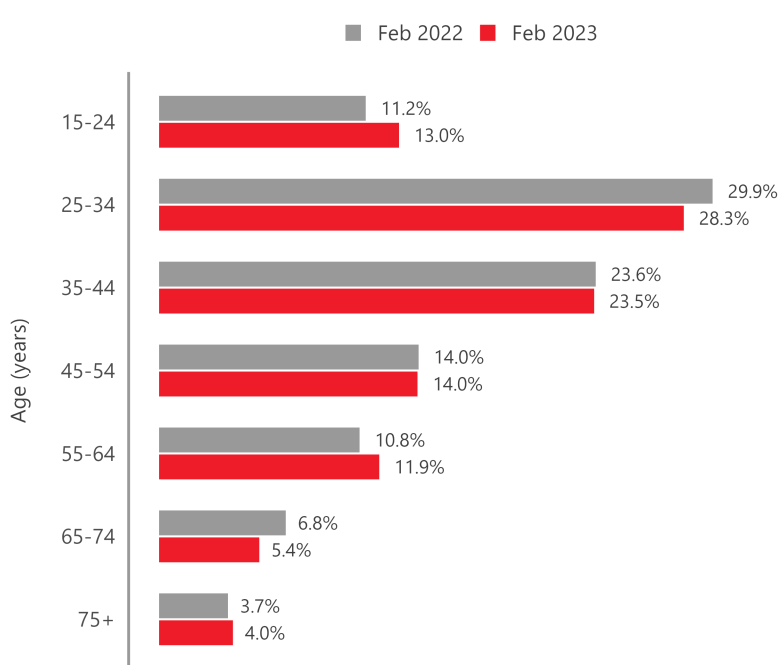
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Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, February 2023

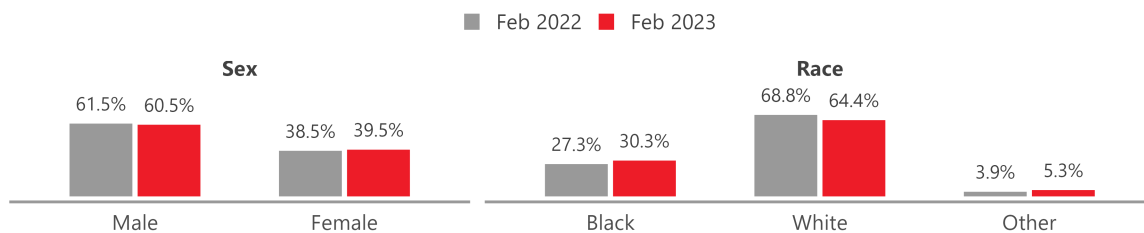
Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Age Group



Rateⁱ of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips

	Feb 2022 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 population)	Feb 2023 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 population)
Overall	17.2	16.1
Sex		
Female	12.8	15.9
Male	22.0	27.7
Race		
Black	14.1	14.8
White	19.0	16.8
Other	9.4	12.7
Age Group (years)		
15-24	11.3	12.3
25-34	30.1	26.6
35-44	24.8	23.1
45-54	15.1	14.0
55-64	12.1	12.4
65-74	10.4	7.7
75+	9.4	9.4

Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Sex and Race



- While suspected drug overdoses occurred most frequently among Whites, the proportion of EMS Drug Overdose Trips involving White patients fell 4.4 percentage points from February 2022 to 2023.
- People aged 25-34 years continued to experience the most suspected drug overdoses during February 2023, while the rate of EMS Drug Overdose trips among this age group decreased 3.5 percentage points from February 2022 to 2023.
- The overall rate of drug overdose EMS trips decreased 6.4% from February 2022 to February 2023.

Link(s) of interest:

[CDC MMWR, Patient-Level and County-level Trends in Nonfatal Opioid-Involved Overdose Emergency Medical Services Encounters – 491 Counties, United States, January 2018 – March 2022](#)

[Journal of Public Health Management & Practice, First Responder Assertive Linkage Programs: A Scoping Review of Interventions to Improve Linkage to Care for People Who Use Drugs](#)

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

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