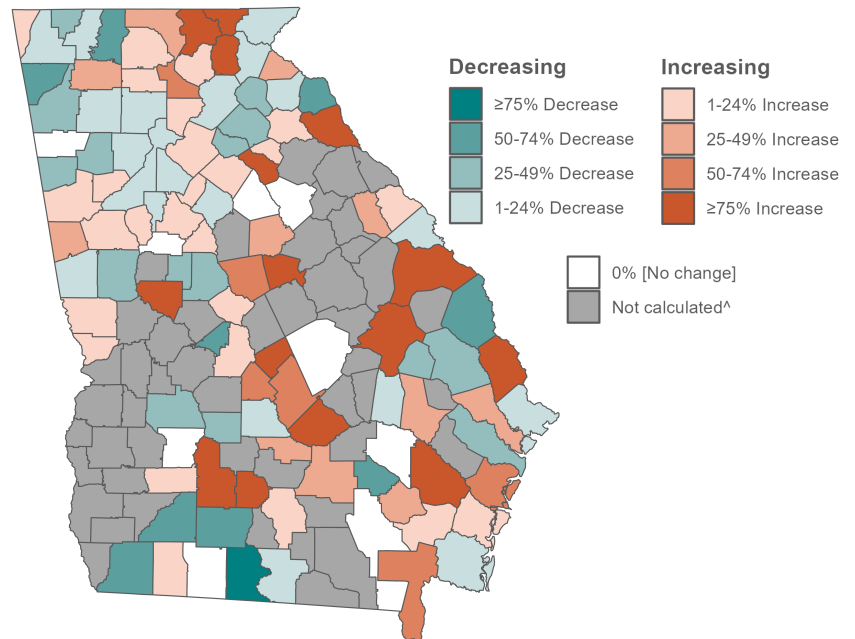


Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, March 2023

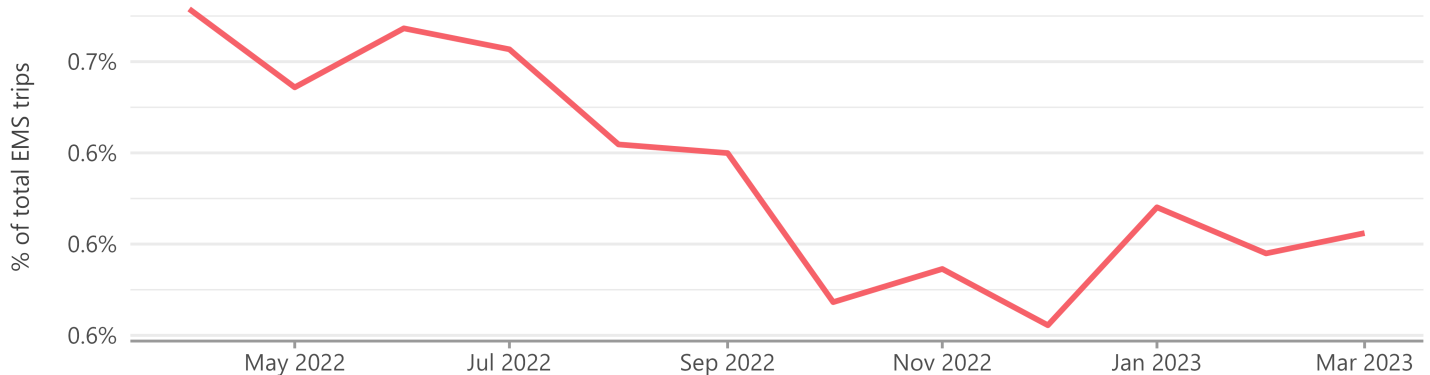
Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Data Overview: This report was created with data from Biospatial, which contains detailed EMS trip narratives, patient demographic information, ICD-10 codes, and/or naloxone administration information obtained from various EMS agencies across the state. These data are 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, Oct 2022 - Dec 2022 to Jan 2023 - Mar 2023

- In 15 counties, the increase in EMS OD trips between the current and previous 3 month periods was 75% or higher.
- Worth, Oconee, Baldwin, Effingham, Burke, Bleckley, Towns, Tift, Elbert, and Telfair Counties had increases greater than 100% from the previous 3 month period to the current 3 month period.
- After a slight decrease in February, the proportion of EMS trips that involved a drug overdose remained stable at 0.62%.



EMS Drug* Overdose Trips as a Percent of Total EMS Trips Georgia, Apr 2022 - Mar 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.

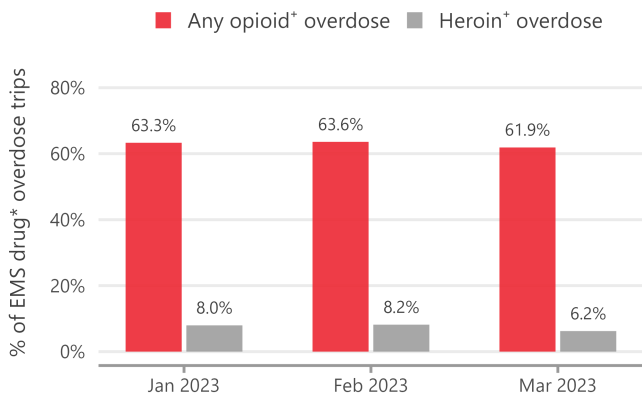
*Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs.

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.

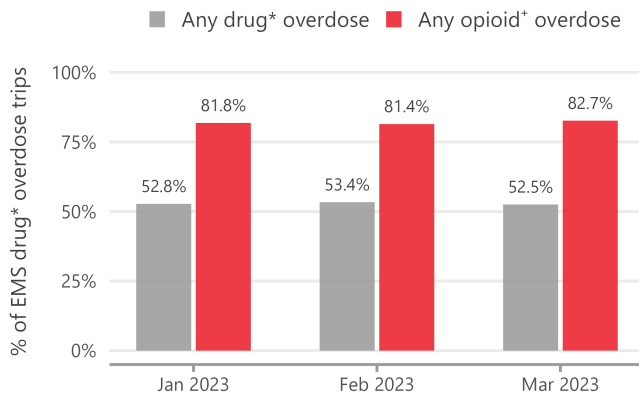
Note: EMS data is not the same as emergency department discharge data; drug overdose EMS data is limited and based on accuracy of chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis. Data is subject to change due to improvements to data quality. Data shown on this report may not depict the true burden of drug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

Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, March 2023

Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips Involving Opioids*



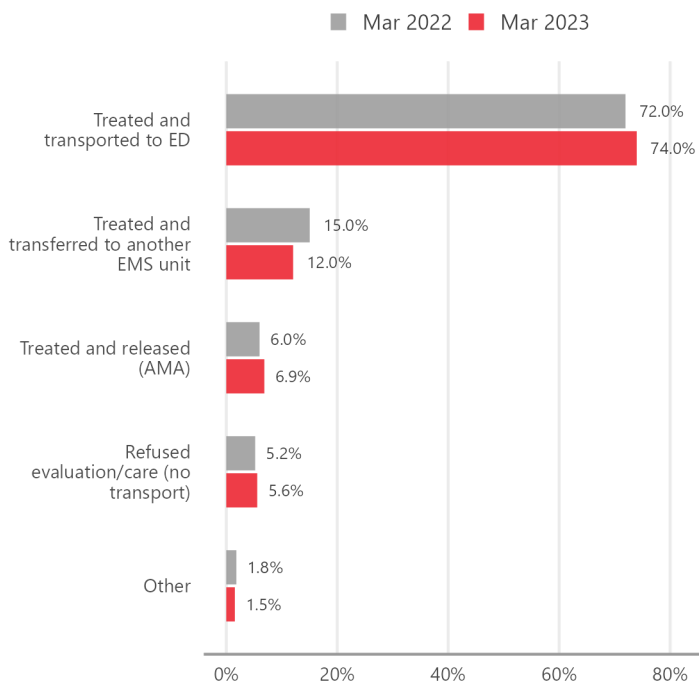
Proportion of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips with Naloxone Administered



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

EMS Trip Details	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22	Sep-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-22	Feb-23	Mar-23
Drug* Overdose	1769	1766	1840	1813	176	1800	1708	1612	1594	1611	1725	1437	1561
Opioid-involved [†]	1154	1181	1271	1247	1261	1223	1158	1098	1035	1079	1112	942	992
Heroin-involved [†]	206	199	224	233	177	191	154	151	152	128	146	122	102
Naloxone Administered	946	963	1050	1029	1095	1009	935	903	842	873	910	767	820

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



- Suspect overdose EMS trips decreased 11.8% compared to March 2022.
- After remaining stable from January to February 2023, the proportion of overdose EMS trips that involved opioids decreased to 62%.
- Naloxone was administered by EMS providers in 52.5% of overdose-related trips in March 2023, compared to 53.5% of trips in the same period last year.
- The proportion of trips transported directly to the ED increased 2 percentage points 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.

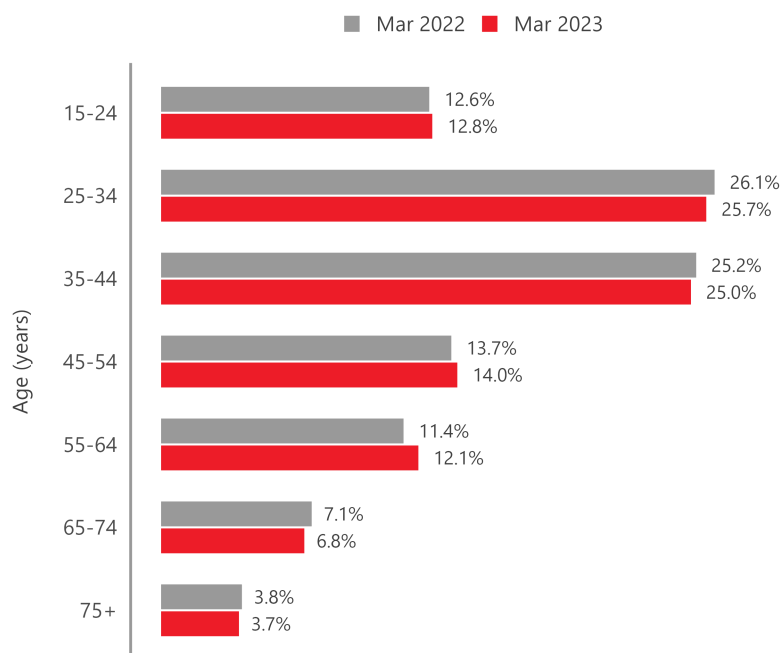
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Emergency Medical Services Drug Overdose Trips: Georgia, March 2023

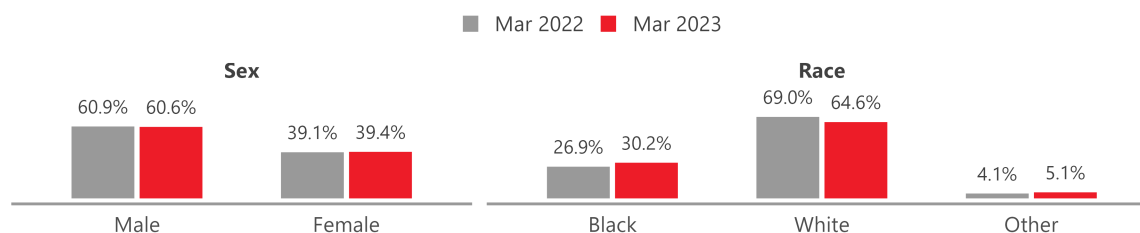
Percent of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips by Age Group



Rateⁱ of EMS Drug* Overdose Trips

	Mar 2022 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 population)	Mar 2023 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 population)
Overall	19.8	17.5
Sex		
Female	15.0	13.3
Male	25.0	21.9
Race		
Black	15.9	15.9
White	21.8	18.1
Other	11.4	13.5
Age Group (years)		
15-24	14.8	13.2
25-34	30.3	26.2
35-44	30.6	26.7
45-54	16.9	15.2
55-64	14.7	13.8
65-74	12.4	10.4
75+	11.1	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 3.8 percentage points from March 2022 to 2023.
- People aged 25-44 years experienced the most suspected drug overdoses during March 2023, while the rate of EMS Drug Overdose trips among both of these age groups decreased 4 percentage points from March 2022 to 2023.
- The overall rate of drug overdose EMS trips decreased 11.6% from Mar 2022 to Mar 2023.

Link(s) of interest:

[Georgia Department of Public Health, Xylazine-Involved Overdose Deaths, Georgia, 2020-2022](#)

[Journal of Public Health Management & Practice, Suspected Nonfatal Cocaine-Involved Overdoses Overall and With Co-involvement of Opioids](#)

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

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