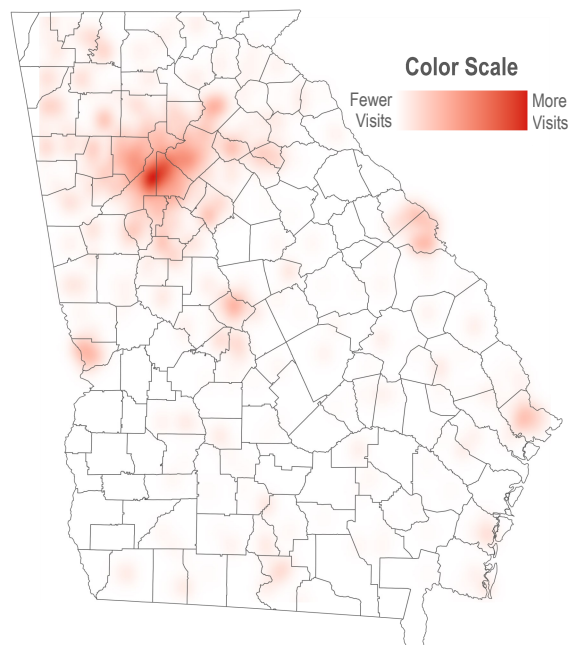


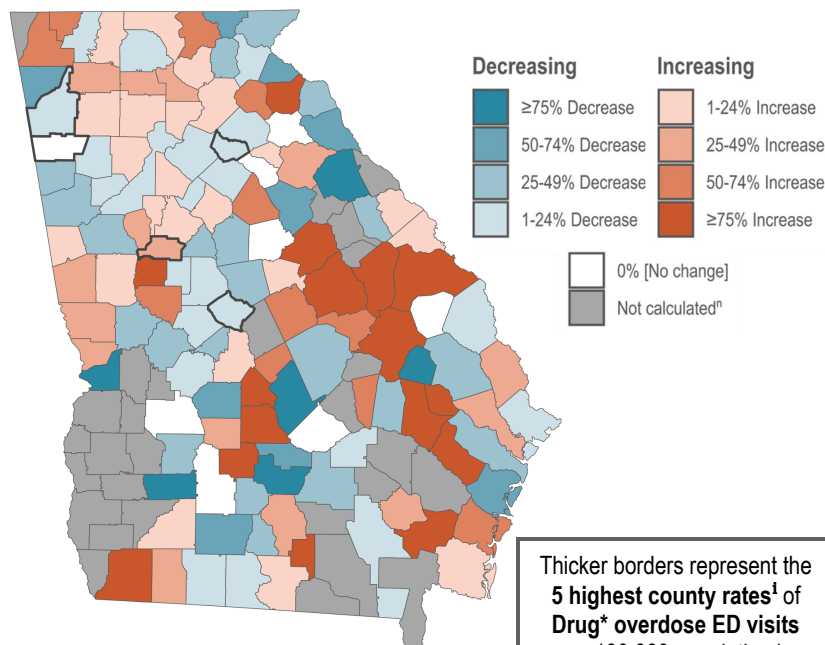
# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, April 2025

**What is Syndromic Surveillance (SyS)?** SyS is used as an early detection method for potential clusters or outbreaks, by tracking suspected drug overdose-involved emergency department (ED) visits based on the patient's chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis. Participating Georgia hospitals and urgent care facilities share these SyS data within the State Electronic Notifiable Disease Surveillance System (SendSS).

Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Patient Zip Code<sup>^</sup>,  
Georgia, April 2025



Percent Change<sup>a</sup> of Drug\* Overdose ED Visits,  
Georgia, Nov 2024 - Jan 2025 to Feb 2025 - Apr 2025  
(compares previous 3 months to current 3 months)



## Top 5 Counties<sup>^</sup> with 15 or More Drug\* Overdose ED Visits During April 2025

County	Monthly Rate <sup>i</sup> per 100,000 Population Apr 2025	Monthly Rate <sup>i</sup> per 100,000 Population May 2024 - Apr 2025
Polk	44.4	
Spalding	36.0	
Bibb	28.7	
Barrow	28.5	
Floyd	28.3	

Thicker borders represent the  
**5 highest county rates<sup>1</sup> of  
Drug\* overdose ED visits  
per 100,000 population in  
April 2025**  
(see table below)

**Statewide,  
1,481 ED visits for  
Drug\* overdoses  
occurred in  
April 2025,  
compared to 1,821 in  
April 2024.**

Data source: Suspected drug overdose ED/Urgent Care visits by chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis reported to DPH Syndromic Surveillance. See data limitations [here](#).

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

<sup>^</sup>Zip code and county are based on patient residence.

<sup>i</sup>Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2023 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

<sup>a</sup>Percent change data by county excludes counties with less than 3 visits.

\*Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs. Specific drugs identified using the chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis fields and are not meant to be comprehensive.

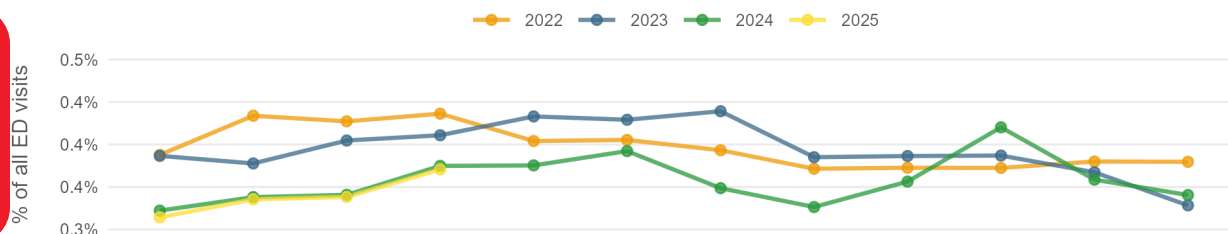
Note: All data excludes patients ≤9 years of age. Counts represent the number of ED visits instead of the number of patients, therefore, patients with repeat visits may have been counted more than once.

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

# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, April 2025

## Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2022-2025

Note: Proportion of ED visits may be affected by changes in the number of ED visits during COVID-19.



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2022 % of total ED visits	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%
2023 % of total ED visits	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%
% change from 2022 to 2023	-0.9%	-12.2%	-5.9%	-6.6%	8.2%	4.7%	12.6%	4.1%	4.4%	4.6%	-3.3%	-13.6%	-0.3%
2024 % of total ED visits	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%
% change from 2023 to 2024	-17.4%	-11.0%	-14.8%	-8.6%	-12.7%	-8.8%	-20.8%	-16.3%	-8.6%	7.7%	-3.1%	3.2%	-9.3%
2025 % of total ED visits	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%									0.3%
% change from 2024 to 2025	-1.8%	-1.3%	-0.5%	0.2%									-0.8%

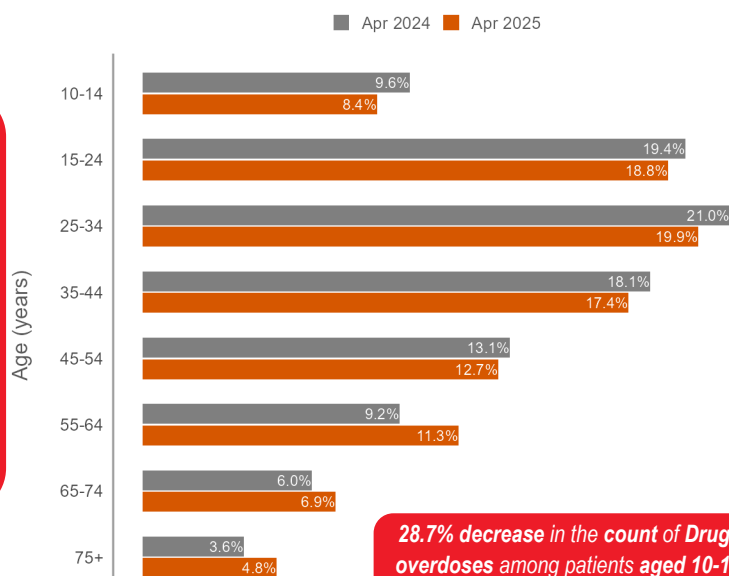
## Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Sex, Race, and Age Group, Georgia, April 2024 and April 2025

### Rate<sup>1</sup> of Drug\* Overdose ED Visits

	Apr 2024 Rate <sup>1</sup> (per 100,000 population)	Apr 2025 Rate <sup>1</sup> (per 100,000 population)
<b>Overall</b>	18.8	15.3
<b>Sex</b>		
Female	18.9	15.7
Male	18.6	14.7
<b>Race</b>		
Black	17.8	14.6
White	17.9	14.6
Other	16.7	9.5
<b>Age Group (years)</b>		
10-14	23.8	17.0
15-24	23.2	18.3
25-34	25.1	19.3
35-44	22.4	17.4
45-54	17.0	13.4
55-64	12.4	12.4
65-74	10.8	10.0
75+	9.8	10.5

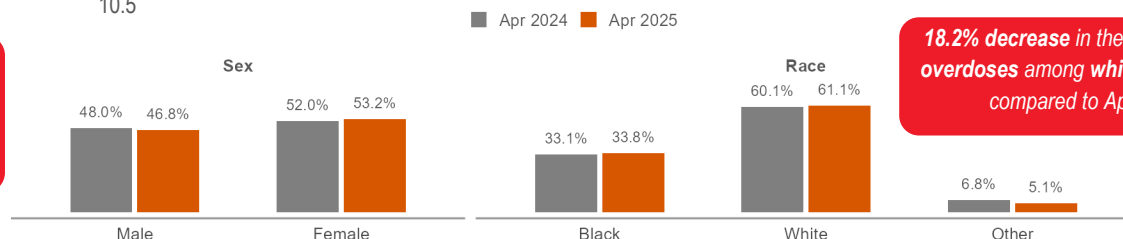
Drug\* overdose ED visits in April 2025 were predominantly: Female (53.1%), White (56.9%), and between 25-34 years of age (19.9%).

### Percent of All Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Age Group



28.7% decrease in the count of Drug\* overdoses among patients aged 10-14 when compared to April 2024.

### Percent of All Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Sex and Race



20.7% decrease in the count of Drug\* overdoses among Males when compared to April 2024.

18.2% decrease in the count of Drug\* overdoses among white patients when compared to April 2024.

Data source: Suspected drug overdose ED/Urgent Care visits by chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis reported to DPH Syndromic Surveillance. See data limitations [here](#).

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

<sup>1</sup>Zip code and county are based on patient residence.

<sup>1</sup>Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2023 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

<sup>1</sup>Percent change data by county excludes counties with less than 3 visits.

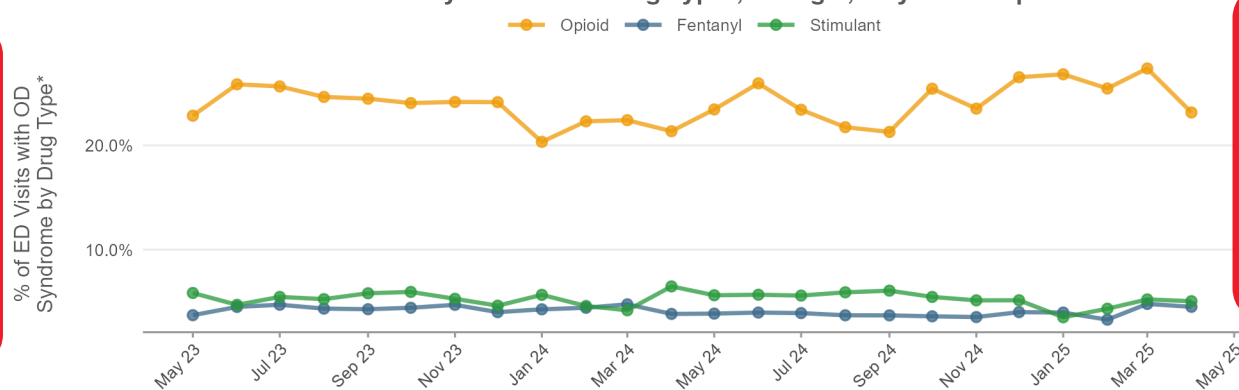
\*Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs. Specific drugs identified using the chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis fields and are not meant to be comprehensive.

Note: All data excludes patients ≤9 years of age. Counts represent the number of ED visits instead of the number of patients, therefore, patients with repeat visits may have been counted more than once.

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# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, April 2025

OD ED Visits by Month and Drug Type\*, Georgia, May 2024 - April 2025



36.4% decrease in the count of drug overdose visits mentioning stimulants when compared to April 2024.

Note: Due to limitations with drug testing in EDs, Fentanyl and Stimulant categories are likely under-represented.

% of ED Visits with OD Syndrome Involving Any Opioid, Georgia, 2021—2024

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2022 % of OD ED visits	23.8%	21.4%	23.0%	24.3%	23.1%	26.1%	23.7%	24.0%	21.5%	20.9%	22.7%	24.0%	23.2%
2023 % of OD ED visits	22.6%	23.8%	26.0%	23.7%	22.9%	25.9%	25.7%	24.7%	24.5%	24.1%	24.2%	24.2%	24.4%
% change from 2022 to 2023	-5.4%	11.2%	13.2%	-2.7%	-1.2%	-1.1%	8.2%	2.8%	14.0%	15.0%	6.3%	0.6%	5.1%
2024 % of OD ED visits	20.3%	22.3%	22.4%	21.4%	23.5%	26.0%	23.4%	21.8%	21.3%	25.4%	23.5%	26.5%	23.1%
% change from 2023 to 2024	-9.8%	-6.4%	-13.7%	-9.7%	2.6%	0.3%	-8.7%	-11.8%	-13.0%	5.7%	-2.7%	9.9%	-4.8%
2025 % of OD ED visits	26.8%	25.5%	27.4%	23.2%									25.7%
% change from 2024 to 2025	31.8%	14.1%	22.1%	8.4%									19.1%

% of ED Visits with OD Syndrome Involving Fentanyl, Georgia, 2021—2024

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2022 % of OD ED visits	1.3%	1.2%	2.3%	2.7%	2.7%	2.3%	2.7%	3.2%	2.5%	2.6%	2.4%	3.2%	2.4%
2023 % of OD ED visits	3.9%	4.4%	4.0%	3.4%	3.7%	4.5%	4.7%	4.3%	4.3%	4.4%	4.7%	4.0%	4.2%
% change from 2022 to 2023	192.9%	273.0%	76.2%	25.1%	38.8%	99.0%	73.6%	35.1%	70.6%	70.9%	96.9%	25.6%	89.8%
2024 % of OD ED visits	4.3%	4.4%	4.8%	3.8%	3.9%	4.0%	3.9%	3.7%	3.7%	3.6%	3.5%	4.0%	4.0%
% change from 2023 to 2024	8.5%	1.2%	18.8%	14.0%	4.1%	-12.0%	-16.9%	-14.8%	-13.9%	-18.4%	-24.8%	-0.0%	-4.5%
2025 % of OD ED visits	4.0%	3.3%	4.8%	4.5%									4.2%
% change from 2024 to 2025	-7.2%	-25.6%	1.0%	17.7%									-3.5%

% of ED Visits with OD Syndrome Involving a Stimulant, Georgia, 2021—2024

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2022 % of OD ED visits	5.0%	5.4%	5.5%	5.6%	5.6%	6.6%	5.3%	5.4%	5.0%	4.3%	5.9%	4.3%	5.3%
2023 % of OD ED visits	5.4%	5.2%	4.9%	5.2%	5.8%	4.7%	5.5%	5.3%	5.8%	6.0%	5.3%	4.6%	5.3%
% change from 2022 to 2023	7.4%	-3.8%	-10.4%	-8.5%	5.3%	-29.1%	2.5%	-2.3%	15.7%	38.5%	-10.2%	8.3%	1.1%
2024 % of OD ED visits	5.7%	4.6%	4.2%	6.5%	5.6%	5.7%	5.6%	5.9%	6.1%	5.5%	5.1%	5.2%	5.5%
% change from 2023 to 2024	5.7%	-11.7%	-14.6%	25.5%	-3.7%	20.6%	2.4%	12.4%	4.2%	-8.1%	-3.0%	11.3%	3.4%
2025 % of OD ED visits	3.5%	4.3%	5.2%	5.1%									4.5%
% change from 2024 to 2025	-37.9%	-5.8%	24.9%	-21.8%									-10.2%

## Link(s) of interest:

[Georgia Department of Public Health Drug Surveillance Unit, Georgia Drug Overdose Data Dashboard](#)

[CDC MMWR, Trend in Suspected Fentanyl-Involved Nonfatal Overdose Emergency Department Visits, by Age Group, Sex, and Race and Ethnicity – United States, October 2020 - March 2024](#)

Data source: Suspected drug overdose ED/Urgent Care visits by chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis reported to DPH Syndromic Surveillance. See data limitations [here](#).

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