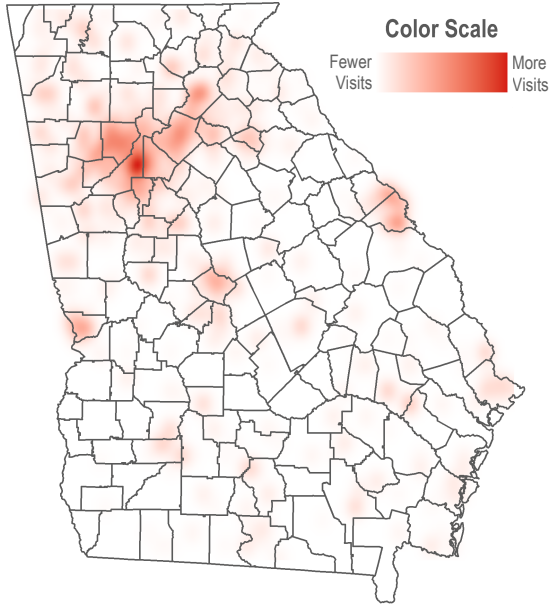


# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, July 2022

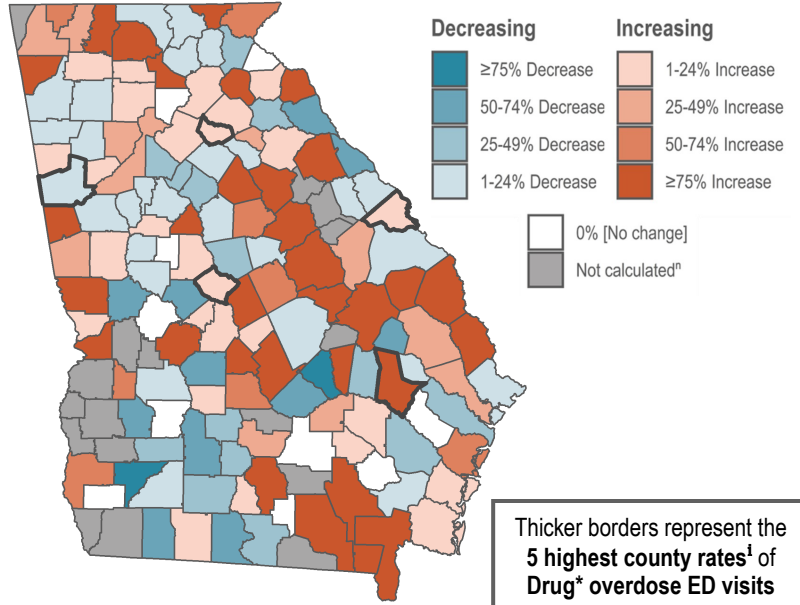
**What is Syndromic Surveillance (SS)?** SS is used as an early detection method for potential clusters or outbreaks, by tracking suspected drug overdose-involved emergency department (ED) visits based on the patient's chief complaint upon admission and/or discharge diagnosis. Participating Georgia hospitals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

**Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Patient Zip Code<sup>^</sup>, Georgia, July 2022**



**Percent Change<sup>n</sup> of Drug\* Overdose ED Visits, Georgia, Feb 2022 - Apr 2022 to May 2022 - Jul 2022**

(compares previous 3 months to current 3 months)



Thicker borders represent the **5 highest county rates<sup>1</sup>** of Drug\* overdose ED visits per 100,000 population in July 2022 (see table below)

**Top 5 Counties<sup>^</sup> with 15 or More Drug\* Overdose ED Visits During July 2022**

County	Monthly Rate <sup>1</sup> per 100,000 Population Jul 2022	Monthly Rate <sup>1</sup> per 100,000 Population Aug 2021 - Jul 2022
Tattnall	104.2	
Carroll	37.7	
Bibb	37.5	
Barrow	30.7	
Richmond	30.6	

**Statewide, 1,484 ED visits for Drug\* overdoses occurred in July 2021, compared to 1,541 in July 2022.**

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>1</sup>Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2021 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

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

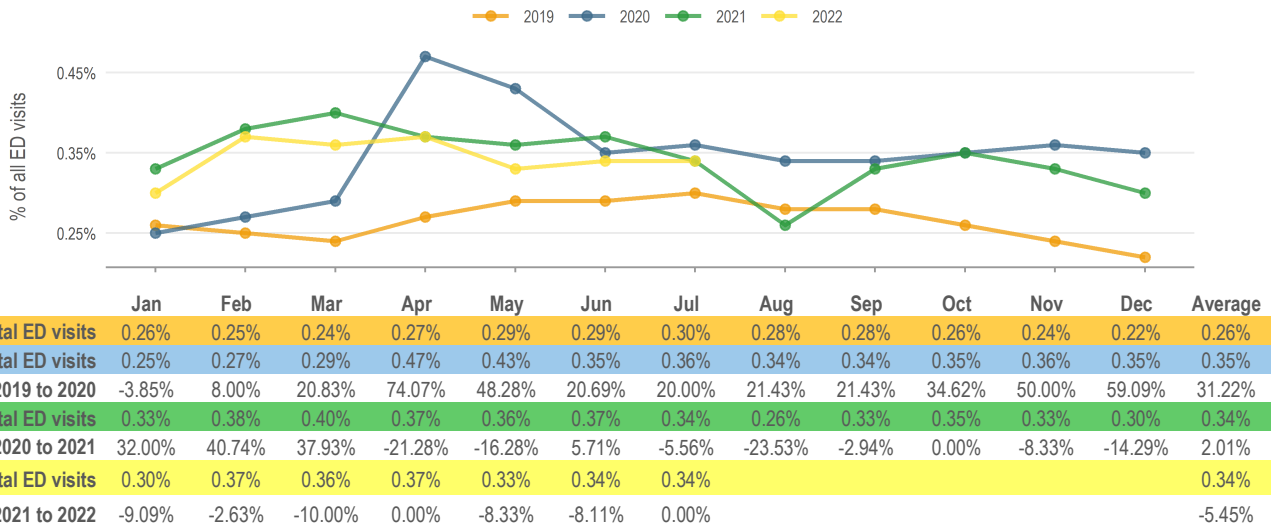
\*Drug Specific Categories are not mutually exclusive and include illicit and prescription drugs. Specific drugs identified using the chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis fields and are not meant to be comprehensive.

Note: All data excludes patients ≤14 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: SS data is not the same as emergency department discharge data; drug overdose SS data is limited and based on accuracy of chief complaint and/or discharge diagnosis and what is reported to DPH SS. 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, July 2022

Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2019-2022



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

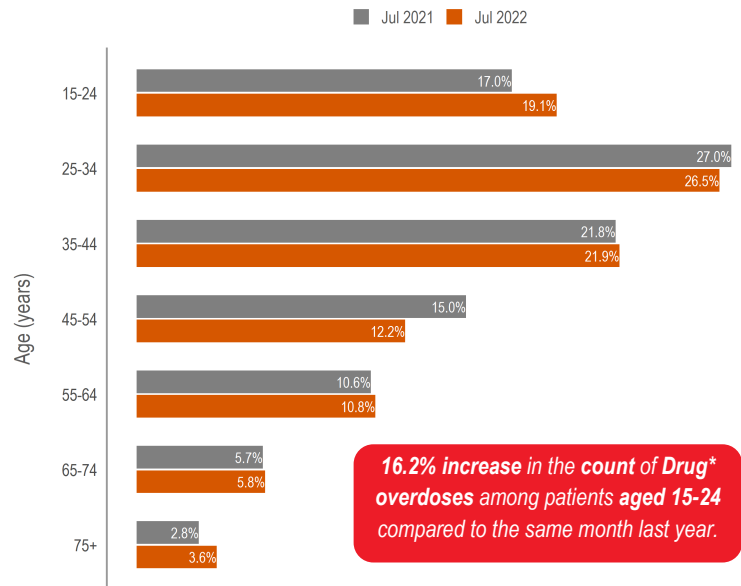
Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Sex, Race, and Age Group, Georgia, Jul 2021 and Jul 2022

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

	Jul 2021 Rate <sup>1</sup> (per 100,000 population)	Jul 2022 Rate <sup>1</sup> (per 100,000 population)
<b>Overall</b>	17.0	17.6
<b>Sex</b>		
Female	15.5	15.9
Male	18.6	19.5
<b>Race</b>		
Black	10.7	11.7
White	18.6	19.4
Other	20.9	20.7
<b>Age Group (years)</b>		
15-24	17.1	19.8
25-34	26.8	27.3
35-44	22.6	23.7
45-54	15.9	13.4
55-64	11.8	12.4
65-74	8.6	9.1
75+	7.0	9.4

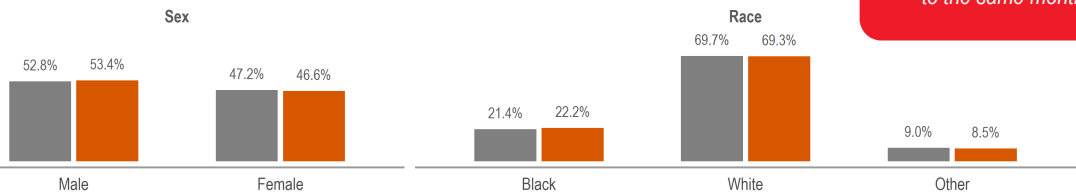
Drug\* overdose ED visits in March 2022 were predominantly: Male (53.4%), White (69.3%), and between 25-34 years of age (26.5%).

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



16.2% increase in the count of Drug\* overdoses among patients aged 15-24 compared to the same month last year.

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



5.1% increase in the count of Drug\* overdoses among Males compared to the same month last year.

8.9% increase in the count of Drug\* overdoses among Blacks compared to the same month last year.

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>2</sup>Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2021 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

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

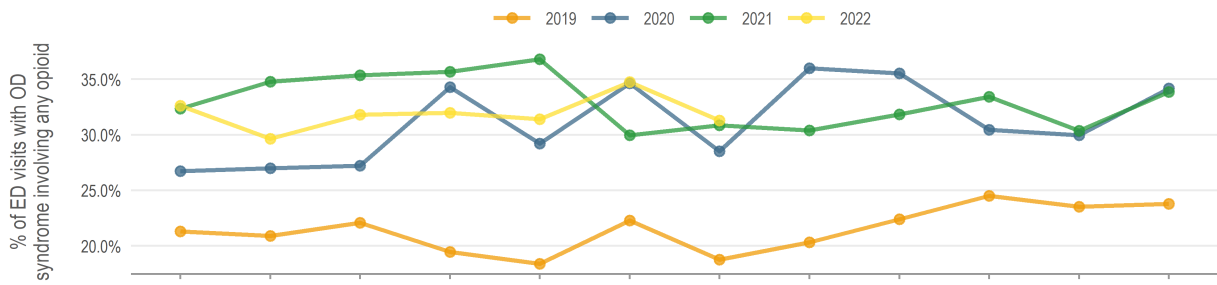
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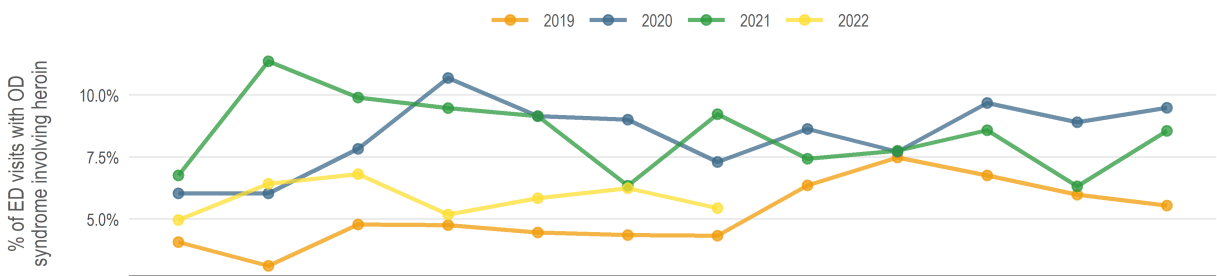
# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, July 2022

### Opioid-Involved\* OD ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2019-2022



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2019 % of OD ED visits	21.32%	20.91%	22.09%	19.47%	18.40%	22.30%	18.77%	20.33%	22.39%	24.50%	23.53%	23.79%	21.48%
2020 % of OD ED visits	26.72%	26.98%	27.22%	34.29%	29.20%	34.63%	28.53%	36.00%	35.53%	30.44%	29.95%	34.16%	31.14%
% change from 2019 to 2020	25.33%	29.03%	23.22%	76.12%	58.70%	55.29%	52.00%	77.08%	58.69%	24.24%	27.28%	43.59%	45.88%
2021 % of OD ED visits	32.36%	34.79%	35.34%	35.68%	36.79%	29.97%	30.86%	30.40%	31.84%	33.41%	30.37%	33.84%	32.97%
% change from 2020 to 2021	21.11%	28.95%	29.83%	4.05%	25.99%	-13.46%	8.17%	-15.56%	-10.39%	9.76%	1.40%	-0.94%	7.41%
2022 % of OD ED visits	32.61%	29.64%	31.80%	31.97%	31.41%	34.74%	31.28%						31.92%
% change from 2021 to 2022	0.77%	-14.80%	-10.02%	-10.40%	-14.62%	15.92%	1.36%						-4.54%

### Heroin-Involved\* OD ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2019-2022



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Average
2019 % of OD ED visits	4.08%	3.12%	4.79%	4.76%	4.46%	4.36%	4.33%	6.36%	7.49%	6.76%	5.98%	5.55%	5.17%
2020 % of OD ED visits	6.04%	6.04%	7.84%	10.69%	9.15%	9.01%	7.31%	8.64%	7.72%	9.68%	8.91%	9.49%	8.38%
% change from 2019 to 2020	48.04%	93.59%	63.67%	124.58%	105.16%	106.65%	68.82%	35.85%	3.07%	43.20%	49.00%	70.99%	67.72%
2021 % of OD ED visits	6.76%	11.36%	9.90%	9.48%	9.15%	6.35%	9.23%	7.44%	7.76%	8.59%	6.32%	8.56%	8.41%
% change from 2020 to 2021	11.92%	88.08%	26.28%	-11.32%	0.00%	-29.52%	26.27%	-13.89%	0.52%	-11.26%	-29.07%	-9.80%	4.02%
2022 % of OD ED visits	4.96%	6.42%	6.81%	5.18%	5.85%	6.25%	5.45%						5.85%
% change from 2021 to 2022	-26.63%	-43.49%	-31.21%	-45.36%	-36.07%	-1.57%	-40.95%						-32.18%

#### Link(s) of interest:

[CDC DOSE Dashboard: Nonfatal Overdose Data](#)

[Vital Signs: Drug Overdose Deaths, by Selected Sociodemographic and Social Determinants of Health Characteristics — 25 States and the District of Colum-](#)

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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