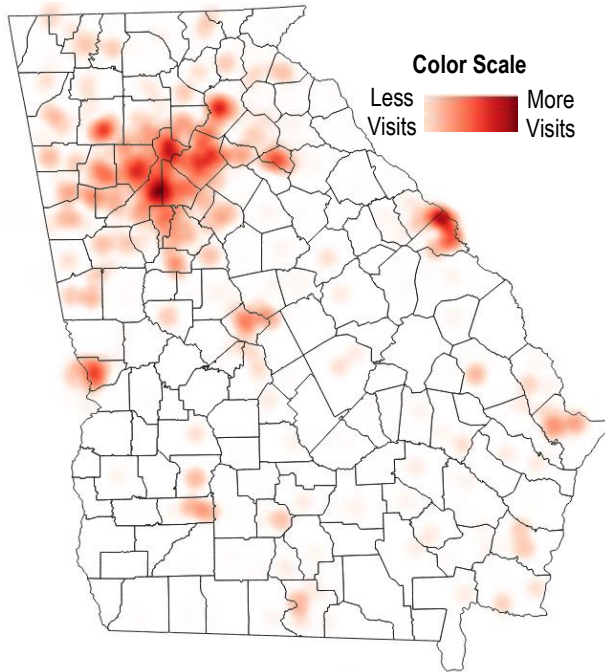


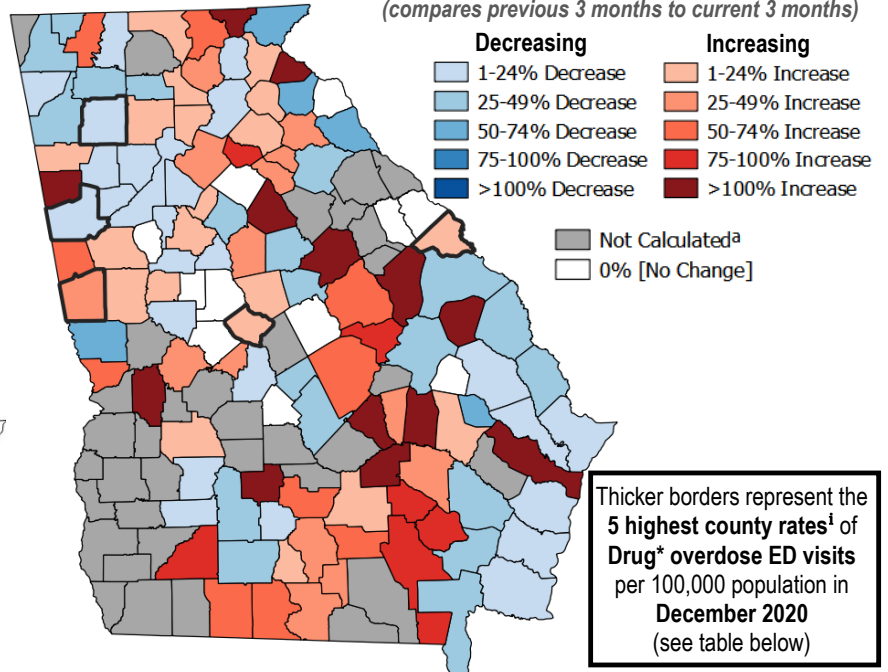
Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, December 2020

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).

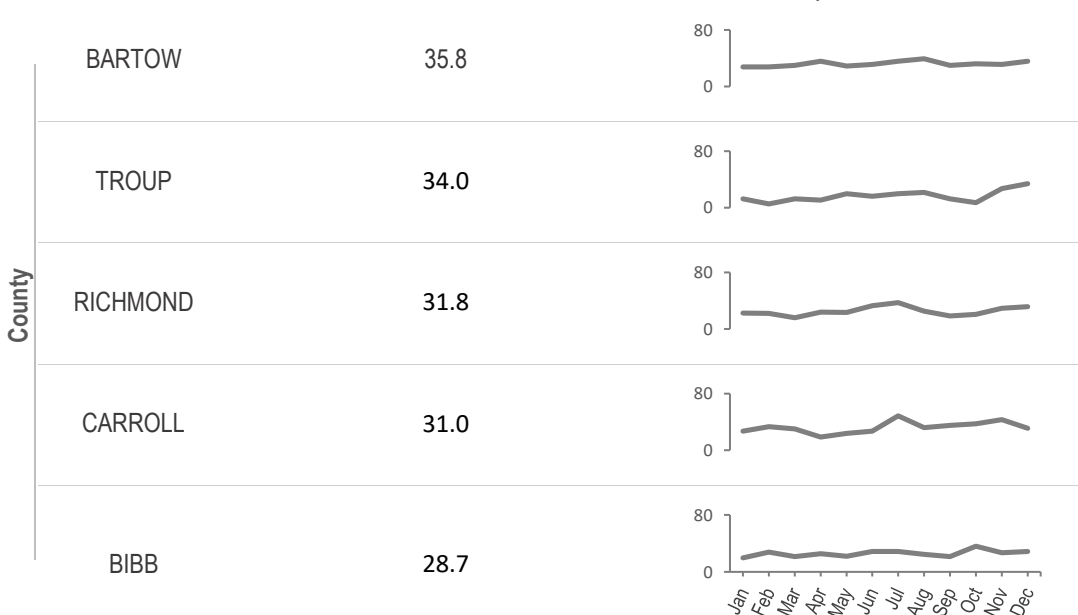
Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Patient Zip Code[^], Georgia, December 2020



Percent Change^a of Drug* Overdose ED Visits, Georgia, Jul - Sep 2020 to Oct - Dec 2020
(compares previous 3 months to current 3 months)



Top 5 Counties[^] with 15 or More Drug* Overdose ED Visits During December 2020

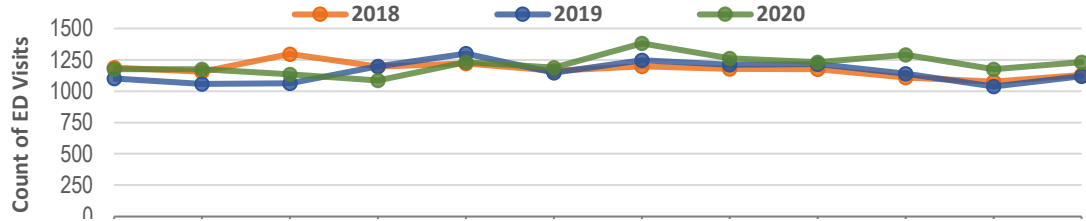


Statewide, 1,338 ED visits for Drug* overdoses occurred in December 2020, compared to 1,118 in December 2019

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.
[^]Zip code and county are based on patient residence.
¹Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2019 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.
^aPercent change data by county excludes counties with less than 3 visits.
 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, December 2020

Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2018-2020



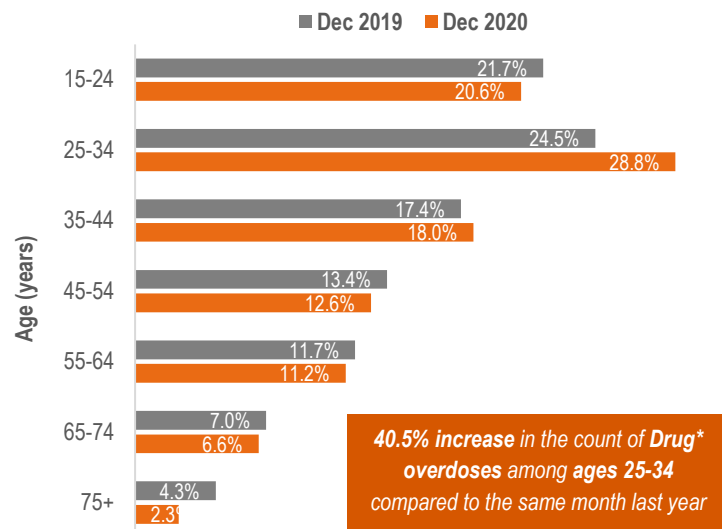
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2018 Count of ED Visits	1187	1154	1296	1195	1220	1162	1197	1178	1174	1109	1076	1129	14077
2019 Count of ED Visits	1102	1057	1064	1197	1299	1148	1247	1210	1215	1139	1037	1118	13833
% Change from 2018 to 2019	(-7%)	(-8%)	(-18%)	0%	(+6%)	(-1%)	(+4%)	(+3%)	(+3%)	(+3%)	(-4%)	(-1%)	(-2%)
2020 Count of ED Visits	1175	1175	1135	1085	1230	1187	1381	1261	1230	1291	1175	1230	14555
% Change from 2019 to 2020	(+7%)	(+11%)	(+7%)	(-9%)	(-5%)	(+3%)	(+11%)	(-4%)	(+1%)	(+13%)	(+13%)	(+10%)	(+6%)

Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Sex, Race, and Age Group, Georgia, December 2019 and December 2020

	Dec 2019 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 Population)	Dec 2020 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 Population)
Overall	13.1	15.7
Sex^o		
Male	13.5	17.1
Female	12.7	14.3
Race^o		
White	13.8	17.5
Black	9.0	8.9
Other	16.7	20.2
Age Group^o (years)		
15-24	16.8	19.0
25-34	18.3	25.8
35-44	14.0	17.5
45-54	10.7	12.0
55-64	10.0	11.5
65-74	8.4	9.5
75+	8.1	5.2

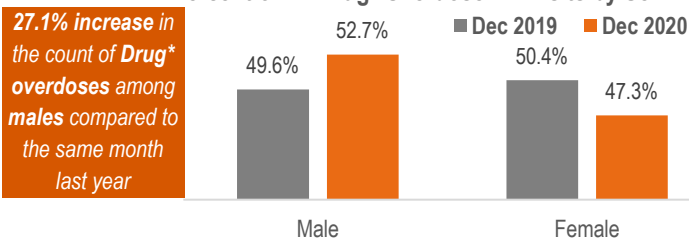
Drug* overdose ED visits in December 2020 were predominantly: Male (52.7%), White (72.0%), and between 25-34 years of age (28.8%).

Percent of All Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Age Group^o



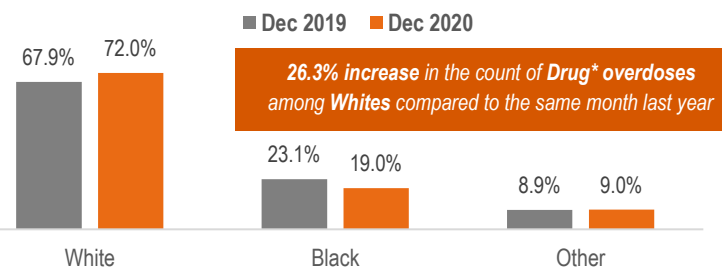
40.5% increase in the count of Drug* overdoses among ages 25-34 compared to the same month last year

Percent of All Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Sex^o



27.1% increase in the count of Drug* overdoses among males compared to the same month last year

Percent of All Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Race^o



26.3% increase in the count of Drug* overdoses among Whites compared to the same month last year

Link(s) of interest:

[Increase in Fatal Drug Overdoses Across the United States Driven by Synthetic Opioids Before and During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

[CDC Vital Signs, Overdose Death and the Involvement of Illicit Drugs](#)

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.

ⁱRate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2019 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

^oCases with unknown sex, race, and age group were excluded from respective analyses.

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.