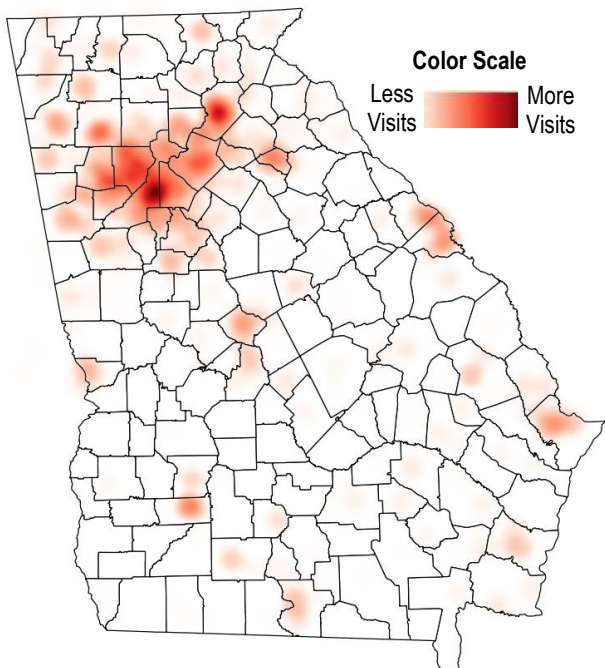


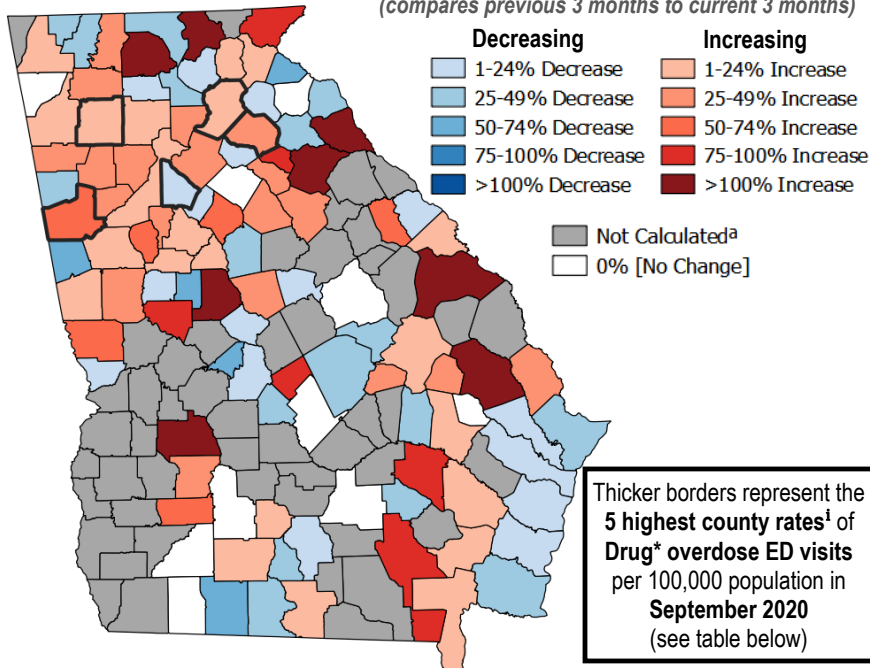
Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, September 2020

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).

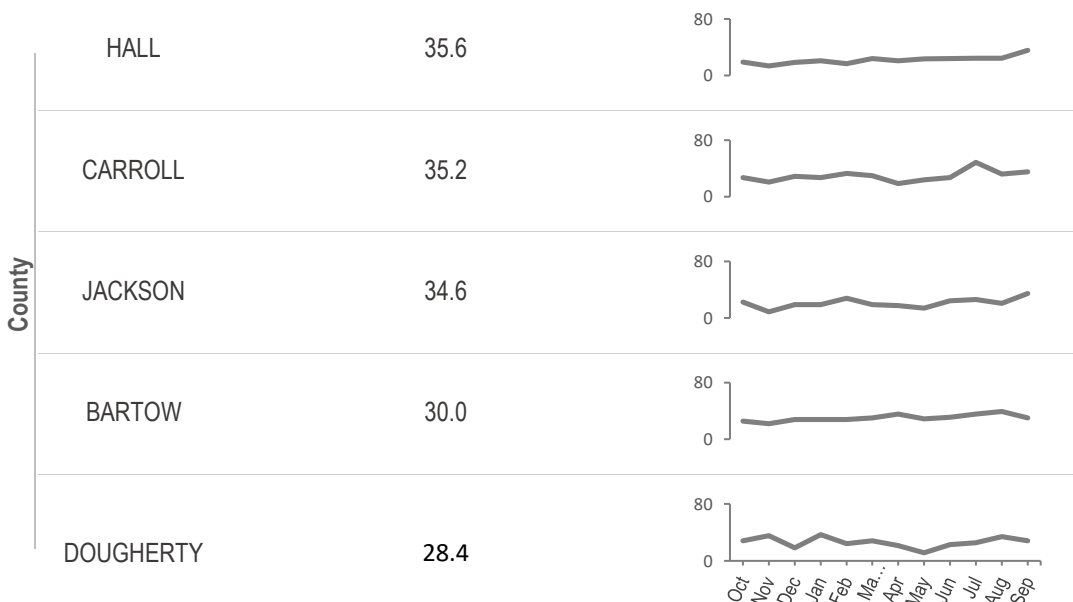
Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Patient Zip Code[^], Georgia, September 2020



Percent Change^a of Drug* Overdose ED Visits, Georgia, April-June 2020 to July-Sept 2020
(compares previous 3 months to current 3 months)



Top 5 Counties[^] with 15 or More Drug* Overdose ED Visits During September 2020
Monthly Rate¹ per 100,000 Population
September 2020 Monthly Rate¹ per 100,000 Population
October 2019 - September 2020



**Statewide,
1,230 ED visits for
Drug* overdoses
occurred in
September 2020,
compared to 1,215 in
September 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.

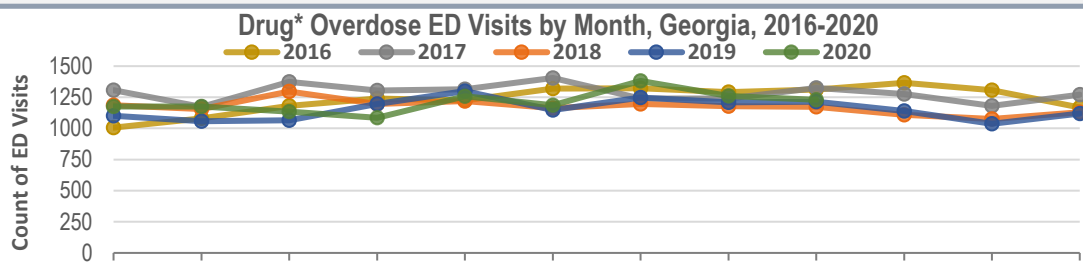
¹Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2019 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

^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, September 2020



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2016 Count of ED Visits	1006	1081	1182	1240	1225	1319	1321	1292	1311	1366	1308	1167	14818
2017 Count of ED Visits	1308	1173	1373	1305	1315	1405	1240	1239	1325	1275	1181	1271	15410
% Change from 2016 to 2017	(+30%)	(+9%)	(+16%)	(+5%)	(+7%)	(+7%)	(-6%)	(-4%)	(+1%)	(-7%)	(-10%)	(+9%)	(+5%)
2018 Count of ED Visits	1187	1154	1296	1195	1220	1162	1197	1178	1174	1109	1076	1129	14077
% Change from 2017 to 2018	(-9%)	(-2%)	(-6%)	(-8%)	(-7%)	(-17%)	(-3%)	(-5%)	(-11%)	(-13%)	(-9%)	(-11%)	(-9%)
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	1257	1187	1381	1261	1230				10886
% Change from 2019 to 2020	(+7%)	(+11%)	(+7%)	(-9%)	(-3%)	(+3%)	(+11%)	(+4%)	(+1%)				(+3%)

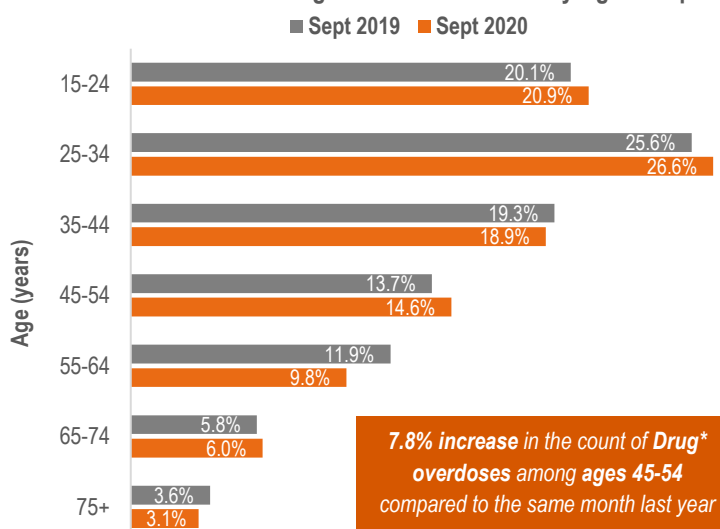
Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Sex, Race, and Age Group, Georgia, September 2019 and September 2020

Rateⁱ of Drug* Overdose ED Visits

	Sept 2019 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 Population)	Sept 2020 Rate ⁱ (per 100,000 Population)
Overall	14.2	14.4
Sex^o		
Male	14.2	15.4
Female	14.2	13.4
Race^o		
White	15.9	15.9
Black	9.6	8.4
Other	13.5	17.6
Age Group^o (years)		
15-24	16.8	17.7
25-34	20.8	21.9
35-44	17.0	16.9
45-54	11.9	12.9
55-64	11.0	9.3
65-74	7.6	8.0
75+	7.4	6.4

Drug* overdose ED visits in September 2020 were predominantly: Male (51.67%), White (71.6%), and between 25-34 years of age (26.6%).

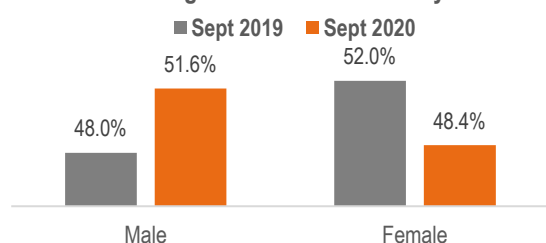
Percent of All Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Age Group^o



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

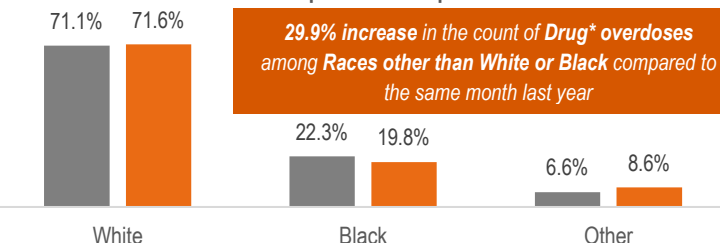
Percent of All Drug* Overdose ED Visits by Sex^o

8.7% 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

29.9% increase in the count of Drug* overdoses among Races other than White or Black compared to the same month last year



Link(s) of interest:

[Updated Memo to Statewide Partners Regarding Suspected Drug Overdose Increases in Georgia Amid COVID-19](#)

[CDC MMWR, Vital Signs: Characteristics of Drug Overdose Deaths Involving Opioids and Stimulants — 24 States and the District of Columbia, January–June 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](#).

^oDrugs 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.