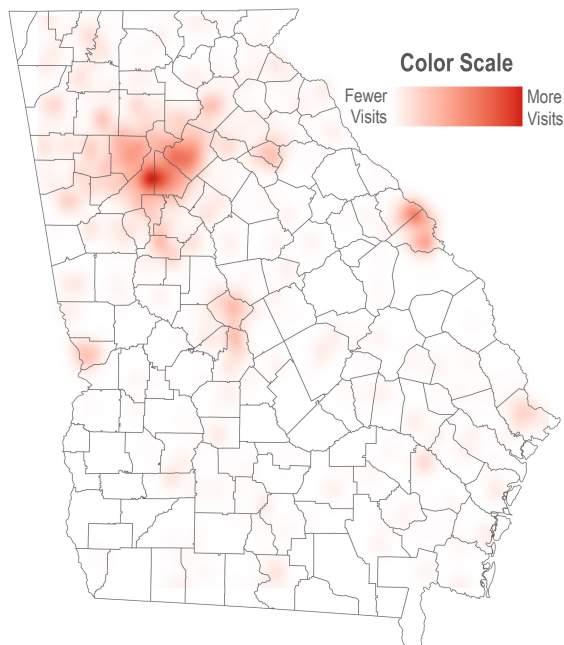


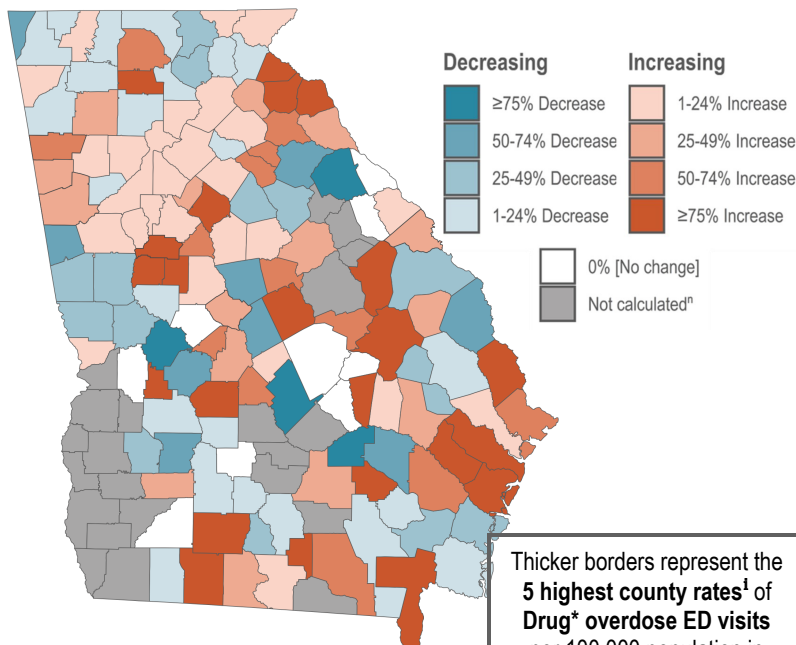
# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, June 2023

**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, June 2023



Percent Change<sup>n</sup> of Drug\* Overdose ED Visits,  
Georgia, Jan 2023 - Mar 2023 to Apr 2023 - Jun 2023  
(compares previous 3 months to current 3 months)



## Top 5 Counties<sup>^</sup> with 15 or More Drug\* Overdose ED Visits During June 2023

County	Monthly Rate <sup>i</sup> per 100,000 Population Jun 2023	Monthly Rate <sup>i</sup> per 100,000 Population Jul 2022 - Jun 2023
Spalding	50.0	
Polk	45.9	
Richmond	42.7	
Bibb	38.3	
Carroll	34.3	

Thicker borders represent the  
**5 highest county rates<sup>1</sup> of  
Drug\* overdose ED visits  
per 100,000 population in  
June 2023**  
(see table below)

**Statewide,  
1,602 ED visits for  
Drug\* overdoses  
occurred in  
June 2023,  
compared to 1522 in  
June 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>i</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.

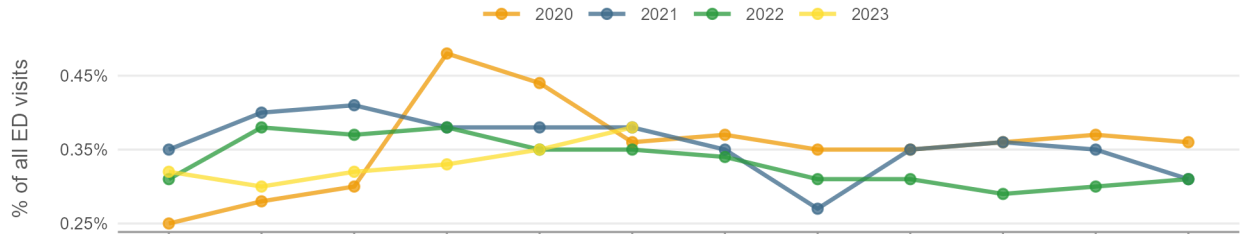
Note: All data excludes patients ≤9 years of age. Counts represent the number of ED visits instead of the number of patients, therefore, patients with repeat visits may have been counted more than once.

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, June 2023

## Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2020-2023

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
2020 % of total ED visits	0.25%	0.28%	0.30%	0.48%	0.44%	0.36%	0.37%	0.35%	0.35%	0.36%	0.37%	0.36%	0.36%
2021 % of total ED visits	0.35%	0.40%	0.41%	0.38%	0.38%	0.38%	0.35%	0.27%	0.35%	0.36%	0.35%	0.31%	0.36%
% change from 2020 to 2021	40.00%	42.86%	36.67%	-20.83%	-13.64%	5.56%	-5.41%	-22.86%	0.00%	0.00%	-5.41%	-13.89%	3.59%
2022 % of total ED visits	0.31%	0.38%	0.37%	0.38%	0.35%	0.35%	0.34%	0.31%	0.31%	0.29%	0.30%	0.31%	0.33%
% change from 2021 to 2022	-11.43%	-5.00%	-9.76%	0.00%	-7.89%	-7.89%	-2.86%	14.81%	-11.43%	-19.44%	-14.29%	0.00%	-6.26%
2023 % of total ED visits	0.32%	0.30%	0.32%	0.33%	0.35%	0.38%	0.38%	0.38%	0.38%	0.38%	0.38%	0.38%	0.33%
% change from 2022 to 2023	3.23%	-21.05%	-13.51%	-13.16%	0.00%	8.57%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	-5.99%

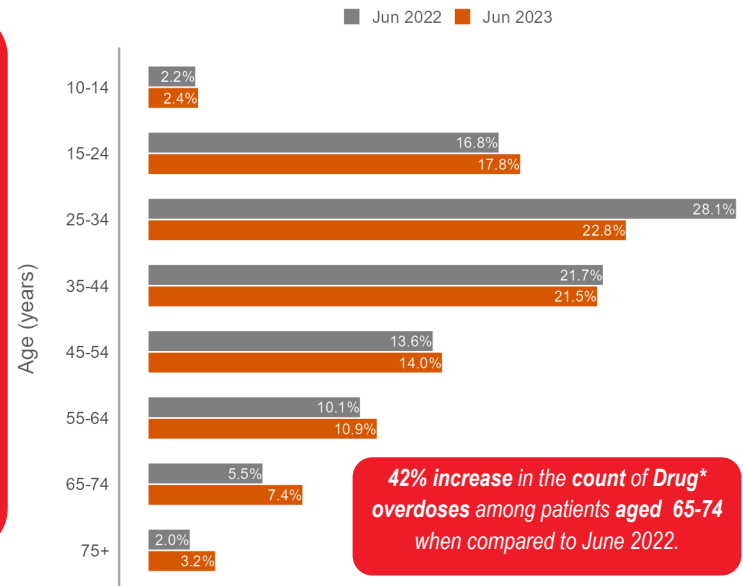
## Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Sex, Race, and Age Group, Georgia, June 2022 and June 2023

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

	Jun 2022 Rate <sup>1</sup> (per 100,000 population)	Jun 2023 Rate <sup>1</sup> (per 100,000 population)
Overall	17.2	18.1
Sex		
Female	15.9	16.8
Male	18.6	19.5
Race		
Black	10.7	15.7
White	18.6	18.3
Other	24.2	13.4
Age Group (years)		
10-14	4.6	5.2
15-24	32.9	36.8
25-34	28.3	24.2
35-44	22.9	23.8
45-54	14.8	16.1
55-64	11.5	13.1
65-74	8.3	11.9
75+	4.6	7.8

Drug\* overdose ED visits in June 2023 were predominantly: Male (51.9%), White (60.5%), and between 25-34 years of age (22.8%).

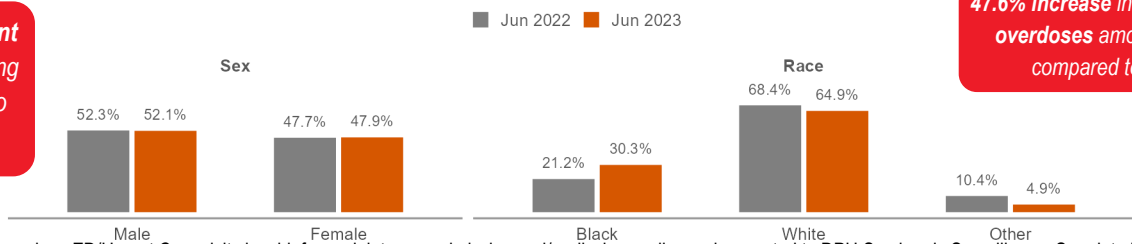
### Percent of All Drug\* Overdose ED Visits by Age Group



42% increase in the count of Drug\* overdoses among patients aged 65-74 when compared to June 2022.

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

5.7% increase in the count of Drug\* overdoses among males when compared to June 2022.



47.6% increase in the count of Drug\* overdoses among Blacks when compared to June 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>1</sup>Rate indicates visits per 100,000 persons using 2021 Census data as the denominator. Excluded rates for counties with <15 visits.

<sup>2</sup>Percent change data by county excludes counties with less than 3 visits.

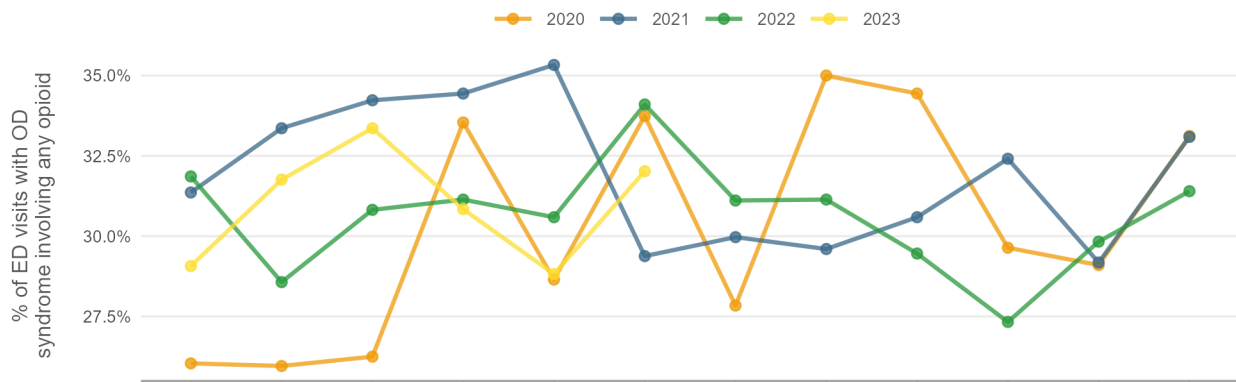
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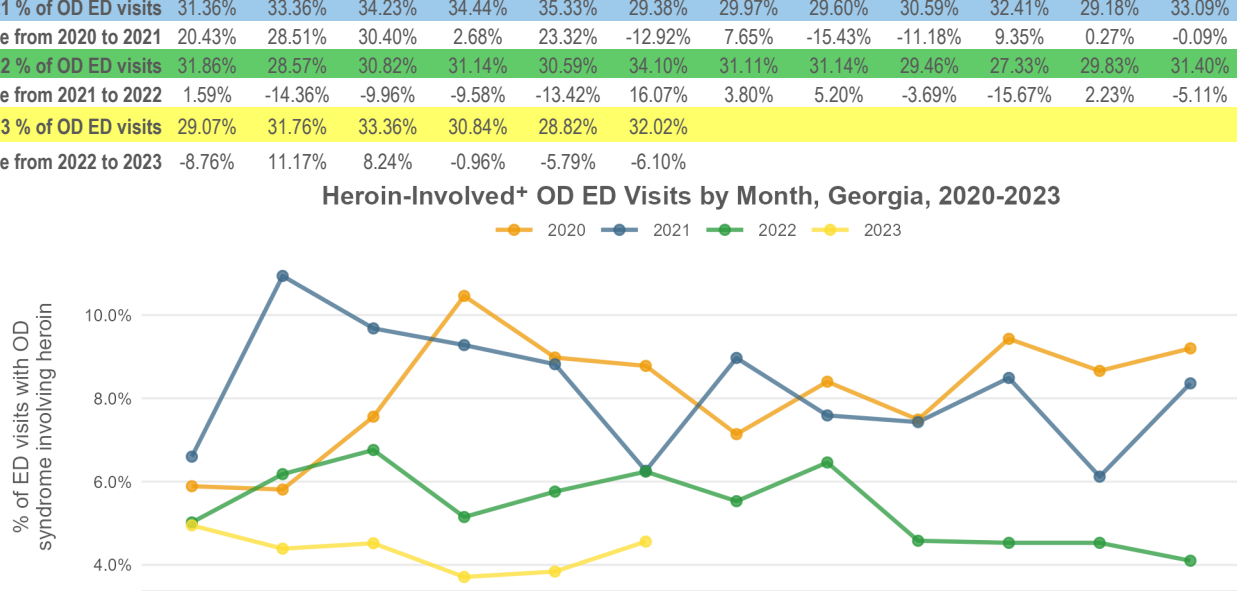
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# Syndromic Surveillance Drug Overdose Emergency Department Visits: Georgia, June 2023

## Opioid-Involved+ OD ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2020-2023



## Heroin-Involved+ OD ED Visits by Month, Georgia, 2020-2023



### Link(s) of interest:

[CDC MMWR, Illicitly Manufactured Fentanyl-Involved Overdose Deaths with Detected Xylazine – United States, January 2019 – June 2022](#)

[Rapid Analysis of Drugs: A Pilot Surveillance System To Detect Changes in the Illicit Drug Supply To Guide Timely Harm Reduction Responses – Eight Syringe Services Programs, Maryland, November 2021 – August 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](#).

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