

2024 SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION DAY AT THE GEORGIA CAPITOL

RX-OPIOID FACTS 2024



The National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics stated in their 2024 online report that Georgia:

Averages 1,408 overdose deaths per year.¹

OD deaths increased at an annual rate of 0.18% over the last 3 years.¹

The OD death rate is 13.1 deaths out of every 100,000 residents.¹



Opioid-involved overdose deaths have been rapidly increasing in Georgia since 2010, driven largely by increased use and misuse of prescription opioids (e.g., Oxycodone and Hydrocodone).²

Beginning in 2013, illicit opioids such as heroin and fentanyl drove the sharp increase in opioid-involved overdose deaths.²

FROM 2020 TO 2022,

The percentage of all reported drug overdose deaths involving xylazine increased from 0.8% (15/1888 deaths) to 9% (222/2591 deaths), and 100% of all reported suspected xylazine-involved deaths in 2022 also involved fentanyl.³



All persons who use drugs, clinicians, and the general public should be aware of the risks associated with xylazine use.³

From 2020 to 2022 in Georgia deaths involving any drug increased 37%, while deaths involving xylazine increased 1380% also involved fentanyl.³

1380%

In 2022, there were **6,525,725** opioid prescriptions dispensed to **1,867,887** patients in Georgia. These prescriptions averaged 18.0 days of opioids dispensed per prescription.⁴



SOURCES

1. National Center for Drug Abuse Statistics Georgia DPH, 2024, <https://drugabusestatistics.org/drug-overdose-deaths/>
2. Georgia DPH, Drug Surveillance Unit, 12-18-2023 <https://dph.georgia.gov/epidemiology/drug-surveillance-unit>
3. Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH), Epidemiology Section, Drug Surveillance Unit <https://dph.georgia.gov/drug-surveillance-unit>
4. Georgia DPH, Prescription Drug Monitoring Report, 2022 <https://dph.georgia.gov/drug-overdose-surveillance-unit>