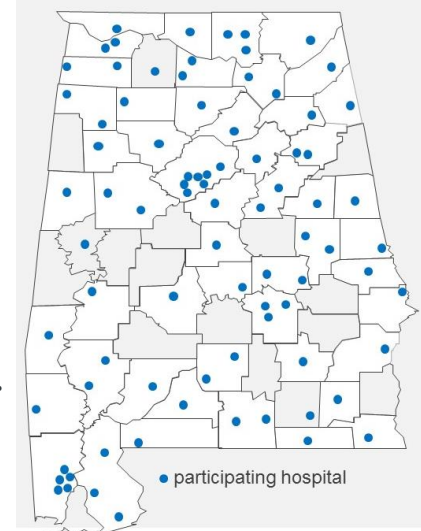


Syndromic Surveillance at work for Alabama

Near real-time data on hospital emergency department visits

Syndromic surveillance is the collection and monitoring of data on emergency department visits to inform public health interventions.

Data on **2 million** emergency department visits are reported by **~84** hospitals each year. **94%** of records are available within 2 days of patient visit.



Thank you to our participating hospitals!

Each record includes de-identified information on the patient and their chief complaint.

Alabama proudly participates in the National Syndromic Surveillance Program.

How is syndromic surveillance data used?



To understand our drug overdose epidemic.

In 2018, more than 10,000 emergency department visits were related to an overdose. 40% of all overdoses occurred in people 25–45 years old.



To monitor disease trends. For example, State health officials use syndromic surveillance to monitor seasonal flu trends and to guide education, vaccination efforts, and treatment recommendations.



To respond to emergencies. Syndromic surveillance was used to determine if a 2017 chlorine gas leak caused an increase emergency department visits for respiratory symptoms.