**FENTANYL AND OTHER SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS**

**DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS**

**RECENT TRENDS**

In 2019, synthetic opioids (primarily illegal fentanyl) passed prescription opioids as the most common drugs involved in overdose deaths in the United States.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total Overdose Deaths</th>
<th>Synthetic Opioids as % of Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>42,240</td>
<td>10,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>3,007</td>
<td>19,413</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SYNTHETIC OPIOIDS LINKED TO OVERDOSE DEATHS WITH OTHER SUBSTANCES**

Among the 42,240 opioid-related overdose deaths in 2019, 10,413 involved synthetic opioids, 17,007 involved prescription opioids, and 15,480 involved heroin.

**TYPE OF OPIOID INVOLVED IN OPIOID-RELATED OVERDOSE DEATHS**

**HHS RESPONSE TO THE OPIOID CRISIS**

1. Improving access to treatment and recovery services
2. Promoting use of overdose-reversing drugs
3. Strengthening our understanding of the opioid epidemic through better public health surveillance
4. Providing support for evidence-based research and addiction treatment
5. Advancing better treatment for pain management

For more information about finding treatment for yourself or a friend, visit drugabuse.gov/treatment.