

GET SMART **ABOUT DRUGS**

A DEA RESOURCE FOR PARENTS, EDUCATORS & CAREGIVERS

Fatal Drug Overdoses Down Overall

Last Updated: Wednesday, February 12, 2020

For the first time in decades, [drug](#) overdose deaths declined in the U.S., according to [the latest numbers from the National Center for Health Statistics](#).

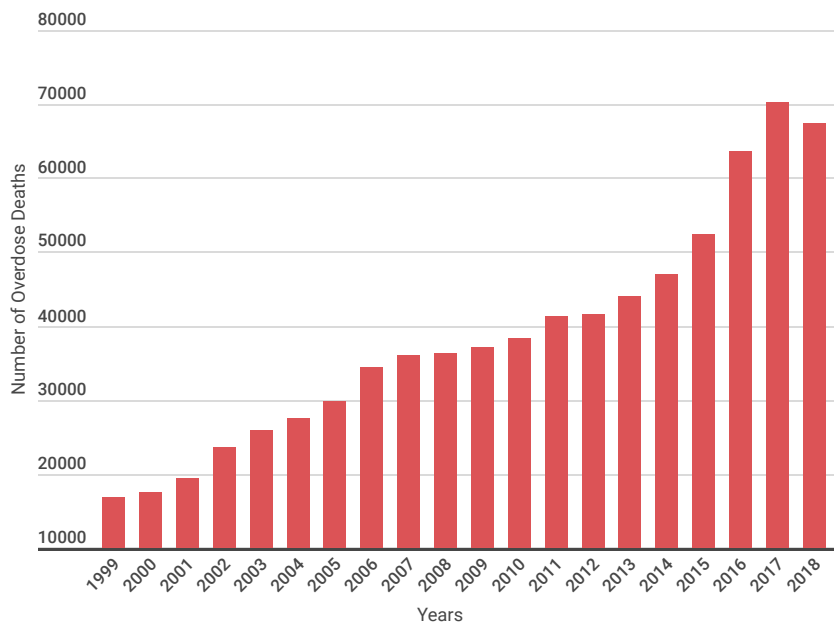
In 2018, there were 67,367 fatal overdoses – a 4.1% drop from 2017 when there were 70,237 deaths.

While overall drug deaths are down, deaths due to synthetic opioids, like [fentanyl](#), jumped 10% – from 0.9% to 9.9% – between 2017 and 2018.

In addition, [cocaine](#) deaths increased about 27% each year from 2012 through 2018. [Read the full report](#).

Drug Overdose Deaths in the United States

(1999-2018)



Source: NCHS, National Vital Statistics System Mortality

Share

made with 