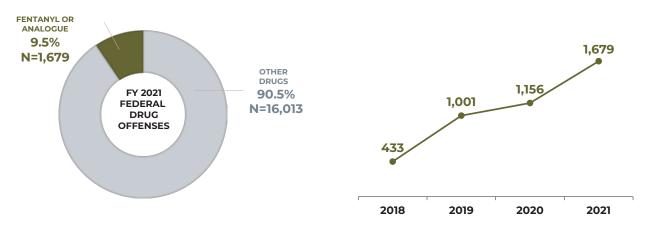


Federal Sentencing Snapshot: Fentanyl Trafficking Trends

This fact sheet provides a snapshot of recent federal sentencing trends for fentanyl or fentanyl analogue offenses nationwide.

OVERVIEW

The number of **fentanyl offenders sentenced in federal district court** has **risen substantially in recent years**. In fiscal year 2021, 1,679 drug trafficking offenders were sentenced for a fentanyl or fentanyl analogue offense—up from 433 in fiscal year 2018.



According to preliminary fiscal year 2022 data, this **increase has caused a historic shift** in the makeup of the **federal drug caseload**—with fentanyl surpassing crack cocaine and marijuana in fiscal year 2021, and heroin in the first quarter of fiscal year 2022—to become the **third most common drug type** in the federal criminal sentencing caseload.

