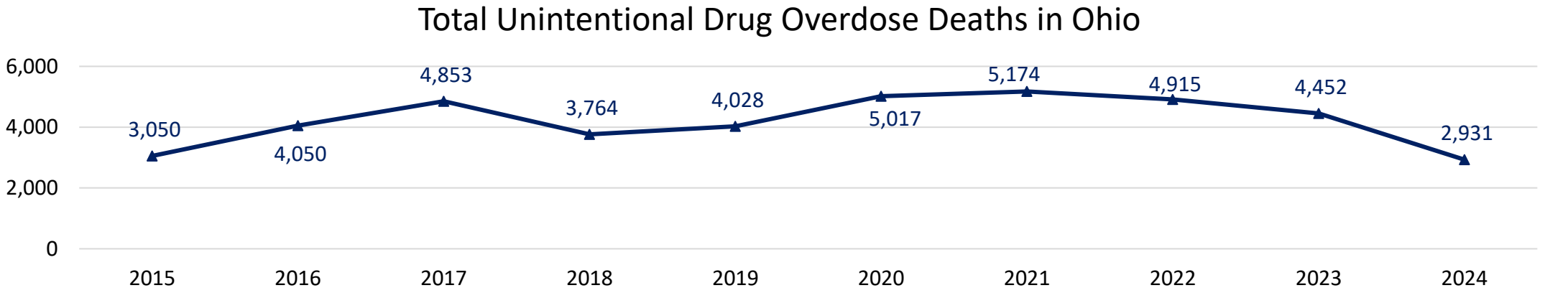
Unintentional drug overdose deaths continued decreasing in 2024



Sources: Ohio Department of Health; U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- In 2021, there were 5,174 unintentional overdose deaths – the highest number of such deaths over the decade shown above. However, the number of unintentional overdose deaths decreased in each year after 2021.
  - In Ohio, the number of unintentional overdose deaths decreased by 34% from 2023 to 2024 and by 43% from 2021 to 2024.
  - Nationally, the number of unintentional drug overdose deaths decreased by 24% from 2023 to 2024 – from 105,007 in 2023 to 79,384 in 2024.
- In 2024, 75% of all unintentional drug overdose deaths involved an opioid and 65% involved multiple substances.
  - From 2023 to 2024, there were decreases in unintentional drug overdose deaths for all drug categories. Fentanyl-related deaths decreased by the largest amount – 42%.
- In 2024, the population with the highest death rate was Black non-Hispanic males (61.0 deaths per 100,000 population). The age group with the highest death rate was 35- to 44-year-olds (54.9 deaths per 100,000 population).