

JULY 2026

DEA BULLETIN

DEA-STL-BUL-129-26



(U) Kratom and 7-OH Poisonings Increase in Missouri

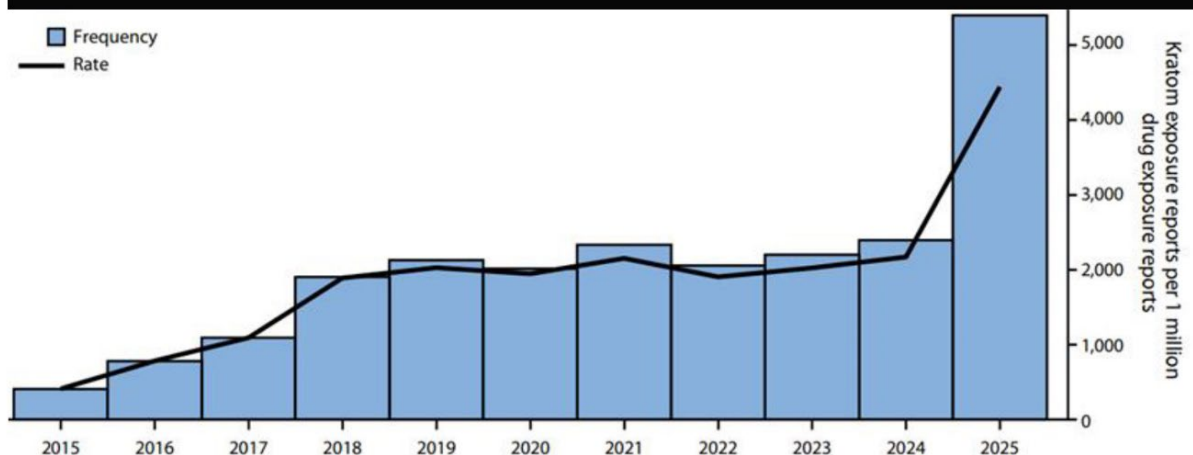
(U) This DEA Bulletin is based on preliminary reporting and may be subject to updating as additional information becomes available.

(U) Statement of Analysis

The Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) St. Louis Division reviewed exposure data showing a rise in kratom-related poison center calls and medical incidents in Missouri. Over recent years there have been thousands of reports nationwide, highlighting growing concerns about high-potency extracts including 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH). Recently released exposure data from 2025 is consistent with a nationwide trend, showing a dramatic increase in exposures from 2024 to 2025.

(U) Details

America's Poison Centers documented 14,449 kratom exposures over the past decade (2015–2025). The 3,434 exposures reported in 2025 represent an increase of approximately 1,200 percent compared with the 258 exposures reported in 2015 (see Figure 1). The Missouri Poison Center reports that, at current rates, 2026 is projected to surpass the record high kratom exposures (75) reported in Missouri in 2025 (see Figure 2).

FIGURE 1.**(U) Nationwide Kratom Exposures 2015-2025***

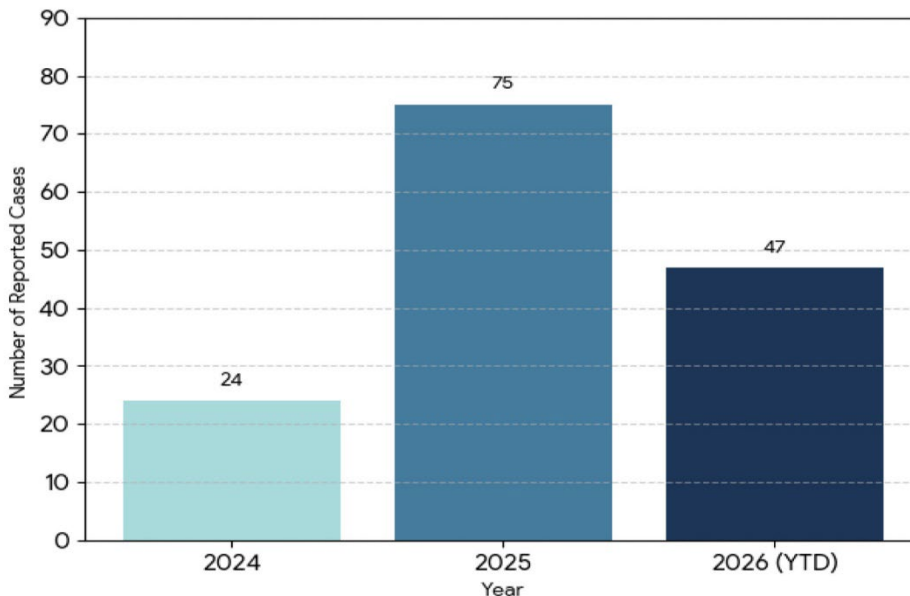
* 2025 Data is preliminary

Source: America's Poison Centers



FIGURE 2.

(U) Nationwide Kratom Exposures 2015-2025*



Source: Missouri Poison Center

In April 2026, the Missouri Poison Center issued advisories regarding 7-OH, a potent derivative of kratom that can be up to 13 times stronger than morphine. Kratom and 7-OH are related but distinct substances. While 7-OH is a natural constituent of the kratom plant (*Mitragyna speciosa*), it is only present in trace amounts typically less than 0.02 percent of dry leaf weight. In contrast, modern 7-OH products are often semi-synthetic, laboratory-created concentrations that are significantly more potent and dangerous, often marketed misleadingly as natural kratom. 7-OH products carry a high risk of addiction and severe withdrawal symptoms, like traditional opioids.

(U) Kratom Regulation

Kratom products are not regulated like other drugs; potency and purity vary widely; and many products contain dangerous levels of 7-OH far exceeding what occurs naturally in the plant. In March 2026, the Missouri Attorney General's Office introduced legislation that would hold manufactures accountable and remove kratom products containing 7-OH from retail shelves and halt overall production.

Source: Open Source, April 2026

PRB# 2026-213

(U) This product was prepared by the DEA Intelligence Program – St. Louis Division. Comments and questions may be addressed to the DEA Indicator Programs Section at: DEA.IntelligenceProducts@dea.gov.

DFN-701-03—Destroy 2 years after issuance or when the Bulletin is superseded or obsolete.