**Overview- Fatal Overdoses in the Midwest HIDTA (2018-2021)**

Overview from Document- According to data from the departments of health of Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri, the increase in overdose deaths are primarily attributable to opioids and psychostimulants1. Drug seizure data collected from Midwest HIDTA law enforcement initiatives during this time period mirrors the increase in psychostimulant and opioid overdose deaths. Between 2017 and 2021, Midwest HIDTA initiatives reported an increase in the seizure amounts of methamphetamine (76%), heroin (5%), and fentanyl (183%).

In Missouri, between 2018 and 2020:

• Overdose deaths for all drugs increased 17%;

• Overdose deaths for all opioids increased 21%;

• Overdose deaths for heroin decreased by 59%; and

• Overdose deaths for cocaine increased 47%.

Due to a six- to nine-month delay in reporting, the most recent data available from the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) is for Q1 and Q2 2021. Figure 8 displays the number of fatal drug overdoses by drug for the first two quarters of 2019 through 2021. According to the data:

• Overdose deaths for all drugs increased 49%;

• Overdose deaths for all opioids increased 56%;

• Overdose deaths for heroin decreased by 37%; and

• Overdose deaths for cocaine increased by 91%.

Figure 9 illustrates Missouri overdose death counts based on region and demographic. Between 2019 and 20204:

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• The Northwest Region reported the greatest increase of all drug overdose deaths (52%);

• The Northwest Region reported the greatest increase of all drug overdose deaths for males (29%);

• The Central Region reported the greatest increase of all drug overdose deaths for females (45%);

• The Kansas City Metro reported the greatest increase of all drug overdose deaths for ages 15 to 24 (68%);

• The Southwest Region reported the greatest increase of all drug overdose deaths for ages 25 to 34 (74%).

Figure 10 illustrates Missouri overdose death counts by drug category and region. Between 2019 and 20205:

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• The Southeast Region reported the greatest increase in opioid overdose deaths (69%);

• The Kansas City Metro reported the greatest increase in synthetic opioid (fentanyl) overdose deaths (149%);

• The St. Louis Metro reported the greatest increase in stimulant overdose deaths (47%), amphetamine overdose deaths (47%) and cocaine overdose deaths (46%); and

• The Central Region reported the greatest increase in stimulant and opioid-combined deaths (69%).