

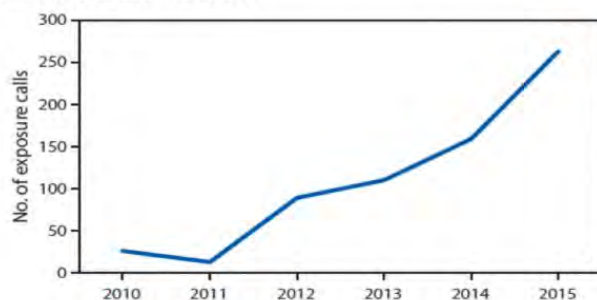
# DEBUNKING THE CDC REPORT

In 2016, a Center for Disease Control (CDC) study of 660 calls or “case mentions” falsely indicated a growing “public health threat.” These “case mentions” were situations where kratom happened to be mentioned and did not mean that kratom was solely responsible for the call.

With the help of the CDC report<sup>[i]</sup>, we have crunched the numbers to discover how pervasive kratom cases were within the National Poison Data System (NPDS). We compared the CDC kratom statistics with the total number of poison calls annually recorded, as shown in the 2014 Annual Report of the American Association of Poison Control Centers<sup>[ii]</sup>.

Below we have the graph from the kratom CDC report for calls per year:

**FIGURE. Number of reported exposure calls to poison centers related to kratom use, by year — National Poison Data System, United States and Puerto Rico, January 2010–December 2015**



Here we have calculated the data by dividing the total number of kratom related case mentions per year with the total number of all poison-related calls in the NPDS per year.

Each Year	Total Number of Kratom Related Poison Calls*	Total Number of Poison Related Calls	Percentage of Kratom Related Poison Calls
2010	26	2 384 825	0.001%
2011	15	2 334 004	0.0006%
2012	98	2 275 141	0.004%
2013	108	2 188 013	0.005%
2014	155	2 165 142	0.007%

\*Total Number of Kratom Related Poison Calls is an approximation of the CDC graph seen above

The percentage of calls to poison centers from 2010-2014 regarding kratom was only 0.004% of total calls (rounded from 0.0035%).

[i] Anwar M, Law R, Schier J. Notes from the Field. Kratom (*Mitragyna speciosa*) Exposures Reported to Poison Centers — United States, 2010–2015. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2016;65:748–749. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6529a4>

[ii] Mowry, J. B., Spyker, D. A., Brooks, D. E., McMillan, N., & Schauben, J. L. (2015). 2014 Annual Report of the American Association of Poison Control Centers' National Poison Data System (NPDS): 32nd Annual Report. *Clinical toxicology (Philadelphia, Pa.)*, 10, 962–961147.