In contrast to previous years, Missouri opioid-involved overdose deaths show similar patterns for heroin and non-heroin opioids when comparing age groups. In 2017, the peak for both heroin- and non-heroin opioid-involved overdose deaths is in the 25 to 34 age group. From 2011-2015, the peak age group for non-heroin opioid-involved overdose deaths was 45 to 54. This drastic change indicates an increased popularity in taking strong prescription opioids (as well as illicitly manufactured fentanyl) among young adults.

Source: Bureau of Vital Statistics, Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services