

The answer is **FALSE** . . . there are no poisonous snakes in Oklahoma. But, there are venomous snakes in Oklahoma.

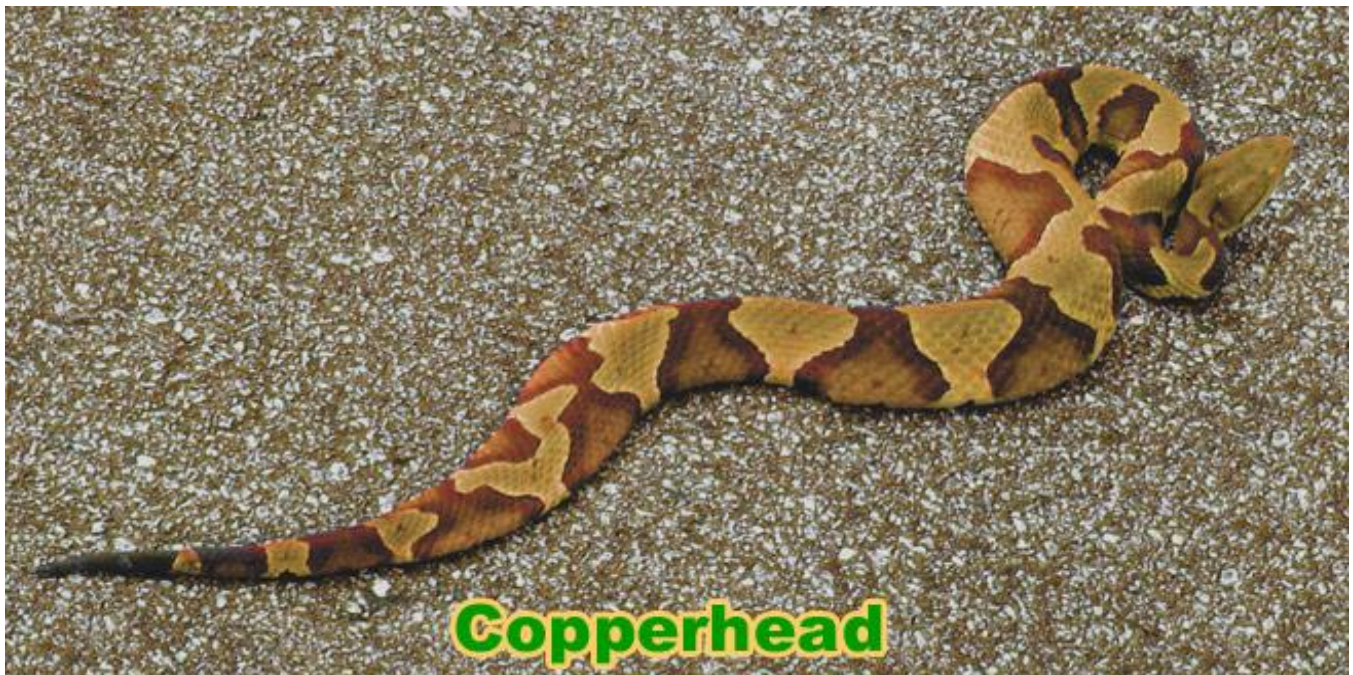
Ok, I'll admit it. It was a tricky question. Most so-called poisonous snakes are not poisonous at all, but are actually venomous.

“Poisonous” describes a plant, animal or anything else that is toxic or harmful if you eat it or touch it. “Venomous”, on the other hand, refers to animals that inject a toxin directly into their prey to subdue them or in self-defense against a predator. Venoms, produced by some animals in specialized glands, are injected into prey by biting, stabbing, or stinging.

For a clear example of the difference . . . a rattlesnake bite is venomous and sometimes lethal, but you can touch and even eat rattlesnakes without ill-effects because they are not poisonous.

Having said this, here are the seven (7) venomous snakes in Oklahoma:

Copperhead Snake



Cottonmouth (Water Moccasin) Snake



Western Diamondback Rattlesnake



Timber Rattlesnake



Prairie Rattlesnake



Western Massasauga Rattlesnake



Western Pygmy Rattlesnake

