6.8 Million Adults Had Both Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorder in 2011

In 2011, 18.9 million adults in the United States had past year substance use disorder (SUD), and 41.4 million adults had mental illness in the past year; 6.8 million adults experienced both (Figure). Among adults with SUD, 36.1 percent also had a co-occurring mental illness, whereas, among adults without SUD, 16.2 percent had mental illness. Among adults with mental illness in the past year, 16.5 percent had SUD, compared with 6.3 percent of adults who did not have mental illness.

Providers working with individuals with either SUD or mental illness may consider screening for co-occurring disorders and linking individuals to integrated treatment programs.

For more information on co-occurring mental illness and SUD from the National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), please go to: http://www.samhsa.gov/data/2k13/NSDUH148/sr148-mental-illness-estimates.htm.

Source: National Surveys on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH), 2011 (revised October 2013). NSDUH is an annual survey sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). The survey collects data by administering questionnaires to a representative sample of the population through face-to-face interviews at their places of residence.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the agency within the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services that leads public health efforts to advance the behavioral health of the nation. SAMHSA’s mission is to reduce the impact of substance abuse and mental illness on America’s communities. The Data Spotlight may be copied without permission. Citation of the source is appreciated. Find this report and those on similar topics online at http://www.samhsa.gov/data/.