

2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

SURVEY MATERIALS

RTI INTERNATIONAL

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

ROCKVILLE, MD 20857



Dear [NAME County/Parish/District] Resident:

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services is conducting a study called the National Survey on Drug Use and Health. This study asks questions about use or non-use of alcohol, tobacco and other substances. The study also asks about mental health and other health-related topics relevant for all people. Since 1971, this information has been used by local, state and national agencies for planning and providing treatment and prevention programs.

Your address was randomly chosen, through scientific methods, along with almost 200,000 others across the country. RTI International, a nonprofit organization, was selected to conduct this study. Soon, an RTI interviewer will be in your neighborhood to give you more information. The interviewer will carry an identification card like the example shown below.

First, the interviewer will ask a few general questions. Then the interviewer may ask one or two members of your household to complete the full interview. It is possible no one will be chosen to be interviewed. **If anyone is chosen and completes the full interview, he or she will receive \$30 in cash.**

By Federal law*, the answers you give will be kept confidential and will be used only for statistical purposes.

Please share this information with any others in your household. Feel free to ask the interviewer any questions you have about this study. More information is also available on the study website at: <http://nsduhweb.rti.org> or you may contact us at

Your help is very important to this study's success. Thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

National Study Director, DHHS

“Image of Identification Badge”

National Field Director, RTI

You will be contacted by: _____
Interviewer Name

*Confidentiality protected by the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (PL 107-347)
Authorized by the U.S. Congress as part of Section 505 of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 290aa4)
Approved by Office of Management and Budget (OMB Approval No. 0930-0110)



Study Description

Your address is one of several in this area randomly chosen for the 2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health. This study, sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, collects information for research and program planning by asking about:

- tobacco, alcohol, and drug use or non-use,
- knowledge and attitudes about drugs,
- mental health, and
- other health issues.

You cannot be identified through any information you give us. Your name and address will never be connected to your answers. Also, federal law requires us to keep all of your answers confidential. Any data that you provide will only be used by authorized personnel for statistical purposes according to the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002.

The screening questions take just a few minutes. If anyone is chosen, the interview will take about an hour. You can refuse to answer any questions, and you can quit at any time. **Each person who is chosen and completes the interview will receive \$30 in cash.**

If you have questions about the study, call the Project Representative at [redacted].
If you have questions about your rights as a study participant, call RTI's Office of Research Protection at [redacted] (a toll-free number). You can also visit our project website: <http://nsduhweb.rti.org/> for more information.

Thank you for your cooperation and time.

Project Officer
Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Your confidentiality is protected by the Confidential Information Protection and Statistical Efficiency Act of 2002 (CIPSEA, PL 107-347). Any project staff or authorized data user who violates CIPSEA may be subject to a jail term of up to 5 years, a fine of up to \$250,000, or both.

INTRODUCTION AND INFORMED CONSENT FOR INTERVIEW RESPONDENTS AGE 18+

INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND STUDY AS NECESSARY: Hello, I'm _____, and I'm working on a nationwide study sponsored by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. You should have received a letter about this study. (SHOW LEAD LETTER, IF NECESSARY.)

READ THE BOXED INFORMATION BELOW BEFORE STARTING EVERY INTERVIEW

This year, we are interviewing about 70,000 people across the nation. You have been randomly chosen to take part. You will represent over 4,500 other people who are similar to you. You may choose not to take part in this study, but no one else can take your place. We will give you \$30 when you finish the interview.

GIVE STUDY DESCRIPTION TO R IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.

This study asks about tobacco, alcohol, and drug use or non-use, knowledge and attitudes about drugs, mental health, and other health issues. It takes about an hour. You will answer most of the questions on the computer, so I will not see your answers. We are only interested in the combined responses from all 70,000 people, not just one person's answers. This is why we do not ask for your name and we keep your answers separate from your address. RTI may contact you by phone or mail to ask a few questions about the quality of my work. This is why we ask for your phone number and current address at the end of the interview.

While the interview has some personal questions, federal law keeps your answers private. We hope that protecting your privacy will help you to give accurate answers. You can quit the interview at any time and you can refuse to answer any questions.

If it is all right with you, let's get started.

(Can we find a private place to complete the interview?)

INTRODUCTION AND INFORMED CONSENT FOR INTERVIEW RESPONDENTS AGE 12-17

READ THE SCRIPT BELOW AND OBTAIN PERMISSION FROM THE PARENT/GUARDIAN

Your (AGE) year-old child has been selected to be in this study. Your child's participation is voluntary. This interview asks about tobacco, alcohol, and drug use or non-use, knowledge and attitudes about drugs, mental health, and other health related issues. All of your child's answers will be confidential and used only for statistical purposes. Since your child will answer most of the questions on the computer, I will never see the answers, and you are not allowed to see them either. If it is all right with you, we'll get started.

(Can we find a private place to complete the interview?)

**ONCE PARENTAL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GIVEN, CONFIRM THE PARENT/GUARDIAN OR
ANOTHER ADULT WILL BE PRESENT FOR THE DURATION OF THE INTERVIEW**

**THEN, READ THE BOXED INFORMATION BELOW BEFORE STARTING EVERY INTERVIEW
WITH A 12-17 YEAR OLD**

This year, we are interviewing about 70,000 people across the nation. You have been randomly chosen to take part. You will represent over 1,000 young people in this country who are similar to you. You may choose not to take part in this study, but no one else can take your place. We will give you \$30 when you finish the interview.

GIVE STUDY DESCRIPTION TO R IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY DONE SO.

This study asks about tobacco, alcohol, and drug use or non-use, knowledge and attitudes about drugs, mental health, and other health issues. It takes about an hour. You will answer most of the questions on the computer, so I will not see your answers. Your answers will never be seen by either your parents or your school. We are only interested in the combined responses from all 70,000 people, not just one person's answers. This is why we do not ask for your name and we keep your answers separate from your address. RTI may contact you by phone or mail to ask a few questions about the quality of my work. This is why we ask for your phone number and current address at the end of the interview.

While the interview has some personal questions, federal law keeps your answers private. We hope that protecting your privacy will help you to give accurate answers. You can quit the interview at any time and you can refuse to answer any questions.

If it is all right with you, let's get started.

SHOWCARD 1

- 1 MEXICAN, MEXICAN AMERICAN, MEXICANO OR CHICANO**
- 2 PUERTO RICAN**
- 3 CENTRAL OR SOUTH AMERICAN**
- 4 CUBAN OR CUBAN AMERICAN**
- 5 DOMINICAN (FROM DOMINICAN REPUBLIC)**
- 6 SPANISH (FROM SPAIN)**

SHOWCARD 2

- 1 WHITE**
- 2 BLACK OR AFRICAN AMERICAN**
- 3 AMERICAN INDIAN OR ALASKA NATIVE
(AMERICAN INDIAN INCLUDES NORTH
AMERICAN, CENTRAL AMERICAN, AND SOUTH
AMERICAN INDIANS)**
- 4 NATIVE HAWAIIAN**
- 5 GUAMANIAN OR CHAMORRO**
- 6 SAMOAN**
- 7 OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDER**
- 8 ASIAN (INCLUDING: ASIAN INDIAN, CHINESE,
FILIPINO, JAPANESE, KOREAN, AND
VIETNAMESE)**

SHOWCARD 3

1 ASIAN INDIAN

2 CHINESE

3 FILIPINO

4 JAPANESE

5 KOREAN

6 VIETNAMESE

SHOWCARD 4

- 1 SEPTEMBER 2001 OR LATER**
- 2 AUGUST 1990 TO AUGUST 2001 (INCLUDING PERSIAN GULF WAR)**
- 3 MAY 1975 TO JULY 1990**
- 4 VIETNAM ERA (MARCH 1961 TO APRIL 1975)**
- 5 FEBRUARY 1955 TO FEBRUARY 1961**
- 6 KOREAN WAR (JULY 1950 TO JANUARY 1955)**
- 7 JANUARY 1947 TO JUNE 1950**
- 8 WORLD WAR II (DECEMBER 1941 TO DECEMBER 1946)**
- 9 NOVEMBER 1941 OR EARLIER**

SHOWCARD 5

- 0 NO SCHOOLING COMPLETED**
- 1 1ST GRADE COMPLETED**
- 2 2ND GRADE COMPLETED**
- 3 3RD GRADE COMPLETED**
- 4 4TH GRADE COMPLETED**
- 5 5TH GRADE COMPLETED**
- 6 6TH GRADE COMPLETED**
- 7 7TH GRADE COMPLETED**
- 8 8TH GRADE COMPLETED**
- 9 9TH GRADE COMPLETED**
- 10 10TH GRADE COMPLETED**
- 11 11TH GRADE COMPLETED**

- 12 REGULAR HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA**
- 13 12TH GRADE, NO DIPLOMA**
- 14 GED CERTIFICATE OF HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION**

- 15 SOME COLLEGE CREDIT, BUT NO DEGREE**
- 16 ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE (FOR EXAMPLE, AA, AS)**
- 17 BACHELOR'S DEGREE (FOR EXAMPLE, BA, BS)**

- 18 MASTER'S DEGREE (FOR EXAMPLE, MA, MS, MENG, M. ED, MSW, MBA)**
- 19 DOCTORATE DEGREE (FOR EXAMPLE, PHD, EDD)**
- 20 PROFESSIONAL DEGREE BEYOND A BACHELOR'S DEGREE (FOR EXAMPLE, MD, DDS, DVM, LLB, JD)**

SHOWCARD 6

- 1 SELF**
- 2 FATHER (INCLUDES STEP, FOSTER, ADOPTIVE)**
- 3 SON (INCLUDES STEP, FOSTER, ADOPTIVE)**
- 4 BROTHER (INCLUDES HALF, STEP, FOSTER, ADOPTIVE)**
- 5 HUSBAND**
- 6 UNMARRIED PARTNER**
- 7 HOUSEMATE OR ROOMMATE**
- 8 SON-IN-LAW**
- 9 GRANDSON**
- 10 FATHER-IN-LAW**
- 11 GRANDFATHER**
- 12 BOARDER OR ROOMER**
- 13 OTHER RELATIVE**
- 14 OTHER NON-RELATIVE**

SHOWCARD 7

- 1 SELF**
- 2 MOTHER (INCLUDES STEP, FOSTER, ADOPTIVE)**
- 3 DAUGHTER (INCLUDES STEP, FOSTER, ADOPTIVE)**
- 4 SISTER (INCLUDES HALF, STEP, FOSTER, ADOPTIVE)**
- 5 WIFE**
- 6 UNMARRIED PARTNER**
- 7 HOUSEMATE OR ROOMMATE**
- 8 DAUGHTER-IN-LAW**
- 9 GRANDDAUGHTER**
- 10 MOTHER-IN-LAW**
- 11 GRANDMOTHER**
- 12 BOARDER OR ROOMER**
- 13 OTHER RELATIVE**
- 14 OTHER NON-RELATIVE**

SHOWCARD 8

- 1 PERSON IN FAMILY WITH HEALTH INSURANCE LOST JOB OR CHANGED EMPLOYERS**
- 2 LOST MEDICAID OR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COVERAGE BECAUSE OF NEW JOB OR INCREASE IN INCOME**
- 3 LOST MEDICAID OR MEDICAL ASSISTANCE COVERAGE FOR SOME OTHER REASON**
- 4 COST IS TOO HIGH / CAN'T AFFORD PREMIUMS**
- 5 BECAME INELIGIBLE BECAUSE OF AGE OR LEAVING SCHOOL**
- 6 EMPLOYER DOES NOT OFFER COVERAGE, OR NOT ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE**
- 7 GOT DIVORCED OR SEPARATED FROM PERSON WITH INSURANCE**
- 8 DEATH OF SPOUSE OR PARENT**
- 9 INSURANCE COMPANY REFUSED COVERAGE**
- 10 DON'T NEED IT**
- 11 RECEIVED MEDICAID OR MEDICAL INSURANCE ONLY WHILE PREGNANT**

SHOWCARD 9

- 1 COST IS TOO HIGH / CAN'T AFFORD PREMIUMS**
- 2 EMPLOYER DOES NOT OFFER COVERAGE, OR NOT ELIGIBLE FOR COVERAGE**
- 3 INSURANCE COMPANY REFUSED COVERAGE**
- 4 DON'T NEED IT**

SHOWCARD 10

INCOME EARNED AT A JOB OR BUSINESS

RETIREMENT, DISABILITY, OR SURVIVOR PENSION

UNEMPLOYMENT OR WORKER'S COMPENSATION

VETERAN'S ADMINISTRATION PAYMENTS

CHILD SUPPORT

ALIMONY

INTEREST INCOME

DIVIDENDS FROM STOCKS OR MUTUAL FUNDS

**INCOME FROM RENTAL PROPERTIES, ROYALTIES,
ESTATES OR TRUSTS**

SHOWCARD 11

- 1 LESS THAN \$1,000**
- 2 \$1,000 - \$1,999**
- 3 \$2,000 - \$2,999**
- 4 \$3,000 - \$3,999**
- 5 \$4,000 - \$4,999**
- 6 \$5,000 - \$5,999**
- 7 \$6,000 - \$6,999**
- 8 \$7,000 - \$7,999**
- 9 \$8,000 - \$8,999**
- 10 \$9,000 - \$9,999**
- 11 \$10,000 - \$10,999**
- 12 \$11,000 - \$11,999**
- 13 \$12,000 - \$12,999**
- 14 \$13,000 - \$13,999**
- 15 \$14,000 - \$14,999**
- 16 \$15,000 - \$15,999**
- 17 \$16,000 - \$16,999**
- 18 \$17,000 - \$17,999**
- 19 \$18,000 - \$18,999**
- 20 \$19,000 - \$19,999**

SHOWCARD 12

- 21 \$20,000 - \$24,999**
- 22 \$25,000 - \$29,999**
- 23 \$30,000 - \$34,999**
- 24 \$35,000 - \$39,999**
- 25 \$40,000 - \$44,999**
- 26 \$45,000 - \$49,999**
- 27 \$50,000 - \$74,999**
- 28 \$75,000 - \$99,999**
- 29 \$100,000 - \$149,999**
- 30 \$150,000 OR MORE**

2015 National Survey on Drug Use and Health

Summary of the Questionnaire

To know more about the *National Survey on Drug Use and Health* and the types of questions the interviewer will ask, included below is a summary of each section of the questionnaire. Keep in mind that not all participants will see every question—the questions depend on each person’s experiences. Furthermore, participants can always refuse to answer any questions during the interview.

Demographics

This section, administered by the interviewer, consists of questions about the participant such as his/her date of birth, race, educational background, and health status.

Sample Questions:

- ▶ What is the highest grade or year of school you have **completed**?
- ▶ Would you say your health in general is excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor?

Computer Practice Session

In this section, the interviewer shows the participant how to use the laptop computer and lets him/her practice using a short practice session.

Cigarettes, Alcohol and Illicit Drugs

For most of the rest of the interview, the participant answers questions by listening to the questions over headphones and/or reading the questions on the computer screen, and then entering responses using the computer’s keyboard. The participant answers these questions in private, although the interviewer is available to help with any problems using the computer. During this part of the interview, only the participant can hear and see the questions and see his/her responses.

Tobacco Products and Alcohol

These sections include questions about whether and how often participants have used cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, pipe tobacco, and alcoholic beverages such as beer, wine, or liquor.

Sample Questions:

- ▶ Have you **ever** smoked part or all of a cigarette?
- ▶ How old were you the **first time** you used “smokeless” tobacco?
- ▶ What is your **best estimate** of the number of days you drank alcohol during the past 30 days?

Illicit Drugs

The next sections ask about the participant’s use or non-use of marijuana, heroin, cocaine, hallucinogens, inhalants, methamphetamine, and prescription pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, and sedatives. Questions about drug dependence and drug treatment are also included in these sections.

Sample Questions:

- ▶ Have you **ever**, even once, used marijuana or hashish?
- ▶ How much do people risk harming themselves physically and in other ways when they use **cocaine once a month**?

Adult Social Environment and Mental Health

Participants aged 18 and older receive questions about their social experiences, including their opinions about drug use, and in some cases, their experiences as a parent. Mental health questions cover such topics as depression and treatment for mental health problems.

Sample Questions:

- ▶ How do you feel about **adults** trying marijuana or hashish once or twice?
- ▶ During the past 12 months, was there any time when you **needed** mental health treatment or counseling for yourself but **didn't get it**?
- ▶ Have you ever in your life had a period of time lasting several days or longer when **most of the day** you felt **sad, empty, or depressed**?

Youth Experiences and Mental Health

Youth aged 12-17 participating in the survey are also asked questions about their social experiences such as: perceptions about the risks of using certain drugs; whether getting drugs is difficult or easy; feelings about school and peers; and involvement in clubs, sports, and other extracurricular activities. The mental health questions cover such topics as depression and treatment for mental health problems.

Sample Questions:

- ▶ **During the past 12 months**, in how many different kinds of school-based activities, such as team sports, cheerleading, choir, band, student government, or clubs, have you participated?
- ▶ Have you ever in your life had a period of time lasting several days or longer when **most of the day** you felt **sad, empty, or depressed**?
- ▶ During the past 12 months, did you receive treatment or counseling from a **private therapist, psychologist, psychiatrist, social worker, or counselor** for emotional or behavioral problems that were **not** caused by alcohol or drugs?

Health Insurance and Demographic Information

In this section, the participant answers questions about school and work. Then the laptop is handed back to the interviewer, who asks questions about health insurance and family income information to help in analyzing the data. If necessary, a knowledgeable adult in the household may be asked to help participants answer some of these questions.

The answers to these questions increase the government's knowledge about health care, especially as it may relate to drug use or treatment. This information helps in planning health care services and finding ways to lower the costs of care.

Sample Questions:

- ▶ How many hours did you work **last week** at all jobs or businesses?
- ▶ **Before taxes and other deductions**, was the total **combined family** income during 2014 more or less than 20,000 dollars?
- ▶ Are you currently covered by private health insurance?

The interviewer is available to answer any additional questions about the National Survey on Drug Use and Health questionnaire.

Thank you for your cooperation and help!