2022 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Among the American Indian or Alaska Native (AIAN) Population Aged 12 or Older

Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
NSDUH Scope and Target Population

• Conducted by the Federal Government since 1971
• Comprehensive household interview survey of substance use, substance use disorders, mental health, and the receipt of treatment services for these disorders in the United States
• Produces estimates representative of the population at national and state levels
• Covers the civilian, noninstitutionalized population aged 12 or older in all 50 states and Washington, DC:
  – Includes households, college dorms, homeless in shelters, civilians on military bases
  – Excludes active military, long-term hospital residents, prison populations, homeless not in shelters
• NSDUH 2022 sample included 71,369 people (including 960 AIAN people)
Data from 2022 should not be compared or pooled with data from 2020 or prior years

Why not?

1. **Mode effect**: Web data collection began in 2020. There were significant differences in estimates between web and in-person modes of data collection.

2. **Seasonal effect**: There were systematic differences between two-quarter estimates from 2015 to 2019 and corresponding four-quarter estimates. Because 2020 data were mostly collected in only two quarters, these data cannot be compared with the full year of 2022 data.

3. **Substance Use Disorder (SUD) definition changes**: Starting in 2020, SUDs were defined according to criteria from the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, 5th edition (DSM-5). Therefore, SUD estimates cannot be compared with 2019 or earlier.
Updated 2021 Estimates

• Prior analyses showed differences in estimates between web and in-person modes of data collection.

• Because the proportion of interviews completed via the web or in-person was not stable between 2021 and 2022, differences in estimates could be due to mode effects rather than real changes in the population.

• In 2022, weighting procedures were updated to stabilize the effect of mode on estimates across years.¹
  – These procedures also were applied to the 2021 analysis weights.
  – Updated 2021 estimates were generated for the 2022 Detailed Tables to facilitate comparisons with 2022 estimates.
  – These updated 2021 estimates should be used for comparison with 2022 estimates.

About This Presentation

• The racial and ethnic groups discussed in this presentation are mutually exclusive. People who were of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity could be of any race but are not included in the estimates for any of the racial categories. Estimates for people who were not of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are reported by race. People reporting two or more races and who were not of Hispanic or Latino ethnicity are noted as “Multiracial” in this presentation. People reporting their race as Black or African American are subsequently referred to as Black. People reporting their ethnicity as Hispanic or Latino are subsequently referred to as Hispanic.

• Statistical testing was performed for comparisons of estimates across age groups and among racial and ethnic groups according to procedures described in the 2022 Methodological Summary and Definitions report.¹ For consistency with the typical criteria for statistical testing in NSDUH, age group differences were considered statistically significant at the .05 level of significance. For testing among racial and ethnic groups, a more conservative level of .01 was used for considering differences to be statistically significant. Statistically significant differences resulting from these testing procedures are described using terms such as “higher,” “lower,” “more likely,” or “less likely.” Statements use terms such as “similar” or “the same” when a difference was not statistically significant. When estimates are presented without reference to differences across groups, statistical significance is not implied.

Suppression Due to Low Precision

The following estimates for AIAN people are not presented due to low precision:

- Substance use
  - past month: nicotine vaping by age group
  - past year: illicit drug use and marijuana use by age group, use of prescription pain reliever subtypes
- Substance use disorder by age groups or severity level
- Mental health treatment among adolescents
- Receipt of mental health services, substance use by mental illness, recovery, and receipt of substance use treatment or mental health services among adults
Substance Use in the Past Month
Past Month Substance Use: Among AIAN People Aged 12 or Older

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Substance</th>
<th>Number of Past Month Users</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
<td>520K (35.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco Products</td>
<td>404K (27.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicotine Vaping</td>
<td>184K (12.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marijuana</td>
<td>263K (18.0%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rx Pain Reliever Misuse</td>
<td>23K (1.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hallucinogens</td>
<td>17K (1.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cocaine</td>
<td>10K (0.7%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methamphetamine</td>
<td>9K (0.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inhalants</td>
<td>4K (0.3%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rx Tranquilizer or Sedative Misuse</td>
<td>3K (0.2%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rx Stimulant Misuse</td>
<td>1K (0.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heroin</td>
<td>*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Low precision; no estimate reported.

Rx = prescription.

Note: The estimated numbers of current users of different substances are not mutually exclusive because people could have used more than one type of substance in the past month.
Past Month Alcohol Use, Binge Alcohol Use, and Heavy Alcohol Use: Among AIAN People Aged 12 or Older

Note: Binge Alcohol Use is defined as drinking five or more drinks (for males) or four or more drinks (for females) on the same occasion on at least 1 day in the past 30 days. Heavy Alcohol Use is defined as binge drinking on the same occasion on 5 or more days in the past 30 days; all heavy alcohol users are also binge alcohol users.

• More than 70% of past month alcohol users were binge drinkers
Binge drinking among AIAN people was similar to that of people from all other racial and ethnic groups.
Type of Tobacco Product Use and Nicotine Vaping: Among AIAN People Aged 12 or Older Who Used Nicotine Products in the Past Month

- 63% of past month nicotine product users used only tobacco products

497,000 AIAN People Used Nicotine Products in Past Month
Nicotine Vaping in the Past Month by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among People Aged 12 or Older

- AIAN people were more likely than Black people to vape nicotine in the past month

NH = Not Hispanic or Latino; AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; Black = Black or African American; Hispanic = Hispanic or Latino; NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
Past Year and Past Month Illicit Drug Use
Past Year Illicit Drug Use: Among AIAN People Aged 12 or Older

- **No Past Year Illicit Drug Use**: 999K AIAN People (68.3%)
- **Past Year Illicit Drug Use**: 464K AIAN People (31.7%)

**Marijuana**: 399K (27.3%
- **Rx Pain Reliever Misuse**: 75K (5.1%)
- **Cocaine**: 33K (2.3%)
- **Hallucinogens**: 32K (2.2%)
- **Methamphetamine**: 25K (1.7%)
- **Rx Tranquilizer or Sedative Misuse**: 21K (1.5%)
- **Rx Stimulant Misuse**: 14K (0.9%)
- **Inhalants**: 10K (0.7%)
- **Heroin**: 5K (0.3%)

**Note**: The estimated numbers of past year users of different illicit drugs are not mutually exclusive because people could have used more than one type of illicit drug in the past year.

Rx = prescription.
Among AIAN people aged 26 or older, 31.6% used illicit drugs and 26.6% used marijuana in the past year.
Illicit Drug Use in the Past Month by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among People Aged 12 or Older

Among People Aged 12 or Older

- AIAN people were less likely to use illicit drugs than Multiracial people
- AIAN people were more likely than Asian people to use illicit drugs in the past month

NH = Not Hispanic or Latino; AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; Black = Black or African American; Hispanic = Hispanic or Latino; NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

NH Multiracial: 26.8% (1.6M)

NH AIAN: 18.8% (275K)

NH Black: 18.6% (6.4M)

NH White: 17.2% (29.4M)

NH NHOPI: 15.7% (200K)

Hispanic: 14.7% (7.5M)

NH Asian: 7.4% (1.3M)

Percent Using Illicit Drugs in Past Month
Marijuana Use in the Past Month by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among People Aged 12 or Older

NH = Not Hispanic or Latino; AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; Black = Black or African American; Hispanic = Hispanic or Latino; NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

- AIAN people were more likely to use marijuana than NHOPI people.

### Percent Using Marijuana in Past Month

- **Overall, 15.0% (42.3M)**
  - NH Multiracial: 24.6% (1.4M)
  - NH AIAN: 18.0% (263K)
  - NH Black: 16.8% (5.8M)
  - NH White: 15.6% (26.8M)
  - Hispanic: 13.5% (6.9M)
  - NH NHOPI: 9.3% (118K)
  - NH Asian: 6.2% (1.1M)
Opioid Misuse in the Past Month by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among People Aged 12 or Older

- AIAN people were just as likely to have misused opioids as people from all other racial and ethnic groups.

NH = Not Hispanic or Latino; AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; Black = Black or African American; Hispanic = Hispanic or Latino; NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
Substance Use Disorder
Past Year Substance Use Disorder (SUD): Among AIAN People Aged 12 or Older

**Number of People with Specific Past Year SUD among AIAN People Aged 12 or Older**

- **Drug Use Disorder**: 253K (17.3%)
- **Marijuana Use Disorder**: 161K (11.0%)
- **Alcohol Use Disorder**: 154K (10.5%)
- **Pain Reliever Use Disorder**: 91K (6.2%)
- **Methamphetamine Use Disorder**: 18K (1.2%)
- **Cocaine Use Disorder**: 10K (0.6%)
- **Stimulant Use Disorder**: 5K (0.4%)
- **Heroin Use Disorder**: 5K (0.3%)

Note: The estimated numbers of people with substance use disorders are not mutually exclusive because people could have use disorders for more than one substance.

1 Includes data from all past year users of marijuana, cocaine, heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, methamphetamine, and prescription psychotherapeutic drugs (i.e., pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, or sedatives).

2 Includes data from all past year users of the specific prescription drug.
Past Year Substance Use Disorders: Among AIAN People Aged 12 or Older

* Low precision; no estimate reported.

1 Includes data from all past year users of marijuana, cocaine, heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, methamphetamine, and prescription psychotherapeutic drugs (i.e., pain relievers, tranquilizers, stimulants, or sedatives).
Substance Use Disorder (SUD) in the Past Year by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among People Aged 12 or Older

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percent with SUD in Past Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NH AIAN</td>
<td>24.0% (351K)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Multiracial</td>
<td>21.8% (1.3M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Black</td>
<td>18.4% (6.3M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH White</td>
<td>17.6% (30.1M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>17.4% (8.9M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Asian</td>
<td>9.0% (1.5M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH NHOPI</td>
<td>*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overall, 17.3% (48.7M)

* Low precision; no estimate reported.

NH = Not Hispanic or Latino; AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; Black = Black or African American; Hispanic = Hispanic or Latino; NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.

- AIAN people were just as likely to have an SUD as people from all other racial and ethnic groups except NHOPI.
Major Depressive Episode:
Among Adolescents Aged 12 to 17
Major Depressive Episode (MDE) in the Past Year by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among Adolescents Aged 12 to 17

No significant differences in prevalence of MDE between racial and ethnic groups.
Any or Serious Mental Illness: Among Adults Aged 18 or Older
Past Year Mental Illness: Among AIAN Adults Aged 18 or Older

- The prevalence of any mental illness was highest among AIAN young adults aged 18 to 25.
- 1 in 14 AIAN adults aged 18 or older had past year SMI.

* Low precision; no estimate reported.
Any Mental Illness in the Past Year by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among Adults Aged 18 or Older

- **AIAN** adults were less likely to have mental illness than **Multiracial** adults.
- **AIAN** adults were more likely to have mental illness than **Asian** adults.

*Low precision; no estimate reported.*

NH = Not Hispanic or Latino; AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; Black = Black or African American; Hispanic = Hispanic or Latino; NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
Serious Thoughts of Suicide, Suicide Plans, and Suicide Attempts
Past Year Serious Thoughts of Suicide, Suicide Plans, or Suicide Attempts: Among AIAN Adolescents Aged 12 to 17

- 8.2% of AIAN adolescents had thoughts of suicide
- 2.3% attempted suicide
- Many AIAN adolescents did not want to answer questions about suicide, which suggests that some AIAN adolescents could have had these thoughts but did not feel comfortable disclosing that information
Past Year Serious Thoughts of Suicide, Suicide Plans, or Suicide Attempts: Among AIAN Adults Aged 18 or Older

- Thoughts of suicide, suicide plans, and suicide attempts were highest among AIAN young adults aged 18 to 25.
Serious Thoughts of Suicide in the Past Year by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among Adults Aged 18 or Older

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Racial and Ethnic Group</th>
<th>Percent with Serious Thoughts of Suicide in Past Year</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overall</td>
<td>5.2% (13.2M)</td>
<td>9.3% (471K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Multiracial</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH AIAN</td>
<td>7.0% (87K)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Black</td>
<td>5.5% (1.7M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH White</td>
<td>5.2% (8.3M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>4.6% (2.0M)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Asian</td>
<td>3.4% (520K)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH NHOPSI</td>
<td>* Low precision; no estimate reported.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* AIAN adults were just as likely to have serious thoughts of suicide as adults from other racial and ethnic groups

NH = Not Hispanic or Latino; AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; Black = Black or African American; Hispanic = Hispanic or Latino; NHOPSI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
Made a Suicide Plan in the Past Year by Racial and Ethnic Groups: Among Adults Aged 18 or Older

- **AIAN** adults were more likely to have made a suicide plan than NHOPI adults.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percent Made a Suicide Plan in Past Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NH Multiracial</td>
<td>Overall, 1.5% (3.8M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH AIAN</td>
<td>2.9% (148K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Black</td>
<td>1.8% (542K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH White</td>
<td>1.4% (2.3M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>1.4% (627K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH Asian</td>
<td>0.8% (128K)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NH NHOPI</td>
<td>0.1% (2K)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NH = Not Hispanic or Latino; AIAN = American Indian or Alaska Native; Black = Black or African American; Hispanic = Hispanic or Latino; NHOPI = Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander.
AIAN adults were just as likely to have attempted suicide as adults in other racial and ethnic groups.
Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorder and Mental Illness: Among Adults Aged 18 or Older
Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorder and Any Mental Illness: Among AIAN Adults Aged 18 or Older

203K Adults Had SUD but Not AMI (16.3%)

121K Adults Had SUD and AMI (with or without SMI) (9.7%)

122K Adults Had AMI (with or without SMI) but Not SUD (9.8%)

324K Adults Had SUD (26.1%)

243K Adults Had AMI (with or without SMI) (19.6%)

446K AIAN Adults Had Either SUD or AMI (with or without SMI)

• Additionally, nearly half (45.8%) of all young adults aged 18 to 25 had SUD or AMI.

AMI = any mental illness; SMI = serious mental illness; SUD = substance use disorder.