2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: American Indians and Alaska Natives (AI/ANs)

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

July 2022
About This Presentation

• The estimates in these slides have been rounded for the purposes of presentation. Any appearance of estimates not summing exactly to a known total are due to this rounding.

• Some slides present the same analysis across multiple years. The underlying populations from which these estimates are derived change across years since the number of people in the United States changes across years. Thus, a change in proportions does not equal a constant change in the weighted count.
• NSDUH is a 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.

• NSDUH covers the civilian, noninstitutionalized population, aged 12 or older:
  – Includes: Households, college dorms, homeless in shelters, civilians on military bases

• Sample includes all 50 states and DC
Who is Not Covered by NSDUH?

• Children under age 12
• Populations with potential serious mental health/substance use issues:
  – Institutionalized populations:
    » Incarcerated
    » Hospitalized
    » Nursing homes
  – Homeless populations not in homeless shelters
How Do We Use NSDUH?

• Provides a window into the state of substance use and mental health issues in the United States

• Provides insights that can be studied in the context of data from other agencies to help in decision-making about what types of resources are needed and where resources should be directed

• Helps to guide policy in addressing:
  – Problematic substance use
  – Prevalence of mental illness
  – The intersection of substance use and mental health issues
  – State-level treatment and prevention needs by providing data at the state level
Changes to NSDUH in 2020

- Data typically collected from January to December; **collected in Q1 and Q4 only during 2020**
- Changed to multi-mode collection in Q4 of 2020: **web survey added**
- Change from DSM-IV to **DSM-5** impacted SUD estimates
- **New and expanded item content**: nicotine vaping, receipt of telehealth services, adolescent suicide, COVID-19 impacts
- Approximately 67,500 persons are interviewed annually; the final 2020 sample consisted of **36,284 completed interviews**
Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders in America in the Past Year: Among AI/AN Adults Aged 18+

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Data not shown – low precision
Data not shown – low precision
Summary: Alcohol Use in 2020

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Illicit Drug Use in Past Year: Among AI/AN People Aged 12+

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TALKING POINTS:
• The 2020 NSDUH defines illicit drug use as the use of marijuana, cocaine (including crack), heroin, hallucinogens, inhalants, and methamphetamine, as well as the misuse of prescription stimulants, tranquilizers, sedatives, and pain relievers.

• In NSDUH, misuse of prescription drugs was defined as use in any way not directed by a doctor, including use without a prescription of one's own; use in greater amounts, more often, or longer than told to take a drug; or use in any other way not directed by a doctor.

• The most commonly used illicit drug in the past year was marijuana.
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Prescription Pain Reliever Misuse and Heroin Use in Past Year: Among AI/AN People Aged 12+

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**TALKING POINTS:**

- Estimates for heroin could not be calculated with sufficient precision.
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Sources Where Pain Relievers Were Obtained for Most Recent Misuse in Past Year:
Among AI/AN People Aged 12+ Who Misused Prescription Pain Relievers in Past Year

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Data not shown – low precision
Data not shown – low precision
Data not shown – low precision
Summary: Opioid Misuse in 2020

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Other Illicit Substances
Marijuana Use in Past Month: Among AI/AN People Aged 12+

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Frequency of Marijuana Use: Among AI/AN Young Adults Aged 26+

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TALKING POINTS:
- Estimates for past month marijuana use could not be calculated with sufficient precision.
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Marijuana Use in Past Month: Among AI/AN Women Aged 15-44; By Pregnancy Status

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Data not shown – low precision
Summary: Marijuana Use in 2020

• Among AI/AN adults aged 26 or older in 2020:
  – 7.0 percent (or 88,000 people) used marijuana daily or almost daily in the past year
Cocaine Use in Past Year: Among AI/AN People Aged 12+

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Data not shown – low precision
Summary: Other Substance Use in 2020

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Polysubstance Use and Mental Illness
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Summary

Summary not shown – low precision
Mental Health
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Data not shown – low precision
Data not shown – low precision
Major Depressive Episodes with Severe Impairment in Past Year: Among AI/AN People Aged 12+

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Suicidal Thoughts, Plans, and Attempts in Past Year: Among AI/AN Adults Aged 26-49

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Co-Occurring Mental and Substance Use Disorders
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Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorder and Any Mental Illness in Past Year: Among AI/AN Adults Aged 18+

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Data not shown – low precision
Suicidal Thoughts, Plans, and Attempts in Past Year: Among AI/AN Adults Aged 18+; By Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Status

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TALKING POINTS:

• Estimates of the location of substance use treatment were similar across location types.
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