2020 National Survey on Drug Use and Health: Asian/Native Hawaiians and Other Pacific Islanders (NHOPI)

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.



National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

- 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?

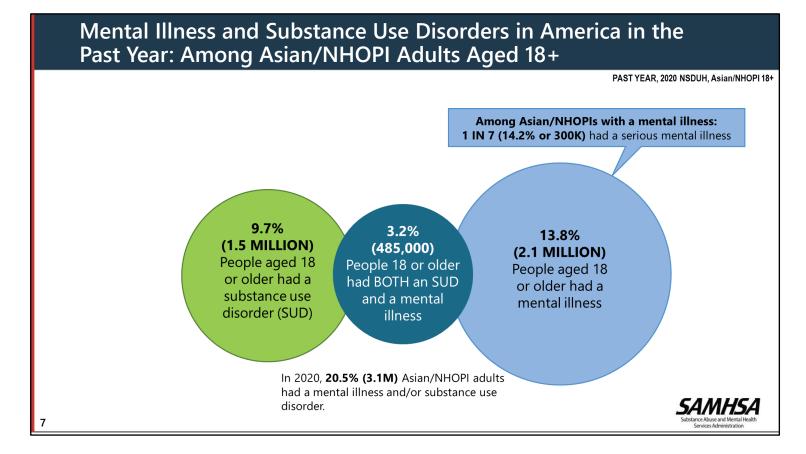
- Provides a window into the state of substance use and mental health issues in the United States
- Provides insights that can be studied in the context of data from other agencies to help in decision-making about what types of resources are needed and where resources should be directed
- Helps to guide 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

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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**



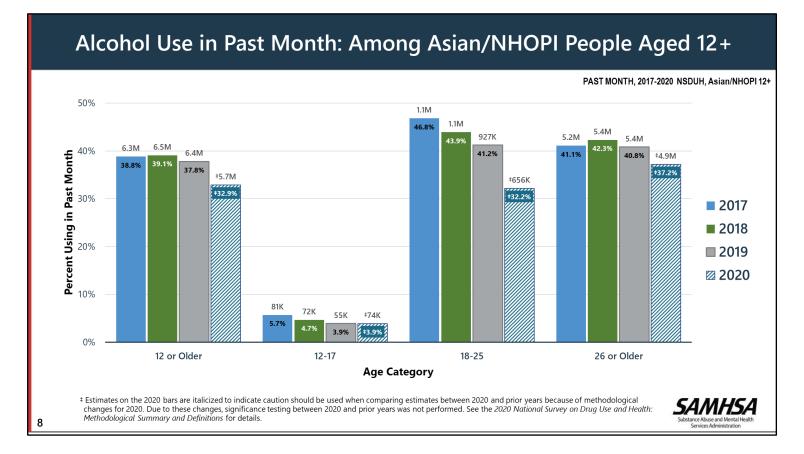


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TALKING POINTS:

- Millions of Asian/NHOPI adults struggle with substance use disorder and mental illness.
- One in seven Asian/NHOPI adults with mental illness experienced serious mental illness.
- 485,000 Asian/NHOPI adults had both an SUD and mental illness.



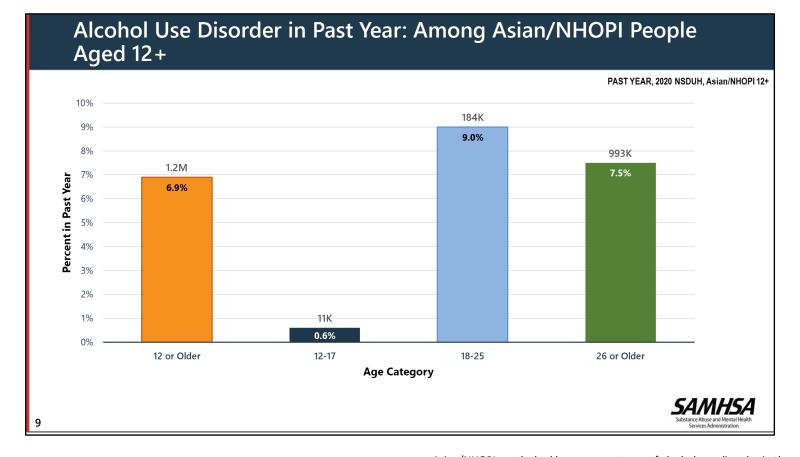
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TALKING POINTS:

- In 2020, less than a third of Asian/NHOPI people aged 12 or older used alcohol during the past month.
- Asian/NHOPI youths had lower percentages of alcohol use in the past month when compared to Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25 and Asian/NHOPI adults 26 or older.

 2020 estimates were not directly compared to estimates from prior years due to methodological changes in 2020.



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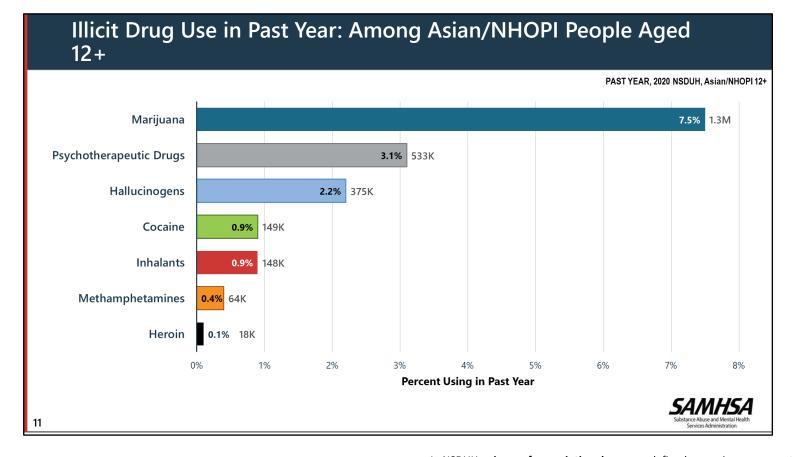
TALKING POINTS:

 In NSDUH, alcohol use disorder is measured using questions based on the diagnostic criteria specified in the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders*, also known as DSM. Starting in 2020, NSDUH used the criteria specified in DSM-5, which was published in 2013. Asian/NHOPI youths had lower percentages of alcohol use disorder in the past year when compared to Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25 and Asian/NHOPI adults 26 or older.

Summary: Alcohol Use in 2020

- Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 12 to 17 in 2020:
 - 3.9 percent (or 74,000 people) used alcohol in the past month
 - 0.6 percent (or 11,000 people) had an alcohol use disorder
- Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 18 to 25 in 2020:
 - 32.2 percent (or 656,000 people) used alcohol in the past month
 - 9.0 percent (or 184,000 people) had an alcohol use disorder
- Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 26 or older in 2020:
 - 37.2 percent (or 4.9 million people) used alcohol in the past month
 - 7.5 percent (or 993,000 people) had an alcohol use disorder

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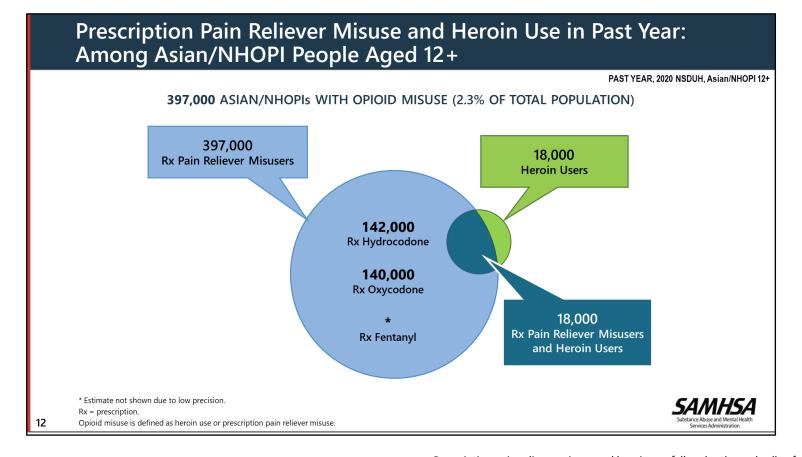
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TALKING POINTS:

 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.



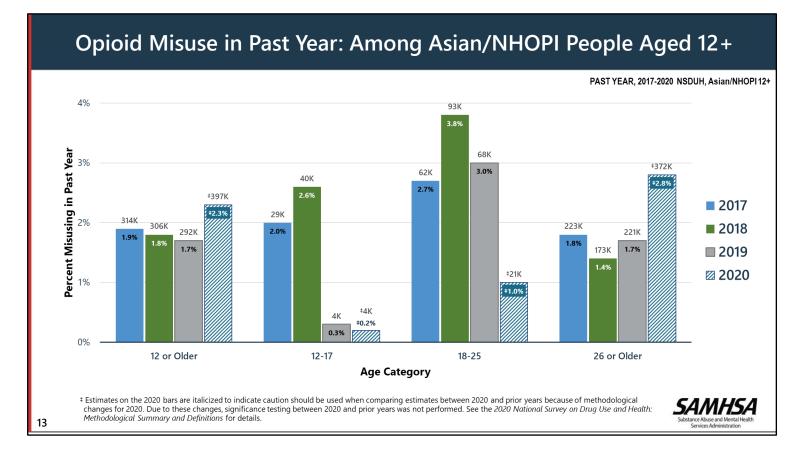
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TALKING POINTS:

 Opioids are a group of chemically similar drugs that include heroin and prescription opioids, such as hydrocodone (e.g., Vicodin®), oxycodone (e.g., OxyContin®), and morphine.

- Prescription pain reliever misuse and heroin use fall under the umbrella of opioid misuse.
- Of those who misused opioids, the vast majority were misusers of prescription pain relievers.
- Of those who used heroin, very few used heroin alone.

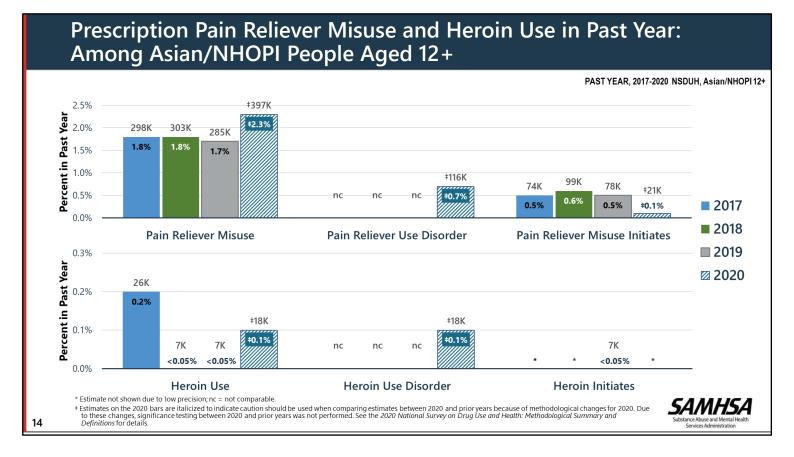


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TALKING POINTS:

 In 2020, Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26 or older had a higher percentage of opioid misuse in the past year than Asian/NHOPI youths aged 12 to 17.

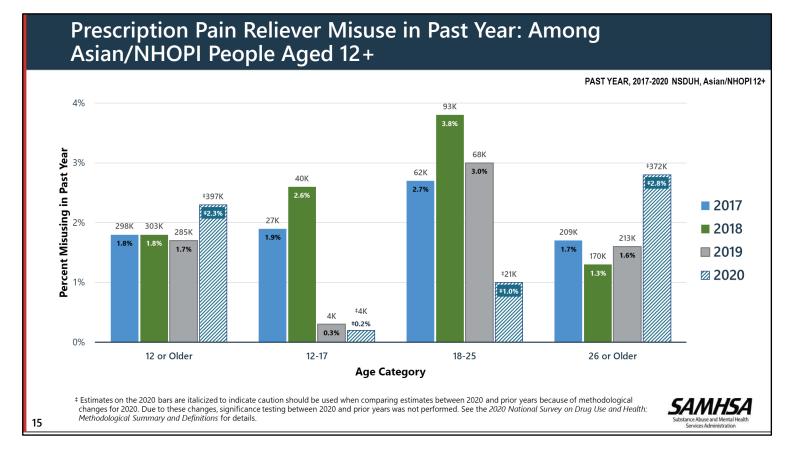


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TALKING POINTS:

- Misuse of prescription pain relievers is much more common than heroin use.
- Likewise, pain reliever use disorder is more common than heroin use disorder.



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TALKING POINTS:

 In 2020, Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26 or older had a higher percentage of prescription pain reliever misuse in the past year than Asian/NHOPI youths aged 12 to 17. Sources Where Pain Relievers Were Obtained for Most Recent Misuse in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI People Aged 12+ Who Misused Prescription Pain Relievers in Past Year

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Misuse of Prescription Opioid Subtypes in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI People Aged 12+ Who Had Any Use of the Prescription Opioid

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Heroin Use in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI People Aged 12+

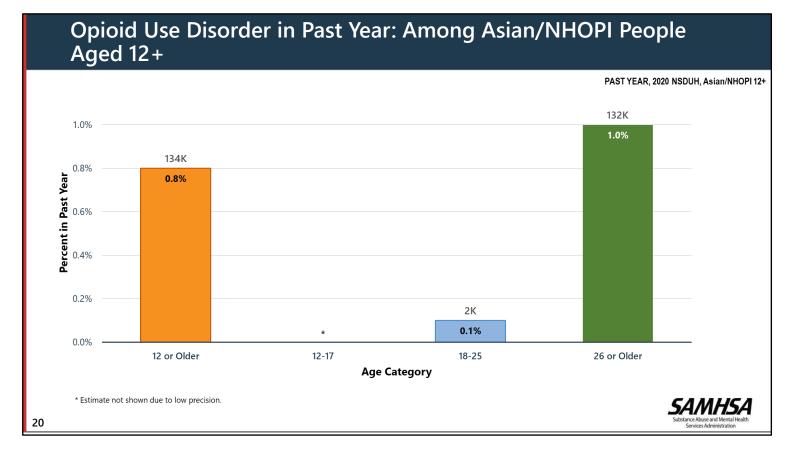
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Heroin Use Disorder in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI People Aged 12+

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TALKING POINTS:

- Respondents were classified as having an opioid use disorder if they met DSM-5 criteria for heroin use disorder or prescription pain reliever use disorder, or both.
- Estimates for Asian/NHOPI youths aged 12 to 17 could not be calculated with sufficient precision.

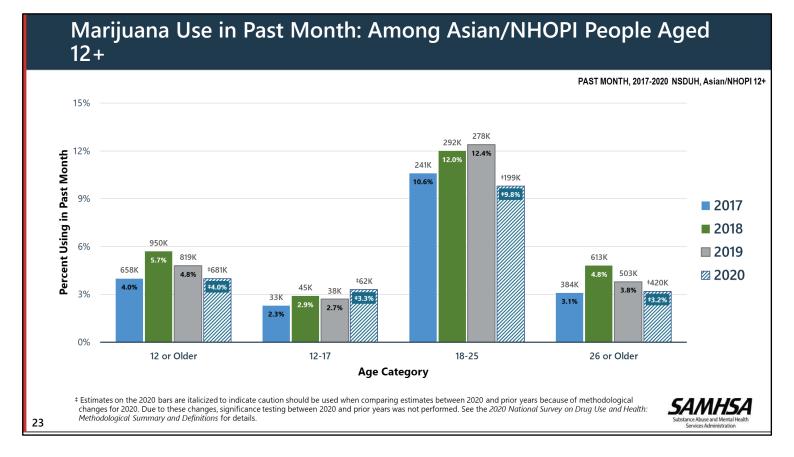
Summary: Opioid Misuse in 2020

- Opioid misuse is primarily driven by prescription pain reliever misuse.
- Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 12 to 17 in 2020:
 - 0.2 percent (or 4,000 people) misused opioids in the past year
- Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 18 to 25 in 2020:
 - 1.0 percent (or 21,000 people) misused opioids in the past year
 - 0.1 percent (or 2,000 people) had an opioid use disorder
- Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 26 or older in 2020:
 - 2.8 percent (or 372,000 people) misused opioids in the past year
 - 1.0 percent (or 132,000 people) had an opioid use disorder

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Other Illicit Substances



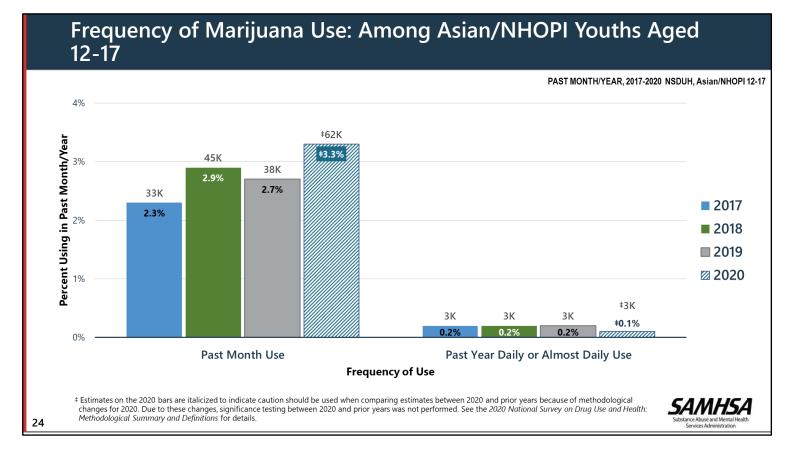


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TALKING POINTS:

- In 2020, marijuana was the most commonly used illicit drug.
- The percentage of past month marijuana use was higher among Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25 when compared to Asian/NHOPI youths aged 12 to 17 and Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26 or older.

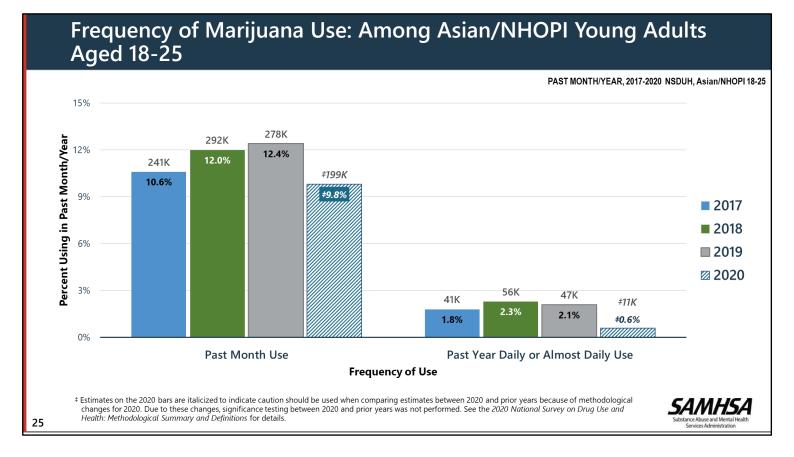


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TALKING POINTS:

 In 2020, less than 1 percent of Asian/NHOPI youths aged 12 to 17 used marijuana daily or almost daily in the past year.

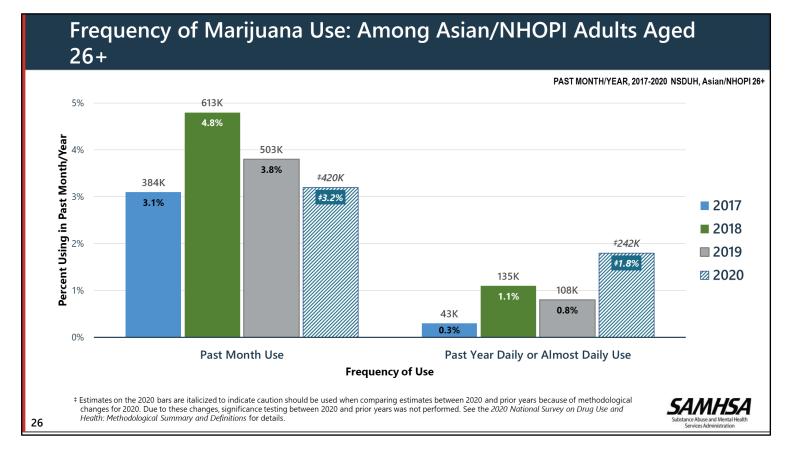


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TALKING POINTS:

 In 2020, young adults aged 18 to 25 had the highest percentage of past year daily or almost daily marijuana use compared with other age groups.

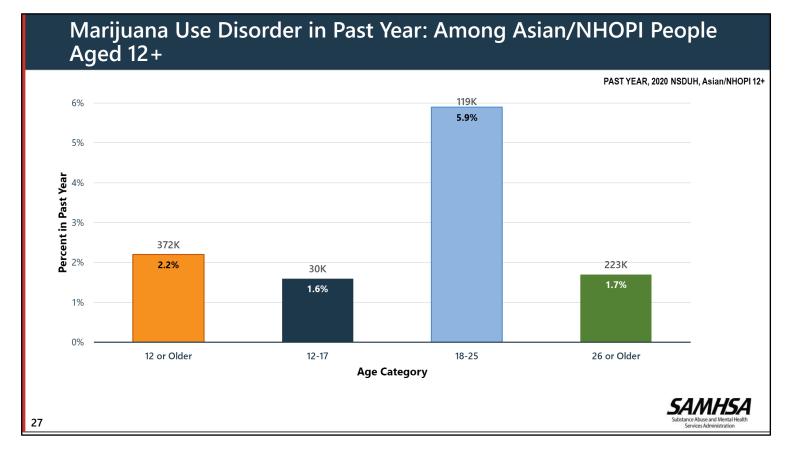


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TALKING POINTS:

 In 2020, Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26 or older had a higher percentage of past year daily or almost daily marijuana use than Asian/NHOPI youths aged 12 to 17.



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TALKING POINTS:

 Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25 had the highest percentage of marijuana use disorder in the past year when compared to Asian/NHOPI youths aged 12 to 17 and Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26 or older. • The higher percentage of Asian/NHOPI young adults with a marijuana use disorder was consistent with the higher percentage among this age group for marijuana use in the past month.

Substance Use in Past Month: Among Pregnant Asian/NHOPI Women Aged 15-44

Data not shown – low precision



Marijuana Use in Past Month: Among Asian/NHOPI Women Aged 15-44; By Pregnancy Status

Data not shown – low precision



Daily or Almost Daily Marijuana Use in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI Women Aged 15-44; By Pregnancy Status

Data not shown – low precision



Summary: Marijuana Use in 2020

Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 12 to 17 in 2020:

- 3.3 percent (or 62,000 people) used marijuana in the past month
- 1.6 percent (or 30,000 people) had a marijuana use disorder

Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 18 to 25 in 2020:

- 9.8 percent (or 199,000 people) used marijuana in the past month
- 5.9 percent (or 119,000 people) had a marijuana use disorder

Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 26 or older in 2020

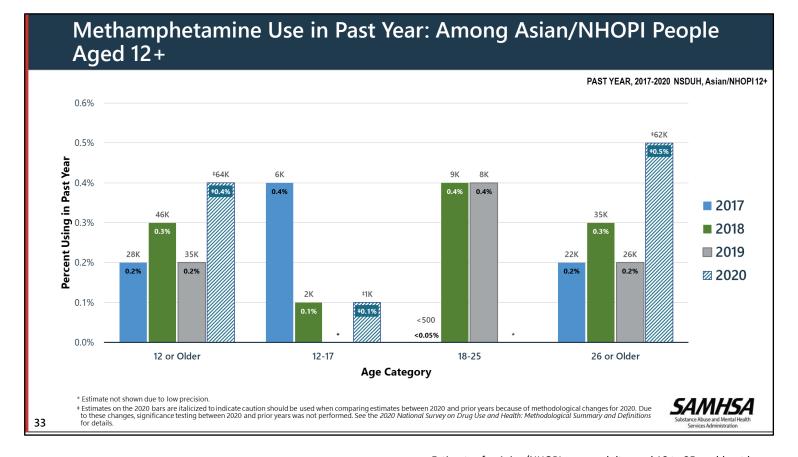
- 3.2 percent (or 420,000 people) used marijuana in the past month
- 1.7 percent (or 223,000 people) had a marijuana use disorder

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Cocaine Use in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI People Aged 12+

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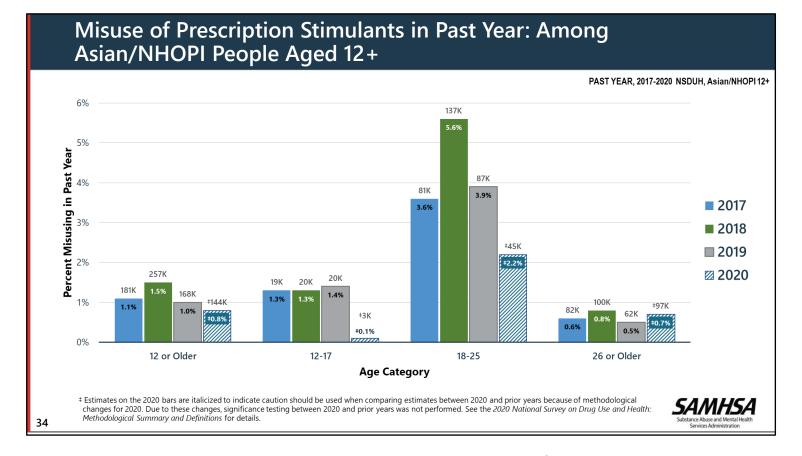


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TALKING POINTS:

 Although methamphetamine is legally available by prescription (Desoxyn®), most methamphetamine used in the United States is produced and distributed illicitly rather than through the pharmaceutical industry. The misuse of prescription stimulants is covered on the next slide. Estimates for Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25 could not be calculated with sufficient precision.

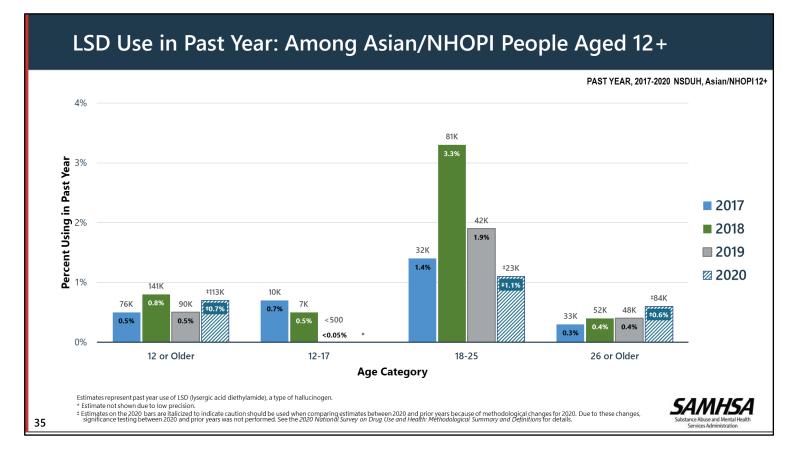


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TALKING POINTS:

 Methamphetamine has not been included as a prescription stimulant, unless respondents specified the prescription form of methamphetamine (Desoxyn®) as some other stimulant they had misused in the past year. In 2020, percentages of prescription stimulant misuse in the past year among Asian/NHOPI people aged 12 or older did not differ across age groups.



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TALKING POINTS:

- Several drugs are grouped under the category of hallucinogens, including LSD.
- Estimates for Asian/NHOPI youths aged 12 to 17 could not be calculated with sufficient precision.

Summary: Other Substance Use in 2020

Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 12 to 17 in 2020:

- 0.1 percent (or 1,000 people) used methamphetamine in the past year
- 0.1 percent (or 3,000 people) misused prescription stimulants in the past year

Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 18 to 25 in 2020:

- 2.2 percent (or 45,000 people) misused prescription stimulants in the past year
- 1.1 percent (or 23,000 people) used LSD in the past year

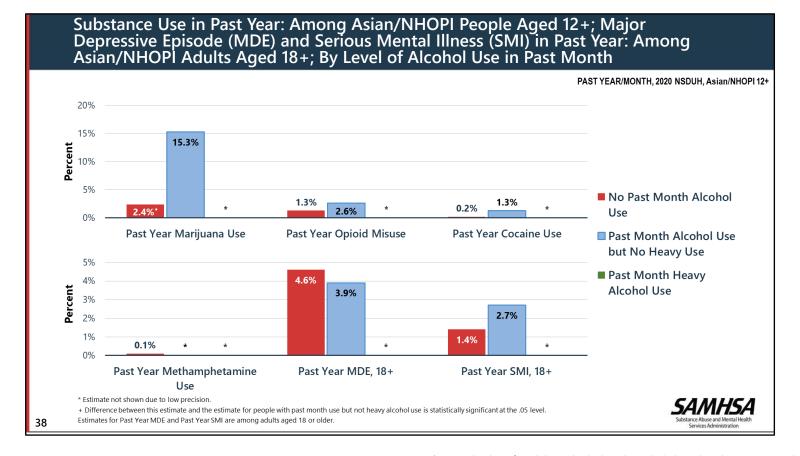
Among Asian/NHOPIs aged 26 or older in 2020:

- 0.8 percent (or 101,000 people) used cocaine in the past year
- 0.5 percent (or 62,000 people) used methamphetamine in the past year
- 0.7 percent (or 97,000 people) misused prescription stimulants in the past year
- 0.6 percent (or 84,000 people) used LSD in the past year



Polysubstance Use and Mental Illness





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TALKING POINTS:

- Asian/NHOPI people aged 12 or older who did not drink alcohol in the past month had
 a lower percentage of marijuana use in the past year than those who drank alcohol,
 but had no heavy alcohol use.
- Estimates for Asian/NHOPI who engaged in heavy alcohol use in the past month could not be calculated with sufficient precision.
- These findings are consistent with literature suggesting that having an SUD for one substance significantly increases risk for developing SUDs for additional substances

(e.g., studies have found that individuals with an alcohol use disorder are at twice the risk for developing an opioid use disorder) (Crummy et al., 2020).

- NSDUH found that adults aged 18 or older engaging in heavy alcohol use had a higher percentage of an MDE and SMI in the past year than adults who used alcohol, but had no heavy alcohol use in the past month.
- Findings are consistent with literature suggesting depression and alcohol use disorder
 often co-occur. Studies have found that individuals with depression have a three-fold
 risk for developing alcohol use disorder in their lifetime (Schouten et al., 2022).

References

Crummy, E. A., O'Neal, T. J., Baskin, B. M., & Ferguson, S. M. (2020). One is not enough: understanding and modeling polysubstance use. *Frontiers in Neuroscience*, 14, 569.

Schouten, M. J., Christ, C., Dekker, J. J., Riper, H., Goudriaan, A. E., & Blankers, M. (2022). Digital interventions for people with co-occurring depression and problematic alcohol use: A systematic review and meta-analysis. *Alcohol and Alcoholism*, *57*(1), 113-124.

Substance Use in Past Year/Month: Among Asian/NHOPI People Aged 12+; Major Depressive Episode (MDE) and Serious Mental Illness (SMI) in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI Adults Aged 18+; By Level of Marijuana Use in Past Year

Data not shown – low precision



Substance Use in Past Year/Month: Among Asian/NHOPI People Aged 12+; Major Depressive Episode (MDE) and Serious Mental Illness (SMI) in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI Adults Aged 18+; By Level of Opioid Misuse in Past Year

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Substance Use in Past Year/Month: Among Asian/NHOPI People Aged 12+; Major Depressive Episode (MDE) and Serious Mental Illness (SMI) in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI Adults Aged 18+; By Level of Methamphetamine Use in Past Year

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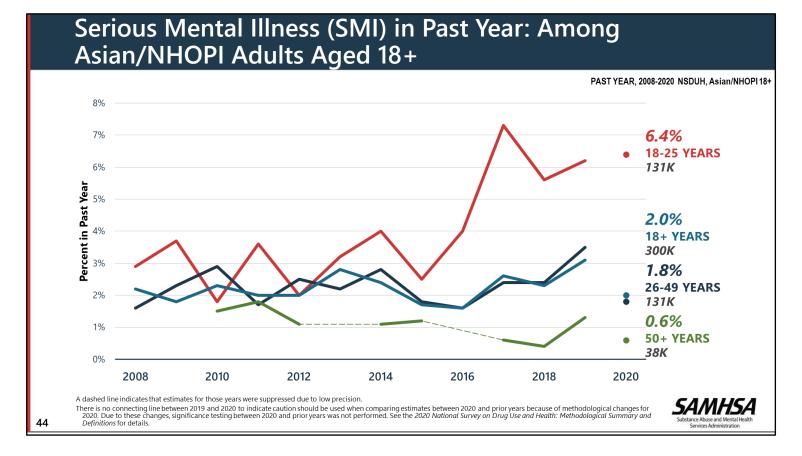
Summary

- Polysubstance use is common—if a person is having problems with one substance, they may be having problems with other substances
- Treatment providers must screen for and treat all substance use disorders and problem substance use
- Association of substance misuse and mental illness is clear—we must all do a better job of helping Americans understand these relationships and risks



Mental Health





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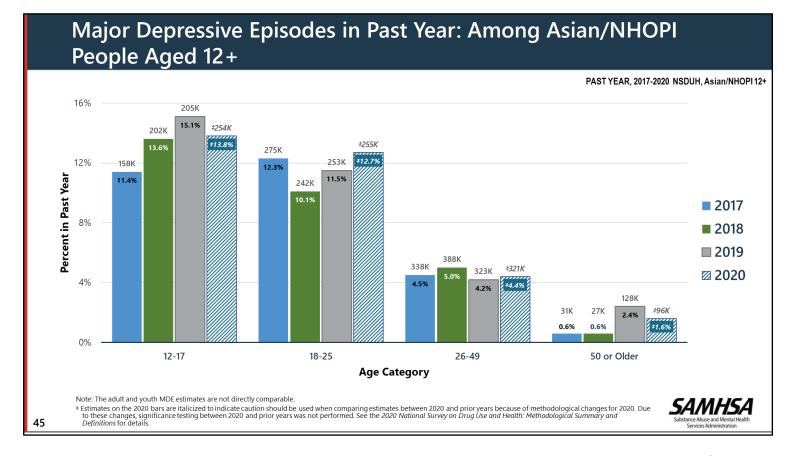
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TALKING POINTS:

- In 2020, Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25 had a higher percentage of SMI when compared to Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26-49 and Asian/NHOPI adults aged 50 or older.
- SMI continues to be on the rise, particularly in young adults, which is
 consistent with literature showing mental health concerns in young adults
 have significantly increased over the past decade (Twenge et al., 2019).

Reference

Twenge, J. M., Cooper, A. B., Joiner, T. E., Duffy, M. E., & Binau, S. G. (2019). Age, period, and cohort trends in mood disorder indicators and suicide-related outcomes in a nationally representative dataset, 2005–2017. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 128(3), 185.



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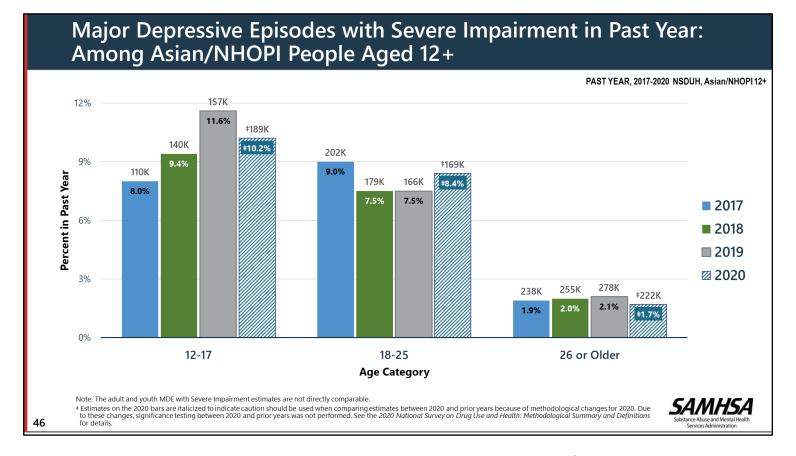
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TALKING POINTS:

 In 2020, the percentage of Asian/NHOPI adults who had an MDE was higher among Asian/NHOPI adults aged 18 to 25 when compared to Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26 to 49 and Asian/NHOPI adults aged 50 or older. Estimates of MDE are not compared between youths aged 12 to 17 and adults aged 18 or older. Youths and young adults continue to report rising rates of MDE, consistent
with recent literature that found rates of depression increased by 52
percent between 2005 and 2017 among adolescents and 63 percent
between 2009 and 2017 in young adults (Twenge et al., 2019).

Reference

Twenge, J. M., Cooper, A. B., Joiner, T. E., Duffy, M. E., & Binau, S. G. (2019). Age, period, and cohort trends in mood disorder indicators and suicide-related outcomes in a nationally representative dataset, 2005–2017. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 128(3), 185.



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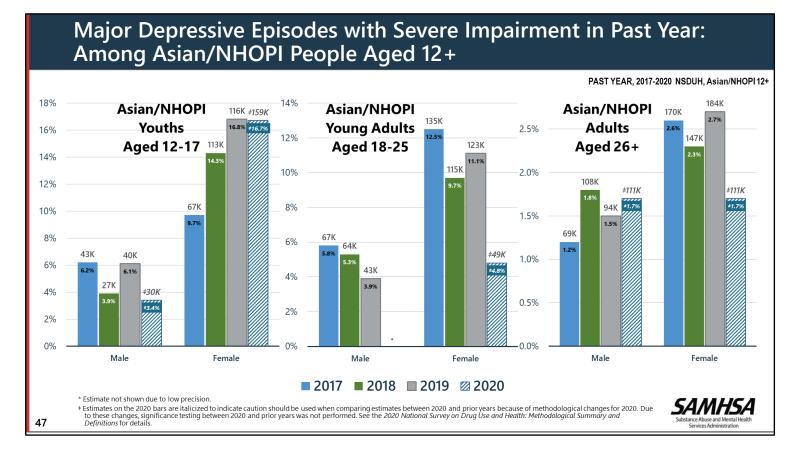
TALKING POINTS:

- MDE with Severe Impairment is defined as those individuals with higher scores on the Sheehan Disability Scale.
- In 2020, Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25 were more than twice as likely to experience MDE with Severe Impairment than Asian/NHOPI adults

- aged 26 or older. Estimates of MDE with Severe Impairment are not compared between youths aged 12 to 17 and adults aged 18 or older.
- These findings support literature suggesting that rates of mental illness are rising more quickly in adolescents and young adults (Twenge et al., 2019).

Reference

Twenge, J. M., Cooper, A. B., Joiner, T. E., Duffy, M. E., & Binau, S. G. (2019). Age, period, and cohort trends in mood disorder indicators and suicide-related outcomes in a nationally representative dataset, 2005–2017. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 128(3), 185.



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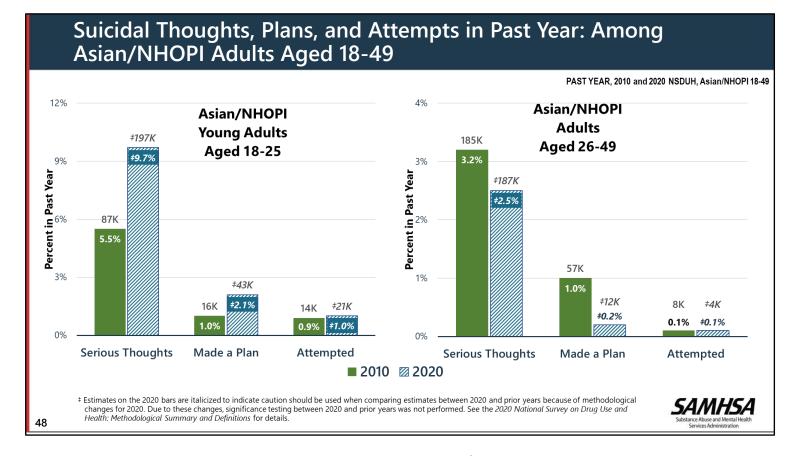
TALKING POINTS:

- In 2020, percentages of MDE with Severe Impairment are similar across adult age groups. Estimates of MDE with Severe Impairment are not compared between youths aged 12 to 17 and adults aged 18 or older.
- Recent research suggests that the rates of severe mood disorders have significantly increased among adolescents and young adults in the past 10 years, especially among females (e.g., Twenge et al., 2019; Yard et al., 2021).

References

Twenge, J. M., Cooper, A. B., Joiner, T. E., Duffy, M. E., & Binau, S. G. (2019). Age, period, and cohort trends in mood disorder indicators and suicide-related outcomes in a nationally representative dataset, 2005–2017. *Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, 128(3), 185.

Yard, E., Radhakrishnan, L., Ballesteros, M. F., Sheppard, M., Gates, A., Stein, Z., ... Stone, D. M. (2021). Emergency department visits for suspected suicide attempts among persons aged 12–25 years before and during the COVID-19 pandemic—United States, January 2019–May 2021. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, 70(24), 888.



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.

TALKING POINTS:

- In 2020, serious thoughts of suicide were reported by nearly 10 percent of Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25—more than triple the rate reported by Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26 to 49.
- The percentage of Asian/NHOPI young adults aged 18 to 25 who made a suicide plan was higher than for Asian/NHOPI adults aged 26 to 49.

Rates of planning or attempting suicide remain low—and illustrates two important points in the literature: (1) suicidal behaviors remain difficult to study due to low base rates, and (2) suicidal behaviors are underreported (e.g., Tøllefsen et al., 2012).

Reference

Tøllefsen, I. M., Hem, E., & Ekeberg, Ø. (2012). The reliability of suicide statistics: A systematic review. BMC Psychiatry, *12*(1), 1-11.

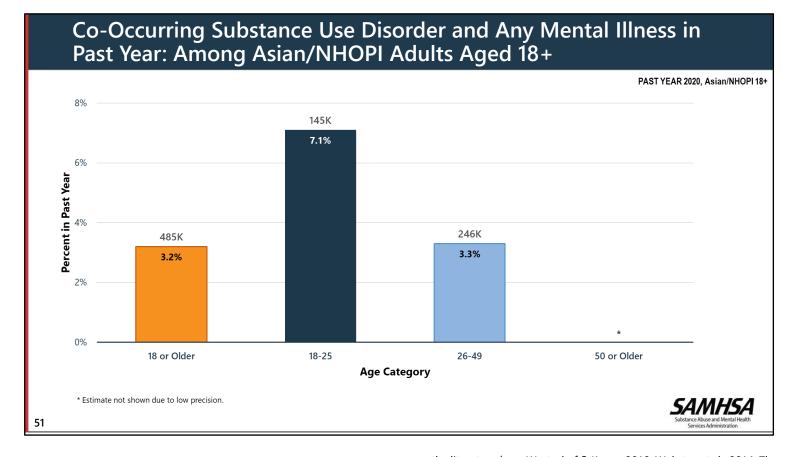
Co-Occurring Mental and Substance Use Disorders



Substance Use in Past Year/Month: Among Asian/NHOPI Youths Aged 12-17; By Past Year Major Depressive Episode (MDE) status

Data not shown – low precision





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TALKING POINTS:

- Estimates for Asian/NHOPI adults aged 50 or older could not be calculated with sufficient precision.
- Declining prevalence rates of mental illness across the lifespan, such that older adults report the lowest rates of mental illness, is well established in

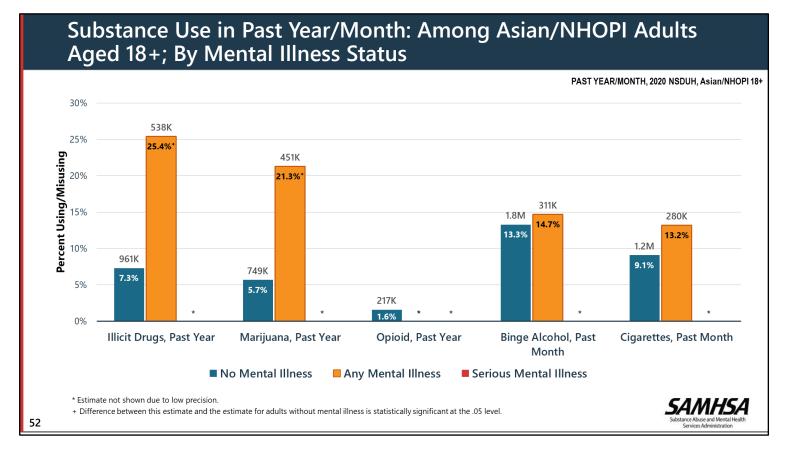
the literature (e.g., Westerhof & Keyes, 2010, Webster et al., 2014; Thomas et al., 2016).

References

Westerhof, G. J., & Keyes, C. L. (2010). Mental illness and mental health: The two continua model across the lifespan. *Journal of Adult Development*, *17*(2), 110-119.

Webster, J. D., Westerhof, G. J., & Bohlmeijer, E. T. (2014). Wisdom and mental health across the lifespan. *Journals of Gerontology Series B: Psychological Sciences and Social Sciences*, 69(2), 209-218.

Thomas, M. L., Kaufmann, C. N., Palmer, B. W., Depp, C. A., Martin, A. S., Glorioso, D. K., ... Jeste, D. V. (2016). Paradoxical trend for improvement in mental health with aging: A community-based study of 1,546 adults aged 21-100 years. *The Journal of Clinical Psychiatry*, 77(8), 8771.

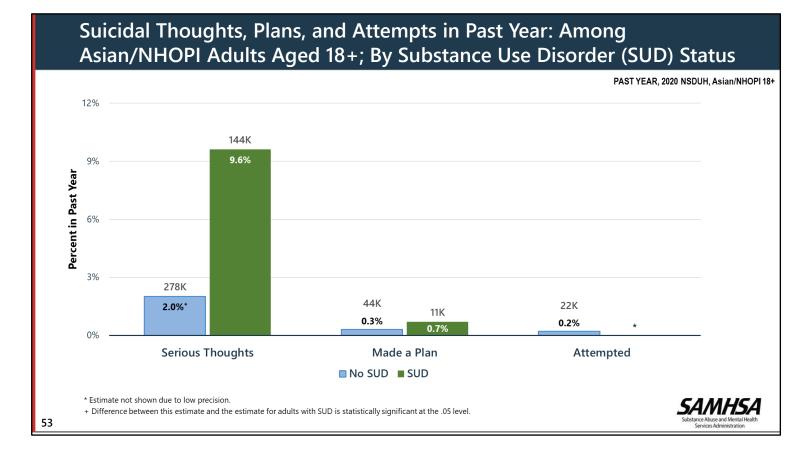


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TALKING POINTS:

- Co-occurrence of mental illness and substance use is common.
- Asian/NHOPI adults aged 18 or older with any mental illness had significantly higher rates of illicit drug and marijuana use over the past year than Asian/NHOPI adults without mental illness.



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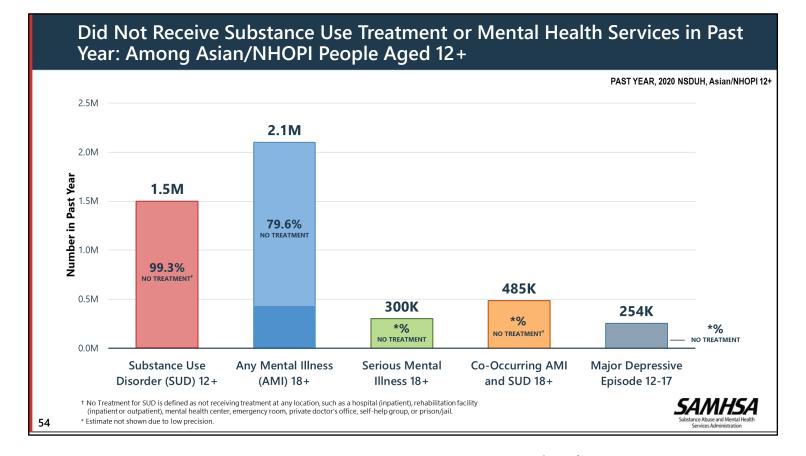
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TALKING POINTS:

- Asian/NHOPI adults aged 18 or older with an SUD had higher rates of serious thoughts of suicide in the past year than Asian/NHOPI adults who did not have an SUD.
- Literature has found that substance use often co-occurs with suicidal thoughts and behaviors and is a well-established risk factor for suicide attempts and death by suicide (Esang & Ahmed, 2018).

Reference

Esang, M., & Ahmed, S. (2018). A closer look at substance use and suicide. *American Journal of Psychiatry Residents' Journal*, 13(6), 6-8.



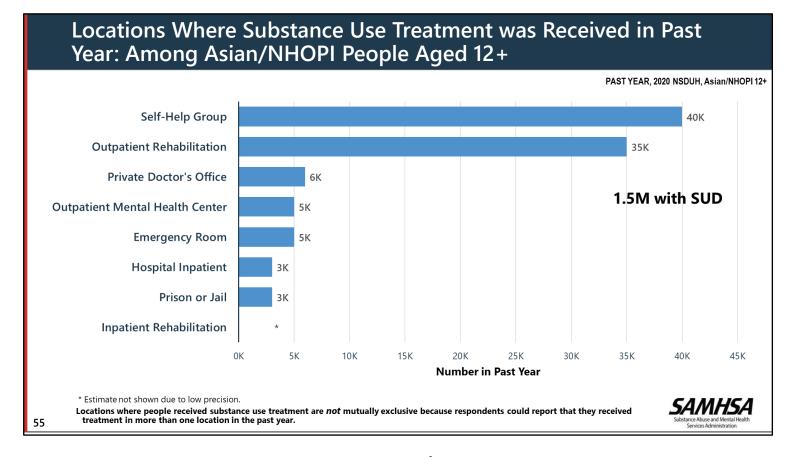
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TALKING POINTS:

- Understanding barriers to and increasing access to SUD and mental health treatment remains a focus for providers and policymakers.
- Well-established barriers to care include lack of insurance/cost, stigmatization of substance use and mental illness, and multicultural factors.

- Over three quarters of Asian/NHOPI adults aged 18 or older with AMI did not receive treatment within the past year.
- Far fewer Asian/NHOPI adults sought help for SUD. More than 90 percent do not receive treatment—highlighting barriers to care including stigmatization of SUD.



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TALKING POINTS:

 The popularity of self-help groups (e.g., Alcoholics Anonymous) is in part due to reduced fears of stigmatization (or being misunderstood) because group leaders have shared lived experiences (Moos, 2008). In addition, selfhelp groups are typically free.

Reference

Moos, R. H. (2008). Active ingredients of substance use-focused self-help groups. *Addiction*, *103*(3), 387-396.

Receipt of Substance Use Treatment at a Specialty Facility and/or Mental Health Services in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI Adults Aged 18+ with Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Any Mental Illness (AMI)

Data not shown – low precision



Receipt of Substance Use Treatment at a Specialty Facility and/or Mental Health Services in Past Year: Among Asian/NHOPI Adults Aged 18+ with Co-Occurring Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Serious Mental Illness (SMI)

Data not shown – low precision



Summary: Mental Health/Co-Occurring Issues in the United States in 2020

• Co-occurring substance use and mental disorders are common.

· Adults:

- Significantly higher rates of substance use among adults with mental illness vs. adults without mental illness.
- Significantly higher rates of suicidal thoughts than those without a substance use disorder

