

# NATIONAL SURVEY ON DRUG USE AND HEALTH (NSDUH)

## Years Survey Included Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM)-related Questions 2015 - Present

### Survey Description

The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) is an annual nationwide survey that provides national and state-level data on the use of tobacco, alcohol, illicit drugs (including non-medical use of prescription drugs) and mental health in the United States.

The primary objectives of NSDUH are to provide accurate data on the level and patterns of alcohol, tobacco and illegal substance use and abuse, track trends in the use of alcohol, tobacco and various types of drugs, assess the consequences of substance use and abuse and identify those groups at high risk for substance abuse.

The SGM-related questions are included in the Back-End Demographics and Household Roster sections of the survey.

### Survey Sample Population

Every year, approximately 70,000 individuals will be randomly selected from all over the United States and asked to participate. NSDUH collects information from residents of households and noninstitutionalized group quarters (e.g., shelters, rooming houses, dormitories) and from civilians living on military bases, ages 12 and older. The survey excludes homeless persons who do not use shelters, military personnel on active duty, and residents of institutional group quarters, such as jails and hospitals. Sexual orientation and identity questions are asked only for respondents ages 18 and older.

### Survey Mode

Each year, SAMHSA selects a survey research organization to administer the NSDUH. Then, a professional interviewer personally visits each selected person to administer the interview using a laptop computer.

Most of the survey questions are administered with audio computer-assisted self-interviewing (ACASI) as to provide the respondent with a highly private and confidential mode for responding about illicit drug use and other sensitive behaviors. Less sensitive items are administered by interviewers using computer-assisted personal interviewing (CAPI).

## SGM-Related Survey Questions

### Sexual Identity

**(QD63) [IF CURNATGE = 18 OR OLDER] Which one of the following do you consider yourself to be?**

Heterosexual, that is, straight

[If R is female then Lesbian or] Gay

Bisexual

(Don't Know)

(Refused)

**Question History:** This is the only version of the question that has been used.

### Sexual Attraction

**(QD62) [IF CURNTAGE = 18 OR OLDER] People are different in their sexual attraction to other people. Which statement best describes your feelings?**

**[If R is male]**

I am only attracted to females

I am mostly attracted to females

I am equally attracted to females and males

I am mostly attracted to males

I am only attracted to males

I am not sure

(Don't Know)

(Refused)

**[If R is female]**

I am only attracted to males

I am mostly attracted to males

I am equally attracted to males and females

I am mostly attracted to females

I am only attracted to females

I am not sure

(Don't Know)

(Refused)

**Question History:** This is the only version of the question that has been used.

### Sexual Behavior

There are currently no questions asked in this category.

### Gender Identity

There are currently no questions asked in this category. Gender is subjectively assigned by interviewer.

## Household Relationships

**PERAGEYR [IF QD54 = 2 - 25]** Now I need some additional information about each person who lives here.

**PERYRSEX [IF PERAGEYR = 2 - 110 ] Is the [PERAGEYR FILL]-year old person male or female?**

- 5 MALE
- 9 FEMALE
- DK/REF

**PERSEX**

**[IF PERAGEYR = DK/REF] Is this person a male or a female?**

- 5 MALE
- 9 FEMALE
- DK/REF

**MRELATON**

**[IF CHMONSEX OR CHYRSEX OR PERYRSEX OR PERSEX = 5] HAND R SHOWCARD 6.** Please look at this card and tell me which category best describes his relationship to you.

**INTERVIEWER NOTE:** If it is clear to you that the respondent is talking about/rostering themselves, you may say “Is that you?” If the answer is Yes, enter “1” for “SELF”. Exchange families (exchange students or people who are hosting exchange students) should be considered “other non-relatives.”

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
- DK/REF

**Question History:** These are the only questions that have been used.

## Response Rates

Below are the response rates and sample sizes for the 2015 NSDUH. They are organized by the demographic characteristics of the participants.

### Response Rates and Sample Sizes for 2015 NSDUHs, by Demographic Characteristics

<b>TOTAL</b>	94,499	68,073	69.25%
<b>AGE IN YEARS</b>			
12-17	21,859	16,955	77.66%
18-25	23,211	17,215	74.45%
26 or Older	49,429	33,903	67.36%
<b>GENDER</b>			
Male	46,348	32,484	67.19%
Female	48,151	35,589	71.21%
<b>RACE/ETHNICITY</b>			
Hispanic	16,294	12,291	72.31%
White	58,741	41,176	67.94%
Black	10,704	8,435	76.08%
All Other Races	8,760	6,171	63.10%
<b>REGION</b>			
Northeast	18,988	13,026	65.61%
Midwest	22,523	15,890	68.39%
South	30,920	22,768	70.93%
West	22,239	16,389	70.09%
<b>COUNTY TYPE</b>			
Large Metropolitan	43,046	30,275	67.59%
Small Metropolitan	32,319	23,361	71.17%
Nonmetropolitan	19,134	14,147	71.50%

NOTE: Estimates are based on demographic information obtained from screener data and are not consistent with estimates on demographic characteristics presented in the 2015 set of detailed tables.

Source: SAMHSA, Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2015.

## Survey Links

### Questionnaires

This survey can be found under ‘Methodology & Questionnaires’ tab, by clicking on ‘NSDUH Methodological Resource Book (MRB)’. Use the following link to access the most recent questionnaires:

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/population-data-nsduh/reports?tab=38>

### Data

This information can be found on the main NSDUH website under ‘Survey Results’. Under ‘Survey Results’, the results from 2015 can be accessed by choosing ‘Latest Survey Results’. There are no results for 2016. To access the most recent data, use the following link:

<https://nsduhwebesn.rti.org/respweb/homepage.cfm>

From the SAMHSA website, results can be accessed by clicking the ‘Data’ subhead and finding the ‘Type of Data’ section. Once in this section, choose ‘Population Data/NSDUH’. Use the following link to access the most recent data:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/data/population-data-nsduh/reports?tab=38>

Also on the SAMHSA website, reports and detailed tables from the 2015 NSDUH can be accessed by choosing ‘Topics’ and finding ‘Data, Outcomes, and Quality’. Once there, click ‘Major Data Collections’ to find the 2015 information. Use the following link to access the most recent data:

<https://www.samhsa.gov/samhsa-data-outcomes-quality/major-data-collections/reports-detailed-tables-2015-NSDUH>

### References

About Population Data/NSDUH. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. United States Department of Health and Human Services. (2016).

<http://www.samhsa.gov/data/population-data-nsduh>

National Survey on Drug Use and Health. Substance Abuse and Mental Service Administration. U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. RTI International. (2017)

<https://nsduhweb.rti.org/respweb/homepage.cfm>

RTI International. Research Triangle Institute. (2017)

<http://www.rti.org/about-us>

