

# NATIONAL SURVEY OF OLDER AMERICANS ACT PARTICIPANTS (NSOAAP)

## Years Survey Included Sexual and Gender Minority (SGM)-Related Questions

2014–2017

### Survey Description

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) oversees Administration on Aging (AoA) programs and conducts the National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP), a national sample survey of programs on aging funded by Title III of the Older Americans Act (OAA). The purpose of Title III is to encourage and help state and local agencies develop comprehensive, coordinated in-home and community-based long-term services (e.g., congregate and home-delivered meals, transportation, case management) for older adults (age 60 and older). The main objective of the NSOAAP survey is to provide ACL/AoA with a method for collecting data on the effectiveness of Title III programs. Survey results help ACL/AoA meet its accountability requirements to the president and demonstrate to Congress how well programs are achieving their legislative goals.

### Survey Sample Population

The survey uses a two-staged sample design, first selecting a sample of Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) and then randomly sampling participants from each selected AAA by service type.

#### *Agency Selection*

In the first stage, a stratified sample of 316 AAA was selected from the frame of 629 agencies. This sample size is the same as in the 11th survey, which was increased from 312 in the 10th survey to provide greater precision for the sample estimates. The 2017 frame is identical to the 2016 frame, with the exception of one additional agency in New Mexico for the 2017 frame.

The AAA sample was selected independently within five budget size strata, which were created based on the square root of the total budget size of the AAAs. The 41 agencies with the largest budget sizes were selected with certainty for the AAA sample. For more information, follow the link below and select “Survey Documentation”: <https://agid.acl.gov/DataFiles/NPS/Files.aspx?year=2017&serviceid=9>.

## Participant Selection

The sample population of the NSOAAP is Title III service participants and their caregivers. Client participants are age 60 and older. Clients answering questions under the Caregiver module are age 18 and older.

A small sample of clients from each participating AAA is randomly selected to complete a telephone survey about services they received during the past year, which include case management, congregate meals, family caregiver support, home-delivered meals, homemaker, and transportation.

## Survey Mode

Surveys are conducted annually through computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI). All responses are confidential and anonymous.

## SGM-Related Survey Questions

### Survey

The questions below are asked of all NSOAAP respondents. The questions are in the demographic intake module.

Category	Question	Question History
Sexual Identity	(DE1a) Which of the following best represents how you think of yourself? Lesbian or Gay* Straight, that is, not lesbian or gay** Bisexual Something else Refused Don't Know *For men, the category reads "gay" **For men, the category reads "straight, that is, not gay"	This is the only version of the question that has been used.
	If R answers "Something else" to DE1a: (DE1a1) What do you mean by something else? You are not straight, but identify with another label such as queer, trisexual, omnisexual or pansexual You are transgender, transsexual or gender variant You have not figured out or are in the process of figuring out your sexuality You do not think of yourself as having sexuality You do not use labels to identify yourself You mean something else Refused Don't Know	This is the only version of the question that has been used.

Category	Question	Question History
	If R answers “Don’t know” to DE1a1:( DE1a2) What do you mean by don’t know? You don’t understand the words You understand the words, but you have not figured out or are in the process of figuring out your sexuality You mean something else Refused Don’t know	This is the only version of the question that has been used.
	If R answers “Don’t know” to DE1a2: (DE1a3) What do you mean by something else? Specify <allow 75> Refused Don’t know	This is the only version of the question that has been used.
Sexual Attraction	Currently no questions are asked in this category.	Not applicable.
Sexual Behavior	Currently no questions are asked in this category.	Not applicable.
Gender Identity	Currently no questions are asked in this category.	Not applicable.
Household Relationships	Currently no questions are asked in this category.	Not applicable.

## Response Rates

Response rates per question can be found at the link below. <https://agid.acl.gov/CustomTables/NPS/Year/>

## ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND

### Organizations Involved

Westat is the research firm that is conducting this study for AoA. Westat will conduct confidential telephone interviews with clients selected for the study.

### Survey Links

#### Questionnaires

To access the questionnaires, follow the link below to access topics. Select a topic of interest; a link to the survey is under the documentation section. <https://agid.acl.gov/DataFiles/NPS/>

#### Data

To access the data, follow the link below to access topics. Select a topic of interest; links to data are listed under the data files. <https://agid.acl.gov/DataFiles/NPS/>

As part of the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th surveys, ACL piloted questions about sexual orientation. However, because of small sample size and large statistical measure of standard error (>30%), the data are not available for viewing or downloading at this time.

## ***General Information***

All information on the NSOAAP can be found on ACL/AoA's NSOAAP website: <https://aoasurvey.org/default.asp>

## **References**

Administration for Community Living. National Survey of Older Americans Act Participants (NSOAAP). Twelfth National Survey. (2017) <https://agid.acl.gov/DataFiles/Documents/NPS/2017SurveyDocumentation.pdf>

Administration for Community Living. Older Americans Benefit from Older Americans Act Nutrition Programs. (2015). <https://www.acl.gov/sites/default/files/programs/2016-11/AoA-Research-Brief-8-2015.pdf>