

What is the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, 2010?

The National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) (formerly National Household Survey of Drug Abuse, 1979-2001) is an annual nationally representative survey that provides information on prevalence, correlates, and trends of drug use within the United States. The project also aims to provide access to the consequences of substance use and abuse and identify those who are high risk for abuse. The NSDUH is sponsored by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration (SAMHSA), an agency of the U.S. Public Health Service in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and is collected by the Research Triangle Institute (since 1988). A sample of 68,487 respondents who ranged in age from 12 to 65+ [(age ranges: 12-17 (32.2%); 18-25 (33.4%); 26-34 (10.2%); 35-49 (14.5%); 50-64 (6.1%); and 65+ (3.7%)] were interviewed with a public access data set of 57,873 records. All respondents were asked the same survey questions. Collection of the NSDUH that was started in 1979, continued in 1982, 1985, 1988, and every year since 1991, is expected to be collected through 2013. By using techniques such as a \$30 participation incentive, the weighted interview response rate was 74.7% in 2010.

What does the NSDUH 2010 offer family scholars?

The NSDUH 2010 measures illicit drug, alcohol, and tobacco use among respondents aged 12 and older and contains questions on age of first use, lifetime use, past year use, and past month use of the following drugs: marijuana; cocaine (and crack); hallucinogens; heroin; inhalants; alcohol; tobacco; and nonmedical or prescription drugs. The study also covers substance abuse treatment, mental health issues, health access, police contact, and problems because of substance use. In 2002, the NSDUH introduced questions on "Youth Experiences" that cover topics such as neighborhood environment, illegal activities, gang involvement, drug use by friends, social support, extracurricular activities, exposure to substance abuse prevention and education programs, perceived adult attitudes toward drug use, and activities such as schoolwork.

With respect to the family, respondents were asked questions regarding:

- pregnancy,
- health care,
- household composition (including number of children under the age of 18, presence of mother and/or father, number of those 65 and older, and number of relatives),
- income,
- insurance,
- receipt of social security, SSI, food stamps, public assistance, welfare, Medicare and Medicaid/CHIP, Tricare, CHAMPUS, VA/Military,
- number of marriages and marital status,
- education and schooling, and
- employment.

Within the "Youth Experiences" section, respondents were asked about parental involvement in child's homework, participation in chores, parental affection/encouragement, limiting of play with friends and TV, and discussions of the dangers of drugs with parents.

How do I use the NSDUH 2010 Data?

[Related literature, file manifest, and codebook](#) for the NSDUH 2010 are publically available through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration via the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research ([ICPSR](#)). When analyzing data from the NSDUH 2010, researchers should take note of the proper final sampling weights (denoted as the variable ANALWT_C). Researchers should also note that since there have been changes to the sampling procedures and weights since 2002, trends are not comparable to 2001 and prior years. An overview of methodology and discussion of sampling weights can be found on the [SAMHSA website](#).

How do I access the NSDUH data?

The NSDUH 2010 is publically available through SAMHSA via ICPSR. The data are available as SAS CPORT, SAS XPORT, SPSS SAV, SPSS Portable, STATA, and ASCII files. Users must be registered and associated with a member institution to access and download data through ICPSR.

Where can I learn more about the NSDUH 2010 data?

Users can learn more about the NSDUH 2010 in general at the [National Survey on Drug Use and Health](#) and at the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Service Administration](#) websites.

Suggested Citation

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