

Instrumentation Protocol Changes

The 2013 National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH) instrumentation protocols underwent several modifications from the protocols employed for the 2012 NSDUH. A summary of the changes for the 2013 NSDUH can be divided into three topics: (1) the computer-assisted interviewing (CAI) screening instrument, (2) the CAI questionnaire, and (3) the interviewer materials.

1. Screening Instrument

Using the 2012 Screening Application as a base, questions, response options, and informed consent wording were modified for the 2013 Screening Application. Dates were also updated as needed. Listed below are the Screening Application changes for 2013, excluding routine date updates:

- The Military and Confirm Roster screens were updated throughout the screening application to remove the apostrophe following the phrase ‘United States’.
- The Informed Consent screen was updated to remove the word “payment” in the last sentence describing the \$30 incentive.
- On the Confirm Roster screen, references to “Other” and “Unspecified” have been removed when listing a roster member’s race, ethnicity, and military status. These items will not be included on the Confirm Roster screen unless an appropriate response option is chosen for that roster member.

2. CAI Questionnaire

Using the 2012 CAI Questionnaire as a base, questions and routing were modified for the 2013 CAI Questionnaire. Listed below are the CAI Questionnaire changes for 2013:

- The CAI instrument version was updated in the Introduction section.
- Added new questions to ask about serving in Reserve components in the military. Edited current questions for consistency.
- Added two response categories to the question about race. The response options now include Guamanian or Chamorro, and Samoan.
- Added two new questions about medical marijuana in the Blunts module.
- Added new questions to the Health Care module that ask about height, weight, and the discussions one has had with a doctor about substance use and abuse in the past year.
- In Quarter 2, edited the program to change the range of the height variables. This edit prevented respondents from reporting inches as greater than 11 if they also entered a unit for feet. It prevented respondents from reporting centimeters greater than 99 if they also reported meters.

- Deleted the computation of Mental Health variables from this module. These variables were used to select respondents into the Mental Health Surveillance Survey.
- Added a new variable, PENTER1, which instructs respondents to lock the ACASI portion of the instrument before returning the computer to the interviewer. Logic was updated throughout the instrument to route any respondent exiting the ACASI to PENTER1. Edited the ENDAUDIO variable to confirm that the respondent’s answers have been locked.
- Edits were made to the wording and routing of existing questions in the back end demographics section to more precisely introduce survey topics and to use more natural question wording.
- Edits were made to the routing of QD13 in order to only route respondents who report moving one or more times in the last five years to this question.
- State program names for Medicaid, CHIP and TANF were updated.
- The definitions of the CHAMPUS and CHAMPVA programs were updated.
- The wording to INTRTINN underwent a minor change.
- The wording to QI01N underwent a minor change. Information about when Social Security checks are mailed and deposited was deleted.
- Edited the wording of QI24.
- The recruitment screens were deleted in response to the discontinuation of the Mental Health Study.
- Edited the wording of TOALLR3I to alleviate confusion experienced by some college students—i.e., changed “home telephone” to “phone” and inserted “current” before address to clarify interest in their current residence.
- Edited the wording of INCENT01.

3. Interviewer Materials

The 2013 interviewer materials and protocols for using those materials were based on the 2012 interviewer materials and protocols. In addition to minor wording revisions and year updates (2012 to 2013), the following changes were made for the 2013 interviewer materials:

- The Quality Control Forms and Reference Date Calendars were printed on lavender-colored paper in 2013.
- The Quality Control Form included the updated survey year and the updated SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer Room number.

- The Study Description included the updated survey year and the updated NSDUH Project Officer’s name and signature.
- The Introduction and Informed Consent for Interview Respondents Age 12-17 [in the Showcard Booklet] was updated to replace the word “pay” with “give” when referring to the incentive.
- The Introduction and Informed Consent for Interview Respondents Age 18+ [in the Showcard Booklet] was updated to replace the word “pay” with “give” when referring to the incentive.
- The RTI/SAMHSA Fact Sheet included the updated office number for the NSDUH National Study Director.
- The Q&A (Question and Answer) Brochure was updated to replace “payment” mentions with the text “...given \$30 in cash...”. The office number for the NSDUH National Study Director, the survey year and version number were also updated.
- The NSDUH Respondent Web site content included the updated survey year. The NSDUH in the News web page was updated with links to recent articles and reports and a video containing footage from the most recent NSDUH press conference was included.
- *The NSDUH Report: State Estimates of Drunk and Drugged Driving* (Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, 2012a), and two Data Spotlights: *Data Spotlight: Depression Triples Between the Ages of 12 and 15 Among Adolescent Girls* (Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, 2012b) and *Data Spotlight: Young Marijuana Users Often Get Marijuana for Free from Friends* (Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality, 2011), were added to the interviewer materials for use with respondents.
- The Showcard Booklet underwent a few updates for 2012:
 - Additional dosage of Restoril was added to Pillcard D, a new image of Dilaudid was added to Card A and the survey year was updated on all pillcards.
 - All “emancipated minor” mentions in the “Informed Consent Reference Guide” and “Steps to Maximize Data Quality” exhibits in the FI Job Aids section were replaced with the text “a youth who is 17 years old and living independently without a parent or guardian residing in the home.”
 - Roof images were added to the “Types of Roofs” box in the “Counting and Listing Abbreviations” exhibit in the FI Job Aids section.
 - All “payment” mentions were removed, and references to the Interview Incentive Receipt were updated in the “The Interview Process” exhibit in the FI Job Aids section.
- The Appointment Card was updated to replace any “payment” mentions with the text “You will receive \$30 in cash...”.

- The Interview Incentive Receipt was updated to replace “payment” mentions in the title and text with “incentive.” The year was updated as well.
- The Newspaper Article handout was updated with a new article featuring information on painkiller abuse.
- The NSDUH Highlights were updated to reflect the 2011 study results.
- The SAMHSA Authorization letter included the updated survey year.
- The ePTE Working Copy was updated with the 2013 project number.
- The Refusal and Unable to Contact Letters were updated to replace any “payment” mentions with the text “You will receive \$30 in cash...”.

Copies of the 2013 interviewer materials can be found in Section 7, Written Communication, in the *2013 NSDUH Methodological Resource Book*.

References

Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2012a, May). State Estimates of Drunk and Drugged Driving. *The NSDUH Report*. [Available at http://www.samhsa.gov/data/Short_Reports.aspx]

Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2012b, July). Depression Triples between the Ages of 12 and 15 among Adolescent Girls. *Data Spotlight*. [Available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/Spotlights.aspx>]

Center for Behavioral Health Statistics and Quality. (2011, September). Young Marijuana Users Often Get Marijuana from Free from Friends. *Data Spotlight*. [Available at <http://www.samhsa.gov/data/Spotlights.aspx>]