SAMHSA’s Behavioral Health Surveillance Program

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Making the Most of Federal Deepwater Horizon Data for Human Health
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National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)

• Representative nationally, in each State, and in substate areas
  • 7,200 small areas sampled each year
• Covers the civilian, noninstitutional population, age 12+
• Data collection:
  • In-person interviews; computer-assisted, self-administered
  • Continuous data collection; January through December each year
  • 68,000 respondents each year
Expanded Sample in Gulf Coast Areas in 2011

- $2 million from BP supports expansion of NSDUH sample along the Gulf Coast and analysis of the data
- 32 counties in 4 states along the coast identified as being impacted by the oil spill
- Current NSDUH sample includes about 800 respondents per year in these 32 counties
- Sample expansion in 2011:
  - 1,400 more in the 32 counties, resulting in 2,200 in 2011
  - 200 more in LA, MS, and AL to facilitate statewide analyses (FL already has sufficient sample)
Plans for Analysis

• What we can measure from 2008 through 2011:
  • Serious mental illness
  • Overall mental illness (at least one disorder)
  • Depression
  • Suicide thoughts, plans, attempts
  • Substance Use
  • Treatment need, service utilization

• Comparisons
  • Compare rates before vs. after the oil spill
  • Compare impacted counties vs. remainder of Gulf states and the entire US
  • Limited capability to look at demographic subgroups
Before the Oil Spill: Substance Use among Persons Aged 12 or Older, by Location: Combined 2008 and 2009
SAMHSA/ State Data Partnership

• SERG grants providing incentive to regularly report demographic, risk factors, signs and symptoms, and services provided in facilities

• Two liaisons to States and affected counties to assist in identifying and exploiting existing data sources

• Development of reports that can aid in providing context to other data collection efforts