

SURVEY TITLE: Behavioral Risk Factor Survey - Vermont

ACRONYM: BRFS - VT

SPONSOR: National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, United States Department of Health and Human Services.

SURVEY PURPOSE: The CDC's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System has helped state and local areas survey U.S. adults to gather information about a wide range of behaviors that affect their health. The primary focus of these Behavioral Risk Factor Surveys has been on behaviors that are linked with the leading causes of death—heart disease, cancer, stroke, diabetes, and injury—and other important health issues. These behaviors include: 1) not getting enough physical activity, 2) being overweight, 3) not using seatbelts, 4) using tobacco and alcohol, and 5) not getting preventive medical care that can save lives, such as flu shots, mammograms, Pap smears, and colorectal cancer screening tests.

LOCATION SAMPLED: Vermont.

YEARS SEXUAL ORIENTATION DATA COLLECTED: 1996+.

SAMPLE SIZE: unknown/unavailable.

METHOD OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION DATA COLLECTION: Telephone.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION QUESTIONS:

1996-1999:

Q11: "With whom have you had sex in the past 10 years – was it with... 1) men only 2) mainly men, some women 3) mainly women, some men 4) women only" (interviewer also codes "have not had sex in ten years or never had sex" and "refused", though does not ask.

2000:

For the following questions, Vermont BRFSS interviewers are given these definitions: "Heterosexual: A person who has sex with and/or is strongly attracted to people of the opposite sex"; "Homosexual: A person who has sex with and/or is strongly attracted to people of the same sex;" " Bisexual: A person who has sex with and/or is strongly attracted to people of either sex"; "Transgender: Transgender is a term which describes the experience of people whose self identity (how they feel about themselves) is in conflict with their genital, physical, or biological sex. This might include a man who focuses on a more feminine manner than he thinks is acceptable for men, or a woman who focuses on a more masculine manner than she thinks is acceptable for women. For example, someone who is transgender might get an internal physical or emotional excitement by dressing up in clothing of the opposite sex." (Survey codes "don't know/not sure" category, though not asked, and it codes non-response.)

VT10_1: “Do you consider yourself to be a) heterosexual, b) homosexual, c) bisexual OR d) other?”

VT10_2: “People describe themselves as transgender when they need to express themselves, or enjoy expressing themselves in the gender role of the opposite sex. For example, this could include cross dressing, transvestitism, being transsexual, or doing drag. Do you consider yourself to be transgender? a) yes-male to female (MTF) b) yes-female to male (FTM) c) no

VT13_3: “During the past 12 months, have you had sex with only males, only females, or both males and females?”

VT13_5-6: “If you had more than one main partner during the past 12 months, we would like you to think of the main partner you last had sex with. Is this person a man or a woman?”

VT13_9“...Think back to the last time you had sex with someone who is not or was not your main partner Is this person a man or a woman?”