

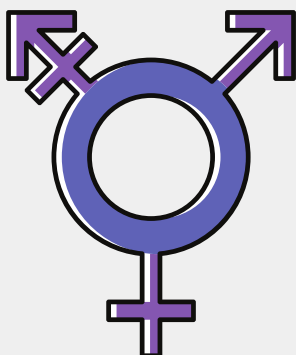
YOUR DATA: IN THE NEWS



In this newsletter, we are highlighting a few of the ways your data has been featured in local news in the past few years. Data from the Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey (NASIS), which you might have participated in, and studies using the NebrASKa Voices panel, have been used for a range of research and reported in a variety of media. We have summarized some of these reports here.

TRANSGENDER RIGHTS

Sociologists at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln included questions about Nebraskans' opinions on transgender rights in a previous NASIS. They found that support or opposition for "bathroom bills" is related to respondents' views on gender as either static (unchanging) or fluid (variable over a person's lifetime). Those that view gender as fluid were more likely to support transgender rights and oppose bills that require transgender people to use the bathroom that aligns with their sex assigned at birth than those who view gender as static.



NARCAN KNOWLEDGE

In hopes to prevent deaths by overdose, Nebraska has made a form of Naloxone, called Narcan, more accessible in recent years. This life-saving substance is now available without a prescription and distributed for free in select pharmacies across Nebraska, and the Rural Drug Addiction Research Center sought to know if Nebraskans know what Narcan is, where to get it, and how to use it. They also asked people in Nebraska if they know anyone who has experienced a drug overdose in the past year.

The results showed that Nebraskans generally know what Narcan is, with 15.4% of people in Omaha and 21.2% of those in Lincoln saying they do not know. Most people in Nebraska indicated that they do not know where to get Narcan if they need it, nor do they know how to use it. A small percentage of respondents said they know someone who has experienced a drug overdose in the past year.

QUICK STATS

26% of Nebraskans experienced and were impacted by a decrease in social connectedness during the COVID-19 pandemic. -2021

80% of Nebraskans say it is important to fund public media in Nebraska. -2021

53% of Nebraskans think drug use should be treated as a health issue and not a criminal issue. -2021

2022 was another exciting year at BOSR! Our annual report is available at <https://bosr.unl.edu/annual-report-2022> if you would like to see what we have been up to.



TELEHEALTH ACCESS BARRIERS

The spread of COVID-19 resulted in an increase in and expansion of telehealth services. As virtual health care became more prevalent, so too did opportunities for disparities in access to healthcare.

Researchers from the University of Nebraska wanted to study the impact of technological barriers on access to telehealth services. Data revealed that 7.2% of respondents reported that reliable internet access served as a barrier to telehealth use, 9.0% said that the cost of internet access was a barrier, and 7.1% indicated that access to electronics prevented them from using telehealth services.

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCE, POLITICS, AND RELIGION

When vaccines became available for the coronavirus, belief in the effectiveness of vaccines became a divisive topic, particularly with some political and religious views.

Sociologists at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln looked at the relationship between trust of science and political and religious orientations. Political party affiliation was linked with vaccine knowledge but had no relationship with interest in science. Conservative Protestants were shown to generally have lower knowledge of biological sciences than other religious groups.