Sexual minority groups experience an array of health disparities, e.g., higher rates of suicidal ideation (SI) and substance use disorder (SUD)\(^1\)

- Past research focused on predominantly non-Hispanic White samples\(^2\)
- Intersectional research is needed as sexual minority people of color face multiple minority stressors, increasing health risks\(^3\)\(^4\)
- Little is known about rates of co-occurrence of SI and SUD among sexual minority people of color\(^1\)

**Study Objective:** Examine differences in rates of SI, SUD, and their co-occurrence (SI+SUD) at the intersection of race/ethnicity and sexual identity

**METHOD**
- Public data from four years (2015-2018) of the National Survey of Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)
- Unweighted \(N=167,963\)

**Measures**
- 12-level intersecting racial/ethnic-sexual identity
- SI: Past year suicidal ideation
- SUD: DSM-IV alcohol or drug use disorder
- SI+SUD: Co-occurring SUD and SI

**Data Analysis**
- Multinomial logistic regression
- DVs: SUD, SI, SI+SUD
- Ref: Neither SI nor SUD
- IVs: Intersecting racial/ethnic-sexual identities
- Ref: Non-Hispanic White heterosexual adults
- CVs: Year, gender, age, education, income

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**RESULTS**

- Adults with intersectional racial/ethnic and sexual identities showed increased odds of SI, SUD, and SI+SUD (vs White heterosexual adults)
- The following groups had higher (↑) or lower (↓) SI, SUD, and/or SI+SUD odds

**Suicidal ideation (SI)**
- Black, Hispanic, Asian, Native sexual minority adults ↑
- Black, Hispanic, Asian heterosexual adults ↓

**Substance use disorder (SUD)**
- Black, Hispanic, Native, White sexual minority adults ↑
- Asian sexual minority adults ↓
- Black, Hispanic, Asian heterosexual adults ↓

**Co-occurrence (SI+SUD)**
- Black, Hispanic, Multiracial, White sexual minority adults ↑
- Black, Hispanic, Multiracial, Asian heterosexual adults ↓

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**DISCUSSION**

- Findings complement research showing additive and multiplicative effects of multiple minority stress on behavioral health\(^4\)\(^5\)
- Future work should investigate mechanisms driving higher rates of SI+SUD among sexual minorities of color, and lower rates among heterosexual people of color to identify pathways of risk and resilience
- Culturally-responsive assessments and interventions should address higher rates of SI+SUD among minoritized groups

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**Table 1. Likelihood of suicidal ideation, substance use disorder, and their co-occurrence relative to non-Hispanic White heterosexual adults**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Suicidal Ideation</th>
<th>Substance Use Disorder</th>
<th>Suicidal Ideation + Substance Use Disorder</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>OR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latinx Sexual Minority</td>
<td>2.29***</td>
<td>1.28*</td>
<td>2.46***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American Sexual Minority</td>
<td>1.96***</td>
<td>1.71***</td>
<td>2.17***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Sexual Minority</td>
<td>2.20*</td>
<td>2.26*</td>
<td>2.21*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Sexual Minority</td>
<td>1.45</td>
<td>.44**</td>
<td>1.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiracial Sexual Minority</td>
<td>3.58***</td>
<td>1.19</td>
<td>4.93***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Sexual Minority</td>
<td>3.06***</td>
<td>1.47***</td>
<td>3.25***</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic/Latinx Heterosexual</td>
<td>.59***</td>
<td>.70**</td>
<td>.48**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black/African American Heterosexual</td>
<td>.59***</td>
<td>.68**</td>
<td>.48**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Heterosexual</td>
<td>.80</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian Heterosexual</td>
<td>.53***</td>
<td>.43**</td>
<td>.45**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiracial Heterosexual</td>
<td>1.22</td>
<td>.95</td>
<td>1.58**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: OR = Odds ratio.
\(*p < .05\); \(**p < .01\); \(***p < .001\).

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**Hispanic, Black, Multiracial, and White sexual minority adults have greater odds of co-occuring suicidal ideation and substance use disorder, relative to White heterosexual adults**

**Check out our paper recently published in Drug and Alcohol Dependence!**

**Presented at the Annual APA Conference, 2021**

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**References:**