

## Virgin Islands Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) FAQ

Q: Why do you collect BRFSS data? What is BRFSS data used for?

A: BRFSS data is used nationwide by public health professionals to identify emerging health issues, track progress of health interventions, identify trends over time, and identify populations with increased risk of specific health concerns. BRFSS data is also used in reports, research, legislation and grants to communicate the need for funding, policy and advocacy for specific health topics.

Q: Will I be asked for personal identifiers or financial information?

A: BRFSS data collectors will never ask for any personally identifiable information such as your first or last name, date of birth, address, or social security number, nor will they ask for tax information, bank statements, or other financial information.

Data collectors will ask several demographic questions, such as your age, race, ethnicity, sex, and yearly income. This data helps to identify health disparities among specific populations and cannot be used to identify specific respondents.

Q: How will my data be kept private and secure?

A: Neither BRFSS data collectors nor Virgin Islands Department of Health Staff can track individual surveys back to specific phone numbers. Your individual answers are blended with thousands of others and published as a part of broad, aggregate data summaries (i.e. “65% of residents report...”)

We will never sell your information, share it with commercial entities, or use it to affect your public benefits or taxes. Your name and address are entirely stripped from the final data.

Q: How do I participate in BRFSS?

A: BRFSS is conducted through random digit dialling. Any number with a 340-area code may be contacted randomly to participate in the US Virgin Islands BRFSS survey. If your number is selected, you will be contacted by telephone call to complete the BRFSS survey. The call will come from 340-693-1021. Only adults ages 18 and older may participate in BRFSS.

Q: How can I access BRFSS data?

A: To access national and state/territory BRFSS data, please visit

[CDC: BRFSS Prevalence Data & Data Analysis Tools](#).

You may also contact the Virgin Islands Department of Health BRFSS Program Manager & Coordinator listed [Division of Chronic Disease and Prevention](#) for specific data requests.