



Indiana African Americans and Smoking



Each year, approximately 45,000 African Americans die from a preventable smoking-related disease. Smoking significantly elevates the risk of stroke, heart disease and cancers, the leading causes of death in the Indiana.

Stroke rate is twice as high among African Americans as among Whites. Stroke and hypertension contribute to cardiovascular disease deaths, and 21% of all coronary heart disease deaths in the U.S. are due to smoking. Tobacco is the cause of 63% of cancer deaths among black men in the US, and cancer death rates among African American males would decline by two-thirds if they didn't smoke.

Data shown here are adult smoking rates for African Americans in Indiana compared with the U.S. This data illustrates the great burden smoking places on all Hoosiers.

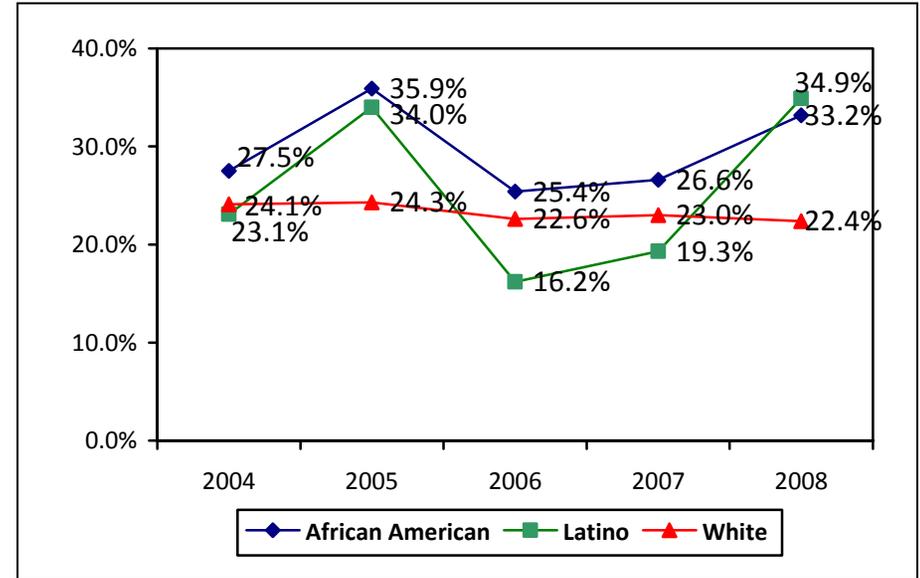
Smoking Rates for African Americans, Indiana vs. U.S.

- The smoking rate for Hoosier African Americans (33.2%) is higher than that for U.S. African Americans (21.2%).
- The smoking rate for African American adults 25 and older (33.2%) is higher than the smoking rates for all other race/ethnic groups in Indiana.

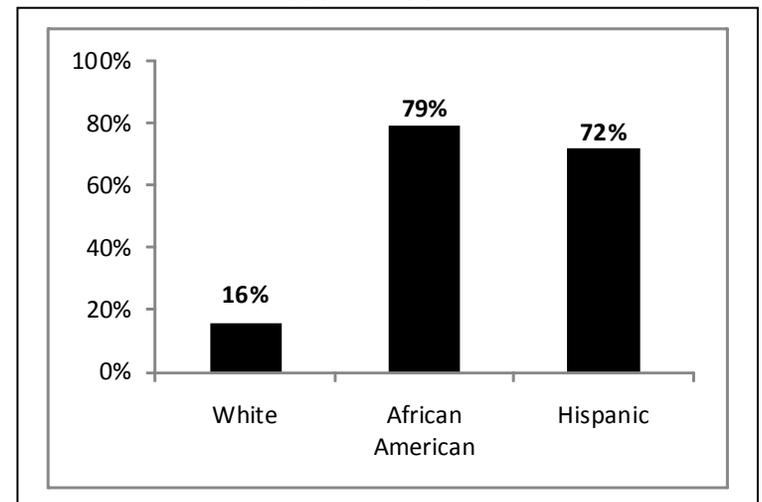
Menthol Cigarettes and African Americans

- Among current smokers, menthol cigarette smoking is significantly higher among African Americans (79.3%) than Whites (16%).
- Studies have found higher relapse rates among menthol smokers when compared to smokers of non-mentholated cigarettes.
- Menthol may facilitate absorption of harmful cigarette smoke constituents. Higher rates of lung cancer in African American smokers may be linked to a preference for menthol cigarettes.

Smoking Rates among Adults Age 25+, 2008 BRFSS



Menthol Cigarette Use Among Current Smokers by Race/Ethnicity, 2008 BFRSS

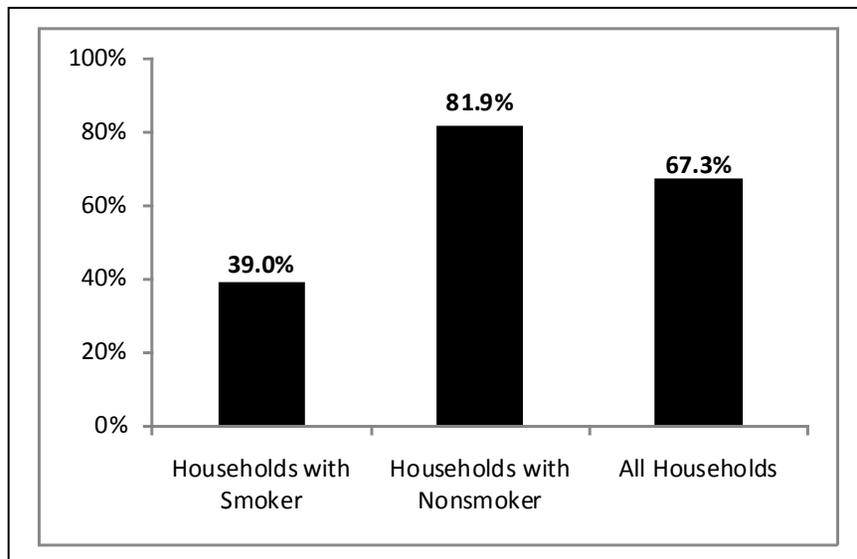


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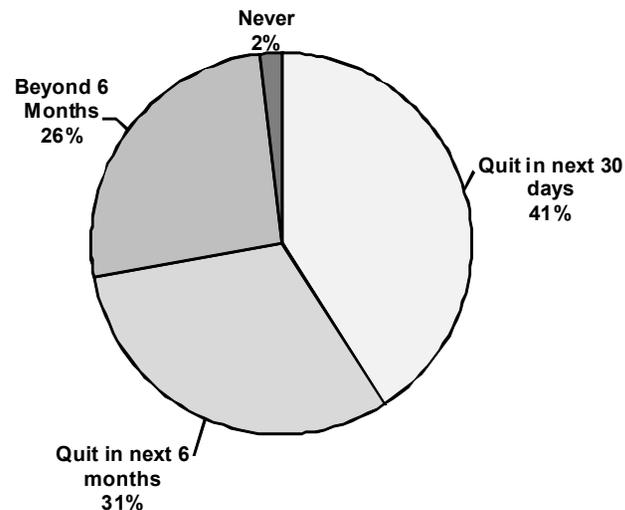
Quit Intentions of Hoosier African Americans

- A greater proportion of African American smokers plan to quit smoking in the next thirty days compared to other race/ethnic groups.
- Seventy percent (69.5%) of African American smokers reported a quit attempt in the last twelve months. This percentage is significantly higher than White smokers' reported quit attempts.
- More African American smokers quit successfully in 2008 (21.4%) than Whites (13.4%) or Hispanics (3.9%).

Smoke Free Homes among African Americans by Smoking Status, 2008 ATS



Quit Intentions of Hoosier African Americans, 2008 ATS



Indiana African Americans' Attitudes about Smoke Free Policy

- African Americans were more likely to believe that secondhand smoke is very harmful to one's health (64.6%) compared to Whites (56.2%).
- The majority (90.6%) of African Americans in Indiana believe that smoking should not be allowed in indoor work areas.

Sources: 2008 Indiana Adult Tobacco Survey; 2004-2008 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System; HHS, Tobacco Use Among U.S. Racial/Ethnic Minority Groups — African Americans, American Indians and Alaska Natives, Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders, and Latinos: A Report of the Surgeon General, 1998; American Cancer Society, Inc. Cancer Facts and Figures 2000-2004; Gandhi et al. Lower Quit Rates Among African American and Latino Menthol Smokers at a Tobacco Treatment Clinic. *Int J Clin Prac*, 2009.