

Introduction:

The Florida Adult Tobacco Survey (FLATS) is an anonymous telephone survey of randomly selected adults in Florida. Sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Florida Department of Health, the survey has monitored and evaluated tobacco use and exposure among Floridians since 2003. In 2006, a total of 4,000 adults completed the FLATS and data were weighted to represent the entire Florida adult population. All of the differences described in this fact sheet are statistically significant at the .05 level.

Cigarette Facts:

- About 45 million people in the US smoke (~20.9% of adults)
- The US, along with 4 other countries, is responsible for more than half of the world cigarette consumption (402 billion cigarettes in 2004)
- Light cigarettes do not reduce the health hazards associated with smoking
- In the US, the average smoker spends \$1600 per year on cigarettes
- Cigarette smoking is the most preventable cause of premature death in the US
- 1 in 5 US deaths is related to smoking
- Smoking harms every organ system in the body

Figure One: Cigarette smoking prevalence in Florida, 2006

Overall, 17.4% of the Florida adult population currently smokes cigarettes. Of current cigarette smokers, 13.5% smoke everyday and 3.9% smoke some days. More than a quarter (28.2%) of all adult Floridians are former smokers while about half (54.4%) have never smoked.

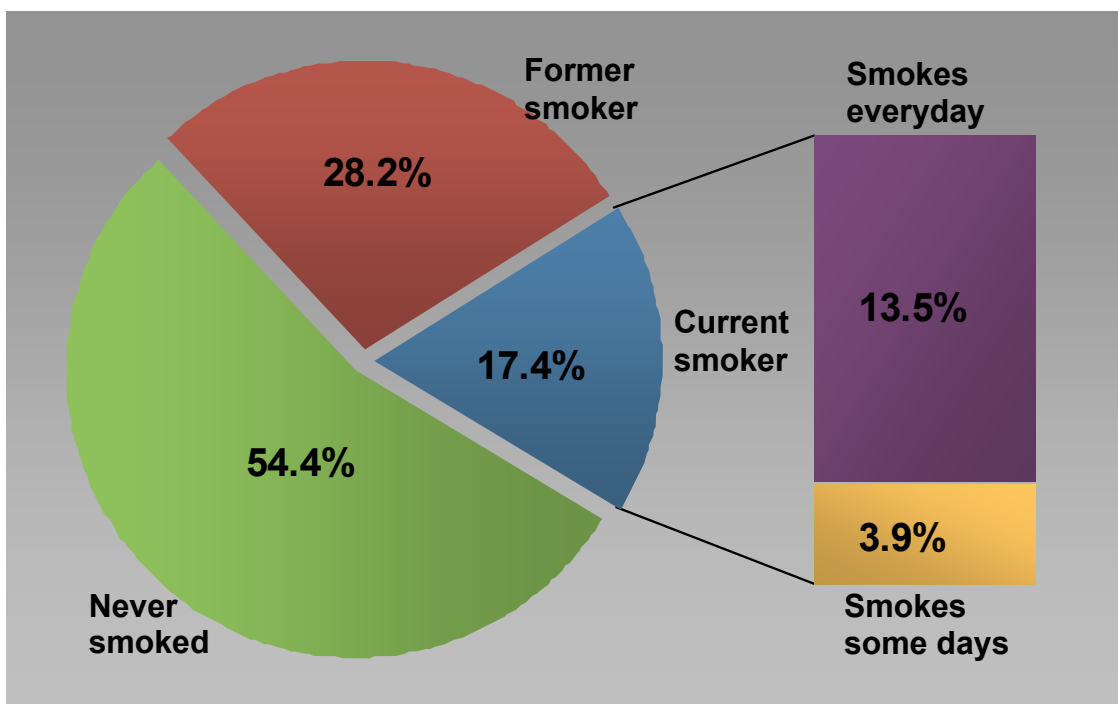
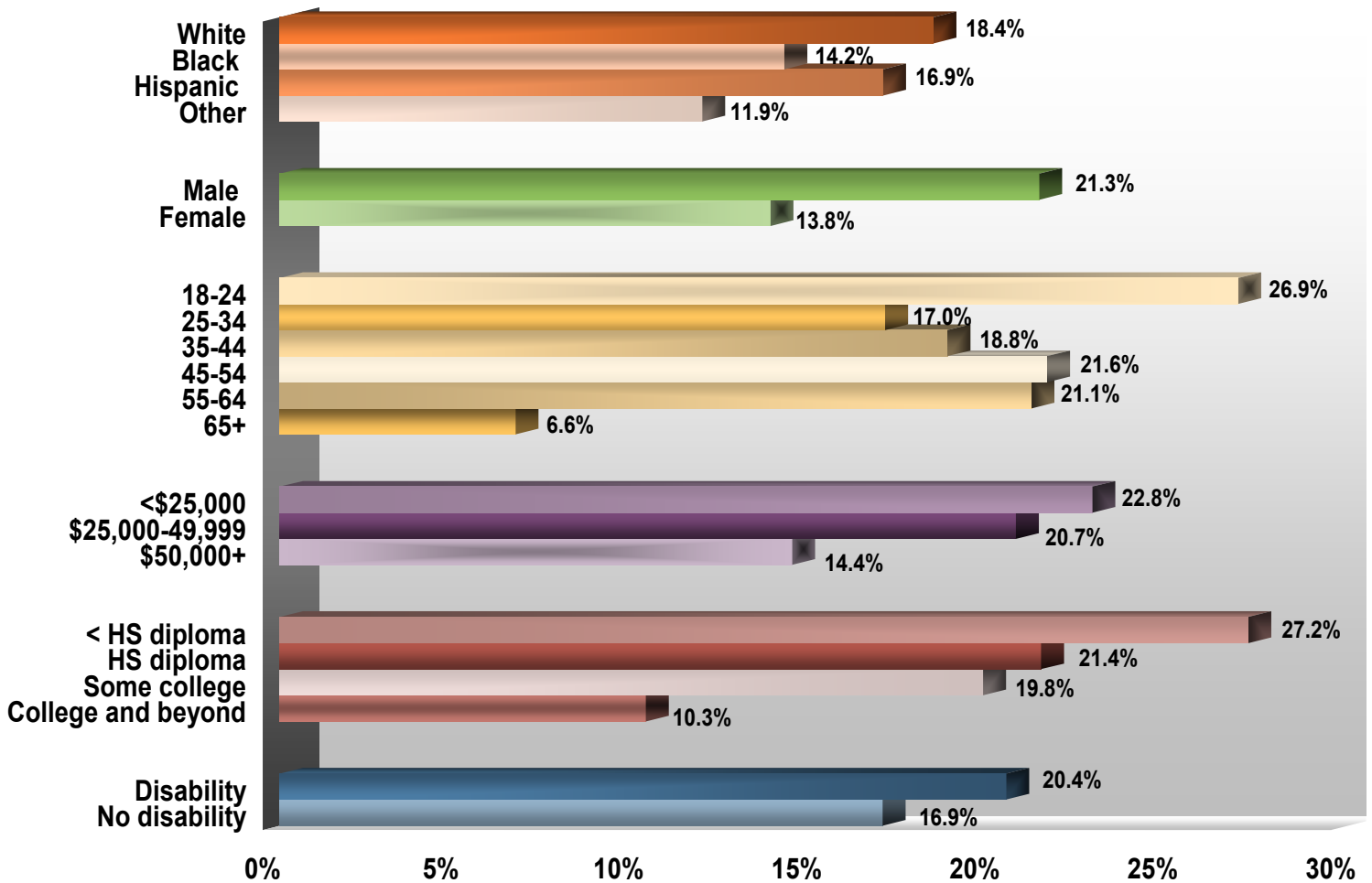


Figure Two: Current Cigarette Use in Florida

Current cigarette smoking as reported by race/ethnicity, gender, age, income, educational level and disability status. Disability is defined as being limited in any way because of physical, mental or emotional problems. Respondents are asked to report their annual household income from all sources. Educational level is the highest level of school completed or the highest degree received.



Summary of the statistically significant conclusions from the 2006 FLATS:

- 17.4 percent of adult Floridians currently smoke cigarettes.
- Men are more likely than women to smoke cigarettes (21.4 percent vs. 13.8 percent).
- Persons ages 18 to 24 were more likely to smoke cigarettes than persons ages 25 to 34 (26.9 percent vs. 17.0 percent).
- Floridians with total household incomes of less than \$25,000 were more likely to smoke than Floridians with total household incomes of \$50,000 or greater.
- More Whites currently smoke than persons who identify their race/ethnicity as other (18.4 percent

For more information about the Florida Adult Tobacco Survey (FLATS), please contact Lori L. Westphal, PhD, MPH, Epidemiologist at lori_westphal@doh.state.fl.us or 850-245-4444 ext 2472.

Figure Three: A comparison of everyday and some days smokers in Florida

Smoking a cigarette within the first hour of waking is one sign of nicotine addiction. When asked ‘How soon do you have your first cigarette after waking?’ 30.2% of everyday smokers had a cigarette within 5 minutes and 82.8% smoked within an hour of waking. On the other hand, 74.5% of some days smokers did not have their first cigarette within the first hour of waking.

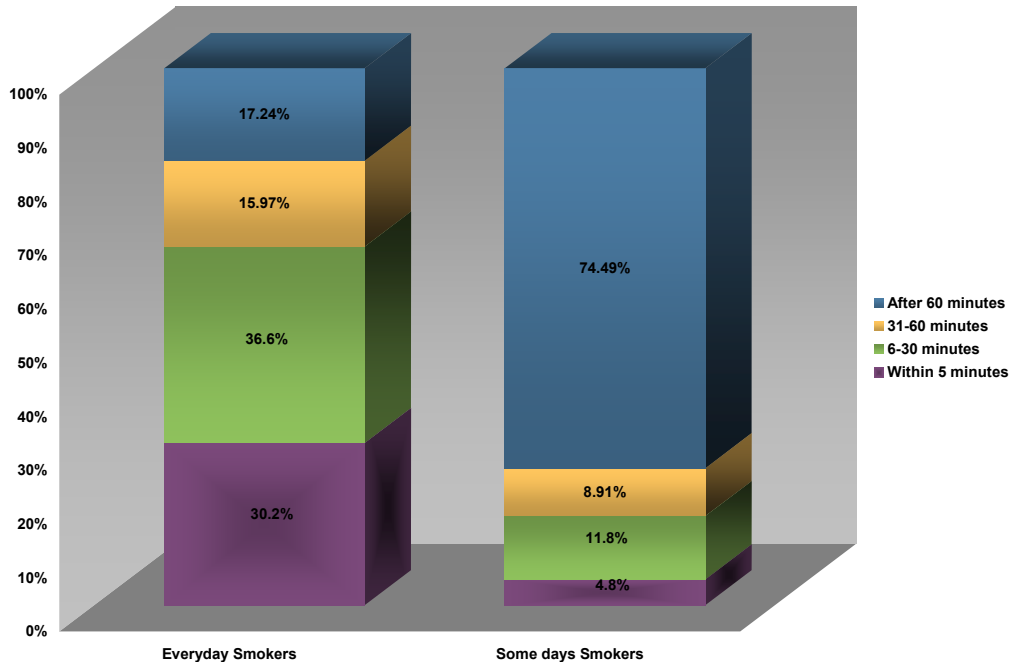


Figure Four: Average number of cigarettes smoked each day

The average number of cigarettes smoked per day by everyday smokers and those who smoke some days. Everyday smokers smoke an average of 19.1 cigarettes per day and some days smokers smoke an average of 5.3 cigarettes per day.

