

Chronic Disease Risk Factors

Adult Smoking

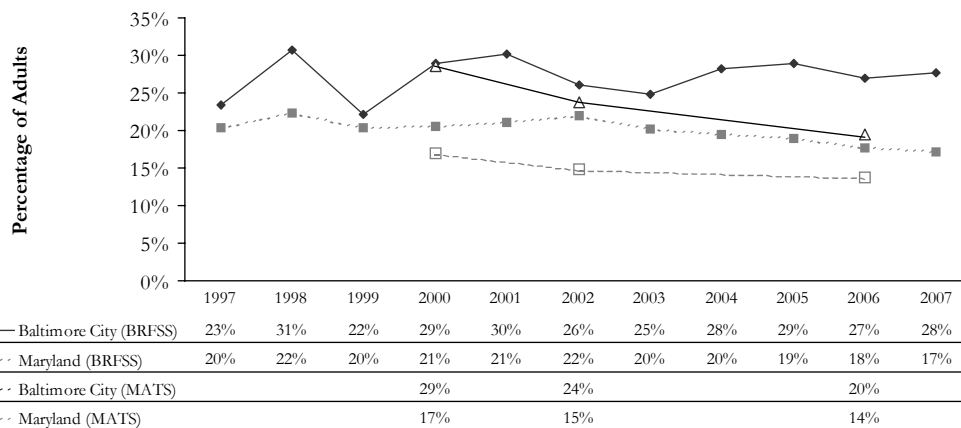
Importance: Primary cause of cancer, which is a leading cause of death; also important cause of coronary heart disease (the leading cause of death in the U.S.), increases the risk of stroke, infertility, and emphysema

National statistic: In 2006, approximately 21% of adults smoked cigarettes

Healthy People 2010 goal: 12% of adults

- Two surveys with similar methodologies assessed smoking prevalence among Baltimore City and Maryland adults: the Maryland Adult Tobacco Survey (MATS) (in 2000, 2002, and 2006) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Behavioral and Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) (in 2005 and 2007). We present the results of both here since they yielded different results despite similar methodologies.

Percentage of Adults who Currently Smoke Cigarettes, Baltimore City and Maryland, 1997-2007

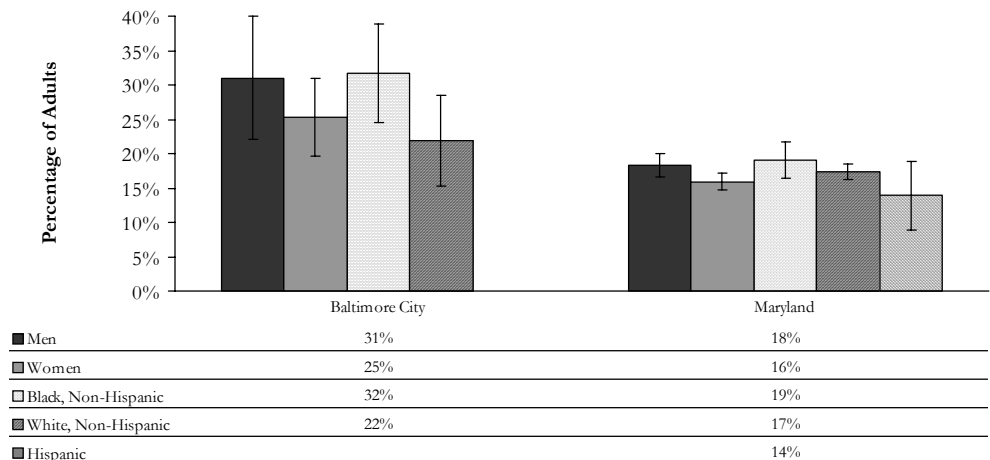


Source: Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Survey respondents answered "yes" to: "Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?" AND answered "every day" or "some days" to: "Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?" See technical notes for a description of the BRFSS data and methodology (error bars represent a 95% confidence interval for the estimate). Maryland Adult Tobacco Survey (MATS). Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Monitoring Changes Tobacco-use Behaviors in Maryland, November, 2007. Online at <http://www.crf.state.md.us/html/stats.cfm> (Question in the MATS survey was the same as in the BRFSS).

- According to the MATS, adult cigarette smoking in Baltimore decreased by 31% between 2000 and 2006, while decreasing only 18% statewide.
- In contrast, according to the BRFSS, adult smoking in Baltimore has increased by 12% from 2003 to 2007, while decreasing by 15% statewide.
- In both surveys, smoking prevalence in Baltimore exceeded statewide prevalence.

According to the latest data (BRFSS), sex and race/ethnicity differences in smoking prevalence were larger in Baltimore than statewide. In Baltimore, men were 22% more likely than women to be current cigarette smokers. Statewide, this difference was 15%. Baltimore African Americans were 45% more likely than whites to be current cigarette smokers. Statewide, this difference was 9%.

Percentage of Adults who Currently Smoke Cigarettes by Sex and Race, Baltimore City and Maryland, 2007



Source: Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Survey respondents answered "yes" to: "Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?" AND answered "every day" or "some days" to: "Do you now smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?" See technical notes for a description of the BRFSS data and methodology (error bars represent a 95% confidence interval for the estimate).