

**Introduction**

This brief provides adult tobacco usage trends for Williamson County based on results from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). The state of Texas conducts the BRFSS on an ongoing basis and provides results annually. The Williamson County and Cities Health District has conducted the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System periodically since 1999.

**Methods and Results**

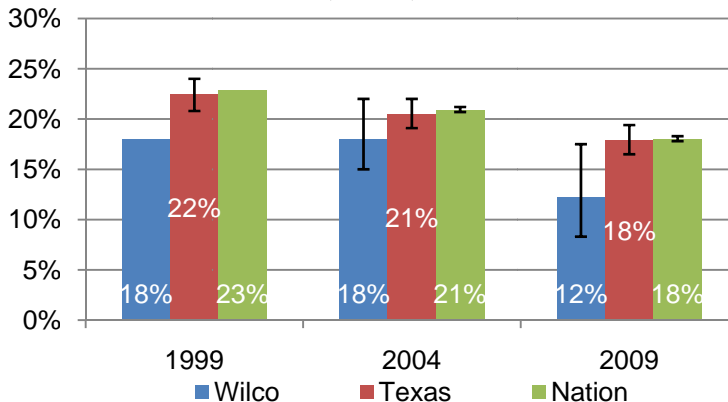
Chart 1: The chart compares smoking prevalence for Williamson County, Texas, and the nation for years that a large sample was collected for Williamson County. The percent of adults smoking decreased at the county, state and national level.

Chart 2 through 8: These charts were created by using combined BRFSS results for Williamson County for the years 2006-2009.

- 17% of Williamson County residents were regular tobacco users.
- Individuals in households with income \$50,000 and higher are significantly less likely to be current smokers ( $p < .05$ ).
- Younger adults, ages 18-19, are significantly more likely to be smokers than the rest of the population ( $p < .05$ ).
- There is no significant difference between smoking prevalence in males and females in Williamson County.

\* The difference in prevalence between this category and the remaining population is statistically significant at the  $p < .05$  level.

Chart 1. Current Tobacco Smoker:  
1999, 2004, 2009



**Williamson County Smoking Prevalence**

Chart 2: Percent Current Smoker by Income

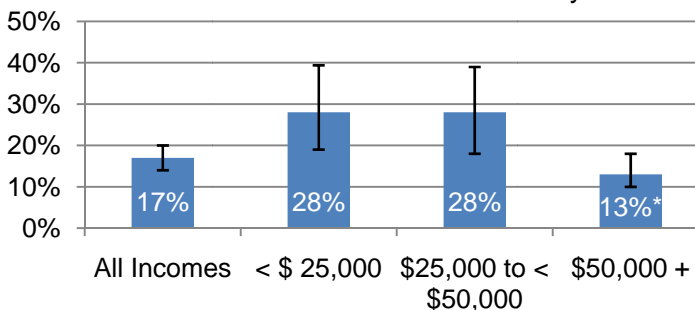


Chart 3. Percent Current Smoker by Age

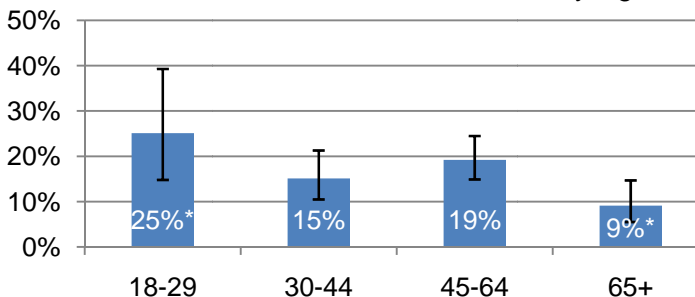
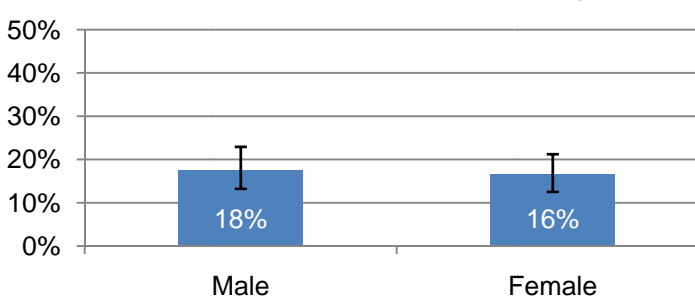


Chart 4. Percent Current Smoker by Gender



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- More smokers lack health care coverage than do non-smokers ( $p < .05$ ).
- More smokers lack a personal health care provider than do non-smokers ( $p < .05$ ).
- There is no significant difference between the percent of smokers and non smokers who have had a routine medical check within the past year.
- Williamson county residents who are obese are not significantly more likely to be smokers than those who are not obese.

Other Results: The 2009 BRFSS included a supplemental section of questions on tobacco use.

**Smoking Cessation:**

- 50% of current smokers stopped smoking for one day or longer in the past 12 months because they were trying to quit (95% CI is 31% to 69%).
- 68% of current smokers who had seen a health professional in the past year and had been advised to quit smoking by the professional (95% CI is 46% to 84%).

**Smokeless Tobacco:**

- 4% of adults currently use some form of smokeless tobacco every day or some days (95% CI is 3% to 7%). Nationally, 3% of adults use smokeless tobacco.

**Second Hand Smoke:**

- 33% of people would eat out more often if there were a total ban on smoking in restaurants (95% CI is 28% to 38%).
- 27% of people would go to bars and music clubs more often if there were a total ban on smoking in these places (95%CI is 22% to 32%).

Chart 5. No Health Care Coverage by Smoking Status

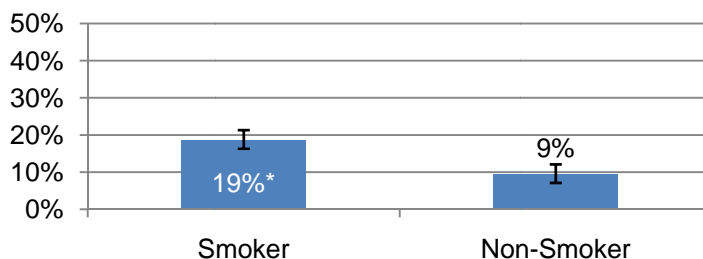


Chart 6. Percent No Personal Health Care Provider by Smoking Status

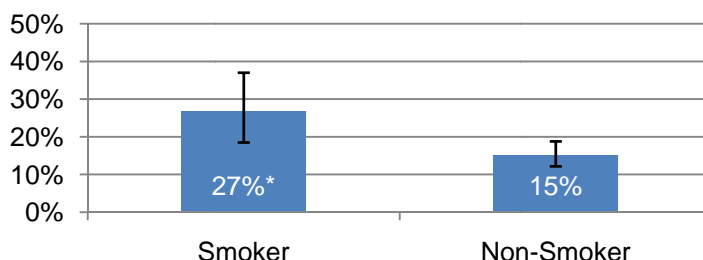


Chart 7. Percent Routine Medical Check-up within the Past Year

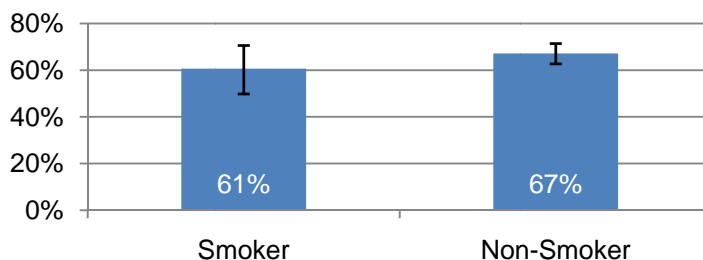
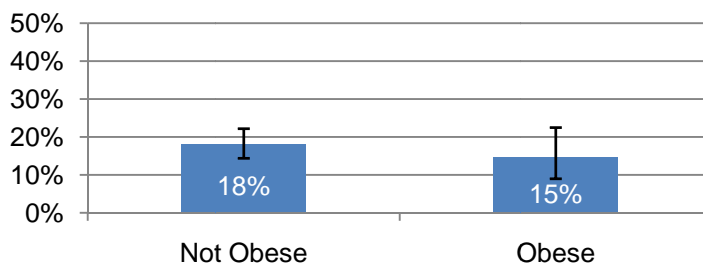


Chart 8. Percent Current Smoker by Obesity Status



\* The difference in prevalence between this category and the remaining population is statistically significant at the  $p < .05$  level.