

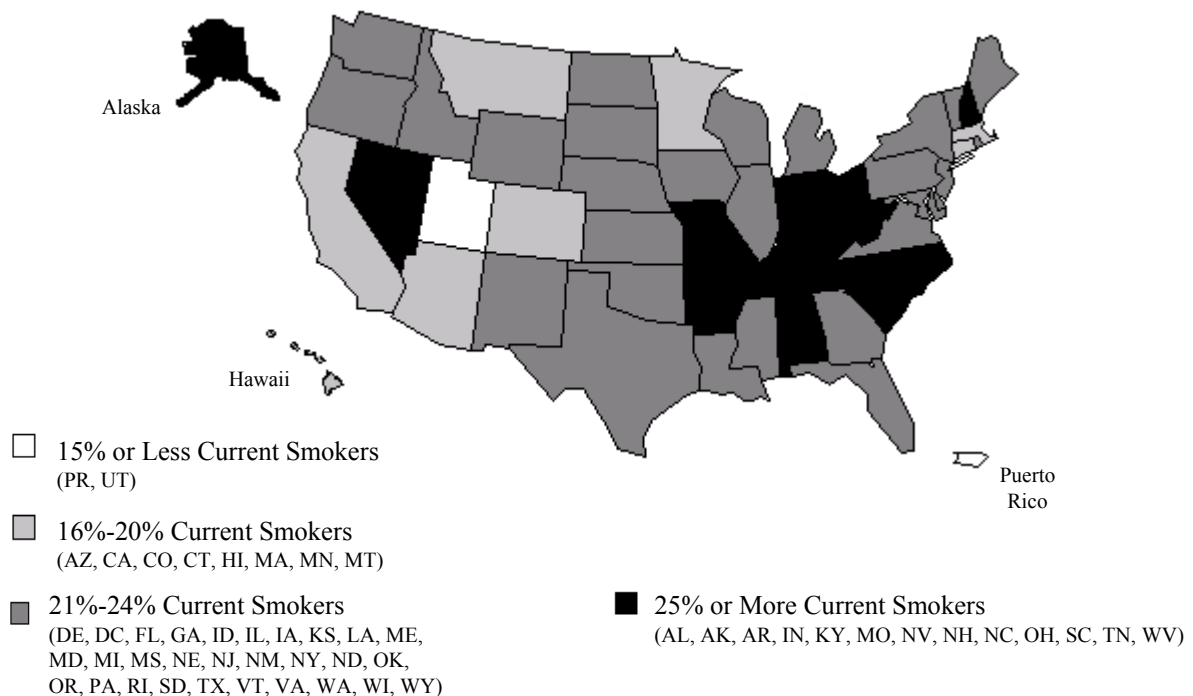
A Weekly FAX from the Center for Substance Abuse Research

University of Maryland, College Park

Only Two U.S. States/Territories Met National Health Objective for Smoking in 2000

Puerto Rico and Utah were the only two U.S. states/territories to meet the national health objective¹ for 2000 of 15% or less of adults smoking cigarettes, according to a report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. In the majority of states and territories, between 21% and 24% of adults were current² smokers (see figure below). The authors' note that "the low prevalence in Utah and Puerto Rico may be a result of stronger social and cultural norms against tobacco use" (p. 1105). The national smoking health objective for 2010 is to reduce cigarette smoking among adults to 12%.

Prevalence of Current² Cigarette Smoking Among Adults, by State, 2000



¹National health objectives are set through the Healthy People initiative, which is designed to identify the most significant preventable threats to health and to establish national goals to reduce these threats. For more information, visit the Healthy People website at www.healthypeople.gov.

²Current smokers were defined as those who reported having smoked 100 cigarettes or more during their lifetime and who currently smoked every day or some days.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "State-Specific Prevalence of Current Cigarette Smoking Among Adults, and Policies and Attitudes About Secondhand Smoke – United States, 2000," *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* 50(49):1101-1106. Available online at www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5049a1.htm