

US Virgin Islands

Dynel Lang, MPA

Program Manager

Tobacco Prevention and Control Program

Where are the Virgin Islands?



- 80 miles east of Puerto Rico
- Atlantic Ocean, Caribbean Sea
- Four major islands
 - St. Croix/“Twin City”
 - St. Thomas/“Rock City”
 - St. John/“Love City”
 - Water Island/“Small City”

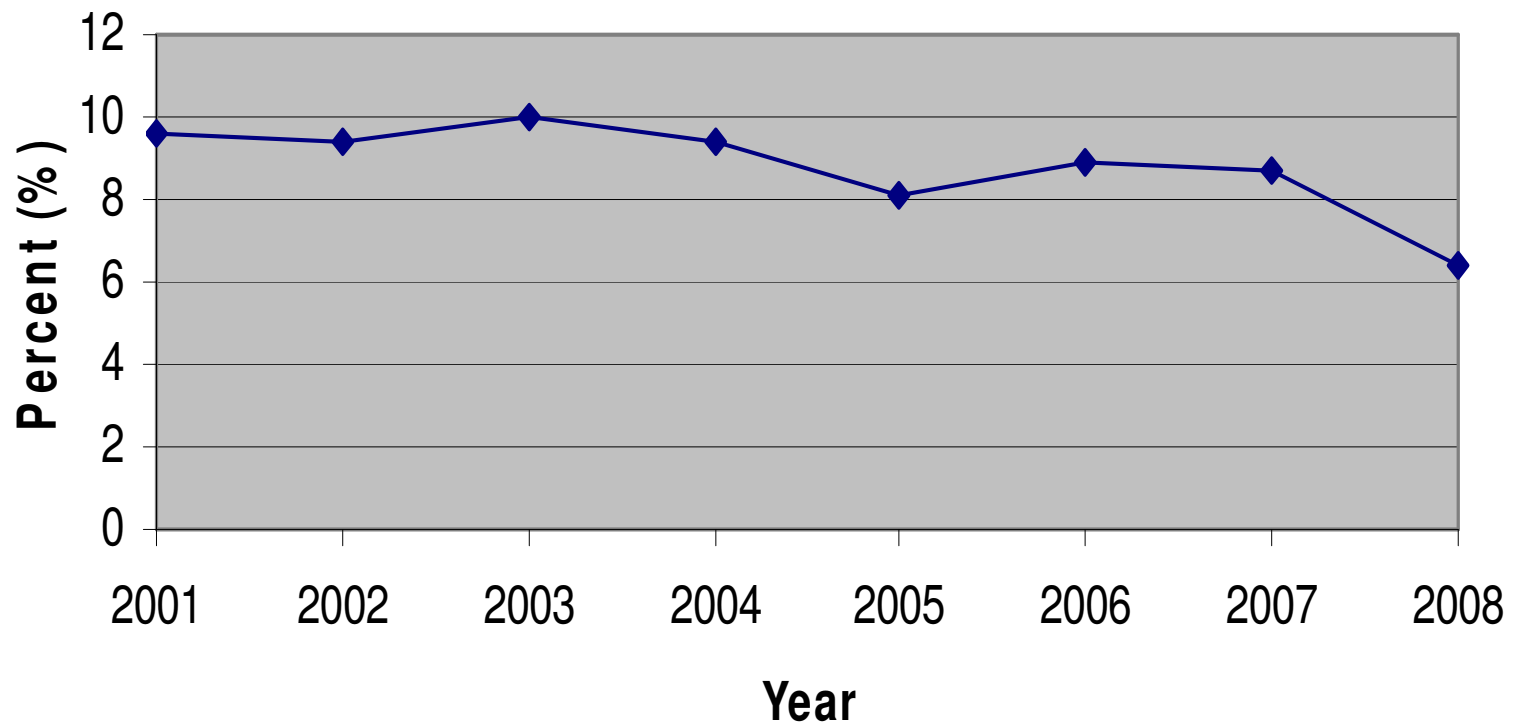
Overview of the People

- 2000 Census
- Population: 108,612
- 48% Male
- 11% White, non-Hispanic
- 2% White, Hispanic
- 70% Black, non-Hispanic
- 6% Black, Hispanic
- 7% Other Hispanic
- 1 % Asian
- 3 % Other



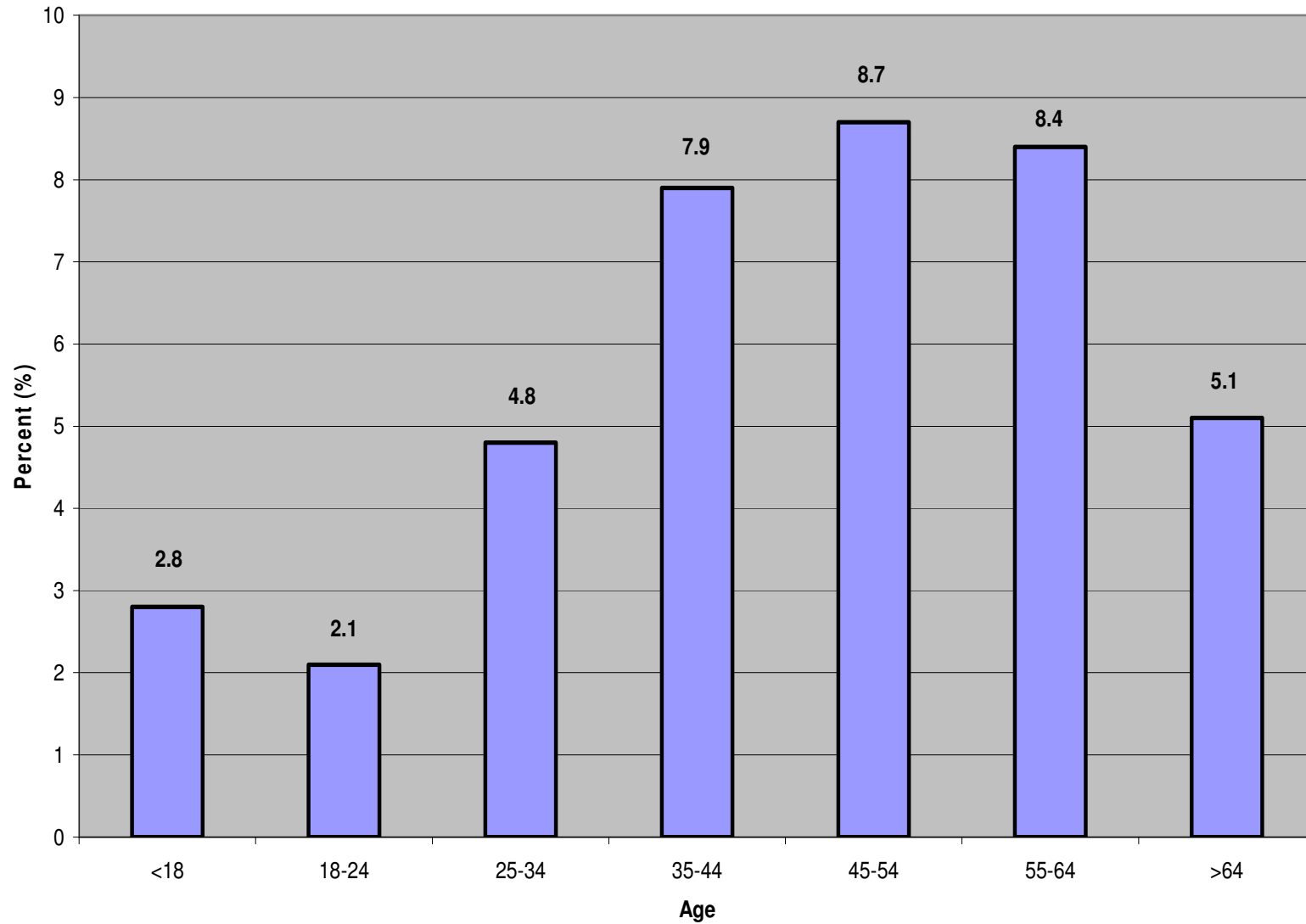
Prevalence of Tobacco Usage

**Trends in the Prevalence of Tobacco Usage by
Year in the USVI**



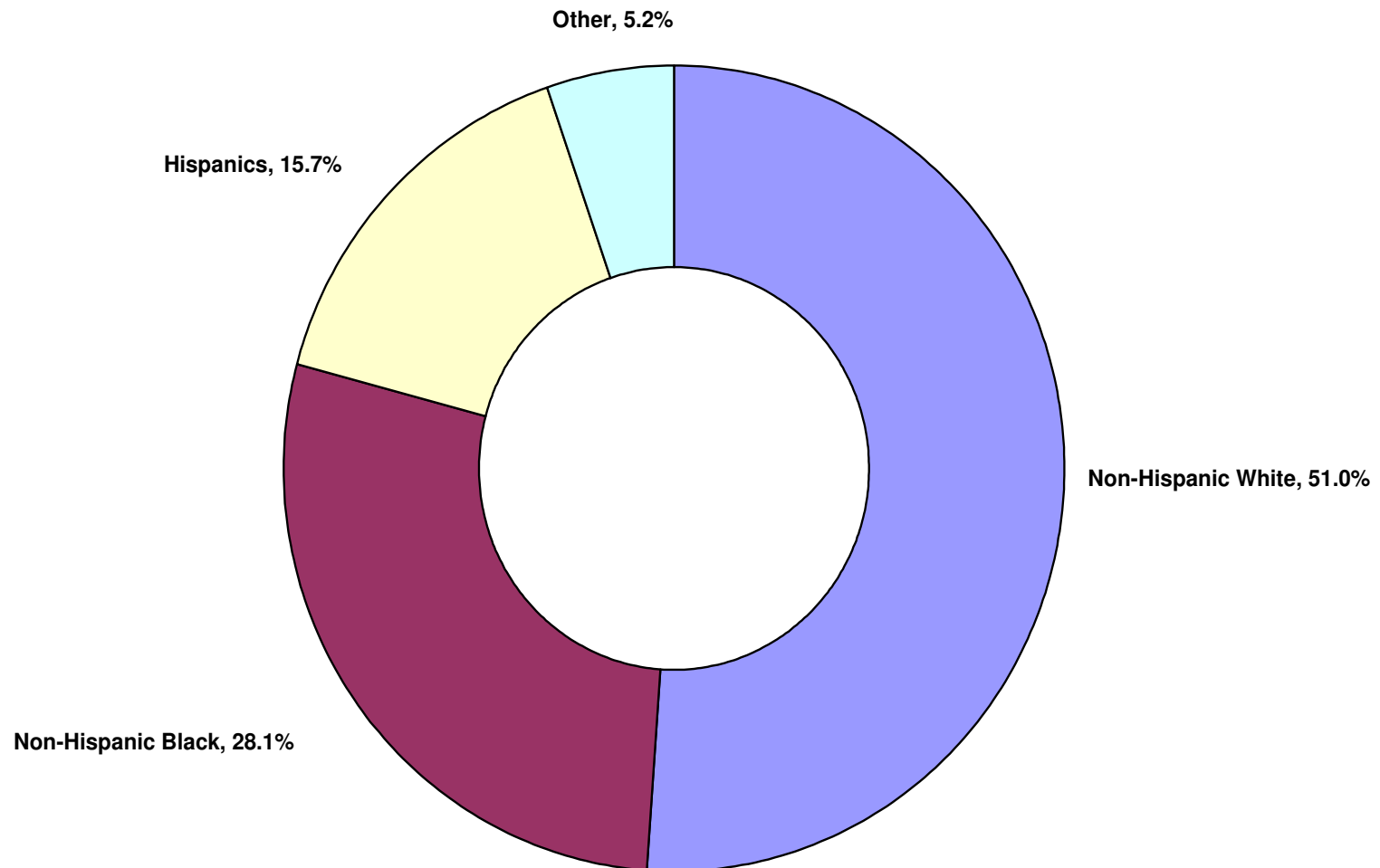
Prevalence of Tobacco Usage

Current Smokers by Age Group

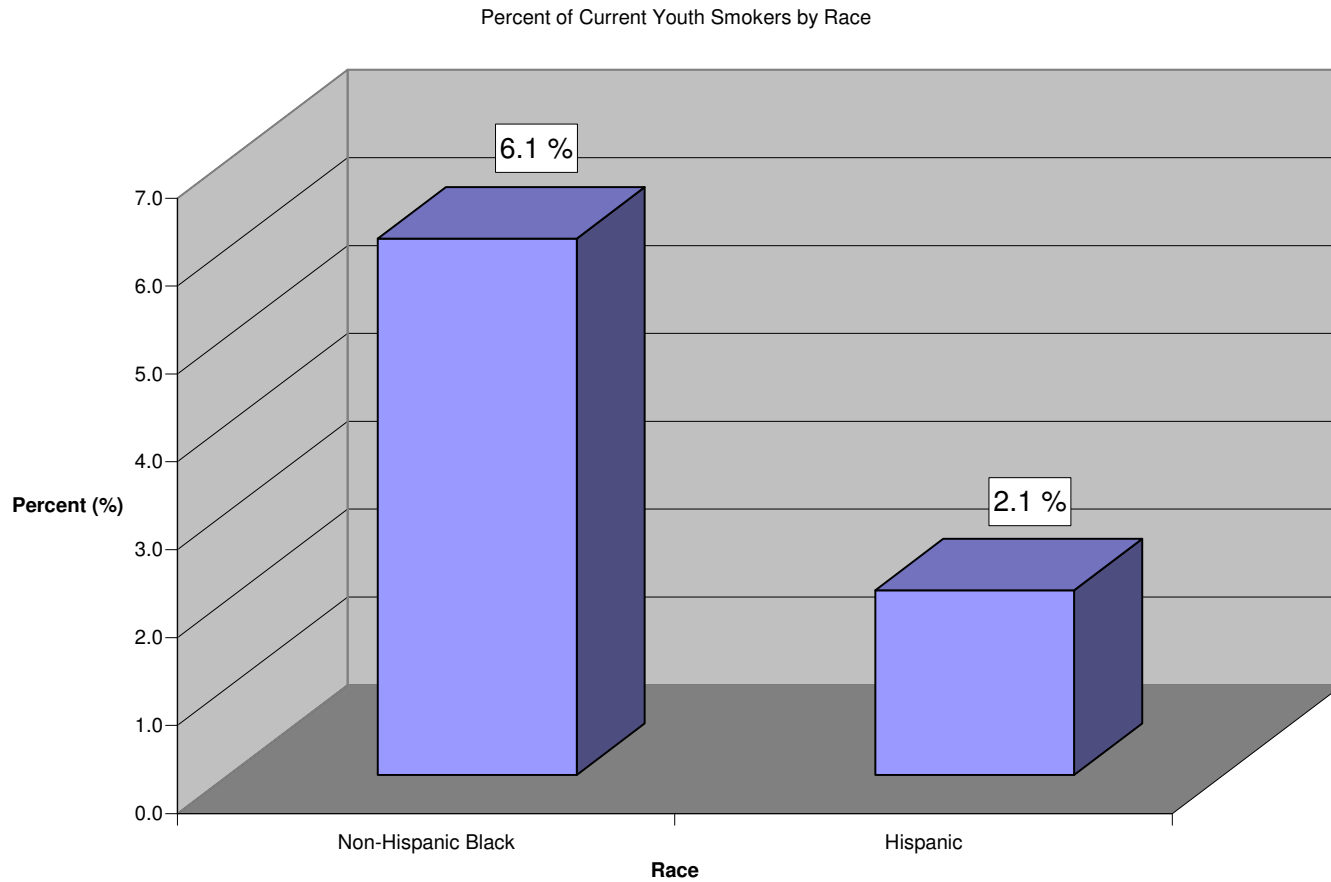


Racial-Ethnic Prevalence

Distribution of Current Adult Smokers by Race



Racial-Ethnic Prevalence



Coalition Information

- Five years in existence
- Stakeholders from
 - St. Croix
 - St. Thomas
 - St. John
- Representation
 - Public and private sectors
 - Faith-based community
 - Community organizations



Coalition Information

Coalition Members Represent:

- AARP
- American Cancer Society (ACS)
- Department of Health-Mental Health & Drug Dependency Services
- Department of Health-Diabetes Prevention and Control
- Legislature of the Virgin Islands
- North Caribbean Conference of Seventh-Day Adventist
- Grove Place Weed and Seed
- Women's Coalition of St. Croix

Coalition Information

- The coalition provides recommendations for community interventions, activities and physical support.
- Recent Focus:
 - Educate VI public on the ills of secondhand smoke
 - Lobby (for those members who can) toward comprehensive smokefree air law for the VI