Tobacco Use

Cigarette Smoking. Smoking and other tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States. An estimated 438,000 deaths occur each year from tobacco use and exposure to secondhand smoke.

One-in-five (19.3%) Virginians smoke cigarettes, according to the 2006 survey. People with disabilities were more likely to be current smokers than people without disabilities (24.7% vs. 19.4%). Among people with disabilities, the prevalence of smoking was highest among adults 18-44 years, who were four times more likely to smoke than adults 65 and older. Smoking rates were similar between men and women, and there were no statistically significant differences between white and black adults. Figures 46 and 47 illustrate these findings.

Figure 1 – Cigarette Smoking by Disability, Sex & Race

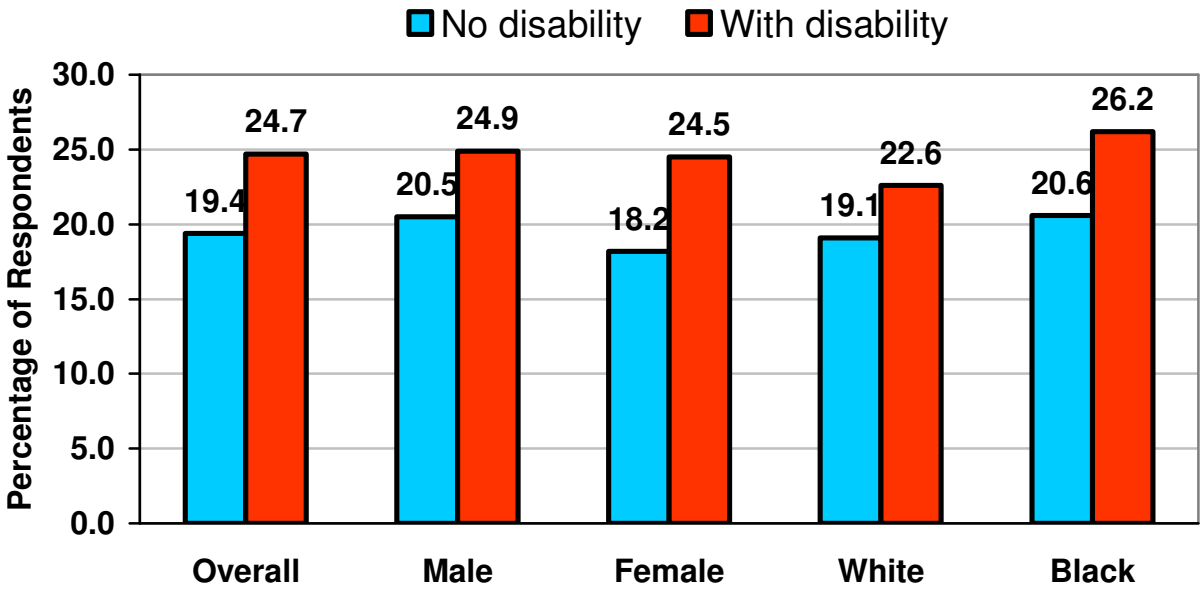
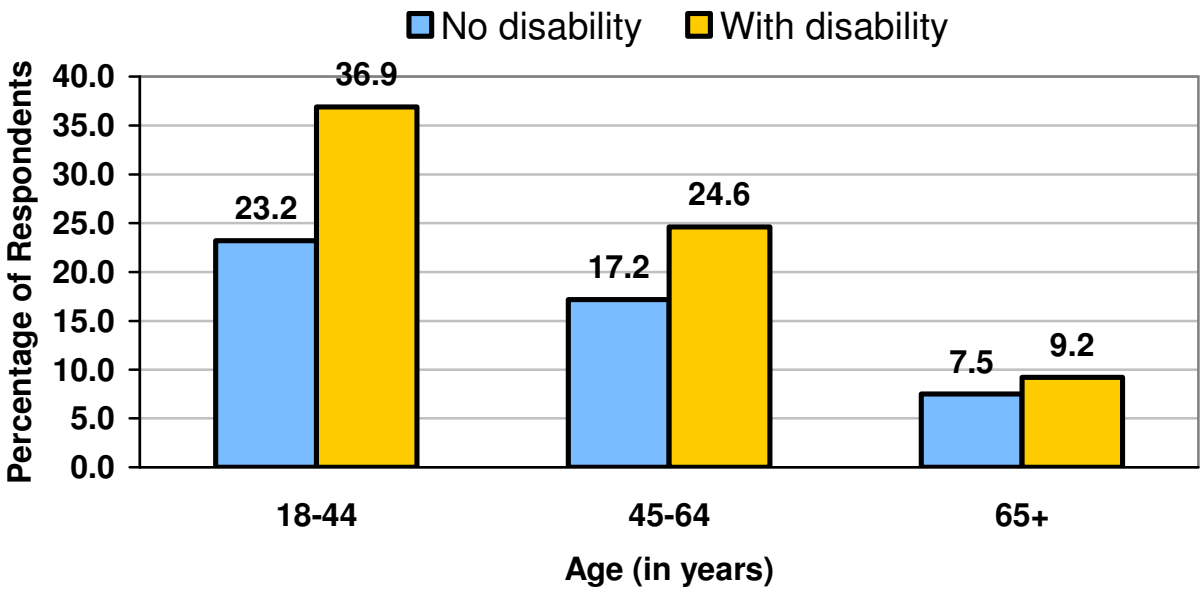
Figure 2 – Cigarette Smoking by Disability and Age