



Adults in New York Who Report Poor Mental Health Are Twice as Likely to Smoke Cigarettes

The prevalence of cigarette smoking has long been associated with serious mental illness. Respondents were asked on how many of the past 30 days they experienced stress, depression, or problems with emotions. Those respondents who reported having problems for 12 or more days were defined as having poor mental health; those with fewer problem days were defined as having good mental health.

- The prevalence of cigarette smoking among adults in New York reporting good mental health significantly declined between 2000–2001 (21.1%) and 2008–2009 (15.7%), a 26% decline.
- There was no significant change in smoking prevalence among adults in New York reporting poor mental health from 2000-2001 to 2008-2009.
- The rate of smoking among those reporting poor mental health (32.5%) was twice the rate of smoking among those reporting good mental health (15.7%) in 2008-2009.

**Smoking Prevalence by Self-Reported Mental Health Status
2000-2001 and 2008-2009, New York State BRFSS**

