

**Louisiana Tobacco Control Program  
Identifying and Eliminating Tobacco-Related Health Disparities**

A statewide tobacco disparities strategic planning workgroup developed the Louisiana Tobacco-Related Health Disparities Strategic Plan. The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals' Tobacco Control Program provided funding for the planning process through a grant from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Office on Smoking and Health (CDC-OSH). In 2006, CDC-OSH awarded funds to Louisiana and several other states in an effort to address the fourth goal as listed in the above title. These grants were for projects to convene a strategic planning process around tobacco-related health disparities.

**Louisiana Goals:**

- ❖ Create diverse partnerships that enhance sustainability, maximize funding, resources, and broad scale impact to address tobacco disparities.
- ❖ Educate and motivate funders, policy-makers, and community opinion leaders to support the elimination of tobacco disparities for the benefit of their constituents.
- ❖ Develop a system to collect, analyze and disseminate data on specific populations.
- ❖ Improve capacity of the healthcare system to deliver prevention and cessation services to identified populations.
- ❖ Develop a comprehensive marketing campaign that engages, educates, and increases awareness of common tobacco issues among specific populations through the utilization of grassroots networks.
- ❖ Build and strengthen relationships among agencies, organizations, and advocates supportive of decreasing tobacco-related health disparities.

**Louisianans Affected by Tobacco Use:**

Data was collected on Louisiana adults and children who currently smoke, have smoked at least once in their lifetime, mortality or morbidity related to smoking, persons who have a smoker in their home, socio-economic status, race, and gender to identify Louisianans disparately affected by tobacco use.

<p><b>Groups 2007</b> BRFSS 2007</p> <p>Youth 18-24 26.1%</p> <p>Veterans 25.1%</p> <p>Disabled Louisianans 30.1%</p> <p>Rural Louisianans 25.1%</p>
--

<p><b>By Ethnicity &amp; Status</b> BRFSS 2007</p> <p>African-Americans 22.2%</p> <p>Latino/Hispanics 27.7%</p> <p>Native Americans 36.1% (BRFSS 04-07)</p> <p>\$25,000 Annually 28%</p> <p>Unemployed 43%</p> <p>High School Education 34.7%</p>
---

<p><b>Existing Data Gaps 2007</b></p> <p>Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, &amp; Transgender (LGBT) N/A</p> <p>Asians/Pacific Islanders N/A</p>
--