

Alabama Youth Tobacco Survey 2004



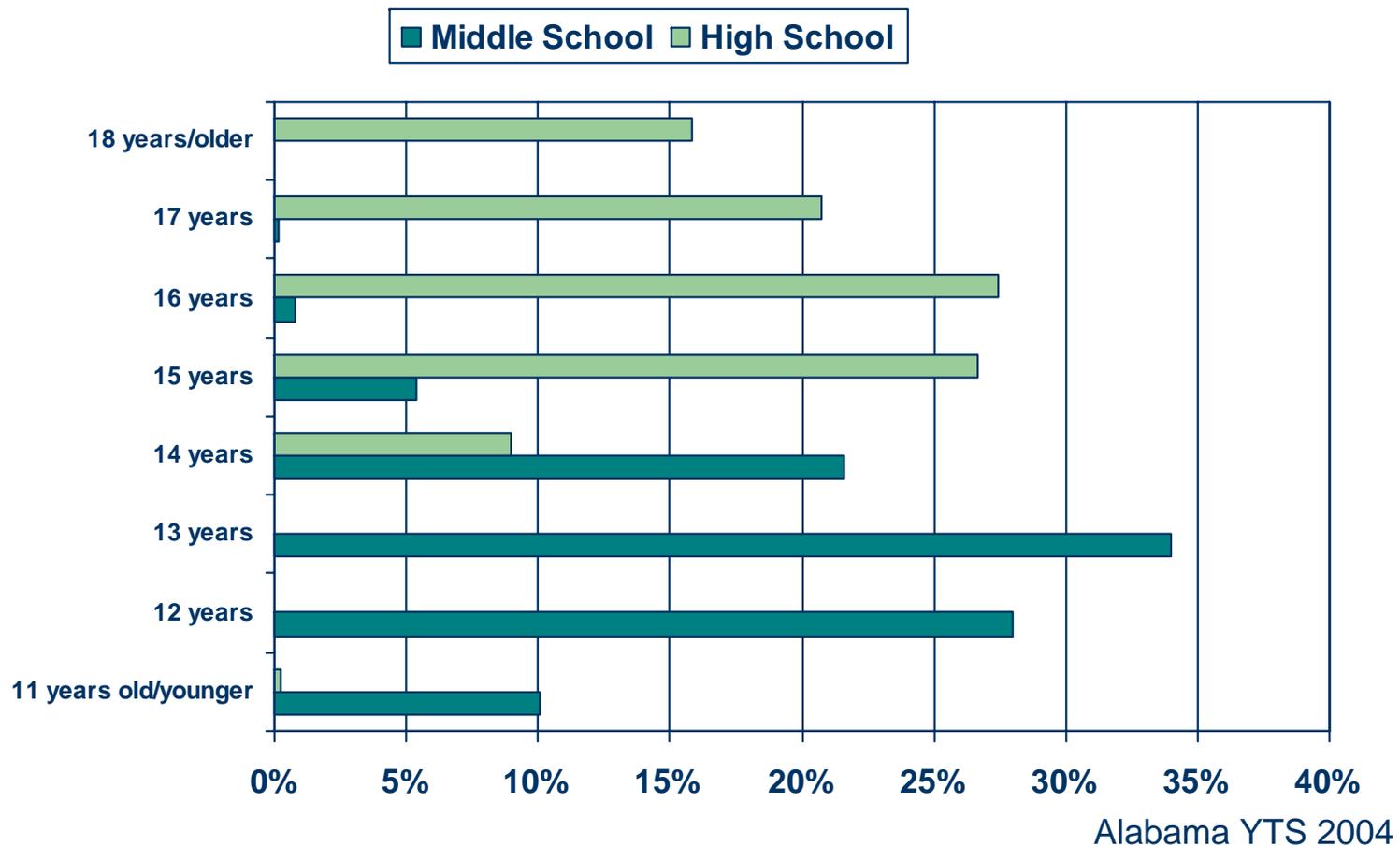
Alabama YTS

- The Alabama Youth Tobacco Survey (ALYTS) is conducted by the Tobacco Prevention and Control Division of the Alabama Department of Public Health, through a grant from the Office on Smoking and Health, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).
- Alabama conducted the first ALYTS in 2000, and continues to administer the survey bi-annually in parallel with the National Youth Tobacco Survey (NYTS). Both the ALYTS and the NYTS are designed to document tobacco-related knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors among middle and high school students. The NYTS provides a national index against which Alabama can compare ALYTS results.

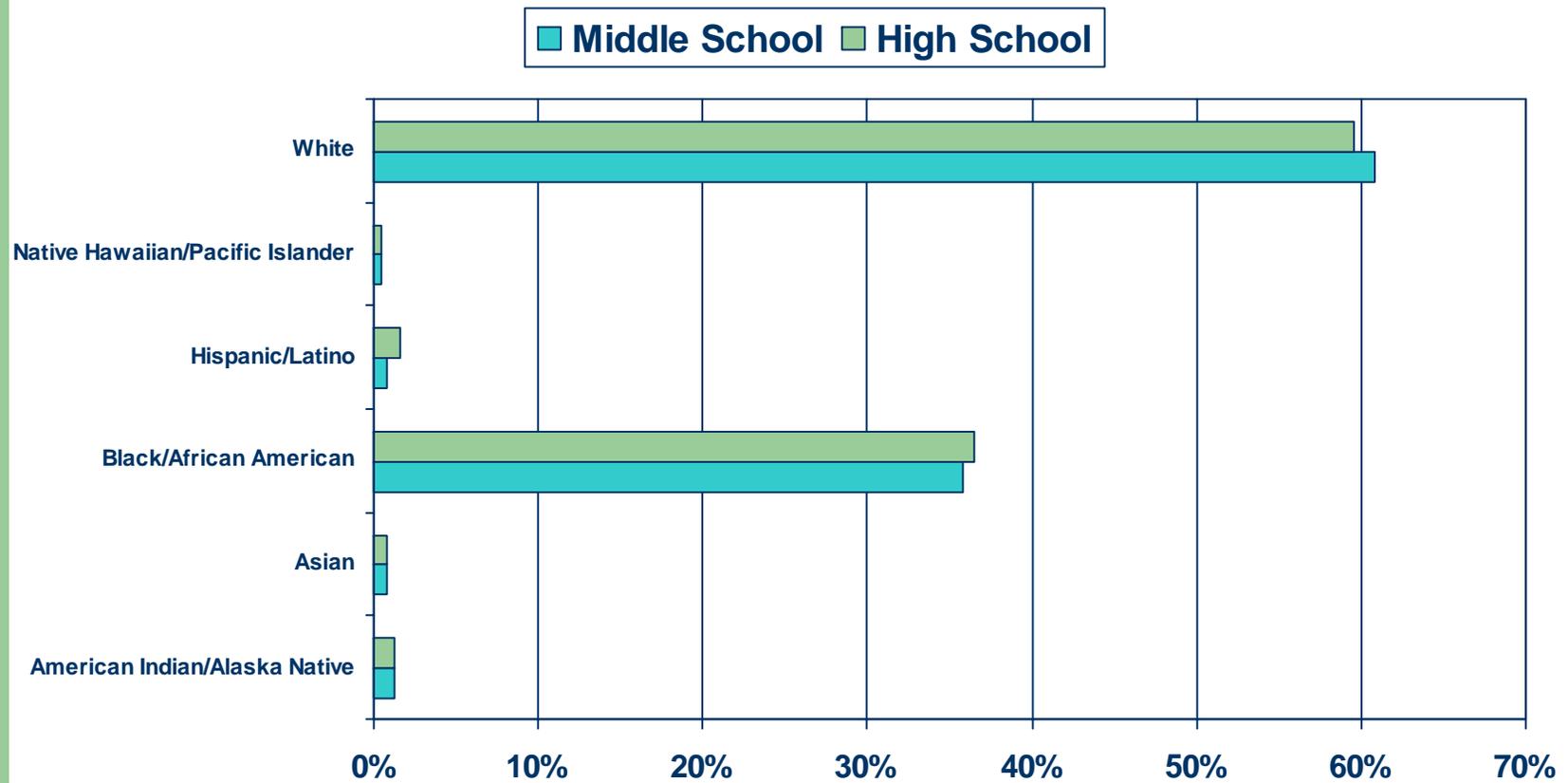
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- The purpose of the ALYTS is to gather state-based student data on the following tobacco-related topics: prevalence of use (cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, pipes, bidis, and kreteks); knowledge and attitudes; media and advertising; minors' access and enforcement; school curriculum; exposure to environmental tobacco smoke (ETS); and cessation.
- The survey is implemented using a 2-stage sample design. A stratified, random sample of 50 public middle schools and 50 public high schools is selected; then from each selected school, up to three or more classes are randomly selected to participate. Statewide, the ALYTS is administered to approximately 3,000 students in grades 6 through 12.

Survey Participants...Age

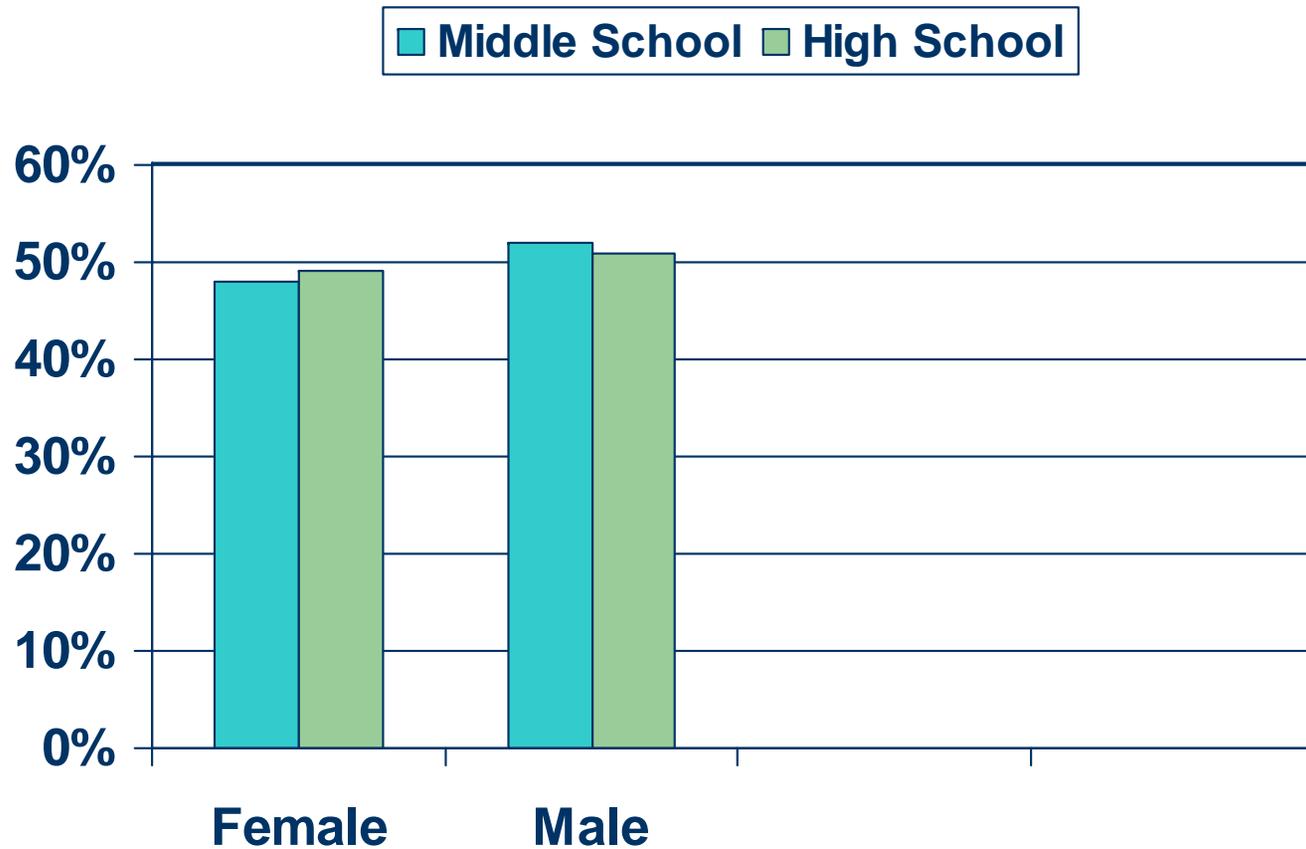


Survey Participants...Race

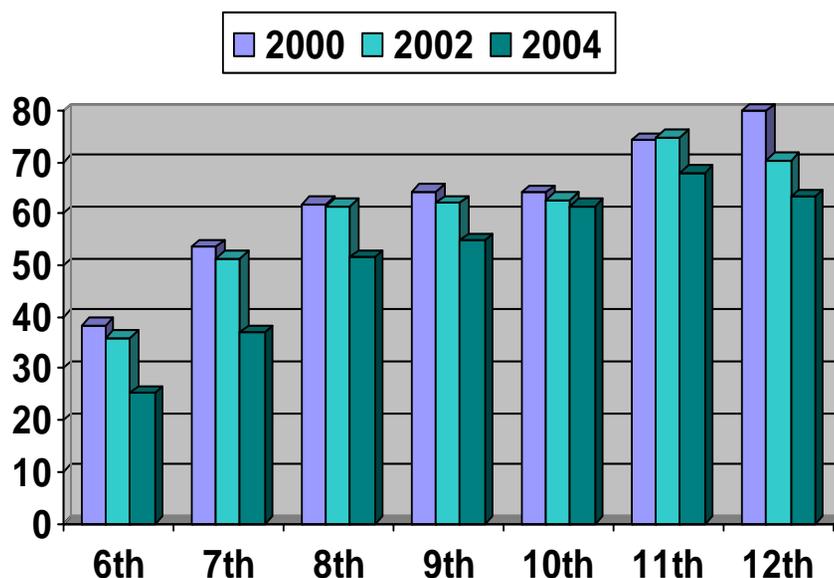


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Survey Participants...Sex

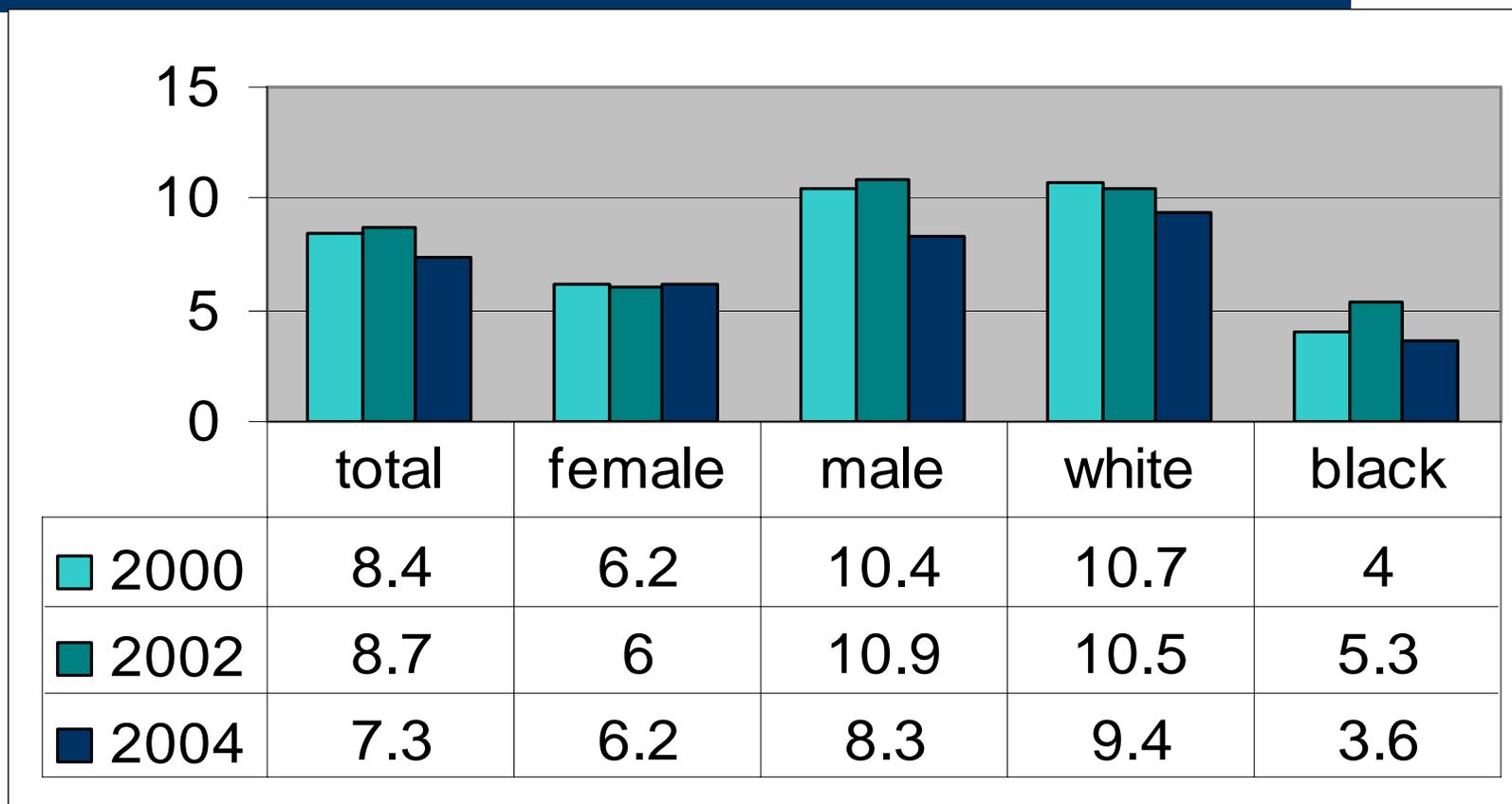


Students By Grade And Year Who Have Ever Smoked A Cigarette, Even One Or Two Puffs Alabama, 2000-2004

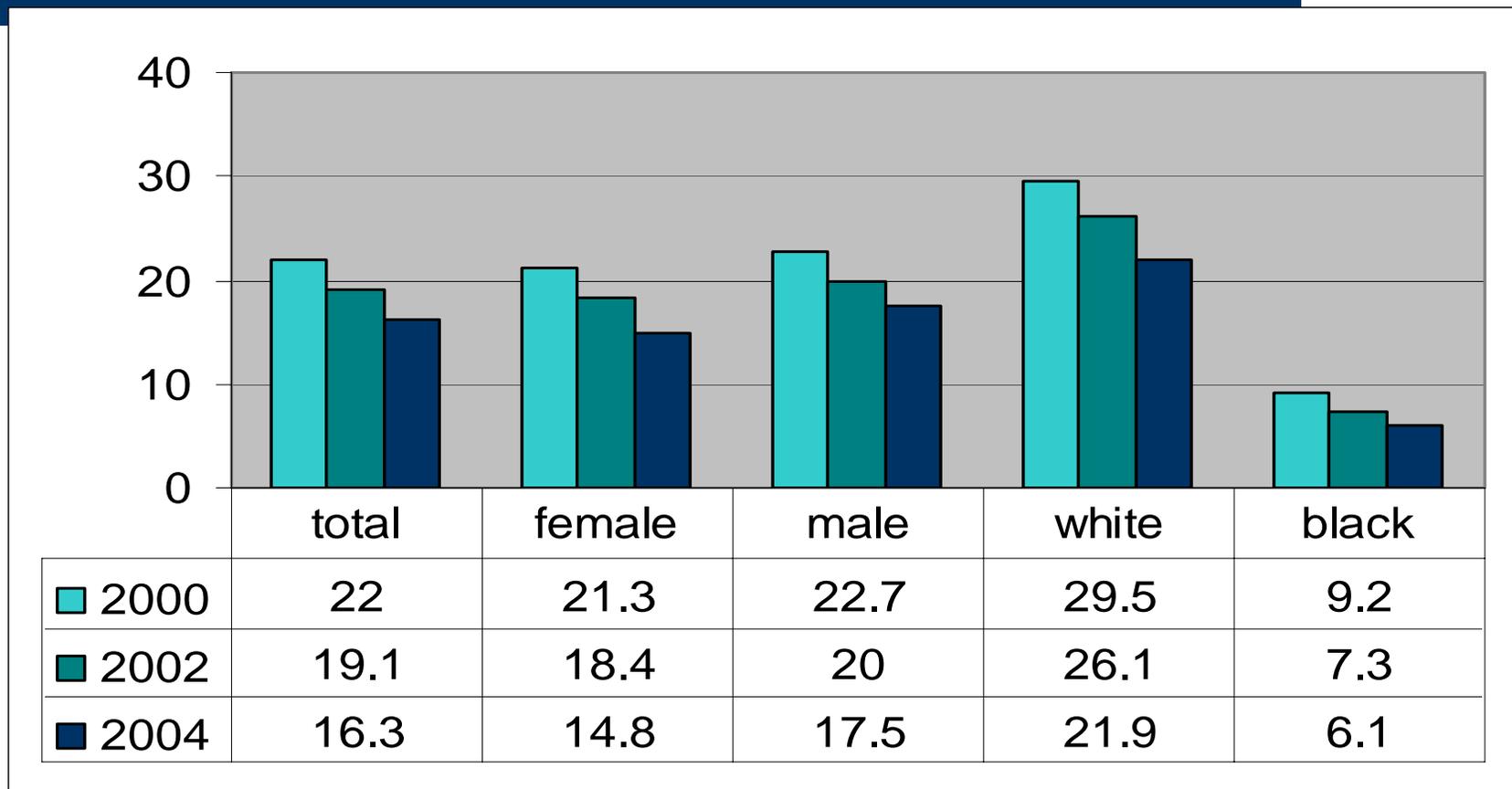


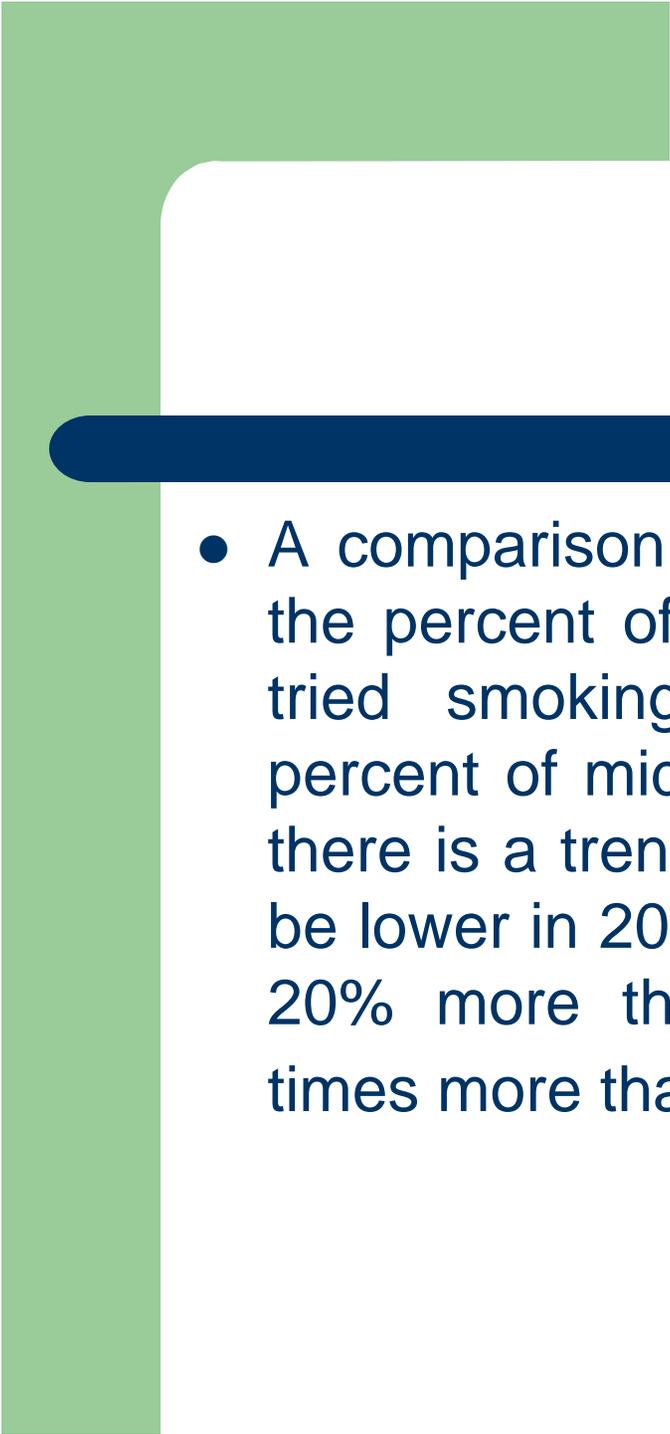
- There are two trends. First, the higher the grade level, the higher the probability is that a student will have tried smoking a cigarette. Second, the percentage of students who tried smoking has consistently dropped by each grade from year 2000 to year 2004. The number of seniors who have ever tried smoking in Alabama dropped from 79.8% in 2000 to 63.3% in 2004.

Middle School Students Who Have Ever Smoked Daily For 30 Days Alabama, 2000-2004

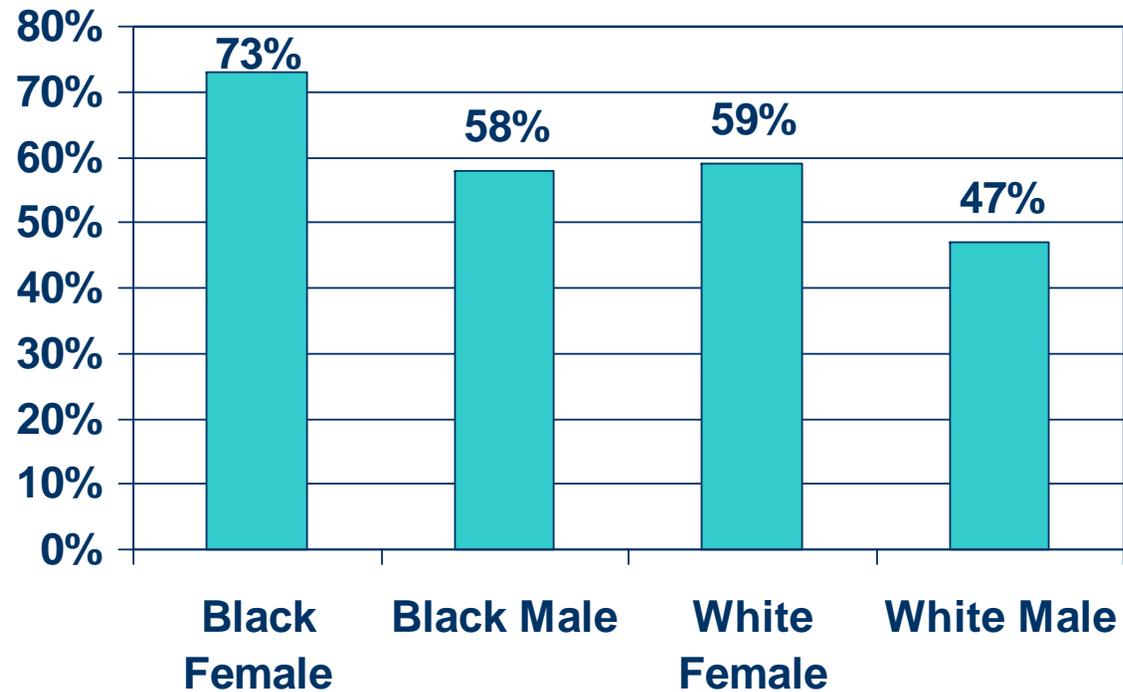


High School Students Who Have Ever Smoked Daily For 30 Days Alabama, 2000-2004

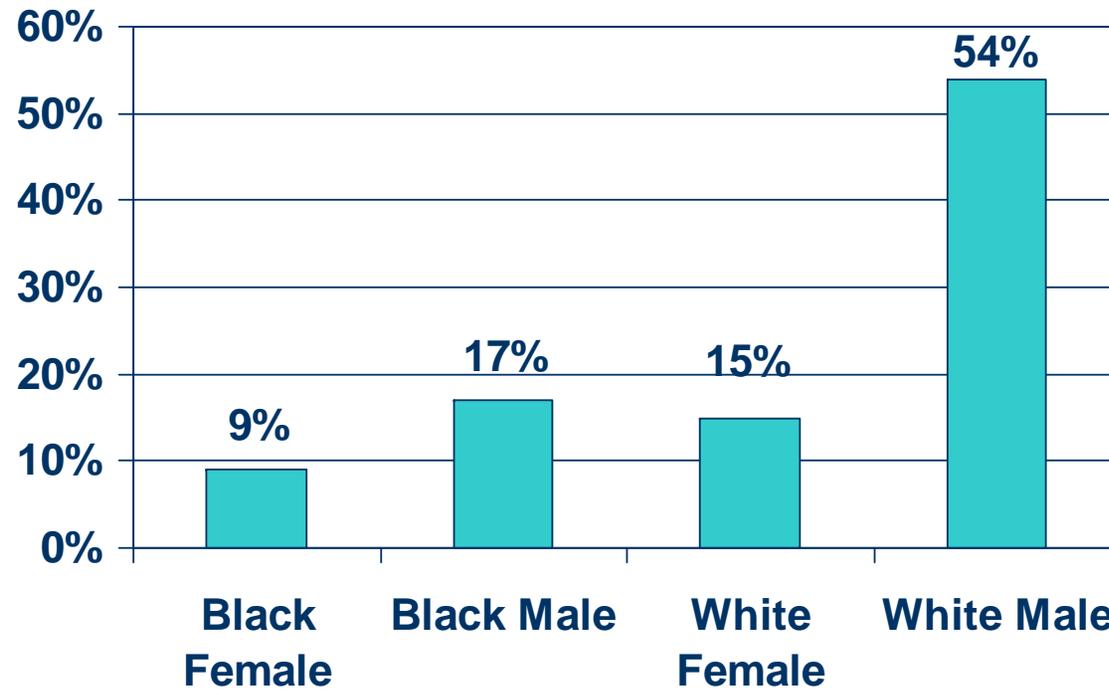


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- A comparison of the two previous charts show that the percent of high school students who have ever tried smoking daily is approximately twice the percent of middle school students who have. Also, there is a trend in both groups for the percentage to be lower in 2004 than in 2000. Males smoked about 20% more than females and whites about three times more than blacks.

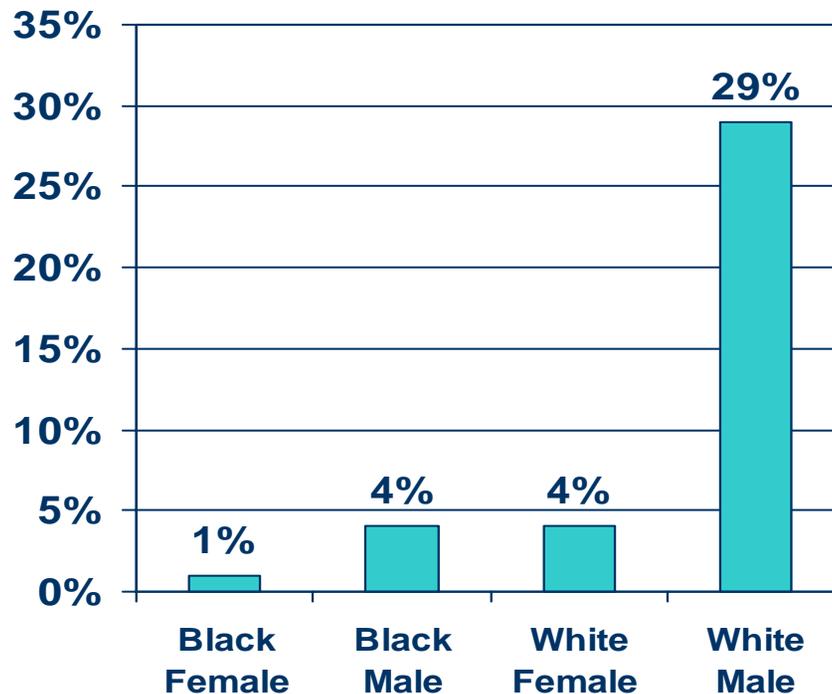
High School Smokers Who Have Tried To Quit In The Last 12 Months Alabama, 2004



High School Students Who Ever Used Smokeless Tobacco Alabama, 2004

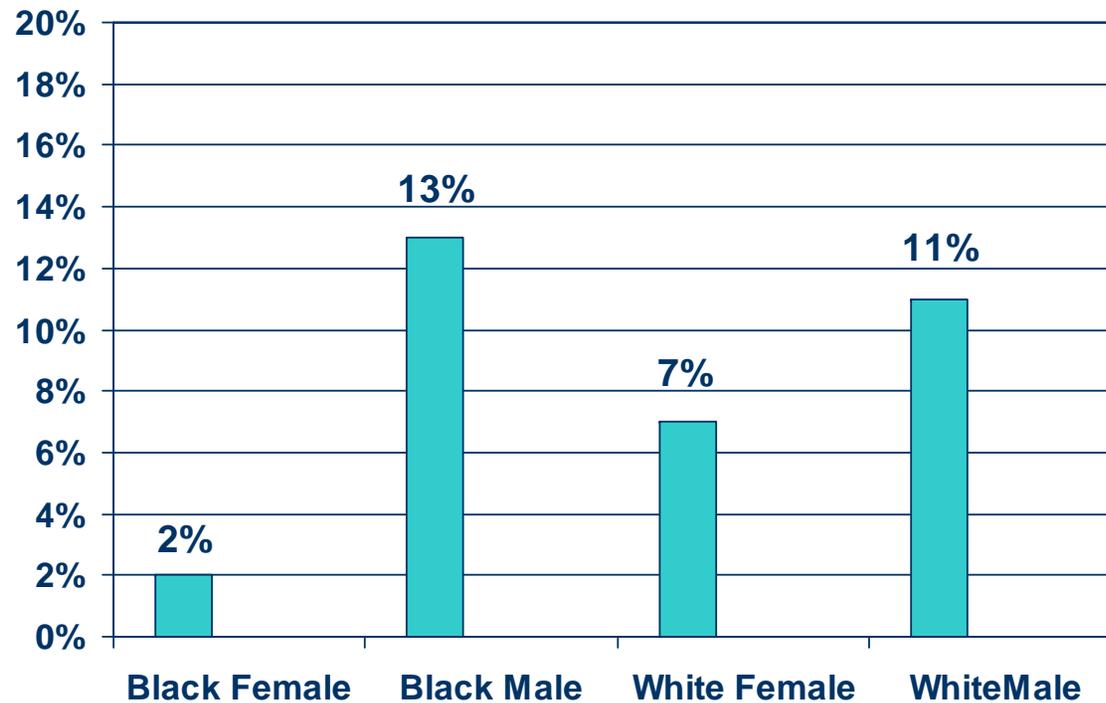


High School Students Who Used Smokeless Tobacco At Least Once In The Past 30 Days Alabama, 2004



- According to CDC in 2004, “an estimated 10% of males in High School are current smokeless tobacco users, as are an estimated 4% of males in Middle Schools.” Thus, smokeless tobacco use is a greater problem in Alabama than nationwide.

High School Students Who Have Tried Bidis and/or Kreteks Alabama, 2004



Conclusion

- Overall, the Alabama Youth Tobacco Survey (ALYTS) data shows that in Alabama in the four year period from 2000 to 2004, the number of middle school and high school cigarette smokers has dropped dramatically in Alabama. Exact results depend on the question asked, but in question after question when 2004 is compared with previous years the time trend is unmistakable. The number of middle and high school cigarette smokers has decreased.

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- The survey shows that the number of students using and/or experimenting with other than cigarette tobacco use has not decreased. Traditionally white males account for most of this usage, but while the numbers for white males have decreased, there has been a counter balancing increase in other areas such as girls smoking pipes and cigars or using chewing tobacco or black males smoking flavored tobacco products such as bidis or kreteks.