

The Mississippi Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

1998 - 2008

Mississippi Tobacco Data Workgroup



Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

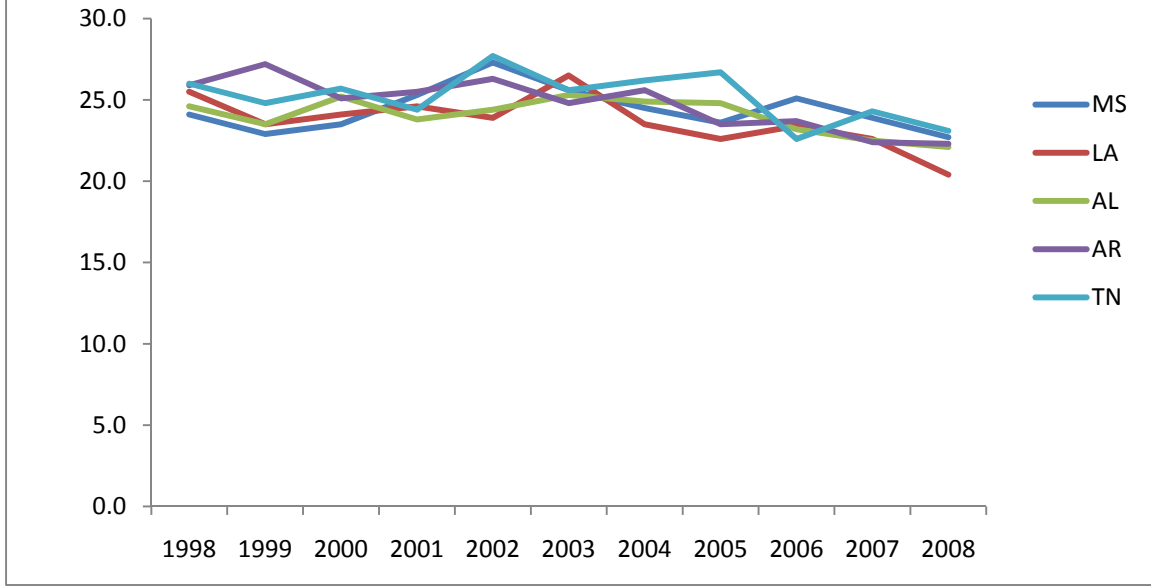
The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) is a state-based system of health surveys that were developed and conducted in order to monitor state-level prevalence of major behavioral risks among adults associated with premature morbidity and mortality. The basic philosophy is to collect data on actual behaviors, rather than attitudes or knowledge. These data are useful for planning, initiating, supporting, and evaluating health promotion and disease prevention programs.

The BRFSS is a cross-sectional telephone survey conducted by state health departments with technical and methodological assistance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Every year, states conduct monthly telephone interviews using a standardized questionnaire to determine the prevalence of risk behaviors and health practices among adults. Non-institutionalized adults 18 and over are asked to take part in the survey with only one adult interviewed per household. Data from Mississippi adults are available on the BRFSS website from 1995-2008.

Data Presentation

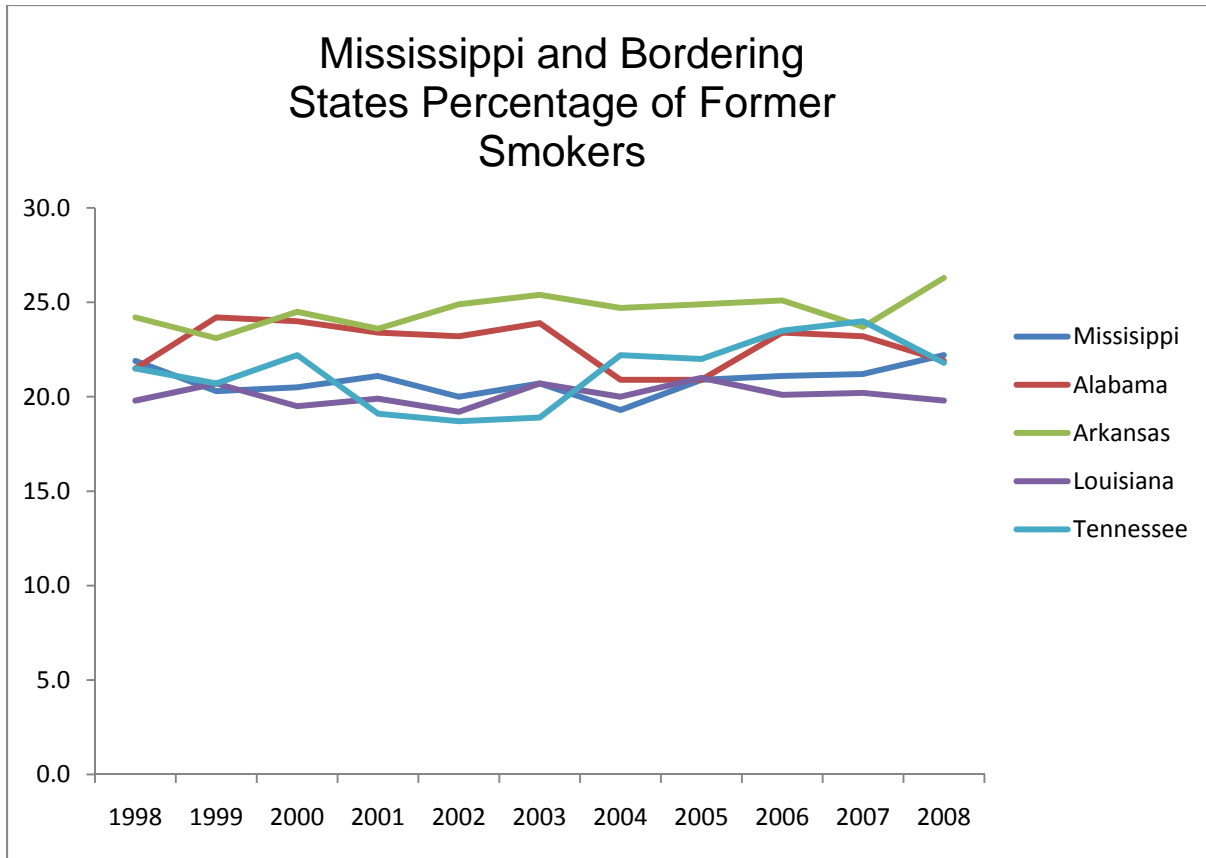
The first section of this report provides a comparison of smoking prevalence between Mississippi and bordering states. The following section details smoking prevalence and quit attempts among Mississippi adults by gender, race, and age.

Mississippi and Bordering States Percentage of Current Smokers



	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
MS	24.1	22.9	23.5	25.3	27.3	25.6	24.5	23.6	25.1	23.9	22.7
LA	25.5	23.5	24.1	24.6	23.9	26.5	23.5	22.6	23.4	22.6	20.4
AL	24.6	23.5	25.2	23.8	24.4	25.3	24.9	24.8	23.2	22.5	22.1
AR	25.9	27.2	25.1	25.5	26.3	24.8	25.6	23.5	23.7	22.4	22.3
TN	26.0	24.8	25.7	24.4	27.7	25.6	26.2	26.7	22.6	24.3	23.1

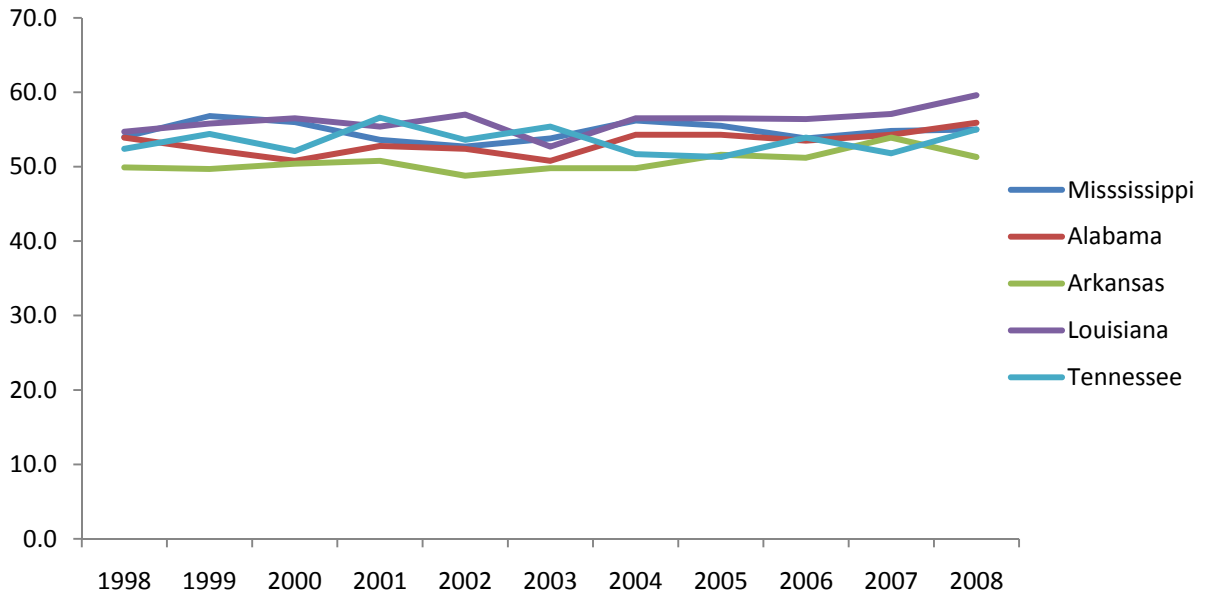
The percentage of current smokers in Mississippi is comparable to surrounding states during the past decade. Among these states, Mississippi has the second highest percentage, with 22.7% of adults categorized as current smokers.



	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Mississippi	21.9	20.3	20.5	21.1	20.0	20.7	19.3	20.9	21.1	21.2	22.2
Alabama	21.5	24.2	24.0	23.4	23.2	23.9	20.9	20.9	23.4	23.2	21.9
Arkansas	24.2	23.1	24.5	23.6	24.9	25.4	24.7	24.9	25.1	23.7	26.3
Louisiana	19.8	20.7	19.5	19.9	19.2	20.7	20.0	21.0	20.1	20.2	19.8
Tennessee	21.5	20.7	22.2	19.1	18.7	18.9	22.2	22.0	23.5	24.0	21.8

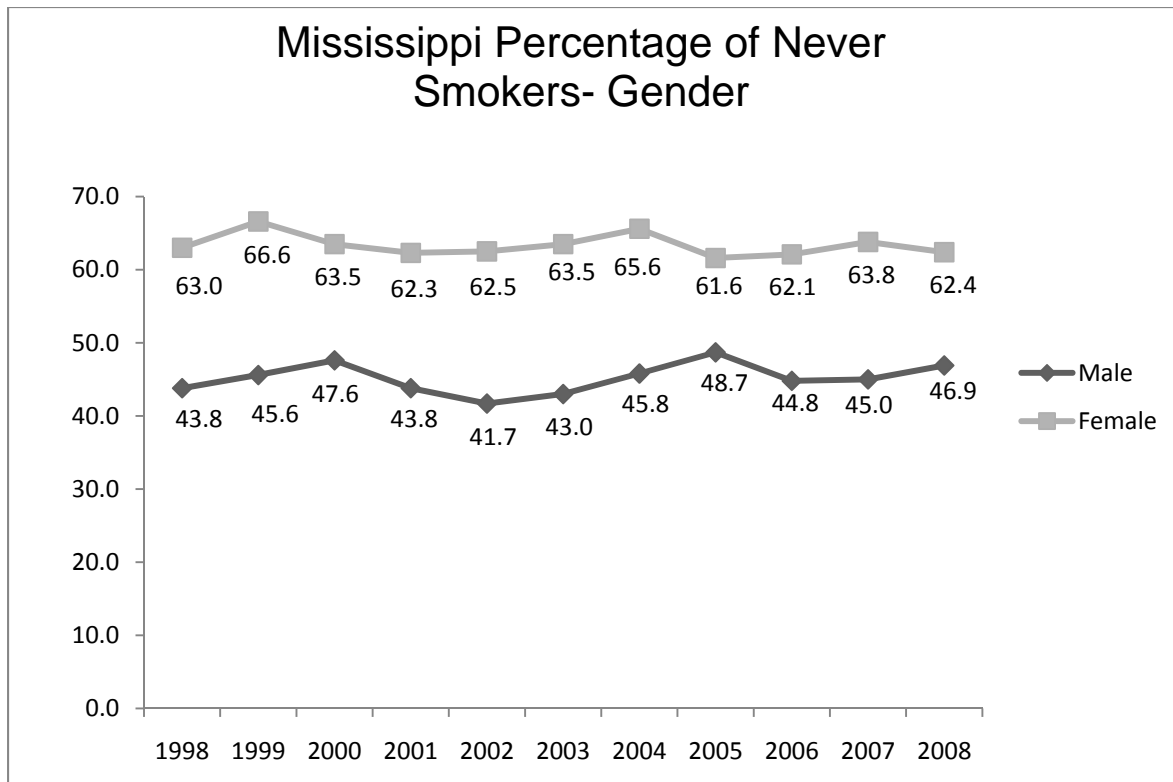
Mississippi and the four surrounding states have had little change in their percentages of former adult smokers. As of 2008, Mississippi (22.2%) falls in the middle of these states, most closely resembling the percentages of Tennessee (21.8%) and Alabama (21.9%).

Mississippi and Bordering States Percentage of Never Smokers

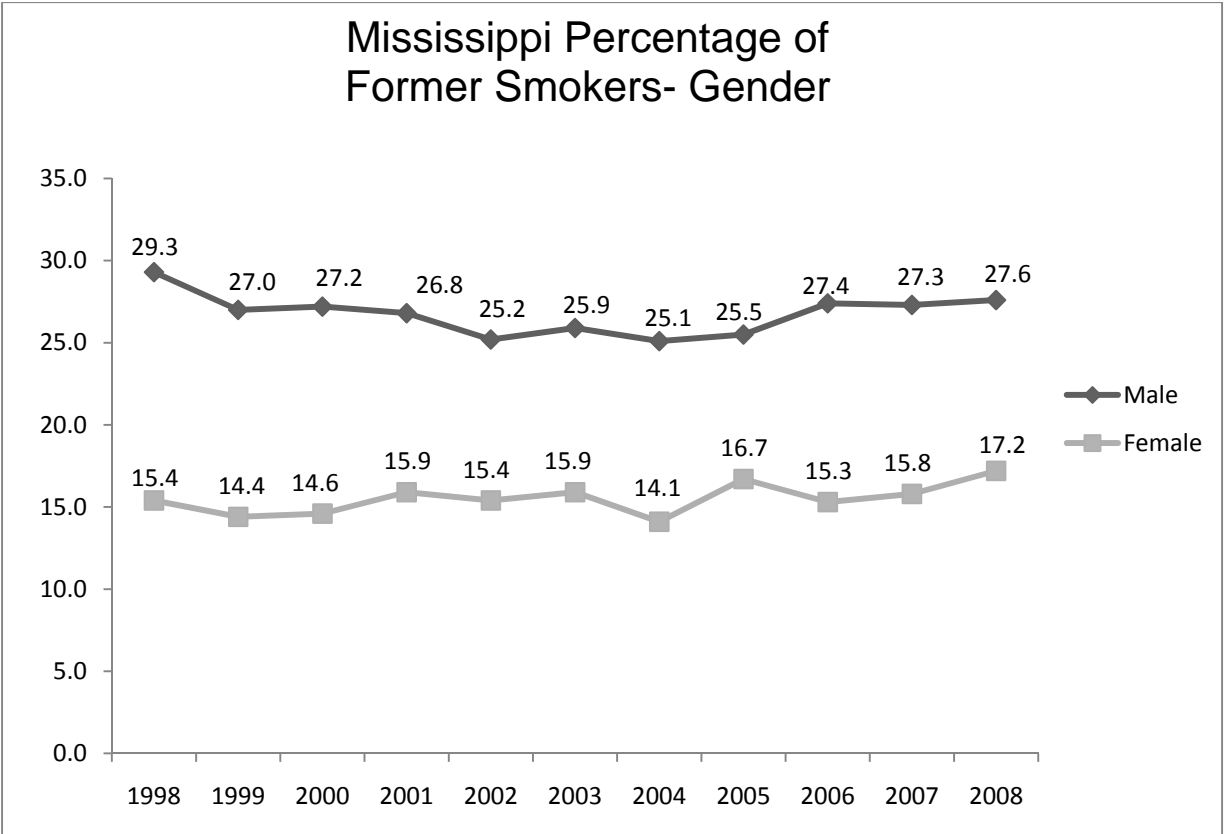


	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Mississippi	54.0	56.8	56.0	53.6	52.7	53.8	56.2	55.5	53.8	54.8	55.0
Alabama	53.9	52.3	50.8	52.8	52.4	50.8	54.3	54.3	53.5	54.3	55.9
Arkansas	49.9	49.7	50.4	50.8	48.8	49.8	49.8	51.6	51.2	53.9	51.3
Louisiana	54.7	55.8	56.5	55.4	57.0	52.7	56.5	56.5	56.4	57.1	59.6
Tennessee	52.4	54.4	52.1	56.6	53.6	55.4	51.7	51.3	53.9	51.8	55.0

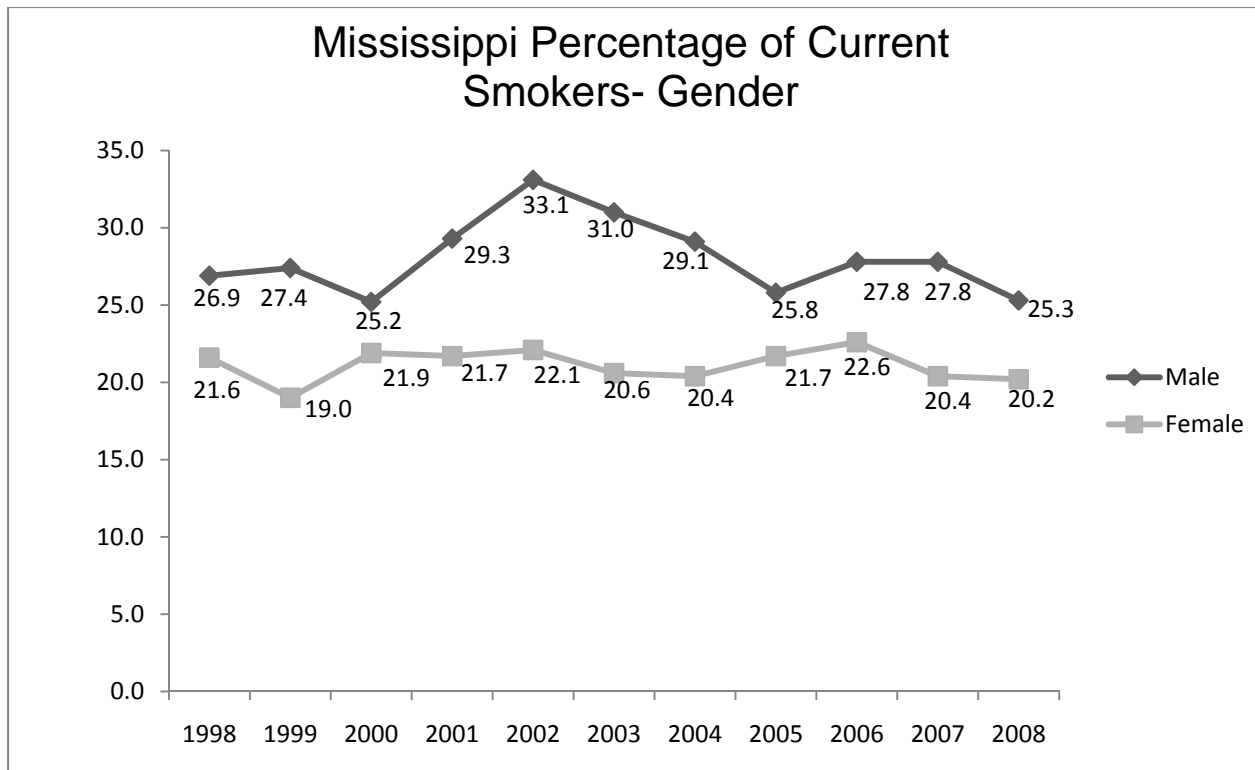
The BRFSS data during the past decade suggest that the prevalence of never smoking has remained virtually unchanged from 1998 to 2008 in Mississippi and the surrounding states.



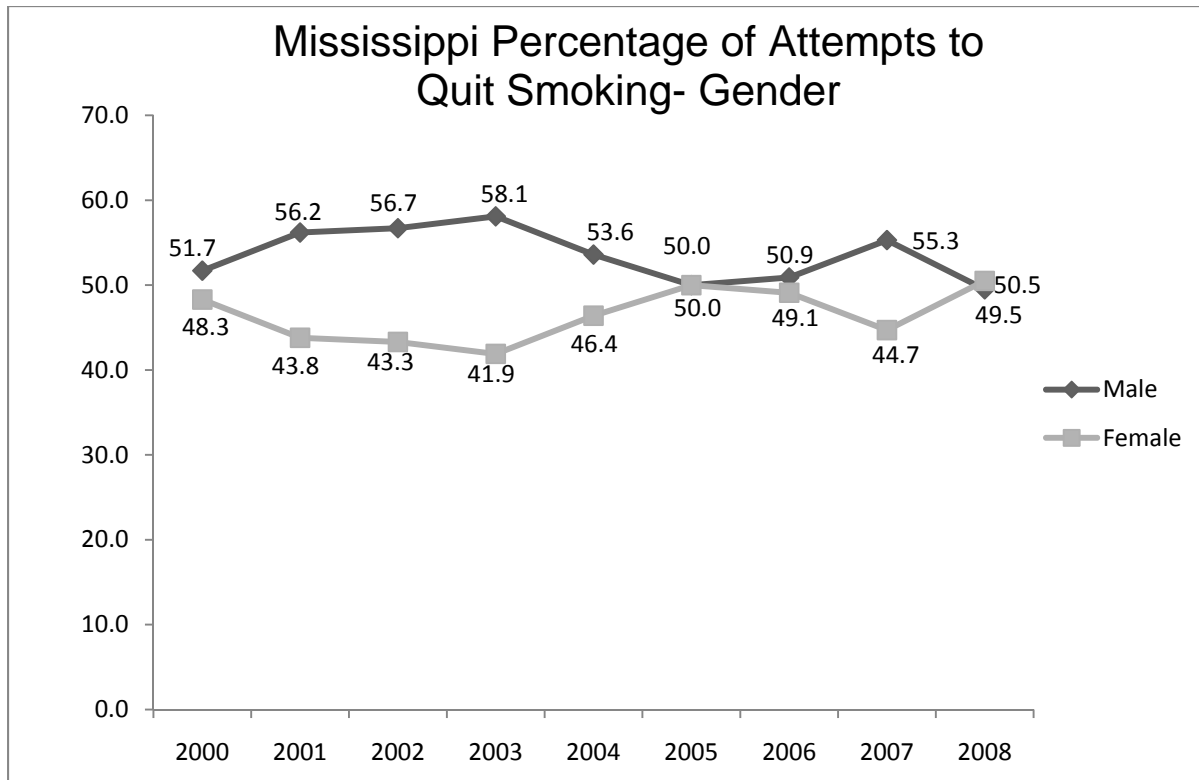
The percentage of never smokers is substantially higher among Mississippi females than males. While this disparity has existed across the past decade, it has decreased slightly.



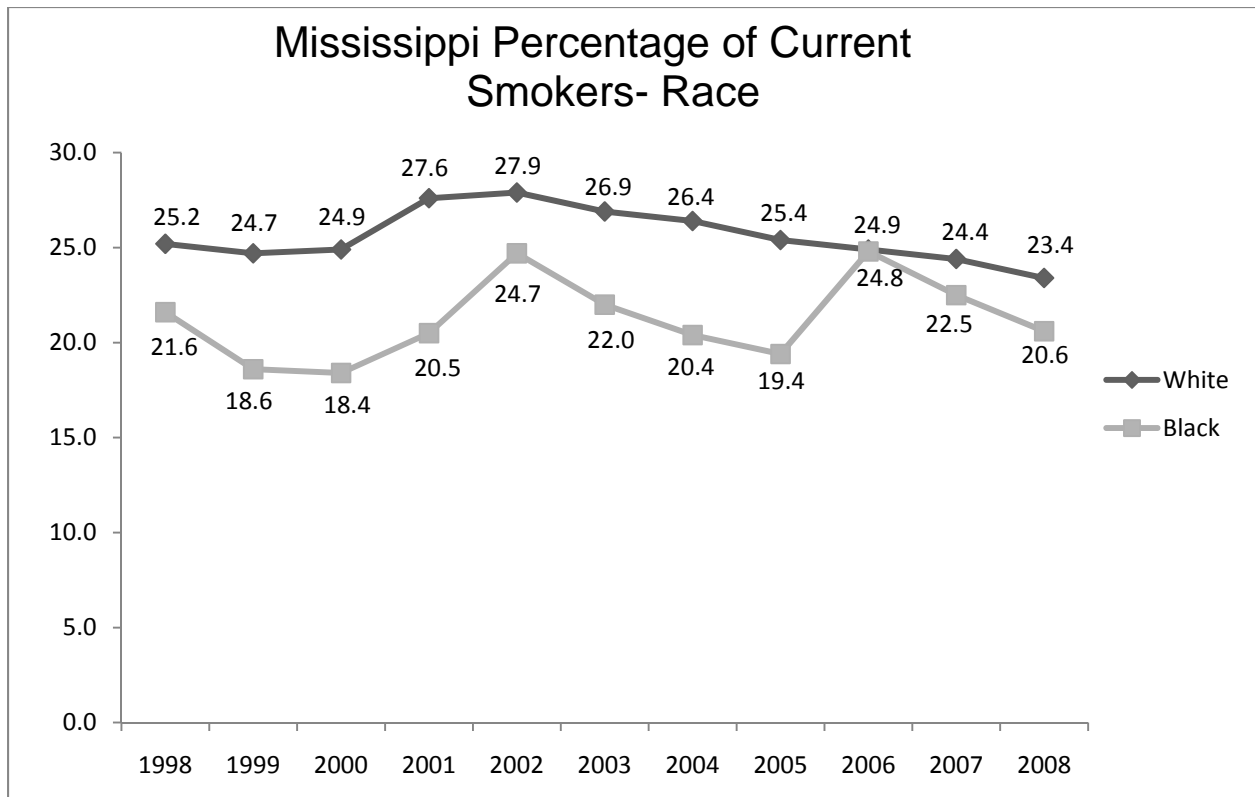
When comparing the percentage of Mississippi adults who qualify as former smokers, female former smokers are at least ten percent fewer than males during the past decade.



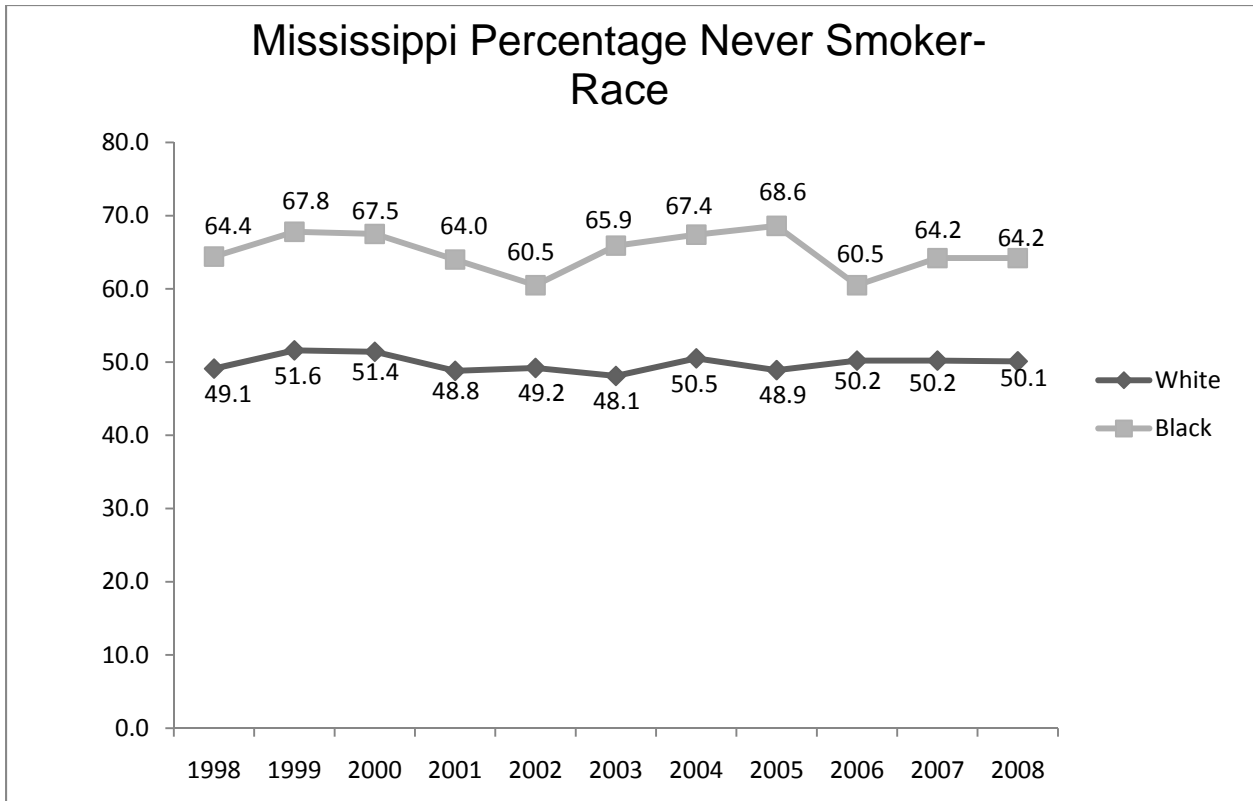
For the past decade in Mississippi, the percentage of females who are considered current smokers has been consistently lower than the percentage of male current smokers. In 2002, the data indicated a sharp increase in current smoking for males, but in recent years, the disparity between males and females has decreased.



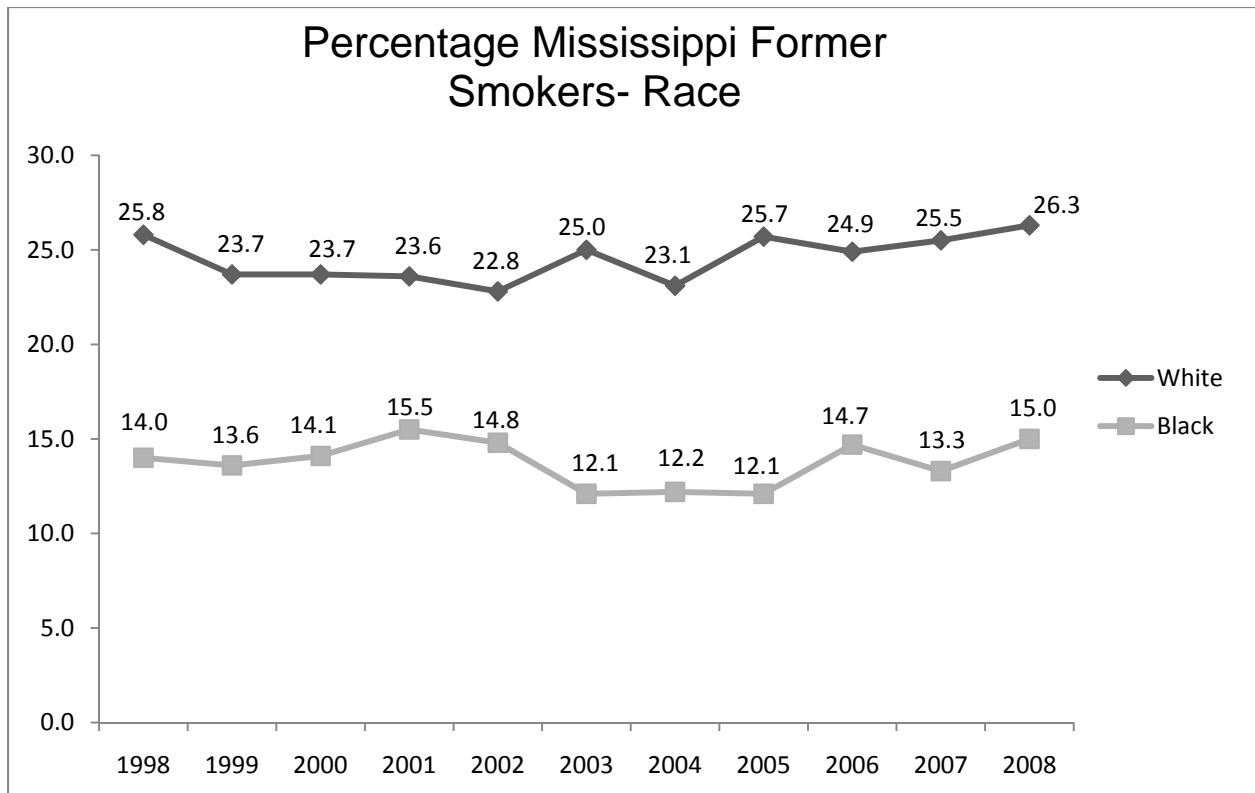
Between 2000 and 2003, the percentage of adults attempting to quit smoking steadily increased for males while steadily decreasing for females, with female quit attempts being consistently fewer. In 2003, the disparity began to decrease between genders, and with the exception of 2007, was virtually non-existent by 2005.



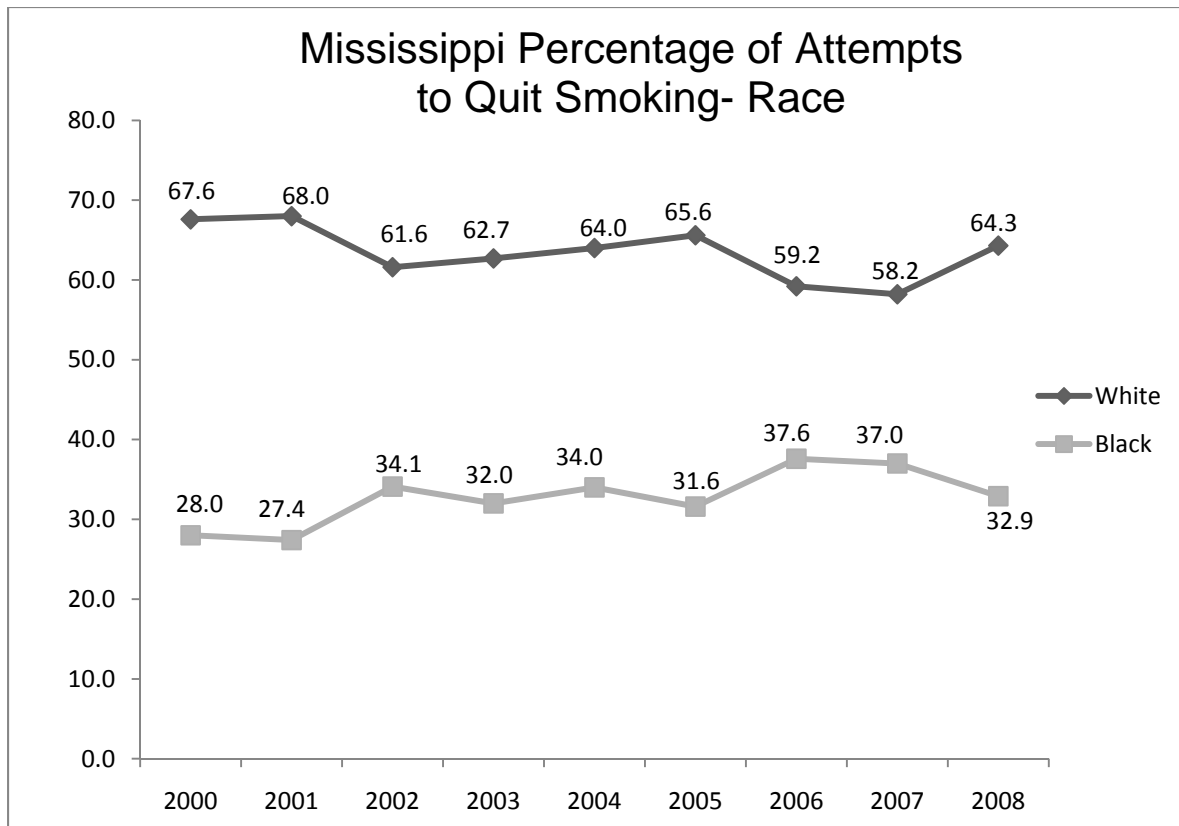
For most of the past decade in Mississippi, current smoking has been higher among white adults than black adults. In 2006, however, smoking rates began to converge.



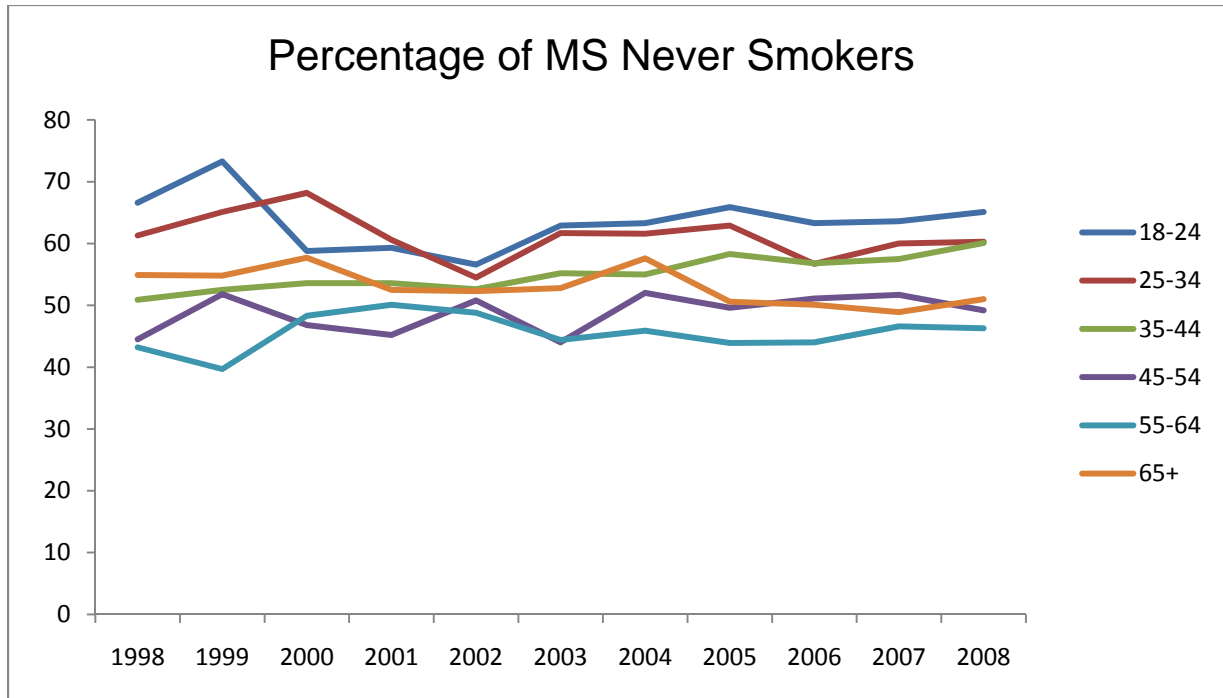
Since 1998, the percentage of white adults who have never smoked has been consistently lower than the percentage of black adults who have never smoked.



Over the past decade in Mississippi, the number of former smokers has been substantially higher among white adults than black adults.

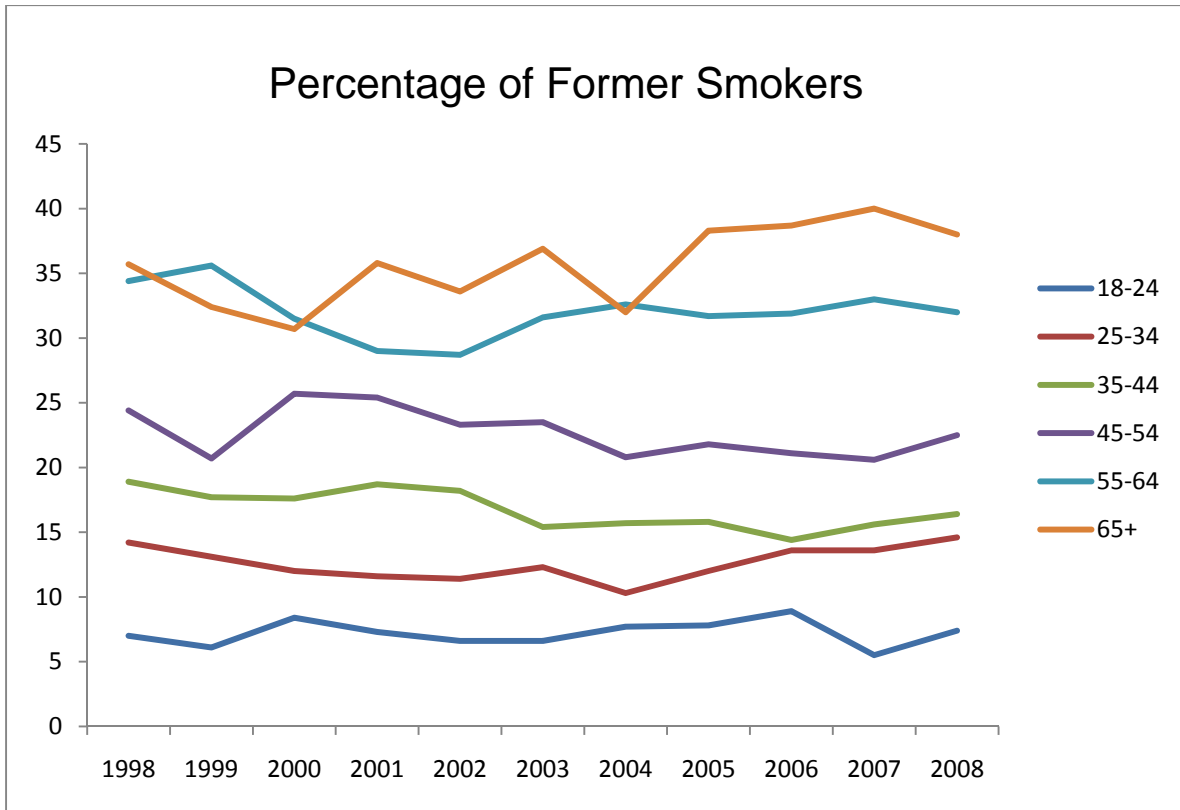


Over the past decade in Mississippi, quit attempts among current smokers were substantially more common among white adults than black adults.



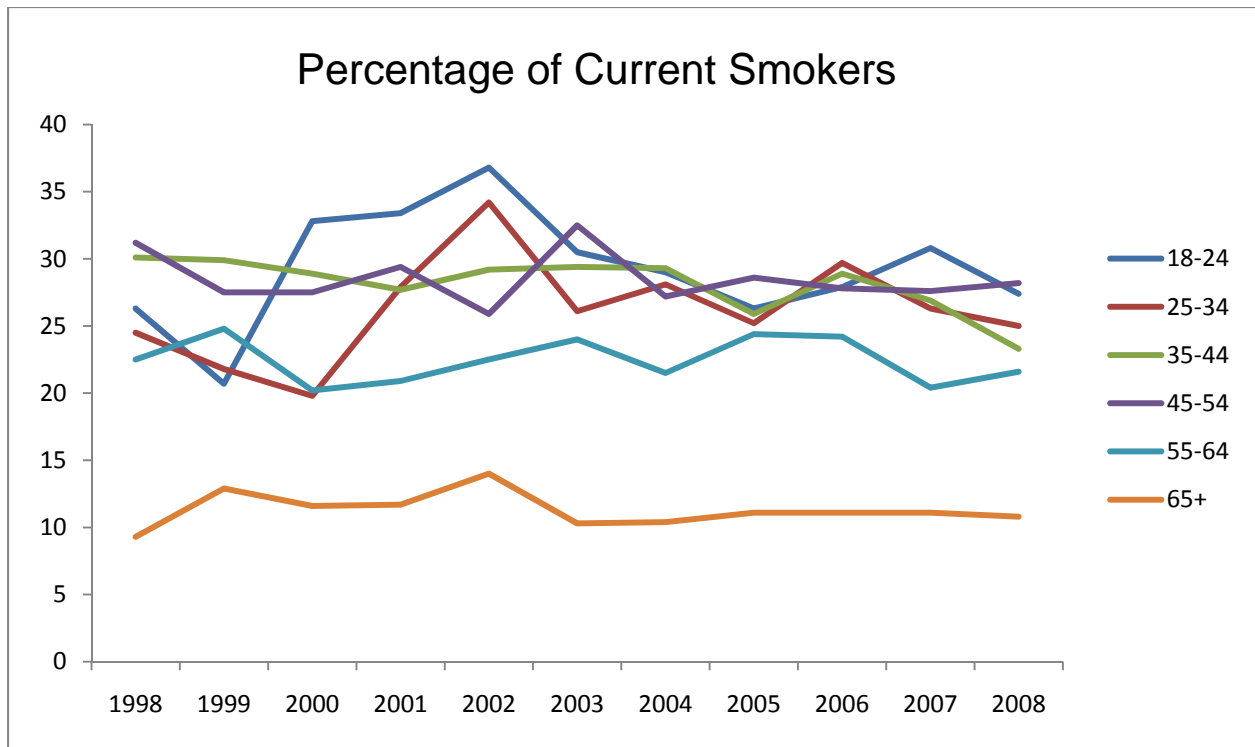
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
1998	66.6	61.3	50.9	44.5	43.2	54.9
1999	73.3	65.1	52.5	51.8	39.7	54.8
2000	58.8	68.2	53.6	46.8	48.3	57.7
2001	59.3	60.6	53.6	45.2	50.1	52.5
2002	56.6	54.5	52.6	50.8	48.8	52.3
2003	62.9	61.7	55.2	44.0	44.4	52.8
2004	63.3	61.6	55.0	52.0	45.9	57.6
2005	65.9	62.9	58.3	49.6	43.9	50.6
2006	63.3	56.7	56.8	51.1	44.0	50.1
2007	63.6	60.0	57.5	51.7	46.6	48.9
2008	65.1	60.3	60.1	49.2	46.3	51.0

Across age groups over the past decade, the percentage of Mississippi adults who have never smoked ranges from approximately 40%- 70%. Currently, age group 55-64 comprises the lowest percentage of never smokers and age group 18-24 has the highest percentage.



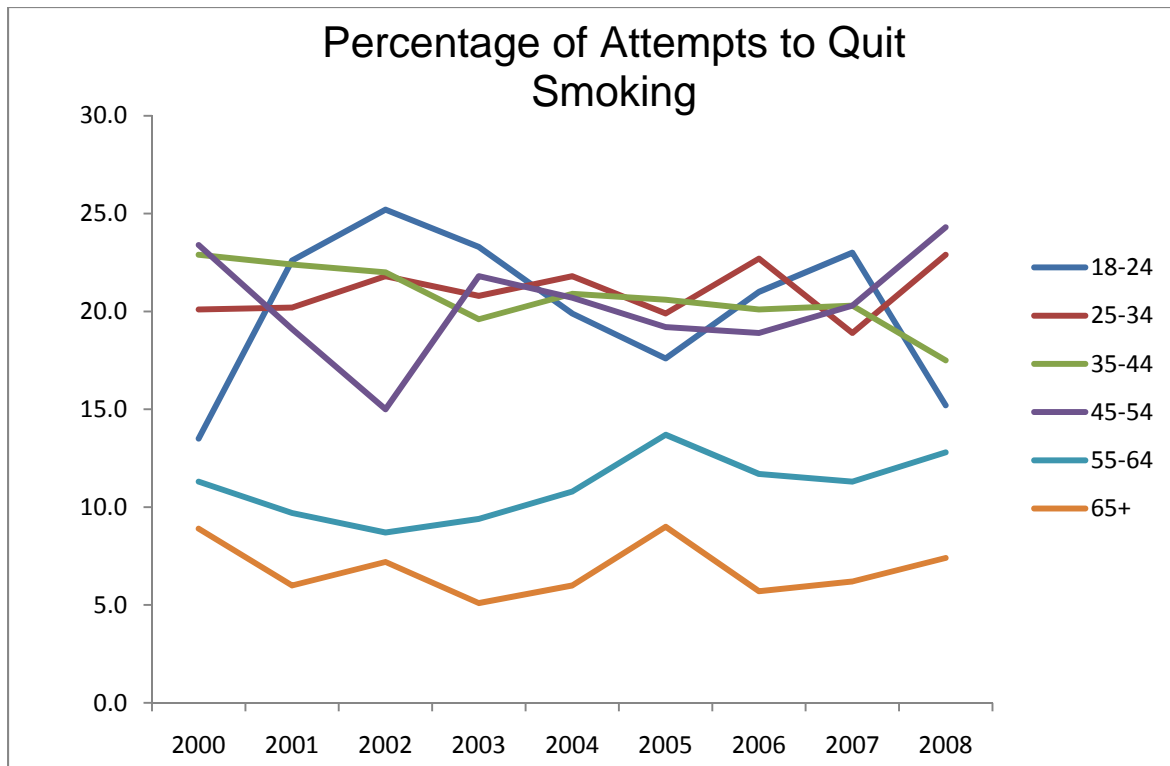
	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
1998	7.0	14.2	18.9	24.4	34.4	35.7
1999	6.1	13.1	17.7	20.7	35.6	32.4
2000	8.4	12.0	17.6	25.7	31.5	30.7
2001	7.3	11.6	18.7	25.4	29.0	35.8
2002	6.6	11.4	18.2	23.3	28.7	33.6
2003	6.6	12.3	15.4	23.5	31.6	36.9
2004	7.7	10.3	15.7	20.8	32.6	32.0
2005	7.8	12.0	15.8	21.8	31.7	38.3
2006	8.9	13.6	14.4	21.1	31.9	38.7
2007	5.5	13.6	15.6	20.6	33.0	40.0
2008	7.4	14.6	16.4	22.5	32.0	38.0

Over the past decade, the percentage of Mississippi adults who are former smokers has substantial range across age groups. Relatively consistently, age group 18-24 has the lowest percentage of former smokers and age group 65 and older has the highest percentage of former smokers.



	18-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
1998	26.3	24.5	30.1	31.2	22.5	9.3
1999	20.7	21.8	29.9	27.5	24.8	12.9
2000	32.8	19.8	28.9	27.5	20.2	11.6
2001	33.4	27.9	27.7	29.4	20.9	11.7
2002	36.8	34.2	29.2	25.9	22.5	14.0
2003	30.5	26.1	29.4	32.5	24.0	10.3
2004	29.0	28.1	29.3	27.2	21.5	10.4
2005	26.3	25.2	25.9	28.6	24.4	11.1
2006	27.9	29.7	28.9	27.8	24.2	11.1
2007	30.8	26.3	26.9	27.6	20.4	11.1
2008	27.4	25.0	23.3	28.2	21.6	10.8

Trend data over the past ten years indicate that Mississippi adults ages 65 and older have consistently had the lowest percentage of current smokers, followed by adults ages 55-64.



	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
18-24	13.5	22.6	25.2	23.3	19.9	17.6	21.0	23.0	15.2
25-34	20.1	20.2	21.8	20.8	21.8	19.9	22.7	18.9	22.9
35-44	22.9	22.4	22.0	19.6	20.9	20.6	20.1	20.3	17.5
45-54	23.4	19.1	15.0	21.8	20.7	19.2	18.9	20.3	24.3
55-64	11.3	9.7	8.7	9.4	10.8	13.7	11.7	11.3	12.8
65+	8.9	6.0	7.2	5.1	6.0	9.0	5.7	6.2	7.4

Between 2000 and 2008, Mississippi adults ages 65 and older had the lowest percentage of quit attempts among current smokers, followed by adults ages 55-64.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Robert McMillen

robert.mcmillen@ssrc.msstate.edu

Social Science Research Center, www.ssrc.msstate.edu

Mississippi State University, www.msstate.edu

One Research Park, Suite 103

Starkville, MS 39759

Phone: 662.325.7127

Fax: 662.325.7966

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