

Behavioral Risk Factors Among Rural African Americans

Seat Belt Use

- Seat belt use while in the front seat was lower among non-metro African American adults (74%) compared to metro counterparts (78.4%), and rural Whites (76.4%).

Tobacco Use

- Nearly one in every four non-metro African Americans currently smokes (23.4%), while a slightly higher percentage of non-metro Whites currently smoke (26.7%).
- A larger percentage of non-metro African American adults have tried snuff tobacco (non-metro = 3.1%; metro = 1.7%).
- A history of chewing tobacco use is more common among non-metro than metro African American adults (non-metro = 3.4%, metro = 2.5%).

Alcohol Use

- Non-metro adult African Americans are more likely than metro adult African Americans and non-metro whites to report both lifetime and current alcohol abstention (non-metro = 41.5% lifetime, 20.7% current; metro = 31% lifetime, 17.9% current; non-metro white = 25.7% lifetime, 20.2% current).
- A larger percentage of metro adult African Americans report being current (not heavy) drinkers than do non-metro residents (metro = 44.6%; non-metro = 31.4%).
- The proportion of African Americans who report heavy drinking does not differ by residence (metro = 6.5%; non-metro = 6.4%).

