

## Disparities in the Burden of Avoidable Cancer Risk Factors

There are considerable disparities in the exposure to avoidable cancer risk factors among certain segments of the U.S. population, such as:

**TWICE**  
THE RATE

The **smoking rate** among individuals who have serious psychological distress is **twice** that among those who do not.

**4**  
**TIMES**  
LESS LIKELY

College-educated individuals are nearly **4 times less likely to smoke** than those with a high school education or less.

**40%**  
HIGHER

Prevalence of adult tobacco use in southern states such as West Virginia, Kentucky, and Arkansas is **more than twice** that in California; incidence of invasive lung, bronchial, and tracheal cancers is **40 percent higher in the South** than in the West.

**21%**  
VS  
**39%**

Obesity prevalence among adults living in nonmetropolitan counties was **21 percent in Colorado compared with 39 percent in Louisiana**.

**31.7%**  
VS  
**23.4%**

The **prevalence of physical inactivity is higher among Hispanics** (31.7 percent), compared with non-Hispanic whites (23.4 percent).

**56%**  
VS  
**41%**

Adolescents living in metropolitan areas are **more likely to be up to date with HPV vaccination** (56 percent) compared with those in nonmetropolitan areas (41 percent).