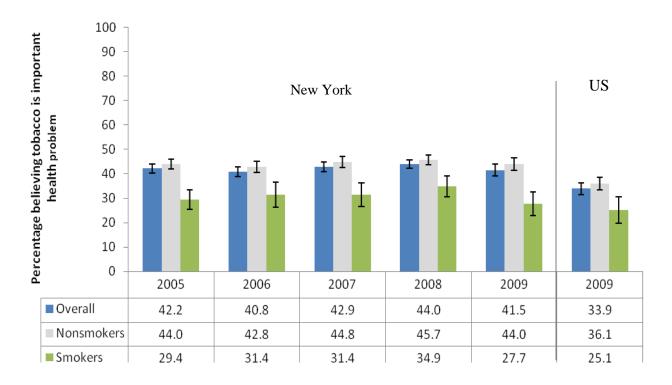


Importance of Tobacco Use as a Health Problem in New York

Tobacco-related disease kills nearly 25,000 New Yorkers each year. New York adults were asked the following question: "Thinking about all the health problems in your community, how important is addressing the problem of tobacco use?"

- In 2009, 42% of New Yorkers said that tobacco use is "among the most important" health problems facing their communities. Another 51% believed that tobacco use is equally important as other health problems and just 7% said it was among the least important health problems (data not shown).
- Overall, New Yorkers are more likely to believe that tobacco use is among the most important health problems in their communities compared with the U.S. as a whole.
- There has been no change in New Yorkers' perceptions of the importance of tobacco use as a health problem between 2005 and 2009.

Percentage of Adults Who Believe That Tobacco Use Is Among the Most Important Health Problems in Their Community



Source: New York State Adult Tobacco Survey, 2005-2009 and National Adult Tobacco Survey, 2009. Data analysis conducted by RTI International. Contact the Bureau of Chronic Disease Epidemiology and Surveillance, New York State Department of Health at (518) 473-0673 or type 'StatShot' in the subject line of an e-mail and send it to tcp@health.state.ny.us.