

East Timor (Ages 13-15) Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)



FACT SHEET

The East Timor GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components East Timor could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The East Timor GYTS was a school-based survey of students in classes 1, 2, and 3 conducted in 2009.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for East Timor. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 96.0%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 80.5%, and the overall response rate was 77.3%. A total of 890 students aged 13-15 participated in the East Timor GYTS.

Prevalence

- 46.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 62.8%, Girl = 34.2%)
- 31.1% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 39.7%, Girl = 23.8%)
- 24.6% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 38.2%, Girl = 14.6%)
- 17.8% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 18.8%, Girl = 16.9%)
- 20.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

- 65.8% think boys and 19.8% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 54.4% think boys and 35.5% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 48.4% usually smoke at home
- 55.0% buy cigarettes in a store
- 64.0% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 59.4% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 61.3% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 56.6% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 34.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 65.2% have one or more parents who smoke
- 38.8% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

- 79.1% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 93.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

- 82.9% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 62.6% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 65.2% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 23.1% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 23.0% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

Highlights

- Almost one-third of students currently use any form of tobacco; one-quarter currently smoke cigarettes; almost 1 in 5 currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – six in 10 students live in homes where others smoke, and six in 10 students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; Almost two-thirds of the students have at least one parent who smokes.
- One-third of students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over half of the students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Close to one-quarter of the students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Eight in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; Six in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and nearly two-thirds saw pro-tobacco ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.