

Afghanistan – Kabul (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Afghanistan – Kabul 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 Afghanistan could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Afghanistan - Kabul GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 8-10 conducted in 2004.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Kabul, Afghanistan. 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%, the class response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 71%, and the overall response rate was 68.2%. A total of 1,498 students participated in the Afghanistan - Kabul GYTS.

Prevalence

22.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 27.4%, Girl = 15.5%)
 9.8% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 13.1%, Girl = 3.2%)
 4.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 7.6%, Girl = 0.0%)
 5.9% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 7.0%, Girl = 3.2%)
 8.8% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

36.2% think boys and 20.6% think girls who smoke have more friends
 41.8% think boys and 54.9% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

8.1% usually smoke at home
 79.8% buy cigarettes in a store
 56.1% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

38.8% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 45.0% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 83.9% think smoking should be banned from public places
 79.3% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 29.7% have one or more parents who smoke
 21.8% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

76.5% want to stop smoking
 89.7% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 100.0% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

74.1% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 65.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 33.4% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 11.4% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 10.5% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

21.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 32.9% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 23.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 9.8% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 4.8% currently smoke cigarettes; 5.9% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – Almost 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; Close to half are exposed to smoke in public places; 3 in 10 have parents who smoke.
- Four in 5 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- More than 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Over three-quarters of the smokers want to stop smoking now.
- One in 9 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Three-quarters of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; Half the students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.