

Ghana (North)

2007 Fact Sheet

The **2007 Ghana (North) GSHS** measured alcohol and other drug use; sexual behaviours that contribute to HIV infections, other STIs, and unintended pregnancies; unintentional injuries and violence; hygiene; dietary behaviours and overweight; physical activity; and protective factors.

The 2007 Ghana (North) GSHS was a school-based survey of students in grades JSS1, JSS2, and JSS3. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce data representative of all students in grades JSS1, JSS2, and JSS3 in Ghana (North). 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 92%, the student response rate was 82%, and the overall response rate was 75%. A total of 2,548 students participated in the Ghana (North) GSHS. Students self-reported their responses to each question on a computer scannable answer sheet. For comparison purposes, only students aged 13-15 years are included in the analyses for this fact sheet.

Results for students aged 13-15 years	Total	Boys	Girls
Alcohol and Other Drug Use			
Percentage of students who had at least one drink containing alcohol on one or more days during the past 30 days	34.6 ± 7.9	32.8 ± 6.6	36.0 ± 9.9
Percentage of students who drank so much alcohol that they were really drunk one or more times during their life	37.1 ± 6.7	36.6 ± 6.6	36.8 ± 7.0
Percentage of students who had a hang-over, felt sick, got into trouble with family or friends, missed school, or got into fights one or more times as a result of drinking alcohol during their life	41.7 ± 7.0	39.3 ± 6.3	43.9 ± 8.4
Percentage of students who used drugs one or more times during their life	37.0 ± 6.1	35.2 ± 5.4	38.6 ± 7.5
Dietary Behaviours and Overweight			
Percentage of students who went hungry most of the time or always during the past 30 days because there was not enough food in their home	26.9 ± 4.6	25.3 ± 5.5	28.7 ± 5.9
Percentage of students who are overweight**	4.0 ± 1.2	1.8 ± 0.8	6.5 ± 2.3
Percentage of students who are obese***	0.1 ± 0.2	0.0 ± 0.0	0.2 ± 0.4
Hygiene			
Percentage of students who cleaned or brushed their teeth less than 1 time per day during the past 30 days	19.9 ± 4.5	17.8 ± 5.5	22.2 ± 5.7
Percentage of students who never or rarely washed their hands before eating during the past 30 days	10.7 ± 1.9	9.1 ± 2.3	11.5 ± 2.2
Percentage of students who never or rarely washed their hands after using the toilet or latrine during the past 30 days	14.7 ± 3.3	12.1 ± 3.5	17.3 ± 4.3
Physical Activity			
Percentage of students who were physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day on all 7 days during the past 7 days	11.2 ± 1.6	12.2 ± 2.5	10.3 ± 3.0
Percentage of students who spent three or more hours per day during a typical or usual day sitting and watching television, playing computer games, talking with friends, or doing other sitting activities	32.9 ± 3.5	34.2 ± 3.4	31.2 ± 4.4

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Protective Factors			
Percentage of students who missed classes or school without permission on one or more days during the past 30 days	49.2 ± 6.4	46.1 ± 5.4	51.8 ± 8.3
Percentage of students who reported that most of the students in their school were never or rarely kind and helpful during the past 30 days	35.0 ± 2.8	35.6 ± 3.3	33.6 ± 4.6
Percentage of students whose parents or guardians never or rarely really knew what they were doing with their free time during the past 30 days	32.6 ± 4.2	31.8 ± 4.1	33.8 ± 6.7
Sexual Behaviours that contribute to HIV Infections, Other STIs, and Unintended Pregnancies			
Percentage of students who had sexual intercourse during the past 12 months	30.8 ± 4.9	31.2 ± 5.7	30.0 ± 5.3
Percentage of students who ever had sexual intercourse with two or more people during their life	31.0 ± 4.8	30.9 ± 5.6	30.1 ± 5.8
Among students who had sexual intercourse during the past 12 months, the percentage who used a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse	70.0 ± 6.2	74.8 ± 7.8	*
Unintentional Injuries and Violence			
Percentage of students who were physically attacked one or more times during the past 12 months	64.6 ± 6.7	62.6 ± 6.9	66.4 ± 6.9
Percentage of students who were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months	56.0 ± 5.7	50.1 ± 5.4	61.5 ± 6.8
Percentage of students who were seriously injured one or more times during the past 12 months	82.3 ± 5.6	81.0 ± 5.4	83.2 ± 6.1
Percentage of students who were bullied on one or more days during the past 30 days	63.9 ± 9.1	61.7 ± 9.8	66.1 ± 9.2

* Indicates less than 100 students.

**According to the WHO growth reference for school-aged children and adolescents. For more information, please visit the following website - www.who.int/growthref.

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