

Georgia (Ages 13-15) Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) FACT SHEET



The Georgia 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 Georgia could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Georgia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th conducted in 2008.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Georgia. 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 100.0%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 81.7%, and the overall response rate was 81.7%. A total of 891 students aged 13-15 participated in the Georgia GYTS.

Prevalence

- 28.2% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 41.3%, Girls = 16.4%)
- 8.6% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 15.2%, Girls = 2.8%)
- 8.6% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 15.2%, Girls = 2.8%)
- 41.1% ever smokers initiated smoking before age ten (Boys = 46.0%, Girls = 27.5%)
- 26.4% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year (Boys = 33.1%, Girls = 22.0%)

Knowledge and Attitudes

- 10.0% think boys and 4.2% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 11.9% think boys and 10.2% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 5.1% usually smoke at home
- 57.3% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 62.7% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 74.4% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 82.5% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 33.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 63.0% have one or more parents who smoke
- 10.4% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

- 67.0% want to stop smoking
- 73.6% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 92.4% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

- 66.1% saw anti-smoking media messages vs. 61.9% saw pro media messages on TV
- 52.7% saw anti messages vs. 53.6% saw pro messages on billboards
- 48.7% saw anti smoking ads vs. 47.2% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines
- 14.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 17.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

- 28.5% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 35.8% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 40.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 8.6% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 8.6% currently smoke cigarettes.
- SHS exposure is high – more than three in five students live in homes where others smoke, and nearly three-quarters of students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; more than three in five students have at least one parent who smokes.
- One-third of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over eight in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Two-thirds of the current smokers want to stop smoking.
- 14.6% of students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Two-thirds of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; more than half of the students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and nearly half saw pro-tobacco ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.