

Guam 2011 (Ages 13-15) Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) FACT SHEET



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

The Guam GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 9 through 12 conducted in 2011.

At the first stage, all schools were selected containing grades 9 to 12. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. A total of 1,057 students participated in the Guam GYTS of which 407 were ages 13 to 15 years. The overall response rate of all students surveyed was 71.8%.

Prevalence

- 52.2% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 56.5%, Girls = 48.0%)
- 35.6% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 41.8%, Girls = 28.8%)
- 25.3% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 32.9%, Girls = 17.7%)
- 23.5% currently use other tobacco products (Boys = 27.0%, Girls = 19.7%)
- 13.6% currently use any form of smokeless tobacco products (e.g. chewing tobacco, snuff, dip)
- 15.7% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

- 27.4% think boys and 15.2% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 7.5% think boys and 4.3% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 20.7% usually smoke at home
- 4.6% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 64.4% are around others who smoke in enclosed public places
- 76.3% are around others who smoke in outdoor public places
- 75.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 71.4% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 52.3% have one or more parents who smoke
- 13.6% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

- 66.7% want to stop smoking
- 77.2% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 67.8% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

- 79.3% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 66.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 13.4% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 15.2% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

- 63.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 48.2% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 63.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Over one-third of students currently use any form of tobacco; One in four currently smoke cigarettes; 23.5% currently use other tobacco products
- Almost three in 10 girls and nearly two in 10 boys usually smoke at home
- SHS exposure – over half the students have at least one parent who smokes
- Seven in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them
- Three-quarters of the students think smoking in public places should be banned
- Two-thirds of the current smokers want to stop smoking
- 13.4% of students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it
- Eight in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; two-thirds of the students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days

For additional information, please contact:

Alyssa Uncangco

e-mail: alyssa.uncangco@dphss.guam.gov