

# Lao PDR 2011 (Ages 13-15)

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Lao PDR 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 Lao PDR could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Lao PDR GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 2 through 4 conducted in 2011.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Lao PDR. 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. A total of 6,502 students participated in the Lao PDR GYTS of which 4,061 were ages 13 to 15 years. The overall response rate of all students surveyed was 94.5%.

#### Prevalence

- 12.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 21.6%, Girls = 2.6%)
- 12.7% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 18.7%, Girls = 6.0%)
- 8.0% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 14.3%, Girls = 1.1%)
- 6.6% currently use other tobacco products (Boys = 7.7%, Girls = 5.3%)
- 6.6% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

#### Knowledge and Attitudes

- 22.1% think boys and 9.2% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 12.9% think boys and 8.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

#### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 17.7% usually smoke at home
- 51.2% buy cigarettes in a store
- 73.1% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

#### Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 36.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 50.1% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 55.4% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 56.2% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 41.2% have one or more parents who smoke
- 4.6% have most or all friends who smoke

#### Cessation - Current Smokers

- 75.3% want to stop smoking
- 78.0% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 72.7% have ever received help to stop smoking

#### Media and Advertising

- 78.3% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 47.1% saw pro-cigarette ads at points of sale, in the past 30 days
- 47.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in leaflets, in the past 30 days
- 58.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, newspapers, or magazines in the past 30 days
- 12.3% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 8.9% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

#### School

- 51.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 37.3% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 50.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

#### Highlights

- 12.7% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 8.0% currently smoke cigarettes; 6.6% currently use other tobacco products
- SHS exposure – 36.5% of students live in homes where others smoke; half the students are exposed to smoke in places outside their home; four in 10 have one or more parents who smoke
- 56.2% of students think that smoke from others is harmful to them
- 55.4% students think smoking should be banned in public places
- 75.3% of the smokers want to stop
- 12.3% of students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it
- Close to four in five students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 47.1% saw pro-cigarette ads at points of sale and 47.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in leaflets in the past 30 days