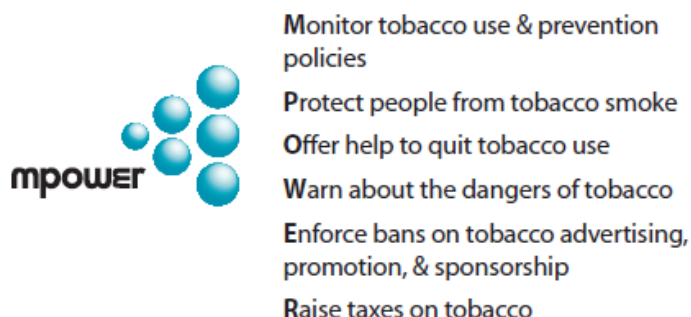


## GYTS Objectives

The Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS), a component of the Global Tobacco Surveillance System (GTSS), is a global standard for systematically monitoring youth tobacco use (smoking and smokeless) and tracking key tobacco control indicators.

GYTS is a cross-sectional, nationally representative school-based survey of students in grades associated with ages 13 to 15 years. GYTS uses a standard core questionnaire, sample design, and data collection protocol. It assists countries in fulfilling their obligations under the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) to generate comparable data within and across countries. WHO has developed MPOWER, a technical package of selected demand reduction measures contained in the WHO FCTC:



## GYTS Methodology

GYTS uses a global standardized methodology that includes a two-stage sample design with schools selected with a probability proportional to enrollment size. The classes within selected schools are chosen randomly and all students in selected classes are eligible to participate in the survey. The survey uses a standard core questionnaire with a set of optional questions that countries can adapt to measure and track key tobacco control indicators. The questionnaire covers the following topics: tobacco use (smoking and smokeless), cessation, secondhand smoke (SHS), pro- and anti-tobacco advertising and promotion, access to and availability of tobacco products, and knowledge and attitudes regarding tobacco use. The questionnaire is self-administered; using scannable paper-based bubble sheets, it is anonymous to ensure confidentiality.

In Italy, GYTS was conducted in 2022 by National Institute of Health, with the support of the Ministries of Health and Education. The overall response rate was 52.5%<sup>§</sup>. A total of 2,334 eligible students in grade 3 of middle schools and grades 1 & 2 of high schools completed the survey, of which 2,069 were aged 13-15 years. Data are reported for students aged 13-15 years.

## GYTS Highlights

### TOBACCO USE

- 20.5% of students, 18.5% of boys, and 22.8% of girls currently used any tobacco products (includes heated tobacco products).
- 15.9% of students, 14.5% of boys, and 17.5% of girls currently smoked tobacco.
- 14.9% of students, 12.8% of boys, and 17.3% of girls currently smoked cigarettes.
- 13.7% of students, 11.5% of boys, and 16.2% of girls currently used heated tobacco products.
- 1.3% of students, 1.2% of boys, and 1.4% of girls currently used smokeless tobacco.

### ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES

- 19.3% of students, 18.0% of boys, and 20.5% of girls currently used electronic cigarettes.

### CESSATION

- More than 4 in 10 (44.6%) students who currently smoked tobacco tried to stop smoking in the past 12 months.
- Almost 3 in 10 (28.3%) students who currently smoked tobacco wanted to stop smoking now.

### SECONDHAND SMOKE

- 46.9% of students were exposed to tobacco smoke at home.
- 45.2% of students were exposed to tobacco smoke inside enclosed public places.

### ACCESS & AVAILABILITY

- 24.2% of students who currently smoked cigarettes bought cigarettes from a bar, tobacconist or street vendor.
- 13.9% of students who currently smoked cigarettes bought cigarettes from a vending machine.
- Among students who currently smoked cigarettes who tried to buy cigarettes, 73.4% were not prevented from buying them because of their age.

### ADVERTISING & PROMOTION

- More than 4 in 10 (44.3%) students noticed anti-tobacco messages in the media.
- More than 3 in 10 (31.2%) students noticed tobacco advertisements or promotions when visiting points of sale.
- Almost 1 in 10 (5.6%) students had something with a tobacco brand logo on it.

### KNOWLEDGE & ATTITUDES

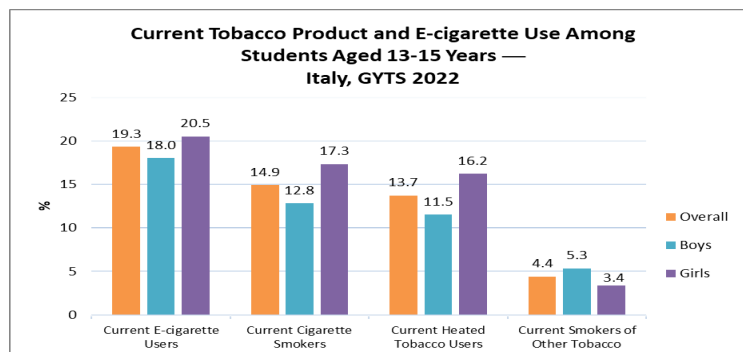
- 55.6% of students definitely thought other people's tobacco smoking is harmful to them.

## TOBACCO USE

ANY TOBACCO USE <i>(smoked, heated, and/or smokeless)</i>	OVERALL (%)	BOYS (%)	GIRLS (%)
Ever tobacco users <sup>1</sup>	37.4	35.4	39.6
Current tobacco users <sup>2</sup>	20.5	18.5	22.8
<b>SMOKED TOBACCO</b>			
Ever tobacco smokers <sup>3</sup>	32.7	30.9	34.6*
Current tobacco smokers <sup>4</sup>	15.9	14.5	17.5
Ever cigarette smokers <sup>5</sup>	30.6	28.0	33.4
Current cigarette smokers <sup>6</sup>	14.9	12.8	17.3
Frequent cigarette smokers <sup>7</sup>	2.5	2.0	3.1
Ever smokers of other tobacco <sup>8</sup>	12.0	14.3	9.3
Current smokers of other tobacco <sup>9</sup>	4.4	5.3	3.4
<b>HEATED TOBACCO</b>			
Ever users of heated tobacco products <sup>10</sup>	22.8	19.6	26.5
Current users of heated tobacco products <sup>11</sup>	13.7	11.5	16.2
<b>SMOKELESS TOBACCO</b>			
Ever smokeless tobacco users <sup>12</sup>	3.3	3.6	3.0*
Current smokeless tobacco users <sup>13</sup>	1.3	1.2	1.4*
<b>SUSCEPTIBILITY</b>			
Never tobacco users susceptible to tobacco use in the future <sup>14</sup>	26.4	22.1	31.7*
Never tobacco smokers who thought they might enjoy smoking a cigarette <sup>15</sup>	19.6	16.8	23.0*

## ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES

	OVERALL (%)	BOYS (%)	GIRLS (%)
Ever electronic cigarette users <sup>16</sup>	33.7	32.9	34.5*
Current electronic cigarette users <sup>17</sup>	19.3	18.0	20.5



## CESSATION

	OVERALL (%)	BOYS (%)	GIRLS (%)
Current tobacco smokers who tried to stop smoking in the past 12 months	44.6	47.5	42.1
Current tobacco smokers who wanted to stop smoking now	28.3	33.3	24.5
Current tobacco smokers who thought they would be able to stop smoking if they wanted to	86.9	88.6	85.4
Current tobacco smokers who have ever received help/advice from a program or professional to stop smoking	4.0	3.6	4.4

## SECONDHAND SMOKE

	OVERALL (%)	BOYS (%)	GIRLS (%)
Exposure to tobacco smoke at home <sup>18</sup>	46.9	43.0	51.4
Exposure to tobacco smoke inside any enclosed public place <sup>18</sup>	45.2	42.3	48.2*
Exposure to tobacco smoke at any outdoor public place <sup>18</sup>	73.8	71.0	76.8
Students who saw anyone smoking inside the school building or outside on school property <sup>19</sup>	59.3	57.8	60.9

## ACCESS &amp; AVAILABILITY

	OVERALL (%)	BOYS (%)	GIRLS (%)
Current cigarette smokers who bought cigarettes from a bar, tobacconist or street vendor <sup>20</sup>	24.2	28.5	20.7
Current cigarette smokers who bought cigarettes from a vending machine	13.9	10.6	16.7*
Current cigarette smokers who were not prevented from buying cigarettes because of their age <sup>21</sup>	73.4	72.3	74.4
Current electronic cigarette users who bought e-cigarettes from an authorized seller (bar, tobacconist, specialized shop, pharmacy, newsstand)	15.9	12.3	19.3*
Current electronic cigarette users who were not prevented from buying e-cigarettes because of their age <sup>22</sup>	75.8	73.4	78.3

## ADVERTISING &amp; PROMOTION

TOBACCO ADVERTISING & PROMOTION	OVERALL (%)	BOYS (%)	GIRLS (%)
Students who noticed tobacco advertisements or promotions at points of sale <sup>23</sup>	31.2	29.9	32.5
Students who saw anyone using tobacco on television, videos, or movies <sup>24</sup>	91.9	91.1	92.8*
Students who were ever offered a free tobacco product from a tobacco company representative	5.9	6.7	4.9
Students who had something with a tobacco brand logo on it	5.6	6.0	5.2*

## ANTI-TOBACCO ADVERTISING &amp; PROMOTION

Students who noticed anti-tobacco messages in the media <sup>19</sup>	44.3	46.0	42.3
Students who noticed anti-tobacco messages at sporting or community events <sup>25</sup>	28.9	31.3	25.3
Current tobacco smokers who thought about quitting because of a warning label <sup>26</sup>	25.4	24.1	26.5
Students who were taught in school about the dangers of tobacco use in the past 12 months	53.4	53.0	53.9

## KNOWLEDGE &amp; ATTITUDES

	OVERALL (%)	BOYS (%)	GIRLS (%)
Students who definitely thought it is difficult to quit once someone starts smoking tobacco	31.0	31.0	31.1
Students who thought smoking tobacco helps people feel more comfortable at celebrations, parties, and social gatherings	44.9	45.7	44.2
Students who definitely thought tobacco smoking is harmful to their health	87.2	86.6	88.0*
Students who definitely thought other people's tobacco smoking is harmful to them	55.6	57.8	53.4*
Students who definitely thought e-cigarettes use is harmful to their health	56.5	53.5	60.0*
Students who favored prohibiting smoking at outdoor public places	57.1	62.3	51.1

<sup>1</sup>Ever smoked cigarettes, smoked other types of tobacco, used heated tobacco products, and/or used smokeless tobacco. <sup>2</sup>Smoked cigarettes, smoked other types of tobacco, used heated tobacco products, and/or used smokeless tobacco anytime during the past 30 days. <sup>3</sup>Ever smoked cigarettes or other type of tobacco, even one or two puffs. <sup>4</sup>Smoked cigarettes or other type of tobacco anytime during the past 30 days. <sup>5</sup>Ever smoked cigarettes, even one or two puffs. <sup>6</sup>Smoked cigarettes anytime during the past 30 days. <sup>7</sup>Smoked cigarettes on 20 or more days of the past 30 days. <sup>8</sup>Ever smoked tobacco other than cigarettes, even one or two puffs. <sup>9</sup>Smoked tobacco other than cigarettes anytime during the past 30 days. <sup>10</sup>Ever used heated tobacco products. <sup>11</sup>Used heated tobacco products anytime during the past 30 days. <sup>12</sup>Ever used smokeless tobacco. <sup>13</sup>Used smokeless tobacco anytime during the past 30 days. <sup>14</sup>Susceptible to future tobacco use includes those who answered "definitely yes", "probably yes", or "probably not" to using tobacco if one of their best friends offered it to them, or "definitely yes", "probably yes", or "probably not" to using tobacco during the next 12 months. <sup>15</sup>Those who answered "Agree" or "Strongly Agree" to the statement: "I think I might enjoy smoking a cigarette". <sup>16</sup>Ever used electronic cigarettes in their entire life. <sup>17</sup>Used electronic cigarettes anytime during the past 30 days. Current use of electronic cigarettes is assessed separately from cigarettes, other smoked tobacco products, smokeless tobacco products, and heated tobacco products and is not included in the current definition of current any tobacco use. <sup>18</sup>During the past 7 days. <sup>19</sup>During the past 30 days. <sup>20</sup>Outlet from which current cigarette smokers bought cigarettes the last time they smoked cigarettes in the past 30 days. <sup>21</sup>Among those who tried to buy cigarettes during the past 30 days. <sup>22</sup>Among those who tried to buy e-cigarettes during the past 30 days. <sup>23</sup>Among those who visited a point of sale in the past 30 days. <sup>24</sup>Among those who watched television, videos, or movies in the past 30 days. <sup>25</sup>Among those who attended sporting or community events in the past 30 days. <sup>26</sup>Among those who noticed warning labels on cigarette packages in the past 30 days.

**\* NOTE:** Data are representative of students aged 13-15 years who are enrolled in school. Due to a response rate of <60%, the data are unweighted, and the estimates may not be nationally representative of the population of interest. Percentages reflect the prevalence of each indicator in each group, not the distribution across groups.

\*Gender comparisons are statistically significant at  $p < 0.05$ .