

Qatar (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Qatar GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7-9, conducted in 2007.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Qatar. 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 96.0%, the class response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 90.9%, and the overall response rate was 87.3%. A total of 943 students aged 13-15 participated in the Qatar GYTS.

Prevalence

20.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 29.9%, Girl = 15.5%)
 17.9% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 25.2%, Girl = 13.1%)
 6.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 13.4%, Girl = 2.3%)
 15.6% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 19.4%, Girl = 12.6%)
 13.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

30.1% think boys and 20.8% think girls who smoke have more friends
 20.3% think boys and 15.2% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

7.1% usually smoke at home
 29.2% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

35.7% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 45.9% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 81.3% think smoking should be banned from public places
 65.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 26.8% have one or more parents who smoke
 9.0% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

59.6% want to stop smoking
 55.4% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 86.1% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

68.4% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 70.2% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 68.9% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 16.8% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 8.0% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

49.7% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 34.8% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 47.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 17.9% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 6.5% currently smoke cigarettes; 15.6% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – Over one-third of the students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; Almost half are exposed to smoke in public places; More than one-quarter of the students have one or more parents who smoke.
- Close to two-thirds of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- More than 4 in 5 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Three in 5 smokers want to stop smoking now.
- One in 6 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Over two-thirds of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; Close to 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.