

Kuwait (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Kuwait GYTS was a school-based survey of students in eight, ninth, and tenth grade conducted in 2005.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Kuwait. 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%, the class response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 88.7%, and the overall response rate was 88.7%. A total of 2,636 students aged 13-15 participated in the Kuwait GYTS.

Prevalence

25.9% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 36.7%, Girl = 16.3%)
 20.9% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 28.0%, Girl = 14.3%)
 10.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 17.7%, Girl = 4.5%)
 14.5% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 17.4%, Girl = 11.7%)
 17.3% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

27.0% think boys and 19.3% think girls who smoke have more friends
 20.2% think boys and 14.3% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

17.6% usually smoke at home
 15.9% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

44.4% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 56.2% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 83.9% think smoking should be banned from public places
 69.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 41.0% have one or more parents who smoke
 9.5% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

65.7% want to stop smoking
 65.0% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 81.9% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

68.9% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 82.8% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 83.0% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 16.0% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 9.9% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

56.5% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 53.0% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 55.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 20.9% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 10.8% of the students currently smoke cigarettes; 14.5% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – nearly half of the students live in homes where others smoke, and close to 3 in 5 students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; more than 4 in 10 has one or more parents who smoke, and 9.5% of the students have friends who smoke.
- Seven in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Close to two-thirds of the current smokers want to stop smoking.
- One in 6 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- More than two-thirds of students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; Over 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.