

# Lesotho – Maseru (Ages 13-15)

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Lesotho - Maseru 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 Lesotho - Maseru could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Lesotho - Maseru GYTS was a school-based survey of students in form A, B and C conducted in 2002. A two-stage

cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Lesotho - Maseru. 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 98.3%, the student response rate was 88.8%, and the overall response rate was 87.3%. A total of 1,123 students aged 13-15 participated in the Lesotho - Maseru GYTS.

#### Prevalence

26.2% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 32.3%, Girl = 22.0%)  
 18.0% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 22.1%, Girl = 15.0%)  
 10.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 15.8%, Girl = 7.1%)  
 10.8% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 11.5%, Girl = 10.0%)  
 32.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

#### Knowledge and Attitudes

47.7% think boys and 17.7% think girls who smoke have more friends  
 17.2% think boys and 11.7% think girls who smoke look more attractive

#### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

30.3% usually smoke at home  
 24.1% buy cigarettes in a store

#### Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

35.2% live in homes where others smoke in their presence  
 60.4% are around others who smoke in places outside their home  
 36.0% think smoking should be banned from public places  
 53.7% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
 29.3% have one or more parents who smoke  
 10.8% have most or all friends who smoke

#### Cessation - Current Smokers

72.9% want to stop smoking  
 69.4% tried to stop smoking during the past year  
 71.5% have ever received help to stop smoking

#### Media and Advertising

79.3% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days  
 68.5% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days  
 65.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days  
 13.9% have an object with a cigarette brand logo  
 13.5% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

#### School

43.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking  
 29.1% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke  
 41.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

#### Highlights

- 18% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 10.7% currently smoke cigarettes; 10.8% 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; 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; Nearly 3 in 10 have one or more parents who smoke.
- Over half the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- More than one-third of the students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Over 7 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- Almost 1 in 7 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Nearly 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; Two-thirds of the students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.