

Lithuania (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Lithuania GYTS was a school-based survey of students in forms 7 through 9 conducted in 2001. A two-stage cluster

sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Lithuania. 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 82.4%, and the overall response rate was 82.4%. A total of 1,752 students aged 13-15 participated in the Lithuania GYTS.

Prevalence

75.3% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 82.8%, Girl = 68.1%)
 33.8% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 38.0%, Girl = 30.0%)
 33.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 37.6%, Girl = 29.6%)
 7.0% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 9.3%, Girl = 4.9%)
 19.5% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

36.2% think boys and 22.9% think girls who smoke have more friends
 9.3% think boys and 5.6% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

6.4% usually smoke at home
 54.3% buy cigarettes in a store
 65.8% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

47.0% live in homes where others smoke
 66.5% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 64.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
 66.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 62.7% have one or more parents who smoke
 33.7% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

67.1% want to stop smoking
 72.4% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 63.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

83.0% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 72.6% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 66.6% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 25.8% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 3.7% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

37.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 30.6% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 33.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- One-third of the students currently use any form of tobacco; 33.5% currently smoke cigarettes; 7% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is very high – nearly half the students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; two-thirds are exposed to smoke in public places; over 3 in 5 have one or more parents who smoke.
- Two-thirds of students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- More than 6 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Almost 7 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- One-quarter of the students has an object with a cigarette brand logo.
- Over 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.