

Mexico - Tapachula (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Mexico - Tapachula 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 Mexico - Tapachula could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Mexico - Tapachula GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 1, 2 and 3 conducted in 2003.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Mexico - Tapachula. 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 98.6%, the student response rate was 91.7%, and the overall response rate was 86.8%. A total of 1,352 students aged 13-15 participated in the Mexico - Tapachula GYTS.

Prevalence

33.9% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 38.9%, Girl = 28.7%)
 18.1% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 20.4%, Girl = 15.5%)
 14.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 17.1%, Girl = 12.2%)
 5.9% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 6.0%, Girl = 5.5%)
 20.2% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

25.3% think boys and 36.3% think girls who smoke have more friends
 13.5% think boys and 31.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

11.0% usually smoke at home
 42.4% buy cigarettes in a store
 69.8% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

29.2% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 38.1% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 91.5% think smoking should be banned from public places
 76.7% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 23.7% have one or more parents who smoke
 43.9% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

66.0% want to stop smoking
 70.4% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 76.4% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

87.8% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 84.7% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 75.1% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 11.5% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 10.2% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

73.6% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 44.1% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 64.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 18.1% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 14.7% currently smoke cigarettes; 5.9% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – 1 on 3 students live in homes where others smoke, and nearly 2 in 5 students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; almost one-quarter of the students have at least one parent who smokes.
- Over three-quarters of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Nine in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Two-thirds of the current smokers want to stop smoking.
- One in 9 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Close to 9 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; more than 4 in 5 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and three-quarters saw pro-tobacco ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.