

Philippines (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Philippines 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 the Philippines could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Philippines GYTS was a school-based survey of students in year 2, 3 and 4 conducted in 2007.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for the Philippines. 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 97.3%, the class response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 83.1%, and the overall response rate was 80.9%. A total of 5,919 students aged 13-15 participated in the Philippines GYTS.

Prevalence

39.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 51.2%, Girl = 29.9%)
 22.7% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 28.3%, Girl = 17.5%)
 17.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 23.4%, Girl = 12.0%)
 7.7% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 8.2%, Girl = 7.2%)
 12.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

31.4% think boys who smoke have more friends
 17.8% think boys and 14.4% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

15.3% usually smoke at home
 49.3% buy cigarettes in a store
 59.6% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

54.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 64.8% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 90.9% think smoking should be banned from public places
 70.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 54.1% have one or more parents who smoke
 11.9% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

88.1% want to stop smoking
 86.0% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 86.1% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

87.7% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 87.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 84.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 11.1% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 5.5% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

71.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 61.0% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 69.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- More than 1 in 5 students currently use any form of tobacco; 17.5% of students currently smoke cigarettes; 7.7% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is very high – over half the students live in homes where others smoke, and close to two-thirds of the students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; more than half of the students have one or more parents who smoke and 11.9% of students have friends who smoke.
- Seven in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Nine in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Approximately 9 in 10 current smokers want to stop smoking.
- One in 9 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Almost 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 in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days