

Qatar (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Qatar GYTS was a school-based survey of students in form G8, G9 and G10 conducted in 2004.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Qatar. 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 92.0%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 91.9%, and the overall response rate was 84.5%. A total of 2,229 students aged 13-15 participated in the Qatar GYTS.

Prevalence

22.4% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 30.4%, Girl = 16.2%)
 16.6% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 21.1%, Girl = 12.7%)
 6.4% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 10.7%, Girl = 2.8%)
 13.7% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 15.9%, Girl = 12.0%)
 16.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

28.0% think boys and 19.5% think girls who smoke have more friends
 18.9% think boys and 13.5% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

21.3% usually smoke at home
 40.3% buy cigarettes in a store
 79.7% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

30.2% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 46.8% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 84.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
 62.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 26.6% have one or more parents who smoke
 7.7% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

56.3% want to stop smoking
 59.2% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 72.9% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

64.4% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 71.0% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 72.3% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 10.2% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 8.9% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

18.7% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 15.2% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 17.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 16.6% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 6.4% currently smoke cigarettes; 13.7% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – 3 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke, and close to half the students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; more than one-quarter of the students have at least one parent who smokes.
- More than 3 in 5 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Close to 6 in 10 current smokers want to stop smoking.
- One in 10 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Nearly two-thirds of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.