

Saint Vincent and The Grenadines (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)



FACT SHEET

The Saint Vincent and The Grenadines 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 Saint Vincent and The Grenadines could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Saint Vincent and The Grenadines GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7 and 8, and forms 1, 2 and 3 conducted in 2000.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Saint Vincent and The Grenadines. 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 100.0%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 78.4%, and the overall response rate was 78.4%. A total of 1,180 students aged 13-15 participated in the Saint Vincent and The Grenadines GYTS.

Prevalence

32.6% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 38.5%, Girl = 26.4%)
21.9% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 25.3%, Girl = 18.5%)
13.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 17.2%, Girl = 10.7%)
12.7% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 14.0%, Girl = 11.2%)
12.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

29.0% think boys and 18.4% think girls who smoke have more friends
6.5% think boys and 6.5% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

44.8% usually smoke at home
15.9% buy cigarettes in a store
55.3% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

32.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
64.1% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
70.5% think smoking should be banned from public places
68.1% think smoke from others is harmful to them
30.8% have one or more parents who smoke
6.6% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

77.7% want to stop smoking
82.9% tried to stop smoking during the past year
70.4% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

78.1% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
64.6% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
59.2% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
15.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
7.8% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

58.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
43.7% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
55.3% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 21.9% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 13.8% currently smoke cigarettes; 12.7% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – close to one-third of the students live in homes where others smoke, and over 3 in 5 students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; 3 in 10 students have at least one parent who smokes.
- Over two-thirds of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Seven in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- More than three-quarters of the current smokers want to stop smoking.
- One in 6 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Over three-quarters of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; close to two-thirds of the students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and 3 in 5 saw pro-tobacco ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.