

Seychelles (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Seychelles GYTS was a school-based survey of students in S1-S4 conducted in 2002. A two-stage cluster

sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Seychelles. 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 90.9%, and the overall response rate was 90.9%. A total of 942 students aged 13-15 participated in the Seychelles GYTS.

Prevalence

50.6% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 55.7%, Girl = 45.9%)
 28.9% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 33.4%, Girl = 24.9%)
 26.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 29.9%, Girl = 23.9%)
 9.3% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 13.0%, Girl = 5.5%)
 16.5% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

38.4% think boys and 19.0% think girls who smoke have more friends
 15.1% think boys and 9.8% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

22.4% usually smoke at home
 23.4% buy cigarettes in a store
 77.1% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

43.3% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 60.9% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 64.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
 60.1% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 31.4% have one or more parents who smoke
 12.1% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

76.1% want to stop smoking
 77.1% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 65.7% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

90.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 76.6% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 62.3% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 18.2% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 7.6% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

60.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 41.6% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 53.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Close to 3 in 10 students currently use any form of tobacco; More than one-quarter currently smoke cigarettes; 9.3% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – over 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; 3 in 10 have one or more parents who smoke.
- Six in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Almost two-thirds think smoking should be banned from enclosed public places.
- Over three-quarters of the students who are currently smoking indicated that they want to stop smoking now; Close to 8 in 10 students currently smoking tried to stop during the past year.
- More than 1 in 6 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Nine in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; over two-thirds of on billboards the students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.