

Slovakia (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Slovakia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in forms 7 through 9 conducted in 2003.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Slovakia. 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 98.3%, the class response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 87.4%, and the overall response rate was 85.9%. A total of 3,639 students aged 13-15 participated in the Slovakia GYTS.

Prevalence

66.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 72.0%, Girl = 60.8%)
 27.3% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 29.1%, Girl = 25.0%)
 26.4% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 28.1%, Girl = 24.3%)
 4.5% currently daily cigarette smokers (Boy = 5.3%, Girl = 3.5%)
 11.9% currently smoke cigars (Boy = 13.0%, Girl = 10.5%)
 28.8% ever smokers initiated smoking before age ten (Boy = 35.1%, Girl = 21.1%)
 24.7% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year (Boy = 21.5%, Girl = 26.4%)

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

6.9% usually smoke at home
 54.4% buy cigarettes in a store
 80.3% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

79.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 85.7% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 75.6% think smoking should be banned from public places
 68.2% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 55.1% have one or more parents who smoke
 24.1% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

62.9% want to stop smoking
 81.0% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 72.5% have ever received help to stop smoking
 11.8% always have or feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning

Media and Advertising

64.3% saw anti-smoking media messages vs. 78.0% saw pro media messages on TV
 44.0% saw anti messages on billboards
 51.0% saw anti smoking ads vs. 75.0% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines
 26.2% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 7.5% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

70.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 57.2% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 61.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Over 1 in 4 students currently use any form of tobacco; 26.4% currently smoke cigarettes; 4.5% current daily smokers; 11.9% currently smoke cigars; Nearly one-quarter of never smokers likely to initiate smoking next year.
- SHS exposure is very high – almost 4 in 5 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; over 8 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; More than half have one or more parents who smoke.
- Close to 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Three-quarters of the students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Over 6 in 10 smokers want to quit.
- More than 1 in 4 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo.
- Close to two-thirds of the students saw anti-smoking messages on TV vs. more than three-quarters saw pro messages; Half saw anti ads in newspapers vs. three-quarters saw pro ads.
- Seven in 10 had been taught in school about dangers of smoking.