

Tunisia (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Tunisia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in 7th and 8th grade elementary and 9th grade basic conducted

in 2001. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Tunisia. 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 94.1%, and the overall response rate was 94.1%. A total of 4,282 students aged 13-15 participated in the Tunisia GYTS.

Prevalence

23.0% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 35.4%, Girl = 11.4%)
 15.2% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 24.9%, Girl = 6.0%)
 11.1% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 19.0%, Girl = 3.6%)
 7.2% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 11.3%, Girl = 3.1%)
 20.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

28.2% think boys and 19.5% think girls who smoke have more friends
 19.7% think boys and 15.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

14.0% usually smoke at home
 48.8% buy cigarettes in a store
 87.9% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

62.4% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 65.3% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 87.0% think smoking should be banned from public places
 77.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 51.2% have one or more parents who smoke
 10.3% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

80.1% want to stop smoking
 66.8% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 95.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

69.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 61.8% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 55.6% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 9.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 5.5% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

31.7% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 25.4% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 24.6% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 15.2% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 11.1% currently smoke cigarettes; 7.2% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is very high – more than 6 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; almost two-thirds are exposed to smoke in public places; over half have parents who smoke.
- Over three-quarters of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Nearly 9 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Eight in 10 smokers want to quit.
- One in 11 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Almost 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; over 6 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and more than half of students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.