

Latvia 2011 (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Latvia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7 through 9 conducted in 2011.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Latvia. 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. A total of 3,835 students participated in the Latvia GYTS of which 3,130 were ages 13 to 15 years. The overall response rate of all students surveyed was 82.2%.

Prevalence

- 76.2% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 76.5%, Girls = 75.7%)
- 40.5% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 39.4%, Girls = 41.4%)
- 31.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 29.2%, Girls = 33.8%)
- 12.4% currently daily manufactured cigarette smokers (Boys = 13.5%, Girls = 11.2%)
- 9.9% currently smoke cigars/mini cigars/cigarillos (Boys = 11.6%, Girls = 7.8%)
- 21.5% currently smoke shisha (Boys = 20.9%, Girls = 21.9%)
- 9.1% currently smoke electronic cigarettes (Boys = 10.3%, Girls = 7.7%)
- 27.4% ever smokers initiated smoking before age ten (Boys = 32.2%, Girls = 22.4%)
- 24.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year (Boys = 19.6%, Girls = 28.7%)

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 9.2% usually smoke at home
- 30.7% buy cigarettes in a store
- 70.4% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 44.6% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 47.0% are around others who smoke in enclosed public places
- 66.9% are around others who smoke in outdoor public places
- 61.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 51.4% have one or more parents who smoke
- 27.1% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

- 65.5% want to stop smoking
- 64.5% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 60.0% have ever received help to stop smoking
- 9.4% always have or feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning

Media and Advertising

- 19.1% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 7.1% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

- 60.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 50.7% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 55.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 40.5% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 31.5% of students currently smoke cigarettes; 21.5% currently smoke shisha
- 24.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year
- SHS exposure – 44.6% of students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; 47.0% are around others who smoke in enclosed public places; over half have one or more parents who smoke
- Over three in five students think smoke from others is harmful to them
- Almost two-thirds of the current smokers want to quit
- One in five students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it
- 7.1% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative