

# Georgia (Ages 13-15) Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) FACT SHEET . . . . .



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

The Georgia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7 through 9 conducted in 2003. A two-stage cluster

sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Georgia. 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%, the student response rate was 85.3%, and the overall response rate was 85.3%. A total of 3,410 students aged 13-15 participated in the Georgia GYTS.

## Prevalence

- 45.8% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 58.5%, Girl = 34.2%)
- 24.6% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 36.4%, Girl = 13.6%)
- 23.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 35.5%, Girl = 12.9%)
  - 3.6% currently daily cigarette smokers (Boy = 6.6%, Girl = 0.8%)
  - 5.7% currently smoke cigars (Boy = 8.1%, Girl = 3.5%)
- 50.0% ever smokers initiated smoking before age ten (Boy = 51.7%, Girl = 47.4%)
- 22.5% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year (Boy = 17.5%, Girl = 25.4%)

## Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 22.0% usually smoke at home
- 53.5% buy cigarettes in a store
- 98.1% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

## Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 95.0% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 93.8% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 76.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 24.7% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 73.0% have one or more parents who smoke
  - 9.5% have most or all friends who smoke

## Cessation - Current Smokers

- 42.8% want to stop smoking
- 49.3% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 56.3% have ever received help to stop smoking
  - 2.0% always have or feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning

## Media and Advertising

- 61.3% saw anti-smoking media messages vs. 77.7% saw pro media messages on TV
- 51.2% saw anti messages vs. 80.0% saw pro messages on billboards
- 35.7% saw anti smoking ads vs. 74.3% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines
- 27.8% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 10.8% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

## School

- 10.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 11.0% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 10.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

## Highlights

- Almost one-quarter of the students currently use any form of tobacco; 23.7% currently smoke cigarettes; 3.6% current daily smokers; 5.7% currently smoke cigars; 22.5% never smokers likely to initiate smoking next year.
- SHS exposure is very high – nearly all students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; Over 9 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; Close to three-quarters have one or more parents who smoke.
- Almost one-quarter of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over three-quarters of the students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- More than 2 in 5 current smokers want to quit.
- Over one-quarter of the students has an object with a cigarette brand logo.
- More than 3 in 5 students saw anti-smoking messages on TV vs. over three-quarters saw pro messages; Half saw anti messages on billboards vs. 8 in 10 saw pro messages; Over one-third saw anti ads in newspapers vs. three-quarters saw pro ads.