

# Namibia (Ages 13-15)

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



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

The Namibia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grade 7, 8 and 9 conducted in 2004. A two-stage cluster

sample design was used to produce representative data for each of the four regions in Namibia. 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 94%, the class response rate was 98.1%, the student response rate was 85.1%, and the overall response rate was 78.5%. A total of 3,646 students aged 13-15 participated in the Namibia GYTS.

#### Prevalence

38.3% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 42.3%, Girl = 34.9%)  
 25.8% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 28.6%, Girl = 22.9%)  
 18.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 21.9%, Girl = 16.1%)  
 15.0% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 15.1%, Girl = 14.0%)  
 36.4% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

#### Knowledge and Attitudes

41.1% think boys and 27.2% think girls who smoke have more friends  
 29.0% think boys and 20.8% think girls who smoke look more attractive

#### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

30.1% usually smoke at home  
 31.0% buy cigarettes in a store  
 70.8% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

#### Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

40.3% live in homes where others smoke in their presence  
 58.5% are around others who smoke in places outside their home  
 34.1% think smoking should be banned from public places  
 32.7% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
 28.1% have one or more parents who smoke  
 12.6% have most or all friends who smoke

#### Cessation - Current Smokers

73.4% want to stop smoking  
 73.8% tried to stop smoking during the past year  
 79.3% have ever received help to stop smoking

#### Media and Advertising

69.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days  
 60.1% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days  
 65.4% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days  
 16.0% have an object with a cigarette brand logo  
 19.8% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

#### School

31.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking  
 30.5% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke  
 39.6% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

#### Highlights

- Over one-quarter of the students currently use any form of tobacco; 18.8% of the students currently smoke cigarettes; 15% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – four in 10 students live in homes where others smoke, and nearly 3 in 5 students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; more than one-quarter of the students have one or more parents who smoke, and 12.6% of the students have friends who smoke.
- More than 3 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over one-third of the students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Almost three-quarters of the current smokers want to stop smoking.
- One in 6 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Seven in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; Over 3 in 5 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.