

Namibia 2008 (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 learners in grades 6 through 9 conducted in 2008.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Namibia. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all learners in selected classes were eligible to participate. A total of 2,411 learners participated in the Namibia GYTS of which 1,397 were ages 13 to 15 years. The overall response rate of all learners surveyed was 89.1%.

Prevalence

28.5% of learners had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 32.8%, Girls = 24.6%)
 31.1% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 31.9%, Girls = 29.9%)
 11.9% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 12.3%, Girls = 11.3%)
 26.4% currently use other tobacco products (Boys = 26.7%, Girls = 25.8%)
 24.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year (Boys = 22.9%, Girls = 26.7%)

Knowledge and Attitudes

38.0% think boys and 25.8% think girls who smoke have more friends
 27.1% think boys and 19.4% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

29.6% usually smoke at home
 28.6% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

38.1% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 49.9% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 34.2% think smoking should be banned from public places
 35.1% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 26.7% have one or more parents who smoke
 9.1% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

82.9% want to stop smoking
 74.8% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 86.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

69.0% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 56.1% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 65.9% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 18.0% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 15.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

39.5% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 37.6% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 46.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 31.1% currently use any form of tobacco; 11.9% currently smoke cigarettes; 26.4% currently use some other form of tobacco
- SHS exposure – Almost two in five learners live in homes where others smoke, half the learners are around others who smoke in places outside of their home; over one-quarter of the learners have one or more parent who smoke
- 35.1% of the learners think smoke from others is harmful to them
- Over one-third of the learners think smoking should be banned from public places
- 82.9% of the current smokers want to stop smoking
- 18% of learners have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it
- Seven in 10 learners saw anti-smoking messages; 56.1% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, and two-thirds of the learners saw pro-cigarettes ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days

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