

global school personnel survey

Country fact sheets

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, developed the Global School Personnel Survey to track tobacco use among school personnel across countries using a common methodology and core questionnaire. Information from the Survey is compiled within the participating country by a Research Coordinator nominated by the Ministry of Health, and technically reviewed by WHO and CDC. The content has not otherwise been edited by WHO or CDC.

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**World Health
Organization**

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean



Syria 2010 (Teachers & Administrators) Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS) FACT SHEET

The Syria GSPS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on attitudes on school policy toward tobacco use, access to teaching materials and training, and attitudes toward tobacco use. These factors are components Syria could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Syria GSPS was a school-based survey of school personnel from the schools that participated in the 2010 Syria GYTS.

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in grades 7-10. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Syria. 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. For the GSPS, a total of 1,326 school personnel (teachers and administrators) completed the survey.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use

- 38.8% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 56.2%, Teachers = 32.2%)
- 35.6% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 50.2%, Teachers = 30.1%)
- 26.9% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 40.9%, Teachers = 21.7%)
- 19.3% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 24.4%, Teachers = 17.4%)
- 11.5% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 18.8%, Teachers = 8.8%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

- 95.4% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
- 83.2% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
- 91.1% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
- 55.7% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
- 94.6% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

- 74.1% schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum
- 75.2% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
- 47.2% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
- 14.6% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
- 27.6% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

- 94.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 95.3% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 88.3% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
- 71.9% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
- 86.9% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- 35.6% of teachers and administrators currently use any tobacco product; 26.9% currently smoke cigarettes and 19.3% currently use other tobacco products.
- Over four in five schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; 55.7% have a policy for personnel; 94.6% report that schools enforce their policies.
- Nearly three-quarters of schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum.
- Almost one-half of teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 14.6% of teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- Almost three in 10 schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- 94.1% think smoking should be banned from public places.