

# global youth tobacco survey

## Country reports

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, developed the Global Youth Tobacco Survey to track tobacco use among youth 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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Department of school Health  
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communicable diseases

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**GLOBAL YOUTH TOBACCO SURVEY  
(GYTS)**

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Ministry of Education



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## **Preface**

To be written in the final draft

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## **Executive Summary**

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## **Introduction**

Tobacco use is considered to be the second major cause of death in the world. It is implicated as an important factor contributing to morbidity and mortality all over the world. Currently, the World Health Organization (WHO) attributes one in ten adults worldwide (5 million deaths each year). If current smoking patterns continue, it will about cause 10 million deaths by the year 2020. It is estimated that 70% of these deaths will occur in developing countries. In many countries, studies have revealed that most people start using tobacco in their teens with the median age of smoking being less than 15 years. Recent trends even indicate an earlier age of initiation among children and adolescents and thus contributing to an increasing smoking prevalence for this vulnerable group. If these patterns continue, tobacco will result in the death of 250 million children and adolescent alive today, many of whom live in the developing countries.

The WHO, United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), and the Office on Smoking and Health (OSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) established international programs and initiatives in order to combat tobacco use. Despite these efforts, tobacco companies still control markets and youths are their main target. Therefore, primary intervention strategies should be directed toward children and young people.

### ***Tobacco use in Oman***

Most Omani have always considered tobacco use as an evil. Leading religious leaders have issued rulings (fatwa) forbidding smoking and considered it “haram” and waste of financial resources. Nonetheless, with more openness of the country on world markets, smoking became widely spread in Oman especially among school children and youth.

Tobacco control program is one of the Ministry of Health’s (MOH) priorities in Oman. A National multi-sectoral committee was established in 1994 and re-formulated in 1997, by a Ministerial Decree, under the chairmanship of the Undersecretary of Health Affairs and its executive office being the Department of Non-communicable Diseases.

The National Committee has been instrumental laying the foundation for tobacco control in Oman with the following being some of its main achievements:



- Obtaining a total smoking ban in all Governmental offices and buildings through the Ministers Cabinet, including all health and educational institutions
- Banning smoking in public transportation
- Banning tobacco advertisement in TV and Radio media
- Banning sponsorship of all sports and art and cultural events
- Prohibition of sales to minors below (18 years) and single sticks
- Periodic increase of taxes on imported tobacco
- Not providing soft loans and technical support to any tobacco farmer (though tobacco cultivation is extremely limited in Oman)
- Directing the research activities in the country
- Regularly monitoring the activities of the tobacco companies locally and internationally
- Active participation the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)

Many epidemiological studies have been conducted on smoking prevalence in Oman. The Oman Family Health Survey (OFHS) has revealed that over 15% of male adults and 1.5% of females aged 15 years and more were regular smoker of tobacco. This is expected to be an underestimate of the actual prevalence as the methodology of the OFHS involved proxy reporting by parents of many survey participants.

A school based survey, conducted in 1994 among youth aged 12-18 years, showed that at least 5% of boys and 1% of girls were current smokers (see table 1).

**Table 1: prevalence of current and ex-smokers among the three school stages in Oman, 1994.**

	<i>Primary (12+ yrs)</i>	<i>Preparatory (15+yrs)</i>	<i>Secondary (18+ yrs)</i>
Current smoker	2.4	4.8	3.6
Ever smokers	7.3	12.0	12.8

A more recent Adolescent Health Survey conducted in 2001 among students aged 15-19 years, showed an increase of smoking prevalence among both genders to 8% among boys and 7.3% among girls.

In addition to cigarette smoking, there is an alarming growth in the number of young males and female who are using other types of tobacco especially water-pipes and chewing tobacco though magnitude of this problem has not been fully established yet.

## **Objectives of Global Youth Tobacco Survey**

The Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) is a school based tobacco survey which focuses on adolescents' age 13–15 years. It is designed to gather information about smoking prevalence, knowledge, attitudes and behaviors related to tobacco use, media and advertising in addition to prevention activities in schools' curriculum. It also provides information on where tobacco products are obtained and used by this group of youth.

The GYTS also addresses the following issues, which could be used to monitor the FCTC implementation:

1. Determine the level of tobacco use.
2. Estimate the age of initiation of cigarettes use.
3. Estimate the levels of susceptibility to become a cigarette smoker.
4. Estimate the exposure to tobacco advertising.
5. Identify key intervening variables such as attitudes and beliefs norms with regard to tobacco use among people, which can be used in prevention programs.
6. Assess the extent to which major prevention programs are reaching school-based populations and establish the subjective opinions of these populations regarding such intervention.

## **Methods**

The 2007-Oman GYTS was a school based cross-sectional survey, which employed a two-stage cluster sampling design to produce a nationally representative sample of students in grades 7-10 in governmental schools. The final sample selected is a “self-weighting” sample meaning that each student has an equal probability or chance to be selected to perform the survey.

### ***Study design and sampling***

#### ***Stage 1: Selection of schools***

The first stage is done on schools Level - All schools containing 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th grades were included in the sampling frame. Schools were selected systematically with probability proportional to

enrolment in 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th grades using a random start. 50 schools were sampled.

A list of governmental schools eligible to participate in the survey was collected in coordination with Ministry of Education (MOE). Private schools were excluded because of the small number of students' population in these schools and the need of further precautions and permission to conduct the survey.

The list of eligible schools was forwarded to CDC to draw the sample. The sample was selected with a probability proportional to enrollment size. This meant that large schools (with more students) were more likely to be selected than small ones. A total of 50 schools were selected with no replacement or substitution allowed for schools that did not agree to participate.

**Stage 2: Selection of classes and students**

The second stage of sampling consisted of randomly selecting intact classrooms (using a random start) from each school to participate. All classrooms in each selected school were included in the sampling frame. All students in the sampled classrooms were eligible to participate in the GYTS.

A weighting factor was applied to each student's record to reflect the varying probabilities of selection and adjust for non-response patterns. SUDAAN and EPINFO Programs were used to compute the estimates and 95% confidence intervals around the estimates. The weight used for estimation is given by:

$$W = W1 * W2 * F1 * F2 * F3 * F4$$

Where:

W1 = the inverse of the probability of selecting the schools.

W2 = the inverse of the probability of selecting the classes within the school.

F1= a school level non-response adjustment factor calculated by school size category.

F2= a classroom level non-response factor calculated for each school.

F3= a student level non-response adjustment factor calculated by class.

F4 = a post stratified adjustment factor calculated by gender and grade.

### ***Study questionnaire***

The Omani version of the GYTS questionnaire consisted of 79 questions. It was a self-administrated type that consisted of core component and an optional component. The core component allowed for comparison between other countries that have performed GYTS. The optional questionnaire allow for specific issues according to the situation in Oman. The questionnaire was translated in Arabic and reviewed by the Technical Office in the MOE.

### ***Data collection***

Survey procedures were designed to protect students' privacy by allowing for anonymous and voluntary procedures.

A one-day training workshop was conducted in the capitol Muscat in April 2007. It aimed to standardize the research methodology. A guidebook was prepared in Arabic and distributed to all research administrators.

A survey team was established in each of the nine regions. It consisted of the school health in-charge as head of the team and 2-3 school health nurses. Each team member was assigned to specific schools and was responsible for delivery and collection of all survey documentations. All necessary materials and copies of papers, envelopes, pens and pencils were offered, free of charge, to the survey administration according to their duties and needs.

Permission to enter the schools and run the survey procedures was granted through an official letter to all educational regions and schools in co-ordination with MOE.

Parents' written consent was obtained. Data collection completed in two weeks time. The research coordinator reviewed the packages of answer sheets, header sheets (containing class code and school code), classroom level forms and school level forms. This was done to establish quality data management throughout the data gathering process. All these packages were collected and sent to CDC for data entry.

## Analysis

Analysis was done using EPINFO 2002, a soft ware package that accounted for the complex sampling design and weighing factors in the data set, to calculate standard errors and prevalence estimates. Statistical differences included in this report were determined by comparing the range of 95% confidence interval (95% CI) for the estimates. If the ranges for the 95% CI did not overlap the difference were statistically significant.

## Results

A total of 2372 students were invited to participate and 2297 of them completed the survey. The school response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 96.84% and the overall response rate was 96.84%. Table below illustrates the study subjects by school grade and gender. (202 students have no response to one or both of Grade and gender questions)

**Table 2: Number of respondents in the Oman GYTS, 2007.**

Grade	Boys	(%)	Girls	(%)	Total	(%)
Seventh	411	19%	313	14%	724	33%
Eighth	215	10%	99	5%	314	14%
Ninth	266	12%	172	8%	438	20%
Tenth	324	15%	370	17%	694	32%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1216</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>954</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>2170</b>	

### 1. Tobacco use

**Table 3: Percent of students ages 13-15yrs who use tobacco, Oman GYTS, 2007.**

Category	Ever Smoked Cigarettes , Even One or Two Puffs	Current Users			Ever smokers who initiated smoking before age 10	Never Smokers Susceptible to Initiating Smoking within a year
		Any tobacco product@	Cigarettes	Other Tobacco Products		
<b>Total</b>	10.0 (6.7 - 14.6)	12.3 (10.2-14.4)	2.3 (1.1 – 4.8)	14.4 (11.4 - 18.0)	32.5 (19.3 - 49.3)	12.5 (9.3 - 16.5)
Male	14.5 (9.5 - 21.5)	15.4 (11.9-19.0)	3.5 (1.8 – 6.6)	16.9 (12.8 - 22.0)	28.8 (18.3 - 42.2)	14.2 (10.6 - 18.7)
Female	5.7 (3.3 - 9.4)	9.3 (7.1-11.4)	1.2 (0.3 – 4.1)	10.6 (8.1 - 13.7)	41.5 (14.5 - 74.8)*	10.7 (6.6 - 16.7)

Table 4 shows one in every ten students aged 13-15 years (10.0%) of all students have ever smoked cigarettes. Male students (14.5%) were significantly more likely than female students (10.7%) who have had Ever Smoked Cigarettes, even one or Two Puffs. Overall about one third of students aged 13-15 years have ever initiated smoking before age of 10. Overall, (2.3%) of students aged 13-15 years, who smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days (current smokers). Overall, (14.4%) of student aged 13-25 years used some form of tobacco products other than cigarettes in the past 30 days, with male students (16.9) % significantly more than female students (10.6%) to currently use other tobacco products. Almost one in five students aged 13-15 years currently use some type of tobacco products. Current use of any tobacco products is significantly higher among male students (23.8%) than female students (14.2%).

Also, table 4 shows Over 12% of all students indicate that they were likely to initiate smoking during next year. Approximately 12.3% of students aged 13-115 years currently use any tobacco products. Current use of any tobacco product, cigarette smoke and use of other tobacco product were significantly higher for male student (15.4%) than female students (9.3%).

**Table 4: Percent of students aged 13-15 years who use Shishah, Oman GYTS, 2007.**

<i>Category</i>	<i>Ever Smoked Shishah</i>	<i>current use Shishah</i>	<i>Ever smokers who initiated smoking Shishah before age 10</i>
<b>Total</b>	7.9 (5.3-10.6)	2.9 (1.1-4.7)	31.1 (15.7-46.4)
Male	10.8 (6.9-14.7)	4.3 (1.6-7.1)	27.3 (14.4- 40.0)*
Female	5.2 (2.6-7.8)	1.4 (0.1-2.7)	41 .0 (17.2 – 64.8)*

\* < 35 cases in the denominator

Overall, (7.9%) of students aged 13-15 years have ever used Shishah. About 3% of student aged 13-15 years currently use Shishah. Overall 31% of students aged 13-15 years who have ever used shishah, initiated smoking shishah before age of 10 years old.

**Table 5: Percent of students aged 13-15 years who use chewing tobacco, Oman GYTS, 2007.**

<i>Category</i>	<i>Ever used chewing tobacco</i>	<i>Currently using chewing tobacco</i>
Total	9.6	3.6

	(6.6-12.5)	(1.5-5.8)
Male	13.2	5.1
	(10.0-16.4)	(2.0-8.1)
Female	6.0	2.2
	(3.3-8.8)	(0.5-4.0)

(9.6%) of all students aged 13-15 years old have ever used chewing tobacco with twice as high for male students than female students. Over all (3.6%) of students currently use chewing tobacco.

## 2. Schools and tobacco

**Table 6: Percent of students who were taught dangers of smoking, discussed reasons why people their age use tobacco, taught effects of using tobacco, OMAN GYTS, 2007 (Ages 13-15).**

<i>Category</i>	Percent taught dangers of smoking/chewing tobacco	Percent discussed reasons why people their age smoke/chew tobacco	Percent taught about the effects of smoking/chewing tobacco
<b>Total</b>	66.5 (57.5 - 74.5)	47.8 (40.6 - 55.2)	43.8 (38.0 - 49.8)
Male	58.0 (50.9 - 64.8)	43.8 (37.3 - 50.6)	38.3 (33.8 - 43.1)
Female	74.5 (63.0 - 83.3)	51.4 (40.3 - 62.4)	49.1 (39.8 - 58.4)

(66.5%) of students aged 13-15 years old were taught in schools during the past year about the dangers of smoking and about half of students had discussed during the past year reasons why people in their age smoke (47.8%). There was no significant difference by gender. (44%) of the students were taught about the effects of smoking or chewing tobacco.

## 3. Cessation

**Table 7: Percent of current smokers who want to quit, current smokers who tried to quit, and current smokers who received help to quit, OMAN GYTS, 2007 (Ages 13-15).**

<i>Category</i>	Percent of current cigarette smokers who desire to stop smoking	Percent of current cigarette smokers who tried to stop smoking during the past year	Percent of current smokers who received help to stop smoking
<b>Total</b>	57.8 (30.7 - 80.9)*	61.3 (31.3 - 84.6)*	64.7 (36.7 - 85.3)*
Male	66.1 (38.1 - 86.1)*	54.3 (26.7 - 79.5)*	81.7 (57.5 - 93.7)*
Female	0.0*	73.0 (17.4 - 97.2)*	27.6 (4.3 - 76.5)*

Female			
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\* < 35 cases in the denominator

Six in 10 students aged 13-15 years old who currently smoke cigarettes stated that they currently desire to stop smoking (57.8%). Also, six in ten students tried to stop smoking during the past year but failed (61.3%). (64.7)% of student currently smoke who have received help to stop smoking.

#### 4. Environmental tobacco smoke

**Table 8: Percent of students exposed to smoke at home, exposed to smoke in public, and supported banning smoking in public places, OMAN GYTS, 2007 (Ages 13-15).**

Category	Percent exposed to smoke from others at home		Percent exposed to smoke from others in public places	
	Never Smoker	Current Smoker	Never Smoker	Current Smoker
<b>OMAN</b>	24.1 (21.0 – 27.5)	42.9* (20.2 – 69.0)	82.6 (77.6 – 86.7)	66.5* (42.0 – 84.5)
Male	25.6 (21.3 - 30.3)	48.4* (26.7 – 60.6)	80.6 (75.8 – 84.6)	66.4* (44.4 – 83.0)
Female	23.0 (19.1 – 27.4)	27.6* (4.3 – 76.5)	84.4 (76.9 – 89.7)	66.7* (14.4 – 96.0)

\* Number of cases less than 35

Category	Percent exposed to smoke from others at home	Percent exposed to smoke from others in public places	Percent who think smoking should be banned in public places
<b>OMAN</b>	13.9 (11.2 - 17.1)	27.4 (23.4 - 31.8)	81.3 (76.7 - 85.2)
Male	16.7 (12.7 - 21.8)	29.8 (24.5 - 35.8)	79.2 (74.3 - 83.4)
Female	11.2 (8.1 - 15.3)	25.2 (20.6 - 30.3)	83.4 (76.6 - 88.5)

The exposure to environmental tobacco smoke for places both inside and outside of the home was more than twice higher for current cigarette smokers compared to those who have never smoked cigarettes.

13.9% of students aged 13-15 years old exposed to smoke from others at home and twice of the exposed to smoke from others in public places (27.4%).

Approximately nine in ten (81.3%) students think that smoking should be banned in public places.



## 5. Knowledge and attitudes

**Table 9: Knowledge and Attitudes, Oman GYTS, 2007 (Ages 13-15).**

Category	Think boys who smoke have more friends		Think girls who smoke have more friends	
	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers
Total	28.2 (24.7 – 32.0)	38.8* (22.6 – 58.0)	19.2 (16.7 – 22.1)	34.0* (18.0 – 54.7)
Male	26.3 (22.4 – 30.7)	40.9* (19.5 – 66.3)	19.7 (17.3 – 22.5)	34.2* (16.9 – 57.1)
Female	29.6 (23.6 – 36.4)	33.3* (4.0 – 85.6)	18.7 (14.2 – 24.2)	33.3* (4.0 – 85.6)

  

Category	Think smoking makes boys look more attractive		Think smoking makes girls look more attractive	
	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers
Total	22.5 (20.0 – 25.3)	54.3* (37.9 – 69.7)	17.6 (14.4 – 21.4)	45.7* (29.8 – 62.6)
Male	22.4 (18.6 – 26.9)	45.5* (25.3 - 66.3)	19.3 (14.7 – 25.0)	43.2* (30.7 – 56.7)
Female	22.1 (18.4 – 26.3)	80.4* (39.1 – 96.3)	15.6 (11.1 – 21.5)	52.8* (10.0 – 91.8)

\* < 35 cases in the denominator

Approximately one third of never smokers (28.2%) think that boys who smoke have more friends while one fifth of them (22.5%) think that smoking makes boys look more attractive with no significant difference between boys and girls. 38.8% of current smokers think that boys who smoke have more friends and (54.3%) think that smoking makes boys look more attractive with no significant difference by gender.

One in five of never smokers think that girls who smoke have more friends and look more attractive (19.2% and 17.6% respectively) with no significant difference between males and females. One in three of current smokers think that girls who smoke have more friends(34.0) and half of current smokers think that girls look more attractive 45.0% with no significant difference between males and females.

**Table 10: Attitude towards smoking from others and Shishah, Oman GYTS, 2007, (Ages 13-15).**

Category	Definitely think smoke from others is harmful to them		Think that Shishah is less harmful than cigarette	
	Never Smokers	Current Smokers	Never Smokers	Current Smokers
Total	80.5 (75.9 – 84.5)	57.0* (39.0 – 73.4)	11.8 (9.6 – 13.9)	18.0 (10.0 – 26.0)
Male	76.3 (71.1 – 80.8)	65.5* (49.6 – 78.5)	10.7 (8.1 – 13.2)	20.6 (8.1 – 33.4)
Female	84.8 (79.6 – 88.9)	33.3* (4.0 – 85.6)	12.7 (9.5 – 16.0)	18.0* (0.0 – 27.1)

\*The number of respondents (n) in this cell is less than 35

Nearly three five of current smokers (57%) and four in five never-smokers (80.5%) definitely think that smoke from others is harmful to them with no significant difference between boys and girls. Nearly one in five of current use of Shishah (18.0%) and one in ten of never use Shishah (11.8%) think that Shishah is less harmful than cigarettes with no significant difference between boys and girls.

## 6. Media and advertising

**Table 11: Media and Advertising, Oman GYTS, 2007. (Ages 13-15).**

Category	Percent Saw Pro-Tobacco Messages in Newspapers and Magazines		Percent Who Had Object With a Cigarette Brand Logo On It	
	Never Smokers	Current smokers	Never Smokers	Current smokers
Total	65.7 (58.1 – 725)	84.9* (63.0 – 94.9)	11.3 (9.2 – 13.9)	39.1* (17.5 – 66.1)
Male	58.4 (53.0 – 63.6)	78.9* (54.2 – 92.2)	10.4 (7.7 – 13.8)	43.6 (21.7 – 68.3)
Female	72.0 (62.7 – 79.7)	100.0* --	11.9 (9.1 – 15.5)	27.6* (4.3 – 76.5)

Category	Percent Saw Anti-Smoking Media Messages	Percent Offered Free Cigarettes by a Tobacco Company Representative	
		Never Smokers	Current Smokers

Total	75.1 (70.2 – 79.5)	6.1 (4.6 – 8.1)	17.2* (9.3 – 29.7)
Male	73.0 (69.0 – 76.7)	6.9 (4.5 – 10.6)	16.3* (7.8 – 31.0)
Female	76.9 (68.3 – 83.8)	4.8 (3.1 – 7.3)	19.6* (3.7 – 60.9)

\*The number of respondents (n) in this cell is less than 35

Three-fourth of students (75.1%) saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days. Six in ten of never smokers (65.7%) and eight in ten current smokers (84.9%) saw pro-tobacco messages in newspapers and magazines during the past 30 days. One in ten of never smokers (11.3%) and 2 in five of current smokers (39.1%) had an object with a cigarette brand logo on it with significant between male and female current smokers. One in twenty of never smokers (11.8%) and one in five of current smokers (17.2%) were offered free cigarettes by tobacco company representative.

## **7. Access and availability**

**Table 12: Access and Availability, Oman GYTS, 2003.**

Category	Percent current smokers who usually buy their tobacco in a store	Percent current smokers who buy their tobacco in a store and were not refused cigarette purchase because of their age
Total	34.9 (12.1 - 67.7)*	66.7 (46.4 - 82.3)*
Boys	41.3 (16.0 - 72.2)*	60.2 (32.9 - 82.3)*
Girls	19.5 (2.0 - 73.7)*	100.0*

\*The number of respondents (n) in this cell is less than 35

Third of current smokers (34.9 %) purchase cigarettes in a store. Seven in ten of current smokers (66.7%) had not been refused purchase because of their age.

## Discussion

The Global Youth Tobacco Survey in Oman for 2007 is a second national school-based survey, which was conducted among students in grades 7–10. Many studies were conducted to measure the prevalence of smoking among school children but the GYTS 2003 GYTS 2007 in Oman are considered the main two studies in Oman concerning issues about other tobacco products, school curriculum and the effect of media. As it used the same standardized core questionnaire and protocol as many neighboring countries, it enables us to make cross country comparison in prevalence and other related issue concerning tobacco use. Also it gives us an opportunity to track the changes in the tobacco use and other related issues.

**Table 13: Prevalence – OMAN 2003 and 2007 (13-15 Years ONLY)**

Prevalence	2003			2007		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Ever smoked cigarettes	14.0 (9.9 - 19.4)	25.0 (17.2 - 34.8)	7.0 (4.1 - 11.7)	10.0 (6.7 - 14.6)	14.5 (9.5 - 21.5)	5.7 (3.3 - 9.4)
Ever Smokers, first smoked cigarettes before age 10	16.3 (8.2 - 29.8)	15.6 (6.8 - 32.0)	20.0 (6.6 - 47.0)*	32.5 (19.3 - 49.3)	28.8 (18.3 - 42.2)	41.5 (14.5 - 74.8)*
Current cigarette smoker	6.1 (3.0 - 12.2)	13.6 (6.1 - 27.4)	1.6 (0.8 - 3.0)	2.3 (1.1 - 4.8)	3.5 (1.8 - 6.6)	1.2 (0.3 - 4.1)
Current user of other tobacco products	9.5 (7.4 - 12.0)	14.2 (10.8 - 18.4)	6.7 (4.7 - 9.3)	14.4 (11.4 - 18.0)	16.9 (12.8 - 22.0)	10.6 (8.1 - 13.7)
Never smokers likely to initiate smoking in the next year	12.6 (9.4 - 16.7)	15.2 (10.5 - 21.4)	11.5 (7.4 - 17.4)	12.5 (9.3 - 16.5)	14.2 (10.6 - 18.7)	10.7 (6.6 - 16.7)

Table 13 shows the changes of the prevalence of smoking use in 2003 and 2007 Survey. Ever smoked cigarettes decreased from 14% in 2003 to 10% in 2007 GYTS. The percentage of ever smokers who smoked cigarettes before age of 10 years is increased by double (16.3 to 32.5 %).

The percentage of current cigarettes smoker decreased from 6.1 % to 2.3%. current users of other tobacco products has increased from 9.5% to 14.4%. This indicates the tobacco use mode is change from cigarettes smoking to other tobacco products as water-pipes (Shishah) and smokeless chewing tobacco. The percentage of never smokers students

who likely to initiate smoking in the next year remains on the same percentage for both surveys (about 12.5%).

Over one third of current smokers and more than half of non-smokers definitely think that smoke from others is harmful to them with no significant difference between boys and girls. In both GYTS rounds nearly four in ten of current users of Shishah and one third of never users of Shishah think that Shishah is less harmful than cigarettes with no significant difference between boys and girls. This leads to a conclusion that there is misunderstanding and ignorance of the consequent hazards of smoking especially Shishah. The problem is compounded by the lack of research on Shishah and its wider acceptability and popularity in the eastern societies.

The prevalence rates of cigarettes is increased EMRO member states who conducted the second round comparing to the first round, where it is decreased in 2007 Oman GYTS. The prevalence rate of other tobacco products is increased in most of the countries except in Egypt, Kuwait, Libya and Sudan.

As expected boys were significantly higher than girls to have ever tried smoking cigarettes. However, as shown by the recent media campaigns, the tobacco companies make relentless efforts to conquer this segment of the youth of the Omani society.

The survey data showed the fact that, for this segment of the population, water-pipe (Shisha) consumption is as much prevalent as cigarettes. This was to be expected as recently municipal rules to grant permission to Shishah cafes were relaxed and consequently such cafes flourished rapidly not only in the capital Muscat but also to other regions where in the past tough regulation were enforced. Surprisingly enough is the fact that girls who currently use other tobacco product were four times higher than those who smoke cigarettes illustrating the need to encompass all types of tobacco use when developing intervention strategies.

**Table 14: Factors influencing tobacco use (Exposure to smoke)– OMAN 2003 and 2007 (13-15 Years)**

Factors	2003			2007		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>EXPOSURE TO SMOKE</b>						
One or more parents smoke	19.4 (14.9 - 24.9)	25.5 (17.4 - 35.6)	15.8 (11.2 - 21.7)	14.0 (11.6 - 16.9)	14.0 (10.0 - 19.3)	13.8 (10.7 - 17.7)
All or most best friends smoke	6.1 (2.7 - 13.1)	12.0 (4.4 - 28.8)	2.5 (1.1 - 5.6)	3.0 (1.9 - 4.8)	4.1 (2.3 - 7.0)	1.8 (0.7 - 4.6)

Exposed to smoke in public places	30.0 (25.2 - 35.3)	42.0 (35.4 - 48.8)	22.7 (17.5 - 29.0)	27.4 (23.4 - 31.8)	29.8 (24.5 - 35.8)	25.2 (20.6 - 30.3)
In favor of banning smoking in public places	88.2 (85.0 - 90.7)	84.5 (79.2 - 88.7)	90.3 (86.6 - 93.1)	81.3 (76.7 - 85.2)	79.2 (74.3 - 83.4)	83.4 (76.6 - 88.5)

The percentage of students whose one or more parents smoke has decreased from 19.5 % in 2003 GYTS to 14.0% in 2003 GYTS. Also, percentage of students who has all or most best friends smoke has decreased by half in the second round of GYTS(6.1% to 3.0%). The exposure to smoke in public places has decreased from 30.0 % to 27.5%.

However the data revealed a positive students' attitude that must be appreciated. Approximately nine in ten students in 2003-GYTS and 1 in eight students in 2007-GYTS think smoking should be banned in public places. Currently there are no comprehensive national legislations to protect the general public from exposure to tobacco smoke. Accordingly administrators of the public facilities can choose when, where and if they there is a need to ban smoking in public places like restaurants and cafes or recreation facilities and children play areas. Unfortunately, often is the case that they opt not to.

**Table 15: Factors influencing tobacco use (school) – OMAN 2003 and 2007 (13-15 Years)**

Factors	2003			2007		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>SCHOOL</b> During this school year, were taught in any classes about the dangers of smoking	42.1 (36.1 - 48.3)	43.2 (34.9 - 51.9)	40.9 (33.8 - 48.4)	66.5 (57.5 - 74.5)	58.0 (50.9 - 64.8)	74.5 (63.0 - 83.3)

The health education at schools activities regarding the dangers of smoking has increased from 42.1% in 2003-GYTS to 66.5% in 2007-GYTS. There was no significant difference by gender. As the survey data indicated that smoking is imitated at early ages, tobacco control education including school curriculum and health education needs to start at a very young age. While the survey could provide an indication of whether tobacco control was taught in the school, it cannot comment on the content or intensity of the curriculum given.

Educational program can serve a useful role in tobacco control. However, unless they are backed up by strong public health policies, which help young people, refrain from using tobacco, educational programs have only modest results.

Health education programs should be strengthened to alert the current smokers about the harmful effect of smoking on themselves and others. However without strong legislations in place it is unlikely that such efforts can lead to change in individual behavior.

**Table 16: Factors influencing tobacco use (MEDIA/ADVERTISING) – OMAN 2003 and 2007 (13-15 Years)**

Factors	2003			2007		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>MEDIA/ADVERTISING</b> During the past month saw any anti-smoking media messages	73.7 (70.8 - 76.3)	76.6 (72.8 - 80.1)	71.4 (67.6 - 74.9)	75.1 (70.2 - 79.5)	73.0 (69.0 - 76.7)	76.9 (68.3 - 83.8)
During the past month saw any advertisement for cigarettes on billboards	63.1 (58.8 - 67.2)	70.7 (63.9 - 76.8)	58.3 (52.5 - 63.8)	64.3 (59.2 - 69.1)	59.6 (54.7 - 64.4)	69.0 (63.4 - 74.0)
During the past month saw any advertisements or promotions for cigarettes in newspapers or magazines	63.6 (59.7 - 67.3)	66.5 (60.6 - 71.9)	61.7 (56.0 - 67.1)	65.4 (59.1 - 71.3)	58.6 (54.5 - 62.6)	72.1 (63.9 - 79.0)
Have an object (t-shirt, pen, backpack, etc) with a cigarette brand logo on it	9.8 (8.0 - 12.0)	11.4 (7.8 - 16.5)	8.8 (7.3 - 10.5)	12.4 (10.5 - 14.6)	11.9 (9.2 - 15.3)	12.5 (9.8 - 15.9)

As yet there is no comprehensive ban on tobacco advertisement in Oman; the GYTS provides very strong evidence that a total ban on tobacco advertisement is needed. Three in four students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days in both GYTS rounds. Both rounds also shows Six in ten of students saw pro-tobacco messages in newspapers and magazines during the past 30 days. One in ten of students had an object with a cigarette brand logo on it. This could be explained by either the lack of regulation from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and/or that the tobacco companies pay no attention to what ever restriction imposed by the this Ministry and highlights the need for a complete ban on any tobacco promotion as part of a comprehensive ban of advertising.

**Table 19: Factors influencing tobacco use (Cessation ) – OMAN 2003 and 2007 (13-15 Years)**

Factors	2003			2007		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>CESSATION</b> Current smokers who want to stop smoking now	79.3 (48.9 - 93.9)	80.8 (45.8 - 95.5)	71.4 (34.2 - 92.3)*	57.8 (30.7 - 80.9)*	66.1 (38.1 - 86.1)*	0.0*
Current smokers who always feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning	41.8 (11.1 - 80.6)	45.1 (10.8 - 84.8)	22.0 (2.9 - 72.6)*	0.0*	0.0*	0.0*

Most international studies show a strong desire by adult smoker to quit the habit. This appears to be the case also for young people the vast majority of whom were current smokers (79.3%) in 2003 - GYTS and about 60% in 2007-GYTS stated that they currently desire to stop smoking. However, seven in ten students tried to stop smoking during the past year but failed.

**Table 18: Factors influencing tobacco use (Access) – OMAN 2003 and 2007 (13-15 Years)**

Factors	2003			2007		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>ACCESS</b> Current smokers who usually buy their cigarettes in a store were <b>not</b> refused purchase because of their age	93.8 (55.4 - 99.5)*	93.6 (53.8 - 99.5)*	100.0*	66.7 (46.4 - 82.3)*	60.2 (32.9 - 82.3)*	100.0*
Ever offered a "free" cigarette by a cigarette company representative	10.2 (8.4 - 12.2)	10.2 (7.4 - 14.1)	10.1 (8.2 - 12.4)	6.7 (5.1 - 8.8)	7.8 (5.2 - 11.5)	5.1 (3.4 - 7.7)

Despite a national law banning tobacco sales to minors and single stick sales, still nearly half of youth buy their cigarettes from stores and nine in ten of current smokers stated that they had an access to get cigarettes easily which encourage them to continue smoking.

One in ten of 2003-GYTS and seven in ten of 2007-GYTS of students were offered free cigarettes by tobacco company representative. This could be explained by either the lack of regulation from the Ministry of Commerce and Industry and/or that the tobacco companies pay no attention to what ever restriction imposed by the this Ministry and highlights the need for a complete ban on any tobacco promotion as part of a comprehensive ban of advertising.

## **Conclusion and recommendations**

Will be finalized after discussion with the concerned departments.

## **Acknowledgment**



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Will be written in the final draft

## Students' Questionnaire

# The Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS – Oman)

## **STUDENT QUESTIONNAIRE**

THE NEXT 13 QUESTIONS ASK YOU ABOUT YOUR USE OF TOBACCO

**1. Have you ever tried or experienced with cigarette smoking, even one puff?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**2. How old were you when you first tried a cigarette?**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes.
- b. 7 years old or younger.
- c. 8 or 9 years old
- d. 10 – 11 years old
- e. 12-13 years old
- f. 14-15 years old
- g. 16 years old or older.

**3. During the past 30 days (one month), on how many days did you smoke cigarettes?**

- a. 0 days
- b. 1 or 2 days
- c. 3 to 5 days
- d. 6 to 9 days
- e. 10 to 19 days
- f. 20 to 29 days
- g. All 30 days

**4. During the past 30 days (one month), on the days you smoked, how many cigarettes did you usually smoke?**

- a. I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days (one month).
- b. Less than one cigarette per day.
- c. 1 cigarette per day
- d. 2 to 5 cigarette per day
- e. 6 to 10 cigarettes per day

- f. 11 to 20 cigarettes per day
- g. More than 20 cigarette per day

**5. During the past 30 days (one month), how did you usually get your own cigarettes?**

(SELECT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)

- a. I did not smoke cigarette during the past 30 days ( one month)
- b. I bought them in a store, shop or from a street vendor
- c. I gave someone else money to buy them for me
- d. I borrowed them from someone else.
- e. I stole them
- f. An older person gave them to me.
- g. I got them some other way.

**6. During the past 30 days (one month) what brand of cigarettes did you usually smoke? (SELECT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)**

- a. I did not smoke cigarettes during the past 30 days.
- b. No usual brand
- c. Marlboro
- d. Dunhill
- e. Rothmans
- f. L&M
- g. Light
- h. Other

**7. How much do you usually pay for a pack of 20 cigarettes?**

- a. I don't smoke cigarettes
- b. I don't buy cigarettes, or I don't buy them in packs
- c. Less than 200 Biosa
- d. 300 Biosa
- e. 400 Biosa
- f. 500 Biosa
- g. 600 Biosa
- h. More than 600 Biosa

**8. During the past 30 days (one month), how much do you think you spent on cigarettes?**

- a. I don't smoke cigarettes
- b. I don't buy my cigarettes
- c. 6 Omani Rials
- d. 9 Omani Rials
- e. 12 Omani Rials

- f. 15 Omani Rials
- g. 7 18 Omani Rials
- h. More than 18 Omani Rials

**9. How much pocket money do you get?**

- a. I don't receive any pocket money
- b. 100 – 200 Biasa
- c. 300 – 400 Biasa
- d. 500 Biasa (Half Rial)
- e. 600 – 900 Biasa
- f. One Omani Rial daily
- g. More than one Omani Rial daily

**10. During the past 30 days (one month), did anyone ever refuse to sell you cigarettes because of your age?**

- a. I don't buy cigarettes
- b. Yes, someone refused to sell me cigarettes because of my age.
- c. No, my age did not keep me from buying cigarettes.

**11. During the past 30 days (one month), have you ever used any form of smoked tobacco products other than cigarettes (shisha (Hubble-Bubble)?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**12. During the past 30 days (one month), have you ever used any form of non-smoked tobacco products (chewing tobacco, snuff)?**

- c. Yes
- d. No

**13. Where do you usually smoke cigarettes? (SELECT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes.
- b. At home
- c. At school
- d. At friend's house
- e. At social events

- f. In public places (e.g. street, coffee shops, cinema, etc)
- g. Other

**14. Do you have a cigarette or feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning?**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes.
- b. No
- c. Yes, sometimes
- d. Yes, daily

**THE NEXT QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES TOWARD TOBACCO**

**15. Do your parents smoke?**

- a. Non
- b. Both
- c. Father only
- d. Mother only
- e. I don't know.

**16. If one of your best friends offered you a cigarette, would you smoke it?**

- a. Definitely not
- b. Probably not
- c. Probably yes
- d. Definitely yes

**17. Has anyone in your family discussed the harmful effects of smoking with you?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**18. At any time during the next 12 months, do you think you will smoke a cigarette?**

- a. Definitely not
- b. Probably not

- c. Probably yes
- d. Definitely yes

**19. Do you think you will be smoking cigarettes 5 years from now?**

- a. Definitely not
- b. Probably not
- c. Probably yes
- d. Definitely yes

**20. Once someone has started smoking, do you think it would be difficult to quit?**

- a. Definitely not
- b. Probably not
- c. Probably yes
- d. Definitely yes

**21. Do you think boys who smoke cigarettes have more or less friends?**

- a. More friends
- b. Less friends
- c. No difference from non- smokers.

**22. Do you think girls who smoke cigarettes have more or less friends?**

- a. More friends
- b. Less friends
- c. No difference from non- smokers.

**23. Does smoking cigarettes help people feel more or less comfortable at celebrations, parties, or other social gatherings?**

- a. More comfortable
- b. Less comfortable
- c. No difference from non- smokers

**24. Do you think smoking cigarettes makes boys look more or less attractive?**

- a. More attractive
- b. Less attractive
- c. No difference from non- smokers

**25. Do you think smoking cigarettes makes girls look more or less attractive?**

- a. More attractive
- b. Less attractive
- c. No difference from non- smokers

**26. Do you think smoking cigarettes makes you gain or lose weight?**

- a. Gain weight
- b. Loss weight
- c. No difference from non- smokers.

**27. Do you think smoking cigarettes makes is harmful to your health?**

- a. Definitely not
- b. Probably not
- c. Probably yes
- d. Definitely yes

**28. Do your closest friends smoke cigarettes?**

- a. Non of them
- b. Some of them
- c. Most of them
- d. All of them

**29. When you see a man smoking, what do you think of him?**  
(SELECT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)

- a. Lacks confidence
- b. Stupid
- c. Loser
- d. Successful
- e. Intelligent

**30. When you see a woman smoking, what do you think of him?**  
(SELECT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)

- 
- a. Lacks confidence
  - b. Stupid
  - c. Loser
  - d. Successful
  - e. Intelligent
  - f. Sophisticated

**31. Do you think it is safe to smoke for only a year or two as long as you quit after that?**

- a. Definitely not
- b. Probably not
- c. Probably yes
- d. Definitely yes

THE NEXT QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT YOUR EXPOSURE TO OTHER PEOPLE'S SMOKING

**32. Do you think the smoke from other people's cigarettes is harmful to you?**

- a. Definitely not
- b. Probably not
- c. Probably yes
- d. Definitely yes

**33. During the past 7 days, on how many days have people smoked in your home, in your presence?**

- a. 0 days
- b. 1 to 2 days
- c. 3 to 4 days
- d. 5 to 6 days
- e. 7 days

**34. During the past 7 days, on how many days have people smoked in your presence, in places other than in your home?**

- a. 0 days
- b. 1 to 2 days
- c. 3 to 4 days
- d. 5 to 6 days
- e. 7 days



**35. Are you in favor of banning smoking in public places (such as in restaurants, in buses, cars, in schools, in sports areas, etc)?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

THE NEXT QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT YOUR ATTITUDES TOWARD STOPPING SMOKING

**36. Do you want to stop smoking now?**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes
- b. I don't smoke now
- c. Yes
- d. No

**37. During the past year, have you ever tried to stop smoking cigarettes?**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes
- b. I don't smoke now
- c. Yes
- d. No

**38. How long ago did you stop smoking?**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes.
- b. I have not stopped smoking or stopped less than one
- c. 1-3 months
- d. 4-11 months
- e. one year
- f. two years
- g. three years or more

**39. What was the main reason you decided to stop smoking?  
(SELECT ONE RESPONSE ONLY)**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes
- b. I have not stopped smoking
- c. To improve my health
- d. To save money
- e. Because my family does not like it.
- f. Because my friends don't like it
- g. Because it is against my religious teachings

**40. Do you think you would be able to stop smoking if you wanted to?**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes.
- b. I have already stopped smoking cigarettes.
- c. Yes
- d. No

**41. Have you ever received help or advice to help you stop smoking?( SELECT ONE RESPONSE ONLY)?**

- a. I have never smoked cigarettes
- b. Yes, from anti smoking program
- c. Yes, from a friend
- d. Yes, from a family member
- e. Yes , from more than one
- f. No

THE NEXT QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF MEDIA MESSAGES ABOUT SMOKING?

**42. During the past 30 days (one month), how many anti-smoking messages (e.g., television, radio, newspapers, magazines and movies) have you seen or heard?**

- a. A lot
- b. A few
- c. Non

**43. When you go to sport events, concert, social gatherings, how often do you see anti-smoking messages?**

- a. I never go to sports events, concert, social gatherings
- b. A lot
- c. Sometimes
- d. Never

**44. When you watch TV, videos, or movies, how often do you see actors smoking?**

- a. I never watch TV, videos, movies
- b. A lot
- c. A few
- d. Never

**45. Do you have something (t-shirt, pen, backpack) with a cigarette brand logo on it?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**46. During the past 30 days (one month), when you watched sports or other programs on TV, how often did you see cigarette brand names?**

- a. I never watch TV
- b. A lot
- c. A few
- d. Non

**47. During the past 30 days (one month), how many advertisements for cigarettes have you seen on billboard?**

- a. I A lot
- b. A few
- c. Non

**48. During the past 30 days (one month), how many advertisements for cigarettes have you seen in newspapers or magazines?**

- a. A lot
- b. A few
- c. Non

**49. When you go to sports events, fair, concerts or community events, how often do you see advertisements for cigarettes?**

- a. I never attend sports events, fairs, concerts or community events.
- b. A lot
- c. A few
- d. Non

**50. Has a cigarette representative ever offered you a free cigarette?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

THE NEXT QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT WHAT YOU WERE TAUGHT ABOUT SMOKING IN SCHOOLS

**51. During this school year, were you taught in any of your classes about the danger of smoking?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Not sure

**52. During this school year, did you discuss in any of your classes the reasons why people your age smoke?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Not sure

**53. During this school year, were you taught in any of your classes about the effects of smoking like it makes your teeth yellow, causes wrinkles or makes you smell bad?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Not sure

**54. How long did you last discuss smoking and health as part of a lesson?**

- a. Never
- b. last 2 months
- c. 2-3 months
- d. 6-4 months
- e. before 7 months
- f. More than one year

**55. During this school year, have you received information about smoking and its effects through health education activities.?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Not sure

THE NEXT 10 QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT SHESHA SMOKING:

**56. Have you ever used Shisha ( Hubble- Bubble)?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**57. How old were you when you used Shisha ( Hubble- Bubble)?**

- a. I have never used
- b. 7 years old or younger
- c. 8-9 years old
- d. 10 – 11 years old
- e. 12 – 13 years old
- f. 14 – 15 years old
- g. 16 years old or older

**58. In the past 30 days, how many days did you use Shisha (Hubble-Bubble)?**

- a. 0 days
- b. 1- 2 days
- c. 3- 5 days
- d. 6- 9 days
- e. 10 – 19 days
- f. 20 – 29 days
- g. All 30 days

**59. In the past 30 days, how many times did you use Shisha (Hubble-Bubble)?**

- a. I did not used shisha last 30 days.
- b. Less than full course of shisha a day.
- c. 1 full course of shisha a day
- d. 2-5 times a day
- e. more than 5 times a day

**60. Where do you usually use Shisha (Hubble- Bubble)?**

- a. I have never used Shisha (Hubble- Bubble)?
- b. At home
- c. At cafee
- d. At the club
- e. Other ... specify

**61. During the past 30 days (one month), did anyone ever refuse to sell you Shisha (Hubble- Bubble) because of your age?**

- a. I don't buy Shisha ( Hubble- Bubble)
- b. Yes, someone refused to sell me because of my age.
- c. No, my age did not keep me from buying Shisha ( Hubble- Bubble)

**62. Do you have a Shish or feel like having a cigarette first thing in the morning?**

- e. I have never smoked cigarettes.
- f. No
- g. Yes, sometimes
- h. Yes, daily

**63. Do your parents smoke Shisha?**

- f. Non
- g. Both
- h. Father only
- i. Mother only
- j. I don't know.

**64. Do you think smoking Shisha makes is harmful to your health?**

- e. Definitely not
- f. Probably not
- g. Probably yes
- h. Definitely yes

**65. Do you think that Shisha (Hubble- Bubble) is less harmful than cigarettes?**

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. No difference

THE NEXT 10 QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT SHESHA SMOKING:

**66. Have you ever used chewing tobacco, snuff?**

- a. Yes
- b. No

**67. How old were you when you used chewing tobacco, snuff?**

- a. I have never used
- b. 7 years old or younger
- c. 8-9 years old
- d. 10 – 11 years old
- e. 12 – 13 years old
- f. 14 – 15 years old
- g. 16 years old or older

**68. In the past 30 days, how many days did you use chewing tobacco, snuff?**

- a. 0 days
- b. 1- 2 days
- c. 3- 5 days
- d. 6- 9 days
- e. 10 – 19 days
- f. 20 – 29 days
- g. All 30 days

**69. Where do you usually use chewing tobacco, snuff?**

- a. I have never used Shisha (Hubble- Bubble)?
- b. At home
- c. At school
- d. At the club
- e. Public places
- f. Other ... specify

**70 Whom do you usually use chewing tobacco or snuff with?**

- a. I have never used chewing tobacco or snuff
- b. When I am alone
- c. In the company of friends
- d. Family gethering
- e. Others

**71. During the past 30 days (one month), how did you usually get your own chewing tobacco or snuff? (SELECT ONLY ONE RESPONSE)**

- a. I did not use chewing tobacco or snuff during the past 30 days
- b. I bought them in a store, shop or from a street vendor
- c. I gave someone else money to buy them for me
- d. I borrowed them from someone else.
- e. I stole them
- f. An older person gave them to me.
- g. I got them some other way.

**71. During the past 30 days (one month), did anyone ever refuse to sell you Shisha (Hubble- Bubble) because of your age?**

- a. I don't buy Shisha ( Hubble- Bubble)
- b. Yes, someone refused to sell me because of my age.
- c. No, my age did not keep me from buying Shisha ( Hubble- Bubble)

**72. When you bought or tried to buy chewing tobacco, snuff in a store during the past 30 days (one month), were you ever asked to show proof of age?**

- a. I did not buy or try to buy chewing tobacco or snuff
- b. Yes, I was asked to show proof of age
- c. No. I was not asked to show proof of age.

**73. During the past 30 days (one month), did anyone ever refuse to sell you chewing tobacco or snuff because of your age?**

- a. I don't buy chewing tobacco or snuff
- b. Yes, someone refused to sell me because of my age.
- c. No, my age did not keep me from buying chewing tobacco or snuff

**74. Do you want to stop using chewing tobacco or snuff?**

- a. I have never used chewing tobacco or snuff.
- b. Yes
- c. No

**75. During the past year, have you ever tried to stop using chewing tobacco, snuff?**

- a. I have never used chewing tobacco or snuff
- b. Yes
- c. No

THE NEXT 10 QUESTIONS ASK ABOUT SHESHA SMOKING:

**76. How old are you?**

- a. 11 years old or younger
- b. 12 years old
- c. 13 years old
- d. 14 years old
- e. 15 years old
- f. 16 years old
- g. 17 years old or older

**77. What is your gender?**

- a. Male



b. Female

**78. What is your nationality?**

- a. Omani
- b. Non Omani

**79. What is your grade?**

- a. 7<sup>th</sup>
- b. 8<sup>th</sup>
- c. 9<sup>th</sup>
- d. 10<sup>th</sup>

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION**

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