

# global youth tobacco survey

## Country fact sheets

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.

All reasonable precautions have been taken by the World Health Organization to verify the information contained in this publication. However, the published material is being distributed without warranty of any kind, either expressed or implied. The responsibility for the interpretation and use of the material lies with the reader. In no event shall the World Health Organization be liable for damages arising from its use.



**World Health  
Organization**

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean



**CENTERS FOR DISEASE  
CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

# Gaza Strip (Ages 13-15)

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Gaza Strip 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, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Gaza Strip could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Gaza Strip GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 8-12, conducted in 2001. A two-stage cluster

sample design was used to produce representative data for all of the Gaza Strip. 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%, the student response rate was 95.8%, and the overall response rate was 95.8%. A total of 1,940 students aged 13-15 participated in the Gaza Strip GYTS.

### Prevalence

- 35.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 50.1%, Girl = 22.2%)
- 12.6% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 20.2%, Girl = 5.7%)
- 9.0% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 15.1%, Girl = 3.4%)
- 7.8% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 12.4%, Girl = 3.6%)
- 6.6% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

### Knowledge and Attitudes

- 32.9% think boys and 18.0% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 27.9% think boys and 30.1% think girls who smoke look more attractive

### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 18.7% usually smoke at home
- 36.8% buy cigarettes in a store
- 75.6% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

### Environmental Tobacco Smoke

- 50.9% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 47.1% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 85.4% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 87.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 45.3% have one or more parents who smoke
- 10.2% have most or all friends who smoke

### Cessation - Current Smokers

- 64.8% want to stop smoking
- 62.4% tried to stop smoking during the past year
- 72.4% have ever received help to stop smoking

### Media and Advertising

- 71.8% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 71.5% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 66.2% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 30.2% have an object with a cigarette brand logo

### School

- 74.5% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 55.4% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke

### Highlights

- 12.6% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 9% of students currently smoke cigarettes; 7.8% currently use other tobacco products.
- ETS exposure is very high – over half the students live in homes where others smoke; Almost 1 in 5 students are exposed to smoke in public places; More than 1 in 4 have one or more parents who smoke.
- Almost 9 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Close to two-thirds of smokers want to stop.
- Almost three-fourths of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; More than two-thirds of the students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards in the past 30 days and nearly two-thirds of the students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.