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.

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Lebanon 2011 (Ages 13-15)  
Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)  
FACT SHEET

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

The Lebanon GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 8 to 10 conducted in 2011.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Lebanon. 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. A total of 2,339 students participated in the Lebanon GYTS of which 1,651 were ages 13 to 15 years. The overall response rate of all students surveyed was 87.4%.

Prevalence
28.3% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 38.9%, Girls = 19.4%)
59.2% of students had ever smoked cigarettes or water-pipe (Boys=65.5%, Girls=53.8%)
36.2% currently use any smoked tobacco product (Boys = 41.9%, Girls = 31.4%)
11.3% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 17.7%, Girls = 6.0%)
34.8% currently smoke water-pipe (Boys = 39.3%, Girls = 31.0%)
14.7% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking cigarettes next year

Knowledge and Attitudes
18.0% think boys and 11.9% think girls who smoke cigarettes have more friends
13.5% think boys and 9.3% think girls who smoke cigarettes look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers
20.3% usually smoke at home
29.5% buy cigarettes in a store
89.5% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)
68.6% live in homes where others smoke cigarettes in their presence
65.2% are around others who smoke cigarettes in places outside their home
75.7% think smoke cigarettes from others is harmful to them
62.1% have one or more parents who smoke cigarettes
15.9% have most or all friends who smoke cigarettes

Cessation - Current Smokers
55.7% want to stop smoking cigarettes
51.2% tried to stop smoking cigarettes during the past year
75.6% have ever received help to stop smoking cigarettes

Media and Advertising
68.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
82.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
71.5% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
11.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
8.6% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School
59.7% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking cigarettes
38.4% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke cigarettes
51.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use cigarettes

Highlights
- 36.2% of students currently use any smoked tobacco products; 11.3% currently smoke cigarettes; 34.8% currently smoke water-pipe
- SHS exposure– almost seven in 10 students live in homes where others smoke cigarettes; and two-thirds of the students are exposed to cigarette smoke around others outside of the home; over six in 10 students have at least one parent who smokes cigarettes
- Three-quarters of the students think cigarette smoke from others is harmful to them
- 55.7% of current smokers want to stop smoking cigarettes
- 11.6% of students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it
- Close to seven in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; more than eight in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and more than seven in 10 saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days