



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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**World Health
Organization**

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean



Somalia - Somaliland

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Somaliland 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 Somaliland could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program. The Somaliland GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Public Primary 6, Public Primary 7, Public Primary 8, and Secondary 1, conducted in 2004.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Somaliland. 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 88%, the student response rate was 94.2%, and the overall response rate was 82.9%. A total of 1,563 students participated in the Somaliland GYTS.

Prevalence

26.0% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 23.7%, Female = 20.1%)
32.8% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 26.8%, Female = 33.1%)
15.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 10.2%, Female = 11.1%)
26.9% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 22.6%, Female = 29.1%)
27.3% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

56.3% think boys and 40.1% think girls who smoke have more friends
23.3% think boys and 17.8% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

24.4% usually smoke at home
39.0% buy cigarettes in a store

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

51.8% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
56.0% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
74.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
24.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them
42.6% have one or more parents who smoke
15.5% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

65.5% want to stop smoking
58.5% tried to stop smoking during the past year
93.5% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

84.8% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
84.6% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
73.6% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
39.1% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
34.1% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

50.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
43.2% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
52.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- One third of the students currently use any form of tobacco; 16% currently smoke cigarettes; 27% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – Half of the students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; 56% are exposed to smoke in public places; Over 4 in 10 have at least one parent who smokes.
- A quarter of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Three quarters of the students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Two thirds of smokers want to stop smoking now.
- Over 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; Over 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, 74% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.