

# **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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# West Bank GYTS Report 2009

## **Introduction**

Tobacco use is one of the chief preventable causes of death in the world. The World Health Organization (WHO) attributes some 4 million deaths a year to tobacco, a figure expected to rise to 8.4 million deaths a year by 2020. By that time, 70 % of those deaths will occur in developing countries. Most people begin using tobacco before the age of 18. Recent trends indicate rising smoking prevalence rates among children and adolescents and earlier age of initiation. If these patterns continue, tobacco use will result in the deaths of 250 million children and adolescents alive today, many of them in developing countries. In recent years, WHO, UNICEF, G8 Ministers of the Environment, Ministers Responsible for Youth and many national health agencies have called for concerted action against tobacco use by young people. Yet, comprehensive tobacco prevention and control information on young people is not available for most developing countries. To address this data gap, the Tobacco Free Initiative (TFI), World Health Organization (WHO) and the Office on Smoking and Health (OSH), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have developed the Global Youth Tobacco Survey, in consultation with a range of countries representing the six WHO regions, which forms an important part of a global tobacco surveillance system.

Despite widespread knowledge of the harm caused by smoking, only modest success has been achieved in global tobacco control initiatives. Since it is clear that children and young people are now more at risk than ever before, it therefore becomes imperative that they should be a primary focus for intervention strategies.

The GYTS is a school based tobacco specific survey, which focuses on adolescents aged 13 – 15 It assesses student's attitudes, knowledge and behaviors related to tobacco use, as well as youth exposure to prevention curriculum in school, community programs and media messages aimed at preventing and reducing youth tobacco use. The GYTS provides information on where tobacco products are obtained and used, information related to the effectiveness of enforcement measures.

The purpose of the Global Youth Tobacco Survey is providing a standard research- and measuring instrument and the methodology for gathering information with regard to smoking among young people and relevant issues which can be used for setting up programs and making comparisons between countries.

The GYTS also shows the following issues which can be used to monitor the FCTC implementation:

- 1. Detirmine the level of tobacco use.
- 2. Eestimate the age of initiation of cigarettes use.
- 3. Estimate the level of susceptibility to become a cigarette smoker.
- 4. Exposure to tobacco advertising.
- 5. Identify key interventing variables that can be used in prevention programs at school level.

Palestine is one of these countries that conduct this survey for the third time in 2000,2005 and 2009. Palestine has implemented legislation and regulation against to bacco but there is no enforcement for this purpose.

# **Methods**

The 2009 GYTS is a school –based survey that collects data from students aged 13-15 years. Survey procedures were designed to protect the students' privacy by allowing for anonymous and voluntary participation. The self-administered questionnaire was administered in the classroom. Students recorded their responses directly on an answer sheet that could be scanned by a computer. The questionnaire contained 56 multiple-choice questions.

The GYTS uses two-stage cluster sample design that produces representative samples of students in grades associated with the mentioned aged(seventh grade-tenth grade).

- **School Level** The first-stage sampling frame consisted of all schools containing grades 7-10.
  - A list of all schools eligible to the survey was prepared in coordination with MOE and then sent to CDC in order to draw the sample.
  - Schools were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size.
- Class Level The second sampling stage consisted of systematic equal probability sampling (with a random start) of classes from each school that participated in the survey. All classes in the selected schools were included in the sampling frame. All students in the selected classes were eligible to participate in the survey.

#### **OVERALL RESPONSE RATES:**

**Schools** - 100.0% 26 of the 26 sampled schools participated.

**Classes**- 100.0% 75 of the 75 sampled classes participated.

**Students**- 95.0% 2,161 of the 2,274 sampled students completed usable questionnaires

## **Overall response rate - SAMPLE DESCRIPTION:**

100.00% \* 95.0% = 95.0%

#### **WEIGHTING:**

A weight has been associated with each questionnaire to reflect the likelihood of sampling each student and to reduce bias by compensating for differing patterns of nonresponse. The weight used for estimation is given by:

$$W = W1 * W2 * f1 * f2 * f3 * f4$$

W1 = the inverse of the probability of selecting the school

W2 = the inverse of the probability of selecting the classroom within the school

f1 = a school-level nonresponse adjustment factor calculated by school size category (small, medium, large).

- f2= a class adjustment factor calculated by school
- f3 = a student-level nonresponse adjustment factor calculated by class
- f4 = a post stratification adjustment factor calculated by gender and grade

#### **USE OF THE WEIGHTED RESULTS:**

The weighted results can be used to make important inferences concerning tobacco use risk behaviors of students in West Bank in grades 7-10.

In coorrdination with MOE all schools were visited according to the schedual that has been arranged.

### **Data Collection**

- One day training session was held for the data collectors.
- Permission and arrangment with selected schools was done with coordination with MOE.
- Data collection started in October2008 till march 2009.
- 26 schools were sampled and visited for data collection.
- All sheets and related documents weresent to CDC for data entry

## **Analysis**

Access database was used for data entry ,EpiInfo and SUDAANwas used for analysing the data which are a soft ware packages that accounted for complex sampling design and weight factors.

95% confidence interval was used for to see if there is any statistically difference for the estimates of different varriables.

#### **Results**

A total of <u>2161</u> out of <u>2274</u> students participate in the survey from 26 selected schools

Table 1:Number of respondents in West bank /Palestine GYTS ,2009

Gender	Female	Male	Total
Total no. of students			
Respondent students			

# **a:Prevelance Tables**

Table 2:Percentage of Students 13-15 Years old who Ever Smoke Cigaretts West bank – Palestine (2000-2009)

Prevalence	2000				2005		2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Ever smoked cigarettes	49.5 ( <b>44.7</b> - <b>54.2</b> )	65.7 ( <b>61.5 -</b> <b>69.8</b> )	34.5 (31.5 - 37.7)	35.4 ( <b>26.8</b> - <b>45.2</b> )	50.2 ( <b>43.9</b> - <b>56.6</b> )	20.8 (15.8 - 26.8)	43.8 ( <b>34.3</b> - <b>53.8</b> )	61.4 ( <b>58.1</b> - <b>64.6</b> )	27.0 (21.3 - 33.6)

Table 2 shows that there is a decrease of ever smoked cigaretts from 2000 and 2005 but an increase in 2009.

- For boys ther is a significant decrease between 2000,2005 and significant increase 2005,2009
- For girls there is significant decrease between 2000,2005 but there is no significant difference for 2005,2009,
- There is a statistically difference between males and females for ever smoking cigarettes in 2000,2005 and 2009.

Table 3:Prevelance of ever Smokers 13-15 Years old who first smoked cigaretts before age 10 years West -bank Palestine (2000-2009)

Prevalence		2000			2005		2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Ever Smokers, first smoked cigarettes before age 10	22.7 (20.3 - 25.3)	23.7 ( <b>20.6 -</b> <b>27.1</b> )	20.9 (17.5 - 24.8)	22.1 (17.3 - 27.8)	22.7 (18.3 - 27.7)	19.9 ( <b>11.8 -</b> <b>31.5</b> )	25.8 (21.9 - 30.0)	27.3 (22.2 - 33.1)	22.6 (15.6 - 31.7)

Table 3 shows that there is a no overall significant change decrease of ever smokers, who first smoked cigaretts before age 10.

- For boys there is no significant decrease between 2000,2005 and no significant increase 2005,2009
- For girls there is no significant decrease between 2000,2005 and there is no significant increase for 2005,2009,
- But in General ther is a no statistically difference between males and females for first smoked cigaretts before age of 10 years in 2000,2005and2009.

Table 4:Prevelance Current Cigarette smokers 13-15 Years old West -bank Palestine (2000-2009)

Prevalence	2000				2005		2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Current cigarette smoker	14.2 (11.2 - 17.7)	24.7 (21.5 - 28.3)	4.7 (3.8 - 6.0)	18.0 (12.5 - 25.3)	27.6 (21.3 - 35.1)	8.7 (5.8 - 12.8)	21.0 (14.3 - 29.9)	36.1 (31.3 - 41.0)	7.5 ( <b>5.9</b> - <b>9.5</b> )

Table 4 shows 21% of the students are current cigarette smokers for 2009

But that there is no significant increase of current cigarette smokers from 2000 ,2005 ,and 2009.

- There is statistically significant increase for current cigarette smokers 13-15 years old 2000,2005 and 2000,2009
- For boys there is no significant increase between 2000-2005, and 2005,2009.
- For girls there is no significant increase between 2000-2005 and, for 2005-2009.
- There is a statistically significant difference between males and females for 2000,2005 and 2005,2009.

Table 5:Prevelance of students use Shisha among 13-15 Year olds (argillah) West -bank Palestine (2000-2009)

Prevalence		2000		2009				
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl		
Current user of other tobacco products	20.0 (17.7 - 22.5)	28.4 (25.4 - 31.5)	11.9 ( <b>10.3</b> - <b>13.8</b> )	34.8 (27.0 - 43.5)	44.7 ( <b>40.0</b> - <b>49.4</b> )	25.1 (18.5 - 33.1)		

<sup>\*</sup>Data for 2005 is not available

- There is a statistically significant increase in using shisha among school children from 2000 to 2009.
- For both boys and girls there is a statistically significant increase from 2000 to 2009.
- For both points in time boys smoke shisha or argillah significantly more than girls.

# **b:-Factors that Influencing tobacco use**

(WEST BANK 2000, 2005, and 2009 students (13-15 Years ) only

Table5:Percentage of Students 13-15 years old who are exposed to smoke West bank-Palestine 2000-2009

Factors		2000			2005			2009	
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
<b>EXPOSURE</b>	57.2	56.2	57.9	54.4	54.9	54.2	53.1	53.2	52.8
TO SMOKE	(54.8	(51.9	(55.7	(50.3	(47.5	(49.3	(50.2	(48.6	(48.1
One or more	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
parents smoke	<b>59.5</b> )	60.3)	60.1)	58.5)	62.2)	<b>59.1</b> )	<b>55.9</b> )	<b>57.8</b> )	57.5)
Exposed to	59.9	<mark>70.7</mark>	<b>50.1</b>	59.4	65.6	53.8	61.6	67.6	55.8
smoke in	(56.0	(68.0)	<b>(47.4</b>	(55.7	(60.9	(47.2	(57.2	(63.7	(51.2
public places	-			-	-	-	-	-	-
	63.6)	<b>73.2</b> )	<b>52.8</b> )	63.0)	<b>69.9</b> )	60.1)	<b>65.8</b> )	71.2)	60.3)
In favor of	82.5	78.4	86.1	78.3	75.6	81.1	75.8	73.3	78.2
banning	(80.4	(75.0	(84.8	(75.8	( <b>70.8</b>	(76.5	( <b>72.0</b>	( <b>68.6</b>	(73.6
smoking in	(00.4	(73.0	(04.0	(13.0	(70.0	(70.3	(72.0	(00.0	(73.0
public places	84.4)	81.4)	87.3)	80.7)	79 <b>.</b> 8)	84.9)	79.2)	77.5)	82.2)
	04.4)	01.4)	07.3)	00.7)	19.0)	04.9)	19.2)	11.3)	02.2)
All or most	17.0	19.8	14.1	12.9	18.7	7.4	18.3	28.7	8.4
best friends	(15.0	(17.3	(12.0	(9.0 –	(14.4	(5.3 –	(12.5	(23.3	(5.8 –
smoke	-	-	-		-		-	-	
	19.2)	22.6)	16.5)	18.2)	23.9)	10.1)	26.0)	34.7)	<b>12.0</b> )

- There is no statistically significant difference between boys and girls who are exposed to smoke if there parents smoke or smoking in public places.
- At each point in time boys were significantly more likely to be exposed to smoke in public places than girls.
- There is no statistically significant decrease for in favor of banning smoking in public places.
- Overall there is no statistically significant decrease in students who are exposed for smoking from there friends 2000, 2005 or 2005,2009.
- There is statistically significant increase among boys who are exposed for smoking from there friends 2005,2009.
- There is statistically significant decrease among girls who are exposed for smoking from there friends 2000-2005

# **C:Schools and Tobacco**

Tables 6:Percentage of students **13-15 years old** who were taught in any classes about dangers of smoking West bank –Palestine 2000-2009

Factors		2000			2005			2009	
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
SCHOOL									
During this									
school year,	53.2	54.1	52.6	60.3	60.1	60.8	42.6	56.7	<mark>28.7</mark>
were taught in	(49.8	(49.3	(47.3	(53.5	(53.0	(47.5	(34.4	(51.9	<b>(21.4</b> )
any classes	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
abut the	<b>56.6</b> )	58.9)	<b>57.9</b> )	66.8)	66.9)	72.6)	51.2)	61.4)	<b>37.5</b> )
dangers of									
smoking									

• There is significant decrease in students who were taught in any class about dangers of smoking from 2000-2009, for girls is a significant decrease from 2005-2009, for boys, there is a significant increase from 2000-2005.

**Tables 7:**Percentage of students **13-15 years old** who were discussed reasons why people their age smoke tobacco in West

Factors		2000			2005			2009	
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Percent									
discussed	37.9	39.4	36.7	49.2	49.5	48.8	37.8	50.2	25.3
reasons why	(34.7	(35.3	(31.6	(43.2	(43.1	(38.7	(30.6	(45.3	(19.7
people their	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
age smoke	41.1)	43.7)	42.0)	55.1)	56.0)	59.0)	45.5)	55.2)	31.9)
tobacco									

• There is significant Increase for student who were discussed reasons why people their age smoke tobacco 2000-2005. and there is a significant decrease from 2005-2009.

**Tables 8:**Percentage of students **13-15 years old** who were taught about the effects of smoking tobacco

Factors		2000		2005			
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	
Percent taught about the effects of smoking tobacco	43.5 (40.5 - 46.6)	44.6 (40.4 - 48.8)	42.8 (38.2 - 47.5)	55.9 (48.7 - 62.9)	56.8 (51.4 - 62.0)	55.5 (42.1 - 68.1)	

 There is significant Increase for student who were taught about the effects of smoking tobacco between 2000-2005. and there is a significant decrease from 2005-2009.

# **D:Media and advertising**

**Tables 9:**Percentage of students **13-15 years old** who saw any advertisement for cigarettes on billbourds during the past month from the survey ,West bank-Palestine 2000-2009

Factors		2000			2005			2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	
During the past month saw any advertisement for cigarettes on	68.9 (65.9	77.8 (73.9 - 81.3)	60.9 (58.1 - 63.7)	70.6 (67.1 - 73.9)	75.5 (70.3 - 80.1)	66.1 (61.3	71.9 (68.1 - 75.3)	72.8 (68.2 - 77.0)	70.9 (64.5	
billboards	71.7)	81.3)	03.7)	13.9)	80.1)	70.6)	13.3)	77.0)	76.6)	

• There is statistically significant difference between boys and girls for the years 2000, but non in 2005,2009 During the past month from the survey who saw any advertisement for cigarettes on billboards.

**Tables 10**:Percentage of students **13-15 years old** who saw any advertisements or promotions for cigarettes in newspapers or magazines during the past month from the survey ,West bank-Palestine 2000-2009

Factors		2000			2005			2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	
During the past										
month saw any advertisements or promotions for	63.9 ( <b>61.3</b>	70.7 ( <b>66.7</b>	57.6 ( <b>54.5</b>	64.5 ( <b>60.2</b>	72.0 ( <b>66.4</b>	57.3 ( <b>52.9</b>	65.2 ( <b>61.6</b>	67.9 ( <b>64.2</b>	62.6 ( <b>56.9</b>	
cigarettes in newspapers or magazines	66.4)	74.5)	60.7)	68.5)	76.9)	61.5)	68.7)	71.5)	67.9)	

• There is statistically significant difference between boys and girls for the years 2000, 2005 but not in 2009 who saw any advertisment or promotions for cigarettes in news paper or magazies during the past month from the survey.

**Tables 11**:Percentage of students **13-15 years old** Have an object (t-shirt, pen, backpack, etc) with a cigarette brand logo on it ,West bank-Palestine 2000-2009

Factors		2000		2005			2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Have an object (t-shirt, pen, backpack, etc) with a cigarette brand logo on it	33.1 (31.1 - 35.1)	37.5 ( <b>34.9</b> - <b>40.1</b> )	29.0 (26.3 - 32.0)	18.2 (15.2 - 21.8)	21.7 (18.1 - 25.9)	14.9 (11.5 - 19.0)	20.7 (17.1 - 24.7)	26.3 (22.4 - 30.6)	15.3 (13.1 - 17.8)

- There is statistically significant decrease between 2000 ,2005 but no change from 2005-2009 in students who have an object (t-shirt, pen, backpack, etc) with a cigarette brand logo on it who during the past month from the survey.
- There is statistically significant difference between boys and girls for the years 2000 2009 who have an object (t-shirt, pen, backpack, etc) with a cigarette brand logo on it during the past month from the survey.
- There is statistically significant decrease among boys who have an object (t-shirt, pen, backpack, etc) with a cigarette brand logo on it between 2000,2005.
- There is statistically significant decrease among girls who who have an object (t-shirt, pen, backpack, etc) with a cigarette brand logo on it between 2000,2005.

**Tables 12**:Percentage of students **13-15 years old** h ave During the past month saw any antismoking media messages, West bank-Palestine 2000-2009

Factors	2000				2005			2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	
During the past	72.0	73.2	71.1	58.4	57.0	59.5	60.5	64.3	56.9	
month saw any	(69.7	(70.1	(68.0	(52.7	(51.5	(50.0	(55.9	(58.9	(51.3	
anti-smoking	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
media messages	74.2)	76.1)	73.9)	63.8)	62.4)	68.3)	64.9)	69.4)	62.4)	

- There is statistically significant decrease for students who have, During the past month of the study, saw any anti-smoking media messages between 2000, 2005.
- There is statistically significant decrease among boys who have saw any anti-smoking media messages between 2000 2005.

# **E:**Cessation

**Tables 13**:Percentage of students 13-15 years old, current smokers who want to stop smoking now West bank-Palestine 2000-2009.

Factors	2000				2005		2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Current smokers	61.3	60.6	67.6	64.9	67.8		56.7	60.2	
who want to stop	(52.9	(51.0	(55.5	(47.4	(51.7	*	(45.9	(50.6	*
smoking now	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	
	69.0)	69.5)	77.8)	79.2)	80.6)		67.0)	69.0)	

<sup>\*</sup>cell size is less than 35

• Ther is no statistically significant change amongall students who are current smokers and want to stop smoking now even among boys ,West bank-Palestine 2000-2009.

**Tables 14**:Percentage of students 13-15 years old, who are current smokers tried to stop smoking during the past year West bank-Palestine 2000-2009.

Factors	2000			2005			2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Percent of current smokers who tried to stop smoking during	66.7 (60.3	68.0 (60.5	63.1 (50.0	59.8 (47.4	58.4 (46.1	*	61.1 (50.1	61.6 (49.9	*
the past year	72.5)	74.6)	74.4)	71.0)	69.8)		71.1)	72.1)	

<sup>\*</sup>cell size is less than 35

• There is no statistically significant change among students 13-15yeras old who are current smokers and tried to stop smoking during the past year even among boys ,West bank-Palestine 2000 ,2005,2009.

**Tables 15**:Percentage of students 13-15 years old, current smokers who received help to stop smoking West bank-Palestine 2000-2009.

Factors	2000			2005			2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl
Percent of current	78.0	80.4	66.9	78.5	84.5	59.3	75.8	80.1	56.2
smokers who	(71.9	(74.1	(56.2	(66.0	(77.4	(43.6	(68.3	(74.3	(40.4
received help to	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
stop smoking	83.1)	85.5)	76.0)	87.2)	89.7)	73.3)	82.0)	84.8)	70.9)

• There is no statistically significant change among students 13-15 years old, current smokers who received help to stop smoking West bank-Palestine 2000,2005,2009.

• There is statistically significant difference between boys and girls current smokers who received help to stop smoking West bank-Palestine between 2000-2005,2005-2009.

# F:Access

**Table 16**:Percentage of students 13-15 years old, who are current smokers and how they get there cigaretts

Factors	2000				2005			2009		
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	
ACCESS Current smokers	38.2	43.6	13.0	27.5	33.0	9.7	33.3	40.7	3.0	
who usually buy their cigarettes in a store	(32.3 -44.5)	(37.2 -50.2)	(7.2 - 22.3)	(18.5 -38.7)	(24.0 -43.5)	(4.1 - 21.4)	(23.5 -44.8)	(32.2 -49.9)	(0.7 - 11.4)	
Current smokers who usually buy their cigarettes in a store were <b>not</b> refused purchase because of their age	83.0 (75.6 -88.4)	82.4 (74.7 -88.1)	*	75.0 (63.1 -84.0)	78.7 (70.7 -84.9)	*	79.8 (69.2 -87.4)	80.5 (70.1 -87.9)	*	
Ever offered a "free" cigarette by a cigarette company representative	NA	NA	NA	9.9 (6.7 - 14.3)	12.6 (8.2 - 19.0)	7.3 (5.0 - 10.7)	14.9 (11.1 -19.9)	21.2 (17.4 -25.6)	9.2 (7.3 - 11.5)	

<sup>\*</sup>cell size is less than 35

• 79.8% of the students Current smokers who usually buy their cigarettes in a store were **not** refused purchase because of their age for 2009, and 75% for the year 2005, and 83% for the year 2000.

# **G:Knowledge and attitudes**

Table 17:Knowledge and attitudes West bank GYTS,2009

Factor	Total	Boys	Girls
Percent who think boys who	22.6	23.6	21.7
smoke are more attractive	(19.9-25.5)	(21.4-25.8)	(17.5-26.7)
Percent who think girls who	17.4	21.3	13.5
smoke are more attractive	(15.0-20.6)	(17.3-25.9)	(10.5-17.2)
Percent of current smokers	33.6	33.9	33.0
who think that smoking	(29.2-38.4)	(28.3-40.0)	(22.5-45.5)
cigarettes makes boys look			
more attractive			
Percent of current smoker	27.8	28.2	26.7
that smoking cigarettes	(22.4-34.1)	(21.4-36.20	(13.1-47.0)
makes girls look more			
attractive			
Percent of current smokers	42.6	43.2	41.1
who think that smoking	(36.0-49.5)	(35.4-51.4)	(31.9-51)
cigarettes helps people feel			
more comfortable at			
celebrations, parties, and			
social gatherings	1.0	10.6	10.7
Percent of never smokers	16	10.6	18.7
who think that smoking	(12.1-20.7)	(5.7-18.8)	(14.9-23.1)
cigarettes helps people feel			
more comfortable at			
celebrations, parties, and			
social gatherings			

- 22.6% think that boys looks more attractive if they smoke and 17.4% for girls,
- 42.6% of the current smokers think that smoking cigarettes helps people feel more comfortable at celebrations, parties, and social gatherings.
- There statistically significant diferrance between smokers and non smokers about thinking that smoking cigarettes helps people feel more comfortable at celebrations, parties, and social gatherings.

 Table 18: Attitude towards smoking

Factor	Total	Boys	Girls
Percent who think smoke	58.2	54	62.3
from others is harmful to	(54.3-62.00	(49.9-58.1)	(56.8-67.5)
them			
Percent of current smokers	55.3	54.9	56.0
who definitely think that	(47.0-63.3)	(46.1-63.3)	(43.6-67.6)
cigarette smoking is harmful			
to your health			
Percent of current smokers	46.8	46.3	50.0
who definitely think that	(41.4-52.3)	(40.3-52.4)	(34.5-65.5)
smoke from other people's			
cigarettes is harmful to you			
Percent of never smokers	48.4	57.1	44.0
who definitely think that it	(43.6-53.2)	(52.2-61.8)	(39.7-48.7)
is safe to smoke for only a			
year or two as long as they			
quit after that			
Percent of current smokers	37.5	37.1	40.2
who definitely think that it	(29.3-46.6)	(28.2-46.9)	(24.9-57.7)
is safe to smoke for only a			
year or two as long as they			
quit after that			

- 58.2 Percent students aged 13-15 years who think smoke from others is harmful to them compared with 55.3% of current smokers among students 13-15 years old.
- 48.4% students aged 13-15 years Percent of never smokers who definitely think that it is safe to smoke for only a year or two as long as they quit after that them compared with 37.5% of current smokers among the same group.

#### **Discussion**

The GYTS (Global Tobacco Survey) has been done for the third time in Palestine 2000, 2005 and 2009, and because of the political situation it was done only in West bank.

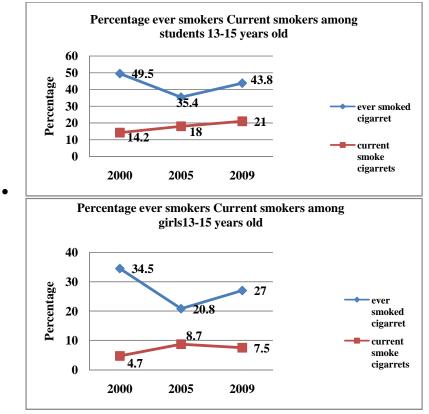
GYTS concerned issues about other tobacco products ,school curriculum and the effect of media as it was shown in the tables included in this report.

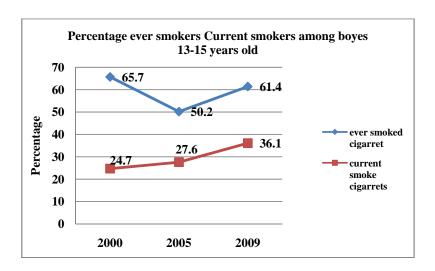
It is a standardized core questinnare as other neighboring countries, so comparison with other countries can be done for tobacco use. There were 26 schools selected as a representative sample that has been done in coordination with CDC for GYTS.

• There is an increasing trend for current smoking cigarrete among students 13-15 years old 14.2%, 21.0% for the years 2000,2009 respectivley, and there is a statistically difference between girls and boys between 2000 and 2009.

Prevalence	2000			2009			
	Total	Boy	Girl	Total	Boy	Girl	
Current cigarette smoker	14.2 (11.2 - 17.7)	24.7 (21.5 - 28.3)	4.7 (3.8 - 6.0)	21.0 (14.3 - 29.9)	36.1 (31.3 - 41.0)	7.5 ( <b>5.9</b> - <b>9.5</b> )	

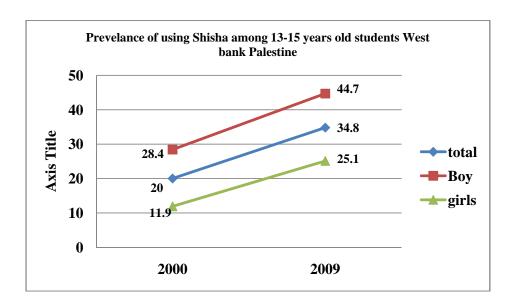
• 49.5%,35.4%,43.8% of the students 13-15 years old for 2000,2005,2009 respectively have ever smoke cigaretts which is statistical difference between boys and girls for ever smoking cigarettes in 2000,2005and2009





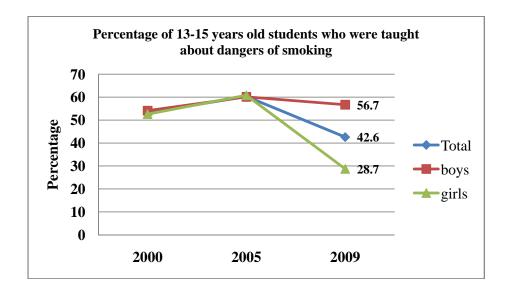
As expected boys were significantly higher than girls ever tried smoking cigarettes

• The prevelance of using Shisha among school students is increasing significantly is it is shown below:



17.2% of shisha current smokers have there shisha in coffee shops that means there should reglation and legislation so that 13-15 students cannot have access for shisha in coffee shop so r such places.

• The percentage of student who were taught in any class about dangers of smoking has been decrease and there is asignificant decrease for girls from 2005-2009, as it is shown in the graph below



This highlight that there is some thing that should be done for the school cirrculam and to be discussed with MOE, specially in girls school.

- For Exposure to smoking there is statistically significant increase among boys who are exposed for smoking from there friends 2005,2009,and statistically significant decrease among girls who are exposed for smoking from there friends 2000-2005 but nothing changed for exposure from there parents.
- In 2000 girls are significantly less than boys for smoking exposure in public place but not in 2005,2009!!!!!!!
- 48.4 % of never smokers 37.5 % of current smokers who definitely think that it is safe to smoke for only a year or two as long as they quit after that without any statistically difference so educational program should be done for this issue.
- 83.0%,75% and79.8% for 2000,2005 and 2009 respectively shows that Current smokers who usually buy their cigarettes in a store were **not** refused purchase because of their age that means reglation and rules should be available and implemented at national level.

#### Recommendations

- School cirrculam should be reviwed and discused to include classes about smoking and shisha.
- Health promotion should be expanded every where specially in schools as a regular schedual.
- Reglation for Tobacco companies to print effect of tobacco on health on cigarrets.
- Reglations should be expanded to coffee shops or new reglation should include all public places rather than coffee shops.
- Regulatins and legislatins should be implemented so that 13-15 years old children cannot buy ciggaretts from stores and shops.