

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



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

The Botswana GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Standard 7, Form 1 and Form 2 conducted in 2008.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Botswana. 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 class response rate was 100%, the student response rate was 96.0% and the overall response rate was 96.0%. A total of 1,611 13-15 year old students participated in the Botswana GYTS.

Prevalence

- 17.0% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 23.5%, Girl = 12.0%)
- 19.4% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 23.3%, Girl = 16.2%)
- 8.2% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 12.9%, Girl = 4.6%)
- 15.2% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 16.3%, Girl = 14.3%)
- 23.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

- 44.7% think boys and 28.8% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 29.4% think boys and 19.1% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 28.5% buy cigarettes in a store
- 51.3% not refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 38.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 62.1% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 59.3% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 26.7% have one or more parents who smoke
- 7.4% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation

- 82.7% current smokers who desire to stop smoking now
- 74.6% current smokers who tried to stop smoking in the past year

Media and Advertising

- 76.2% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 55.8% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 48.4% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 10.7% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 10.6% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

- 55.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking

Highlights

- 8.2% of students currently smoke cigarettes, 15.2% currently use tobacco products other than cigarettes, almost 1 in 5 never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year;
- SHS exposure is high – almost 4 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke; 6 in 10 students are exposed to smoke of others outside their home; almost 3 in 10 students have at least one parent who smokes.
- Six in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- One in 10 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Three-fourths of students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; almost 6 in 10 saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and half saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.