

Maldives 2011 (Ages 13-15) Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)



FACT SHEET

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

The Maldives GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 7, 8, 9 and 10 conducted in 2011.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Maldives. 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 2,641 students participated in the Maldives GYTS of which 1,494 were ages 13 to 15 years. The overall response rate of all students surveyed was 75.1%.

Prevalence

- 16.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 24.2%, Girls = 8.9%)
- 11.2% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 15.2%, Girls = 6.7%)
- 4.3% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 6.2%, Girls = 2.4%)
- 9.5% currently use other tobacco products other than cigarettes (Boys = 12.8%, Girls = 5.9%)
- 7.9% currently use any smoked tobacco products (Boys = 10.4%, Girls = 5.0%)
- 6.2% currently use any smokeless tobacco products (Boys = 9.2%, Girls = 2.9%)
- 2.5% currently smoke gudugudaa (Boys = 2.9%, Girls = 1.7%)
- 4.3% currently use any smoked tobacco products other than cigarettes or gudugudaa (Boys = 5.5%, Girls = 2.8%)
- 12.6% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

- 32.9% think boys and 11.5% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 10.5% think boys and 7.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 16.7% usually smoke at home
- 34.0% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 34.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 43.0% are around others who smoke in enclosed public places
- 60.2% are around others who smoke in outdoor public places
- 86.9% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 76.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 43.8% have one or more parents who smoke
- 5.3% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

- 79.0% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

- 87.6% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 41.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 42.7% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 10.0% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 7.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

- 40.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 25.8% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 19.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 11.2% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 4.3% currently smoke cigarettes; 2.5% currently smoke gudugudaa, 4.3% currently use any smoked tobacco products other than cigarettes or gudugudaa
- SHS exposure – one-third of the students live in homes where others smoke, and over two in five students are around others who smoke in enclosed public places; more than two in five students have at least one parent who smokes
- Three-quarters of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them
- Close to nine in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned
- One in 10 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it
- Almost nine in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; two in five saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards; and over two in five saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days