

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



The Saint Lucia 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 Saint Lucia could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Saint Lucia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in forms 1, 2, 3 and 4 conducted in 2011.

At the first stage, all schools were selected containing forms 1 through 4. 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 96.6%, the student response rate was 77.8%, and the overall response rate was 75.1%. A total of 858 students ages 13-15 participated in the Saint Lucia GYTS.

Prevalence

- 32.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 41.4%, Girl = 24.6%)
- 20.7% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 24.5%, Girl = 17.3%)
- 10.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 13.3%, Girl = 8.5%)
- 13.4% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 16.0%, Girl = 11.0%)
- 19.3% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

- 34.8% think boys and 19.8% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 12.2% think boys and 8.4% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 40.5% usually smoke at home
- 12.0% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 30.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 33.8% are around others who smoke in enclosed public places
- 62.8% are around others who smoke in outdoor public places
- 81.3% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 72.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 23.5% have one or more parents who smoke
- 6.7% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

- 67.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

- 66.4% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 38.5% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 27.8% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 9.7% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 11.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

- 54.6% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 34.6% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke

Highlights

- One in five students currently uses any form of tobacco; 10.7% of the students currently smoke cigarettes; 13.4% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure – Three in 10 students live in homes where others smoke, and three in five students are exposed to smoke around others in outdoor public places; one-quarter of the students have one or more parents who smoke, and 6.7% have friends who smoke.
- Seven in 10 think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Eight 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.
- Two-thirds of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; four in five students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards; and one in three saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.