

Ecuador - Zamora (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Ecuador-Zamora 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 Ecuador-Zamora could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Ecuador-Zamora GYTS was a school-based survey of students in 8 vo de basica, 9 no de basica, 10 mo de basica and 1ro de bachillerato conducted in 2007.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all Ecuador-Zamora. 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 90.0%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 94.8% and the overall response rate was 85.3%. A total of 352 students aged 13-15 participated in the Ecuador-Zamora GYTS.

Prevalence

74.2% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 83.3%, Girls = 66.4%)
 39.2% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 48.1%, Girls = 31.7%)
 41.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 47.9%, Girls = 35.9%)
 9.9% currently use other tobacco products (Boys = 12.4%, Girls = 7.9%)
 35.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

17.7% think boys and 27.6% think girls who smoke have more friends
 15.4% think boys and 14.8% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

21.7% usually smoke at home
 29.6% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

38.7% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 64.3% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 83.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
 69.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 64.5% have one or more parents who smoke
 20.8% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

71.8% want to stop smoking
 71.6% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 83.0% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

84.3% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 80.0% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 71.4% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 11.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 18.0% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

64.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 22.0% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 45.5% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Two in 5 students currently smoke cigarettes; almost 1 in 10 students use other tobacco products; and over one-third of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year.
- SHS exposure is high – almost 2 in 5 students live in homes where others smoke; nearly two-thirds of students are exposed to smoke of others outside their home; close to two-thirds have at least one parent who smokes.
- Seven 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Over 7 in 10 current smokers want to stop smoking.
- Almost 1 in 5 students was offered a free cigarette by a tobacco company representative.
- Over 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and over 7 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.