

Mexico – Tapachula (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Mexico - Tapachula 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 Mexico - Tapachula could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Mexico - Tapachula GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 1, 2 and 3 conducted in 2006.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Mexico - Tapachula. 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 100.0%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 84.8%, and the overall response rate was 84.8%. A total of 1,478 students aged 13-15 participated in the Mexico - Tapachula GYTS.

Prevalence

40.0% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 42.9%, Girl = 32.8%)
 19.7% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 22.3%, Girl = 14.1%)
 16.3% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 17.5%, Girl = 12.4%)
 6.9% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 9.2%, Girl = 3.5%)
 20.3% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

23.4% think boys and 17.1% think girls who smoke have more friends
 16.7% think boys and 14.2% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

13.6% usually smoke at home
 48.6% buy cigarettes in a store
 62.3% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

26.7% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 41.5% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 90.6% think smoking should be banned from public places
 72.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 23.1% have one or more parents who smoke
 12.5% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

48.4% want to stop smoking
 69.8% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 81.5% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

81.0% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 83.1% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 73.7% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 15.8% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 14.9% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

78.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 48.3% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 67.6% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- 19.7% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 16.3% currently smoke cigarettes; 6.9% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – over one-quarter of the students live in homes where others smoke, and 2 in 5 students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; more than 1 in 5 students have at least one parent who smokes.
- More than 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Nine in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- One in 6 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Eight in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; over three-quarters of the students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.