

Argentina (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Argentina GYTS was a school-based survey of students in First, Second and Third Secondary as well as 8th EGB, 9th EGB and 1st conducted in 2007.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all Argentina. 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 94.7%, the class response rate was 92.2%, the student response rate was 78.2% and the overall response rate was 68.2%. A total of 4,926 students aged 13-15 participated in the Argentina GYTS.

Prevalence

52.0% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 48.9%, Girl = 54.8%)
 28.0% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 26.1%, Girl = 29.7%)
 24.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 21.1%, Girl = 27.3%)
 8.9% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 11.6%, Girl = 6.5%)
 28.1% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

15.1% think boys and 14.1% think girls who smoke have more friends
 19.1% think boys and 13.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

11.9% usually smoke at home
 48.2% buy cigarettes in a store
 88.7% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

54.7% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 68.6% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
 83.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
 66.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 50.5% have one or more parents who smoke
 22.5% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

50.2% want to stop smoking
 62.5% tried to stop smoking during the past year
 77.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

72.4% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 80.6% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
 80.9% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
 12.1% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
 10.0% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

55.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
 32.3% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
 43.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- More than one-quarter of the students currently smokes cigarettes; 8.9% of students use other tobacco products: over a quarter of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year.
- SHS exposure is high – over half of the students live in homes where others smoke; over two-thirds of the students are exposed to smoke around others outside of the home; half the students have one or more parents who smoke; 1 in 5 students have most or all of their friends smoke.
- Two-thirds of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 8 in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Half of the current smokers want to stop smoking.
- One in 10 students was offered a free cigarette by a tobacco company representative.
- Over 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in the past 30 days.