

Saint Vincent & The Grenadines (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The Saint Vincent & The Grenadines 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 that should be included in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Saint Vincent & The Grenadines GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Forms 1-4 conducted in 2007.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Saint Vincent & The Grenadines. 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%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 84.5%, and the overall response rate was 84.5%. A total of 872 students aged 13-15 participated in the Saint Vincent & The Grenadines GYTS.

Prevalence

32.4% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 37.7%, Girl = 27.9%)

19.1% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 22.0%, Girl = 16.6%)

12.0% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 14.8%, Girl = 9.5%)

10.3% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 11.2%, Girl = 9.6%)

19.7% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

38.9% think boys and 20.6% think girls who smoke have more friends

11.5% think boys and 8.4% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

42.1% usually smoke at home

23.3% buy cigarettes in a store

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

31.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence

59.7% are around others who smoke in places outside their home

72.0% think smoking should be banned from public places

65.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them

31.7% have one or more parents who smoke

8.2% have most or all friends who smoke

Cessation - Current Smokers

67.5% want to stop smoking

72.4% tried to stop smoking during the past year

72.5% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

75.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days

65.4% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days

56.9% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days

12.4% have an object with a cigarette brand logo

11.7% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

48.6% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking

31.9% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke

47.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Nearly 1 in 5 students currently use some form of tobacco; 12% currently smoke cigarettes; 10.3% use other forms of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – 1 in 3 students live in homes where others smoke; 6 in 10 are exposed to smoke in public places; 1 in 3 students have one or more parents who smoke
- Close to three-quarters of the students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- Almost two-thirds of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Two-thirds of smokers want to stop smoking.
- One in 8 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Three-quarters of students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; two-thirds saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and over half the students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.