

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



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

The Palau GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 6-12 conducted in 2000.

A census of all schools was used to produce representative data for Palau. The school response rate was 100.0%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 90.6%, and the overall response rate was 90.6%. A total of 822 students aged 13-15 participated in the Palau GYTS.

Prevalence

61.4% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 63.0%, Girl = 60.1%)
73.5% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 67.9%, Girl = 78.7%)
21.6% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 23.3%, Girl = 20.0%)
0.9% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

46.0% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
78.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation - Current Smokers

76.8% want to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

65.9% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
26.3% have an object with a cigarette brand logo

Highlights

- More than 7 in 10 students currently use any form of tobacco; 21.6% currently smoke cigarettes.
- SHS exposure is moderate – about half of the students live in homes where others smoke.
- Nearly 8 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Almost 8 in 10 current smokers want to stop smoking.
- More than one-quarter of students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Nearly two-thirds of students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days.