

Rwanda (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



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

The Rwanda GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Umwaka wa mbere, Umwaka wa kabiri, Umwaka wa gatatu

conducted in 2008. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Rwanda. 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%, the student response rate was 91.8%, and the overall response rate was 91.8%. A total of 688 students aged 13-15 participated in the Rwanda GYTS.

Prevalence

16.3% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy =23.5%, Girl =9.5%)
11.5% currently use any tobacco product (Boy =13.3%, Girl=9.5%)
1.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy =3.0%, Girl =0.9%)
10.5% currently use other tobacco products (Boy =12.0%, Girl =8.7%)
10.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Knowledge and Attitudes

23.0% think boys who smoke have more friends
9.2% think boys and 6.4% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

19.2% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
85.6% think smoking should be banned from public places
77.1% think smoke from others is harmful to them
1.5% have most or all friends who smoke

Media and Advertising

81.2% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
47.0% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
31.1% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
9.6% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
4.8% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

School

47.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
22.4% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
48.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

Highlights

- Over 1 in 10 students currently use any form of tobacco; 1.8% currently smoke cigarettes; approximately 1 in 10 currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is moderate – 2 in 10 students live in homes where others smoke; 14.0% of students have one or more parent who smoke.
- More than three-quarters of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 8 in 10 students think smoking should be banned from public places.
- One in 10 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- More than 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking messages while nearly half saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, and approximately one-third of the students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.