

Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) FACT SHEET



The Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) YTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, environmental tobacco smoke exposure (ETS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components the CNMI could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The CNMI YTS was a school-based survey of students aged

13-15, conducted in 2004. A census of students was completed for all of CNMI. The school response rate was 68.8%, the student response rate was 80.3%, and the overall response rate was 55.2%. A total of 2,809 students participated in the CNMI YTS.

Prevalence

70.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 68.2%, Female = 72.0%)
53.4% currently use any tobacco product (Male = 57.0 %, Female = 49.8 %)
29.1% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 26.6 %, Female = 31.5 %)
45.3% currently use other tobacco products (Male = 52.3 %, Female = 38.3 %)
22.3% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

15.5% buy cigarettes in a store
51.3% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Environmental Tobacco Smoke

59.3% live in homes where others smoke
69.1% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation - Current Smokers

79.4% want to stop smoking
78.2% tried to stop smoking during the past year
19.8% have ever received help to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

72.5% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days

School

56.2% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
35.4% had been taught in class, during the past year, ways to say NO to tobacco use

Highlights

- 53.4% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 29.1% currently smoke cigarettes; 45.3% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- ETS exposure is high – Six in 10 students live in homes where others smoke.
- Seven in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Eight in 10 smokers want to stop.
- More than 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days.