

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 2005.

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 90.7%, and the overall response rate was 90.7%. A total of 928 students aged 13-15 participated in the Palau GYTS.

Prevalence

64.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 68.3%, Girl = 61.2%)
33.1% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 38.0%, Girl = 28.4%)
26.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 31.0%, Girl = 22.6%)
20.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

43.1% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
91.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation - Current Smokers

78.1% want to stop smoking

Media and Advertising

84.7% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
82.3% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
36.2% have an object with a cigarette brand logo

School

86.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of tobacco use

Highlights

- More than 3 in 10 students currently use any form of tobacco; 26.7% currently smoke cigarettes.
- SHS exposure is moderate – over 2 in 5 students live in homes where others smoke.
- More than 9 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Almost 8 in 10 current smokers want to stop smoking.
- More than one-third of students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Over 8 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days and 8 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards in the past 30 days.