

# Sri Lanka

## Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .

The Sri Lanka GSPS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on attitudes on school policy toward tobacco use, access to teaching materials and training, and attitudes toward tobacco use. These factors are components Sri Lanka could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Sri Lanka GSPS was a school-based survey of school personnel from the schools that participated in the 2003 Sri Lanka GYTS.

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in grades 8, 9, and 10. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Sri Lanka. 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 95.8%. For the GSPS, 71.4% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 1,348 teachers and administrators.

#### Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

25.1% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 63.6%, Teachers = 16.6%)  
 15.2% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 38.3%, Teachers = 10.3%)  
 12.9% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 34.8%, Teachers = 8.1%)  
 10.0% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 24.5%, Teachers = 6.8%)  
 5.1% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 20.6%, Teachers = 1.9%)

#### School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

96.7% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students  
 44.3% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students  
 95.9% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel  
 34.5% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel  
 47.7% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

#### Access to Teaching Materials and Training

86.8% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use  
 7.6% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use  
 7.0% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention  
 41.9% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

#### Attitudes

98.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
 98.5% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use  
 87.5% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned  
 89.1% think the price of tobacco products should be increased  
 79.8% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

#### Highlights

- One-quarter of school personnel have ever smoked cigarettes; 12.9% currently smoke cigarettes and 10.0% currently use other tobacco products.
- More than two in five schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; One-third have a policy for personnel; Nearly half of the schools enforce their policies.
- 7.6% of teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 7.0% of the teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- Four in 10 schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- Nearly all think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.