

# Belarus

## Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .

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

The Belarus GSPS was a school-based survey of school personnel from the schools that participated in the 2004 Belarus GYTS.

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in grades 7, 8 and 9. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Belarus. 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%. For the GSPS, 86.5% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 857 teachers & administrators.

#### Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

45.6% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 48.3%, Teachers = 45.3%)  
 18.9% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 27.0%, Teachers = 18.0%)  
 18.9% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 27.0%, Teachers = 18.0%)  
 1.1% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 2.4%, Teachers = 1.0%)  
 10.0% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 15.7%, Teachers = 9.4%)

#### School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

97.9% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students  
 90.8% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students  
 77.4% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel  
 52.3% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel  
 87.0% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

#### Access to Teaching Materials and Training

79.7% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use  
 66.0% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use  
 15.1% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention  
 95.6% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

#### Attitudes

98.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
 97.7% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use  
 90.9% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned  
 54.7% think the price of tobacco products should be increased  
 73.3% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

#### Highlights

- 18.9% of school personnel currently use any tobacco product; 18.9% currently smoke cigarettes and 1.1% currently use other tobacco products.
- Nine in 10 schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; over half have a policy for personnel; Nearly nine in 10 schools enforce their policies.
- Two-thirds of the teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 15.1% of teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- More than nine in 10 schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- Nearly all think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.