

Malaysia

Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

FACT SHEET

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

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

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in forms 1, 2 and 3. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Malaysia. 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 93.9%. For the GSPS, 70.3% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 2,540 teachers and administrators.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

23.8% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 44.4%, Teachers = 22.0%)
 16.7% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 37.1%, Teachers = 14.9%)
 16.8% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 35.6%, Teachers = 15.1%)
 2.8% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 20.4%, Teachers = 1.3%)
 7.9% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 23.5%, Teachers = 6.5%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

98.0% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 86.4% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 94.2% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 66.2% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 24.4% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

90.0% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
 39.7% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
 11.2% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
 47.6% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

98.1% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 98.4% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use
 93.9% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
 91.5% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
 78.0% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- 16.7% of school personnel currently use any tobacco product; 16.8% currently smoke cigarettes and 2.8% currently use other tobacco products.
- Close to nine in 10 schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; two-thirds have a policy for personnel; one-quarter of the schools enforce their policies.
- Two in five teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 11.2% of teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- Close to half the schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- Nearly all think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.