

Latvia

Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

FACT SHEET

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

The Latvia GSPS was a school-based survey of school personnel from the schools that participated in the 2007 Latvia 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 Latvia. 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 98.0%. For the GSPS, 45.3% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 1,232 teachers & administrators.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

38.4% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 48.5%, Teachers = 36.9%)
 20.8% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 19.1%, Teachers = 21.0%)
 15.3% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 12.5%, Teachers = 15.7%)
 13.0% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 13.0%, Teachers = 13.0%)
 8.7% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 9.8%, Teachers = 8.5%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

93.0% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 99.6% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 79.9% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 88.1% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 98.2% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

62.5% schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum
 68.4% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
 81.6% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
 31.4% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
 64.9% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

89.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
 94.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 71.6% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use
 73.4% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
 74.1% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
 67.0% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- 20.8% of school personnel currently use any tobacco product; 15.3% currently smoke cigarettes and 13.0% currently use other tobacco products.
- Almost all schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; nine in 10 have a policy for personnel; 98.2% of schools enforce their policies.
- Three in five schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum.
- Four in 5 teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- Three in 10 teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- Nearly two-thirds of the schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- Nine 9 in 10 think smoking should be banned from public places.
- Seven in 10 think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.