

Maldives

Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

FACT SHEET

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

The Maldives GSPS was a school-based survey of school personnel from the schools that participated in the 2007 Maldives GYTS.

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in grades 7, 8, 9 and 10. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Maldives. 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 97.5%. For the GSPS, 63.6% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 1,598 teachers and administrators.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

29.9% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 46.0%, Teachers = 27.0%)
 14.4% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 26.6%, Teachers = 12.2%)
 12.4% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 21.6%, Teachers = 10.7%)
 5.8% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 15.2%, Teachers = 4.0%)
 3.7% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 14.5%, Teachers = 1.7%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

95.8% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 93.0% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 95.9% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 88.0% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 94.0% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

55.2% schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum
 69.8% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
 26.5% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
 9.8% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
 55.6% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

94.2% think smoking should be banned from public places
 96.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 86.2% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use
 84.7% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
 79.3% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
 73.7% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- 14.4% of school personnel currently use any tobacco product; 12.4% currently smoke cigarettes and 5.8% currently use other tobacco products.
- Over nine in 10 schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students and personnel; 94.0% of the schools enforce their policies.
- More than half the schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum.
- Three in 10 teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 9.8% of teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- Over half the schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- Nine in 10 think smoking should be banned from public places.
- More than 4 in 5 think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.