

# Cuba - Matanzas - Medical Students (3<sup>rd</sup> Year Students Only) Global Health Professions Student Survey (GHPSS)

## FACT SHEET . . . . .

The Cuba - Matanzas medical students GHPSS includes data on prevalence of cigarette smoking and use of other tobacco products, knowledge and attitudes about tobacco use, exposure to second-hand smoke, desire for smoking cessation, and training received during medical school regarding patient counseling on smoking cessation techniques. This information could be very useful in monitoring and developing Cuba - Matanzas's comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Cuba - Matanzas medical students GHPSS was a census of 3<sup>rd</sup> year medical students attending the 1 medical school in Cuba - Matanzas that was conducted in 2008. The school response rate was 100% and the student response rate was 95.8%. A total of 135 students participated in the Cuba - Matanzas medical students GHPSS.

### Prevalence

47.7% ever smoked cigarettes (Males = 38.7%, Females = 50.0%)  
24.2% currently smoke cigarettes (Males = 22.6%, Females = 25.0%)  
10.4% ever used any form of tobacco other than cigarettes (Males = 16.1%, Females = 7.8%)  
7.4% currently use any form of tobacco other than cigarettes (Males = 6.5%, Females = 7.8%)  
39.1% of ever smokers smoked on school premises/property during the past year.  
32.7% of ever smokers smoked in school buildings during the past year.

### Factors Influencing Tobacco Use

64.4% were exposed to second-hand smoke at home, during the past week.  
74.6% were exposed to second-hand smoke in public places during the past week.  
67.7% reported that their school had a ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics.  
51.1% reported that their school enforced the ban on smoking in school buildings and clinics.  
98.5% thought smoking should be banned in all enclosed public places.  
98.5% thought tobacco sales to adolescents should be banned.  
88.8% thought there should be a complete ban on advertising tobacco products.  
91.3% of current smokers wanted to stop smoking.  
73.3% of current smokers ever received help/advice to stop smoking cigarettes.  
94.0% were taught about the dangers of smoking during medical school training.

### Role Model and Cessation Training

97.0% thought health professionals serve as role models for their patients.  
100.0% thought health professionals have a role in giving advice about smoking cessation to patients.  
55.6% received formal training in smoking cessation approaches during medical school.  
97.0% thought health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques.

### Highlights

**One-quarter currently smokes cigarettes and 7.4% currently use other tobacco products.**

**Over 9 in 10 smokers indicated that they want to quit.**

**Three-quarters were exposed to smoke in public places.**

**Almost all support a ban on smoking in all enclosed public places.**

**Over half received training to provide patients with cessation approaches.**

**Nearly all think health professionals should get specific training on cessation techniques to use with patients.**