

Gaza Strip - UNRWA Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS) FACT SHEET

The Gaza Strip - UNRWA 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 Gaza Strip - UNRWA could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Gaza Strip - UNRWA GSPS was a school-based survey of school personnel from the schools that participated in the 2008 Gaza Strip - UNRWA 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 Gaza Strip - UNRWA. 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, 100.0% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 700 teachers & administrators.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

- 31.2% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 60.1%, Teachers = 29.9%)
- 16.6% ever smoked shisha (Admin = 23.6%, Teachers = 16.4%)
- 18.1% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 39.8%, Teachers = 17.5%)
- 15.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 30.8%, Teachers = 14.8%)
- 6.8% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 13.5%, Teachers = 6.5%)
- 11.3% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 37.4%, Teachers = 9.6%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

- 97.6% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
- 82.1% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
- 92.5% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
- 66.4% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
- 76.2% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

- 54.0% schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum
- 82.9% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
- 46.8% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
- 12.1% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
- 48.2% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

- 92.8% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 96.7% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 94.6% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use
- 94.0% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
- 75.0% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
- 91.8% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- Three in 10 school personnel have ever smoked cigarettes; 15.5% currently smoke cigarettes and 16.6% have ever smoked shisha.
- Eight in 10 schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; nearly seven in 10 have a policy for personnel; more than three-quarters enforce their policies.
- More than five in 10 of the schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum.
- Nearly five in 10 teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 12.1% of the teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- 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 nine in 10 think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.