

Georgia

Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

FACT SHEET

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

The Georgia GSPS was a school-based survey of school personnel from the schools that participated in the 2008 Georgia GYTS.

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in 7th, 8th, 9th, and 10th grades. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Georgia. 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, 100.00% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 343 teachers and administrators.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

23.4% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 38.3%, Teachers = 20.8%)
 9.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 16.7%, Teachers = 7.9%)
 7.5% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 6.5%, Teachers = 7.7%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

95.2% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 93.1% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 85.6% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 77.7% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 99.0% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

49.5% schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum
 76.9% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
 56.5% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
 34.9% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
 51.9% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

94.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
 91.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 78.2% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use
 71.7% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
 52.4% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
 63.9% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- 9.5% of school personnel currently smoke cigarettes and 7.5% smoked on school property in the past year.
- Over 9 in 10 schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; More than three-quarters have a policy for personnel; Nearly all schools enforce their policies.
- Half the schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum.
- Nearly 3 in 5 teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- More than two-thirds of the teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- Half of the schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- Over 9 in 10 think smoking should be banned from public places.
- More than three-quarters think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.