

Mauritius

Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

FACT SHEET

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

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

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in grades 6 through 9. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Mauritius. 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 96%. For the GSPS, 61.8% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 863 teachers & administrators.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

41.5% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 47.7%, Teachers = 41.4%)
15.1% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 33.3%, Teachers = 14.6%)
14.9% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 33.9%, Teachers = 14.4%)
1.0% currently use other tobacco products (Teachers = 1.0%)
6.4% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 26.2%, Teachers = 5.8%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

98.3% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
87.9% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
95.7% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
72.2% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
95.9% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

45.4% schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum
75.1% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
38.1% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
6.1% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
54.7% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

93.5% think smoking should be banned from public places
94.5% think smoke from others is harmful to them
88.9% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use
84.9% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
81.5% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
67.0% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- 15.1% of school personnel currently use any tobacco product; 14.9% currently smoke cigarettes and 1.0% currently use other tobacco products.
- Close to 9 in 10 schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; nearly three-quarters have a policy for personnel; 95.9% of the schools enforce their policies.
- More than 2 in 5 schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum.
- Over one-third of the teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 6.1% of teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- More than half the schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- 93.5% think smoking should be banned from public places.
- Nearly 9 in 10 think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.