

Serbia

Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

FACT SHEET

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

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

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in grades 7th, 8th and 1st. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Serbia. 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 96.7%. For the GSPS, 90.5% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 1,552 teachers & administrators.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

58.3% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 59.2%, Teachers = 58.2%)
35.7% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 31.2%, Teachers = 35.8%)
35.4% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 29.9%, Teachers = 35.5%)
5.9% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 10.6%, Teachers = 5.8%)
25.3% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 24.9%, Teachers = 25.3%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

90.2% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
87.4% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
80.5% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
77.1% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
97.5% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

64.9% schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum
50.2% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
65.0% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
14.6% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
75.0% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

79.4% think smoking should be banned from public places
89.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
65.1% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use
81.1% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
70.0% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
59.7% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- More than one-third of school personnel currently use any tobacco product; 35.4% currently smoke cigarettes and 5.9% currently use other tobacco products.
- Over 4 in 5 schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; Three-quarters have a policy for personnel; More than 9 in 10 schools enforce their policies.
- More than 3 in 5 schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum.
- Nearly two-thirds of the teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 14.6% of teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- Three-quarters of the schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- Four in 5 think smoking should be banned from public places.
- Almost two-thirds think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.

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