

Solomon Islands

Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

FACT SHEET

The Solomon Islands 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 Solomon Islands could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

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

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in Standard 6, Form 1, Form 2, and Form 3. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Solomon Islands. 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 85.0%. For the GSPS, 80.1% of the school personnel completed the survey, for a total of 243 teachers and administrators.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use among School Personnel

52.7% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 52.9%, Teachers = 52.7%)
 33.3% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 34.9%, Teachers = 32.8%)
 32.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 30.2%, Teachers = 33.2%)
 4.1% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 10.4%, Teachers = 2.3%)
 24.7% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 24.9%, Teachers = 24.6%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

96.3% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

92.0% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use

Attitudes

90.0% think smoking should be banned from public places
 95.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 89.2% think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use
 82.3% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
 80.1% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
 70.4% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- 33.3% of school personnel currently use any tobacco product; 32.5% currently smoke cigarettes and 4.1% currently use other tobacco products.
- Nine in 10 think smoking should be banned from public places.
- Almost nine in 10 think teacher tobacco use influences youth tobacco use.