

Syria 2010 (Teachers & Administrators)

Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS)

FACT SHEET

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

The Syria GSPS was a school-based survey of school personnel from the schools that participated in the 2010 Syria GYTS.

The GYTS was conducted in schools having students in grades 7-10. For the GYTS, a two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all of Syria. 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. For the GSPS, a total of 1,326 school personnel (teachers and administrators) completed the survey.

Prevalence of Tobacco Use

38.8% ever smoked cigarettes (Admin = 56.2%, Teachers = 32.2%)
 35.6% currently use any tobacco product (Admin = 50.2%, Teachers = 30.1%)
 26.9% currently smoke cigarettes (Admin = 40.9%, Teachers = 21.7%)
 19.3% currently use other tobacco products (Admin = 24.4%, Teachers = 17.4%)
 11.5% smoked on school property in the past year (Admin = 18.8%, Teachers = 8.8%)

School Policies Prohibiting Tobacco Use

95.4% agree schools should have policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 83.2% report school has policy prohibiting tobacco use among students
 91.1% agree schools should have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 55.7% report school has a policy prohibiting tobacco use among personnel
 94.6% report school enforces policies on tobacco use for students and personnel

Access to Teaching Materials and Training

74.1% schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum
 75.2% think teachers need specific training to help students avoid tobacco use
 47.2% teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use
 14.6% teachers had ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention
 27.6% schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention

Attitudes

94.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
 95.3% think smoke from others is harmful to them
 88.3% think tobacco product advertising should be completely banned
 71.9% think the price of tobacco products should be increased
 86.9% think the tobacco industry deliberately encourages youth to use tobacco

Highlights

- 35.6% of teachers and administrators currently use any tobacco product; 26.9% currently smoke cigarettes and 19.3% currently use other tobacco products.
- Over four in five schools have a policy prohibiting tobacco use among students; 55.7% have a policy for personnel; 94.6% report that schools enforce their policies.
- Nearly three-quarters of schools include tobacco use prevention in school curriculum.
- Almost one-half of teachers have access to teaching materials on tobacco use.
- 14.6% of teachers have ever received training on youth tobacco use prevention.
- Almost three in 10 schools use non-classroom programs to teach youth tobacco use prevention.
- 94.1% think smoking should be banned from public places.