

American Samoa (Ages 13-15)

Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

FACT SHEET



The American Samoa GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components American Samoa could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The American Samoa GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 6-12 conducted in 2005.

A census was done of all schools containing students in grades 6-12 in American Samoa. A selection of students within all schools was surveyed. The school response rate was 100.0%, the class response rate was 100.0%, the student response rate was 93.8%, and the overall response rate was 93.8%. A total of 1,293 students aged 13-15 participated in the American Samoa GYTS.

Prevalence

40.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 44.7%, Girl = 37.0%)
 20.3% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 23.8%, Girl = 16.6%)
 16.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 18.3%, Girl = 15.1%)
 9.1% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 12.1%, Girl = 5.8%)
 23.7% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

12.2% buy cigarettes in a store
 59.6% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

61.9% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
 57.4% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation - Current Smokers

83.6% want to stop smoking
 80.3% tried to stop smoking during the past year

Media and Advertising

69.3% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
 14.2% have an object with a cigarette brand logo

School

51.9% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking

Highlights

- 20.3% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 16.7% currently smoke cigarettes; 9.1% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – over 3 in 5 students live in homes where others smoke.
- Almost 3 in 5 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Over 4 in 5 current smokers want to stop smoking.
- More than 1 in 10 students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Nearly 7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days.