

## GSHS OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

### OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the GSHS is to provide accurate data on health behaviors and protective factors among students to:

- Help countries establish priorities, develop programs, and advocate for resources for school health and youth health programs and policies;
- Allow international agencies, countries, and others to make comparisons across countries regarding the prevalence of health behaviors and protective factors; and
- Establish trends in the prevalence of health behaviors and protective factors by country for use in evaluation of school health and youth health promotion.

### METHODOLOGY

The GSHS is a school-based survey conducted primarily among students aged 13-15 years. It uses a self-administered questionnaire which can be administered during one regular class period. The GSHS is part of a global surveillance system which uses:

- standardized scientific sample selection process;
- common school-based methodology to monitor risk and protective factors among students worldwide; and
- 10 core questionnaire modules which address the leading causes of morbidity and mortality among children and adults worldwide



## QUESTIONNAIRE

The GSHS questionnaire includes the following:

- A core set of 48 questions shared by all countries, [GSHS questionnaire \(EN\).pdf \[97kb\]](#)
- Optional questions [GSHS Core-expanded questions \(EN\).pdf \[137kb\]](#)
- New country-specific questions.

The questions are translated into the appropriate language of instruction for the students and pilot tested for comprehension. All questions share common characteristics to enhance the flow of the survey and comprehension by the student. To help protect student privacy, no skip patterns are allowed.

Additional information about the GSHS can be found at:



**Pan American Health Organization / World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO)**

<http://www.bvsde.ops-oms.org/bvsdeescuelas/EMSE/EMSEeng.html>



**World Health Organization (WHO)**

<http://www.who.int/chp/gshs/en/>



**US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)**

<http://www.cdc.gov/gshs/>