

# Saint Lucia 2011 (Ages 13-15) Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Saint Lucia 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 Saint Lucia could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Saint Lucia GYTS was a school-based survey of students in forms 1, 2, 3 and 4 conducted in 2011.

At the first stage, all schools were selected containing forms 1 through 4. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. A total of 1,363 students participated in the Saint Lucia GYTS of which 858 were ages 13 to 15 years. The overall response rate of all students surveyed was 75.1%.

## Prevalence

- 32.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boys = 41.4%, Girls = 24.6%)
- 20.7% currently use any tobacco product (Boys = 24.5%, Girls = 17.3%)
- 10.7% currently smoke cigarettes (Boys = 13.3%, Girls = 8.5%)
- 13.4% currently use other tobacco products (Boys = 16.0%, Girls = 11.0%)
- 19.3% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

## Knowledge and Attitudes

- 34.8% think boys and 19.8% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 12.2% think boys and 8.4% think girls who smoke look more attractive

## Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 40.5% usually smoke at home
- 12.0% buy cigarettes in a store

## Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 30.5% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 33.8% are around others who smoke in enclosed public places
- 62.8% are around others who smoke in outdoor public places
- 81.3% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 72.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 23.5% have one or more parents who smoke
- 6.7% have most or all friends who smoke

## Cessation - Current Smokers

- 67.2% have ever received help to stop smoking

## Media and Advertising

- 53.9% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 38.5% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 27.8% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 9.7% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 11.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

## School

- 54.6% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 34.6% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke

## Highlights

- 20.7% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 10.7% of the students currently smoke cigarettes; 13.4% currently use some other form of tobacco
- SHS exposure – Three in 10 students live in homes where others smoke, and one-third of the students are around others who smoke in enclosed public places; almost one-quarter of the students have one or more parents who smoke
- Over seven in 10 think smoke from others is harmful to them
- Over eight in 10 students think smoking in public places should be banned
- One in 10 students has an object with a cigarette brand logo on it
- Over half of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; almost four in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards; and almost three in 10 saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days