

Antigua and Barbuda

2009 Fact Sheet



The **2009 Antigua and Barbuda GSHS** measured alcohol use; dietary behaviors; drug use; hygiene; mental health; physical activity; protective factors; sexual behaviors; tobacco use; and violence and unintentional injury.

The 2009 Antigua and Barbuda GSHS was a school-based survey of students in Forms 1-4 and Grades 7-9. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce data representative of all students in Forms 1-4 and Grades 7-9 in Antigua and Barbuda. 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 95%, the student response rate was 71%, and the overall response rate was 67%. A total of 1266 students participated in the Antigua and Barbuda GSHS. Students self-reported their responses to each question on a computer scannable answer sheet. For comparison purposes, only students aged 13- 15 years are included in the analyses for this fact sheet.

Results for students aged 13-15 years	Total	Boys	Girls
Alcohol Use			
Percentage of students who drank at least one drink containing alcohol on one or more of the past 30 days	45.1 (40.9-49.5)	43.8 (38.4-49.3)	45.7 (39.7-51.9)
Among students who ever had a drink of alcohol (other than a few sips), the percentage who had their first drink of alcohol before age 14 years	86.5 (81.6-90.3)	85.9 (78.4-91.0)	88.2 (82.9-91.9)
Percentage of students who drank so much alcohol that they were really drunk one or more times during their life	22.7 (19.7-26.0)	26.1 (21.8-30.8)	19.5 (16.0-23.5)
Dietary Behaviours			
Percentage of students who usually drank carbonated soft drinks one or more times per day during the past 30 days	58.8 (55.1-62.4)	59.6 (55.7-63.4)	57.7 (52.1-63.1)
Percentage of students who usually ate fruit two or more times per day during the past 30 days.	40.8 (37.5-44.1)	44.1 (39.6-48.6)	36.0 (31.8-40.4)
Percentage of students who usually ate vegetables three or more times per day during the past 30 days.	22.4 (19.6-25.5)	24.7 (21.2-28.6)	19.5 (16.0-23.6)
Percentage of students who usually ate fruits and vegetables five or more times per day during the past 30 days.	26.7 (23.9-29.7)	30.7 (26.8-34.7)	21.4 (17.4-26.1)
Drug Use			
Among students who ever used drugs, the percentage who first used drugs before age 14 years	79.1 (73.7-83.6)	78.6 (71.4-84.4)	79.6 (71.5-86.0)
Hygiene			
Percentage of students who usually cleaned or brushed their teeth less than one time per day during the past 30 days	3.0 (2.2-4.0)	3.8 (2.5-5.7)	2.0 (1.3-3.2)
Percentage of students who never or rarely washed their hands after using the toilet or latrine during the past 30 days	5.2 (3.9-6.8)	5.4 (3.7-7.9)	4.9 (3.4-7.0)
Mental Health			
Percentage of students who ever seriously considered attempting suicide during the past 12 months	17.4 (15.1-19.8)	12.6 (9.4-16.5)	22.5 (18.9-26.5)
Percentage of students who actually attempted suicide one or more times during the past 12 months	12.3 (10.3-4.6)	9.3 (7.0-12.2)	15.7 (12.1-20.0)
Percentage of students who had no close friends	8.5 (6.8-10.6)	11.3 (8.5-14.8)	5.7 (4.0-8.3)
Physical Activity			
Percentage of students who were physically active for a total of at least 60 minutes per day on five or more days during the past seven days	31.8 (27.3-36.8)	36.5 (29.7-43.8)	27.0 (22.7-31.7)
Percentage of students who went to physical education (PE) class on three or more days each week during the school year	26.4 (22.2-31.2)	28.5 (23.2-34.4)	23.8 (19.5-28.6)

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Results for students aged 13-15 years	Total	Boys	Girls
Percentage of students who spent three or more hours per day during a typical or usual day doing sitting activities	54.8 (50.6-58.9)	50.3 (45.2-55.3)	59.5 (53.9-64.9)
Protective Factors			
Percentage of students who missed classes or school without permission on one or more of the past 30 days	24.4 (20.9-28.2)	27.1 (22.1-32.6)	21.3 (16.7-26.8)
Percentage of students whose parents or guardians understood their problems and worries most of the time or always during the past 30 days	32.7 (29.7-35.8)	31.9 (27.6-36.5)	34.4 (29.5-39.7)
Percentage of students whose parents or guardians really knew what they were doing with their free time most of the time or always during the past 30 days	39.4 (36.2-42.8)	35.5 (30.8-40.5)	43.7 (38.4-49.1)
Sexual Behaviours			
Percentage of students who ever had sexual intercourse	37.1 (32.7-41.7)	49.4 (44.1-54.7)	23.8 (18.8-29.7)
Among students who ever had sexual intercourse, the percentage who had sexual intercourse for the first time before age 14 years	76.3 (70.8-81.0)	82.8 (77.6-87.0)	61.8 (50.3-72.2)
Among students who ever had sexual intercourse, the percentage who used a condom the last time they had sexual intercourse	68.4 (63.0-73.4)	67.7 (61.1-73.6)	68.5 (59.4-76.4)
Tobacco Use			
Percentage of students who smoked cigarettes on one or more days during the past 30 days	7.4 (5.8-9.4)	8.2 (6.2-10.8)	6.1 (4.2-8.8)
Among students who ever smoked cigarettes, the percentage who first tried a cigarette before age 14 years	89.9 (84.4-93.7)	89.0 (82.6-93.2)	90.4 (83.3-94.7)
Percentage of students who reported people smoked in their presence on one or more days during the past seven days	53.2 (49.1-57.1)	55.4 (49.6-61.0)	49.7 (45.0-54.3)
Violence and Unintentional Injury			
Percentage of students who were in a physical fight one or more times during the past 12 months	47.5 (43.2-51.9)	55.1 (49.9-60.1)	38.4 (31.8-45.5)
Percentage of students who were seriously injured one or more times during the past 12 months	50.8 (46.3-55.3)	53.5 (47.6-59.3)	46.2 (40.2-52.3)
Percentage of students who were bullied on one or more days during the past 30 days	24.9 (21.8-28.3)	23.5 (19.3-28.2)	26.7 (22.2-31.8)

For additional information, please contact:

Cleo Clothilda Hampson, MCH coordinator
Ministry of Health, Antigua, hampson_ccm@hotmail.com