

Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (Ages 13-15) Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) FACT SHEET



The Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) 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 CNMI could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The CNMI GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 6-12 conducted in 2001.

A census was done of all schools containing students in grades 6-12 in CNMI. A selection of students within all schools was surveyed. The school response rate was 68.8%, the class response rate was 98.9%, the student response rate was 80.3%, and the overall response rate was 54.6%. A total of 1,308 students aged 13-15 participated in the CNMI GYTS.

Prevalence

- 77.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 75.6%, Girl = 78.4%)
- 55.1% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 56.0%, Girl = 46.4%)
- 37.6% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 36.5%, Girl = 38.6%)
- 35.2% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 44.6%, Girl = 26.2%)
- 34.8% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

42.8% who bought cigarettes in a store were NOT refused purchase because of their age

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 65.3% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 69.2% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation - Current Smokers

- 79.4% want to stop smoking
- 76.3% tried to stop smoking during the past year

Media and Advertising

- 76.2% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 22.5% have an object with a cigarette brand logo

Highlights

- 55.1% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 37.6% currently smoke cigarettes; 35.2% currently use some other form of tobacco.
- SHS exposure is high – almost two-thirds of the students live in homes where others smoke
- Nearly 7 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- Four in 5 current smokers want to stop smoking.
- More than 1 in 5 students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Over three-quarters of the students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days.