



North Carolina 2007 Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)

High School FACT SHEET



www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov

The North Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) includes data on the prevalence of the use of cigarette and other tobacco products, as well as information on secondhand smoke (SHS), cessation, pro-health media, tobacco advertising, school tobacco prevention education, community participation, and access and availability of tobacco products. These are all critical areas of focus for a comprehensive tobacco control program in North Carolina.

The North Carolina YTS is a public school-based survey of students in grades 6-12, conducted in 1999¹, 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2007². A multi-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for middle and high school students for all of North Carolina. Schools were selected with the probability proportional to enrollment size. Classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The 2007 YTS school district response rate was 100%, the high school student response rate was 81.6% and the overall response rate was 78.3%. A total of 3,644 high school students participated and completed the North Carolina YTS in 2007.

Prevalence

54.3% of students had ever used any tobacco product (Male = 56.1%, Female = 52.4%)
48.9% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (White = 50.4%, Black = 46.1%, Hispanic = 51.8%)
26.6% of students currently use any tobacco product (Male = 32.4%, Female = 20.5%)
19.0% currently smoke cigarettes (White = 23.2%, Black = 11.0%, Hispanic = 18.7%)
8.6% currently use smokeless tobacco (Male = 14.5, Female = 2.4)

Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

40.5% live in homes where others smoke
63.9% are in the same room as others who smoke during the week
91.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation – Current Smokers

45.0% want to quit smoking
53.2% attempted to quit smoking in the past year
7.6% ever participated in a program to help quit using tobacco

Pro-health Media vs Tobacco Advertising

80.5% saw or heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month
19.6% have an object with a tobacco brand logo

School

30.5% were taught the dangers of tobacco in the past year
7.6% smoked on school property in the past month
7.2% said their school has a program to help students quit using tobacco

Access and Availability - Current Smokers < 18 years old

13.7% buy cigarettes in stores
65.7% get cigarettes via social sources (friends, family and others)

High School Highlights

5 in 10 students have used tobacco;
27% currently use some form of tobacco; 19% currently smoke cigarettes; 9% currently use smokeless tobacco (spit, chew or dip).

SHS exposure is very high – more than 6 in 10 students were in the same room with smokers during the week.

9 in 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.

Nearly half of current smokers want to quit smoking.

8 in 10 students saw or heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month.

More than two-thirds were NOT taught the dangers of tobacco at school in past year.

Great majority of students (9 of every 10) say they have NOT smoked on school property.

Fewer than 1 in 10 said their school had a program to help students quit.

¹ 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005 YTS results at www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov/data/yts.htm

² Detailed 2007 YTS tables including 95% confidence intervals are available upon request.



For additional information, please contact:
North Carolina Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch | 919-707-5400
www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov

