



North Carolina 2007 Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)

High School FACT SHEET



Western/Mountain Region (3)

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 was 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 for the Mountain Region was 88.8% and the overall response rate was 88.8%. A total of 1,271 high school students from the Mountain Region participated in and completed the North Carolina YTS in 2007.

Prevalence

60.2% of students had ever used any tobacco product (Male = 66.4%, Female = 54.1%)
51.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (White = 50.6%, Black = 55.0%, Hispanic = 52.5%)
33.2% of students currently use any tobacco product (Male = 43.6%, Female = 22.4%)
22.6% currently smoke cigarettes (White = 23.3%, Black = 17.2%, Hispanic = 19.1%)
15.3% currently use smokeless tobacco (Male = 25.6%, Female = 4.7%)

Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

45.4% live in homes where others smoke
64.5% are in the same room as others who smoke during the week
90.7% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation – Current Smokers

43.9% want to quit smoking
57.7% attempted to quit smoking in the past year
9.1% ever participated in a program to help quit using tobacco

Pro-health Media vs Tobacco Advertising

77.6% saw or heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month
25.4% 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
13.6% said their school has a program to help student quit using tobacco

Access and Availability- Current Smokers < 18 years old

19.5% buy cigarettes in stores
59.5% got their cigarettes via social sources (friends, family and others)

High School Highlights

6 in 10 students have used tobacco; 33% currently use some form of tobacco; 23% currently smoke cigarettes; 15% 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.

4 in 10 current smokers want to quit smoking.

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

7 in 10 were NOT taught the dangers of tobacco in school in the past year.

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

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

* Includes: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Graham, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, McDowell, Macon, Madison, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes and Yancey counties.

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

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



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