



North Carolina 2007 Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)

Middle 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 of 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 middle school student response rate was 85.0% and the overall response rate was 83.3%. A total of 3,787 middle school students participated and completed the North Carolina YTS in 2007.

Prevalence

28.0% of students had ever used any tobacco (White = 23.9%, Black = 33.5%, Hispanic = 27.7%)
21.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Male = 22.1%, Female = 21.1%)
9.1% currently use any tobacco product (White = 7.2%, Black = 11.7%, Hispanic = 9.3%)
4.5% currently smoke cigarettes (Male = 4.2%, Female = 4.8%)
2.3% currently use smokeless tobacco (Male = 3.3%, Female = 1.3%)

Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

42.5% live in homes where others smoke
50.3% are in the same room as others who smoke during the week
88.6% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation – Current Smokers

57.2% want to quit smoking
57.0% attempted to stop smoking in the past year
13.9% ever participated in a program to help quit using tobacco

Pro-health Media vs Tobacco Advertising

71.8% saw or heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month
12.8% have an object with a tobacco brand logo

School

39.7% were taught the dangers of tobacco
1.4% smoked on school property in the past month
4.0% said their school had classes for helping students quit using tobacco

Access and Availability- Current Smokers < 18 years old

4.4% buy cigarettes in stores
48.1% got their cigarettes via social sources (friends, family or other people)

Middle School Highlights

Nearly 3 in 10 students have used tobacco; 9% currently use some form of tobacco; 4.5% currently smoke cigarettes; 2% currently use smokeless tobacco (spit, dip or chew).

SHS exposure is high – 5 in 10 students were in the same room with smokers during the past week.

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

More than half of current smokers want to quit smoking.

7 in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past month.

6 in 10 students were NOT taught the dangers of tobacco at school in the past year.

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

1 in 25 students said their school has classes 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:
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