



North Carolina 2009 Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS)

# High School

## FACT SHEET



[www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov](http://www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov)

### Eastern/Coastal Region (1)

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 1999<sup>1</sup>, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 and 2009<sup>2</sup>. 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 2009 YTS school district response rate was 97.5%, the high school student response rate for the Coastal Region was 80.9% and the overall response rate was 80.9%. A total of 1,183 high school students from the Coastal Region participated in and completed the North Carolina YTS in 2009.

### Prevalence

55.3% of students had ever used any tobacco product (Male = 61.6%, Female = 48.8%)  
47.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (White=44.6%, Black=50.0%, Hispanic=46.8%)  
26.1% of students currently use any tobacco product (Male = 33.0%, Female = 26.6%)  
17.3% currently smoke cigarettes (White = 27.7%, Black = 16.7%, Hispanic = 16.3%)  
8.2% currently use smokeless tobacco (Male = 13.7, Female = 3.3)

### Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

41.1% lives in home where others smoke  
56.1% are in the same room as others who smoke during the week  
87.5% think smoke from others is harmful to them

### Cessation – Current Smokers

48.6% want to quit smoking  
47.3% attempted to quit smoking in the past year  
6.3% ever participated in a program to help quit using tobacco

### Pro-health Media vs Tobacco Advertising

66.6% saw or heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month  
20.8% have an object with a tobacco brand logo

### School

32.4% were taught the dangers of tobacco in the past year  
6.1% smoked on school property in the past month  
6.3% said their school has a program to help students quit using tobacco

### Access and Availability- Current Smokers < 18 years old

16.2% buy cigarettes in stores  
60.9% got their cigarettes via social sources (friends, family and others)

### High School Highlights

Nearly 6 in 10 students have used tobacco; 26% currently use some form of tobacco; 17% currently smoke cigarettes; 8% currently use smokeless tobacco (spit, chew or dip).

SHS exposure is high – almost 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.

Almost half of current smokers want to quit smoking.

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

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

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

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

\* Includes: Beaufort, Bertie, Bladen, Brunswick, Camden, Carteret, Chowan, Columbus, Craven, Currituck, Dare, Duplin, Edgecombe, Gates, Greene, Halifax, Hertford, Hyde, Johnston, Jones, Lenoir, Martin, Nash, New Hanover, Northampton, Onslow, Pamlico, Pasquotank, Pender, Perquimans, Pitt, Sampson, Tyrrell, Warren, Washington, Wayne, and Wilson counties.

<sup>1</sup> 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 YTS results at <http://www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov/data/yts.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Detailed 2009 YTS tables including 95% confidence intervals are available upon request.



For additional information, please contact:  
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Rev. (03/18/10)

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