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# North Carolina 2005 Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS) Results Tobacco Use on School Property among High School Students, School Officials and Adults

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## Background

Each day in the United States, approximately 4,400 youths aged 12-17 try their first cigarette.<sup>1</sup> Of those who become regular smokers as adults, an estimated one-third are expected to die from a smoking-related disease.<sup>2</sup> The North Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey (YTS), conducted by the N.C. Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch and the N.C. Department of Public Instruction, provides information on tobacco use on school property by students, school officials, and adults.

## Methodology

The sampling frame for the drawn sample consisted of all public and charter schools in North Carolina. A total of 90 primary sampling units (PSUs) based on Local Education Areas (LEAs), or school districts, were selected in the first stage of sampling in three distinct geographic regions of the state (west, central and east), and 179 schools were selected from these PSUs in the second stage of sampling. Of these 179 eligible schools, X participated in the 2005 N.C. YTS (school response rate X%). Classes were then randomly selected proportional to overall school enrollment for each school. Participation was voluntary and anonymous, and school parental permission procedures were followed; students recorded their responses on computer-scannable answer sheets.

## Results

Among the students attending the X participating schools, X middle school students and X high school students completed the survey (X% student response rate), resulting in an overall response rate of X%. Data were weighted to be representative statewide and by region. CDC and RTI International processed the data and generated basic summary data tables.

This report focuses on cigarette and smokeless tobacco use. Students were asked if they had used tobacco products on school property on any of the 30 days prior to taking the survey. Students were also asked if they had seen a school official using tobacco on school property during the past 30 days.

In 2005, X% of high school students reported smoking cigarettes on school property within the past 30 days, and X% reported using smokeless tobacco (Table 1). Males had a higher percentage than females, and higher grade levels had higher percentages than lower grade levels (Table 1). Although not statistically significant, 2005 cigarette use on school property is slightly lower when compared to 2001 data (Table 1).

In 2005, X% of high school students had seen a school official use tobacco on school property within the past 30 days (Table 2). X% of males and X% of females reported seeing a school official use tobacco on school property (Table 2). The percentages also increased as grade level increased, from X% in 9<sup>th</sup> grade to X% in 12<sup>th</sup> grade (Table 2). Although these results are not statistically significant, there are sizable differences based on gender and grade level.

## References:

1. SAMHSA. National Household Survey on Drug Abuse, 2001. US DHHS, publication no. (SMA) 02-3759.
2. CDC. Projected smoking related deaths among youth. MMWR 1996;45(44):971-4.

**Table 1. Percentage of students in high school who have used tobacco on school property in the past 30 days, by sex, grade level, and race/ethnicity - Youth Tobacco Survey, North Carolina, 2005, 2003, 2001 and 1999**

Characteristic	Cigarettes		Smokeless Tobacco	
	%	(95% CI)	%	(95% CI)
<b>High School, 2005</b>				
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	14.8	(±2.9)	12.7	(±3.1)
Female	9.7	(±2.4)	1.5	(±0.5)
<b>Grade Level</b>				
9th	9.5	(±3.5)	6.8	(±2.8)
10th	11.8	(±2.8)	7.9	(±3.1)
11th	14.0	(±5.1)	6.2	(±2.2)
12th	15.0	(±7.9)	7.9	(±2.3)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
White	14.1	(±3.1)	9.0	(±2.3)
Black	8.2	(±2.0)	3.6	(±2.6)
Hispanic	5.9	(±4.2)	3.2	(±3.0)
Other	23.4	(±10.2)	8.8	(±6.7)
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>(±2.4)</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>(±1.8)</b>
<b>High School, 2003</b>				
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	16.4	(±3.6)	11.3	(±1.7)
Female	9.4	(±1.6)	1.7	(±0.7)
<b>Grade Level</b>				
9th	13.1	(±3.4)	6.3	(±2.1)
10th	11.2	(±2.4)	5.6	(±1.4)
11th	12.9	(±2.6)	7.0	(±1.6)
12th	14.4	(±5.1)	7.3	(±2.2)
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
White	12.9	(±2.2)	6.7	(±1.1)
Black	8.5	(±3.2)	4.1	(±1.7)
Hispanic	18.0	(±5.9)	12.2	(±3.7)
Other	28.9	(±8.1)	11.8	(±4.6)
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.0</b>	<b>(±2.3)</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>(±0.9)</b>
<b>High School, 1999</b>				
<b>Sex</b>				
Male	15.3	(±2.0)	N/A	N/A
Female	10.4	(±1.5)	N/A	N/A
<b>Grade Level</b>				
9th	13.2	(±1.9)	N/A	N/A
10th	9.9	(±1.7)	N/A	N/A
11th	13.8	(±2.4)	N/A	N/A
12th	15.4	(±2.8)	N/A	N/A
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>				
White	14.7	(±2.1)	N/A	N/A
Black	8.1	(±2.0)	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	11.2	(±4.9)	N/A	N/A
Other	16.9	(±7.1)	N/A	N/A
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>(±1.5)</b>	N/A	N/A

**Table 2. Percentage of students in high school who have seen a school official using tobacco during the last 30 days, by sex, grade level and age - Youth Tobacco Survey, North Carolina, 2005.**

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>(95% CI)</b>
<b>High School, 2005</b>		
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	46.6	(±5.0)
Female	35.4	(±6.6)
<b>Grade Level</b>		
9th	32.6	(±7.2)
10th	43.1	(±6.3)
11th	45.0	(±7.9)
12th	47.0	(±8.8)
<b>Total</b>	<b>41.0</b>	<b>(±5.2)</b>

Percentage of HS students who have seen a school official use tobacco within the past 30 days

