



North Carolina 2009 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, 2007 and 2009². 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 was 83.1% and the overall response rate was 78.2%. A total of 3,301 high school students participated and completed the North Carolina YTS in 2009.

Prevalence

52.5% of students had ever used any tobacco product (Male 56.8%, Female 47.7%)
44.1% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (White 44.3%, Black 44.8%, Hispanic 37.9%)
25.8% of students currently use any tobacco product (Male 30.8%, Female 20.2%)
16.7% currently smoke cigarettes (White 19.7%, Black 11.6%, Hispanic 11.8%)
8.5% currently use smokeless tobacco (Male 14.1%, Female 2.5%)

Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

39.0% live in homes where others smoke
53.9% are in the same room as others who smoke during the week
89.7% think smoke from others is harmful to them

Cessation – Current Smokers

41.3% want to quit smoking
48.6% attempted to quit smoking in the past year
7.4% ever participated in a program to help quit using tobacco

Pro-health Media vs Tobacco Advertising

69.4% saw or heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month
20.7% have an object with a tobacco brand logo

School

28.0% were taught the dangers of tobacco in the past year
6.5% smoked on school property in the past month
7.9% said their school has a program to help students quit using tobacco

Access and Availability - Current Smokers < 18 years old

17.5% buy cigarettes in stores
61.7% get cigarettes via social sources (friends, family and others)

High School Highlights

5 in 10 students have used tobacco; 26% currently use some form of tobacco; 17% currently smoke cigarettes; 9% currently use smokeless tobacco (spit, chew or dip).

SHS exposure is very high – more than 5 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.

More than 40% of current smokers want to quit smoking.

Nearly 7 in 10 students saw or heard antismoking 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 students said that their school had a program to help students quit.

¹ 1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2007 YTS results at www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov/data/yts.htm

² Detailed 2009 YTS tables including 95% confidence intervals are available upon request.



For additional information, please contact:
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www.tobaccopreventionandcontrol.ncdhhs.gov

Rev. (03/18/10)

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