



# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO-KINSHASA

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### Fact Sheet (Ages 13-15)



The Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa GYTS includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use as well as information on five determinants of tobacco use: access/availability and price, exposure to secondhand smoke (SHS), cessation, media and advertising, and school curriculum. These determinants are components Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Secondary 1, 2, 3, and 4 conducted in 2008.

A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for all Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa. At the first stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to enrollment size. At the second stage, classes were randomly selected and all students in selected classes were eligible to participate. The school response rate was 100.0%, the class response rate was 98.7%, the student response rate was 74.4% and the overall response rate was 73.4%. A total of 1,167 13-15 year old students participated in the Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa GYTS.

## Prevalence

- 19.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes  
(Boys = 27.5%, Girls = 9.0%)
- 33.6% currently use any tobacco product  
(Boys = 36.5%, Girls = 29.3%)
- 8.2% currently smoke cigarettes  
(Boys = 11.7%, Girls = 3.6%)
- 28.9% currently use other tobacco products  
(Boys = 29.3%, Girls = 27.6%)
- 30.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

## Cessation - Current Smokers

- 75.6% want to stop smoking
- 76.3% tried to stop smoking during the past year

## Knowledge and Attitudes

- 35.8% think boys and 36.5% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 39.5% think boys and 39.9% think girls who smoke look more attractive

## Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 30.3% usually smoke at home
- 25.5% buy cigarettes in a store

## Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 30.2% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 36.8% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 70.7% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 28.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 17.8% have one or more parents who smoke
- 10.4% have most or all friends who smoke

## Media and Advertising

- 62.3% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 47.0% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 42.7% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 21.9% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 17.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

## School

- 31.7% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
- 23.7% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
- 26.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Nearly 1 in 10 students currently smoke cigarettes; 28.9% currently use any tobacco product and nearly one-third of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year.
- SHS exposure is moderate – almost one-third of students live in homes where others smoke; 36.8% of students are exposed to smoke of others outside their home; almost 1 in 5 students have at least one parent who smokes.
- Over 7 in 10 students think smoking should be banned in public places.
- Almost 1 in 5 students was offered a free cigarette by a tobacco company representative.
- Nearly two-thirds of students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; nearly 5 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and more than 4 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.