

# global youth tobacco survey

## Country fact sheets

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Atlanta, developed the Global Youth Tobacco Survey to track tobacco use among youth across countries using a common methodology and core questionnaire. Information from the Survey is compiled within the participating country by a Research Coordinator nominated by the Ministry of Health, and technically reviewed by WHO and CDC. The content has not otherwise been edited by WHO or CDC.

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**World Health  
Organization**

Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean



**CENTERS FOR DISEASE  
CONTROL AND PREVENTION**

# Iraq – Baghdad (Ages 13-15)

## Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS)

### FACT SHEET . . . . .



The Iraq - Baghdad 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 Iraq - Baghdad could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Iraq - Baghdad GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Middle 1, 2 and 3, and Preparatory 4 conducted in

2008. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for Iraq - Baghdad. 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 100%, the student response rate was 94.0%, and the overall response rate was 94.0%. A total of 3,604 students aged 13-15 participated in the Iraq - Baghdad GYTS.

### Prevalence

- 7.4% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (Boy = 7.4%, Girl = 6.8%)
- 13.4% currently use any tobacco product (Boy = 13.9%, Girl = 11.6%)
- 3.2% currently smoke cigarettes (Boy = 3.3%, Girl = 2.7%)
- 2.3% currently smoke shisha (Boy = 2.6%, Girl = 1.3%)
- 11.3% currently use other tobacco products (Boy = 11.7%, Girl = 9.9%)
- 13.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

### Knowledge and Attitudes

- 20.3% think boys and 13.2% think girls who smoke have more friends
- 14.5% think boys and 10.9% think girls who smoke look more attractive

### Access and Availability - Current Smokers

- 39.6% usually smoke at home
- 50.9% buy cigarettes in a store

### Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

- 32.3% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
- 29.2% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
- 72.6% think smoking should be banned from public places
- 55.1% think smoke from others is harmful to them
- 39.3% have one or more parents who smoke
- 5.0% have most or all friends who smoke

### Cessation - Current Smokers

- 84.8% have ever received help to stop smoking

### Media and Advertising

- 59.6% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days
- 67.9% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days
- 59.8% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days
- 13.2% have an object with a cigarette brand logo
- 7.3% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

### School

- 41.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking

### Highlights

- 13.4% of students currently use any form of tobacco; 1 in 10 currently use some other form of tobacco besides cigarettes (2.3% currently smokes shisha, 7% smoke smokeless tobacco); 3.2% currently smoke cigarettes.
- SHS exposure is high – One-third of the students live in homes where others smoke in their presence; 3 in 10 students are exposed to smoke in public places; 2 in 5 students have at least one parent who smokes.
- Over half of the students think smoke from others is harmful to them.
- More than 7 in 10 of the students think smoking in public places should be banned.
- 13.2% of students have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it.
- Six in 10 students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; close to two-thirds of the students saw pro-cigarette advertisements on billboards and in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.