

Louisiana 2009 Youth Tobacco Survey (LYTS)

Fact Sheet



The Louisiana Youth Tobacco Survey (LYTS) includes data on the prevalence of the use of cigarettes and other tobacco products, as well as information on second hand smoke (SHS), cessation, tobacco advertising, school tobacco prevention education, community participation, and access and availability of tobacco products. Each of these areas are a major focus for a comprehensive tobacco control program in Louisiana.

The Louisiana Youth Tobacco Survey is a public school-based survey of students in grades 6th – 12th, conducted every other year. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to produce representative data for middle and high school students for all of Louisiana. 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 LYTS school response rate was 88.3%, the student response rate was 88.2%, and the overall response rate was 77.9%. A total of 2,839 students participated and completed the 2009 LYTS.

Prevalence

47% have ever smoked cigarettes

56% have ever used any tobacco product

-(including cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, cigarillos, little cigars, bidis, kreteks, black and mild cigars)

16% currently smoke cigarettes

17% currently smoke black and mild cigarettes

9% currently use smokeless tobacco

30% currently use any tobacco product

-(including cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, cigars, cigarillos, little cigars, bidis, kreteks, black and mild cigars)

25% believe smokeless tobacco is safer than cigarettes

Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

46% live in a home where others smoke

55% were in the same room while others smoke at least once a week

44% were in a car while others smoke at least once a week

87% think smoke from others is harmful to them

68% would ask a family member or friend to stop smoking around them

Cessation-Current Smokers

49% want to quit smoking

52% attempted to stop smoking in the past year

19% ever participated in a program to help quit using tobacco

Pro-health Media vs. Tobacco Advertising

71% saw/heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month on dangers of smoking

31% would wear or use an object with a tobacco brand logo

School

48% were taught the danger of tobacco

5% smoked on school property in the past month

36% practiced ways to say NO to tobacco in their classes

Access and Availability

23% buy cigarettes in stores

34% got their cigarettes by giving money to someone else or getting 18+ year old to buy it

Survey Highlights

About 16% currently smoke cigarettes; 9% currently use smokeless tobacco (chew, spit, or dip).

More than 1 out of 2 students have ever used tobacco and 30% currently use some form of tobacco.

54% would ask a family member and 60% would ask a friend to stop smoking around them due to effects of secondhand smoke.

87% of students think smoke from others is harmful to them.

Less than half of current smokers want to quit (49%).

7 out of 10 students saw or heard media messages about the dangers of tobacco use.

52% of students were not taught the dangers of tobacco at school.

5% of students report smoking on school campus.

21% of current student smokers report getting their cigarettes from bumming from other smokers.

1 2009 LYTS results at www.latobaccocontrol.com

2 Detailed 2009 LYTS including 95% confidence intervals are available upon request