

Louisiana 2009 Youth Tobacco Survey (LYTS)

High School 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 high school response rate was 83.3%, the high school student response rate was 85.2%, and the overall response rate was 70.9%. A total of 1,090 high school students participated and completed the 2009 LYTS.

Prevalence

53% have ever smoked cigarettes

62% have ever used any tobacco product

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

19% currently smoke cigarettes

19% currently smoke black and mild cigarettes

10% currently use smokeless tobacco

34% 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)

44% live in a home where others smoke

56% were in the same room while others smoke at least once a week

45% were in a car while others smoke at least once a week

88% think smoke from others is harmful to them

65% would ask a family member or friend to stop smoking around them

Cessation-Current Smokers

48% want to quit smoking

50% attempted to stop smoking in the past year

16% ever participated in a program to help quit using tobacco

Pro-health Media vs. Tobacco Advertising

76% saw/heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month on dangers of smoking

33% would wear or use an object with a tobacco brand logo

School

41% were taught the danger of tobacco

6% smoked on school property in the past month

25% practiced ways to say NO to tobacco in their classes

Access and Availability

30% buy cigarettes in stores

30% got their cigarettes by giving money to someone else or getting 18+ year old to

buy it

Middle School Highlights

About 19% currently smoke cigarettes; 10% currently use smokeless tobacco (chew, spit, or dip).

Nearly 2 out of 3 students have ever used tobacco and 34% currently use some form of tobacco.

51% would ask a family member and 55% would ask a friend to stop smoking around them due to effects of secondhand smoke.

88% of students think smoke from others is harmful to them.

Less than half of current smokers want to quit (48%).

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

Nearly 60% of students were not taught the dangers of tobacco at school.

Over 6% of students report smoking on school campus.

23% 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