

Middle 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 middle school response rate was 93%, the middle school student response rate was 90.2%, and the overall response rate was 84.2%. A total of 1,749 middle school students participated and completed the 2009 LYTS.

Prevalence

37% have ever smoked cigarettes

47% have ever used any tobacco product

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

11% currently smoke cigarettes

14% currently smoke black and mild cigarettes

8% currently use smokeless tobacco

25% currently use any tobacco product

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

26% believe smokeless tobacco is safer than cigarettes

Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

49% 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

86% think smoke from others is harmful to them

71% would ask a family member or friend to stop smoking around them

Cessation-Current Smokers

51% want to quit smoking

55% attempted to stop smoking in the past year

25% ever participated in a program to help quit using tobacco

Pro-health Media vs. Tobacco Advertising

64% saw/heard anti-smoking media messages in the past month on dangers of smoking

28% would wear or use an object with a tobacco brand logo

School

56% were taught the danger of tobacco

4% smoked on school property in the past month

39% practiced ways to say NO to tobacco in their classes

Access and Availability

8% buy cigarettes in stores

43% got their cigarettes by giving money to someone else or getting 18+ year old to buy it

Middle School

Highlights

11% currently smoke cigarettes; 8% currently use smokeless tobacco (chew, spit, or dip).

Nearly 5 out of 10 students have ever used tobacco and 25% currently use some form of tobacco.

59% would ask a family member and 68% would ask a friend to stop smoking around them due to effects of secondhand smoke.

86% of students think smoke from others is harmful to them.

Half of current smokers want to quit (51%).

More than 6 out of 10 students saw or heard media messages about the dangers of tobacco use.

Over 40% of students were not taught the dangers of tobacco at school.

4% of students report smoking on school campus.

26% of current student smokers report getting their cigarettes by giving someone else money to purchase them.

1 2009 LYTS results available at www.latobaccocontrol.com

2 Detailed 2009 LYTS including 95% Confidence Intervals are available upon request