**GATS Objectives**

The Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) is a global standard for systematically monitoring adult tobacco use (smoking and smokeless) and tracking key tobacco control indicators.

GATS is a nationally representative survey, using a consistent and standard protocol across countries including Botswana. GATS enhances countries’ capacity to design, implement and evaluate tobacco control programs. It will also assist countries to fulfill their obligations under the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) to generate comparable data within and across countries. WHO developed MPOWER, a technical package of selected demand reduction measures contained in the WHO FCTC:

- Monitor tobacco use & prevention policies
- Protect people from tobacco smoke
- Offer help to quit tobacco use
- Warn about the dangers of tobacco
- Enforce bans on tobacco advertising, promotion, & sponsorship
- Raise taxes on tobacco

**GATS Methodology**

GATS uses a global standardized methodology. It includes information on respondents' background characteristics, tobacco use (smoking and smokeless), cessation, secondhand smoke, economics, media, and knowledge, attitudes and perceptions towards tobacco use. In Botswana, GATS was conducted for the first time in 2017 as a household survey of persons 15 years of age and older by Botswana Ministry of Health and Wellness in collaboration with Statistics Botswana and WHO Botswana. A multi-stage, geographically clustered sample design was used to produce nationally representative data. A total of 5965 households were sampled. One individual was randomly chosen from each selected household to participate in the survey. Survey information was collected using handheld devices. The household response rate was 81.8%, the person-level response rate was 97.8%, and overall response rate was 80.0%. There were a total of 4643 completed individual interviews.

### GATS Highlights

#### TOBACCO USE

- 17.6% overall (240,000 adults), 27.0% of men and 8.8% of women currently use tobacco.
- 14.2% overall (190,000 adults), 25.7% of men and 3.6% of women currently smoke tobacco.
- 12.9% overall (180,000 adults), 23.9% of men and 2.8% of women currently smoke cigarettes.
- 4.3% overall (60,000 adults) 2.1% of men, and 6.3% of women currently use smokeless tobacco.

#### CESSATION

- 83.9% of current tobacco smokers planned to or were thinking about quitting.
- 57.8% of smokers made a quit attempt in the past 12 months.
- 43.7% of smokers who visited a health care provider in the past 12 months were advised to quit smoking.
- 7.0% of smokers quit smoking in the past 12 months

#### SECONDHAND SMOKE

- 12.2% of adults who worked indoors (40,000 adults) were exposed to tobacco smoke in enclosed areas at their workplace.
- 13.8% of adults (190,000 adults) were exposed to tobacco smoke at home.
- 67.4% of adults (260,000 adults) were exposed to tobacco smoke when visiting bars and nightclubs.
- 7.5% of adults (70,000 adults) were exposed to tobacco smoke when using public transportation.

#### ECONOMICS

- The average monthly expenditure for cigarettes was 789.1 Botswana Pula.
- 82.2% adults purchased single stick of cigarettes

#### MEDIA

- 27.8% adults noticed any cigarette advertisement, sponsorship, or promotion.
- 11.3% adults noticed any smokeless tobacco advertisement, sponsorship, or promotion.
- 65.6% adults noticed anti-cigarette smoking information on the television or radio.

#### KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES & PERCEPTIONS

- 95.3% of adults believed smoking causes serious illness.
- 91.4% of adults believed breathing other peoples’ smoke causes serious illness in nonsmokers.
GATS | GLOBAL ADULT TOBACCO SURVEY

TOBACCO USE

TOBACCO SMOKERS

Current tobacco smokers 14.2 25.7 3.6
Daily tobacco smokers 9.9 18.2 2.2
Current cigarette smokers 1 12.9 23.9 2.8
Current manufactured cigarette smokers 11.7 22.0 2.2
Current waterpipe smoker 0.2 0.4 0.1
Former daily tobacco smokers (Among ever daily smokers) 2 3.8 6.9 1.0

Average age at daily smoking initiation 2 19.4 19.3 19.8
Average number of cigarettes consumed per day by daily cigarette smokers 3 7.8 7.9 7.0

SMOKELESS TOBACCO USERS

Current smokeless tobacco users 4.3 2.1 6.3

TOBACCO USERS (smoked and/or smokeless)

Current tobacco users 17.6 27.0 8.8

ECONOMICS

Average monthly expenditure for cigarettes [Botswanan Pula] 789.1
Average amount spent on 20 manufactured cigarettes [Botswanan Pula] 105.5
Cost of 100 packs of manufactured cigarettes as a percentage of per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) [2017] 4 12.96

Purchase single stick of cigarettes 82.2 81.7 87.2
Last purchased cigarettes in stores 30.5 30.4 31.0
Last purchased cigarettes from street vendor 48.3 48.3 48.2

MEDIA

TOBACCO INDUSTRY ADVERTISING

Adults who noticed any cigarette advertisement, sponsorship, or promotion 27.8 30.7 27.3

COUNTER ADVERTISING

Current smokers who thought about quitting because of a warning label on cigarette packages 42.5 43.5 36.1

Adults who noticed anti-cigarette smoking information on the television or radio 65.6 66.9 65.4

Knowledge, Attitudes & Perceptions

Adults who believed smoking causes:
- Serious illness 95.3 93.2 95.6
- Lung cancer 96.5 93.0 97.1
- Heart attack 80.0 81.2 79.8
- Stroke 71.3 73.9 70.9

Adults believed cigarettes are addictive 94.1 92.1 94.4
Adults who believed that breathing other peoples’ smoke causes serious illness in nonsmokers 91.4 89.7 91.7

Secondhand smoke

Adults exposed to tobacco smoke at the workplace 1 12.2 14.0 10.3
Adults exposed to tobacco smoke at home 1 13.8 17.1 10.7
Adults exposed to tobacco smoke in the following places 1 1 7
Health care facilities 6.5 7.4 5.8
Government buildings/offices 8.5 9.2 8.0
Public transportation 7.5 6.8 8.1
Bars/nightclubs 67.4 66.0 70.5
Restaurants 16.9 16.9 16.9
Schools 12.9 15.4 10.8

Note: Current use refers to daily and less than daily use. Adults refer to persons aged 15 years and older. Data have been weighted to be nationally representative of all non-institutionalized men and women aged 15 years and older. Percentages reflect the prevalence of each indicator in each group, not the distribution across groups.

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