The Central African Republic-Bangui 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 Central African Republic-Bangui be could included in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Central African Republic-Bangui GYTS was a school-based survey of students in grades 6 ème, 5 ème, 4 ème, 3 ème conducted in 2008.

Prevalence

27.6% of students had ever smoked cigarettes
  (Boys = 23.8%, Girls = 30.4%)
32.4% currently use any tobacco product
  (Boys = 29.5%, Girls = 34.5%)
8.1% currently smoke cigarettes
  (Boys = 10.4%, Girls = 4.3%)
28.2% currently use other tobacco products
  (Boys = 24.0%, Girls = 31.3%)
17.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)

35.2% live in homes where others smoke in their presence
52.4% are around others who smoke in places outside their home
78.1% think smoking should be banned from public places
71.0% think smoke from others is harmful to them
27.6% have one or more parents who smoke
6.4% have most or all friends who smoke

Knowledge and Attitudes

51.9% think boys and 37.5% think girls who smoke have more friends
37.7% think boys and 35.0% think girls who smoke look more attractive

Access and Availability - Current Smokers

42.5% usually smoke at home
35.4% buy cigarettes in a store

Cessation - Current Smokers

84.9% want to stop smoking
90.3% tried to stop smoking during the past year

School

40.8% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking
23.3% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke
33.0% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

HIGHLIGHTS

- 8.1% of students currently smoke cigarettes and nearly 3 in 10 currently use tobacco products other than cigarettes; and almost 1 in 5 students who have never smoked cigarettes are likely to initiate smoking next year.
- SHS exposure is moderate – over one-third of students live in homes where others smoke; more than half of students are exposed to smoke of others outside their home; more than one-quarter students have at least one parent who smokes.
- Almost 8 in 10 students think smoking should be banned in public places.
- Almost two-thirds of students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; nearly half of students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and 5 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.

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