The Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa 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 of the Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa that could include in a comprehensive tobacco control program.

The Democratic Republic of Congo-Kinshasa GYTS was a school-based survey of students in Secondary 1, 2, 3, and 4 conducted in 2008.

**Prevalence**

19.5% of students had ever smoked cigarettes  
(Boys = 27.5%, Girls = 9.0%)  
33.6% currently use any tobacco product  
(Boys = 36.5%, Girls = 29.3%)  
8.2% currently smoke cigarettes  
(Boys = 11.7%, Girls = 3.6%)  
28.9% currently use other tobacco products  
(Boys = 29.3%, Girls = 27.6%)  
30.0% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year

**Exposure to Secondhand Smoke (SHS)**

30.2% live in homes where others smoke in their presence  
36.8% are around others who smoke in places outside their home  
70.7% think smoking should be banned from public places  
28.8% think smoke from others is harmful to them  
17.8% have one or more parents who smoke  
10.4% have most or all friends who smoke

**Cessation - Current Smokers**

75.6% want to stop smoking  
76.3% tried to stop smoking during the past year

**Media and Advertising**

62.3% saw anti-smoking media messages, in the past 30 days  
47.0% saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards, in the past 30 days  
42.7% saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines, in the past 30 days  
21.9% have an object with a cigarette brand logo  
17.4% were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco company representative

**Knowledge and Attitudes**

35.8% think boys and 36.5% think girls who smoke have more friends  
39.5% think boys and 39.9% think girls who smoke look more attractive

**School**

31.7% had been taught in class, during the past year, about the dangers of smoking  
23.7% had discussed in class, during the past year, reasons why people their age smoke  
26.1% had been taught in class, during the past year, the effects of tobacco use

**Access and Availability - Current Smokers**

30.3% usually smoke at home  
25.5% buy cigarettes in a store

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Nearly in 10 students currently smoke cigarettes; 28.9% currently use any tobacco product and nearly one-third of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking next year.
- SHS exposure is moderate – almost one-third of students live in homes where others smoke; 36.8% of students are exposed to smoke of others outside their home; almost 1 in 5 students have at least one parent who smokes.
- Over 7 in 10 students think smoking should be banned in public places.
- Almost 1 in 5 students was offered a free cigarette by a tobacco company representative.
- Nearly two-thirds of students saw anti-smoking media messages in the past 30 days; nearly 5 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads on billboards and more than 4 in 10 students saw pro-cigarette ads in newspapers or magazines in the past 30 days.

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