

2013 South Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey Middle School Fact Sheet

The South Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey (SCYTS) is a comprehensive survey designed to evaluate prevalence of tobacco use, age of initiation and access to tobacco products. It also includes data on school curriculum, knowledge and attitudes, attitudes toward cessation and readiness to quit, mass media influences, and secondhand smoke exposure. As a surveillance tool, SCYTS monitors key behaviors and attitudes toward tobacco. As an evaluation tool, the survey is intended to document the Division of Tobacco Prevention and Control's progress over time, to recognize groups at risk and to identify areas to strengthen the Division's activities and strategies.

The SCYTS was conducted in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009¹, 2011, and 2013². A two-stage cluster sample design was used to select a representative sample of public middle (containing any of grades 6-8) and high school students (containing any of grades 9-12) in South Carolina. In the first-stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size. In all, 50 middle schools and 50 high schools were chosen. The second sampling stage consisted of systematic equal probability sampling of approximately two classes from each school. All students in the selected classes were eligible to participate in the survey. The middle school response rate was 74%. The middle school student response rate was 85% yielding an overall response rate (school rate x student rate) of 63.1% for middle school. In 2013, a total of 1,605 middle school students completed the SCYTS.

Prevalence 31.2% of students had ever used any tobacco product (Male 34.2%, Female 28.1%) 22.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (White 21%, Black 26.2%, Hispanic 22.7%) 9.7% of students currently use any tobacco product (Male 11.3%, Female 8.0%) 4.8% currently smoke cigarettes (White 5.8%, Black 4.3%, Hispanic 5.3%) 3.4% currently use Smokeless Tobacco (SLT) (Male 5.1%, Female 1.7%) 17.2% of students had ever used a new and emerging tobacco product ³ . 10.3% of students used a new and emerging tobacco product ³ in the past 30 days. Secondhand Smoke (SHS) 26.2% were exposed to SHS in their home in the past month 27.9% were exposed to SHS in a vehicle in the past month 90.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them Cessation – Current Smokers 44.0% want to quit smoking 74.9% attempted to quit smoking in the past year 44.5% stayed off cigarettes for less than 30 days during a quit attempt Pro-health Media vs. Tobacco Advertising 9.9% saw a warning label on a smokeless tobacco product in the past month 16.1% said they would ever wear or use something that has a tobacco company name or picture on it School 51.4% were taught the dangers of tobacco in the past year 15.2% smoked or saw someone smoking a tobacco product on school property in the past month 13.1% used or saw someone using a smokeless tobacco (SLT) product on school property in the past month 6.3% said their school has a program to help students quit using tobacco Access and Availability - Current Smokers < 18 years old 6.7% buy cigarettes in stores 70.6% get cigarettes via social sources (friends, family and others)	Middle School Highlights More than 3 out of 10 students have ever used tobacco; About 10% currently use some form of tobacco; 4.8% currently smoke cigarettes; 3.4% currently use smokeless tobacco (spit, chew or dip). SHS exposure is high – more than one-third of students have been exposed in the last 7 days. About 9 out of 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them. About 45% of current smokers want to quit smoking. About 1 out of 10 students saw a warning label on a smokeless tobacco product in the last 30 days. More than half of the students were taught the dangers of tobacco at school in past year. Less than 1 in 10 students said that their school had a program to help students quit. Almost 7 out of 10 middle school current smokers of age < 18 years old obtain their cigarettes from friends, family or other social sources.
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¹ 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009 SCYTS results at <http://www.scdhec.gov/health/chcdp/tobacco/yts.htm>

² Detailed 2011 and 2013 YTS tables including 95% confidence intervals are available upon request.

³ New and emerging tobacco products include roll-your-own cigarettes, flavored cigarettes, clove cigars, flavored little cigarettes, smoking from hookah or a waterpipe, snus, dissolvable products, E-cigarettes or some other new tobacco product.