

RESULTS

Table 1. Study sample size and response rates among schools and students- Philippines GYTS 2000

Regions	No. of schools sampled	No. of schools that Participated	Response rate by school (%)	No. of students sampled	No. of students that Participated	Response rate by students (%)	Overall response Rate (%)
*Zone 1	50	49	98.00	4,401	3,977	90.37	88.56
Zone 2	50	39	78.00	3,676	3,236	88.03	68.66
Zone 3	50	47	94.00	5,040	4,417	87.64	82.38
TOTAL	150	135	90.00	13,117	11,630	88.66	79.80

*Zone 1 (Luzon): National Capital Region (NCR), Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR), Regions I, II, III, IV, V
 Zone 2 (Visayas): Regions VI, VII, VIII
 Zone 3 (Mindanao): Regions IX, X, XII, XII, Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), CARAGA

Table 1 presents that for the Global Youth Tobacco Survey in the Philippines, 11,630 out of 13,117 questionnaires were completed in 135 schools that participated from 150 schools sampled. The school's response rate was 90.0%, the student's response rate was 88.7%, and the overall response rate was 80.0%.

Table 2. Background Characteristics of Respondents

Characteristics	*Zone 1 (Luzon) n= 3,977		Zone 2 (Visayas) n= 3,236		Zone 3 (Mindanao) n= 4,417	
	Male n (%)	Female n (%)	Male n (%)	Female n (%)	Male n (%)	Female n (%)
Age (Years):						
≤12	160 (10.0%)	212 (9.7%)	88 (7.6%)	101 (5.2%)	104 (6.4%)	92 (3.5%)
13	52 (3.27%)	85 (3.9%)	37 (3.2%)	59 (3.0%)	47 (2.9%)	82 (3.0%)
14	334 (21.0%)	479 (23.0%)	177 (15.3%)	388 (20.0%)	261 (16.1%)	506 (19.0%)
15	455 (28.6%)	675 (31.%)	280 (24.2%)	487 (25.%)	411 (25.4%)	729 (27.5%)
16≥	587 (36.9%)	722 (33.0%)	577 (49.7%)	912 (46.8%)	798 (49.2%)	1245(46.9%)
Year Level:						
2 nd	584 (40.0%)	728 (37.8%)	408 (37.3%)	678(37.5%)	621 (38.4%)	952 (36.1%)
3 rd	545 (37.5%)	709 (36.8%)	370 (33.8%)	638 (35.3%)	432 (26.7%)	748 (28.4%)
4 th	321 (22.2%)	487 (25.3%)	314 (28.7%)	493 (27.3%)	562 (34.8%)	937 (35.5%)

* Zone 1 (Luzon): National Capital Region (NCR), Cordillera Autonomous Region (CAR), Regions I, II, III, IV, V
 Zone 2 (Visayas): Regions VI, VII, VIII
 Zone 3 (Mindanao): Regions IX, X, XII, XII, Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM), CARAGA

Table 2 presents the basic demographic characteristics of the Filipino secondary school students who participated in the survey by gender, year level, and age by zonal regions of the country. There was a fair representation of male and female students, and by their year level in the three zonal regions. There were no significant differences in the age distributions among the regions their ages range

from 12-18 years, with a mean and median of 14 years. There were no significant differences in ages between males and females for the regions, (zone 1: $t=1.82$, $p=0.067$; zone 2: $t=0.50$, $p=0.61$; and zone 3: $t=0.37$, $p=0.70$). About 57% of the respondents were female, and 43% male. Thirty eight per cent were in sophomore level, 32% were juniors and 30% were in their senior levels.

PREVALENCE

Table 3. Prevalence of tobacco use among secondary school students, by gender, year level, age, and zonal regions- Philippines GYTS 2000

Category	Ever smoked cigarettes, even one or two puffs	Current Use ^a			Smoked cigarettes first before age 10 years ^b
		Cigarettes	Other tobacco products	Any form of tobacco products	
Overall	42.8 (\pm 3.2)	21.6 (\pm 2.5)	13.6 (\pm 1.2)	27.1 (\pm 2.3)	12.9 (\pm 2.5)
Gender:					
Male	57.0 (\pm 4.0)	32.6 (\pm 3.6)	18.3 (\pm 1.6)	37.3 (\pm 2.9)	11.0 (\pm 2.4)
Female	32.0 (\pm 2.9)	12.9 (\pm 1.7)	9.5 (\pm 1.4)	18.4 (\pm 2.1)	15.4 (\pm 3.1)
Year Level:					
2nd	40.7 (\pm 3.6)	20.7 (\pm 3.0)	13.8 (\pm 1.5)	26.6 (\pm 2.7)	15.3 (\pm 3.2)
3rd	41.3 (\pm 4.9)	21.7 (\pm 4.2)	14.0 (\pm 2.3)	27.5 (\pm 4.1)	14.1 (\pm 4.0)
4th	48.8 (\pm 5.4)	22.5 (\pm 3.8)	12.8 (\pm 1.9)	27.2 (\pm 3.3)	10.2 (\pm 3.1)
Age (Years):					
≤ 12	42.7 (\pm 8.1)	26.7 (\pm 5.4)	22.5 (\pm 4.9)	36.5 (\pm 6.2)	29.9 (\pm 11.9)
13	44.2 (\pm 6.0)	24.7 (\pm 7.6)	17.8 (\pm 5.6)	32.2 (\pm 8.1)	21.2 (\pm 9.4)
14	37.0 (\pm 4.7)	17.2 (\pm 2.8)	10.5 (\pm 1.9)	22.5 (\pm 2.5)	15.9 (\pm 3.6)
15	39.7 (\pm 3.2)	18.1 (\pm 2.9)	10.6 (\pm 1.6)	22.7 (\pm 2.8)	12.3 (\pm 3.2)
16\geq	47.5 (\pm 4.1)	24.4 (\pm 3.0)	14.3 (\pm 1.5)	29.1 (\pm 2.8)	11.1 (\pm 2.8)
Regions:					
Zone1	43.7 (\pm 4.9)	21.9 (\pm 3.8)	12.7 (\pm 1.7)	27.0 (\pm 3.5)	10.5 (\pm 3.4)
Zone2	36.7 (\pm 4.9)	19.7 (\pm 2.9)	14.2 (\pm 2.1)	26.0 (\pm 2.9)	13.0 (\pm 2.0)
Zone3	46.2 (\pm 3.1)	22.5 (\pm 3.0)	15.8 (\pm 2.0)	28.5 (\pm 3.2)	19.8 (\pm 5.5)

^a Smoked cigarettes or used other tobacco products on ≥ 1 of the 30 days preceding the survey

^b First whole cigarette among ever smokers

^c Figures in parentheses are 95% confidence interval

Table 3 presents the prevalence of tobacco use among Filipino secondary school students. When asked if they ever tried or experimented with cigarette smoking, even one or two puffs, an estimated 4 in 10 students (42.8%) answered yes to have ever smoked cigarettes. The male students are twice more likely than female students to have ever smoked cigarettes (57.0% vs. 32.0%, respectively). Prevalence of ever smoking increases with the students' year level and age. There are more ever smokers in the Mindanao regions (46.2%), followed by those in Luzon regions (43.7%) and the Visayas regions (36.7%).

When asked on how many days did one smoke during the past 30 days (current smoking), 1 in 5 students smoked cigarettes during the past 30 days. The male students are twice more likely than female students to be current smokers (33% vs. 13%, respectively); also, prevalence of current smoking increases with the

students' year level. There are no significant differences in prevalence of current cigarette smoking across the regions of the country.

Fourteen per cent (14%) of those who currently smoke have said they have ever used any form of tobacco products other than cigarettes (i.e., chewing tobacco, snuff, dip, cigars, cigarillos, little cigars, pipe) in the past 30 days. And about 27% of those who currently smoke have used any form of tobacco products (smoked cigarettes or used other tobacco products on 1 or more days in the past 30 days). The male current smokers are twice more likely than female current smokers to have used some form of tobacco product other than cigarette and or any form of tobacco product.

Among those who have ever smoked, 13% reported to have first tried cigarette smoking before age 10 years, with female students more likely to have first tried than male students (15.4% vs. 11.0%, respectively). A greater proportion of younger students, age less than 12 years (30%) and those in lowest year level (15.3%), have reported to have first tried smoking before age 10 years; 1 in 5 ever smokers from the Mindanao regions have reported to have first tried smoking before age 10 years while it is 1 in 10 ever smokers from the Visayas and Luzon regions.

ACCESS

Table 4. Percentage of secondary school students who currently smoke cigarettes by where they usually smoke, and how they obtain their cigarettes, by gender, year level, age, and regions- Philippines GYTS 2000

Category	Usually Smokes at home	Usually smokes in school	Usually smokes at a friend's place	Bought cigarettes in a store	Bought cigarettes & were not refused because of age
Overall	18.5 (± 2.1) ^a	9.4 (± 2.1)	27.3 (± 2.7)	45.0 (± 1.4)	45.4 (± 3.8)
Gender:					
Male	14.0 (± 2.1)	10.4 (± 2.9)	26.6 (± 3.8)	16.8 (± 2.2)	45.6 (± 4.4)
Female	26.9 (± 4.6)	6.7 (± 2.7)	30.4 (± 4.3)	5.4 (± 1.0)	45.8 (± 6.2)
Year Level:					
2nd	20.7 (± 3.3)	7.7 (± 2.3)	29.1 (± 4.3)	8.9 (± 1.7)	45.5 (± 7.2)
3rd	17.6 (± 4.0)	10.9 (± 4.3)	31.1 (± 5.0)	10.8 (± 2.5)	45.8 (± 6.1)
4th	17.8 (± 3.9)	8.5 (± 3.4)	22.4 (± 4.6)	11.6 (± 2.7)	45.2 (± 8.3)
Age (Years):					
≤12	22.5 (± 7.8)	14.1 (± 5.8)	21.5 (± 7.9)	13.2 (± 2.6)	41.4 (± 8.5)
13	29.5 (± 11.0)	11.2 (± 7.0)	24.3 (± 8.1)	9.2 (± 3.1)	37.4 (± 14.2)
14	26.0 (± 5.7)	6.7 (± 3.9)	27.3 (± 6.4)	6.7 (± 1.6)	50.3 (± 5.6)
15	15.5 (± 3.6)	8.5 (± 3.2)	36.3 (± 5.5)	8.5 (± 1.6)	47.8 (± 7.5)
16≥	16.4 (± 2.8)	9.7 (± 2.8)	24.6 (± 3.7)	12.8 (± 2.1)	45.4 (± 5.2)
Regions					
Zone 1	15.4 (± 2.7)	6.6 (± 3.2)	27.0 (± 4.0)	10.9 (± 2.1)	50.4 (± 4.1)
Zone 2	21.3 (± 4.6)	11.3 (± 3.7)	26.6 (± 4.1)	9.8 (± 2.1)	37.1 (± 4.3)
Zone 3	25.8 (± 18.9)	10.2 (± 2.6)	28.5 (± 3.0)	9.3 (± 1.5)	37.0 (± 4.1)

Table 4 presents the percentage of students who currently smoke by their place of preference to smoke and where they avail of cigarettes. Students who currently smoke were asked where they usually smoked, and an estimated of 1 in 5 (18.5%) current smokers usually smoke at home, with female current smokers are twice more likely than male current smokers to be smoking at home. One in 10 (10%) of these current smokers usually smoke in school, with more male current smokers (10.4%) than female current smokers (6.7%) doing such. Three of 10 (27.3%) current smokers usually smoke at a friends' home. Friends' home are the most common place to smoke, for both sexes, year and age levels, and in all regions of the country.

When asked of how did they usually get their own cigarettes during the past 30 days, almost half of those (10.4%) who currently smoke purchase their cigarette from stores, shops or from street vendors, with male current smokers (16.8%) being three times more likely than female current smokers (5.4%) to have bought their cigarettes from a store. Almost one half (45.4%) of the current smokers were not refused the sale of cigarettes because of their age, and this is similarly presented by both gender, year and age levels, and across regions.

KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES

Table 5. Percentage of secondary school students who know the dangers of tobacco, and their attitudes towards smoking, by gender, year level, age, and regions- PH-GYTS 2000

	Tobacco is harmful		Once someone starts smoking, it is difficult to quit		Safe to smoke for ½ year	
	Current smoker	Never smoker	Current smoker	Never smoker	Current smoker	Never smoker
Overall	37.6 (± 4.6) ^a	49.8(± 4.4)	18.3 (± 2.2)	14.9 (± 1.7)	12.6 (± 2.3)	5.3 (± 0.7)
Gender:						
Male	36.5 (± 5.6)	49.4 (± 5.5)	16.9 (± 2.9)	13.4 (± 1.9)	11.9 (± 2.3)	5.6 (± 1.6)
Female	39.8 (± 4.8)	51.0 (± 4.6)	20.0 (± 3.9)	16.0 (± 2.2)	13.8 (± 4.1)	5.1 (± 1.0)
Year Level:						
2nd	37.9 (± 5.1)	46.9 (± 4.7)	15.3 (± 2.4)	14.6 (± 1.9)	13.2 (± 4.2)	5.6 (± 0.9)
3rd	36.7 (± 6.7)	54.2 (± 6.3)	20.0 (± 3.7)	15.6 (± 2.4)	14.0 (± 3.6)	5.4 (± 1.4)
4th	40.9 (± 8.6)	54.4 (± 7.6)	20.2 (± 5.4)	16.9 (± 3.8)	10.7 (± 3.5)	4.5 (± 1.4)
Age (Years):						
≤12	26.4 (± 7.3)	32.6 (± 8.1)	23.2 (± 8.4)	9.8 (± 2.3)	15.3 (± 5.4)	6.1 (± 2.1)
13	35.1 (± 9.2)	44.5 (± 8.7)	22.7 (±10.3)	10.2 (± 4.7)	20.2 (± 8.5)	5.2 (± 3.5)
14	41.4 (± 6.3)	53.3 (± 5.4)	14.0 (± 4.6)	15.4 (± 2.2)	10.9 (± 4.9)	4.7 (± 1.7)
15	40.4 (± 6.1)	57.0 (± 5.4)	17.0 (± 4.0)	16.4 (± 2.1)	14.8 (± 5.1)	5.3 (± 1.3)
16≥	37.9 (± 6.4)	47.6 (± 5.7)	19.2 (± 4.2)	15.5 (± 3.9)	11.0 (± 2.7)	5.5 (± 1.0)
Regions:						
Zone 1	40.4 (± 6.8)	52.1 (± 6.6)	19.6 (± 3.4)	15.0 (± 2.2)	12.6 (± 3.5)	5.4 (± 1.1)
Zone 2	32.5 (± 6.8)	47.7 (± 7.2)	18.8 (± 2.9)	15.6 (± 4.9)	11.2 (± 6.9)	4.0 (± 1.2)
Zone 3	33.5 (± 4.6)	44.9 (± 6.1)	16.4 (± 2.4)	13.9 (± 1.7)	14.1 (± 1.5)	6.0 (± 1.1)

^a Figures in parentheses are 95% confidence interval

Table 5 presents the percentage of secondary school students who know the dangers of smoking and their attitudes towards the health effects of tobacco. When asked of whether they have tried or experimented with cigarette smoking and definitely think smoking cigarettes is harmful to your health, there are more never smokers (50%) who think that tobacco is harmful to one's health, than current smokers (38%) having thought so. This attitude is affirmed similarly by both sexes, in all year levels, and in all regions. Further, table 5 presents prevalence of attitudes concerning tobacco addiction and smoking cessation among secondary school students. More current smokers (18.3%) than never smokers (15%) stated that quitting smoking is difficult once someone starts smoking. Current smokers believed twice more than never smokers that it is safe to smoke for a year or two as long as one quits after that. There were no significant differences in attitudes of students towards dangers of tobacco and smoking across the regions.

ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE (ETS)

Table 6. Percentage of secondary school students who are exposed to environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS), and their attitudes towards ETS, by gender, year level, age, and regions-Phil. GYTS 2000

Category	Others smoke in their homes		Around others who smoke in other places		Definitely think smoke from others is harmful to them		Think smoking should be banned from public places	
	Current Smoker	Never Smoker	Current Smoker	Never Smoker	Current Smoker	Never Smoker	Current Smoker	Never Smoker
Overall	78.7 (\pm 2.5) ^a	52.4 (\pm 2.1)	87.2 (\pm 1.9)	69.0 (\pm 2.2)	33.2 (\pm 4.2)	43.5 (\pm 4.5)	41.6 (\pm 3.3)	35.6 (\pm 4.8)
Gender: Male	77.3 (\pm 3.0)	49.3 (\pm 2.4)	87.7 (\pm 2.7)	65.0 (\pm 3.2)	32.6 (\pm 5.2)	41.6 (\pm 5.2)	43.6 (\pm 4.6)	42.0 (\pm 6.0)
Female	81.9 (\pm 3.2)	54.4 (\pm 2.9)	86.9 (\pm 2.0)	71.2 (\pm 2.9)	34.3 (\pm 5.4)	45.3 (\pm 4.8)	38.4 (\pm 4.5)	33.5 (\pm 4.8)
Year: 2nd	77.6 (\pm 3.7)	49.0 (\pm 3.2)	86.4 (\pm 3.6)	65.4 (\pm 3.3)	33.1 (\pm 5.0)	39.3 (\pm 4.7)	36.9 (\pm 5.0)	32.4 (\pm 5.2)
3rd	80.4 (\pm 4.1)	54.6 (\pm 3.6)	86.8 (\pm 3.3)	70.9 (\pm 4.2)	29.5 (\pm 6.2)	47.8 (\pm 6.7)	41.5 (\pm 5.1)	39.6 (\pm 7.0)
4th	78.2 (\pm 3.8)	54.2 (\pm 4.1)	88.5 (\pm 3.2)	72.9 (\pm 3.9)	39.1 (\pm 8.3)	49.4 (\pm 7.2)	47.3 (\pm 6.4)	41.7 (\pm 7.1)
Age: \leq12	77.6 (\pm 7.1)	48.8 (\pm 4.5)	82.1 (\pm 6.9)	58.9 (\pm 5.5)	26.2 (\pm 5.7)	21.9 (\pm 6.6)	40.6 (\pm 7.2)	18.4 (\pm 7.4)
13	76.8 (\pm 9.1)	43.8 (\pm 8.7)	80.0 (\pm 10.9)	70.3 (\pm 9.2)	26.3 (\pm 8.1)	38.5 (\pm 8.5)	45.0 (\pm 10.7)	37.8 (\pm 9.3)
14	78.6 (\pm 5.6)	48.9 (\pm 3.2)	90.2 (\pm 3.9)	67.0 (\pm 3.4)	35.6 (\pm 5.9)	45.4 (\pm 4.7)	39.9 (\pm 7.2)	34.0 (\pm 5.9)
15	79.8 (\pm 3.6)	52.8 (\pm 3.7)	86.8 (\pm 3.3)	71.7 (\pm 3.8)	33.3 (\pm 6.9)	51.1 (\pm 6.2)	35.8 (\pm 5.0)	42.7 (\pm 6.9)
16\geq	79.2 (\pm 3.8)	56.0 (\pm 3.0)	88.0 (\pm 2.5)	70.5 (\pm 3.6)	34.8 (\pm 6.0)	42.7 (\pm 5.9)	44.6 (\pm 4.2)	35.1 (\pm 5.2)
Zone 1	77.9 (\pm 3.7)	52.4 (\pm 3.0)	88.5 (\pm 2.7)	68.5 (\pm 2.8)	36.0 (\pm 6.5)	45.5 (\pm 7.0)	41.4 (\pm 4.9)	36.4 (\pm 7.5)
Zone 2	76.4 (\pm 4.4)	51.5 (\pm 4.6)	84.0 (\pm 4.2)	68.2 (\pm 6.1)	41.0 (\pm 6.8)	27.1 (\pm 6.1)	38.7 (\pm 5.3)	34.7 (\pm 6.0)
Zone 3	83.4 (\pm 3.7)	53.7 (\pm 2.5)	85.9 (\pm 2.4)	71.4 (\pm 3.1)	30.0 (\pm 4.5)	39.9 (\pm 5.7)	44.6 (\pm 4.1)	34.1 (\pm 6.8)

^a Figures in parentheses are 95% confidence interval

Table 6 presents percentage of secondary school students who are exposed to Environmental Tobacco Smoke (ETS) and their attitudes towards ETS. A number of questions were asked on students' exposure and their attitudes towards ETS. When asked whether someone had smoked in their presence in their homes in the past 7 days, there are more current smokers (80%) than never smokers (52%) who reported that they have had someone in their homes who smoke in their presence. In addition, a majority of students had been exposed to tobacco smoke in other places other than in their homes. There are more current smokers (87.2%) than never smokers (69%) who have stated that they have had someone who smoke in their presence other than in their homes in the past seven days. Significantly, over 50% of students from all regions of the country had been exposed to ETS on a daily basis. Although differences in exposure to ETS between gender, among year and age levels were marginal, however, they were significant between current smokers and never smokers. The current smokers could have been exposed to their own smoke or they associated or frequented places where they could also smoke.

When asked if smoke from other people was harmful to them, more never smokers thought so (43.5%) as compared to current smokers (33.2%). These characteristics are significantly different for never smokers among the regions, with more never smokers from Luzon regions saying that smoke from other people is harmful to others as compared to the response of never smokers from the Mindanao and Visayas regions.

Surprisingly though, not many students were in favor of banning smoking in public places, with less than half saying they were in favor; however, more current smokers were in favor of doing so (42%) than those who never smoke (35.6%), and with more male being in favor of than female smokers. There were no significant differences in this attitude across year and age levels, and regions of the country.

CESSATION

Table 7 presents percentage of students who currently smoke cigarettes but desire to stop and had attempted to stop smoking. According to studies, once a person starts smoking, it becomes difficult for one to stop. This survey therefore tried to examine among students who smoked: how many had the desire to stop smoking, how many had even tried to stop smoking and how many think they can stop if they wish to? When asked if they ever had tried to stop smoking cigarettes in the past year, about 8 of 10 of the current smokers wanted to stop; likewise, 8 of 10 think that they can stop smoking if they wish to. However, 8 of 10 current smokers also had tried to stop but had not succeeded. There were no significant differences in the characteristics across gender, year and age levels, and regions of the country.

Table 7. Percentage of secondary school students who currently smoke cigarettes and who wanted to stop and unsuccessfully tried to stop smoking, by gender, year level, age, and regions- Philippines GYTS 2000

Category	Desire to stop	Tried to stop	Able to stop smoking if they wish to
Overall	84.1 (\pm 3.0) ^a	84.0 (\pm 3.1)	85.3 (\pm 3.0)
Gender:			
Male	85.1 (\pm 3.10)	84.0 (\pm 3.6)	86.1 (\pm 3.2)
Female	83.7 (\pm 4.7)	83.1 (\pm 4.5)	84.4 (\pm 5.9)
Year Level:			
2 nd	85.5 (\pm 4.3)	85.5 (\pm 4.5)	82.4 (\pm 4.3)
3 rd	84.5 (\pm 4.8)	82.0 (\pm 4.2)	85.5 (\pm 4.7)
4 th	84.1 (\pm 5.1)	83.0 (\pm 6.2)	89.5 (\pm 3.7)
Age (Years):			
\leq 12	81.2 (\pm 8.1)	80.8 (\pm 7.2)	75.9 (\pm 10.3)
13	85.0 (\pm 14.3)	90.3 (\pm 8.9)	83.7 (\pm 12.9)
14	84.1 (\pm 5.0)	85.4 (\pm 5.3)	85.1 (\pm 7.1)
15	85.9 (\pm 4.4)	80.5 (\pm 6.2)	87.7 (\pm 4.7)
16 \geq	85.0 (\pm 4.4)	85.5 (\pm 3.8)	86.6 (\pm 4.1)
Regions:			
Zone 1	84.0 (\pm 4.3)	85.2 (\pm 4.4)	85.5 (\pm 4.3)
Zone 2	87.2 (\pm 5.3)	82.9 (\pm 5.4)	85.1 (\pm 4.5)
Zone 3	88.5 (\pm 3.4)	80.8 (\pm 4.0)	84.3 (\pm 4.7)

MEDIA AND ADVERTISING

Table 8 presents percentage of secondary school students who were exposed to both positive and negative information on tobacco from different mediums. The role of the media in influencing behavior is well known, and this is a starting point for most programs that try to advocate for anti-smoking. Students were asked about their exposure to anti-smoking messages as well as cigarettes advertisements.

Overall, over a half (52%) of the Filipino secondary school students saw anti-smoking media messages, but also over half of the students (54%) saw brand names when watching sports events or other programs. About one third of them (29.4%) saw anti-smoking messages at sporting and other events; however, also almost one third (28%) saw ads for cigarettes at sporting events.

For those who were exposed to pro-smoking advertisement, 2 in 5 saw advertisements for cigarettes on billboards, with more never smokers (46%) than current smokers (42%) having been exposed to. An estimated 1 in 5 students, saw ads for cigarettes in newspapers and magazines, with more female never smokers (20%) than female current smokers (15%) having been exposed to these ads.

There are more current smokers (3 of 10) than never smokers (1 of 10) who have reported to have something or have an object with a cigarette brand logo on it; and among the never smokers, there are more male than female who said they have something with a cigarette logo on it.

The current smokers were three times more likely than the never smokers (30%: 12%) to have been offered “free” cigarettes by a representative of a tobacco company, and with more male than female students having been offered such. More significantly and more alarming, more students with age less than 12 years have reported to have been offered “free” cigarettes. There were no significant differences in exposure to anti and pro-smoking advertisements among the students across the regions of the country.

Table 8. Percentage of secondary school students who were exposed to anti- and pro-smoking advertising, by gender, year level, age, and regions- Philippines GYTS 2000

Category	Saw Anti-Smoking Media Messages	Saw Anti-Smoking Message at Sporting and Other Events	Saw Ads For Cigarettes on Billboards		Saw Advertisements For Cigarettes in Newspaper and Magazines		Saw Brand Names When Watching Sports Events or Other Programs	Saw Ads For Cigarettes At Sporting Events	Who have Something With a Cigarettes Brand Logo On It		Offered “Free” Cigarettes by Representative of a Tobacco Company	
			Current Smoker	Never Smoker	Current Smoker	Never Smoker			Current Smoker	Never Smoker	Current Smoker	Never Smoker
Overall	52.0 (±1.9)	29.4 (±1.8)	41.6 (±3.0)	46.0 (±1.9)	19.1 (±2.8)	20.2 (±2.3)	51.6 (±2.2)	27.8 (±1.4)	25.5 (±2.8)	13.6 (±1.3)	29.4 (±2.8)	11.8 (±1.3)
Gender:												
Male	48.7 (±2.4)	30.4 (±2.3)	41.5 (±4.0)	47.3 (±2.5)	20.8 (±3.9)	20.5 (±2.7)	49.8 (±2.4)	29.3 (±2.0)	27.4 (±3.4)	17.1 (±2.1)	32.0 (±3.6)	15.1 (±2.3)
Female	55.5 (±2.3)	28.7 (±2.2)	43.2 (±4.9)	45.8 (±2.5)	14.5 (±3.4)	19.6 (±2.7)	53.5 (±2.8)	26.4 (±1.8)	21.5 (±4.2)	11.7 (±1.8)	23.0 (±3.5)	10.1 (±1.4)
Year:												
2nd	49.5 (±3.3)	28.7 (±3.1)	36.3 (±5.0)	44.8 (±3.5)	19.3 (±3.7)	24.0 (±3.8)	49.1 (±3.4)	27.0 (±2.3)	25.5 (±3.9)	14.9 (±1.8)	29.2 (±4.2)	10.3 (±1.9)
3rd	52.5 (±3.5)	28.2 (±1.9)	42.7 (±7.1)	47.2 (±3.1)	20.4 (±5.3)	19.0 (±3.2)	53.7 (±3.8)	27.5 (±2.1)	27.2 (±4.9)	12.8 (±2.1)	30.3 (±5.4)	11.8 (±2.0)
4th	55.9 (±3.3)	31.5 (±2.3)	47.2 (±5.7)	48.6 (±4.1)	17.6 (±4.8)	15.0 (±3.4)	54.5 (±3.3)	29.2 (±2.3)	24.5 (±5.8)	11.6 (±2.3)	27.6 (±4.6)	12.5 (±1.9)
Age :												
≤12	41.9 (±4.6)	29.6 (±5.0)	35.6 (±8.0)	41.8 (±5.3)	25.5 (±5.9)	27.7 (±7.4)	44.4 (±5.9)	35.4 (±6.1)	32.6 (±7.1)	23.9 (±6.3)	42.9 (±8.1)	22.5 (±5.4)
13	45.7 (±6.7)	33.3 (±6.4)	18.7 (±10.4)	44.7 (±6.8)	31.8 (±10.6)	18.6 (±5.4)	52.8 (±5.2)	31.8 (±4.9)	40.1 (±13.1)	14.2 (±5.4)	29.2 (±13.5)	7.9 (±3.5)
14	52.7 (±3.6)	28.9 (±3.2)	41.7 (±8.4)	47.3 (±4.1)	17.6 (±5.0)	20.0 (±3.2)	53.0 (±3.4)	26.0 (±2.6)	22.5 (±5.5)	12.4 (±2.2)	23.0 (±5.1)	8.2 (±1.6)
15	54.8 (±3.0)	30.5 (±2.5)	42.7 (±6.6)	46.6 (±3.1)	19.0 (±5.1)	17.9 (±3.2)	54.8 (±3.5)	26.9 (±2.1)	22.0 (±4.5)	12.9 (±2.3)	22.7 (±5.3)	10.9 (±2.2)
16≥	52.9 (±2.6)	28.7 (±2.3)	44.0 (±4.4)	46.0 (±3.2)	17.4 (±3.0)	20.6 (±3.6)	50.4 (±3.0)	27.3 (±2.1)	25.8 (±4.2)	12.0 (±1.6)	31.5 (±3.8)	11.8 (±1.4)
Regions:												
Zone 1	50.3 (±2.7)	28.8 (±2.7)	42.0 (±4.3)	43.6 (±2.3)	18.6 (±4.2)	20.4 (±2.9)	51.5 (±3.3)	28.0 (±2.0)	25.9 (±4.1)	13.9 (±2.0)	27.5 (±3.9)	11.0 (±2.1)
Zone 2	54.3 (±4.3)	31.0 (±3.4)	38.4 (±5.1)	48.9 (±5.1)	20.9 (±4.9)	20.7 (±6.0)	51.7 (±4.6)	27.7 (±2.4)	20.0 (±4.7)	12.9 (±1.8)	29.7 (±4.1)	13.3 (±1.8)
Zone 3	54.8 (±2.8)	29.8 (±2.1)	43.3 (±4.6)	50.3 (±2.3)	19.1 (±3.1)	19.1 (±2.7)	51.5 (±2.3)	27.3 (±1.9)	28.7 (±4.8)	13.4 (±1.9)	34.9 (±5.5)	12.4 (±1.7)

SCHOOL

Table 9. Percentage of secondary school students who were taught about tobacco in class during the past school year, by gender, year level, age, and regions-Philippines GYTS 2000

Category	Taught dangers of smoking in class	Discussed reasons for smoking in class	Target effects of tobacco use in class
Overall	58.6 (\pm 2.7) ^a	57.7 (\pm 2.4)	64.1 (\pm 2.5)
Gender:			
Male	56.9 (\pm 3.2)	54.6 (\pm 3.0)	61.2 (\pm 2.7)
Female	61.2 (\pm 3.2)	61.4 (\pm 2.6)	67.0 (\pm 3.0)
Year Level:			
2 nd	56.0 (\pm 3.6)	55.3 (\pm 3.2)	62.1 (\pm 3.1)
3 rd	58.9 (\pm 4.6)	58.7 (\pm 3.6)	65.0 (\pm 4.2)
4 th	62.8 (\pm 3.8)	61.0 (\pm 3.7)	67.2 (\pm 3.9)
Age (Years):			
\leq 12	49.6 (\pm 6.5)	46.9 (\pm 5.5)	50.3 (\pm 4.1)
13	47.1 (\pm 8.5)	51.0 (\pm 5.8)	53.4 (\pm 7.1)
14	58.5 (\pm 3.7)	57.3 (\pm 3.3)	64.2 (\pm 3.4)
15	62.0 (\pm 4.4)	61.0 (\pm 3.5)	67.2 (\pm 3.4)
16 \geq	60.0 (\pm 3.4)	58.9 (\pm 3.0)	68.1 (\pm 3.5)
Regions:			
Zone 1	58.5 (\pm 4.0)	57.6 (\pm 3.6)	63.4 (\pm 3.9)
Zone 2	58.5 (\pm 5.2)	57.9 (\pm 3.9)	66.5 (\pm 3.9)
Zone 3	58.9 (\pm 3.0)	58.1 (\pm 2.8)	63.9 (\pm 3.1)

^a Figures in parentheses are 95% confidence interval

Table 9 presents percentage of Filipino secondary school students who have reported to have been taught or have discussed dangers of tobacco, reasons why young people smoke and targeted lessons on effects of tobacco in class during the past school year. When asked whether they were taught about dangers of tobacco in class, 6 out of 10 students have reported having been taught in class about the dangers of tobacco use; likewise, 6 out of ten students also stated that they have discussed reasons for not smoking and have targeted lessons on effects of tobacco use in class in the past year.

More female (62%) than male students (57%) have reported to discuss dangers of tobacco use in class. Also, more students from higher year and age levels reported from that they have discussed dangers of tobacco use in class in the past school year. There were no significant differences in the proportion of students from the different regions.

ISSUES:

There are positive indicators for our anti-smoking campaign in the Philippines: -

- 72% thinks cigarette smoking is harmful,
- 72% thinks cigarette smoking makes one less attractive and 85% of current smokers want to stop smoking.

However, we face greater challenges as

- only 27% of never smokers are likely to initiate smoking in the next year, -
- only 39% agree that smoking should be banned from public places and
- only 6% of those who wish to quit smoking had access to professional help.

CONCLUSIONS^d

Current cigarette smoking among young people in the Philippines is high, and use of other tobacco products is moderately high. Comparing these with the reported data in 1995, there is a 33% increase of prevalence of ever smoking in Filipino youth and a 12% increase in current smoking prevalence.

Like in most countries, Filipino boys are more likely than girls to use tobacco. Almost one-fifth of young people begin smoking before the age of 10 years. Over ¼ of never smokers are likely to start smoking this year. This is of concern, since the younger they start to smoke, the more likely they are to become addicted, or become heavy smokers, or die from tobacco-related illnesses.

Environmental Tobacco Smoke exposure is very high, over half of parents smoke. About 3 in 4 are around others who smoke in places outside their homes. Filipino youth smokers usually smoke at home but majority of them prefer to smoke in a friend's home. Only 4 in 10 think smoking is harmful to their health.

Cigarettes in the Philippines are widely available and accessible. Almost half of the Filipino youth smokers can buy their cigarettes in the stores and half of them bought their cigarettes without any prohibition of sale. There are no laws and ordinances that prohibit sale of cigarettes to minors in the country.

The majority of young people currently smoking want to stop smoking and over two-thirds or 8 in 10 smokers want to stop. There is lack of access to smoking cessation programmes among those who are already smoking.

Half of the students saw anti-smoking media message and also, over half of them saw pro-smoking media messages. The influence of advertising by the tobacco industry is pronounced and until legislation provides support for total ban

on advertisement, children and adolescents will continue to be influenced by these pro-smoking messages in the media.

A majority of young people has been taught in schools about the dangers of smoking. The present survey does not include details about the content or quality of the curriculum, the preparation of the teachers on this topic, or the number or duration of the lessons taught.

RECOMMENDATIONS^c

The passage of the Comprehensive Anti-Smoking Bill or a Law for effective tobacco control at the national policy level is neutralized by the economic use of tobacco. Tobacco is one of the main foreign currency earners in the Philippines. As in any other country, one major problem that cannot be ignored is its increased use by young people and the long-term effects to their health.

From this survey, the increased use of cigarettes and other tobacco products by young people has been shown and many recommendations especially specific intervention programs can be drawn.

1. The Philippines needs a stronger anti-smoking legislation, re-echoing the World Bank Report recommendations, there is an urgent need to increase tobacco taxes, to ban sale of tobacco products to and by minors. These are proven effective strategies in other countries.
2. The “Clean Air Act” should be enforced, and strictly prohibit smoking in public places.
3. Strengthen Information, Education and Communication campaigns on health effects of tobacco in all settings, schools, community, and workplaces. The Non-government organizations, professional and allied health organizations could contribute their share in this crusade.
4. Initiate smoking cessation program in schools and make this more accessible for everyone who wish to quit.
5. To continue monitoring tobacco use and other risk behaviors in youth and among the population.

APPENDIX A: WEIGHTING, VARIANCE ESTIMATION, & STATISTICAL TESTING

Weighting & Variance Estimation