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### III. School Programs

#### Tobacco-Related School Curriculum

Because most tobacco users start before age 18, school programs designed to prevent the initiation of tobacco use are a crucial component of a tobacco control program. Youth who have not tried tobacco should be enabled to continue abstaining, and youth who have experimented or become regular users of tobacco should have help quitting.

##### Learning refusal skills in school:

Students were asked if they had practiced ways to say ‘no’ to tobacco use in school via role playing or other programs. Many students are unsure whether they have discussed this issue in school, and only **37%** reported that they had practiced ways to say no to tobacco use in elaus.

**Table 11: Proportion of Students Who Have Practiced Refusal Skills in School**

Type of Tobacco Use	Yes	No	Not sure
Cigarettes or smokeless tobacco	51.0%	30.1%	18.9%
Cigarettes or smokeless tobacco in betelnut	36.8%	38.7%	24.5%

##### Tobacco use on school property:

To enable schools to prevent tobacco use among youth, it is also necessary to measure and monitor adherence to school policies prohibiting tobacco use on school property.

Seven percent (**7.0%**) of students had smoked cigarettes on school property on one or more of the past 30 days. **10.2%** had used smokeless/chewing tobacco, and **42.9%** had used betelnut with or without tobacco on school property in the past 30 days.