## RESULTS

## STUDIED POPULATION

## Samples

A total of 5268 surveys were applied and analyzed in the cities of Huancayo, Lima, Tarapoto, and Trujillo. Twenty-five schools were sampled in Huancayo, 48 in Lima, 13 in Tarapoto, and 23 in Trujillo; where 1332 questionnaires were satisfactorily analyzed for the city of Huancayo, 1623 for Lima, 1048 for Tarapoto and 1265 for Trujillo. The global average response rate for the cities is $88.25 \%$, i.e., from the total number of students to be interviewed, $88.25 \%$ satisfactorily completed the questionnaire (Tables 1 and 2).

Table 1. Sample of Student Population and Survey's Rate of Response GYTS-2000

| City | Total <br> sample | Total <br> enrolments | \% <br> Response <br> rate | \% total <br> response |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| Huancayo | 1462 | 1351 | 92.41 | 92.41 |
| Lima | 1790 | 1647 | 92.01 | 90.13 |
| Tarapoto | 1196 | 1057 | 88.38 | 88.38 |
| Trujillo | 1491 | 1277 | 85.65 | 82.08 |
| Total | 5939 | 5332 | 88.25 | --- |

Table 2. Sample of School Population and Survey's Rate of Response GYTS-2000

| City | Total <br> sample | Total <br> enrolments | \% School <br> participation |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :---: |
|  |  |  |  |
| Huancayo | 25 | 25 | 100.00 |
| Lima | 49 | 48 | 97.96 |
| Tarapoto | 13 | 13 | 100.00 |
| Trujillo | 24 | 23 | 95.83 |

## Student Profile

Table 3 shows the distribution of the school population surveyed in the four cities by sex, school grade and age at the moment when the survey was applied.

Table 3. Characteristics of School Population (Second to Fourth form of high school education) enrolled by city.

| Characteristic |  | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Huancayo } \\ & \mathrm{N}(\%) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline \mathrm{Lima} \\ & \mathrm{n}(\%) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Tarapoto } \\ & \mathrm{n}(\%) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Trujillo } \\ & \mathrm{n}(\%) \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Gender | Male | $\begin{aligned} & 654 \\ & (48.3) \end{aligned}$ | 632 (47.0) | 535 (52.4) | 563 (48.2) |
|  | Female | $\begin{aligned} & 643 \\ & (51.7) \end{aligned}$ | 957 (53.0) | 493 (47.6) | 673 (51.8) |
| Form | Two | $\begin{aligned} & 460 \\ & (33.8) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 619 (36.5) | 384 (36.2) | 560 (36.8) |
|  | Three | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 414 \\ & (34.7) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 518 (33.3) | 343 (31.9) | 353 (32.7) |
|  | Four | $\begin{aligned} & 439 \\ & (31.5) \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ | 457 (30.2) | 309 (31.9) | 337 (30.5) |
| Age | <12 | 12 (01.0) | 23 (01.5) | 15 (01.4) | 8 (00.7) |
|  | 12 | 79 (05.9) | 128 (7.5) | 46 (04.3) | 58 (04.2) |
|  | 13 | $\begin{aligned} & 307 \\ & (22.8) \end{aligned}$ | 378 (22.3) | 177 (16.9) | 311 (21.0) |
|  | 14 | $\begin{aligned} & 355 \\ & (27.3) \end{aligned}$ | 448 (27.5) | 284 (26.3) | 359 (28.8) |
|  | 15 | $\begin{aligned} & 344 \\ & (24.8) \end{aligned}$ | 391 (24.5) | 310 (30.7) | 356 (30.3) |
|  | 16 | $\begin{aligned} & (<4.0) \\ & 155 \\ & (12.4) \end{aligned}$ | 177 (11.5) | 135 (13.5) | 121 (11.0) |
|  | 16+ | 68 (05.8) | 68 (05.1) | 68 (06.9) | 43 (04.0) |

n : Number of persons giving a valid answer
\%: Percentage column expanded

## PREVALENCE

The study has found that tobacco's life prevalence is higher in the city of Lima (the country's capital city, $55.9 \%$ ) than in the other three cities in the provinces (Huancayo, 48.8\%; Trujillo, 48.9\%; Tarapoto, 44.7\%). (Table 4).

Table 5 shows the results for prevalence of life, monthly prevalence and percentage of students who smoked a cigarette before they were 10 years for the four cities included in the study.

Tobacco's monthly prevalence follows a similar pattern to that of life prevalence: Lima's is higher (20.24\%) with respect to the other three provincial cities (Huancayo 16.7\%, Trujillo 19.15\%, and Tarapoto 16.19\%).

The study also found that tobacco's life prevalence in all of the cities was higher among men. However, this sex-related difference in life prevalence had a lesser magnitude in the city of Lima when compared with the differences in life prevalence by sex noted in the other cities (Tables 4, 5A and 5B). The same phenomenon was noted for monthly prevalence (Tables 5A and 5B).

TABLE 4. Ever smoked tobacco in students from second to fourth form of high school education in four Peruvian cities - 2000

| City | Answer | Total | Gender |  | Form |  |  | Age |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  |  | Male | Woman | Two | Three | Four | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16+ |
| Huancayo | Yes | 48.8 | 60.0 | 37.9 | 41.1 | 42.7 | 63.0 | 39.3 | 36.8 | 47.5 | 56.2 | 58.6 |
|  | No |  | 40.0 | 62.1 | 58.9 | 57.3 | 37.0 | 60.7 | 63.2 | 52.5 | 43.8 | 41.4 |
| Lima | Yes | 55.9 | 63.1 | 48.9 | 44.9 | 55.6 | 68.7 | 45.6 | 40.8 | 54.6 | 67.0 | 67.7 |
|  | No | 44.1 | 36.9 | 51.1 | 55.1 | 44.4 | 31.3 | 54.4 | 59.2 | 45.4 | 33.0 | 32.3 |
| Tarapoto | Yes | 44.7 | 56.2 | 32.2 | 28.7 | 50.0 | 57.3 | 23.8 | 24.5 | 41.1 | 53.8 | 60.2 |
|  | No | 55.3 | 43.8 | 67.8 | 71.3 | 50.0 | 42.7 | 76.2 | 75.5 | 58.9 | 46.2 | 39.8 |
| Trujillo | Yes | 48.9 | 59.5 | 38.2 | 33.3 | 53.3 | 61.4 | 33.5 | 31.5 | 46.9 | 56.4 | 65.9 |
|  | No | 51.1 | 40.1 | 61.8 | 66.7 | 46.7 | 38.6 | 66.5 | 68.5 | 53.1 | 43.6 | 34.1 |

TABLE 5A. \% Students who used tobacco in Huancayo and Lima - Peru 2000


TABLE 5b. \% Students who used tobacco in Tarapoto and Trujillo - Peru 2000


Life prevalence for tobacco use exceeded $50 \%$ by the age of 15 in all of the cities (Tables 4 and 5). It was observed that consumption during the last month was mainly for cigarettes ( 16 to $20 \%$ ). The use of other forms of tobacco was lower ( 5 to $7 \%$ ). (Table 4). The use of tobacco in any of its forms reached values between 20 and $23.3 \%$ for the last month.

In all the cities, life prevalence and monthly prevalence increased as the study grade went up (Tables 4, 5A and 5B).

The figures related to tobacco consumption before the age of 10 were as follows: Huancayo, 7.37\%; Lima, 5.93\%; Tarapoto, 3.87\%; and Trujillo, 5.3\%. The proportion of men who smoked for the first time before the age of 10 with respect to women was higher in the city of Trujillo (men 7.26\%, IC: 5.29-9.23; women 3.19\%, IC: 2.11-4.26). There were no differences for the other three cities (Tables 5A and 5B).

## ACCESS

The results reached under the category access are demonstrated in Tables 6A and 6 B . They show where and under which situations the students smoke, as well as where they procure them, and if those who got the cigarettes were turned down due to their age.

TABLE 6A. \% Students who currently smoke cigarettes by where they usually smoke and how they obtain their cigarettes - Huancayo \& Lima -

## Peru 2000.

| City |  | Usually smoke at home \% | Usually smoke at school \% | Usually smoke at a friend's place \% | Usually smoke in social events \% | Usually smoke at other public spaces \% | Usually smoke at any place \% | Bought cigarettes in a store \% | Bougth <br> cigarettes <br> \& were not refused because of age |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Sex: Male | 8.87 | 1.36 | 9.57 | 25.41 | 29.68 | 22.58 | 68.18 | 15.13 |
|  | Female | 8.01 | -- | 14.80 | 35.91 | 19.95 | 21.34 | 41.24 | 18.07 |
|  | Form: two | 25.56 | -- | 15.81 | 16.17 | 22.47 | 11.27 | 43.43 | 31.41 |
|  | Three | 6.18 | 1.84 | 12.32 | 33.48 | 28.76 | 17.42 | 54.22 | 21.01 |
|  | Four | 4.28 | 0.74 | 9.13 | 32.69 | 24.06 | 29.11 | 66.12 | 12.98 |
|  | Age: <12 | -- | -- | -- | 100.00 | -- | -- | -- | -- |
|  | 12 | 39.09 | -- | -- | 19.49 | 19.75 | 21.68 | 19.75 | 32.42 |
|  | 13 | 15.34 | -- | 15.85 | 33.86 | 16.90 | 11.97 | 57.68 | 38.31 |
|  | 14 | 9.81 | -- | 15.28 | 25.34 | 29.48 | 15.46 | 43.26 | 16.91 |
|  | 15 | 4.67 | 2.21 | 8.88 | 31.52 | 25.35 | 27.37 | 69.15 | 9.60 |
|  | 16 | 5.62 | -- | 8.96 | 30.49 | 39.30 | 15.64 | 73.76 | 21.18 |
|  | 17+ | 24.62 | -- | 13.52 | 15.86 | 8.76 | 37.24 | 35.04 | 11.38 |
| $\sum_{J}^{\mathbb{E}}$ | Sex: Male | 5.57 | 1.52 | 9.36 | 27.77 | 28.07 | 24.39 | 75.16 | 22.61 |
|  | Female | 18.55 | 3.25 | 8.93 | 24.18 | 25.22 | 18.48 | 53.99 | 28.20 |
|  | Form: two | 17.24 | 6.63 | 10.52 | 10.67 | 39.84 | 15.09 | 46.92 | 30.26 |
|  | Three | 14.56 | 1.07 | 7.56 | 26.91 | 26.75 | 21.31 | 68.66 | 29.04 |
|  | Four | 5.79 | 0.38 | 9.93 | 33.16 | 20.63 | 25.19 | 78.12 | 20.01 |
|  | Age: <12 | -- | -- | 38.42 | 61.58 | -- | -- | 65.10 | -- |
|  | 12 | 30.00 | 5.70 | -- | 19.85 | 21.46 | 23.00 | 60.16 | 29.35 |
|  | 13 | 23.49 | 8.76 | 9.36 | 6.05 | 31.62 | 20.74 | 43.73 | 30.71 |
|  | 14 | 17.94 | 2.83 | 7.30 | 21.10 | 36.38 | 13.16 | 64.11 | 35.24 |
|  | 15 | 6.44 | 0.85 | 9.45 | 28.41 | 20.28 | 34.58 | 68.00 | 24.74 |
|  | 16 | 3.93 | -- | 13.01 | 36.48 | 30.48 | 16.05 | 78.38 | 22.59 |
|  | 17+ | -- | -- | -- | 41.83 | 14.28 | 17.01 | 67.74 | 4.71 |

TABLE 6B. \% Students who currently smoke cigarettes by where they usually smoke and how they obtain their cigarettes - Tarapoto and Trujillo

| City |  | Usually smoke at home \% | Usually smoke at school \% | Usually smoke at a friend's place \% | Usually smoke in social events \% | Usually smoke at other public spaces \% | Usually smoke at any place \% | Bought cigarettes in a store \% | Bougth cigarettes <br> \& were <br> not <br> refused <br> because of age |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Sex: Male | 7.21 | 1.22 | 13.45 | 58.49 | 4.14 | 13.43 | 57.80 | 31.00 |
|  | Female | 43.94 | -- | 12.14 | 33.66 | -- | 10.27 | 38.12 | 39.46 |
|  | Form: two | 8.04 | 3.67 | 15.26 | 42.21 | 6.71 | 17.93 | 29.04 | 47.81 |
|  | Three | 28.95 | -- | 15.76 | 44.56 | 2.06 | 8.68 | 63.62 | 22.97 |
|  | Four | 13.93 | -- | 10.48 | 61.49 | 1.61 | 12.48 | 57.74 | 28.84 |
|  | Age: <12 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 100.00 | -- |
|  | 12 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 100.00 | -- | -- |
|  | 13 | 7.86 | 10.65 | 8.85 | 37.32 | 17.48 | 17.85 | 49.43 | 16.09 |
|  | 14 | 40.15 | -- | 20.13 | 33.57 | -- | 6.06 | 48.16 | 23.36 |
|  | 15 | 13.79 | -- | 13.64 | 59.27 | 1.90 | 7.54 | 57.31 | 32.90 |
|  | 16 | 8.92 | -- | 8.01 | 58.80 | -- | 24.27 | 56.35 | 39.01 |
|  | 17+ | 13.71 | -- | 15.03 | 57.17 | 5.08 | 9.02 | 51.02 | 44.13 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { 일 } \\ & \underset{\sim}{\mathrm{x}} \\ & \end{aligned}$ | Sex: Male | 8.01 | 1.33 | 9.09 | 31.30 | 24.35 | 25.16 | 68.21 | 17.72 |
|  | Female | 14.33 | 2.93 | 21.93 | 38.74 | 12.48 | 9.60 | 55.68 | 19.36 |
|  | Form: two | 24.87 | 2.99 | 10.10 | 19.07 | 19.72 | 21.17 | 55.64 | 19.61 |
|  | Three | 5.49 | 2.76 | 21.84 | 27.91 | 22.31 | 19.69 | 55.79 | 12.39 |
|  | Four | 6.62 | -- | 5.24 | 44.81 | 20.99 | 22.35 | 76.71 | 21.21 |
|  | Age: <12 | -- | -- | -- | 15.77 | -- | 84.23 | 84.23 | 84.23 |
|  | 12 | 54.96 | -- | -- | 16.71 | 13.74 | 14.58 | 100.00 | 14.58 |
|  | 13 | 20.47 | 2.62 | 9.66 | 12.32 | 30.64 | 24.29 | 59.90 | 15.64 |
|  | 14 | 8.50 | 3.02 | 15.66 | 30.47 | 26.12 | 16.24 | 56.19 | 18.56 |
|  | 15 | 6.11 | 2.00 | 12.99 | 34.92 | 25.55 | 18.43 | 63.53 | 12.88 |
|  | 16 | 8.55 | -- | 14.84 | 52.71 | 8.39 | 13.10 | 62.64 | 22.00 |
|  | 17+ | 11.83 | -- | -- | 24.31 | 16.43 | 47.43 | 84.33 | -- |

Students smoke mainly in social events (Huancayo. 30.7\%; Lima, 26.3\%; Tarapoto, 46\%; Trujillo, 35\%) and in other public places (Huancayo, 24.8\%; Lima, 26.6\%; Tarapoto, 4\%; Trujillo, 18.4\%). The proportion of students who smoke at school was lower than $3.5 \%$ in all the four cities included in the study.

There were no differences by sex among those who mainly smoked at home in Huancayo (men: 8.87\%, IC: 3.17-14.56); women: 8.01\%, IC: 0.05-16.08) and in Trujillo (men: 8.01\%, IC: 1.34-14.68; women: $14.33 \%$, IC: $3.66-24.99$ ). On the contrary, in Lima and Tarapoto, the percentage of women who smoked at home was larger (Lima: men: 5.57\%, IC: 1.42-9.72; women: 18.55\%, IC: 10.83-26.27; Tarapoto: men: 7.21\%, IC: 1.99-12.42; women: 43.94\%, IC: 24.71-63.16). (Tables 6A and 6B).

Those students who mentioned that they normally smoke anywhere were one fifth of the total number of smokers for the cities of Huancayo (21.9\%), Lima (21.4\%) and Trujillo (17.38\%). However, in Tarapoto, only $11.8 \%$ declared that they normally smoke anywhere.

Ten to fifteen percent of all the students who smoke mentioned that they usually smoke with friends (Huancayo: 12.18\%; Lima: 9.1\%; Tarapoto: 12.79\%; Trujillo: $15.5 \%$ ). Furthermore, in the four cities, no differences were detected between male and female students who smoke with friends.

Among the group of students in Lima who smoke mainly in social events, the study noted a proportional tendency to increase by age, for groups between 13 and 16 years, compared to the values of the 13 year-old group (13 years: $6.05 \%$, IC -0.72 ; 14 years: $21.1 \%$, IC 13.7-26.49); 15 years: 28.41\%, IC: 14.72-42.11; 16 years: $36.48 \%$, IC: 23.72-49.24). (Tables 6A and 6B). This finding was not noted in the other three cities.

In all the cities of Peru we find that cigarettes are offered through the retail sale of 20cigarette packets or through the unitary sale of cigarettes, one by one. There is a vast supply of single cigarettes through ambulatory vendors in almost every other street, in bus stops and even in movie theaters, bars and coliseums. Ambulatory sales involve people of all ages and sexes, even children under the age of 10. The supply of cigarettes through vending machines is minimal in Peru.

This situation is especially notorious among the percentage of students who buy cigarettes in a store (Huancayo: 53.17\%; Lima: 64.70\%; Tarapoto: 45.96\%; Trujillo: $61.9 \%$ ). The proportion is slightly higher in the coastal cities (Lima and Trujillo) than in the cities located in the highlands (Huancayo) or Jungle (Tarapoto). The study also found that the proportion of men in Lima and Huancayo who bought cigarettes in stores was higher than women. Huancayo (men: 68.18\%, IC: 58.6-77.7; women: 41.24\%, IC: 26.19-56.29) and Lima (men: 75.16\%, IC: 67.42-82.9; women: 53.99\%, IC: 44.91-63.08).

In the cities of Lima and Tarapoto, the percentage of students who buy cigarettes in a store increases as the level of education rises (Lima: Second grade: 46.92\%, IC: 37-18-56.65; Third grade: $68.66 \%$, IC: $58.86-78.45$; Fourth grade: $78.12 \%$, IC: 64.1186.13) (Tarapoto: Second grade: $29.04 \%$, IC: $15.18-42.9$; Third grade: $63.62 \%$, IC:
51.75-75.49; Fourth grade: 57.74\%, IC: 47.4-68.08). This increase was not clear for the cities of Huancayo and Trujillo.

The number of students who bought cigarettes and were not turned down due to their age varies by city: Huancayo 16.6\%; Lima 25.4\%; Tarapoto 47.96\%; and Trujillo 18.54\%. (Tables 6A and 6B). There was no clear relationship with the level of education or sex. These results are consistent with the observation that in Peru there is a permissive attitude towards the supply of tobacco to minors, which is notably higher among street vendors.

## CESSATION

The number of students who wish to stop smoking now is high and in all cases it exceeds $65 \%$ of the students in all the four cities. The desire to stop smoking is found in all age groups, all levels of high school education, and in both sexes, without a definite pattern (Tables 7A and 7B).

Table 7A. \% Students who currently smoke cigarettes but desire to stop and attempt to stop smoking - Huancayo \& Lima - Peru 2000

| City |  |  | Desire to stop \% | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Tried to stop } \\ & \% \end{aligned}$ | To stop smoking if wish to \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gender | Male | 77.69 | 66.58 | 94.59 |
|  |  | Female | 66.16 | 68.16 | 100.00 |
|  | Form | 2 | 73.22 | 88.43 | 90.41 |
|  |  | 3 | 80.75 | 73.13 | 100.00 |
|  |  | 4 | 71.73 | 62.43 | 94.88 |
|  | Age | 11 | 100.00 | -- | -- |
|  |  | 12 | -- | -- | 100.00 |
|  |  | 13 | 90.99 | 84.81 | 82.04 |
|  |  | 14 | 63.16 | 63.63 | 96.50 |
|  |  | 15 | 67.55 | 65.72 | 98.55 |
|  |  | 16 | 85.49 | 66.73 | 100.00 |
|  |  | 17+ | 91.44 | 58.65 | 80.18 |
| $\underset{J}{\mathbb{L}}$ | Gender | Male | 70.49 | 66.70 | 91.49 |
|  |  | Female | 64.26 | 59.89 | 93.31 |
|  | Form | 2 | 61.42 | 58.66 | 86.99 |
|  |  | 3 | 62.33 | 66.77 | 92.70 |
|  |  | 4 | 74.29 | 64.41 | 94.69 |
|  | Age | 11 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
|  |  | 12 | 72.62 | 54.51 | 90.68 |
|  |  | 13 | 36.98 | 54.07 | 100.00 |
|  |  | 14 | 61.65 | 56.42 | 86.68 |
|  |  | 15 | 66.20 | 66.11 | 95.50 |
|  |  | 16 | 73.19 | 70.00 | 88.81 |
|  |  | 17+ | 89.48 | 63.95 | 95.48 |

Table 7B. \% Students who currently smoke cigarettes but desire to stop and attempt to stop smoking - Tarapoto \& Trujillo- Peru 2000

| City |  |  | Desire to stop \% | Tried to stop \% | To stop smoking if wish to \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gender | Male | 83.20 | 77.49 | 95.05 |
|  |  | Female | 95.17 | 90.06 | 95.53 |
|  | Form | 2 | 86.72 | 95.95 | 100.00 |
|  |  | 3 | 85.58 | 78.88 | 96.56 |
|  |  | 4 | 86.31 | 69.96 | 91.44 |
|  | Age | 11 | 100.00 | -- | -- |
|  |  | 12 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
|  |  | 13 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
|  |  | 14 | 81.23 | 79.95 | 94.69 |
|  |  | 15 | 80.24 | 31.79 | 95.94 |
|  |  | 16 | 82.29 | 70.11 | 93.27 |
|  |  | 17+ | 100.00 | 91.36 | 92.85 |
| $\begin{aligned} & 0 \\ & \frac{1}{3} \\ & \frac{2}{1} \\ & 1 \end{aligned}$ | Gender | Male | 80.96 | 79.67 | 95.90 |
|  |  | Female | 65.64 | 69.66 | 95.60 |
|  | Form | 2 | 85.24 | 85.08 | 87.24 |
|  |  | 3 | 73.81 | 71.98 | 95.23 |
|  |  | 4 | 79.27 | 81.31 | 96.49 |
|  | Age | 11 | 100.00 | -- | 100.00 |
|  |  | 12 | 100.00 | 100.00 | 100.00 |
|  |  | 13 | 82.80 | 79.13 | 80.90 |
|  |  | 14 | 74.38 | 74.29 | 97.47 |
|  |  | 15 | 83.21 | 82.76 | 94.33 |
|  |  | 16 | 73.99 | 73.46 | 93.28 |
|  |  | 17+ | 57.27 | 61.03 | 100.00 |

The number of smoking students who has tried to quit smoking is high. Seven out of every 10 smoking students has tried quitting in Huancayo and Lima, and eight out of ten have done so in Tarapoto and Trujillo. In contrast, nine out of every 10 smoker students interviewed believed that they could stop smoking whenever they wished to.
(Tables 7A and 7B). There were no significant differences by age, sex, or educational level in any of the cities involved in the study.

## KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDES

Table 8 shows the perception that smoking is harmful for the health among smoking and non-smoking groups for the four cities.

The number of habitual smokers (HS) who believe that smoking is harmful is greater for both sexes than among the non-smokers (NS). There were no differences between habitual and non-smokers of both sexes.

| Huancayo: | HS: <br> NS: | men: | 19.51\% | (IC: 13.17-25.84) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | women: | 17.23\% | (IC: 6.55-27.92) |
|  |  | men: | 5.7\% | (IC: 3.72 - 7.68) |
|  |  | women: | 8.28\% | (IC: $3.09-9.48$ ) |
| Lima: | HS: | men: | 27.78\% | (IC: 17.90-33.67) |
|  |  | women: | 15.74\% | (IC: 10.10-21.37) |
|  | NS: | men: | 11.03\% | (IC: 7.57-14.50) |
|  |  | women: | 7.8\% | (IC: 5.50-10.08) |
| Tarapoto: | HS: | men: | 15.65\% | (IC: 9.69-21.62) |
|  |  | women: | 23.25\% | (IC: 9.88-36.63) |
|  | NS: | men: | 8.12\% | (IC: 13.36-28.17) |
|  |  | women: | 5.05\% | (IC: $2.32-7.78)$ |
| Trujillo: | HS: | men: | 20.77\% | (IC: 13.36-28.17) |
|  |  | women: | 22.48\% | (IC: $6.08-38.88)$ |
|  | NS: | men: | 6.07\% | (IC: 0.75-11.38) |
|  |  | women: | 6.70\% | (IC: 2.41-10.98) |

With respect to the question, "is it difficult to stop smoking once you have started?" the answers among habitual smokers and non-smokers did not keep a specific pattern: Huancayo (HS: 13.2\%, NS: 13.0\%), Lima (HS: 7.91\%, NS: 17.35\%), Tarapoto (HS: 11\%, NS: 15.87\%), Trujillo (HS: 8.59\%, NS: 13.1\%).

One third of the students who smoked and almost half of the non-smokers from the four cities considered that "it is safe to smoke for one or two years, provided you quit afterwards": Huancayo (HS: 33.35\%; NS: 46.42\%); Lima (HS: 32.05\%; NS: 54.33\%); Tarapoto (HS: 35.17\%; NS: 52.82\%); Trujillo (HS: 33.02\%; NS: 54.61\%). (Tables 8A and 8 B ).

TABLE 8A. \% Students who know about the dangers of tobacco and attitudes towards smoking, for current and never smokers- Huancayo \& Lima - Peru 2000.

| City |  |  | Current smokers: Tobacco is harmful \% | No smokers: Tobacco is harmful \% | Current smokers: Once someone starts smoking, difficult to stop \% | No smokers: Once someone starts smoking, difficult to stop \% | Current smokers: Safe to smoke for / 2 years \% | No smokers: Safe to smoke for $1 / 2$ years \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gender | Male | 19.510 | 5.707 | 8.779 | 14.254 | 31.056 | 46.344 |
|  |  | Female | 17.235 | 6.288 | 17.682 | 11.934 | 35.652 | 46.519 |
|  | Form | 2 | 12.096 | 3.433 | 8.742 | 11.332 | 25.843 | 51.460 |
|  |  | 3 | 24.192 | 8.060 | 11.831 | 15.056 | 32.188 | 41.430 |
|  |  | 4 | 18.605 | 8.383 | 13.638 | 11.586 | 35.598 | 47.260 |
|  | Age | 11 | -- | -- | 100.000 | 13.551 | -- | 41.886 |
|  |  | 12 | 19.876 | 1.895 | -- | 11.642 | 21.677 | 55.381 |
|  |  | 13 | -- | 4.708 | 10.061 | 9.313 | 38.638 | 50.366 |
|  |  | 14 | 17.275 | 4.869 | 15.317 | 14.257 | 36.175 | 44.374 |
|  |  | 15 | 19.085 | 9.017 | 12.813 | 16.359 | 35.901 | 52.960 |
|  |  | 16 | 24.248 | 5.994 | 6.002 | 10.103 | 29.311 | 31.310 |
|  |  | 17+ | 29.861 | 17.155 | 13.969 | 11.551 | 15.227 | 20.750 |
| $\underset{J}{【}$ | Gender | Male | 25.78 | 11.03 | 4.38 | 20.31 | 27.61 | 55.23 |
|  |  | Female | 15.74 | 7.80 | 11.44 | 14.48 | 36.50 | 53.43 |
|  | Form | 2 | 24.75 | 9.07 | 4.86 | 16.14 | 29.48 | 54.80 |
|  |  | 3 | 20.25 | 9.36 | 8.04 | 17.67 | 25.79 | 50.88 |
|  |  | 4 | 21.09 | 9.43 | 9.16 | 16.30 | 37.03 | 56.42 |
|  | Age | 11 | -- | 9.44 | 74.99 | -- | 40.09 | 39.20 |
|  |  | 12 | 43.32 | 9.58 | -- | 13.10 | 50.20 | 60.59 |
|  |  | 13 | 25.77 | 9.34 | 2.10 | 16.25 | 27.43 | 51.73 |
|  |  | 14 | 15.16 | 6.61 | 6.40 | 17.88 | 30.61 | 57.64 |
|  |  | 15 | 23.24 | 10.27 | 10.30 | 19.20 | 30.02 | 46.45 |
|  |  | 16 | 24.75 | 8.75 | 5.43 | 15.44 | 34.64 | 64.12 |
|  |  | 17+ | 10.97 | 18.45 | 13.71 | 14.63 | 37.48 | 50.24 |

TABLE 8B. \% Students who know about the dangers of tobacco and attitudes towards smoking, for current and never smokers- Tarapoto \& Trujillo - Peru 2000.

| City |  |  | Current smokers: Tobacco is harmful \% | ```No smokers: Tobacco is harmful %``` | Current smokers: Once someone starts smoking, difficult to stop \% | No smokers: Once someone starts smoking, difficult to stop $\%$ | Current smokers: Safe to smoke for $1 / 2$ years \% | No smokers: Safe to smoke for 1 / 2 years \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gender | Male | 15.65 | 8.12 | 6.99 | 16.85 | 33.49 | 53.25 |
|  |  | Female | 23.25 | 5.05 | 16.05 | 14.89 | 36.86 | 52.39 |
|  | Form | 2 | 22.12 | 6.45 | 7.92 | 19.26 | 20.28 | 51.84 |
|  |  | 3 | 23.55 | 6.53 | 4.21 | 11.92 | 47.86 | 52.93 |
|  |  | 4 | 9.94 | 4.84 | 14.62 | 13.38 | 34.06 | 53.49 |
|  | Age | 11 | -- | -- | -- | -- | -- | 29.25 |
|  |  | 12 | -- | -- | -- | 16.76 | -- | 37.63 |
|  |  | 13 | 24.37 | 5.34 | -- | 20.28 | 41.58 | 54.70 |
|  |  | 14 | 32.22 | 9.57 | 9.13 | 11.95 | 28.48 | 52.90 |
|  |  | 15 | 12.54 | 4.26 | 10.89 | 15.09 | 42.34 | 59.60 |
|  |  | 16 | 9.27 | 11.18 | 13.33 | 15.54 | 18.38 | 46.10 |
|  |  | 17+ | 18.10 | -- | 10.14 | 24.16 | 33.78 | 41.09 |
|  | Gender | Male | 20.77 | 6.07 | 11.17 | 14.43 | 31.95 | 48.27 |
|  |  | Female | 22.48 | 6.70 | 6.01 | 11.62 | 34.09 | 52.61 |
|  | Form | 2 | 19.74 | 8.30 | 13.90 | 11.85 | 26.70 | 48.17 |
|  |  | 3 | 21.48 | 5.38 | 7.08 | 15.00 | 41.60 | 50.74 |
|  |  | 4 | 19.32 | 4.35 | 8.47 | 10.65 | 25.00 | 57.13 |
|  | Age | 11 | -- | -- | 72.75 | -- | -- | -- |
|  |  | 12 | 16.71 | 2.98 | -- | 14.83 | 16.71 | 45.48 |
|  |  | 13 | 17.75 | 10.81 | 9.22 | 13.15 | 19.23 | 43.86 |
|  |  | 14 | 23.36 | 4.94 | 11.36 | 13.42 | 40.09 | 57.73 |
|  |  | 15 | 20.79 | 2.89 | 10.14 | 12.78 | 38.58 | 53.36 |
|  |  | 16 | 13.97 | 7.72 | 5.35 | 9.49 | 29.93 | 39.46 |
|  |  | 17+ | 31.39 | 16.39 | -- | 5.23 | 15.23 | 58.65 |

INFLUENCE OF THE MASS MEDIA AND ADVERTISING
TABLE 9A. \% Students who have seen anti-smoking messages and also advertisements for cigarettes - Huancayo \& Lima - Peru 2000

| City |  | Saw antiSmoking Media Messages \% | Saw Anti- <br> Smoking <br> Messages <br> at sporting \& other Events \% | Discussed effects of smoking in a school class \% | Saw Advertise ments For cigarette s on Billboard S $\%$ | Saw <br> Advertisements For cigarettes in newspapers \& magazines \% | Saw Brand names when watching sports events or other programs on TV \% | Saw Ads for Cigarettes at Sports Events \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\begin{array}{\|c} \hline \text { Gender } \\ \text { Male } \\ \text { Female } \end{array}$ | 44.98 | 19.40 | 36.89 | 16.13 | 22.43 | 9.78 | 23.24 |
|  |  | 41.40 | 25.88 | 34.90 | 13.34 | 16.26 | 12.42 | 18.20 |
|  | 2 | 45.01 | 26.65 | 37.79 | 14.81 | 18.39 | 10.74 | 20.83 |
|  | Form 3 | 47.75 | 27.91 | 40.53 | 14.86 | 19.94 | 11.94 | 21.80 |
|  | 4 | 35.87 | 12.02 | 70.81 | 13.67 | 20.30 | 11.00 | 19.88 |
|  | 11 | 81.98 | 36.41 | 15.11 | 46.97 | 78.94 | -- | 51.62 |
|  | 12 | 42.53 | 28.03 | 37.10 | 12.98 | 19.59 | 13.04 | 15.68 |
|  | 13 | 44.01 | 27.79 | 39.55 | 13.09 | 16.14 | 11.52 | 17.43 |
|  | Age 14 | 46.68 | 21.92 | 43.78 | 17.14 | 19.87 | 9.60 | 23.08 |
|  | 15 | 34.67 | 16.01 | 30.98 | 16.11 | 21.53 | 9.43 | 22.89 |
|  | 16 | 43.06 | 20.08 | 25.31 | 9.89 | 17.91 | 16.72 | 21.21 |
|  | 17+ | 49.75 | 32.26 | 30.04 | 5.84 | 12.03 | 14.83 | 15.48 |
| $\sum_{J}^{【}$ | $\begin{array}{\|c} \hline \text { Male } \\ \text { Gender } \\ \text { Female } \end{array}$ | 37.40 | 18.40 | 31.33 | 21.71 | 25.69 | 21.31 | 20.06 |
|  |  | 41.00 | 28.02 | 31.03 | 17.96 | 22.72 | 7.41 | 20.17 |
|  | 2 | 49.40 | 24.54 | 30.95 | 23.73 | 25.45 | 7.16 | 22.92 |
|  | Form 3 | 34.08 | 24.63 | 28.76 | 17.99 | 21.79 | 7.41 | 20.48 |
|  | 4 | 34.28 | 20.07 | 35.41 | 16.90 | 26.30 | 6.62 | 17.92 |
|  | 11 | 63.56 | 28.72 | 35.63 | 12.75 | 4.65 | 21.31 | 12.82 |
|  | 12 | 44.52 | 26.45 | 32.90 | 21.59 | 19.87 | 7.41 | 20.93 |
|  | 13 | 45.93 | 22.79 | 26.24 | 23.58 | 25.12 | 6.89 | 22.61 |
|  | Age 14 | 37.97 | 27.28 | 29.03 | 19.45 | 25.04 | 7.47 | 20.23 |
|  | 15 | 35.41 | 19.48 | 30.40 | 17.57 | 23.33 | 6.23 | 18.08 |
|  | 16 | 31.80 | 21.37 | 39.30 | 15.84 | 26.91 | 6.50 | 20.87 |
|  | 17+ | 42.75 | 20.57 | 45.96 | 20.72 | 24.59 | 12.84 | 23.44 |

TABLE 9A. \% Students who have seen anti-smoking messages and also advertisements for cigarettes - Tarapoto \& Trujillo- Peru 2000

| City |  | Saw antiSmoking Media Messages \% | Saw Anti- <br> Smoking <br> Messages <br> at sporting <br> \& other <br> Events \% | Discussed effects of smoking in a school class \% | Saw <br> Advertisements For cigarettes on Billboards \% | Saw <br> Advertisements For cigarettes in newspapers \& magazines \% |  | Saw Ads for Cigarettes at Sports Events \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | $\text { Gender } \begin{gathered} \text { Male } \\ \text { Female } \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 58.14 \\ & 60.50 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 15.19 \\ & 16.14 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 49.74 \\ & 55.25 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 19.19 \\ & 19.44 \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 22.42 \\ & 20.45 \end{aligned}$ | 8.71 9.45 | $\begin{aligned} & 31.44 \\ & 19.85 \end{aligned}$ |
|  | Form | 65.73 | 23.80 | 52.40 | 21.04 | 21.96 | 9.43 | 28.65 |
|  |  | 56.30 | 13.03 | 47.05 | 19.55 | 20.43 | 8.93 | 25.49 |
|  |  | 53.59 | 10.18 | 56.52 | 17.19 | 22.50 | 8.67 | 24.16 |
|  | 11 | 62.85 | 44.66 | 61.05 | 16.32 | 39.03 | -- | 78.24 |
|  | 12 | 66.39 | 11.10 | 43.46 | 13.53 | 15.47 | 7.44 | 26.38 |
|  | 13 | 65.93 | 21.72 | 51.25 | 19.85 | 20.36 | 10.52 | 21.18 |
|  | Age 14 | 53.68 | 16.93 | 46.58 | 22.37 | 23.74 | 4.92 | 25.10 |
|  | 15 | 56.63 | 12.11 | 53.82 | 17.08 | 17.58 | 10.72 | 25.58 |
|  | 16 | 61.89 | 18.94 | 54.62 | 17.90 | 23.95 | 14.49 | 24.85 |
|  | 17+ | 59.31 | 9.21 | 65.77 | 21.09 | 31.20 | 6.07 | 35.55 |
|  | $\text { Gender } \begin{gathered} \text { Male } \\ \text { Female } \end{gathered}$ | 46.49 | 16.12 | 44.12 | 19.14 | 25.31 | 8.16 | 24.07 |
|  |  | 48.80 | 26.54 | 41.81 | 13.25 | 14.52 | 11.66 | 18.83 |
|  | 2 | 53.46 | 27.27 | 47.19 | 16.02 | 19.38 | 11.88 | 22.21 |
|  | Form 3 | 45.93 | 22.07 | 42.26 | 16.67 | 22.97 | 10.82 | 20.91 |
|  | 4 | 42.26 | 13.42 | 37.76 | 14.63 | 17.06 | 6.16 | 20.63 |
|  | 11 | 45.40 | 37.80 | 47.74 | 81.47 | 27.02 | -- | 72.75 |
|  | 12 | 52.65 | 19.16 | 48.25 | 19.60 | 25.57 | 9.90 | 13.81 |
|  | 13 | 50.48 | 22.93 | 49.41 | 16.12 | 18.54 | 12.03 | 21.22 |
|  | Age 14 | 46.46 | 24.13 | 40.94 | 19.45 | 24.12 | 6.70 | 24.31 |
|  | 15 | 45.18 | 17.70 | 41.74 | 12.82 | 14.51 | 12.94 | 20.61 |
|  | 16 | 44.38 | 17.24 | 39.28 | 14.73 | 21.42 | 9.45 | 14.78 |
|  | 17+ | 57.74 | 31.45 | 30.75 | 2.25 | 22.92 | 4.49 | 25.12 |

The tables on media and advertisement (Table 9A \& 9B) show students exposure to both positive and negative information 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.

Four or five students out of every ten mentioned having seen many messages against tobacco through the mass media. This figure is higher between second grade high school students in the city of Lima: second grade: $49.4 \%$ (IC: 45.04 53.74 ); third grade: 34.08\% (IC: 31.18 - 36.99); fourth grade: 34.28\% (IC: 27.8 40.76).

Approximately two out of every 10 students saw many messages against tobacco while attending sporting events, concerts and others events (Tables 9AA and 9B). In Lima, a higher proportion of female students saw many messages against tobacco while attending sporting events, concerts and others (male 18.4\% (IC: 14.45-22.35); female $28.02 \%$ (IC: 24.12-31.92)). The study did not find this difference in the other cities. No differences were found either for educational level or age.

We found that in the schools located in the four cities of the study, teachers and students discussed the effects of smoking during class. In Tarapoto, 5 out of every 10 students mentioned affirmatively to the question, and 3-4 out of every 10 students from Huancayo, Lima and Trujillo stated the same. (Tables 9A and 9B).

Between 15 and $20 \%$ of the students stated having seen cigarettes ads in panels in the streets of the four cities. The proportions by sex are similar. The study did not find any major differences by age of educational level either.

Two out of every 10 students saw cigarette commercials in newspapers and magazines in the past 30 days. The proportion of male students who saw the ads was higher than the female students in Huancayo (male: 22.43\% (IC: 20.19-24.68); female: 16.26\% (IC: 12.69-19.82)) and in Trujillo (male: 25.31\% (IC: 21.46-29.16; female: $14.52 \%$ (IC: $11.20-17.85$ )). A smaller proportion (one out of every 10 students) saw cigarette name brands while watching sports events or other television programs. There were no differences by sex, educational level or age.

Two or three out of every 10 students saw cigarette ads during sporting events. There were no differences between sex, educational level, or age groups.

## EXPOSURE TO ENVIRONMENTAL TOBACCO SMOKE

The results are presented in Tables 10A and 10B.

TABLE 10A. \% Students who are exposed to ETS and their attitudes towards ETS - Huancayo \& Lima- Peru 2000

| City |  |  | Other smoke in their home \% | Around others who smoke in other places \% | Definitely think smoke from others is harmful to them \% | Think smoking should be banned from public places \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gender | Male | 24.42 | 38.37 | 46.50 | 87.25 |
|  |  | Female | 20.92 | 30.38 | 53.41 | 91.09 |
|  | Form | 2 | 17.55 | 27.59 | 55.58 | 90.38 |
|  |  | 3 | 24.84 | 33.83 | 42.93 | 89.09 |
|  |  | 4 | 24.98 | 42.15 | 52.63 | 88.02 |
|  | Age | 11 | 24.91 | 46.49 | 59.71 | 91.16 |
|  |  | 12 | 22.26 | 27.76 | 62.84 | 88.71 |
|  |  | 13 | 15.51 | 27.85 | 56.73 | 90.09 |
|  |  | 14 | 26.68 | 33.39 | 45.89 | 89.06 |
|  |  | 15 | 27.80 | 41.40 | 48.58 | 88.77 |
|  |  | 16 | 16.28 | 33.93 | 47.32 | 89.60 |
|  |  | 17+ | 26.69 | 41.52 | 40.13 | 86.91 |
| $\sum_{J}^{\mathbb{E}}$ | Gender | Male | 29.30 | 46.04 | 53.46 | 85.41 |
|  |  | Female | 32.99 | 44.00 | 57.97 | 90.67 |
|  | Form | 2 | 29.99 | 43.39 | 55.93 | 86.96 |
|  |  | 3 | 30.99 | 44.40 | 54.97 | 88.32 |
|  |  | 4 | 33.45 | 48.76 | 55.84 | 88.69 |
|  | Age | 11 | 20.77 | 38.16 | 47.20 | 91.91 |
|  |  | 12 | 21.22 | 34.76 | 55.06 | 88.78 |
|  |  | 13 | 30.87 | 42.81 | 56.26 | 86.73 |
|  |  | 14 | 30.77 | 40.05 | 58.12 | 89.83 |
|  |  | 15 | 31.01 | 50.93 | 53.28 | 87.77 |
|  |  | 16 | 36.41 | 57.12 | 56.02 | 88.83 |
|  |  | 17+ | 42.41 | 44.94 | 55.49 | 82.35 |

TABLE 10B. \% Students who are exposed to ETS and their attitudes towards ETS - Tarapoto \& Trujillo - Peru 2000

| City |  |  | Other smoke in their home \% | Around others who smoke in other places \% | Definitely think smoke from others is harmful to them \% | Think smoking should be banned from public places \% |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Gender | Male | 35.10 | 43.39 | 52.55 | 85.43 |
|  |  | Female | 32.83 | 39.47 | 58.34 | 93.52 |
|  | Form | 2 | 32.07 | 35.71 | 51.42 | 82.71 |
|  |  | 3 | 35.02 | 42.78 | 55.15 | 91.63 |
|  |  | 4 | 36.33 | 47.00 | 58.77 | 93.92 |
|  | Age | 11 | 35.78 | 39.43 | 32.47 | 83.43 |
|  |  | 12 | 33.52 | 33.03 | 42.75 | 85.45 |
|  |  | 13 | 28.20 | 40.29 | 64.76 | 85.06 |
|  |  | 14 | 36.86 | 40.20 | 55.30 | 90.23 |
|  |  | 15 | 32.32 | 38.44 | 56.93 | 93.58 |
|  |  | 16 | 39.92 | 50.21 | 51.13 | 84.39 |
|  |  | 17+ | 36.61 | 55.61 | 36.34 | 91.17 |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text { O. } \\ & \underset{1}{\mathbf{N}} \\ & \substack{\mathrm{x}} \end{aligned}$ | Gender | Male | 31.58 | 46.62 | 57.33 | 90.39 |
|  |  | Female | 24.52 | 37.92 | 63.92 | 90.54 |
|  | Form | 2 | 28.68 | 34.74 | 63.94 | 87.36 |
|  |  | 3 | 26.57 | 40.73 | 58.98 | 90.49 |
|  |  | 4 | 27.93 | 52.90 | 58.09 | 93.97 |
|  | Age | 11 | 78.40 | 54.36 | 69.23 | 81.59 |
|  |  | 12 | 29.89 | 37.38 | 66.61 | 89.79 |
|  |  | 13 | 29.23 | 34.24 | 62.37 | 87.95 |
|  |  | 14 | 25.69 | 41.30 | 61.62 | 88.78 |
|  |  | 15 | 28.81 | 43.57 | 60.59 | 92.21 |
|  |  | 16 | 23.29 | 52.85 | 51.16 | 92.30 |
|  |  | 17+ | 34.76 | 47.17 | 55.09 | 93.70 |

Exposure to environmental smoke is high in all Peruvian cities. For home exposure, two out of every 10 students in Huancayo stated having been near to persons who were smoking inside the house; while in Lima, Tarapoto, and Trujillo, three out of every ten students made the same reference.

Exposure to environmental smoke outside the house was even higher in all four cities: Huancayo (34.3\%), Lima (45.2\%), Tarapoto (41.43\%) and Trujillo (42.97\%).

Between five (in Huancayo) and six (in Lima, Tarapoto and Trujillo) students out of every ten respondents believed that cigarette smoke from other people was harmful. Nine out of every 10 students agreed that smoking should be banned from public places (Tables 10A and 10B). There were no differences by sex, age, or educational level.

## COMMENTS

The GYTS-Peru study was developed in four cities of the country: Lima, the capital city, with a population of close to 7 million inhabitants and that holds one third of the country's entire population; Trujillo, the second most important city in the country, located in the Peruvian Coastal region; Huancayo, located at 2300 meters above sea level, in the highlands of the Andes; and Tarapoto, a city located in the Jungle area of the country.

This study has defined the characteristics of tobacco prevalence among the student population of the four cities. Life prevalence in Lima was higher than in the other provincial cities. Consumption was higher among men than women, although in Lima, consumption among women shows a quick tendency to narrow the difference with male patterns, similarly to existing patterns in developed countries. Almost half of the student population interviewed had smoked at least once in their lives at age 15. In the city of Trujillo, it is more frequent to find men smoking before the age of 10 than women.

Students smoke mainly during social events, with friends or anywhere else. Women tend to smoke more at home than men in certain cities of Peru. It is less frequent to find that students smoke in school. The main models of retail commercialization of cigarettes are through stores and street vendors, who sell them by the unit. Half of the students bought their cigarettes in the stores. In Tarapoto, half of the students who purchased their cigarettes in a store where not turned down due to their age. The latter was noted in two out of every 10 students in the cities of Huancayo, Lima, and Trujillo, and none were turned down due to their age.

A large percentage of students who have smoked (more than $65 \%$ ) wish to quit smoking. Seven out of every 10 students have tried to quit. This need to quit is frequently frustrated due to lack of institutional support, and also because most of the young students (9 out of 10) believe that they can quit smoking anytime they want to.

Even though 2-3 out of every 10 habitual smokers believe that smoking is harmful for their health, one third of the smokers, and almost half of the non-smokers in the four cities felt that "smoking is safe during one or two years, provided you quit afterwards".

There is a clear advertising campaign by tobacco companies that has great impact over the youngsters, particularly among those who attend high schools in Peru. Half of the students had seen anti-tobacco messages in the communications media. Two out of every ten students had seen anti-tobacco ads during sporting events, concerts and others, or in panels. The effects of smoking are discussed at school, although the level is still insufficient.

