

Discussions, Conclusions, and Recommendations

The percentage of young people using any tobacco products ranges from a high of 22% to a low of about 14%. It is high since it has been observed that the use of tobacco products in the adolescence can continue in the adult life and it is more difficult to quit.

Teaching about danger of cigarettes do not seem generalized since only 55% mentioned it.

Access to tobacco product is easy and there is no legislation which prohibits selling cigarettes to minor.

In Haiti it is possible to smoke everywhere so adolescent are exposed. The survey shows that almost $\frac{3}{4}$ of students think that smoking should be banned from public places.

Tobacco advertisement is not prohibited. Pro-tobacco messages are almost everywhere: in newspapers, magazines and billboard. Popular bands are used to play enjoyable music promoting cigarettes smoking.

Recommendations

We suggest the following strategies to facilitate the decrease in smoking:

- Tobacco control legislation that will ban advertisements of tobacco products, deliver strong health warnings to consumers, and outlaw smoking in public places.
- Prohibit tobacco companies from sponsoring sport and cultural events, and ban the sale of tobacco products to people under the age of 18.
- Restrict the advertisement of cigarettes smoking on billboards, newspapers, radio and television and at the same time increase public awareness campaign on the harmful effects of smoking cigarettes, as well as other tobacco uses, on the mass media.
- Enact and enforce legislation that prevents minors from purchasing cigarettes and other tobacco products by prosecuting those who sell tobacco products to minors.
- Involve the Ministry of Health, Education, Youth, Social Affairs and Women and Sports in the campaign to promote the cessation of cigarettes smoking and use of other tobacco products especially among youths.

Continue to study the prevalence of tobacco products among students by having studies in other cities and other groups.

Table 1
Prevalence of tobacco use among students aged 13-15 years
Port-au-Prince, Haiti 2000

Category	Ever Smoked Cigarettes, even one or two puffs	Current users			Never smokers – susceptible to initiating smoking
		Any tobacco products	Cigarettes	Other tobacco products	
Total	23.7 (± 5.1)	18.5 (± 4.1)	11.8 (± 2.7)	9.8 (± 3.7)	22.3 (± 5.1)
Sex					
Male	22.6 (± 4.3)	18.1 (± 5.2)	11.0 (± 3.0)	9.7 (± 5.2)	23.5 (± 9.8)
Female	24.6 (± 9.1)	18.4 (± 5.9)	12.1 (± 4.7)	9.7 (± 5.1)	21.4 (± 4.7)
Grade					
7	17.3 (± 5.0)	19.6 (± 5.4)	12.4 (± 4.4)	9.4 (± 5.2)	18.0 (± 4.5)
8	20.1 (± 4.4)	16.9 (± 6.9)	10.6 (± 2.0)	9.8 (± 6.1)	29.6 (± 12.8)
9	33.8 (± 12.6)	18.7 (± 6.2)	12.3 (± 5.0)	10.0 (± 5.6)	21.4 (± 10.3)

Table 2
Percentage of students aged 13-15 who were taught the facts about tobacco smoking during the past school year.
Port-au-Prince, 2000

Category	Percent taught danger of smoking	Percent discussed reasons why people their age smoke
Total	54.9 (± 6.8)	29.7 (± 7.6)
Sex		
Male	55.9 (± 6.9)	23.8 (± 7.3)
Female	54.4 (± 9.0)	34.5 (± 11.4)
Grade		
7	50.9 (± 8.5)	29.7 (± 5.1)
8	57.0 (± 13.9)	36.7 (± 17.5)
9	58.2 (± 9.5)	23.2 (± 5.7)

Table 3
Percentage of students aged 13-15 who wanted to stop and unsuccessfully tried to stop cigarette smoking.
Port-au-Prince, 2000

Category	Percent desire to stop	Percent tried to stop this year
Total	83.1 (± 12.8)	81.4 (± 11.1)
Sex		
Male	89.9 (± 10.5)	87.2 (± 12.7)

Female	76.5 (± 20.8)	74.6 (± 15.5)
Grade		
7	83.6 (± 16.3)	93.2 (± 6.1)
8	-	83.9 (± 18.5)
9	-	-

Table 4
Percentage of students aged 13-15 who were exposed
to tobacco smoke in the home and other place
Port-au-Prince, 2000

Category	Exposed to smoke from others in their home		Exposed to smoke from others in public places		Percent think smoking should be banned from public places		Definitely think smoke from others is harmful to them	
	Never smokers	Current smokers	Never smokers	Current smokers	Never smokers	Current smokers	Never smokers	Current smokers
Total	23.8 (± 5.9)	55.2 (± 9.7)	41.3 (± 6.5)	79.9 (± 10.2)	73.6 (± 5.0)	73.2 (± 5.0)	55.8 (± 8.0)	39.6 (± 11.6)
Sex								
Male	26.6 (± 7.3)	53.1 (± 17.4)	40.9 (± 10.5)	80.3 (± 13.5)	74.3 (± 7.5)	77.0 (± 10.7)	59.3 (± 9.3)	46.7 (± 17.0)
Female	20.3 (± 4.8)	57.3 (± 11.7)	40.9 (± 5.8)	78.6 (± 12.6)	73.1 (± 4.9)	73.0 (± 8.2)	54.9 (± 8.5)	36.7 (± 11.6)
Grade								
7	21.7 (± 7.3)	50.1 (± 15.2)	36.4 (± 6.3)	78.0 (± 15.0)	68.6 (± 6.9)	74.0 (± 16.2)	54.9 (± 8.5)	41.8 (± 20.8)
8	28.2 (± 4.2)	45.5 (± 19.6)	41.7 (± 15.5)	77.9 (± 21.0)	67.9 (± 9.2)	71.2 (± 17.8)	59.0 (± 12.1)	39.8 (± 20.5)
9	20.6 (± 9.3)	68.0 (± 12.1)	45.9 (± 12.4)	83.6 (± 15.3)	85.5 (± 9.0)	74.8 (± 22.2)	55.4 (± 13.9)	37.2 (± 17.0)

Table 5
Attitudes towards smokers of students aged 13-15
Port-au-Prince, 2000

Category	Think boys who smoke have more friends		Think girls who smoke have more friends		Think smoking make boys look more attractive		Think smoking make girls look more attractive	
	Never smokers	Current smokers	Never smokers	Current smokers	Never smokers	Current smokers	Never smokers	Current smokers
Total	16.5 (± 5.0)	16.2 (± 7.4)	15.1 (± 4.0)	15.8 (± 8.0)	26.9 (± 5.2)	23.6 (± 7.3)	27.0 (± 5.1)	21.2 (± 7.2)
Sex								
Male	16.9 (± 6.1)	7.7 (± 6.0)	12.9 (± 4.9)	6.8 (± 3.2)	25.4 (± 7.1)	20.4 (± 9.8)	31.8 (± 7.8)	18.0 (± 10.9)
Female	17.3 (± 5.8)	21.9 (± 9.1)	17.3 (± 5.4)	22.8 (± 10.5)	27.5 (± 4.4)	26.9 (± 9.2)	22.1 (± 4.8)	22.1 (± 8.1)
Grade								
7	18.4 (± 6.1)	11.2 (± 4.5)	15.2 (± 4.4)	13.9 (± 6.9)	29.4 (± 6.1)	18.4 (± 8.1)	27.4 (± 4.2)	14.5 (± 5.1)
8	16.3 (± 6.6)	11.5 (± 8.7)	14.0 (± 6.1)	17.4 (± 14.9)	25.7 (± 7.4)	27.1 (± 15.5)	26.8 (± 8.4)	26.9 (± 17.1)
9	16.0 (± 7.5)	25.1 (± 13.4)	16.4 (± 5.5)	16.3 (± 14.9)	25.3 (± 11.7)	26.3 (± 16.3)	27.4 (± 9.9)	24.6 (± 13.8)

Table 6
Percentage of students aged 13-15 who were exposed
to anti- and pro-smoked advertising.
Port-au-Prince, 2000

Category	Percent saw anti-smoking media messages	Percent saw Pro-tobacco messages in Newspapers and magazine		Percent Who had Object with a Cigarettes brand logo on it		Percent offered « Free » Cigarettes by a tobacco company	
		Never smokers	Current smokers	Never smokers	Current smokers	Never smokers	Current smokers
Total	59.9 (± 6.3)	57.7 (± 5.8)	63.4 (± 9.6)	18.2 (± 4.1)	37.0 (± 14.0)	10.8 (± 4.0)	18.0 (± 8.3)
Sex							

Male	62.3 (± 4.3)	58.9 (± 11.0)	54.7 (± 17.8)	20.3 (± 6.8)	44.6 (± 17.3)	10.9 (± 6.3)	19.2 (± 16.7)
Female	58.0 (± 11.0)	56.8 (± 6.1)	71.6 (± 8.8)	16.5 (± 3.9)	32.5 (± 18.5)	11.0 (± 4.7)	14.8 (± 8.1)
Grade							
7	64.1 (± 3.2)	55.0 (± 7.9)	54.7 (± 17.3)	19.1 (± 5.4)	40.0 (± 19.8)	12.4 (± 5.7)	22.7 (± 18.7)
8	49.6 (± 16.4)	60.6 (± 10.0)	71.0 (± 15.9)	22.1 (± 6.8)	39.8 (± 25.2)	11.5 (± 6.3)	7.6 (± 4.9)
9	65.8 (± 4.1)	59.4 (± 10.9)	66.5 (± 10.9)	13.8 (± 7.1)	32.0 (± 12.1)	7.8 (± 6.6)	20.3 (± 9.7)

Table 7
Percentage of students aged 13-15 who usually smoked cigarettes at home
and bought them in a store
Port-au-Prince, 2000

Category	Percent current smokers who usually smoke at home	Percent current smokers who purchased cigarettes in a store	Percent current smokers who bought cigarettes in a store who were not refused because their age
Total	58.5 (± 16.7)	28.1 (± 11.0)	61.0 (± 9.0)
Sex			
Male	46.6 (± 17.0)	28.5 (± 14.9)	72.8 (± 14.7)
Female	76.3 (± 16.5)	29.5 (± 15.1)	53.5 (± 13.9)
Grade			
7	63.8 (± 18.3)	27.9 (± 14.5)	62.3 (± 18.2)
8	41.9 (± 11.4)	37.3 (± 17.7)	60.1 (± 29.9)
9	64.5 (± 22.0)	22.3 (± 9.3)	-