

Fact Sheet

Tobacco-Use Prevention

From CDC’s School Health Policies and Programs Study (SHPPS) 2000

About SHPPS

SHPPS is a national survey periodically conducted to assess school health policies and programs at the state, district, school, and classroom levels. Results from SHPPS 2000 are published in the *Journal of School Health*, Volume 71, Number 7, September 2001.

School Policy and Environment

A “tobacco-free environment” exists if the state, district, or school has a policy prohibiting cigarette, cigar, and pipe smoking, and smokeless tobacco use by students, faculty, staff, and visitors; the policy prohibits tobacco use in school buildings, on school grounds, in school buses or other vehicles used to transport students, and at off-campus, school-sponsored events.

- “Tobacco-free environment” policies exist in 24.5% of states, 45.5% of districts, and 44.6% of schools.

Health Services

- 19.6% of states and 59.8% of districts require that districts or schools provide one-on-one or small-group discussions on tobacco-use prevention to students when needed (not including classroom instruction).
- 10.0% of states and 42.0% of districts require districts or schools to provide tobacco-use cessation to students when needed.
- 34.3% of districts have arrangements with organizations or professionals not located on school property to provide one-on-one or small-group discussions on tobacco-use prevention to students when needed, and 29.0% have arrangements to provide tobacco-use cessation.

Percentage of Schools Providing One-on-One or Small-Group Discussions on Tobacco-Use Prevention and Percentage of Schools Providing Tobacco-Use Cessation, by School Level

Service provider	Tobacco-Use Prevention ¹			Tobacco-Use Cessation		
	Elementary schools	Middle/ junior high schools	Senior high schools	Elementary schools	Middle/ junior high schools	Senior high schools
School health services staff ²	47.2	45.0	52.7	N/A ³	29.2	42.0
School mental health or social services staff ²	64.5	70.2	70.4	N/A	61.7	66.9
Organizations or professionals outside the school	29.3	23.8	32.5	N/A	21.1	28.6

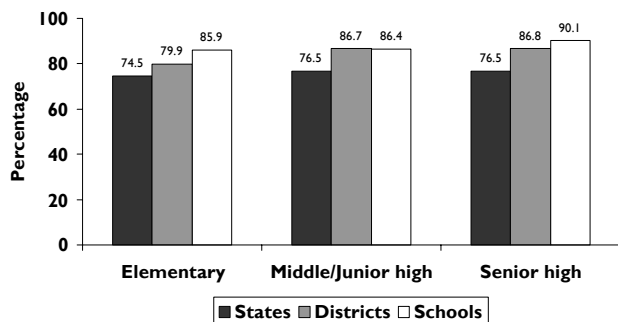
¹Not including classroom instruction.

²As part of standard school health services.

³Data not available—question not asked at this level.

Health Education

Percentage of States, Districts, and Schools Requiring Tobacco Use Prevention Education, by School Level



During the two years preceding the study:

- 84.0% of states and 59.5% of districts provided funding for or offered staff development on tobacco-use prevention education to health education teachers.
- 22.0% of elementary school classes, 35.1% of required health education courses in middle/junior high schools, and 31.5% of required health education courses in senior high schools had a teacher who received staff development on tobacco-use prevention education.
- Among teachers of required health education, elementary school teachers who provided tobacco-use prevention education spent a median of 3 hours per school year teaching the topic, middle/junior high school teachers spent a median of 4 hours, and senior high school teachers spent a median of 5 hours.

Percentage of Schools Teaching Topics and Skills Related to Tobacco-Use Prevention in at Least One Required Class or Course, by Topic and Skill

	All schools	Elementary schools	Middle/junior high schools	Senior high schools
Topic				
Influence of the media on tobacco use	88.0	82.9	93.5	96.2
Risks of cigar and pipe smoking	71.1	69.3	71.8	76.5
Short-term health consequences of cigarette smoking	94.8	93.2	96.7	97.1
Short-term health consequences of smokeless tobacco use	73.5	65.6	80.8	88.1
Social or cultural influences on tobacco use	80.2	76.5	83.1	88.2
Skill				
Communication skills to avoid tobacco use	93.4	93.6	95.7	88.5
Decision-making skills to avoid tobacco use	95.0	94.4	97.6	93.0
Goal-setting skills to avoid tobacco use	58.1	49.7	66.4	73.0
Resisting peer pressure to use tobacco	95.2	94.6	97.7	92.5

For additional information on SHPPS, contact the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Division of Adolescent and School Health, 4770 Buford Highway, NE, Mailstop K-33, Atlanta, GA 30341-3717, telephone 888-231-6405, <http://www.cdc.gov/shpps>.