The South Carolina Youth Tobacco Survey (SCYTS) is a comprehensive survey designed to evaluate prevalence of tobacco use, age of initiation and access to tobacco products. It also includes data on school curriculum, knowledge and attitudes, attitudes toward cessation and readiness to quit, mass media influences, and secondhand smoke exposure. As a surveillance tool, SCYTS monitors key behaviors and attitudes toward tobacco. As an evaluation tool, the survey is intended to document the Division of Tobacco Prevention and Control's progress over time, to recognize groups at risk and to identify areas to strengthen the Division's activities and strategies.

The SCYTS was conducted in 2005, 2006, 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013. A two-stage cluster sample design was used to select a representative sample of public middle (containing any of grades 6-8) and high school students (containing any of grades 9-12) in South Carolina. In the first-stage, schools were selected with probability proportional to school enrollment size. In all, 50 middle schools and 50 high schools were chosen. The second sampling stage consisted of systematic equal probability sampling of approximately two classes from each school. All students in the selected classes were eligible to participate in the survey. The middle school response rate was 74%. The middle school student response rate was 85% yielding an overall response rate (school rate x student rate) of 63.1% for middle school. In 2013, a total of 1,605 middle school students completed the SCYTS.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prevalence</th>
<th>Middle School Highlights</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>31.2% of students had ever used any tobacco product (Male 34.2%, Female 28.1%)</td>
<td>More than 3 out of 10 students have ever used tobacco; About 10% currently use some form of tobacco; 4.8% currently smoke cigarettes; 3.4% currently use smokeless tobacco (spit, chew or dip).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22.7% of students had ever smoked cigarettes (White 21%, Black 26.2%, Hispanic 22.7%)</td>
<td>SHS exposure is high – more than one-third of students have been exposed in the last 7 days. About 9 out of 10 students think smoke from others is harmful to them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.7% of students currently use any tobacco product (Male 11.3%, Female 8.0%)</td>
<td>About 45% of current smokers want to quit smoking.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8% currently smoke cigarettes (White 5.8%, Black 4.3%, Hispanic 5.3%)</td>
<td>About 1 out of 10 students saw a warning label on a smokeless tobacco product in the last 30 days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4% currently use Smokeless Tobacco (SLT) (Male 5.1%, Female 1.7%)</td>
<td>More than half of the students were taught the dangers of tobacco at school in past year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.2% of students had ever used a new and emerging tobacco product(^3)</td>
<td>Less than 1 in 10 students said that their school had a program to help students quit.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.3% of students used a new and emerging tobacco product(^3) in the past 30 days.</td>
<td>Almost 7 out of 10 middle school current smokers of age &lt; 18 years old obtain their cigarettes from friends, family or other social sources.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Secondhand Smoke (SHS)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26.2% were exposed to SHS in their home in the past month</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>27.9% were exposed to SHS in a vehicle in the past month</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>90.9% think smoke from others is harmful to them</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cessation – Current Smokers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>44.0% want to quit smoking</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>74.9% attempted to quit smoking in the past year</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>44.5% stayed off cigarettes for less than 30 days during a quit attempt</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pro-health Media vs. Tobacco Advertising</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9.9% saw a warning label on a smokeless tobacco product in the past month</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.1% said they would ever wear or use something that has a tobacco company name or picture on it</td>
<td></td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>School</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51.4% were taught the dangers of tobacco in the past year</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.2% smoked or saw someone smoking a tobacco product on school property in the past month</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.1% used or saw someone using a smokeless tobacco (SLT) product on school property in the past month</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.3% said their school has a program to help students quit using tobacco</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Access and Availability - Current Smokers &lt; 18 years old</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.7% buy cigarettes in stores</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>70.6% get cigarettes via social sources (friends, family and others)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


\(^2\) Detailed 2011 and 2013 YTS tables including 95% confidence intervals are available upon request.

\(^3\) New and emerging tobacco products include roll-your-own cigarettes, flavored cigarettes, clove cigars, flavored little cigarettes, smoking from hookah or a waterpipe, snus, dissolvable products, E-cigarettes or some other new tobacco product.