



The **YTS** comprises  
**58**  
**State-approved**  
**questions**  
designed to gather data on  
these seven topics →

### Prevalence of tobacco use among young people

- ▶ how many young people use tobacco; have experimented with tobacco; smoke on school property; use smokeless tobacco; and smoke cigarettes, cigars, pipes, bidis, or kreteks (clove cigarettes)
- ▶ the age at which young people begin tobacco use
- ▶ the brand of cigarettes usually smoked

### Tobacco-related knowledge and attitudes of young people

- ▶ the strength of intention to remain non-smokers among young people who never smoked (index of susceptibility)
- ▶ what young people perceive to be the social benefits and the health risks of using tobacco
- ▶ the extent of peer pressure on young people to begin tobacco use

### Role of the media and advertising in young people's use of tobacco

- ▶ how receptive young people are to tobacco advertising and other activities to promote tobacco use
- ▶ awareness and exposure of young people to anti-smoking messages

### Minors' access to tobacco

- ▶ where minors usually buy cigarettes
- ▶ how young people usually get their tobacco
- ▶ whether sellers require proof-of-age from young tobacco buyers
- ▶ whether minors know their state's laws and regulations regarding the sale of tobacco

### Tobacco-related school curriculum

- ▶ what young people were taught in school about tobacco

### Environmental tobacco smoke (ETS)

- ▶ the extent of young people's exposure to tobacco smoke at home and in automobiles
- ▶ young people's perceptions about the harmful effects of ETS

### Cessation of tobacco use

- ▶ the short- and long-term likelihood that young tobacco users will quit

### Data from the YTS can be used to directly monitor 6 of the 9 components identified in Best Practices


- ▶ Surveillance and evaluation
- ▶ Community programs to reduce tobacco use
- ▶ School programs
- ▶ Enforcement
- ▶ Counter-marketing
- ▶ Cessation programs

Linking **YTS** data to  
**CDC's**  
**Best Practices**  
for Comprehensive Tobacco  
Control Programs →

# YTS Methodology

- ▶ School-based survey of students in grades 6-12
- ▶ Can include public and private schools
- ▶ Multi-stage sample design with schools selected proportional to enrollment size
- ▶ Classrooms are chosen randomly within selected schools
- ▶ All students in selected classes eligible for participation
- ▶ Anonymous and confidential self-administered questionnaire
- ▶ Requires only one class period to administer
- ▶ Fieldwork conducted in 6-8 weeks
- ▶ State-level data with sub-state-level stratification possible (i.e., health regions, counties)
- ▶ 58 state-designed tobacco-specific questions on core questionnaire
- ▶ State may add questions to the questionnaire

# YTS Technical Assistance

The [Office on Smoking and Health](#) provides [technical assistance](#) in the following areas to states as they develop and implement their [state-specific YTS](#) 

- ▶ Sample design and selection
- ▶ Design of state-specific questionnaires
- ▶ Development of the survey administrator handbook
- ▶ Training of survey administrators
- ▶ Provision of Answer Sheets and other forms
- ▶ Data management and Answer Sheet scanning
- ▶ Editing, weighting, and initial analysis of data
- ▶ Preliminary data report and data file provided to states
- ▶ Preparation of reports

## Youth Tobacco Survey Reports and Web-Site Information

*YTS reports can be obtained from the following:*

State	Report	Report on Web site
Arkansas Department of Health (501) 661-2785	✓	
Florida Department of Health (850) 245-4401	✓	<a href="http://www.state.fl.us/tobacco">www.state.fl.us/tobacco</a> (click on Research)
Georgia Department of Human Resources (404) 657-6645	✓	
Kansas Department of Health and Environment (785) 296-1207	✓	
Mississippi State Department of Health (601) 576-7428	✓	<a href="http://www.msdh.state.ms.us/tobacco">www.msdh.state.ms.us/tobacco</a>
Missouri Department of Health (573) 522-2800	✓	<a href="http://www.health.state.mo.us/SmokingAndTobacco">www.health.state.mo.us/ SmokingAndTobacco</a>
Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Regulation and Licensure (402) 471-0920	✓	
New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services (609) 292-4414	✓	<a href="http://www.state.nj.us/health/as/smoking.htm">www.state.nj.us/health/as/smoking.htm</a>
North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services (919) 733-1881	✓	<a href="http://www.communityhealth.dhhs.state.nc.us/tobacco/Survey/survey.htm">www.communityhealth.dhhs.state.nc.us/ tobacco/Survey/survey.htm</a>
Oklahoma State Department of Health (405) 271-3619	✓	<a href="http://www.health.state.ok.us/PROGRAM/tobac/index.html">www.health.state.ok.us/PROGRAM/tobac/ index.html</a> (click on Facts and Data)
South Dakota Department of Human Services (605) 773-3123	✓	
Tennessee Department of Health (615) 741-0380	✓	
Texas Department of Health (512) 458-7200	✓	<a href="http://www.tdh.state.tx.us/otpc">www.tdh.state.tx.us/otpc</a> (click on Statistics)

CDC provides ongoing technical assistance via teleconference, e-mail, and project officers.

[For more information on technical assistance, contact us at:](#)

Office on Smoking and Health (MS-K50)  
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
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