

## GATS Objectives

The Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) is a global standard for systematically monitoring adult tobacco use (smoking and smokeless) and tracking key tobacco control indicators.

GATS is a nationally representative survey, using a consistent and standard protocol across countries including Qatar. GATS enhances countries' capacity to design, implement and evaluate tobacco control programs. It will also assist countries to fulfill their obligations under the World Health Organization (WHO) Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) to generate comparable data within and across countries. WHO has developed MPOWER, a package of selected demand reduction measures contained in the WHO FCTC:



**Monitor tobacco use & prevention policies**

**Protect people from tobacco smoke**

**Offer help to quit tobacco use**

**Warn about the dangers of tobacco**

**Enforce bans on tobacco advertising, promotion, & sponsorship**

**Raise taxes on tobacco**

## GATS Methodology

GATS uses a global standardized methodology. It includes information on respondents' background characteristics, tobacco use (smoking and smokeless), cessation, secondhand smoke, economics, media, and knowledge, attitudes and perceptions towards tobacco use. In Qatar, GATS was conducted in 2013 as a household survey of persons 15 years of age and older by the Supreme Council of Health (SCH) in collaboration with the Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics (MDPS). A multi-stage, geographically clustered sample design was used to produce nationally representative data of the Qatari and Non-Qatari household population (excluding those who reside in labor gatherings). A total of 8,571 households were sampled and one individual was randomly selected from each participating household to complete the survey. Survey information was collected electronically by using handheld devices. There were a total of 8,398 completed individual interviews with an overall response rate of 98.5%.

## GATS Highlights

### TOBACCO USE

- 20.2% of men, 3.1% of women, and 12.1% overall (51 thousand adults) currently smoked tobacco. Among Qatari, 21.3% of men, 0.6% of women, and 10.5% overall (16 thousand adults) currently smoked tobacco. Among Non-Qatari, 19.6% of men, 4.6% of women, and 12.9% overall (35 thousand adults) currently smoked tobacco.
- 4.9% of men, 1.6% of women, and 3.4% overall (14 thousand adults) currently smoked shisha. Among Qatari, 5.3% of men, 0.4% of women, and 2.7% overall (4 thousand adults) currently smoked shisha. Among Non-Qatari, 4.8% of men, 2.4% of women, and 3.7% overall (10 thousand adults) currently smoked shisha tobacco.
- 1.3% of men, 0.0% of women, and 0.7% overall (3 thousand adults) currently used smokeless tobacco. Among Qatari, 1.5% of men, 0.0% of women, and 0.7% overall (1 thousand adults) currently used smokeless tobacco. Among Non-Qatari, 1.3% of men, 0.0% of women, and 0.7% overall (2 thousand adults) currently used smokeless tobacco.

### CESSATION

- 38.2% of smokers (35.3% of Qatari, 39.4% of Non-Qatari) made a quit attempt in the past 12 months.

### SECONDHAND SMOKE

- 12.0% of adults (8.3% of Qatari, 13.8% of Non-Qatari) who worked indoors were exposed to tobacco smoke at the workplace.
- 16.8% of adults (16.7% of Qatari, 16.9% of Non-Qatari) were exposed to tobacco smoke at home.
- 25.9% of adults (29.2% of Qatari, 24.1% of Non-Qatari) were exposed to tobacco smoke when visiting restaurants.

### MEDIA

- 64.6% of adults (71.0% of Qatari, 61.0% of Non-Qatari) noticed anti-cigarette smoking information in the local media.
- 12.1% of adults (12.4% of Qatari, 11.9% of Non-Qatari) noticed cigarette marketing in stores where cigarettes are sold.
- 30.3% of adults (27.9% of Qatari, 31.7% of Non-Qatari) noticed cigarette marketing other than in stores.

### KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES & PERCEPTIONS

- 96.0% adults (97.4% of Qatari, 95.3% of Non-Qatari) believed smoking causes serious illness.
- 90.9% adults (94.4% of Qatari, 88.9% of Non-Qatari) believed smoking shisha causes serious illness.
- 80.9% adults (86.1% of Qatari, 78.0% of Non-Qatari) believed using smokeless tobacco causes serious illness.



### TOBACCO USE

TOBACCO SMOKERS	OVERALL (%)	MEN (%)	WOMEN (%)
Current tobacco smokers	12.1	20.2	3.1
Daily tobacco smokers	9.5	16.5	1.7
Current cigarette smokers <sup>1</sup>	10.2	17.9	1.8
Daily cigarette smokers <sup>1</sup>	8.6	15.2	1.3
Current shisha smokers	3.4	4.9	1.6
Daily shisha smokers	0.8	1.3	0.4
Former daily tobacco smokers <sup>2</sup> (among all adults)	3.9	6.8	0.7
Former daily tobacco smokers <sup>2</sup> (among ever daily smokers)	27.3	27.6	24.7
<b>SMOKELESS TOBACCO USERS</b>			
Current smokeless tobacco users	0.7	1.3	0.0
Daily smokeless tobacco users	0.5	0.9	0.0

#### TOBACCO USERS (SMOKED AND/OR SMOKELESS)

Current tobacco users	12.6	21.1	3.1
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#### DEPENDENCY

First smoke within 30 minutes after waking	41.5	39.9	59.2
Smoked 16 or more cigarettes per day <sup>3</sup>	55.4	57.5	27.8
Average number of cigarettes smoked per day <sup>3</sup>	17.2	17.6	10.9

#### AGE OF INITIATION (AMONG 20-34 YEAR OLDS)

Started daily smoking before age 15	8.6	9.6	1.3
Started daily smoking before age 18	45.5	45.1	48.7
Average age of daily smoking initiation	18.1 YRS	18.1 YRS	18.0 YRS

### ELECTRONIC CIGARETTES

	OVERALL (%)	MEN (%)	WOMEN (%)
Current user of electronic cigarettes	0.9	1.6	0.2
Daily user of electronic cigarettes	0.1	0.3	0.0

### CESSATION

	OVERALL (%)	MEN (%)	WOMEN (%)
Smokers who made a quit attempt in past 12 months <sup>4</sup>	38.2	37.7	41.3
Current smokers who planned to or were thinking about quitting	66.8	68.6	53.5
Smokers advised to quit by a health care provider in past 12 months <sup>4,5</sup>	71.3	72.9	61.6

### SECONDHAND SMOKE

	OVERALL (%)	MEN (%)	WOMEN (%)
Adults exposed to tobacco smoke at the workplace <sup>6,*</sup>	12.0	13.7	7.8
Adults exposed to tobacco smoke at home at least monthly	16.8	16.7	17.0
Adults exposed to tobacco smoke in restaurants <sup>7</sup>	25.9	21.2	32.2

### ECONOMICS

	OVERALL
Average amount spent on 20 manufactured cigarettes (Qatar riyal)	10.2
Cost of 100 packs of manufactured cigarettes as a percentage of per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) 2012 <sup>8</sup>	0.3%
Adults who support increasing taxes on tobacco products	85.9

### MEDIA

#### TOBACCO INDUSTRY ADVERTISING

	OVERALL (%)	CURRENT SMOKERS (%)	NON-SMOKERS (%)
Adults who noticed cigarette marketing in stores where cigarettes are sold <sup>9,*</sup>	12.1	16.5	11.5

Adults who noticed any cigarette advertisements/promotions other than in stores*	30.3	35.0	29.7
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	OVERALL (%)	CURRENT SHISHA USERS (%)	NON-USERS (%)
Adults who noticed shisha marketing in stores where shisha is sold <sup>10,*</sup>	4.1	7.8	3.9

Adults who noticed any shisha advertisements/promotions other than in stores*	12.0	19.1	11.7
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#### COUNTER ADVERTISING

	OVERALL (%)	MEN (%)	WOMEN (%)
Current smokers who thought about quitting because of a warning label on cigarette packs*	51.4	52.4	43.7
Current shisha smokers who thought about quitting because of a warning label on shisha products*	23.8	21.3	31.9

	OVERALL (%)	CURRENT SMOKERS/USERS (%)	NON-SMOKERS/USERS (%)
Adults who noticed anti-cigarette smoking information in local media <sup>11,*</sup>	64.6	65.8	64.4

Adults who noticed anti-shisha smoking information in local media <sup>11,*</sup>	45.9	51.0	45.8
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Adults who noticed anti-smokeless tobacco information in local media <sup>11,*</sup>	35.0	24.8	35.1
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### KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES & PERCEPTIONS

	OVERALL (%)	CURRENT SMOKERS/USERS (%)	NON-SMOKERS/USERS (%)
Adults who believed smoking causes serious illness	96.0	91.3	96.7
Adults who believed smoking shisha causes serious illness	90.9	89.6	90.9
Adults who believed smokeless tobacco use causes serious illness	80.9	71.7	80.9
Adults who believed breathing other peoples' smoke causes serious illness in nonsmokers	95.1	91.7	95.5

<sup>1</sup> Includes manufactured cigarettes and hand-rolled cigarettes. <sup>2</sup> Current non-smokers. <sup>3</sup> Among daily cigarette smokers. <sup>4</sup> Includes current smokers and those who quit in the past 12 months. <sup>5</sup> Among those who visited a health care provider in past 12 months. <sup>6</sup> Among those who work outside of the home who usually work indoors or both indoors and outdoors. <sup>7</sup> Among those who visited restaurants in the past 30 days. <sup>8</sup> 2012 GDP per capita (nominal) = 382,000 QR (provided by the Ministry of Development Planning and Statistics, per April 2013 estimates). <sup>9</sup> Includes those who noticed cigarettes at sale prices; free gifts or discount offers on other products when buying cigarettes; or any advertisements or signs promoting cigarettes in stores where cigarettes are sold. <sup>10</sup> Includes those who noticed shisha at sale prices; free gifts or discount offers on other products while buying shisha or any advertisements or signs promoting shisha in stores where shisha is sold. <sup>11</sup> Local media includes local newspapers, magazines, television, radio, or billboards. \* During the past 30 days.

**NOTE:** Current use refers to daily and less than daily use. Adults refer to persons aged 15 years and older. Data have been weighted to be nationally representative of all non-institutionalized men and women aged 15 years and older. Percentages reflect the prevalence of each indicator in each group, not the distribution across groups.