Data are not available for ANI, BAH, BRA, DOR, GUY, SCN, VEN and SUR.

Students who buy their cigarettes to avoid not refused purchase of cigarettes (% of their age) (7)

Students who were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco industry representative (%)

Notes to Graphs:

- Unless otherwise noted, the data presented for each country are from a nationally representative sample. In countries where the survey was carried out in different years for different countries between 1999 and 2005, some differences in methodology were noted (such as differences in the way students were selected for the survey). In these instances, we present data from the latest GYTS in each country.

- Data are not available for ANI, BAH, BRB, DOR, GUY, GR, TGO, VEN and SUR.

- Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this brochure are from the latest GYTS in each country.

- In almost all countries, tobacco use among 13-15 year-olds is more than 20% of students enrolled in a given grade and the survey was carried out only in selected sites, we present data from the capital city or other major city.

- Students who buy their cigarettes to avoid not refused purchase of cigarettes (% of their age) (7)

- Students who were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco industry representative (%)

- Students who buy their cigarettes to avoid not refused purchase of cigarettes (% of their age) (7)

- Students who were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco industry representative (%)

Abbreviations:

- Year(s)

- Site

- Country

- Tobacco

- Students who buy their cigarettes to avoid not refused purchase of cigarettes (% of their age) (7)

- Students who were offered free cigarettes by a tobacco industry representative (%)

- Student who buy their cigarettes to avoid not refused purchase of cigarettes (% of their age) (7)

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The World Health Organization (WHO) in cooperation with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) implemented the Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) in the region of the Americas to track behavior, attitudes and knowledge related to tobacco use among youth. The GYTS surveillance system is intended to enhance the capacity of countries to design, implement, and evaluate tobacco control and prevention programs.

The GYTS uses a standardized methodology and core questionnaire to survey representative samples of students in grades associated with ages 13-15 and includes data on prevalence of cigarette and other tobacco use, perceptions and attitudes about tobacco, access to and availability of tobacco products, exposure to secondhand smoke, school curriculum, media and advertising, and smoking cessation. The GYTS has been conducted in all Latin American and Caribbean countries in cooperation with national counterparts and with additional support for selected countries from the Canadian Public Health Association.

This brochure presents a selection of findings from the GYTS in order to provide an overview of the tobacco epidemic in the Americas. The graphs in the brochure show comparative data from youths 13-15 years of age in Latin America and the Caribbean. We hope that the information will be helpful for policy makers, governments and health advocates working to combat the tobacco epidemic.

You will find more information on the GYTS, including country data and scientific papers, at http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/global/GYTS.htm. You can also visit our web page, www.paho.org/tobacco or contact us at tobacco@paho.org.