

**PART  
FOUR**

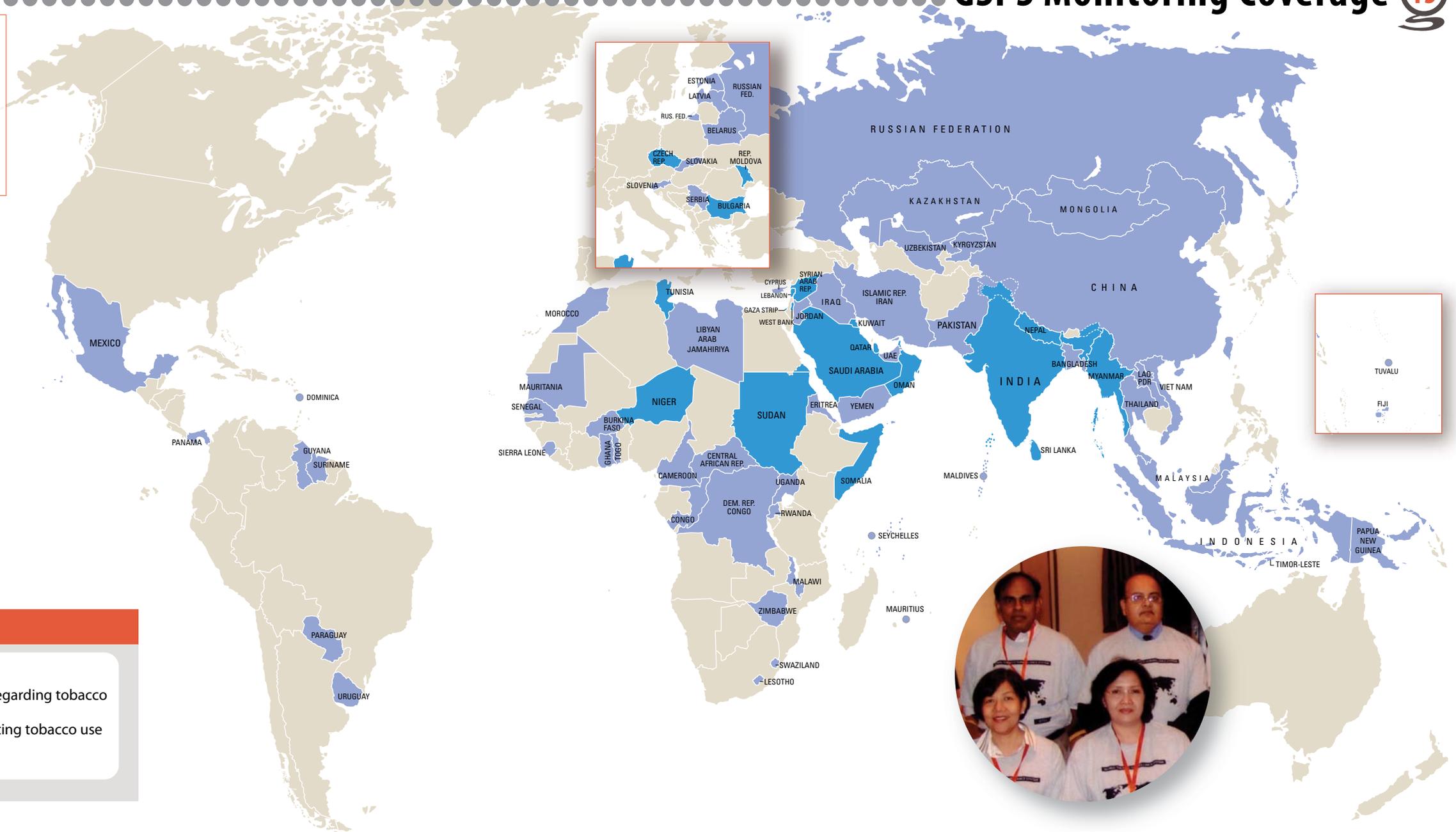
# Global School Personnel Survey



**GSPS**  
Number per country  
2000–08

- 2
- 1
- not surveyed

Since 2000, the GSPS has been completed in **77 countries**, with 19 completing the survey twice.



### GSPS Topics

1. Prevalence of tobacco use
2. Knowledge and attitudes regarding tobacco
3. School policy
4. School curricula on preventing tobacco use
5. Demographics

**The Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS) addresses several provisions of the WHO FCTC that relate to the role of school personnel in tobacco control.**

Health and education professionals can use the data from the survey to plan, implement, and revise programs to reduce tobacco-use among school personnel, improve the dissemination of tobacco-control information to students, and provide school

personnel with the resources they need to complement a comprehensive tobacco-control program.

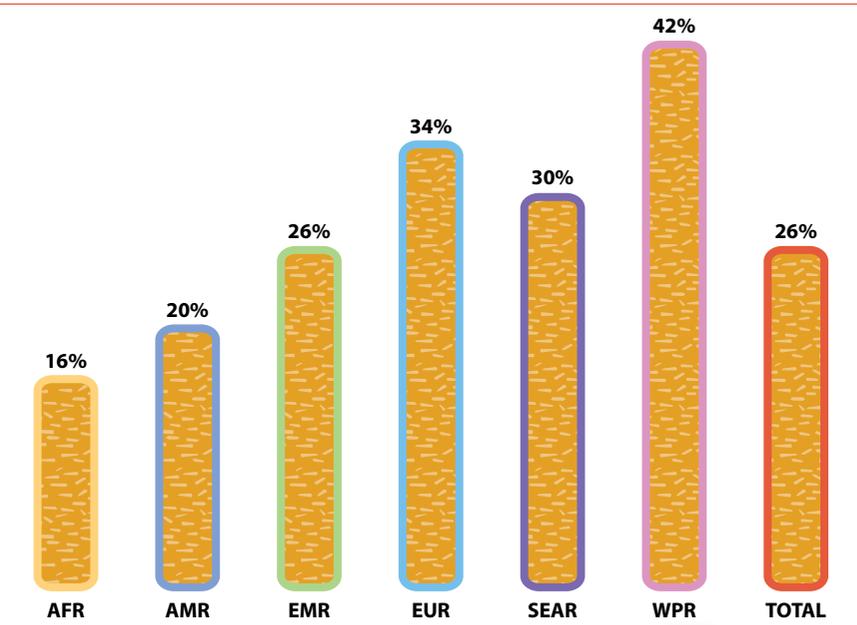
The GSPS is a survey of teachers and administrators working in schools selected to participate in the GYTS. It uses self-administered, anonymous data-collection procedures. Names of schools or personnel are not collected and participation is voluntary. Surveys are completed at schools,

generally at staff meetings or after school.

The 2008 core GSPS questionnaire includes 45 questions, covering five categories; countries can add their own questions. The questionnaires are translated into local languages, and tested in focus groups.

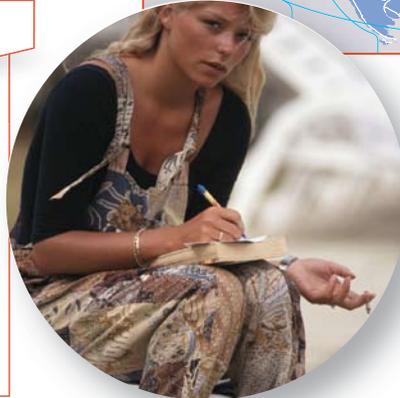
The GSPS was initiated in 2000, and has achieved limited global coverage when compared to the GYTS, with most of the surveys in the African and Eastern Mediterranean regions.

The GSPS is subject to at least three limitations. First, the GSPS sample design uses schools selected for the GYTS; thus GSPS is not an independent sample of schools and is dependent on the success of the GYTS. Second, participation of school personnel in GSPS is voluntary. Third, findings are based on self-reports from school personnel who may under- or over-report their behavior and their knowledge of school policies.



About **one-fifth** of school teachers and administrators currently smoke cigarettes

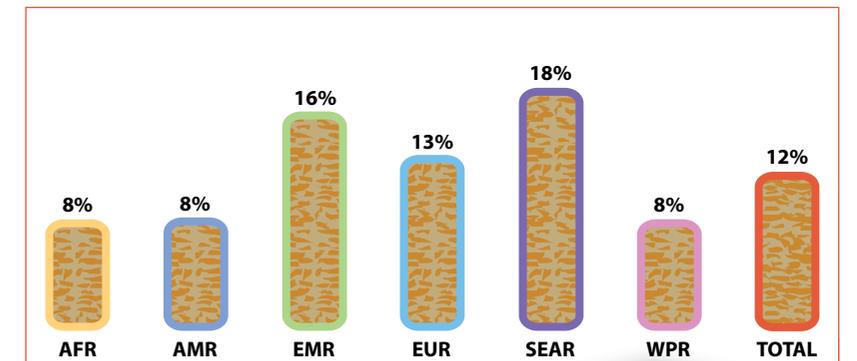
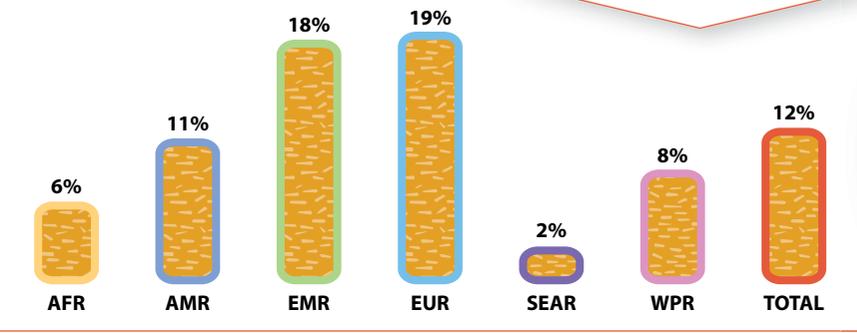
Twice as many **male teachers** as female teachers smoke cigarettes and use other tobacco products



**CIGARETTES**  
Percentage of school teachers and administrators who currently smoke cigarettes 2000–08

**MALES**

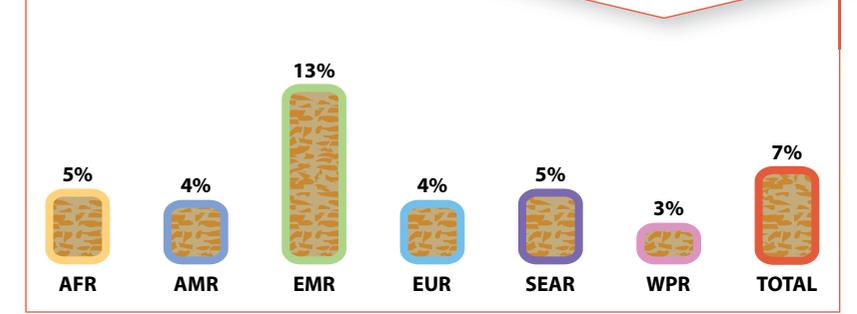
**FEMALES**



**OTHER TOBACCO PRODUCTS**  
Percentage of school teachers and administrators who currently use other tobacco products 2000–08

**MALES**

**FEMALES**



Teachers and administrators are role models for students, conveyors of tobacco-prevention curricula, and key opinion leaders for school tobacco-control policies. School teachers and administrators have daily interaction with students and thus represent an influential group for tobacco control.

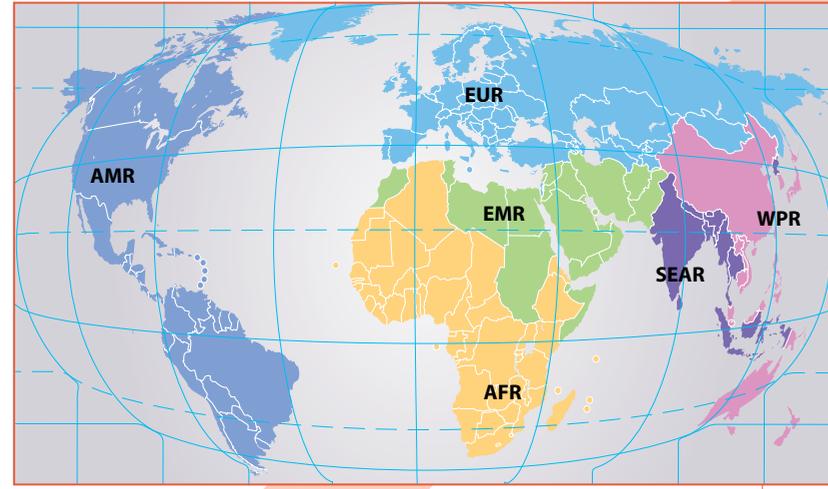
Data collected by the Global School Personnel Survey (GSPS) between 2000 and 2008 have shown that an

alarming proportion of school personnel smoke cigarettes and use other forms of tobacco.

The scarcity of tobacco-free schools and the high level of smoking on school grounds by school personnel reported in the GSPS indicate how seriously school practices and staff actions undermine the educational messages and other prevention efforts to reduce the prevalence of smoking among adolescents.

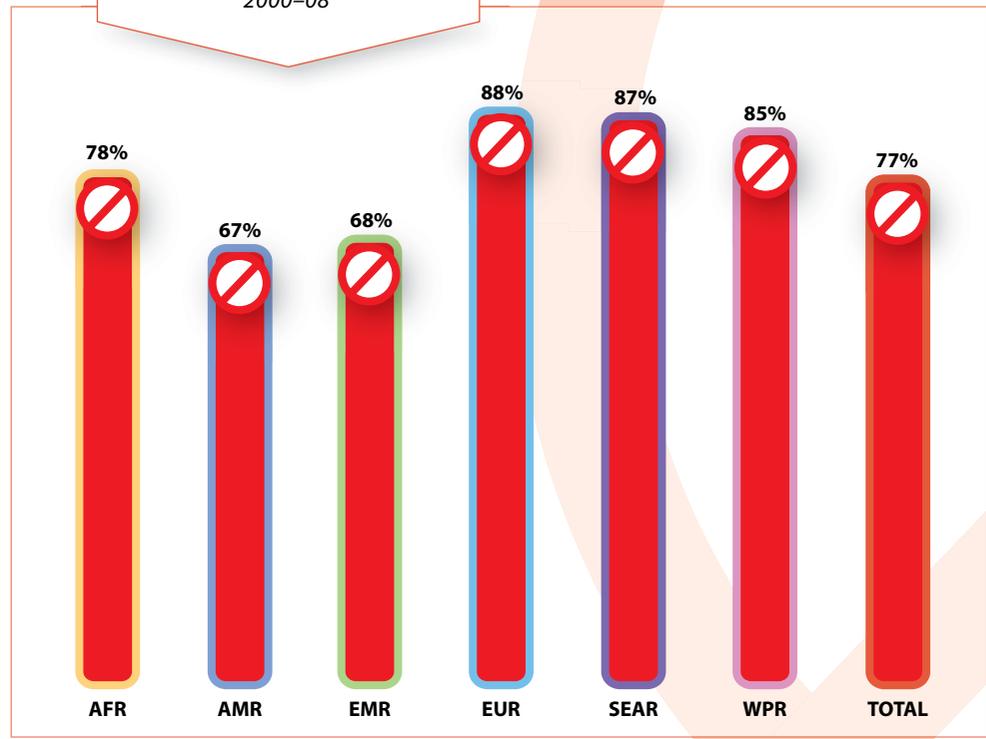
Cigarette use among male teachers was highest in the Western Pacific and lowest in the African region. Cigarette use among female teachers was highest in the European region and lowest in the South-East Asia region.

Other tobacco use varied by gender across the regions, with male teacher use highest in South-East Asia and female teacher use highest in the Eastern Mediterranean region.

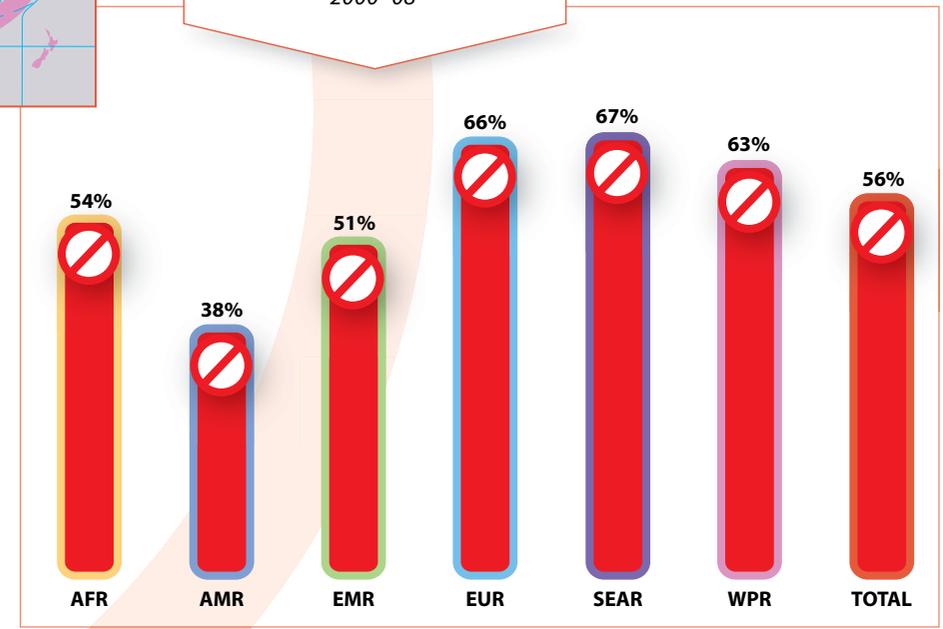


WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control  
**Article 8: Protection from exposure to tobacco smoke**  
 Each Party shall adopt and implement measures providing for protection from exposure to tobacco smoke.

**STUDENT BAN**  
 Percentage of schools with a ban on the use of tobacco products by students 2000–08



**STAFF BAN**  
 Percentage of schools with a ban on the use of tobacco products by teachers 2000–08



Overall, about three-quarters of schools ban smoking among students, yet slightly over half of schools ban smoking among the staff.

Teachers and administrators are role models for students. They have daily interaction with students and thus represent an influential group for tobacco control.

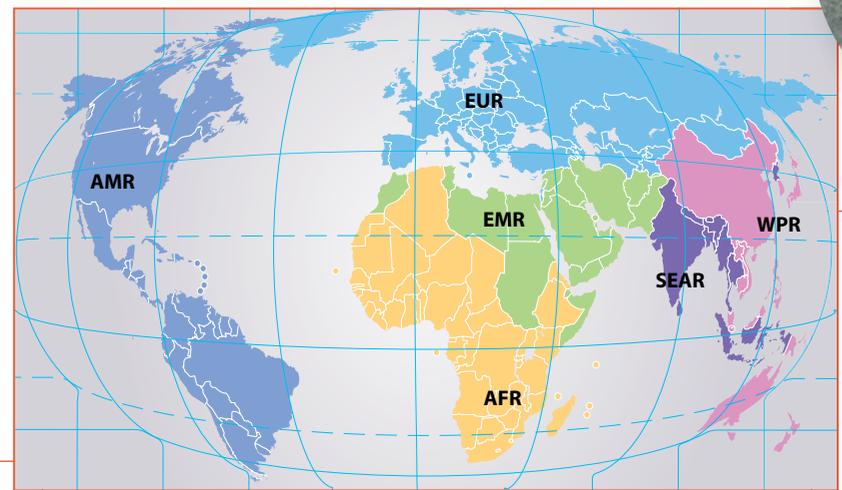
Across the regions, bans prohibiting tobacco use for students follow similar patterns to tobacco bans targeting school staff.

Given the objectives of the MPOWER package, protection from second-hand smoke exposure should include smoke-free educational facilities along with suitable enforcement of these policies. Effective

policies restricting smoking among school personnel must be applied to both students and staff, and to all indoor and outdoor areas of the school, because seeing adults smoking, including in outdoor areas, increases the likelihood of regular smoking among students.

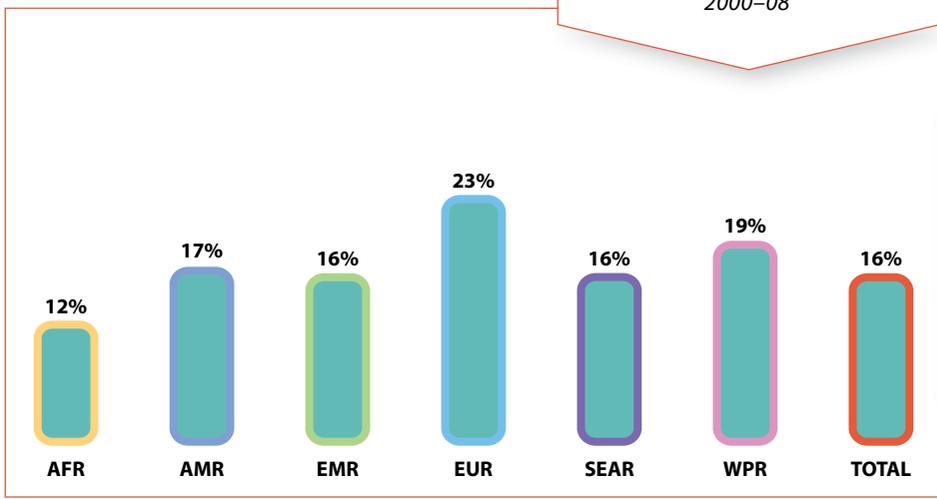
WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control  
**Article 12: Education, communication, training and public awareness**  
 Each Party shall promote and strengthen effective and appropriate training or sensitization and awareness programmes on tobacco control addressed to persons such as health workers, community workers, social workers, media professionals, **educators**, decision-makers, administrators and other concerned persons.

**mpower** Among smokers who are aware of the dangers of tobacco, three out of four want to quit.



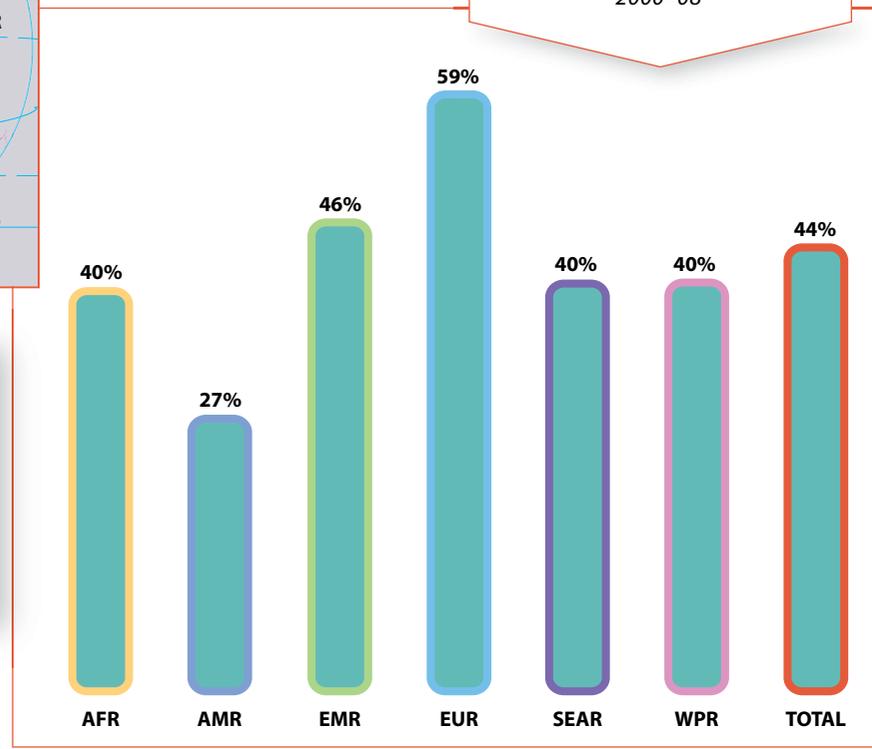
**MATERIALS**  
 Percentage of teachers with access to materials on how to prevent tobacco use among youth 2000-08

**TRAINING**  
 Percentage of teachers trained to prevent youth tobacco use 2000-08



The **majority** of GSPS school personnel have **not received specific training** to help students avoid or stop using tobacco, but **strongly agreed** that they should receive training.

**Most teachers** reported that they **do not have adequate teaching materials** to support prevention and reduction in tobacco use.



It is imperative that young smokers are offered quitting advice, not only to prevent long-term problems such as cancers and heart disease, but also to improve their overall health during their teenage years.

Many schools' programs focus on the harmful health effects of smoking and other tobacco use, such as cancer, heart disease, and stroke – afflictions that usually do not affect the smoker until middle- or even

old-age. This information may have little influence on the smoking behavior of youth, especially in the pre-teen or early teen years. Consequently, it is now thought more useful to teach young people about the tobacco industry's manipulation of them – for example, through the awareness and analysis of tobacco advertising and promotion. In addition, social programs may tackle peer-pressure issues – such as how to say no when a best friend offers a cigarette.

Teachers can play a vital role in helping students quit since the amount of time spent with them is second only to the time spent with family. However most teachers are not adequately trained or do not have access to materials to support student prevention.

Schools' programs work best in conjunction with mass-media campaigns and community initiatives, in particular with strong tobacco-control legislation, such as the initiation of smoke-free areas, bans on

advertising and promotion, and increases in tobacco tax.

Prevention and cessation programs also need to address other tobacco products, in addition to cigarettes.