

Ethiopia



How many people die from smoking in Ethiopia each year?

8,395

What is the economic cost of smoking and tobacco use in Ethiopia each year?

6,800,274,684

Ethiopian birrs

Current Rates of Smoking and Tobacco Use in Ethiopia

Tobacco use continues to be an epidemic in Ethiopia. Government complacency in the face of the tobacco epidemic protects the tobacco industry in Ethiopia as the death toll grows each year. Proponents of healthier societies must push for the implementation of evidence-based best practices in tobacco control to create change and reduce the negative effects of tobacco use.

Adult Smoking Prevalence in Ethiopia

15+ years old; 2022

Men	Women
5.5%	0.9%

Adult smoking prevalence in Ethiopia is 3.1%.

Number of Adult Smokers in Ethiopia

15+ years old; 2022

Men	Women
1,867,297	311,638

Number of adult smokers in Ethiopia is 2,125,896.

Youth Smoking Prevalence in Ethiopia

10-14 years old; 2022

Boys	Girls
2.7%	2.5%

Youth smoking prevalence in Ethiopia is 2.6%.

Adult Smokeless Tobacco Use in Ethiopia

15+ years old; smokeless tobacco includes snus, chewing tobacco, gutkha, etc.; 2016

Both Men and Women
2%

Adult smokeless tobacco use prevalence in Ethiopia is 2%.

Deaths Caused by Tobacco in Ethiopia

% deaths attributable to tobacco use in 2021

Men

1.6%

Women

0.4%

1.1% of all deaths in Ethiopia are caused by tobacco use.

Learn more about global **Prevalence**,
Youth Smoking and **Deaths**.

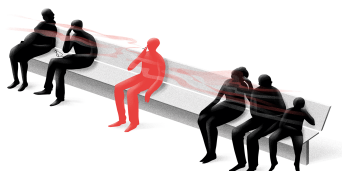
Negative Effect of Tobacco Use in Ethiopia

Tobacco use harms both the public and fiscal health of Ethiopia, threatening efforts to improve equity, alleviate poverty, and protect the environment.



Societal Harms

The economic cost of smoking Ethiopia is 6,800,274,684 Ethiopian birrs. This includes direct costs related to healthcare expenditures and indirect costs related to lost productivity caused by illness and premature death.



Harms Development

Tobacco spending diverts funds from the resources that families need to rise out of poverty. On average in Ethiopia, a smoker must spend 6.8% of GDP per capita to buy 100 packs of the most popular cigarettes in a year.



Environmental Harms

Cigarette butts are the most commonly discarded pieces of waste worldwide. It is estimated that 1,706 tons of butts wind up as toxic trash in Ethiopia each year, equal to 487 female African elephants.



Harms Health Equity

The tobacco industry markets its products aggressively to lower-income populations and youth in Ethiopia.



Harms NCDs

Not only is smoking a major risk factor for the 4 largest noncommunicable diseases (cancer, heart diseases, respiratory diseases, and diabetes), but people living with mental illness are nearly 2x as likely to smoke as other individuals.

Learn more about **Health Effects**.

Impact of the Tobacco Supply Chain on Ethiopia

The tobacco industry profits significantly from producing and selling tobacco. At the same time, across the tobacco supply chain, there are significant negative health and economic repercussions for Ethiopia.



Tobacco Industry

The total revenue of the 6 largest tobacco companies in the world was USD 362 billion in 2022, about the same as Pakistan's Gross National Income (GNI), 5x Panama's GNI and 9x Paraguay's GNI.



Tobacco Production

There were more than 5,000,000,000,000 cigarettes produced in the world in 2019, or nearly 2 cigarettes per person per day.



Tobacco Growing

There were 2,219 tons of tobacco produced in Ethiopia in 2022 on 3,292 hectares of quality agricultural land that could have been used to grow food.

Learn more about global **Growing** and **Product Sales**.

Ending the Tobacco Epidemic in Ethiopia

Fortunately, there are evidence-based -i.e. proven -solutions to the challenges posed by tobacco use. For several decades, governments around the world have been introducing a set of policies that address the demand for tobacco products, particularly among youth. These policies effectively reduce consumption and are cost-effective because they save governments enormous amounts of money in health care spending and increase economic productivity.

Current Tobacco Control Policies in Ethiopia

Designated Smoke-Free Areas in Ethiopia

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	No
Healthcare Facilities	Educational Facilities	Universities	Government Facilities	Indoor Offices	Restaurants	Pubs and Bars	Public Transport	All Other Indoor Public Places	Funds for Enforcement

Availability of Cessation Services in Ethiopia

Quitting Resources

National quit line, and both NRT and some cessation services cost-covered

National Quit Line

Yes

Learn more about best practices in [Cessation](#).

Tobacco Packaging Regulations in Ethiopia

Quality of Tobacco Packaging Regulation

None

Text warning label only

✓Text warning label with graphic warning label

Plain Packaging with text/graphic warning label

% of Pack Covered

70%

Learn more about best practices in [Counter Marketing](#).

Tobacco Control Mass Media Campaigns in Ethiopia

Ran a National Anti-Tobacco Campaign	Yes
Part Of A Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program	Yes
Pre-Tested With The Target Audience	Yes
Target Audience Research Was Conducted	Yes
Aired On Television And/Or Radio	Yes
Utilized Media Planning	Yes
Earned Media/Public Relations Were Used To Promote The Campaign	Yes
Process Evaluation Was Used To Assess Implementation	Yes
Outcome Evaluation Was Used To Assess Effectiveness	No

Learn more about best practices in [Mass Media](#).

Tobacco Tax Policies in Ethiopia

Using evidence-based international recommendations/best practices, the Tobacconomics Cigarette Tax Scorecard assesses four components of tax systems - price, change in affordability, tax share, and structure - on a scale of 0 to 5, where a higher score is preferred.

Overall Score

1.63

The overall score is an average of the four component scores.

Cigarette Price

1.00

Consumers respond to higher prices by decreasing consumption and some quit using tobacco.

Change in Affordability Over Time

0.00

In addition to price, change in affordability is critical. Cigarettes need to become less affordable for consumption to decline.

Tax Share of Price

1.50

Large tax shares of price are usually a good indicator that taxes are working.

Tax Structure

4.00

Best practices include relying more on uniform specific excise taxes that are adjusted regularly to outpace growth and inflation.

Learn more about the Scorecard in Ethiopia.

Regulations on Tobacco Advertising, Promotion, and Sponsorship (TAPS) in Ethiopia

Marketing is the key avenue that tobacco companies use to reach consumers, new and old. Restricting or eliminating marketing is key to tobacco control success.

Direct Bans		7 out of 7 direct bans implemented		Indirect Bans		10 out of 10 direct bans implemented	
National TV and radio	Yes			Free distribution in mail or through other means	Yes		
International TV and radio	Yes			Promotional discounts	Yes		
International magazines and newspapers	Yes			Non-tobacco products identified with tobacco brand names	Yes		
International magazines and newspapers	Yes			Brand name of non-tobacco products used for tobacco product	Yes		
Billboard and outdoor advertising	Yes			Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco brands (product placement)	Yes		
Advertising at point of sale	Yes			Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco products	Yes		
Advertising on internet	Yes			Prescribed anti-tobacco ads required for any visual entertainment media product that depicts tobacco products, use or images	Yes		
<div>Ad Ban Compliance</div> <div>76%</div>				Complete ban on sponsorship	Yes		
				Any form of contribution (financial or other support) to any event, activity or individual	Yes		
				Ban on the publicity of financial or other sponsorship or support by the tobacco industry of events, activities, individuals	Yes		