

## Belarus



How many people die from smoking in Belarus each year?

**22,377**

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

**4,844,648,960**

Belarussian rubles

### Current Rates of Smoking and Tobacco Use in Belarus

Tobacco use continues to be an epidemic in Belarus. Government complacency in the face of the tobacco epidemic protects the tobacco industry in Belarus 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 Belarus

15+ years old; 2019

Men

**50.2%**

Women

**23.6%**

Adult smoking prevalence in Belarus is 36%.

#### Number of Adult Smokers in Belarus

15+ years old; 2019

Men

**1,866,893**

Women

**804,237**

Number of adult smokers in Belarus is 2,671,131.

#### Youth Smoking Prevalence in Belarus

10-14 years old; 2019

Boys

**13.5%**

Girls

**9.4%**

Youth smoking prevalence in Belarus is 12%.

#### Adult Smokeless Tobacco Use in Belarus

15+ years old; smokeless tobacco includes snus, chewing tobacco, gutkha, etc.; 2019

Both Men and Women

**0%**

Adult smokeless tobacco use prevalence in Belarus is 0%.

### Deaths Caused by Tobacco in Belarus

% deaths attributable to tobacco use in 2019

Men

30.2%

Women

6.8%

18% of all deaths in Belarus are caused by tobacco use.

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

### Negative Effect of Tobacco Use in Belarus

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



#### Societal Harms

The economic cost of smoking Belarus is 4,844,648,960 Belarussian rubles. 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 Belarus, a smoker must spend 0.88% of GDP per capita to buy 100 packs of the most popular cigarettes in a year.



#### Harms Health Equity

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



#### Environmental Harms

Cigarette butts are the most commonly discarded pieces of waste worldwide. It is estimated that 2,905 tons of butts wind up as toxic trash in Belarus each year, equal to 830 female African elephants.



#### 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**.

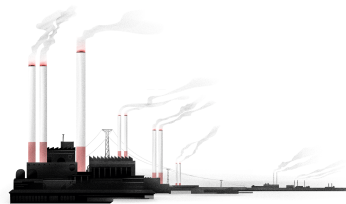
Impact of the Tobacco Supply Chain on Belarus

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 Belarus.



Tobacco Industry

The total revenue of the 6 largest tobacco companies in the world was USD 336 billion in 2019, about the same as Viet Nam’s Gross National Income (GNI), 5x Ghana’s GNI and 9x Paraguay’s GNI.



Tobacco Production

There were approximately 31 billion cigarettes produced in Belarus in 2016.



Tobacco Growing

There were 0 tons of tobacco produced in Belarus in 2019 on 0 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 Belarus

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 Belarus

Designated Smoke-Free Areas in Belarus

No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	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 Belarus

#### Quitting Resources

NRT and/or some cessation services (at least one of which is cost-covered)

#### National Quit Line

Yes

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

### Tobacco Packaging Regulations in Belarus

#### Quality of Tobacco Packaging Regulation

None

Text warning label only

✓ Graphic warning label only

Plain Packaging with graphic warning label

#### % of Pack Covered

50%

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

### Tobacco Control Mass Media Campaigns in Belarus

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	Yes

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



Tobacco Tax Policies in Belarus

Using evidence-based international recommendations/best practices, the Tobaccoconomics 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

0.75

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

Cigarette Price

0

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

Change in Affordability Over Time

0

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

Tax Share of Price

2

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

Tax Structure

1

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 Belarus](#).

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

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		3 out of 10 indirect 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	No		
Billboard and outdoor advertising	Yes			Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco brands (product placement)	No		
Advertising at point of sale	Yes			Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco products	No		
Advertising on internet	Yes			Prescribed anti-tobacco ads required for any visual entertainment media product that depicts tobacco products, use or images	No		
<div>Ad Ban Compliance</div> <div>65%</div>				Complete ban on sponsorship	No		
				Any form of contribution (financial or other support) to any event, activity or individual	No		
				Ban on the publicity of financial or other sponsorship or support by the tobacco industry of events, activities, individuals	No		