

Canada



How many people die from smoking in Canada each year?

51,691

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

32,418,506,752

Canadian dollars

Current Rates of Smoking and Tobacco Use in Canada

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

15+ years old; 2019

Men

18.3%

Women

15.9%

Adult smoking prevalence in Canada is 17%.

Number of Adult Smokers in Canada

15+ years old; 2019

Men

2,588,363

Women

2,326,898

Number of adult smokers in Canada is 4,915,262.

Youth Smoking Prevalence in Canada

10-14 years old; 2019

Boys

2.8%

Girls

3.3%

Youth smoking prevalence in Canada is 3%.

Adult Smokeless Tobacco Use in Canada

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

Both Men and Women

0%

Adult smokeless tobacco use prevalence in Canada is 0%.

Deaths Caused by Tobacco in Canada

% deaths attributable to tobacco use in 2019

Men

20.2%

Women

15.5%

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

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

Negative Effect of Tobacco Use in Canada

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



Societal Harms

The economic cost of smoking Canada is 32,418,506,752 Canadian dollars. 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 Canada, a smoker must spend 2.27% 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 5,042 tons of butts wind up as toxic trash in Canada each year, equal to 1,441 female African elephants.



Harms Health Equity

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



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 Canada

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 Canada.



Tobacco Production

There were approximately 15 billion cigarettes produced in Canada in 2016.



Tobacco Growing

There were 19359 tons of tobacco produced in Canada in 2019 on 7028 hectares of quality agricultural land that could have been used to grow food.



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.

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

Ending the Tobacco Epidemic in Canada

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 Canada

Designated Smoke-Free Areas in Canada

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	Yes
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 Canada

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 Canada

Quality of Tobacco Packaging Regulation
 None
 Text warning label only
 Graphic warning label only
 ✓ Plain Packaging with graphic warning label

% of Pack Covered
75%

Learn more about best practices in **Counter Marketing**.

Tobacco Control Mass Media Campaigns in Canada

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

Using evidence-based international recommendations/best practices, the Tobacco Economics 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.



Learn more about the [Scorecard in Canada](#).

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

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	4 out of 7 direct bans implemented	Indirect Bans	4 out of 10 indirect bans implemented
National TV and radio	Yes	Free distribution in mail or through other means	Yes
International TV and radio	No	Promotional discounts	Yes
International magazines and newspapers	Yes	Non-tobacco products identified with tobacco brand names	No
International magazines and newspapers	No	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)	Yes
Advertising at point of sale	No	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
		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	Yes

Ad Ban Compliance

85%