

Eritrea



How many people die from smoking in Eritrea each year?

1,818

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

367,366,720

nakfa

Current Rates of Smoking and Tobacco Use in Eritrea

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

15+ years old; 2019

Men

13.7%

Women

0.2%

Adult smoking prevalence in Eritrea is 7%.

Number of Adult Smokers in Eritrea

15+ years old; 2019

Men

254,963

Women

14,475

Number of adult smokers in Eritrea is 269,438.

Youth Smoking Prevalence in Eritrea

10-14 years old; 2019

Boys

2.2%

Girls

1.3%

Youth smoking prevalence in Eritrea is 2%.

Adult Smokeless Tobacco Use in Eritrea

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

Both Men and Women

2%

Adult smokeless tobacco use prevalence in Eritrea is 2%.

Deaths Caused by Tobacco in Eritrea

% deaths attributable to tobacco use in 2019

Men

6.8%

Women

1.1%

4% of all deaths in Eritrea are caused by tobacco use.

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

Negative Effect of Tobacco Use in Eritrea

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



Societal Harms

The economic cost of smoking Eritrea is 367,366,720 nakfa. 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.



Environmental Harms

Cigarette butts are the most commonly discarded pieces of waste worldwide. It is estimated that 1,102,311 tons of butts wind up as toxic trash in the world each year, equal to 416,667 female African elephants.



Harms Health Equity

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



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.**

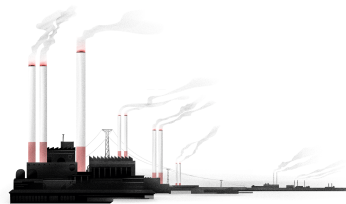
Impact of the Tobacco Supply Chain on Eritrea

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 Eritrea.



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



Tobacco Growing

Eritrea is not a major producer of tobacco, but globally there were 3.1 million hectares of arable land dedicated to tobacco growing in 2021 which was nearly as much as the land dedicated to the world’s large orange crop.

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

Ending the Tobacco Epidemic in Eritrea

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 Eritrea

Designated Smoke-Free Areas in Eritrea

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
| No | No | No | 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 Eritrea

Quitting Resources
None

National Quit Line
No

Learn more about best practices in Cessation.

Tobacco Packaging Regulations in
Eritrea

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

% of Pack Covered
30%

Learn more about best practices in Counter Marketing.

Tobacco Control Mass Media
Campaigns in Eritrea

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Ran a National Anti-Tobacco Campaign | No |
| Part Of A Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program | Not Applicable |
| Pre-Tested With The Target Audience | Not Applicable |
| Target Audience Research Was Conducted | Not Applicable |
| Aired On Television And/Or Radio | Not Applicable |
| Utilized Media Planning | Not Applicable |
| Earned Media/Public Relations Were Used To Promote The Campaign | Not Applicable |
| Process Evaluation Was Used To Assess Implementation | Not Applicable |
| Outcome Evaluation Was Used To Assess Effectiveness | Not Applicable |

Learn more about best practices in Mass Media.

Tobacco Tax Policies in Eritrea

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 | Cigarette Price | Change in Affordability Over Time | Tax Share of Price | Tax Structure |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| N/A | N/A | 1 | N/A | N/A |
| The overall score is an average of the four component scores. | Consumers respond to higher prices by decreasing consumption and some quit using tobacco. | In addition to price, change in affordability is critical. Cigarettes need to become less affordable for consumption to decline. | Large tax shares of price are usually a good indicator that taxes are working. | 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 Eritrea](#).

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

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 | 8 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 | 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 | No |
| Advertising on internet | Yes | Prescribed anti-tobacco ads required for any visual entertainment media product that depicts tobacco products, use or images | No |
| Ad Ban Compliance | | 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 |
| | | | |
| N/A | | | |