Fiji



How many people die from smoking in Fiji each year?

1,216

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

172,776,416

Fijian dollars

Current Rates of Smoking and Tobacco Use in Fiji

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

15+ years old; 2019

Men Women

42.5%

14.5%

Adult smoking prevalence in Fiji is 29%.

Number of Adult Smokers in Fiji

15+ years old; 2019

Men Women 144,457 47,654

Number of adult smokers in Fiji is 192,111.

Youth Smoking Prevalence in Fiji

10-14 years old; 2019

Boys Girls

14.3%

6.6%

Youth smoking prevalence in Fiji is 10%.

Adult Smokeless Tobacco Use in Fiji

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

Both Men and Women

Not Available

Deaths Caused by Tobacco in Fiji

% deaths attributable to tobacco use in 2019

Men

Women

21.1%

10.6%

16% of all deaths in Fiji are caused by tobacco use.

Learn more about global Prevalence, Youth Smoking and Deaths.

Negative Effect of Tobacco Use in Fiji

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



Societal Harms

The economic cost of smoking Fiji is 172,776,416 Fijian 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 Fiji, a smoker must spend 17.19% 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 1,102,311 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 Fiji.



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 Fiji

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 Fiji.



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 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 Growing

There were 468 tons of tobacco produced in Fiji in 2019 on 763 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 Fiji

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 goverments enormous amounts of money in health care spending and increase economic productivity.

Current Tobacco Control Policies in Fiji

Designated Smoke-Free Areas in Fiji











No



Restaurants



Pubs and **Bars**



Public **Transport**





Places



Funds for **Enforcement**

Availability of Cessation Services in Fiji

Quitting Resources

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

National Quit Line

No

Learn more about best practices in Cessation.

Tobacco Packaging Regulations in Fiji

Quality of Tobacco Packaging Regulation

None

Text warning label only

✓ Graphic warning label only

Plain Packaging with graphic warning label

% of Pack Covered

60%

Learn more about best practices in Counter Marketing.

Tobacco Control Mass Media Campaigns in Fiji

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	No
Aired On Television And/Or Radio	Yes
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	No

Learn more about best practices in Mass Media.

Tobacco Tax Policies in Fiji

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

2.88

The overall score is an average of the four

component scores.

Cigarette Price

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

Change in Affordability Over Time

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

Tax Share of Price

0.5

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 Fiji.

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

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	3 out of 7 direct bans implemented	Indirect Bans 5 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 newspa	apers Yes	Non-tobacco products identified with tobacco brand names	Yes
International magazines and newspa	apers No	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	No	Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco products	No
Advertising on internet	No	Prescribed anti-tobacco ads required for any visual entertainment media product that depicts tobacco products, use or images	No
		Complete ban on sponsorship	No
Ad Ban (Compliance	Any form of contribution (financial or other support) to any event, activity or individual	No
(60%	Ban on the publicity of financial or other sponsorship or support by the tobacco industry of events, activities, individuals	No