# **Armenia**



How many people die from smoking in Armenia each year?

5,083

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

186,053,693,701

Armenian drams

# **Current Rates of Smoking and Tobacco Use in Armenia**

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

15+ years old; 2022

Men

49.3%

Women

1.7%

Adult smoking prevalence in Armenia is 22.2%.

### **Number of Adult Smokers in Armenia**

15+ years old; 2022

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Men

Women

580,064

21,705

Number of adult smokers in Armenia is 544,641.

### **Youth Smoking Prevalence in Armenia**

10-14 years old; 2022

Bovs

Girls

4.7%

1.7%

Youth smoking prevalence in Armenia is 3.2%.

## **Adult Smokeless Tobacco Use in Armenia**

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

**Both Men and Women** 

0%

Adult smokeless tobacco use prevalence in Armenia is 0%.

### **Deaths Caused by Tobacco in Armenia**

% deaths attributable to tobacco use in 2021

Men

Womei

26.3%

5.0%

16.2% of all deaths in Armenia are caused by tobacco use.

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

# **Negative Effect of Tobacco Use in Armenia**

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



#### **Societal Harms**

The economic cost of smoking Armenia is 186,053,693,701 Armenian drams. 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 Armenia, a smoker must spend 2.9% 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 Armenia.



## **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 Armenia

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 Armenia.



### **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 362 billion in 2022, about the same as Pakistan's Gross National Income (GNI), 5x Panama's GNI and 9x Paraguay's GNI.



### **Tobacco Growing**

There were 976 tons of tobacco produced in Armenia in 2022 on 316 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 Armenia**

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 Armenia

### **Designated Smoke-Free Areas in Armenia**



**Availability of Cessation Services** in Armenia

**Quitting Resources** 

NRT (Nicotine replacement therapy) and/or some cessation services (neither cost-covered)

**National Quit Line** 



## Learn more about best practices in Cessation.

**Tobacco Packaging Regulations in Armenia** 

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

**50%** 

# Learn more about best practices in Counter Marketing.

# **Tobacco Control Mass Media Campaigns in Armenia**

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	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	No

Learn more about best practices in Mass Media.

### **Tobacco Tax Policies in Armenia**

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** 

2.13

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

**Cigarette Price** 

2-00

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** 

5.00

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 Armenia.

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

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	7 out of 10 direct bans implemented
National TV and radio	Yes	Free distribution in mail or throu	gh other means Yes
International TV and radio	Yes	Promotional discounts	Yes
International magazines and newspa	pers Yes	Non-tobacco products identified names	with tobacco brand Yes
International magazines and newspa	pers Yes	Brand name of non-tobacco product	lucts used for tobacco Yes
Billboard and outdoor advertising	Yes	Appearance in TV and/or films: t placement)	obacco brands (product Yes
Advertising at point of sale	Yes	Appearance in TV and/or films: t	obacco products No
Advertising on internet	Yes	Prescribed anti-tobacco ads requentertainment media product that products, use or images	
		Complete ban on sponsorship	No
	Compliance	Any form of contribution (financi any event, activity or individual	ial or other support) to Yes
6	65%	Ban on the publicity of financial support by the tobacco industry individuals	