Poland



Current Rates of Smoking and Tobacco Use in Poland

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



Deaths Caused by Tobacco in Poland

% deaths attributable to tobacco use in 2021

Men

15.3%



Learn more about global Prevalence, Youth Smoking and Deaths.

10.8% of all deaths in Poland are caused by tobacco use.

Negative Effect of Tobacco Use in Poland

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



Societal Harms

The economic cost of smoking Poland is 57,029,630,299 zlotys. 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 Poland, a smoker must spend 2.0% 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 42,953 tons of butts wind up as toxic trash in Poland each year, equal to 15,908 female African elephants.



Harms Health Equity The tobacco industry markets its products aggressively to lower-income populations and vouth in Poland.



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.

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Impact of the Tobacco Supply Chain on Poland

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 Poland.



Tobacco Production There were approximately 214,764,000,000 cigarettes produced in Poland in 2023.



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 16,610 tons of tobacco produced in Poland in 2022 on 7,990 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 Poland

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 Poland

Designated Smoke-Free Areas in Poland



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Poland

Availability of Cessation Services in Poland

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 Poland

Quality of Tobacco Packaging Regulation

✓ Text warning label with graphic warning label Plain Packaging with text/graphic warning label

None

Text warning label only

% of Pack Covered

65%

Learn more about best practices in Counter Marketing.

Tobacco Control Mass Media Campaigns in Poland

Ran a National Anti-Tobacco Campaign	Yes
Part Of A Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program	No
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	Yes
Process Evaluation Was Used To Assess Implementation	Yes
Outcome Evaluation Was Used To Assess Effectiveness	Νο

Learn more about best practices in Mass Media.

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Tobacco Tax Policies in Poland

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

The overall score is an

average of the four

component scores.

2.

Cigarette Price

3.00

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

taxes are working.

4.00 Large tax shares of price are usually a good indicator that Tax Structure

3.00 Best practices include relying

more on uniform specific excise taxes that are adjusted regularly to outpace growth and inflation.

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

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.

Learn more about the Scorecard in Poland.

Direct Bans	7 out of 7 direct bans implemented	Indirect Bans 4 out of 10	direct 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 newspa	pers Yes	Non-tobacco products identified with tobacco brain names	nd No
International magazines and newspa	pers Yes	Brand name of non-tobacco products used for toba product	acco No
Billboard and outdoor advertising	Yes	Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco brands (pi placement)	roduct Yes
Advertising at point of sale	Yes	Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco products	Νο
Advertising on internet	Yes	Prescribed anti-tobacco ads required for any visua entertainment media product that depicts tobacco products, use or images	
		Complete ban on sponsorship	Νο
Ad Ban Compliance	Compliance	Any form of contribution (financial or other suppor any event, activity or individual	rt) to No
6	54%	Ban on the publicity of financial or other sponsors support by the tobacco industry of events, activitie individuals	

Citation: Drope J, Hamill S, editors. 2025. Country profile: Poland. . In The Tobacco Atlas. New York: Vital Strategies and Economics for Health.