

Bolivia (Plurinational State of)



How many people die from smoking in Bolivia each year?

3,435

What is the annual cost-of-illness attributable to smoking in Bolivia each year?

1,433,263,377

bolivianos

Current Rates of Smoking and Tobacco Use in Bolivia

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

15+ years old; 2025

Men	Women
8.40%	1.40%

Adult smoking prevalence in Bolivia is 4.90%.

Number of Adult Smokers in Bolivia

15+ years old; 2022

Men	Women
818,000	164,000

Number of adult smokers in Bolivia is 982,000.

Youth Smoking Prevalence in Bolivia

10-14 years old; 2023

Boys	Girls
11.77%	8.04%

Youth smoking prevalence in Bolivia is 9.95%.

Adult Smokeless Tobacco Use in Bolivia

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

Both Men and Women
NA

Adult smokeless tobacco use prevalence in Bolivia is NA.

Deaths Caused by Tobacco in Bolivia

% deaths attributable to tobacco use in 2023

Men

6.36%

Women

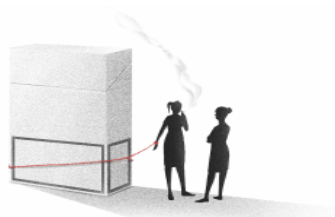
2.09%

4.45% of all deaths in Bolivia are caused by tobacco use.

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

Negative Effect of Tobacco Use in Bolivia

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



Societal Harms

The annual cost-of-illness attributable to smoking in Bolivia is 1,433,263,377 bolivianos. 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 Bolivia, a smoker must spend 4.46% 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 311 tons of butts wind up as toxic trash in Bolivia each year, equal to 115 female African elephants.



Harms Health Equity

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



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 Bolivia

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 Bolivia.



Tobacco Production

There were approximately 1,194,000,000 cigarettes produced in Bolivia in 2024.



Tobacco Industry

The total revenue of the 6 largest tobacco companies in the world was USD 364 billion in 2023, about the same as Pakistan's Gross National Income (GNI), 5x Panama's GNI and 9x Paraguay's GNI.



Tobacco Growing

There were 1,194 tons of tobacco produced in Bolivia in 2023 on 1,191 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 Bolivia

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 Bolivia

Designated Smoke-Free Areas in Bolivia

Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	NA	NA
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 Bolivia

Quitting Resources
None

National Quit Line
No

Learn more about best practices in Cessation.

Tobacco Packaging Regulations in
Bolivia

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
60%

Learn more about best practices in Counter Marketing.

Tobacco Control Mass Media
Campaigns in Bolivia

Ran a National Anti-Tobacco Campaign	Not applicable
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 Bolivia

Using evidence-based international recommendations/best practices, the Economics for Health 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

0.62

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

Cigarette Price

1.00

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

0.50

Large tax shares of price are usually a good indicator that taxes are working.

Tax Structure

1.00

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 Bolivia](#).

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

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.

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