Tobacco harms the health, the treasury, and the spirit of Syria. Every year, more than 9400 of its people are killed by tobacco-caused disease. Still, more than 10000 children (10-14 years old) and 1730000 adults (15+ years old) continue to use tobacco each day. Complacency in the face of the tobacco epidemic insulates the tobacco industry in Syria and ensures that tobacco’s death toll will grow every year. Tobacco control advocates must reach out to other communities and resources to strengthen their efforts and create change.

### Adult Smoking (15+ Y.O.)
% using tobacco daily: 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>% Using</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>21.18%</td>
<td>More men smoke in Syria than on average in low-HDI countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>8.5%</td>
<td>More women smoke in Syria than on average in low-HDI countries.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Children Smoking (10-14 Y.O.)
% using tobacco daily: 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>% Using</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Boys</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
<td>More boys smoke in Syria than on average in low-HDI countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girls</td>
<td>0.28%</td>
<td>More girls smoke in Syria than on average in low-HDI countries.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Deaths
% caused by tobacco: 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>% Caused</th>
<th>Note</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>9.71%</td>
<td>More men die in Syria than on average in low-HDI countries.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>5.79%</td>
<td>More women die in Syria than on average in low-HDI countries.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Societal Harms

The economic cost of smoking in Syria amounts to 28264 million Syrian pounds. This includes direct costs related to healthcare expenditures and indirect costs related to lost productivity due to early mortality and morbidity.

### Smokeless Tobacco
% using tobacco daily: 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>% Using</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Industry

There were 14731 metric tons of tobacco produced in Syria in 2014. However, tobacco growing is only a small fraction of agriculture in Syria, with only 0.08% of agricultural land devoted to tobacco cultivation.
**Solutions**

### Current Policy in Syria

**Protect from Smoke**

All public places completely smoke-free is the best practice.

### Smokefree

- **Healthcare Facilities**: ✓
- **Educational Facilities**: ✓
- **Universities**: ✗
- **Government Facilities**: ✓
- **Indoor Offices**: ✗
- **Restaurants**: ✓
- **Pubs and Bars**: ✓
- **Public Transport**: ✓
- **All Other Indoor Public Places**: ✗
- **Funds for Smokefree Enforcement**: ✗

### Offer Help

National quit line and both NRT and cessation-services cost-covered is the best practice.

**Quitting Resources**

- NRT and/or some cessation services (at least one of which is cost-covered)
- National Quitline: No

### Warn About the Dangers to Tobacco Users on Product Packaging

A plain, standardized pack with a large health warning is the best practice.

**Type of Warning Label**

- Text

**Percent of Pack Covered**

- 15%

**Plain Packaging**

- No

### Warn About the Dangers to the Whole Population in a Media Campaign

Ran a National Anti-Tobacco Campaign in 2014 or 2016: No

**Appropriate Characteristics**

- Part Of A Comprehensive Tobacco Control Program: n/a
- Pre-Tested With The Target Audience: n/a
- Target Audience Research Was Conducted: n/a
- Aired On Television And/Or Radio: n/a
- Utilized Media Planning: n/a
- Earned Media/Public Relations Were Used To Promote The Campaign: n/a
- Process Evaluation Was Used To Assess Implementation: n/a
- Outcome Evaluation Was Used To Assess Effectiveness: n/a

### Enforce Bans on Advertising

Ban on all forms of direct and indirect advertising is the best practice.

**Number of Direct Ad Bans**

- 7/7 possible bans

**Number of Indirect Ad Bans**

- 6/10 possible bans

**Ad Ban Compliance Percent**

- Moderate

**Direct bans**

- National TV and radio
- International TV and radio
- Local magazines and newspapers
- International magazines and newspapers
- Billboard and outdoor advertising
- Advertising at point of sale
- Advertising on internet

**Indirect bans**

- Free distribution in mail or through other means
- Promotional discounts
- Non-tobacco products identified with tobacco brand names
- Brand name of non-tobacco products used for tobacco product
- Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco brands (product placement)
- Appearance in TV and/or films: tobacco products

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**Syria**

**WHO Benchmark**

- **Minimum**: 70% of Retail Price is Excise Tax
- **Syria**: 40% of Retail Price is Excise Tax

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**Raise Taxes**

**ta6.org/country/syria**