

POLAND

Tobacco Burden Facts



■ TOBACCO CONSUMPTION

>> Tobacco use is slowly decreasing in Poland.

- A third of all adults (32%) smoke cigarettes daily (age 15 and older).¹
- 38% of adult males and 25.6% of adult females smoke cigarettes daily.²
- Among youth (age 13-15), 18.6% currently smoke cigarettes with no significant difference between genders (males 19.6%; females 17.1%).³
- 7% currently use tobacco products other than cigarettes with more male youth (9%) than female youth (4.8%) consuming other products.

■ TOBACCO-RELATED CONSEQUENCES

>> Tobacco use is deadly. Smoking kills half of all lifetime users. Half of those deaths occur between the ages of 30 and 69. Exposure to secondhand smoke kills tens of thousands of non-smokers every year.⁶

- 80-90% of lung cancer cases in European populations are attributable to smoking.⁵
- Among adult males in Poland, the odds of dying from lung cancer are 16 times greater among current smokers than among nonsmokers.⁶

■ TOBACCO-RELATED COSTS

>> Tobacco exacts a high cost on society.

>> Tobacco costs include:

- Health care costs associated with tobacco-related illnesses
- Productivity costs due to loss in productivity from sick workers and those who die prematurely during their working years
- Fire damage and related costs
- Damage to the environment
- Diversion of agricultural land that could grow food

¹WHO. Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic, 2008: The MPOWER package. Geneva: World Health Organization; 2008. ²WHO, 2008. ³CDC. Global Youth Tobacco Surveillance, 2000-2007. CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. 2008;57(SS-1): 1-28. ⁴Mackay J, Eriksen M, Shafey O. The Tobacco Atlas. 2nd ed. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2006. p. 108. ⁵Zatonski WA, Manczuk M, Powles J, Negri E. Convergence of male and female lung cancer mortality at younger ages in the European Union and Russia. European Journal of Public Health. 2007;17(5):450-454. ⁶Brennan P, Crispo A, Zaridze D, Szeszenia-Dabrowska N, Rudnai Peter, Lissowska J. High cumulative risk of lung cancer death among smokers and nonsmokers in Central and Eastern Europe. American Journal of Epidemiology. 2006;164:1233-1241.

POLICY MAKERS MUST ACT NOW

- M** Monitor tobacco use and assess the impact of tobacco prevention policies
- P** Protect people from secondhand smoke
- O** Offer help to every tobacco user to quit
- W** Warn and effectively educate every person about the dangers of tobacco use through strong, graphic pictorial health warnings and hard hitting, sustained mass media public education campaigns
- E** Enact and enforce comprehensive bans on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship and the use of misleading terms, such as "light" or "low tar"
- R** Raise the price of all tobacco products by increasing tobacco taxes

www.tobaccofreecenter.org
<http://who.int/tobacco>