

# China

## Tobacco Control Policies

China became a Party to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on January 9, 2006.

**Smoke Free Places:** Smoking is completely prohibited in at least 28 indoor public places, including medical facilities, restaurants, bars, and most public transportation. Designated smoking areas are permitted in other specified places, such as long-distance transport. Sub-national jurisdictions have the authority to implement local smoke free policies.

**Tobacco Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship:** Tobacco advertising is prohibited in mass media, public places, means of public transport, and outdoors. Other forms of tobacco advertising are permitted, including through sponsored events and organizations, promotional discounts, and retailer incentive programs.

**Tobacco Packaging and Labeling:** Required warnings are text-only, use small type, and must cover no less than 35 percent of the front and back surfaces of cigarette packaging. Misleading terms such as "light" and "low tar" are prohibited on tobacco packaging, but other misleading packaging (e.g., colors, number, and symbols) is not prohibited.

**Tobacco Taxation and Prices:** The World Health Organization recommends raising tobacco excise taxes so that they account for at least 70 percent of retail prices. Tobacco excise taxes in China are well below these recommendations.

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENTS COMPLETE SMOKING BAN			
Health-care facilities	Yes	Private offices	No
Primary and secondary schools	Yes	Public transport	No
Universities	No	Restaurants	Yes
Governmental facilities	No	Bars and Pubs	Yes
Can subnational jurisdictions enact more stringent smoking restrictions?	Yes		
BANS ON TOBACCO ADVERTISING, PROMOTION, AND SPONSORSHIP			
Domestic TV and radio	Yes	Promotional discounts	No
Domestic magazines and newspapers	Yes	Non-tobacco products or services with tobacco brand names	Yes
Outdoor advertising	Yes	Tobacco products with non-tobacco brand names	Yes
Outdoor advertising (e.g., billboards, posters)	Yes	Paid placement in media	Yes
Retail product display	Uncertain	Financial sponsorship, including corporate social responsibility	Yes
Internet advertising	Yes	Publicity of sponsorships	Yes
Free distribution	Uncertain		
HEALTH WARNINGS ON SMOKED TOBACCO PRODUCTS			
Text warnings describe health impacts	Yes	Number of published warnings at any given time	3
Warnings include a picture or graphic	No	Warnings required to rotate	Required
% of principal display areas covered (front and back)	35%	Warnings are written in the principal language(s)	Yes
Front	35%	Ban on misleading packaging and labeling	Yes
Back	35%	Health warnings on smokeless tobacco products	No
TOBACCO TAXATION AND PRICE			
PRICE OF MOST SOLD BRAND, PACK OF 20 CIGARETTES		TAXES ON MOST SOLD BRAND (% OF RETAIL PRICE)	
In country currency	15.29 CNY	Total taxes	55%
In US dollars	2.19 USD	Total excise	36%

Sources:

SF, APS, PL: Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Legal Website. Available at: [www.tobaccocontrolaws.org](http://www.tobaccocontrolaws.org)

Tax: WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic, 2021. Available at: [www.who.int/tobacco/global\\_report/en/](http://www.who.int/tobacco/global_report/en/)

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