

# Georgia

## Tobacco Control Policies

Georgia became a Party to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on May 15, 2006.

**Smoke Free Places:** The law prohibits smoking in "any buildings and other structures." However, the law provides several exceptions, including, but not limited to, penitentiaries, cigar bars, casinos, transit zones of airports, pre-trial detention cells, and designated areas of inpatient psychiatric facilities and palliative care facilities. The law prohibits smoking in most public transport but allows smoking in open areas of boats.

**Tobacco Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship:** The law prohibits most forms of advertising and promotion of tobacco products. The law prohibits the display of tobacco products inside shops, with an exception provided for duty-free zones at airports. There are some restrictions on tobacco sponsorship and the publicity of such sponsorship.

**Tobacco Packaging and Labeling:** On smoked tobacco products, the law requires rotating pictorial health warnings to cover 65 percent of the front and rotating text-only health warnings to cover 65 percent of the back of the pack. On smokeless tobacco products, the law requires a text-only health warning to cover 30 percent of the front and back of the pack. Misleading packaging and labeling, including terms such as "light," "mild," and "low tar," among others, is prohibited. Plain packaging will be required for tobacco product packaging beginning July 31, 2024.

**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 Georgia are below these recommendations.

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENTS COMPLETE SMOKING BAN			
Health-care facilities	Yes	Private offices	Yes
Primary and secondary schools	Yes	Public transport	No
Universities	Yes	Restaurants	Yes
Governmental facilities	No	Bars and Pubs	No
Can subnational jurisdictions enact more stringent smoking restrictions?	Yes		
BANS ON TOBACCO ADVERTISING, PROMOTION, AND SPONSORSHIP			
Domestic TV and radio	Yes	Promotional discounts	Yes
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	No	Financial sponsorship, including corporate social responsibility	Yes
Internet advertising	Yes	Publicity of sponsorships	Yes
Free distribution	Yes		
HEALTH WARNINGS ON SMOKED TOBACCO PRODUCTS			
Text warnings describe health impacts	Yes	Number of published warnings at any given time	6
Warnings include a picture or graphic	No	Warnings required to rotate	Required
% of principal display areas covered (front and back)	65%	Warnings are written in the principal language(s)	Yes
Front	65%	Ban on misleading packaging and labeling	Yes
Back	65%	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	5.00 GEL	Total taxes	81%
In US dollars	1.63 USD	Total excise	64%

Sources:

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