

Philippines

Tobacco Control Policies

The Philippines became a Party to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on September 4, 2005.

Smoke Free Places: Smoking is prohibited in enumerated indoor public places and workplaces such as government facilities, healthcare and educational institutions, and facilities frequented by minors, while designated smoking areas are permitted in other public places and workplaces, including bars and nightclubs. Smoking is prohibited in public land transportation, aircraft, and public transportation terminals. Public watercraft may have designated smoking areas.

Tobacco Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship: Many forms of tobacco advertising and promotion are prohibited, though tobacco advertising and promotion at points of sale and free distribution of tobacco products, among other promotional activities, are allowed. There are some restrictions on tobacco sponsorship and the publicity of such sponsorship.

Tobacco Packaging and Labeling: Rotating and combined picture and text health warnings are required to be placed on 50 percent of each of the principal display areas of tobacco product packaging. Misleading terms such as "light" and "low" are prohibited on tobacco product packaging, but other misleading packaging (e.g., colors, numbers, and symbols) are 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 Philippines are well 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	No
Governmental facilities	Yes	Bars and Pubs	No
Can subnational jurisdictions enact more stringent smoking restrictions?	No		
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)	No	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	No		
HEALTH WARNINGS ON SMOKED TOBACCO PRODUCTS			
Text warnings describe health impacts	Yes	Number of published warnings at any given time	12
Warnings include a picture or graphic	Yes	Warnings required to rotate	Required
% of principal display areas covered (front and back)	50%	Warnings are written in the principal language(s)	Yes
Front	50%	Ban on misleading packaging and labeling	Yes
Back	50%	Health warnings on smokeless tobacco products	Yes
TOBACCO TAXATION AND PRICE			
PRICE OF MOST SOLD BRAND, PACK OF 20 CIGARETTES		TAXES ON MOST SOLD BRAND (% OF RETAIL PRICE)	
In country currency	100.00 PHP	Total taxes	55%
In US dollars	2.03 USD	Total excise	45%

Sources:

SF, APS, PL: Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids Legal Website. Available at: www.tobaccocontrolaws.org

Tax: WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic, 2021. Available at: www.who.int/tobacco/global_report/en/

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