

Qatar

Tobacco Control Policies

Qatar became a Party to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on February 27, 2005.

Smoke Free Places: The law prohibits smoking in indoor public places “set forth by a decision of the Minister.” However, an implementing decree has not yet been issued specifying the places where smoking is prohibited. Therefore, there are currently no restrictions on smoking in indoor public places, indoor workplaces, and on public transport.

Tobacco Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship: The law generally prohibits the advertising and promotion of tobacco products, with the exception of point of sale product display. The law prohibits all forms of tobacco sponsorship; however, the law fails to define sponsorship.

Tobacco Packaging and Labeling: Tobacco products must carry a combined text and picture warning that occupies no less than 50 percent of the front and back of the package. The law does not contain specific rotation requirements, instead stating that warnings are to be updated “as required by the public interest.” Misleading packaging and labeling, including terms such as “light” and “low tar,” is 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 Qatar are below these recommendations.

SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENTS COMPLETE SMOKING BAN			
Health-care facilities	No	Private offices	No
Primary and secondary schools	No	Public transport	No
Universities	No	Restaurants	No
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	4
Warnings include a picture or graphic	Yes	Warnings required to rotate	Uncertain
% 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	22.00 QAR	Total taxes	68%
In US dollars	6.04 USD	Total excise	50%

Sources:

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

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

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