

# Russia

## Tobacco Control Policies

Russia became a Party to the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on September 1, 2008.

**Smoke Free Places:** There is a comprehensive ban on smoking in indoor workplaces, indoor public places, and public transport. The only exception to the ban is for long-distance passenger ships. Sub-national jurisdictions may enact more stringent laws than the national legislation.

**Tobacco Advertising, Promotion and Sponsorship:** All forms of domestic and cross-border tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship are prohibited, with extremely limited exceptions. The law restricts, but does not prohibit, promotional features that may appear on tobacco product packaging. All forms of financial or other tobacco sponsorship are prohibited.

**Tobacco Packaging and Labeling:** On packaging of smoked tobacco products, rotating picture and text health warnings are required to cover 50 percent of the front and back of packaging. On packaging of smokeless tobacco products, a text-only health warning is required to cover 30 percent of the front of packing. Misleading packaging and labeling, including terms such as “light” and “low tar” and other signs, 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 Russia 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                                                      | Yes      |
| Governmental facilities                                                  | Yes        | 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                                            | 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                                                   | Yes        | 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                   | 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                                                      | 158.00 RUB | Total taxes                                                      | 56%      |
| In US dollars                                                            | 2.15 USD   | Total excise                                                     | 40%      |

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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