

Key Facts¹

Global Voices for a Smokefree World - 2008 Status Report

Working for Smokefree Air

Smokefree Laws – the international picture

- There has been a rapid increase in the number of countries with good local or national laws since 2004:

Year	Number of countries with laws
2004	7
2005	10
2006	16
2007	29
2008 (to date)	32

- 32 countries worldwide now have effective smokefree laws at national or local level
- Countries with effective laws include middle and low income countries, and those with a range of climates and cultures

Laws at a glance

Good laws		Local Laws	Making progress	
Comprehensive (5)	Extensive (12)	(15)	Law not yet implemented (9)	Law not yet passed (6)
Ireland	Norway	Switzerland	Mexico	Guatemala
UK	Sweden	Germany	Panama	Mauritius
Uruguay	Italy	Canada	Denmark	Nigeria
Bermuda	France	USA	Turkey	Bhutan
New Zealand	Malta	Argentina	Finland	Netherlands
	Slovenia	Brazil	Brunei Darussalam	Malaysia
	Iceland	India	Djibouti	
	Lithuania	Indonesia	Oman	
	Estonia	Philippines	Serbia	
	South Africa	China		
	Singapore	Kenya		
	Thailand	Paraguay		
		Lao PDR		
		Australia		
		Venezuela		

Secondhand smoke and health

- SHS increases the risk of lung cancer by 20-30%
- SHS increases the risk of a heart attack by 25-30%

¹ Note: Full references are available in the Report

- SHS also causes asthma attacks, onset of heart disease symptoms, worsened symptoms of lung disease
- SHS MAY also cause stroke, development of asthma, chronic obstructive airways disease, reduced lung function, lung symptoms, nasal sinus cancer

Secondhand smoke harms workers

- Most of the world's population has no legal protection from secondhand smoke at work. Fewer than 5% of the world's people lives in a country with an effective smokefree law
- A typical bar worker experiences nearly eight times the exposure to secondhand smoke as an office worker
- The most heavily exposed workers are twice as likely to develop lung cancer than non-exposed workers

Smokefree laws improve workers' health – and the population's health

- In Ireland, Scotland and Boston, levels of fine particles in bars fell by more than 80%
- In Ireland, bar workers' exposure to air-borne carcinogens fell by more than 90%
- European and the US studies show improvements in bar workers' respiratory health
- Studies from the USA, Scotland and Italy have shown significant reductions in heart attacks within months

Smokefree laws reduce tobacco consumption

Smokefree workplaces lead to:

- 4% decrease in the number of smokers
- 29% reduction in overall tobacco consumption
- 3 fewer cigarettes a day smoked by continuing smokers
- Fewer young people smoking

Smokefree laws, jobs and the economy

- Smokefree laws don't cost jobs. Many jurisdictions have not experienced job losses in the hospitality sector.
- Jurisdictions including New York and South Africa, have demonstrated that smokefree laws can have a beneficial impact on the hospitality sector
- Secondhand smoke costs everyone money – in the USA, the estimated costs arising from exposure to secondhand smoke are \$10 billion a year
- Employers benefit from smokefree workplaces. In Taiwan, smokefree workplaces would save employers more than \$1 billion a year through increased productivity, reduced sickness in employees, reduced injuries and reduced risk of fire damage

Smokefree laws are popular

- Worldwide, more than three quarters of young people support smokefree laws. In every region, a clear majority – more than six in ten – support smokefree laws
- Support for smokefree laws grows as the law is implemented and enforced:

Jurisdiction	% support before the law	% support after the law
Ireland	59% (2003)	93% (2005)
Italy	83% (2001)	94% (2006)
New Zealand	61% (2004)	82% (2006)

- Support for smokefree policies is highest among those who know that secondhand smoke harms health. In some countries smokefree laws are supported by the majority of both smokers and non-smokers
- Smokefree laws have high levels of support from bar workers

Smokefree laws are enforceable

- Typically, compliance levels are higher than 90%:

Jurisdiction:	Compliance
Ireland	94%
Ottawa	95%
New York City	97%
New Zealand	97%
Massachusetts	96%
Norway	97%
Italy	98.5%
Scotland	96%
Wales	98%
England	98%

Smokefree laws and children's exposure to secondhand smoke

- Smokefree laws lead to a reduction in children's exposure to secondhand smoke
- In Scotland, children's exposure was reduced by 39%
- In New Zealand exposure to secondhand smoke in the home nearly halved over three years