

# TOBACCO BURDEN FACTS BANGLADESH



 Bangladesh ratified the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on June 14, 2004.

## TOBACCO CONSUMPTION

- 35.3% of all adults (age 15+) use any tobacco products (men 46.0%; women 25.2%).<sup>1</sup>
  - 18.0% smoke tobacco (men 36.2%; women 0.8%)
  - 20.6% of adults use smokeless tobacco (men 16.2%; women 24.8%)
- Bidis are cheaper, handmade cigarettes that are popular among the poor in Bangladesh. Over a quarter of adult smokers in Bangladesh (5.0% of adults overall) consume bidis.<sup>1</sup>
- Among youth (ages 13–15), 6.9% use tobacco in any form (boys 9.2%; girls 2.8%).<sup>2</sup>
  - 2.9% currently smoke tobacco (boys 4.0%; girls 1.1%)
  - 4.5% use smokeless tobacco products (boys 5.9%; girls 2.0%)

## SECONDHAND SMOKE EXPOSURE

**There is no safe level of secondhand smoke.<sup>3</sup>**

- 42.7% of adults who work indoors are exposed to secondhand smoke in the workplace, 49.7% of those who visit restaurants are exposed there, and 44.0% of adults who use public transport are exposed while on it.<sup>1</sup>
- 59.0% of youth (ages 13–15) are exposed to secondhand smoke in public places and 31.1% of youth are exposed to secondhand smoke at home.<sup>2</sup>

## HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

**Tobacco use is deadly. Tobacco kills up to half of all lifetime users.<sup>4</sup>**

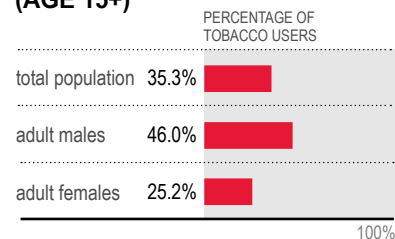
- Tobacco killed nearly 126,000 people in Bangladesh in 2018, accounting for 13.5% of all deaths in the country.<sup>5</sup>
- There are currently about 1.5 million adults suffering from tobacco-attributable illness in Bangladesh.<sup>5</sup>
- More than 61,000 children (below age 15) are suffering from diseases caused by exposure to secondhand smoke.<sup>5</sup>
- Compared to never users, tobacco users have a 57% higher risk of developing a tobacco-related disease such as ischemic heart disease, stroke, COPD, or lung cancer, and a 109% higher risk of tobacco-related cancer.<sup>5</sup>

## COSTS TO SOCIETY

**Tobacco exacts a high cost on society.**

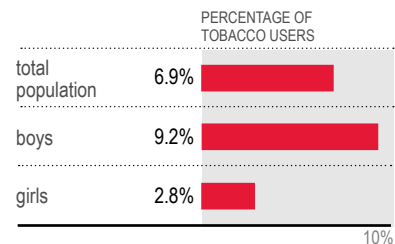
- In 2018, the total economic cost of tobacco-related death and disease in Bangladesh was BDT 305.6 billion (USD 3.6 billion), or 1.4% of Bangladesh's GDP.<sup>5</sup>
  - Direct healthcare costs from treating tobacco-related diseases totaled BDT 83.9 billion, while the remaining BDT 221.7 billion was due to lost productivity as a result of disability and premature death.
  - Of the total costs attributable to tobacco, 13.5% were caused by exposure to secondhand smoke.
  - The economic cost of tobacco use in 2018 (BDT 305.6 billion) more than doubled since 2004 (BDT 135.8 billion).

### ADULT TOBACCO USE (AGE 15+)



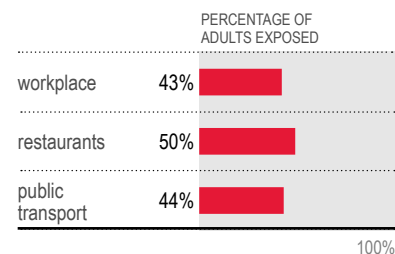
SOURCE: GATS, 2017

### YOUTH TOBACCO USE (AGES 13–15)



SOURCE: GYTS, 2013

### ADULT SECONDHAND SMOKE EXPOSURE (AGE 15+)



SOURCE: GATS, 2017

1. Bangladesh Global Adult Tobacco Survey (GATS) 2017. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); 2018. Available from [www.cdc.gov/tobacco/global/gtss/gtssdata/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/global/gtss/gtssdata/index.html). 2. Bangladesh Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS) 2013. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC); 2015. Available from [www.cdc.gov/tobacco/global/gtss/gtssdata/index.html](http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/global/gtss/gtssdata/index.html). 3. World Health Organization. WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic 2009. 4. World Health Organization. Tobacco: Key facts. Updated May 27, 2020. Available from [www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/tobacco](http://www.who.int/news-room/fact-sheets/detail/tobacco). 5. Nargis N, Faruque GM, Ahmed M, et al. A comprehensive economic assessment of the health effects of tobacco use and implications for tobacco control in Bangladesh. Tobacco Control Published Online First: 02 March 2021.