



Key Findings of Research Paper:

The Economics of Tobacco in Lebanon: An Estimation of the Social Costs of Tobacco Consumption

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Smoking Demographics:

1. 53% of Lebanese adults are smokers (all types of tobacco)
2. 60% of Lebanese youth aged 13-15 are smokers (mainly water-pipe)
3. 35% of adults smoke cigarettes (43% males, 27% females)

Tobacco Government Tax Revenue

4. Total tax revenue reach about \$189 million per year

Local Net Revenue from Tobacco

5. Local net revenue reaches about \$271.3 million per year

Tobacco Advertising:

6. Tobacco brands are not among the top ten advertised brands in Lebanon
7. Tobacco advertising spending constituted only 4.5% of advertising spending in 2009

Cost of Smoking-Related Diseases:

8. Smoking-related diseases cost about \$146.7 million per year

Cost of Working Inefficiency:

9. Smokers and past smokers feel physically ill more often than non-smokers this leads to inefficiency at work
10. Working inefficiency due to smoking costs \$102 million per year

Costs of Environmental Degradation:

11. The aggregate cost of environmental degradation totals \$13.2 million

Indirect Costs Due to Tobacco Mortality:

12. Approximately 25% of annual deaths are a result of tobacco smoking
13. Pre-mature deaths affect national productivity as people pass away before reaching retirement age
14. Indirect opportunity cost of \$64.6 million

Total Cost of Smoking Cigarettes

15. Cigarette Smoking Costs reach \$326.7 million per year

Public Bill

16. The tobacco market leads to a deficit of \$55 million per year