

Fiscal Policy and Health

Frank J. Chaloupka, University of Illinois at Chicago The Science of Health Policy and Systems Change Lexington, KY, 15 April 2019

Overview

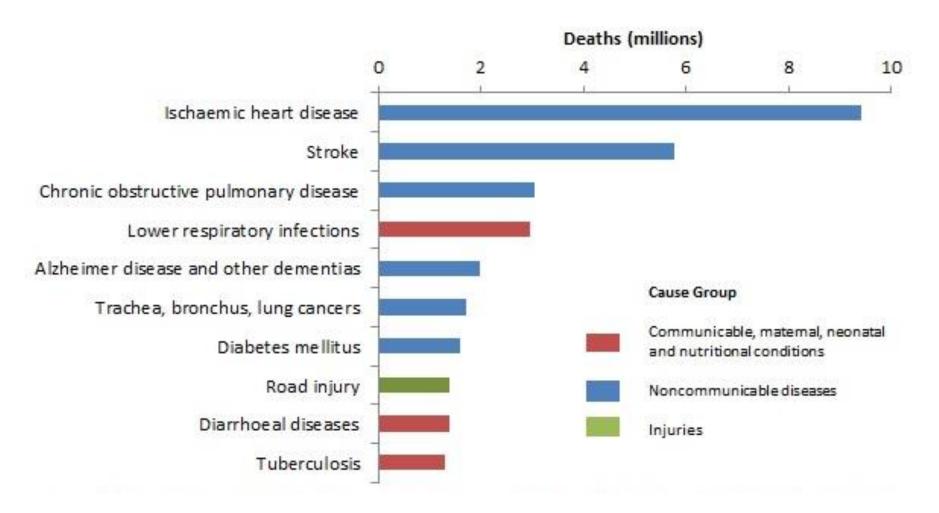
- Health & Economic Impact of Non-Communicable Diseases
- Tax Revenues, Structure & Earmarking
- Myths and Facts About Economic Impact of Taxes





Health & Economic Impact of NonCommunicable Diseases

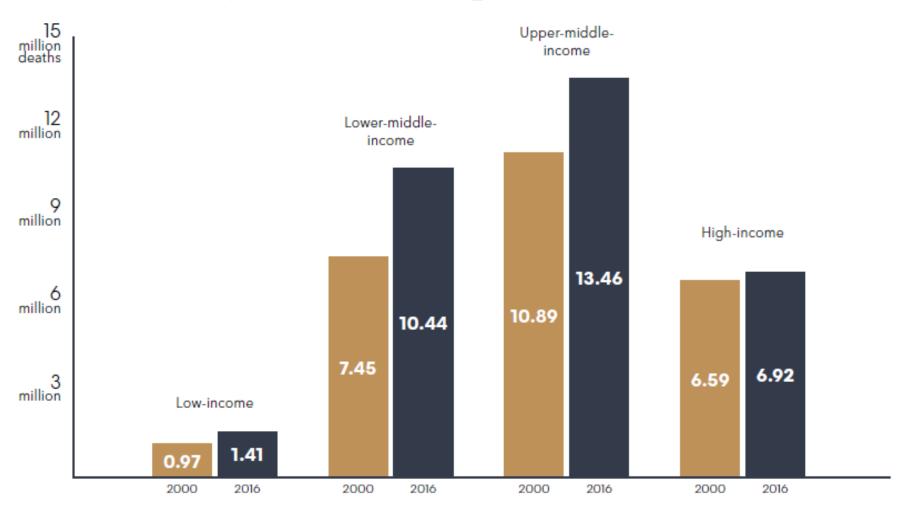
Top 10 Global Causes of Death, 2016





Leading NCD Deaths

by Income Group, 2010 & 2016





NCDs: Major Risk Factors

Major NCD	Major modifiable causative Risk Factors			
	Tobacco Use	Unhealthy Diet	Physical Inactivity	Harmful Use of Alcohol
Heart Disease & Stroke	V	٧	٧	٧
Diabetes	V	٧	٧	V
Cancer	٧	٧	٧	٧
Chronic Lung Disease	√			

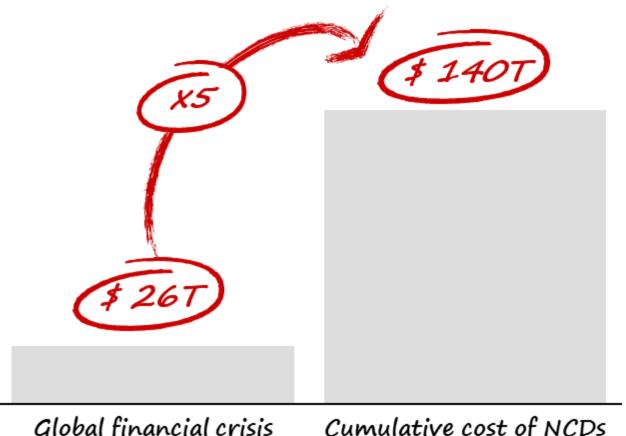


Economic Consequences of NCDs

- Large economic burden from NCDs:
 - Large, growing health care costs from treating NCDs
 - Significant lost productivity
 - Cause of poverty
 - Account for much of inequalities in health



Significant Economic Costs



Global financial crisis 2008-2023 Cumulative cost of NCDs 2016-2030



Economic Costs of Unhealthy Behaviors

- Significant direct and indirect costs
 - Tobacco use: > \$1.4 trillion in 2012
 - Equivalent to 1.8% of global GDP
 - Alcohol use: 2.1% 2.5% of GDP
 - Obesity: ~\$2 trillion in 2014
 - Equivalent to 2.5% of global GDP

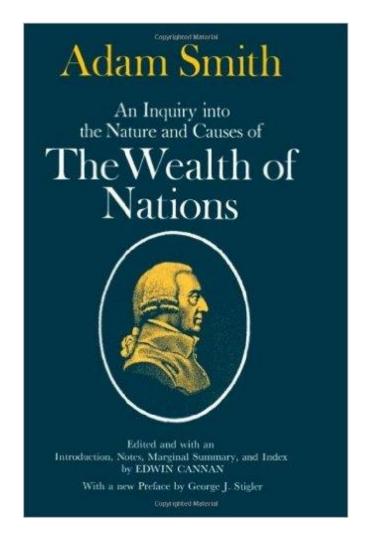
Sources: Goodchild, et al., 2017; WHO, 2017; McKinsey, 2014





Impact of Taxes & Prices on Unhealthy Behaviors

"**Sugar**, **rum**, and tobacco, are commodities which are no where necessaries of life, which are become objects of almost universal consumption, and which are therefore extremely proper subjects of taxation.







Taxes, Prices & Tobacco Use

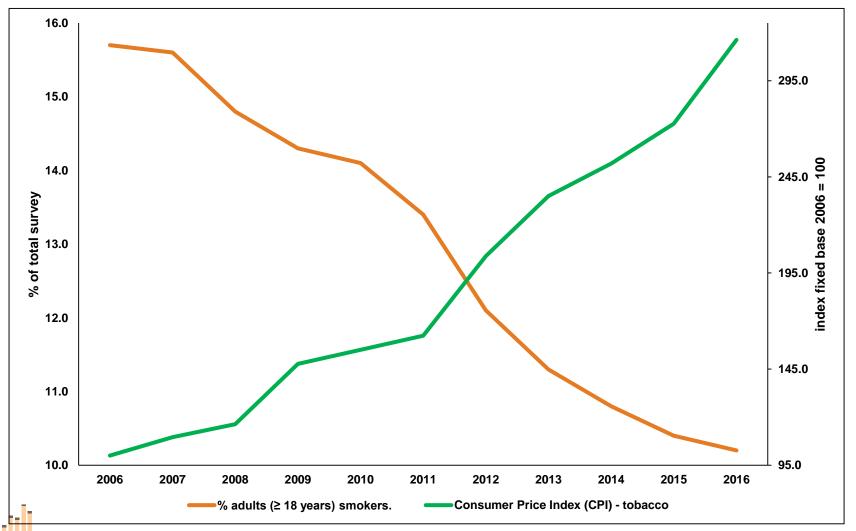
Cigarette Price & Consumption Hungary, 1990-2011, Inflation Adjusted





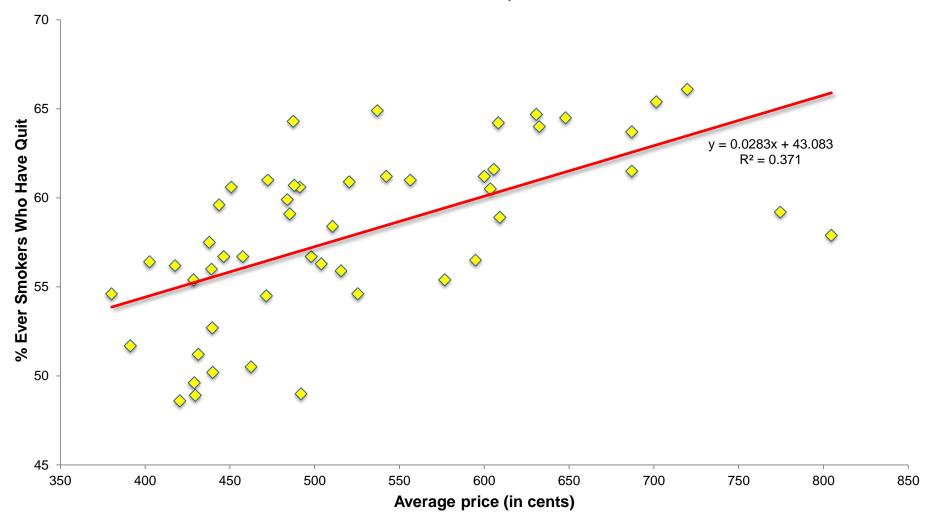
Adult Smoking Prevalence and Price

Brazil, 2006-2016, inflation adjusted



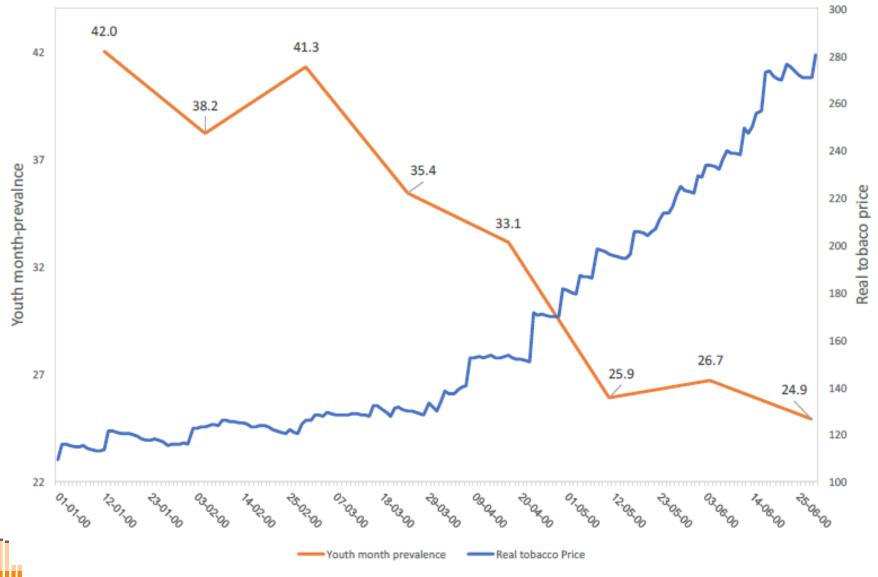
Monthly Quit Line Calls, United States 11/04-11/09 200,000 4/1/09 Federal Tax Increase 150,000 1/1/08 WI Tax Increase 100,000 50,000

Cigarette Prices and Cessation US States, 2009



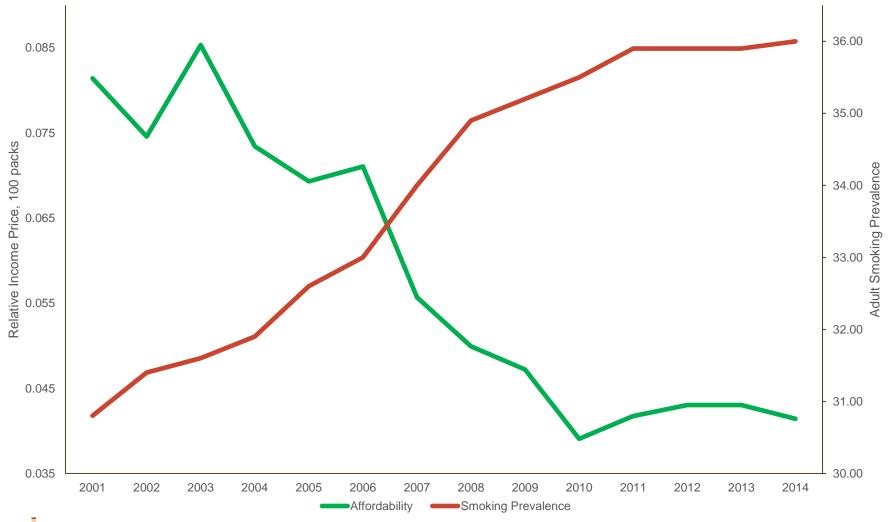


Cigarette Price & Youth Smoking Prevalence Chile, 2000-2015



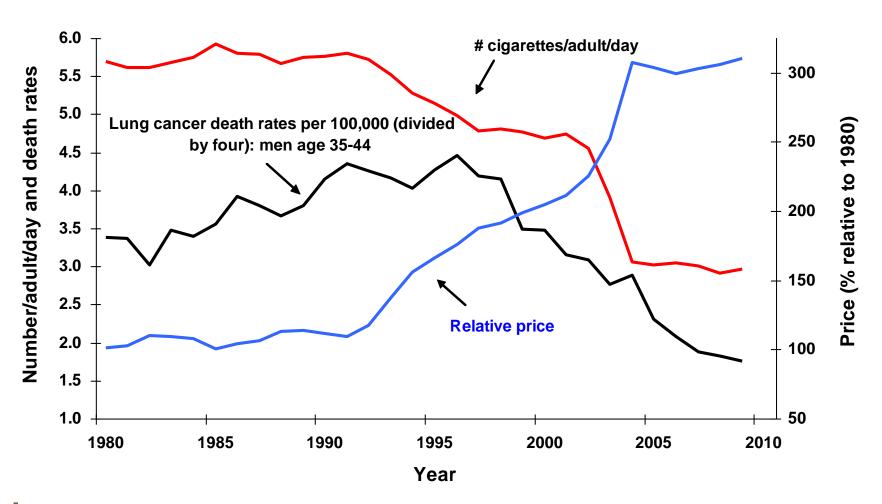
Affordability & Tobacco Use

Adult Smoking Prevalence, Indonesia, 2001-2014





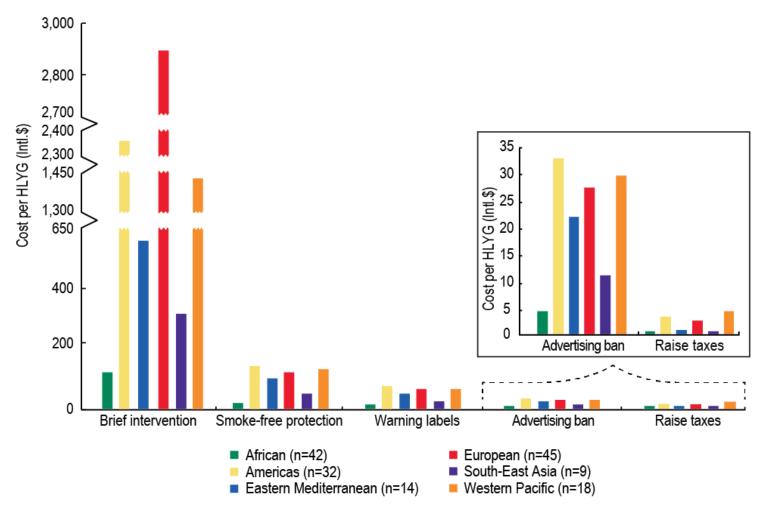
France: smoking, tax and male lung cancer, 1980-2010





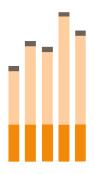
Source: Jha, in progress

Figure 17.3 Tobacco Control Policies and Cost Per Healthy Life-Year Gained, by WHO Region



Note: HLYG = healthy life-year gained.

Source: Based on calculations from World Health Organization CHOICE model, 2016.



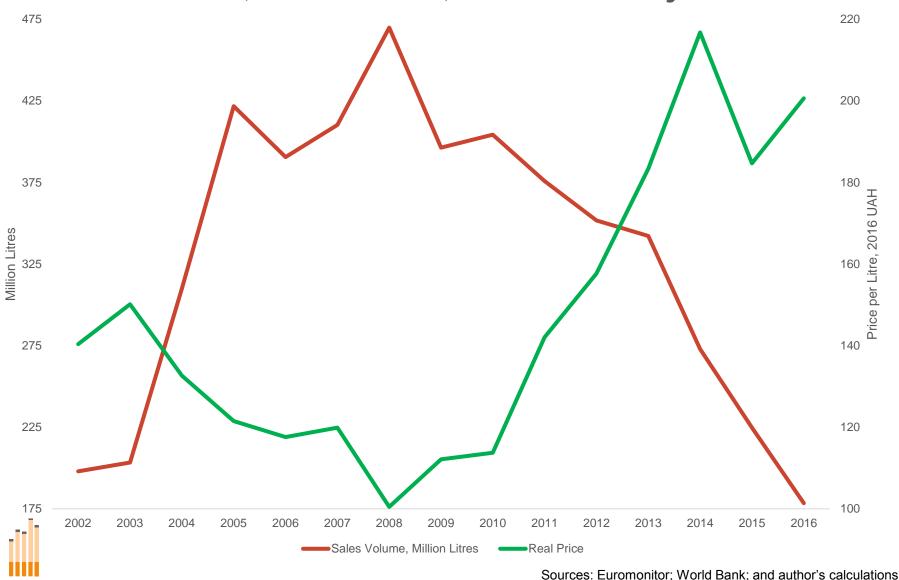
Taxes, Prices & Excessive Drinking

Alcohol Taxes, Prices & Drinking

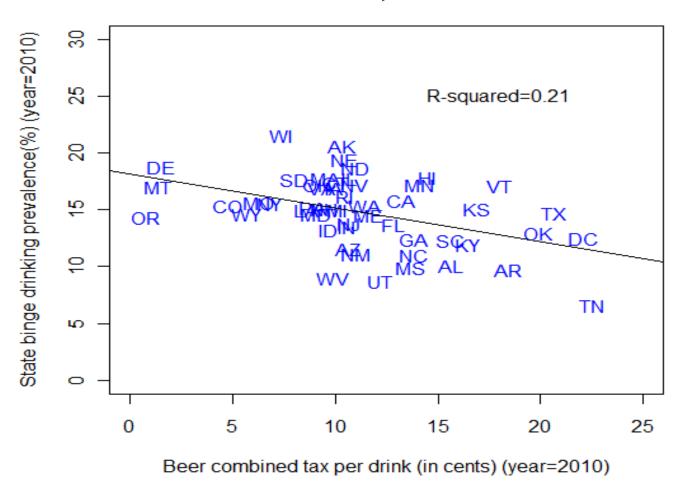
- Extensive econometric and other research shows that higher prices for alcoholic beverages significantly reduce drinking:
 - 10 percent price increase would reduce:
 - Overall consumption by 5.1% to 7.7% in HICs
 - Overall consumption by 6.4% in LMICs
 - Tax/price increases reduce all aspects of drinking
 - Prevalence, frequency, intensity
 - Generally larger effects on youth and young adults



Distilled Spirits Sales and Prices Ukraine, 2002-2016, Inflation Adjusted



Beer Tax and Binge Drinking Prevalence US States, 2010





Source: Xuan et al., 2013

Alcohol Prices & Consequences

- Econometric and other research shows that higher prices for alcoholic beverages significantly reduce:
 - Drinking and driving, traffic crashes, and motor-vehicle accident fatalities
 - Deaths from liver cirrhosis, acute alcohol poisoning, alcoholrelated cancers, cardiovascular diseases, and other health consequences of excessive drinking
 - Violence (including spouse abuse, child abuse, and suicide) and other crime
 - Other consequences of drinking, including work-place accidents, teenage pregnancy, and incidence of sexually transmitted diseases





Taxes, Prices & Diet

Prices and Food & Beverage Consumption

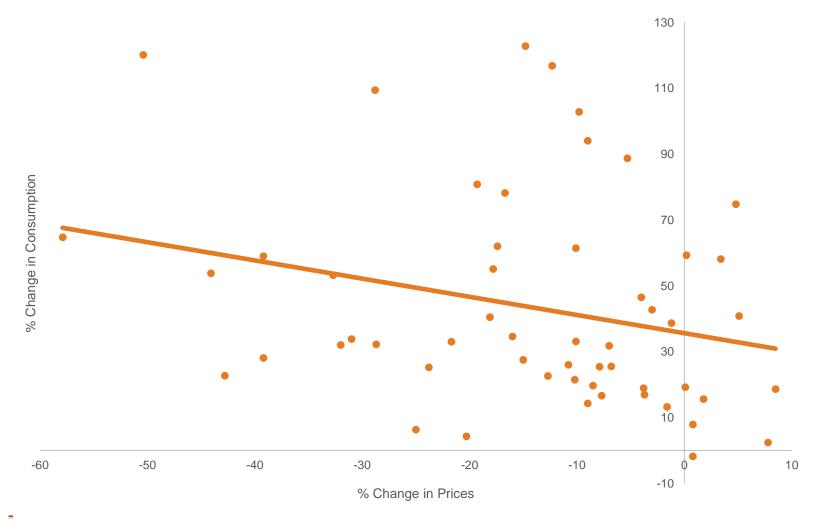
Extensive economic research on the impact of food and beverage prices on consumption of various products; 10% price increase reduces:

- Soft drink consumption by 7.8%
- Sugary drinking consumption by 12%
- Sweets consumption by 3.5%
- Fast food consumption by 5.2%
- Fruit consumption by 4.9%
- Vegetable consumption by 4.8%



Sweet & Savory Snack Prices & Consumption

Percentage Change, 2000-2014, Selected Countries

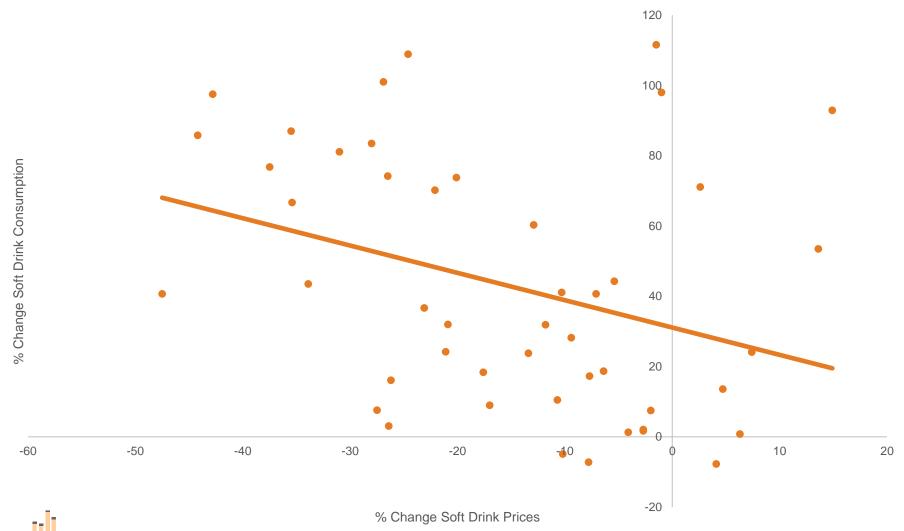




Source: Euromonitor, 2015, and author's calculations

Soft Drink Prices & Consumption

Percentage Change, 2000-2014, Selected Countries



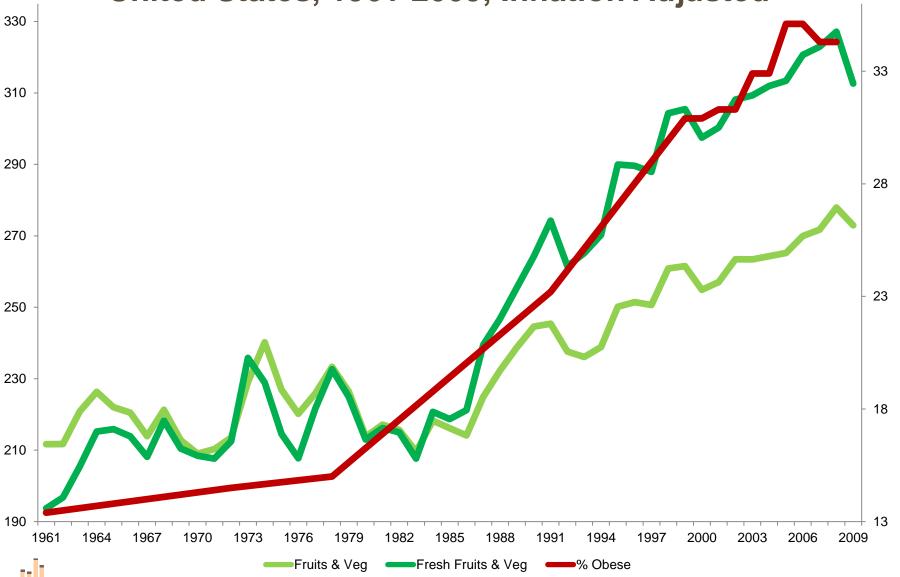


Source: Euromonitor, 2015, and author's calculations



Taxes, Prices & Obesity

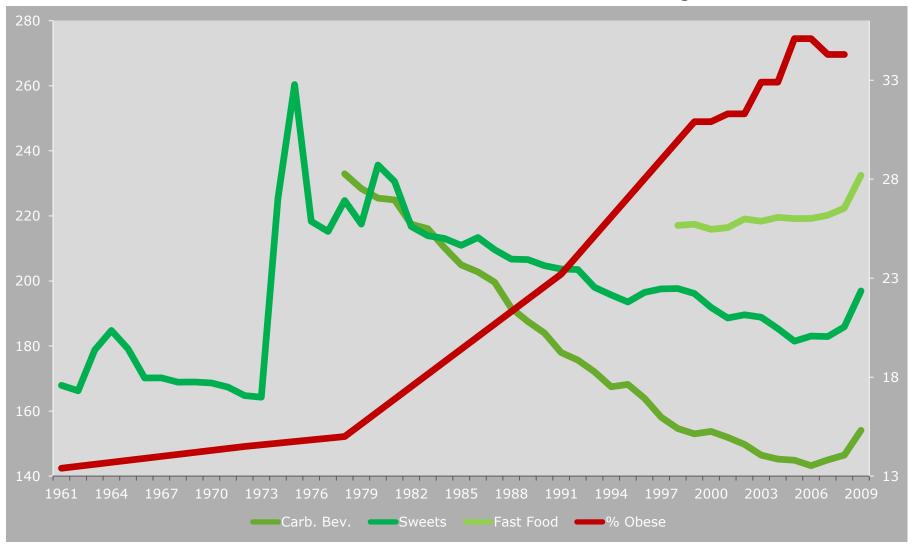
Selected Food Price & Adult Weight Trends
United States, 1961-2009, Inflation Adjusted



Source: BLS; NHES-I 1960-62; NHANES, 1971-74, 1976-80, 1988-94, 1999-2000, 2001-02, 2003-04, 2005-06, 2007-08



Selected Food Price & Adult Weight Trends United States, 1961-2009, Inflation Adjusted





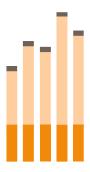
Prices and Weight Outcomes

The weight of the evidence increasingly indicates that changes in relative prices for healthier and less healthy foods will affect weight outcomes, with greater impact on:

- Lower income, less educated populations
- Younger populations
- Populations at greater risk for obesity







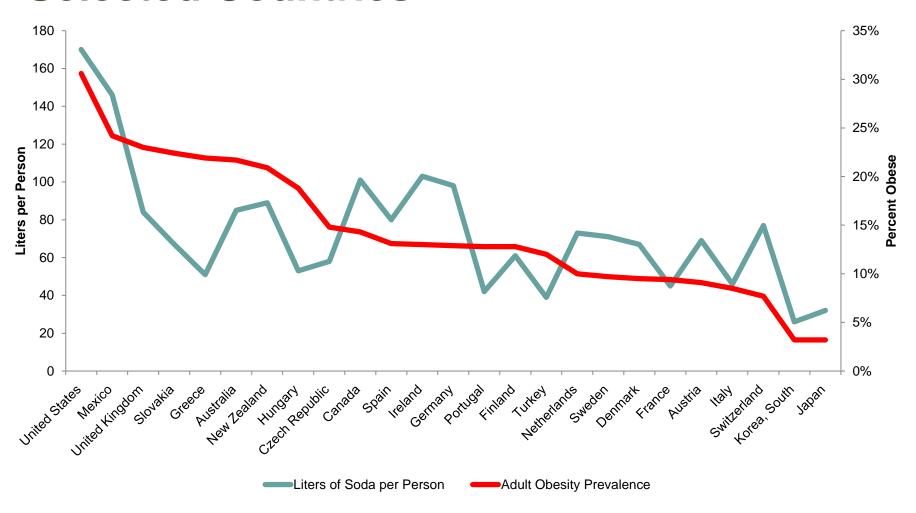
Sugary Drink Taxes

Rationale for Sugary Drink Taxes

- Link to obesity
 - Several meta-analyses conclude that increased SSB consumption causes increased weight, obesity
 - Increased calories from SSBs not offset by reductions in calories from other sources
- Other health consequences
 - Type 2 diabetes, lower bone density, dental problems, headaches, anxiety and sleep disorders

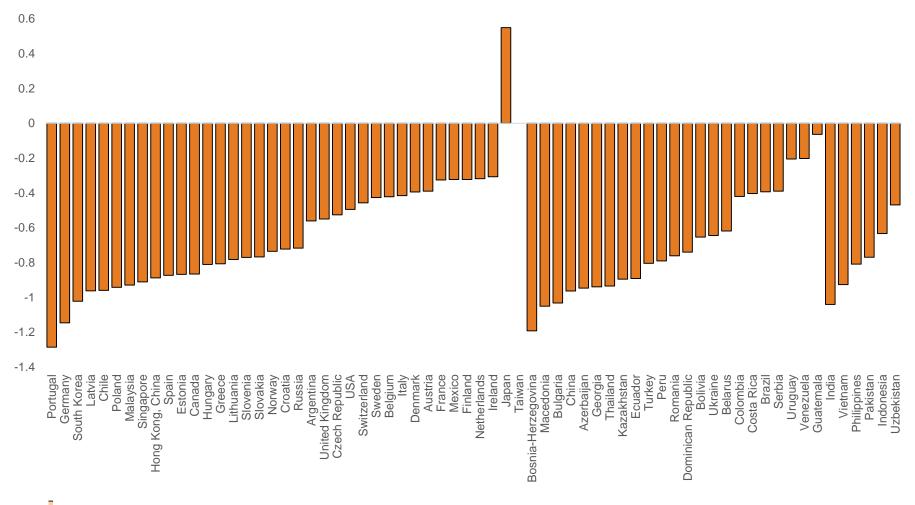


Soda Consumption & Obesity Selected Countries





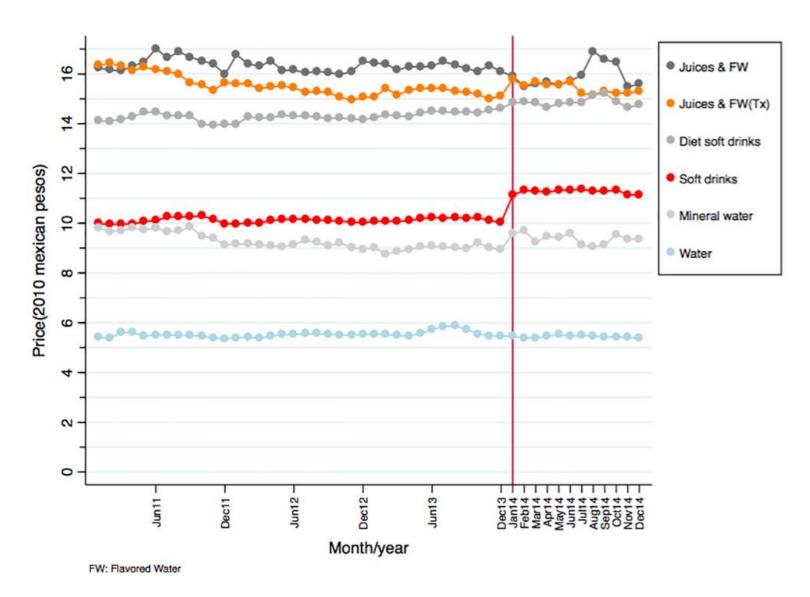
Change in Soft Drink Affordability 2000-2013, Selected Countries





Source: Euromonitor, 2015, and author's calculations

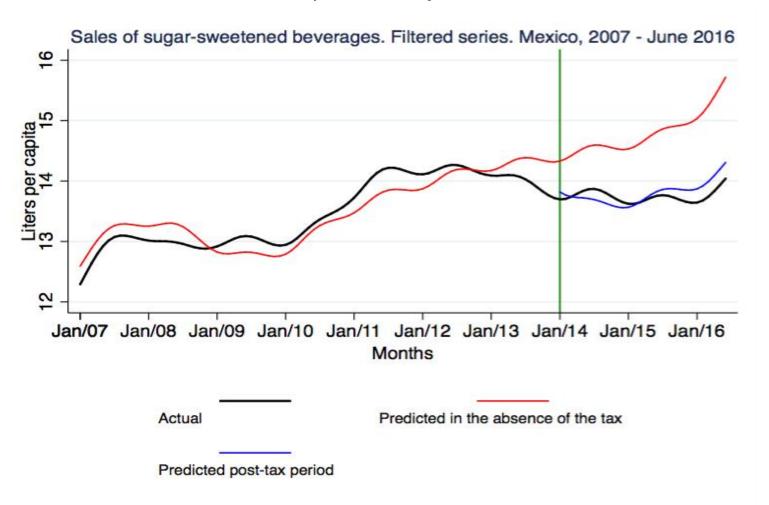
Sugary Drink Tax and Soft Drink Prices, Mexico, 2011-2014





Source: Colchero, et al., 2015

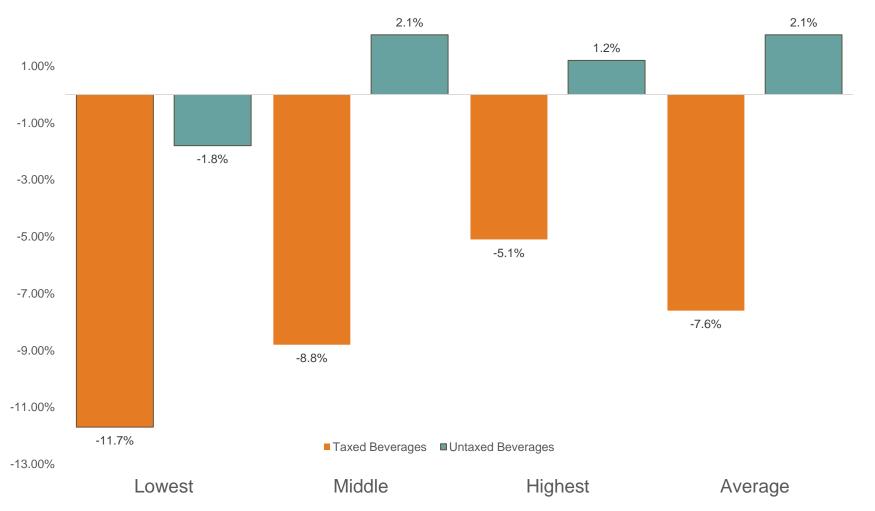
Impact of Sugary Drink Tax on Sales Mexico, 2007-2016





Colchero MA, Guerrero Lopez C, Molina M, Rivera J. Beverage sales in Mexico before and after implementation of a sugar sweetened beverages tax. 2016. PLoS ONE. 11(9).

Changes in Household Purchases of Taxed and Untaxed Beverages By Socioeconomic Level, Mexico, 2014-15





Impact of Tax on Purchases Year One (2014)

- Greatest impact on heaviest consumers
 - Highest purchasers:
 - 31% of households, purchased average of 157 liters of SSB/capita/yr
 - 10% reduction in purchases following tax
 - Middle purchasers:
 - 40% of households, purchased average of 60 liters of SSB/capita/yr
 - 8% reduction of taxed beverages post-tax
 - Light and non purchasers:
 - Remaining households; small impact on light purchasers





Taxes, Tax Revenues, and Earmarking Tax Revenues

Tobacco Taxes and Revenues





Cigarette Tax and Tax Revenues Ukraine: 2008-2015

Average excise rate for cigarettes – increased 10-fold Cigarette Tax Revenue – increased 6-fold

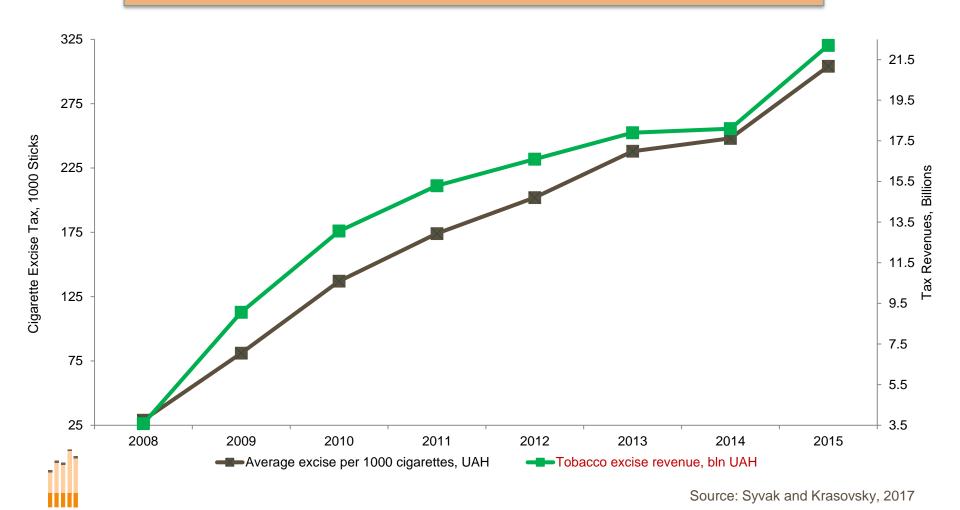
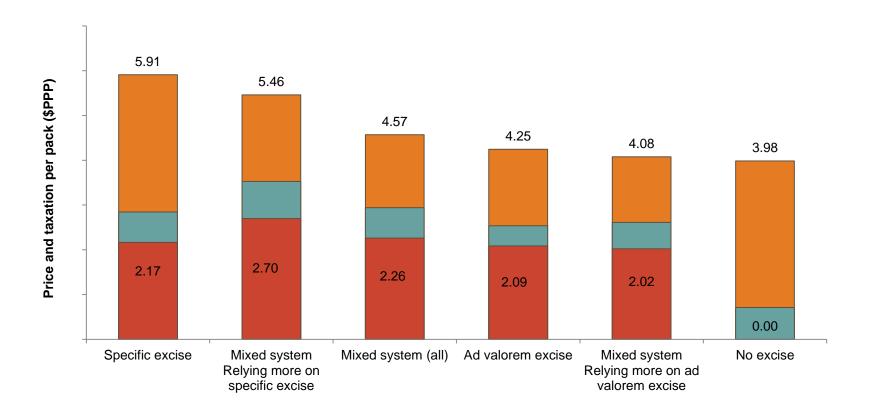


Figure 5: Excise tax structure: Specific and mixed relying more on the specific component tend to lead to higher prices



■Retail price, PPP ■Other taxes, PPP ■Excise tax, PPP



Source: WHO 2017 GTCR data; unpublished figure.

Beverage Tax Structure

- Volume-based specific taxes have same advantages for alcoholic beverage and sugary drink taxes
- Ingredient-based specific taxes more difficult to administer, but have greater health benefits
 - Ethanol-based alcohol taxes
 - Sugar-based beverage taxes
 - UK and Ireland two-tiered tax based on sugar content:
 - No tax on drinks with 5 or fewer grams/100 ml
 - 18p per liter for drinks with more than 5g/100 ml
 - 24p per liter for drinks with 8g/100ml or more
 - Projected revenue half of what was originally estimated

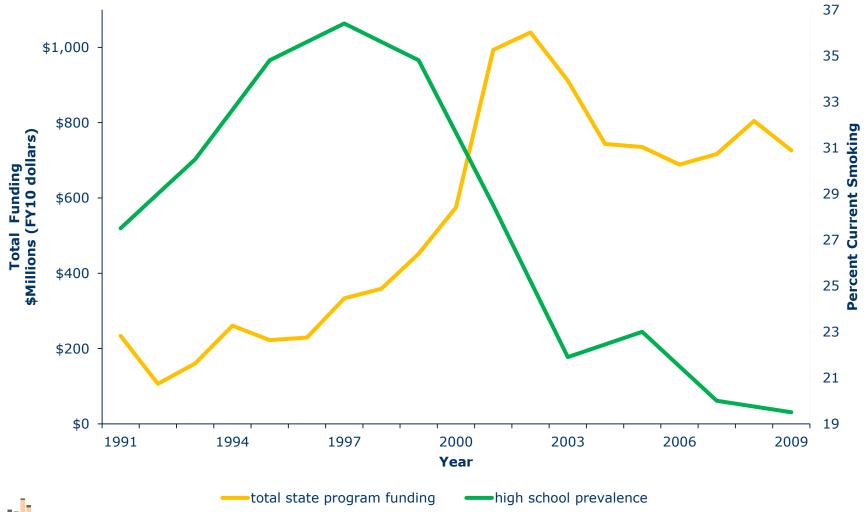


Earmarking Tax Revenues

- Using a portion of revenues to support other health promotion efforts
 - Increases the health impact of tax increases
 - Increases public support for tax increases
- Increasing interest in 'soft' earmarking of tobacco, alcohol, and/or sugary drink tax revenues



State Tobacco Control Program Funding and Youth Smoking Prevalence, United States, 1991-2009

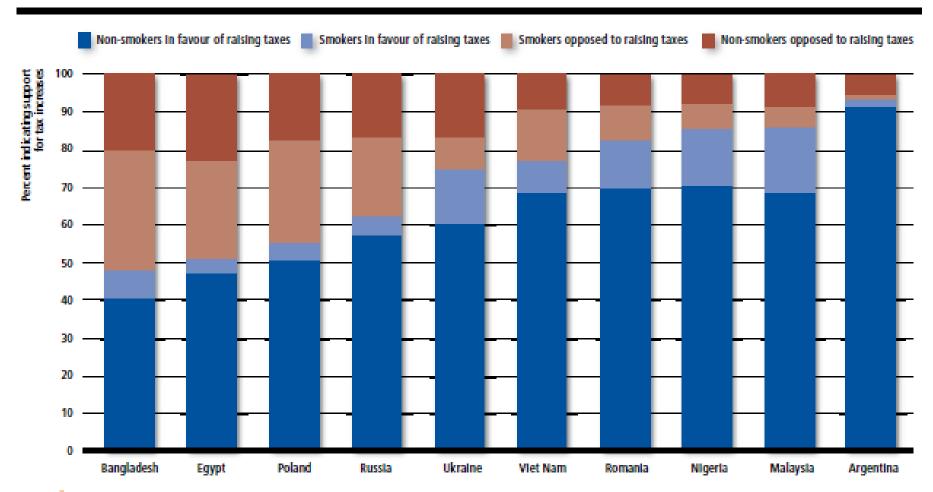




Source: ImpacTeen Project, UIC; YRBS

Support for Earmarked Taxes

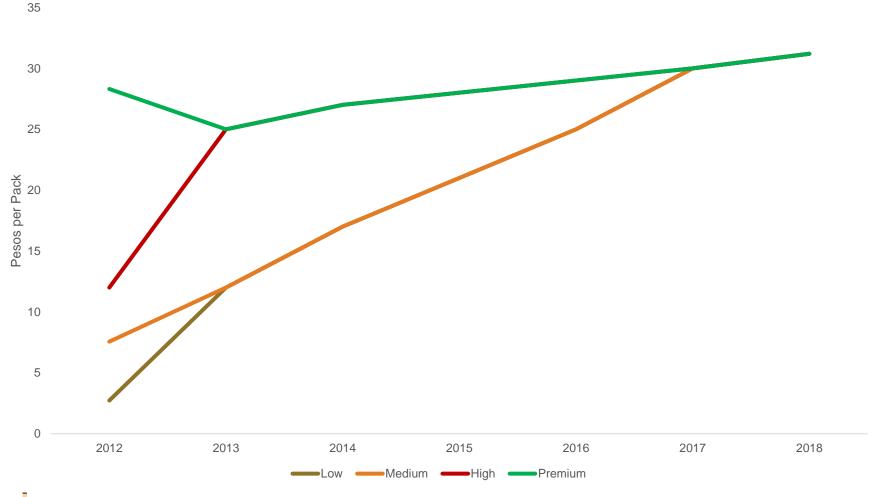
BROAD SUPPORT FOR CIGARETTE TAXES THAT IMPROVE HEALTH PROGRAMMES





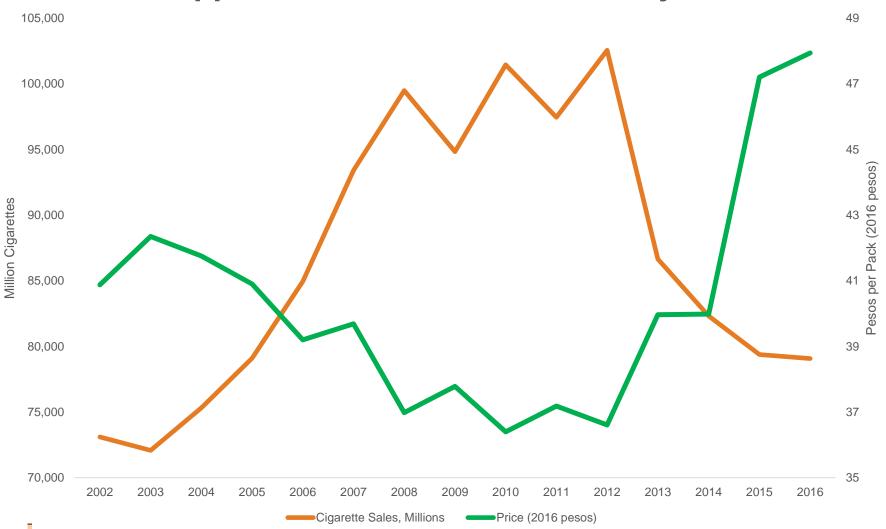
Source: WHO 2015

Cigarette Excise Tax per Pack Philippines, 2012-2018



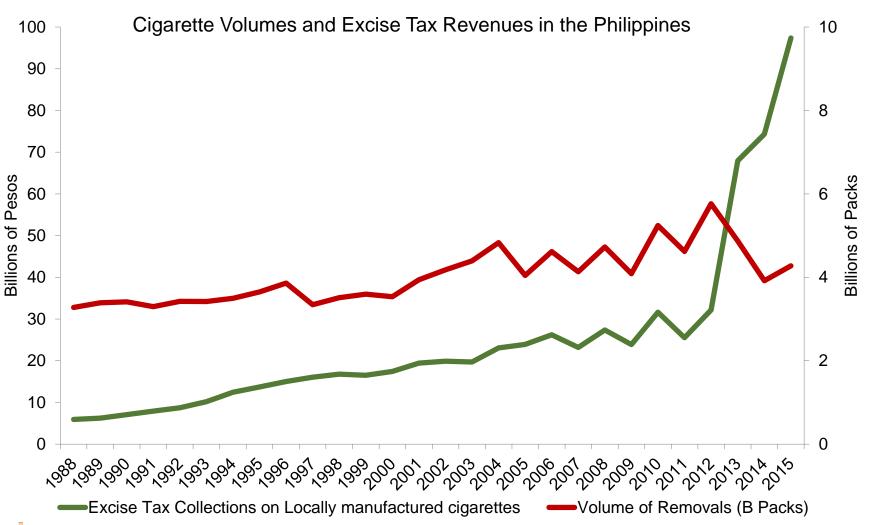


Cigarette Sales and Prices Philippines, 2002-2016, Inflation Adjusted



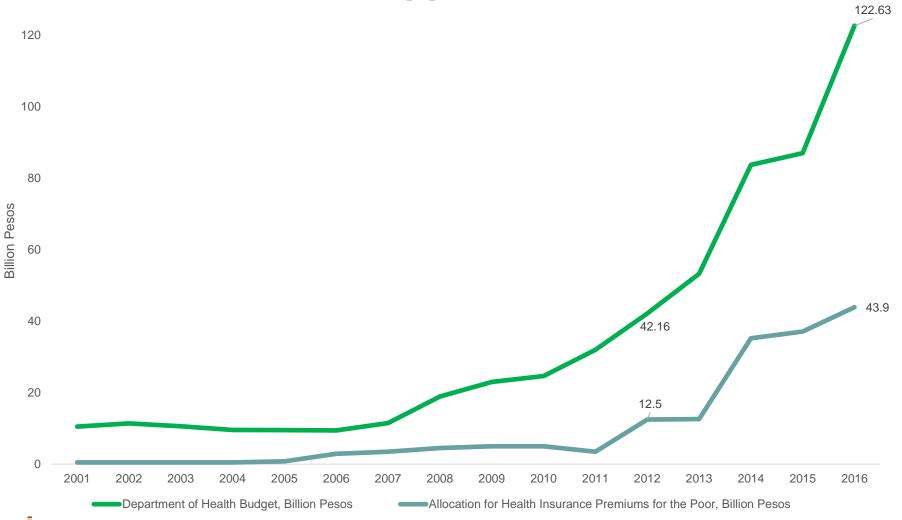


Tobacco Taxes & Tax Revenues





Incremental Revenues for Health and the Poor, Philippines, 2001-2016





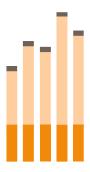
Tobacco Taxes and Revenues

• The Addis Ababa Action Agenda states:

"... price and tax measures on tobacco can be an effective and important means to reduce tobacco consumption and health-care costs, and represent a revenue stream for financing development in many countries"

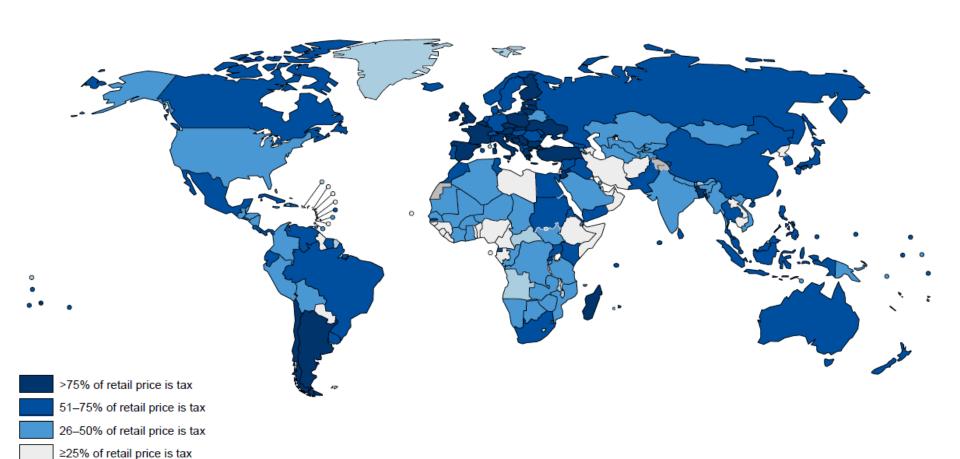






Oppositional Arguments

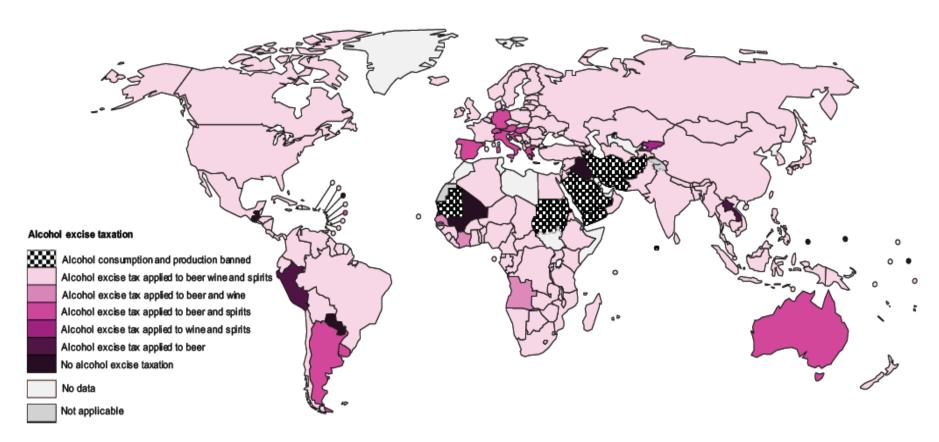
Cigarette Taxes as Percent of Retail Price July 2016



Not classified or data not available

Not applicable

Alcoholic Beverage Excise Taxes by Beverage Type



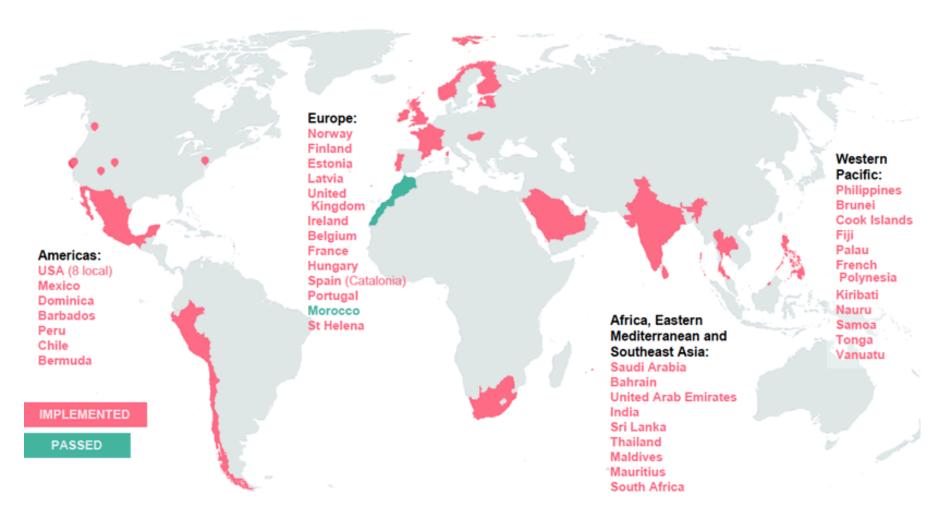
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country territory city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted and dashed lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.





Sugary Drink Taxes Globally

November 15, 2018

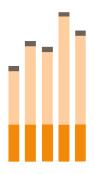




Common Oppositional Arguments

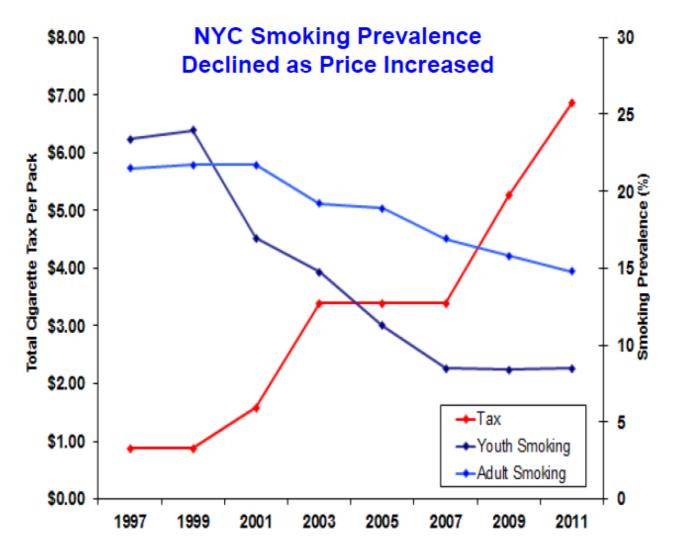
- Industries and allies use several common arguments in opposition to tax increases:
 - Will lead to extensive tax avoidance and tax evasion
 - Will harm poor and working class consumers
 - Will lead to massive job losses





Tax Avoidance & Evasion

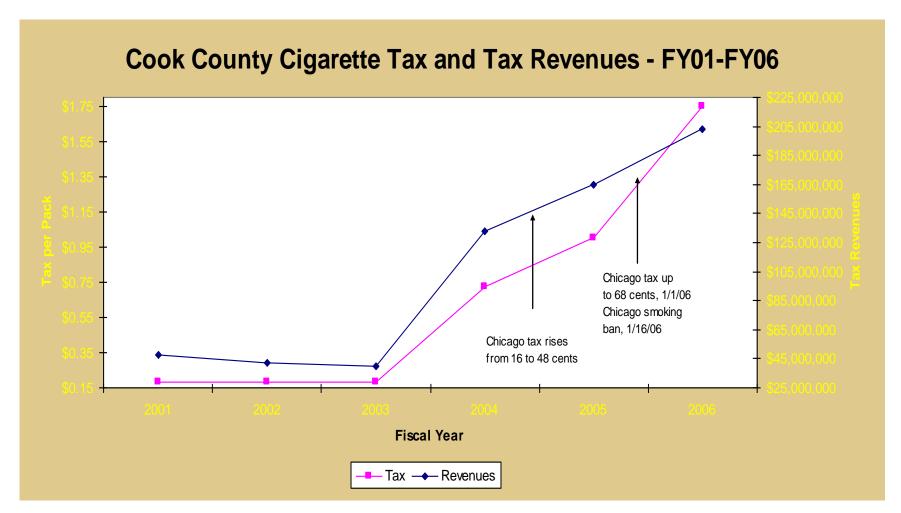
Tax Avoidance & Evasion Do NOT Eliminate Health Impact of Higher Taxes





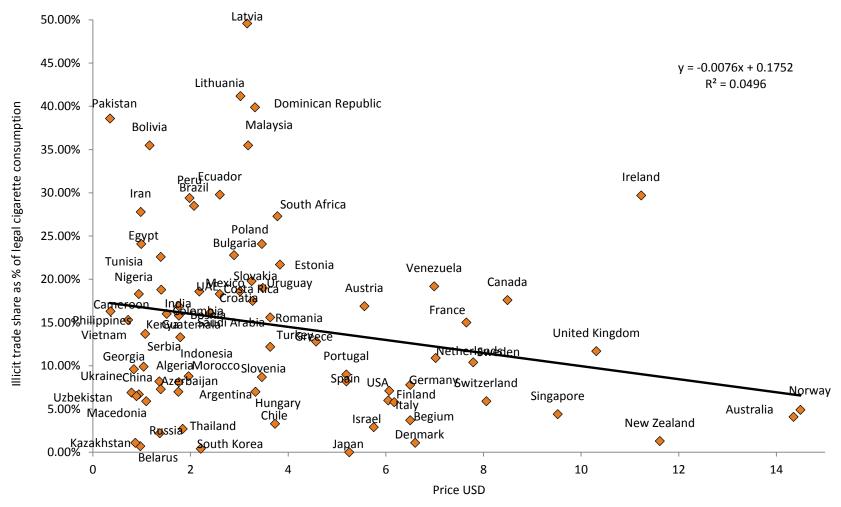
Source: Schroth, 2014

Tax Avoidance & Evasion Do NOT Eliminate Revenue Impact of Higher Taxes





Illicit Cigarette Market Share & Cigarette Prices, 2012





Sources: Euromonitor, WHO

Drivers of Illicit Tobacco

- Corruption
- Weak tax administration
- Poor enforcement
- Presence of informal distribution networks
- Presence of criminal networks
- Access to cheaper sources



Sources: NRC/IOM 2015; NCI/WHO 2016

Smuggling and Corruption, 2011

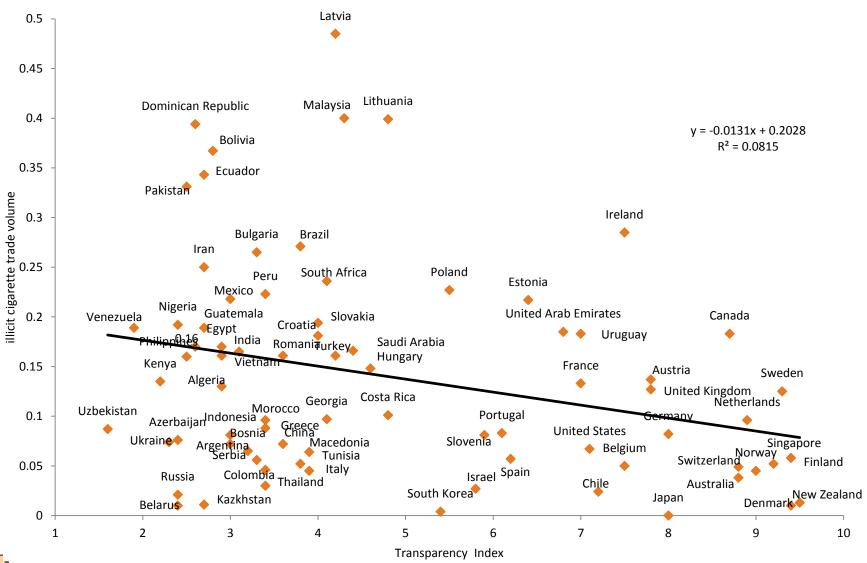
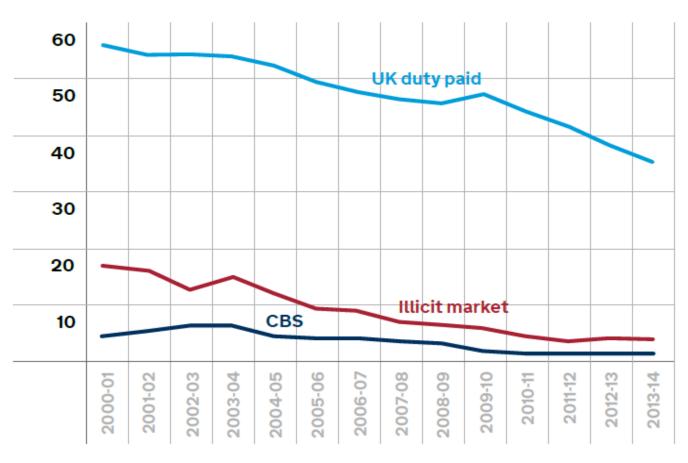




Figure 12 – Estimated Volumes of Cigarettes Consumed in the U.K. – Duty paid, illicit, and crossborder shopping, 2000-01 – 2013-14

Billions



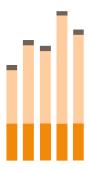


Source: HM Revenue & Customs, 2014

Combating Illicit Tobacco Trade

- Illicit trade protocol to the WHO FCTC
 - Adopted November 2012; entered into force September 2018; provisions calling for:
 - Strong tax administration
 - Prominent, high-tech tax stamps and other pack markings
 - Licensing of manufacturers, exporters, distributors, retailers
 - Export bonds
 - Unique identification codes on packages
 - Better enforcement
 - Increased resources
 - Focus on large scale smuggling
 - Swift, severe penalties
 - Multilateral/intersectoral cooperation





Impact on the Poor

Tobacco & Poverty

Family falls into poverty

Forgone Income 3:

Due to premature death

Income increases

Forgone Income 2:

Due to treatment cost and loss of work days

Vicious Cycle of Tobacco and Poverty Youth and women start smoking and men smoke more

Breadwinner gets sick due to tobacco use

Higher prevalence and consumption level

Forgone Income 1:

More money spent on tobacco:
high opportunity cost. Less money spent
on education, nutrition, etc.



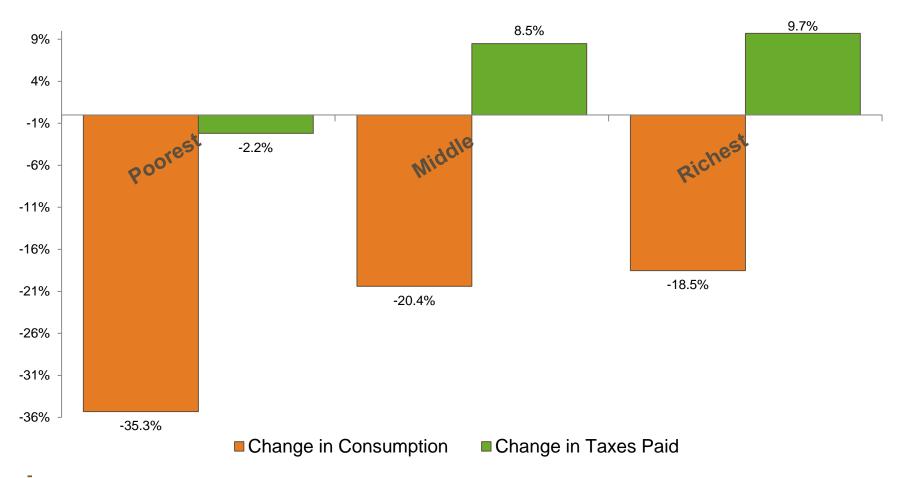
Source: NCI & WHO 2016

Impact on the Poor

- Concerns about the regressivity of higher alcohol & tobacco taxes, food/beverage taxes
 - Most excise taxes are regressive, but tax increases can be progressive
 - Greater price sensitivity of poor relatively large reductions in use among lowest income populations, small reductions among higher income populations
 - Health benefits that result from tax increase are progressive
 - Reduced health care spending, increased productivity, higher incomes



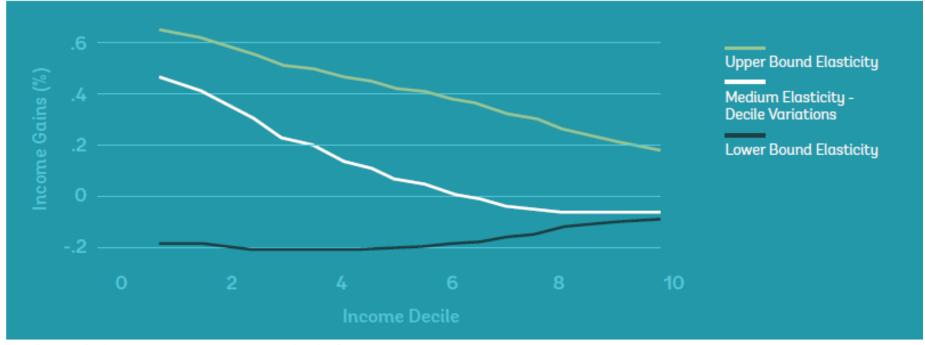
Who Pays & Who Benefits Turkey, 25% Tax Increase





Who Pays & Who Benefits Chile, 25% Tax Increase

Figure 6: Total Income Effect: Direct and Indirect Effect of Taxes (tobacco price increase, medical expenditure and working years gained)



Source: Author's estimation using a price shock of 25%



Source: Fuchs, et al., 2017

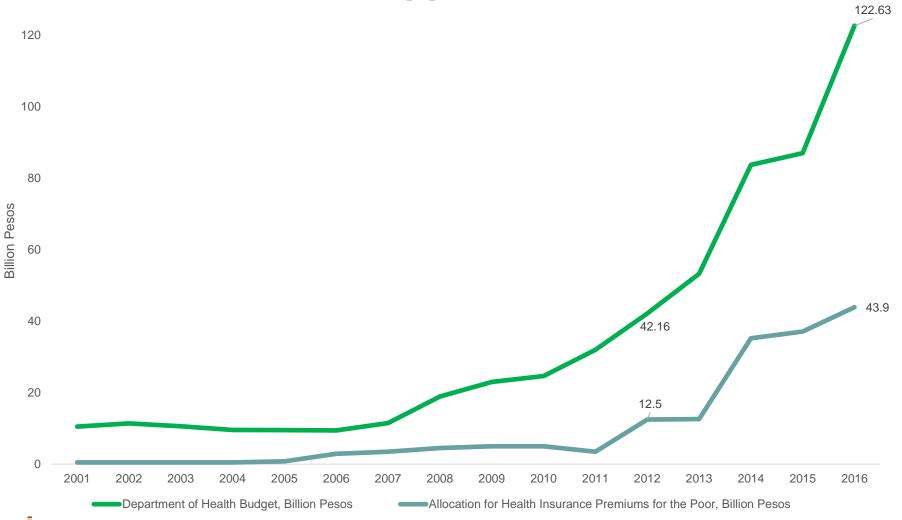
Impact on the Poor

Need to consider overall fiscal system

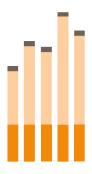
- Key issue with taxes is what's done with the revenues generated by the tax
- Net financial impact on low income households can be positive when taxes are used to support programs targeting the poor
- Concerns about regressivity offset by use of revenues for programs directed to poor



Incremental Revenues for Health and the Poor, Philippines, 2001-2016







Impact on the Economy

Excise Taxes and Jobs

Industries argue that production and consumption of their products makes a significant economic contribution

- employment in farming, manufacturing, distribution, retailing, and related sectors
- multiplier effects as income earned in these jobs is spent on other goods & services



Excise Taxes and Jobs

Industry-sponsored studies tell only part of story:

- Focus on the gross impact:
 - New tax or tax increase will lead to decreased consumption of taxed product
 - Results in loss of some jobs dependent on production of taxed product
- Ignore the net impact:
 - Money not spent on taxed product will be spent on other goods and services
 - New/increased tax revenues spent by government
 - Offsetting job gains in other sectors



Tobacco Taxes and Jobs

- Many published studies assess impact of reductions in tobacco use from tax increases and/or other tobacco control measures:
 - Variety of high, middle, and low income countries
 - Use alternative methodologies
- Generally find that employment losses in tobacco sector more than offset by gains in other sectors



Tobacco Taxes and Jobs

Concerns about job losses in tobacco sector have been addressed using new tax revenues:

- Turkey, Philippines among countries that have allocated tobacco tax revenues to helping tobacco farmers and/or those employed in tobacco manufacturing make transition to other livelihoods
 - Crop substitution programs, retraining programs



Figure 2. Employees and hours worked in commercial establishments. Mexico,



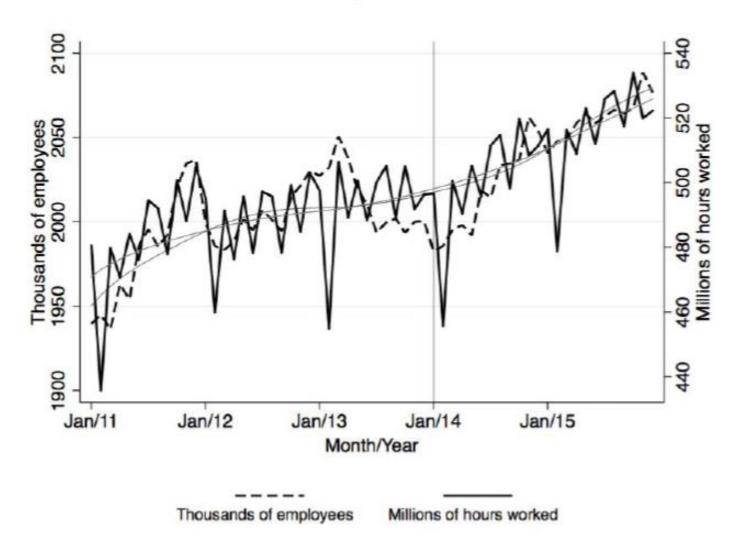
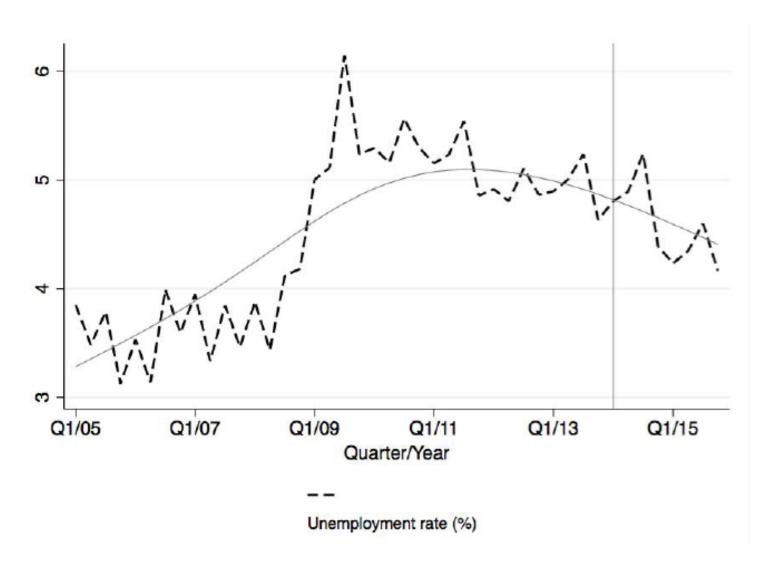
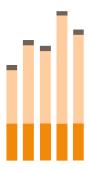




Figure 3. Unemployment rate. Mexico, ENOE 2005-2015.





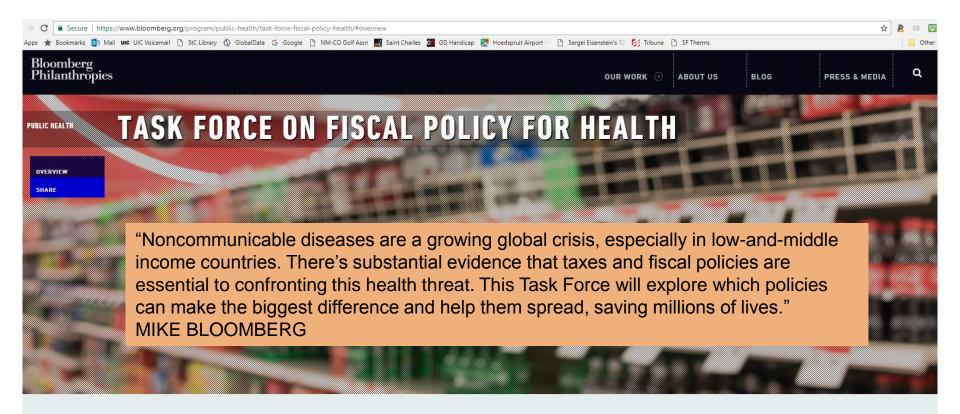


Summary

Conclusions

- Higher tobacco and alcohol taxes, and new sugary drink taxes significantly reduce consumption and raise new revenue
- Reduced consumption leads to fewer cases of cancer, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and other diseases, reducing health care and other economic costs of NCDs
- Counterarguments about negative economic impact false or greatly overstated
- Taxes generally considered one of the "best buys" in NCD prevention





The Task Force on Fiscal Policy for Health – announced by Mike Bloomberg and economist Larry Summers, former Secretary of the U.S. Treasury and former Director of the National Economic Council – brings together esteemed fiscal policy, development and health leaders from around the globe to address the enormous and growing health and economic burden of noncommunicable diseases – including cardiovascular disease, cancer, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes – with fiscal policy tools that are currently underutilized by governments and their leaders.

"We have strong evidence from around the world that raising taxes on products like tobacco, sugar sweetened beverages and alcohol is highly effective at reducing harmful consumption and saving lives. I'm grateful for the commitment of this impressive group of leaders, whose expertise and experience will help the Task Force bring attention to the enormous potential of fiscal policies for health."



Health & Revenue Impact

Impact of tax increases that raise prices by 50%:

Cumulative Effects Over 50 Years:	Deaths Averted (millions)	Increase in Tax Revenues (trillions of 2016 dollars)
Tobacco	27.2	3.0
Alcohol	21.9	16.7
SSBs	2.2	1.4
Total	51.3	21.1



THANK YOU!

For more information:

Bridging the Gap http://www.bridgingthegapresearch.org

Tobacconomics http://www.tobacconomics.org

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fjc@uic.edu



Policy Brief | August 2018

Tobacco Taxation Can Reduce Tobacco Consumption and Help Achieve Sustainable Development Goals

Introduction

A substantial body of research shows that significantly increasing the taxes and prices of tobacco products is the single most effective way to reduce tobacco use and its devastating health consequences. A tax increase that raises prices by 10% can reduce tobacco consumption on average by 5% in low and middle income countries (LMICs).

Tobacco also poses a threat to development, especially in the LMICs that have the highest rates of tobacco use. The global economic costs from smoking due to medical expenses and lost productivity in 2012 alone totaled over \$1.4 trillion dollars.ii

Besides the growing recognition of the obvious harmful effects of tobacco on health and healthcare, there is a noticeable international movement recognizing the harmful effects of tobacco use on sustainable development. The United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has set 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 related targets. One of those targets focuses specifically on tobacco, and urges "strengthened implementation of the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC)." The FCTC is an international treaty created under the auspices of the World Health Organization (WHO). It focuses on reducing the demand and supply of tobacco products. In order to finance the SDGs, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development noted that "price and tax measures on tobacco can be an effective and important means to reduce tobacco consumption and healthcare costs and represent a revenue stream for financing for development in many countries".

Raising tobacco excise tax by 1 International Dollar (about US\$ 0.80) in all countries would:

42%

Increase average cigarette prices by 42% globally Increase excise revenue by 47%, representing an extra US\$ 141 billion 4%

Global increase in public health expenditures 66

prevalence by 9%, representing 66M fewer smokers

Source: WHO

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