TOBACCO CONSUMPTION

- Among adults (age 15+), 26.6% of the population smoke, with a significant difference between genders—50.5% of Chinese men and 2.1% of Chinese women smoke.\(^1\)
- Among youth (ages 13–15), 6.9% use tobacco (boys 11.2%; girls 2.2%).\(^2\)
  - 6.4% smoke tobacco (boys 10.6%; girls 1.8%).
  - 1% use smokeless tobacco (boys 1.3%; girls 0.6%).
- China has approximately 307.6 million smokers.\(^1\)

SECONDHAND SMOKE EXPOSURE

There is no safe level of secondhand smoke.\(^3\)

- 50.9% of adults are exposed to secondhand smoke in the workplace, 73.3% in restaurants, and 12.9% on public transportation.\(^1\)
- 57.2% of youth (ages 13–15) are exposed to secondhand smoke inside enclosed public spaces, and 44.4% are exposed at home.\(^2\)

HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

Tobacco use is deadly. Tobacco kills up to half of its users.\(^4\)

- An estimated 2.5 million Chinese die from tobacco-related diseases each year. Around 387,000 of these deaths are due to secondhand smoke exposure.\(^5\)
- The number of annual deaths from tobacco-attributable lung, tracheal, and bronchus cancers in China has more than doubled in the past 20 years, reaching about 460,000.\(^5\)
- Smoking causes almost 23% of all cancers in China.\(^6\)
- Chinese male smokers are almost 6 times more likely to develop chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) than Chinese male non-smokers.\(^7\)

COSTS TO SOCIETY

Tobacco exacts a high cost on society.

- Smoking-attributable diseases cost China an estimated 392.6 billion CNY in 2012, equivalent to 0.8% of the country’s GDP that year.\(^8\)
  - Direct healthcare costs related to smoking-attributable diseases was 85.5 billion CNY, or 3% of total health expenditure.
  - Indirect costs related to smoking—such as lost productivity due to premature mortality or disability caused by smoking—totaled about 304.1 billion CNY.
- Smoking-related lung cancer alone cost China 5.2 billion USD in 2015, and these costs are expected to keep rising.\(^9\)

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