TOBACCO PREVALENCE

- There are almost 267 million tobacco users in India.\(^1\)
- Among adults (age 15+), 28.6% of the population currently uses tobacco products (men 42.4%; women 14.2%): \(^1\)
  - 21.4% of adults use smokeless tobacco (men 29.6%; women 12.8%)
  - 10.7% of adults smoke (men 19%; women 2%)
  - The majority of adult smokers smoke bidis (7.7% of adults overall)
- Among youth (ages 13–15):
  - 8.5% currently use some form of tobacco (boys 9.6%; girls 7.4%)
  - 4.1% smoke tobacco and 4.1% use smokeless tobacco\(^2\)

SECONDHAND SMOKE EXPOSURE

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

- 30.2% of adults are exposed to secondhand smoke in indoor workplaces, 7.4% are exposed in restaurants, and 13.3% are exposed on public transport.\(^1\)
- 21% of youth (ages 13–15) are exposed to secondhand smoke in enclosed public places, and 11% are exposed at home.\(^2\)

HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

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

- Smoking and exposure to secondhand smoke kills about 1.2 million Indians each year.\(^5\)
- India accounts for 70% of the global burden of smokeless tobacco.\(^6\)
  - Smokeless tobacco use kills over 230,000 Indians each year.\(^6\)
  - Nearly 90% of oral cancers in India are attributable to smokeless tobacco use.\(^7\)
- Bidi and cigarette smokers die 6 to 10 years earlier than their non-smoking counterparts.\(^8\)
- 27% of all cancers in India are attributable to tobacco use.\(^9\)

COSTS TO SOCIETY

Tobacco exacts a high cost on society.

- From 2017–2018, the economic cost of tobacco-attributable disease and death in India was INR 1773.4 billion (USD$27.5 billion).\(^10\)
  - Direct health care costs attributable to tobacco use were 22% of the total cost (INR 387.1 billion or US$6 billion) and indirect costs (from lost productivity due to illness and death) were 78% (INR 1386.3 billion or US$21.5 billion).
  - The costs of premature death alone were 75% of the total economic costs (INR 132.4 billion or US$20.5 billion).\(^10\)
- The total costs of tobacco equate to 1.04% of India’s GDP, and direct medical costs equate to 5.3% of total health expenditure.\(^10\)