Country profile Panama

Summary of MPOWER measures in Panama

Compliance is scored 0—10 where 10 is the highest level of compliance. Compliance is measured only for P and E. The methods used to compile this profile are described in the technical notes of the WHO report on the global tobacco epidemic, 2023.

M	Р	0	W		W E		R	
MONITORING	SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENTS	CESSATION PROGRAMMES	HEALTH WARNINGS	MASS MEDIA	ADVERTISING BANS	TAXATION	CIGARETTES LESS AFFORDABLE SINCE 2012	
	10				10	56.5%	\leftrightarrow	

MPOWER score colour key

Complete Moderate measure measure	Minimal measure	No policy or weak measure	Not categorized/ No data
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Affordability category

YES	NO	\leftrightarrow
cigarettes	cigarettes did	no trend change
became less	not become	in affordability of
affordable	less affordable	cigarettes

The colours are explained in more detail in the MPOWER legend on the last page of this document. In all tables ". . ." means data are not available and "—" means data are not required.

WHO Framework Convention of	on Tobacco Control
Date of signature	Date of ratification (or legal equivalent)
26 September 2003	16 August 2004

Population	Income group
4 408 581	High-income

National tobacco control programme as at 31 December 2022

Specific national government objectives in tobacco control	Yes
National agency or technical unit for tobacco control	Yes
Number of full-time equivalent staff	
Government's expenditures on tobacco control, latest available year (2022), in currency reported by country	PAB 13 700 000

Country Profile: Panama

Monitor tobacco use and prevention policies

Nationally representative surveys of adults

addito	
Recent	Yes
Representative	Yes
Periodic	Yes

Nationally representative surveys of
adolescents

addiescents	
Recent	Yes
Representative	Yes
Periodic	Yes

Tobacco use prevalence from the latest survey completed by 31 December 2022

	Tobaco	co use	Tobacco	smoking	Cigarette	smoking	Smoke tobacco		E-cigare	ette use
	Current	Daily	Current	Daily	Current	Daily	Current	Daily	Current	Daily
Adults surve	y: Encuesta	Nacional d	le Salud, 201	9; National	, ages 15+					
Male	8.1		8.0	5.1			1.2		0.8	
Female	1.9		1.8	1.1			0.3		0.1	
Both sexes	5.0		4.9	3.1			0.7		0.4	
Adolescents	survey: Glob	oal School	-Based Stude	ent Health S	Survey, 2018;	National, a	ges 13-15			
Male	9.1				7.1		2.21		7.1 ¹	
Female	6.2				5.5		2.41		5.2 ¹	
Both sexes	7.6				6.3		2.31		6.41	

 $^{^{\}rm 1}$ Global Youth Tobacco Survey, 2017; National, ages 13-15

WHO age-standardized estimated prevalence of smoking among those aged 15 years or more: Year 2021 These rates are modelled using all national survey data published since 1990 to estimate the underlying prevalence trends by sex, then applying age-standardization to allow comparison with other countries. They do not necessarily resemble country data from 2021. See the report for further details.

Prevalence (%)	•	Any tobacco use (smoked and smokeless)		smoking	Cigarette smoking	
1 10 valorico (70)	Current	Daily	Current	Daily	Current	Daily
Male	8.8	4.0	8.4	4.0	7.3	3.2
Female	2.0	0.9	2.0	0.9	1.8	0.8
Both sexes	5.4	2.4	5.2	2.4	4.5	2.0

Country Profile: Panama

Protect people from tobacco smoke

2022 Compliance Complete* smoke-free laws exist in the following places: Health-care facilities Yes 10 Educational facilities except Yes 10 universities 8 Universities Yes Government facilities Yes 10 Indoor offices and workplaces 10 Yes Restaurants Yes 8 8 Cafés, pubs and bars Yes Public transport Yes 10 All other public places Yes Compliance score 10 Law requires fines for smoking Yes Fines levied on the establishment Yes Fines levied on the smoker Yes Funds dedicated for enforcement Yes Complaint system that requires an Yes investigation after a complaint

Subnational laws on smoke-free environments

No subnational jurisdictions exist.

S-Offer help to quit tobacco use

Treatment of tobacco dependence as at 31 December 2022

Is there a toll-free live person availal in Panama?	telephone quit line/help line with a ble to discuss cessation with callers	No
	Is this product legally sold in the country?	No
Nicotine replacement	Where and how can this product be legally purchased in your country?	_
therapy (NRT, e.g., patch, gum, lozenge, spray or inhaler)	Does the national/federal health insurance or the national health service cover the cost of this product?	_
ililialei)	Is any NRT on the country's essential drugs list?	Yes
	Is this product legally sold in your country?	Yes
Bupropion (e.g., Zyban, Wellbutrin)	Where and how can this product be legally purchased in your country?	Pharmacy with Rx
Zyban, Weilbuttin)	Does the national/federal health insurance or the national health service cover the cost of this product?	Fully
Varenicline	Is this product legally sold in your country?	
	Where and how can this product be legally purchased in your country?	Pharmacy with Rx
	Does the national/federal health insurance or the national health service cover the cost of this product?	Fully
	Health clinics or other primary care facilities	Yes in some
Is smoking	Hospitals	Yes in some
cessation support available in the following places in	Office of a health professional	Yes in some
your country?	In the community	No
	Other	Yes in some
	Health clinics or other primary care facilities	
Does the national/federal	Hospitals	Partially
health insurance or the national health service	Office of a health professional	Partially
cover the cost of this support?	In the community	_
and outpoits	Other	Partially

^{* &}quot;Complete" means that smoking is not permitted, with no exemptions allowed.

Ventilation and any form of designated smoking rooms and/or areas do not protect from the harms of second-hand tobacco smoke, and the only laws that provide protection are those that result in the complete absence of smoking in all public places.

Country Profile: Panama

•• Warn about the dangers of tobacco

Health warnings on tobacco packages

		2022	
	Cigarettes	Other smoked tobacco	Smokeless tobacco
Does the law mandate that health warnings appear on tobacco packages?	Yes	Yes	Yes
What percentage of the principal display areas of the package is legally mandated to be covered by health warnings? FRONT AND REAR COMBINED	50	50	50
What percentage of the principal display areas of the FRONT of the package is legally mandated to be covered by health warnings?	50	50	50
What percentage of the principal display areas of the REAR of the package is legally mandated to be covered by health warnings?	50	50	50
Does the law mandate that the warning be placed at the top of the principle display areas of the package?	No	No	No
Does the law mandate font style, font size and colour for package warnings?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are the health warnings rotating on packages?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are the health warnings on packages written in the principal language(s) of the country?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does the law require that health warnings on packages are not obscured in any way, including by required markings such as tax stamps?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Do the health warnings on packages include a photograph or graphic?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Do health warnings appear on each package and any outside packaging and labelling used in the retail sale?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does the law on health warnings apply to products whether manufactured domestically, imported, AND for duty-free sale?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does the law state that warnings on packages do not remove or diminish the liability of the tobacco industry?	No	No	No
Do health warnings on packages describe the harmful effects of tobacco use on health?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does the law mandate specific health warnings on packages?	Yes	Yes	Yes
How many specific health warnings are approved by the law?	5	5	5

		2022	
	Cigarettes	Other smoked tobacco	Smokeless tobacco
Does the law require or establish fines for violations regarding health warnings on packages?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are there any laws requiring that tobacco packaging and labelling do not use misleading terms which imply the product is less harmful than other similar products, such as "low tar", "light", "ultra-light", or "mild"?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are there any laws requiring that tobacco packaging and labelling do not use figurative or other signs, including colours or numbers, as substitutes for prohibited misleading terms and descriptors?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Are there any laws requiring that tobacco packaging and labelling do not use descriptors depicting flavours?	No	No	No
Does the law ban the display of quantitative information on emission yields (such as tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide) on tobacco packaging, including when used as part of a brand name or trademark?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does the law mandate the display of qualitative information on relevant constituents and emissions of tobacco products on tobacco packaging?	Yes	Yes	Yes
Does the law mandate that this information is displayed on one or more of the principal display areas (front, rear) of the package?	No	No	No
Does the law prevent the display of expiry dates on tobacco packaging?	No	No	No
Is it mandatory for the quit line number to appear on packaging or labelling?	No	No	No
Does the law mandate plain packaging?	No	No	No

Country Profile: Panama



Anti-tobacco mass media campaigns between 1 July 2020 and 30 June 2022

Was there a national campaign aired during the period?	Yes
Was the campaign aired on television and/or radio?	Yes
Before the campaign, was any research about the target audience conducted or used to develop the campaign messages/materials?	Yes
Were the campaign materials tested with the target audience before the campaign was run?	No
Did you obtain air time (radio, television) and/or placement (billboards, print advertising, etc) by purchasing or securing them using either your organisation/institution's internal resources or an external media planner or agency?	Yes
Did you, or your media planner/agency, use a monitor to confirm that the campaign materials were used as planned/scheduled on television, radio, print, billboards, internet, etc?	Yes
Did you work with journalists to gain publicity or coverage in the news for the campaign?	Yes
Was an evaluation done to assess the impact of the campaign?	Yes
Was this campaign part of a comprehensive government tobacco control program?	Yes

Country Profile: Panama

Enforce bans on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship

	2022	Compliance
Bans on direct tobacco advertising		
National TV and radio	Yes	10
International TV and radio	Yes	
Local magazines and newspapers	Yes	10
International magazines and newspapers	Yes	
Billboards and outdoor advertising	Yes	10
Advertising at point of sale	Yes	10
Advertising on internet	Yes	
Other direct bans	Yes	
Compliance score of direct bans		10
Law requires fines for violations of direct advertising bans	Yes	
Bans on tobacco promotion and sponsorship		
Free distribution	Yes	8
Promotional discounts	Yes	10
Non-tobacco products identified with tobacco brand names	Yes	10
Brand name of non-tobacco products used for tobacco product	Yes	10
Appearance of tobacco brands in TV and/or films (product placement)	Yes	10
Appearance of tobacco products in TV and/or films	Yes	7
Prescribed anti-tobacco advertisements required to be presented before, during or after the broadcasting or showing of any visual entertainment media product that depicts tobacco products, use or images	_	
Complete ban on sponsorship	Yes	10
Ban on Corporate Social Responsibility activities (CSR)	Yes	
Tobacco companies/the tobacco industry publicizing their CSR activities	Yes	
Entities other than tobacco companies/the tobacco industry publicizing the CSR activities of the tobacco companies	Yes	
Tobacco companies funding or making contributions (including in-kind contributions) to smoking prevention media campaigns, including those directed at youth	Yes	
Law explicitly bans tobacco products display at point of sale	Yes	
Other indirect bans	No	
Compliance score of indirect bans		10
Law requires fines for violations of indirect advertising bans	Yes	

Subnational laws on tobacco advertising, promotion and sponsorship No subnational jurisdictions exist.

Country Profile: Panama

	2022
Sales restrictions	
Law bans tobacco vending machines	Yes
Law bans internet sales of tobacco products	No
Law bans imitation of tobacco products (candies, toys, sweets, etc.)	Yes
Minimum age at which a person may purchase tobacco products	18
Law bans the sale of single sticks of cigarettes	Yes
Minimum number of cigarettes allowed in a pack	20

ENDS 2022	ENNDS 2022
Ban on sale, use, import, commercialisation	Ban on sale, use, import, commercialisation
Yes	Yes
Complete ban	Same as ENDS
_	Same as ENDS
_	Same as ENDS
No explicit ban	Same as ENDS
No explicit ban	Same as ENDS
_	_
-	_
	Ban on sale, use, import, commercialisation Yes Complete ban — No explicit ban

Country Profile: Panama



Tobacco taxation policy and prices as at 31 July 2022

Price of lowest cost brand and premium brand of cigarettes

	Price of lowest cost brand of cigarettes	Price of premium brand cigarettes
Tax inclusive retail sales price (TIRSP) for a pack of	PAB	PAB
20 cigarettes, country-reported value, 2022	3.75	5.75

Taxes on the most sold brand of cigarettes

	WHO's estimate for
	2022
Price of most sold brand of cigarettes (standardized to a pack of 20)	
In currency reported by country	PAB
in our only reported by country	5.50
In international dollars (purchasing power parity adjusted)	12.36
In US dollars at official exchange rates	5.50
Taxes on this brand (% of retail price) +	
Total taxes	56.52%
Specific excise	0.00%
Ad valorem excise	43.48%
Value added tax (VAT) or sales tax	13.04%
Import duty	0.00%
Other taxes	0.00%

[♦] Individual categories of tax may not add to total due to rounding.

Affordability

% of GDP per capita required to purchase 100 packs (or 2000 cigarettes) of the most sold brand of cigarettes (the higher the %, the less affordable)	3.40%
Cigarettes are less affordable in 2022 compared to 2020	Yes
Cigarettes have become less affordable between 2012 and 2022 (trend average)	No change

Country Profile: Panama

Taxes on the most sold brand of specific tobacco products other than cigarettes

Price of most sold brand of	Other smoked tobacco product (standardized to 20 grams) Waterpipe	Smokeless tobacco product (standardized to 20 grams) Chewing tobacco	Heated tobacco product (per 20 sticks)
In currency reported by country	PAB 1.60	PAB 3.99	Sale is banned
In international dollars (purchasing power parity adjusted)	3.60	3.99	_
In US dollars at official exchange rates	1.60	0.00	_
Taxes on the most sold brand (% of retail price) +			
Total taxes	57.61%	56.90%	_
Specific excise	0.00%	0.00%	_
Ad valorem excise	42.39%	43.10%	_
Value added tax (VAT) or sales tax	13.04%	13.04%	_
Import duty	2.18%	0.75%	_
Other taxes —	0.00%	0.00%	_

⁺ Individual categories of tax may not add to total due to rounding.

Taxes on the cheapest brand of e-liquids of Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS) and Electronic Non-Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENNDS)

Price of cheapest brand of	Closed systems e-liquids (1 ml)	Closed systems disposables (1 ml)	Open systems e-liquids (10 ml)
In currency reported by country	Not sold	Not sold	Not sold
In international dollars (purchasing power parity adjusted)	_	_	_
In US dollars at official exchange rates	_	_	_
E-liquid contains nicotine (Yes=ENDS, No=ENNDS)	_	_	_
Taxes on the cheapest brand (% of retail price) +			
Total taxes	_	_	_
Specific excise	_	_	_
Ad valorem excise	_	_	_
Value added tax (VAT) or sales tax	_	_	_
Import duty	_	_	_
Other taxes	_	_	_

^{*} Individual categories of tax may not add to total due to rounding.

Country Profile: Panama

Use of earmarked tobacco taxes for health

50% of the tobacco tax revenues collected are directed to the National Institute of Oncology, the Ministry of Health for cessation services, and Customs to combat the illicit trade of tobacco products.

Supplementary tax information

	Most recent data reported
Type of excise applied	Ad valorem
Uniform excise tax applied Yes (uniform), No (tiered/varying rates)	Yes
Greater reliance on specific tax in mixed excise regime	_
Minimum specific tax applied in ad valorem or mixed excise regime	Yes
Retail price used as base of ad valorem component in ad valorem or mixed excise regime (or retail price exclusive of VAT)	No
Specific tax component automatically adjusted for inflation (or other)	_
Price dispersion: share of cheapest brand price in premium brand price (the higher the % the smaller the gap)	65.22%
Sales of duty (or excise) free cigarettes banned	No

Annual tax revenues from tobacco products at the national/federal level

	Most recent data reported
Year	2021
Is tax revenue data for all tobacco products or cigarettes only?	All tobacco products
Currency	PAB
Total Excise (specific and ad valorem)	16 834 522.53
Value added tax (VAT) and other sales taxes	3 089 768.94
Import duties	
All other taxes (excluding corporate taxes on tobacco companies)	
Total	

Country Profile: Panama

Legend: Summary of MPOWER measures (see page 1)

MONITORING: PREVALENCE DATA

No known data or no recent data or data that are not both recent and representative
Recent and representative data for either adults or youth
Recent and representative data for both adults and youth
Recent, representative and periodic data for both adults and youth

SMOKE-FREE ENVIRONMENTS: SMOKING BANS

	Data not reported
Ī	Complete absence of ban, or up to two public places completely smoke-free
	Three to five public places completely smoke-free
	Six to seven public places completely smoke-free
	All public places completely smoke-free (or at least 90% of the population covered by complete subnational legislation)

CESSATION PROGRAMMES: TREATMENT OF TOBACCO DEPENDENCE

Data not reported
None
NRT and/or some cessation services (neither cost-covered)
NRT and/or some cessation services (at least one of which is cost-covered)
National quit line, and both NRT and some cessation services cost-covered

HEALTH WARNINGS: HEALTH WARNINGS ON CIGARETTE PACKAGES

Data not reported
No warnings or small warnings
Medium size warnings missing some or many appropriate characteristics OR large warnings missing many characteristics
Medium size warnings with all appropriate characteristics OR large warnings missing some appropriate characteristics
Large warnings with all appropriate characteristics

MASS MEDIA: ANTI-TOBACCO CAMPAIGNS

Data not reported
No national campaign conducted between July 2020 and June 2022 with duration of at least three weeks
National campaign conducted with one to four appropriate characteristics
National campaign conducted with five to six appropriate characteristics, or with seven characteristics excluding airing on television and/or radio
National campaign conducted with at least seven appropriate characteristics including airing on television and/or radio

ADVERTISING BANS: BANS ON ADVERTISING, PROMOTION AND SPONSORSHIP

Data not reported
Complete absence of ban, or ban that does not cover national television, radio and print media
Ban on national television, radio and print media only
Ban on national TV, radio and print media as well as on some but not all other forms of direct and/or indirect advertising
Ban on all forms of direct and indirect advertising (or at least 90% of the population covered by complete subnational legislation)

TAXATION: SHARE OF TOTAL TAXES IN THE RETAIL PRICE OF THE MOST SOLD BRAND OF CIGARETTES

	Data not reported
	<25% of retail price is tax
	≥25% and <50% of retail price is tax
	≥50% and <75% of retail price is tax
	≥75% of retail price is tax

AFFORDABILITY

YES	Cigarettes less affordable – per capita GDP needed to buy 100 packs (or 2000 cigarettes) of the most sold brand increased on average between 2012 and 2022.
NO	Cigarettes more affordable – per capita GDP needed to buy 100 packs (or 2000 cigarettes) of the most sold brand declined on average between 2012 and 2022.
\leftrightarrow	No trend change in affordability of cigarettes since 2012.