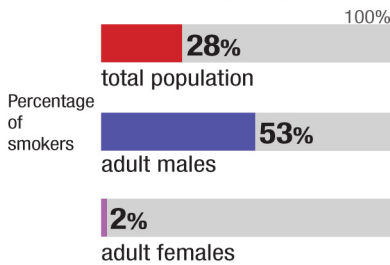


# CHINA

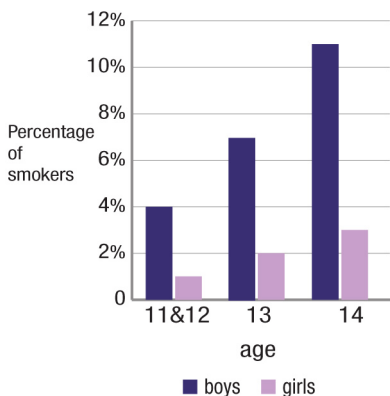
# TOBACCO BURDEN FACTS

China ratified the Framework Convention on Tobacco Control on August 28, 2005. The treaty went into effect in China on January 9, 2006.

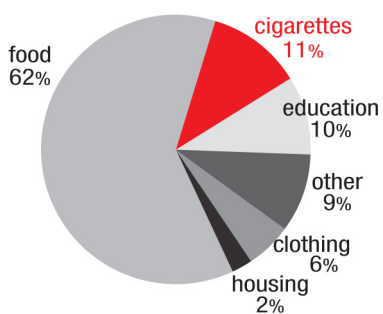
Smoking prevalence in China (2010)<sup>1</sup>



Youth smoking prevalence by age in China (2005)<sup>4</sup>



Expenses of poor, rural households in China (2002)<sup>16</sup>



## TOBACCO CONSUMPTION

- China is the world's largest producer and consumer of tobacco.<sup>1</sup>
- China has approximately 300 million smokers.<sup>2</sup>
- Among adults (age 15+), 28% of the population smoke with a significant difference between genders—53% of Chinese males and 2% of Chinese females smoke.<sup>3</sup>
- The average starting age for smoking has dropped from 22.4 in the 1980s to around 19.7 years in 2002.<sup>4</sup>
- Among 14 year olds, 11% of boys and 3% of girls smoke.<sup>5</sup>

## HEALTH CONSEQUENCES

### Tobacco use is deadly. Smoking kills up to half of all lifetime users.<sup>6</sup>

- One million Chinese die from tobacco-related illness each year.<sup>7</sup>
- If current trends continue, China's death toll will reach 2 million per year by 2020.<sup>8</sup>
- By 2030, tobacco will cause one-third of all male deaths between ages 35 to 69.<sup>9</sup>
- Lung cancer deaths have increased 465% in the past 30 years for the most part due to increasing rates of smoking and make up 23% of all cancer deaths in China.<sup>10</sup>
- Chinese male smokers are almost 6 times more likely to develop chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) than Chinese male non-smokers.<sup>11</sup>
- Over half of the country's non-smokers, about 540 million people, report exposure to secondhand smoke.<sup>12</sup>
- Exposure to secondhand smoke kills 100,000 people in China every year.<sup>13</sup>

## COSTS TO SOCIETY

### Tobacco exacts a high cost on society.

- Smoking costs Chinese society 186 billion RMB (22.7 billion USD) each year, or 1.9% of China's GDP.<sup>14</sup>
- Direct medical costs of smoking are 14 billion RMB (1.7 billion USD), which accounted for 3.1% of China's national health expenditures in 2000. Indirect costs reach 172 billion RMB per year (21 billion USD).<sup>15</sup>
- Poor households in China spend 6-11% of total household expenditures on cigarettes.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>1,2</sup> Yang G, Ma J, Zhou L. Smoking and passive smoking in Chinese. Chinese Journal of Epidemiology. February 2005; 26(2):78-81. <sup>3</sup> Global adult tobacco survey (GATS): China. World Health Organization; 2010. <sup>4</sup> China Cancer Foundation, et al. China Smoking and Health Report, 2006: Tobacco Control and Lung Cancer Prevention and Treatment [in Chinese]. Beijing: China Cancer Foundation et al; 2006. <sup>5</sup> Li Chengye, ed. A Comprehensive Report on Risk Behaviors Related to Chinese Youth Health. Beijing: Peking University Press; 2007. <sup>6</sup> Shafey O, Eriksen M, Ross H, Mackay J. The Tobacco Atlas 3rd ed. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2009. <sup>7,8</sup> China Cancer Foundation, et al. 2006. <sup>9</sup> Peto R, Chen ZM, Boreham J. Tobacco: The growing epidemic in China. CVD Prevention and Control. 2009; [article in press]. <sup>10</sup> China Ministry of Health. Third National Survey on Causes of Mortality [in Chinese]. Beijing: China Ministry of Health; 2008. <sup>11</sup> Lin HH, Murray M, Choen T, Colijn C, Ezzati M. Effects of smoking and solid-fuel use on COPD, lung cancer, and tuberculosis in China: a time-based, multiple risk factor, modeling study. Lancet. 2008;372(9648):1473-1483. <sup>12,13</sup> Ministry of Health Office of the Leading Small Group for Implementation of the FCTC. 2007 China Tobacco Control Report: Create a Smoke-free Environment, Enjoy a Healthy Life [in Chinese]. Beijing: Ministry of Health; 2007. <sup>14</sup> Hu TW, Mao Z, Shi J, Chen WD. Tobacco Taxation and Its Potential Impact in China. Paris: International Union Against Tuberculosis and Lung Disease; 2008. <sup>15</sup> China National Institute of Health Economics. China National Health Expenditure Report [in Chinese]. Beijing: China National Institute of Health Economics; 2006. <sup>16</sup> Hu TW, Mao Z, Liu Y, de Beyer J, Ong M. Smoking, standard of living and poverty in China. Tobacco Control. 2005;14:247-250.