

Compliance With Smoke-free Tobacco Legislation in Indoor Public Places: A 12-city Study in Turkey

Fact Sheet

Compliance is the key for legislation to be effective in reducing secondhand smoke exposure. In 2008 Turkey enacted smoke-free tobacco legislation and extended it to hospitality venues in July 2009.

Researchers used the [smoke-free compliance guide](#) (click to view) in 12 cities between December 2012 and July 2013 to measure compliance with legislation in various public buildings and taxis. Researchers observed a total of 4,395 indoor locations and 356 taxi rides, nearly half of them in the largest cities: Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir.

% compliance with smoke-free legislation in indoor public places:

(# of venues with no observed smoking in all indoor locations / # venues observed) x 100

Results

Overall, the level of compliance with the smoke-free legislation ranged from 97% in universities to 76% in hospitality venues (Figure 1). Compliance was 95% in schools, 94% in government buildings, 92% in malls, and 79% in hospitals before 3 pm (78% after 7 pm and on weekends, not shown in graph). Compared to the three larger cities, compliance in the nine smaller cities was similar for universities, malls, hospitals, and hospitality venues, lower for government buildings and higher in schools (Figure 2). Compliance in taxis, defined as the driver not smoking during each taxi ride, was 95% overall and ranged from 88% in Istanbul to 100% in Adana, Balikesir, Gaziantep, Trabzon, and Van.

Figure 1. Compliance with smoke-free legislation in indoor public places in Turkey - Overall

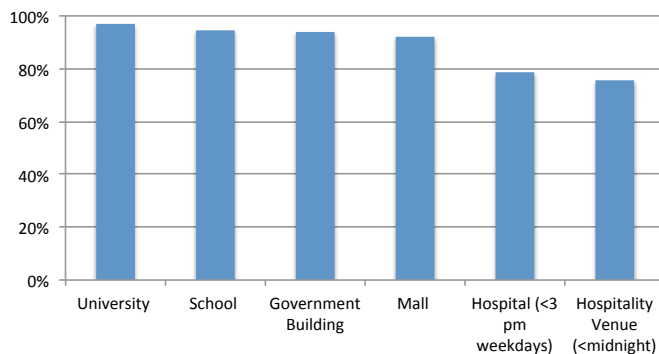
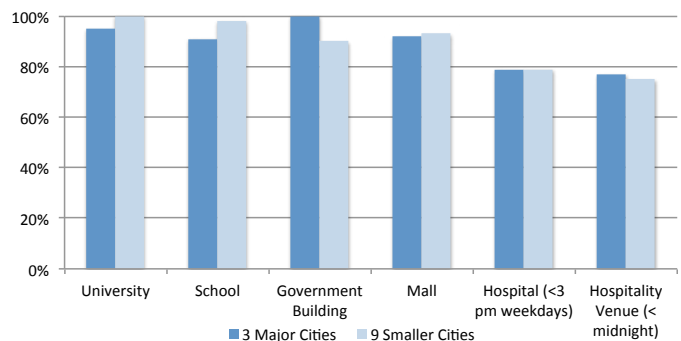


Figure 2. Compliance with smoke-free legislation in indoor public places in Turkey - comparing the 3 major cities to the 9 smaller cities



Compliance by type of hospitality venue

There were large differences in the level of compliance with the smoke-free legislation by hospitality venue type. Compliance was 94% in cafes, 93% in restaurants (31% after midnight, not shown in the graph), 78% in traditional coffee/tea houses, and 20% in bars or nightclubs (15% after midnight, not shown in the graph) (Figure 3). There were no statistically significant differences by hospitality venue comparing small and large cities (Figure 4). Compliance in bars/nightclubs was 0% in Balikesir, Erzurum, Gaziantep and Trabzon.

Figure 3. Compliance with smoke-free legislation in hospitality venues in Turkey - Overall

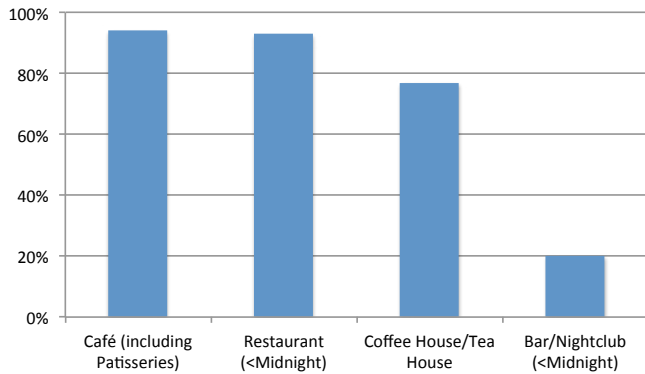
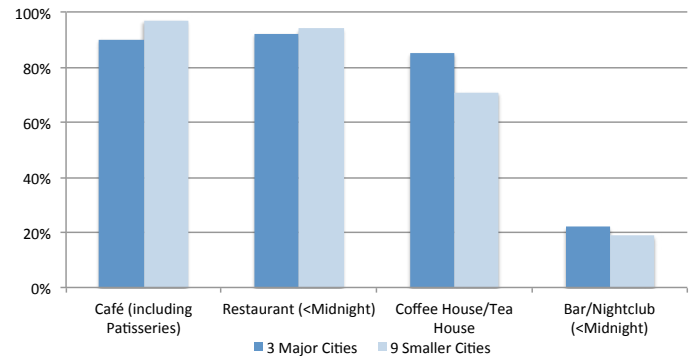


Figure 4. Compliance with smoke-free legislation in hospitality venues in Turkey - comparing the 3 major cities to the 9 smaller cities



Conclusions

Compliance with the smoke-free legislation was generally high across all cities in Turkey, although not perfect. Ninety percent of locations were compliant, with the exception of hospitals and hospitality venues. In hospitals, schools, and government buildings, the major problem with compliance was in cafeterias and dining areas. Traditional coffee houses had low compliance, and bars/nightclubs had the lowest compliance of hospitality venues. We observed a similar level of compliance before and after midnight in bars/nightclubs, whereas compliance was much lower in restaurants after midnight. There were no major differences by cities, although some cities had lower compliance in some venues.

The study was conducted as a collaboration between investigators at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Kadir Has University, Hacettepe University and Izmir Dokuz Eylul School of Medicine.

**The entire study report can be found at:
www.globaltobaccocontrol.org/shelt**

