

WHO Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic - Guide to Revisions (2019 report compared with the 2017 report)

As part of a rigorous quality assurance process, WHO rechecks all data published in previous WHO Reports on the Global Tobacco Epidemic on the publication of a new report. This process has confirmed the accuracy of 97% of data published in the reports. The first table below provides detailed explanations of statements made in the 2017 report and revised for the 2019 report as a result of the quality assurance process. The second table below provides details of MPOWER group revisions at country-level.



Table 1. Revisions to global summaries

SECTION	REVISION
Summary MPOWER graph	Improvements in information and assessment between the 2017 and 2019 reports did not result in a change in the number of countries with at least one MPOWER measure in place at the highest level (121) in 2016.
Monitor tobacco use and prevention policies	For the 2019 report, the number of countries at the highest level of achievement in 2016 was revised from 76 to 80 due to information received after publication, which showed that 4 additional countries met the criteria for the "complete policy" group. The percentage of global population covered by the highest level of monitoring was revised from 39% to 42%.
Protect from tobacco smoke	For the 2019 report, the number of countries at the highest level of achievement in 2016 required no revision.
Offer help to quit tobacco use	For the 2019 report, the number of countries with complete policies in 2016 was revised from 26 to 25 due to information received after publication, which showed that one country needed to be revised downwards. The percentage of population protected at the highest level globally was consequently revised from 33% to 32%.
Warn about the dangers of Tobacco	For the 2019 report, the number of countries at the highest level of achievement in 2016 was revised from 78 to 77 due to information received after publication, which showed that one country needed to be revised downwards. The percentage of population protected at the highest level globally was not affected by this revision.
Enforce bans on tobacco advertising promotion and sponsorship	For the 2019 report, the number of countries with complete policies in 2016 was revised from 37 to 38 due to clarifications received from one country which showed that it met the criteria for the "complete policy" group. The percentage of population protected at the highest level globally was consequently revised from 15% to 16%.
Raise taxes on tobacco	For the 2019 report, the number of countries with taxes in the highest achievement category in 2016 was revised from 32 to 31 as one country was revised downwards. The percentage of population protected at the highest level globally was consequently revised from 10% to 8%. A number of tax data revisions occurred to other years reported in the 2019 report. These are detailed in the country-level table below.

Table 2. Revisions to country data

Country	Section	Report year	Data year	Reason for revision		
AFRO						
Algeria	R	2019	2014	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
Benin	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
Côte d'Ivoire	R	2019	2012	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2010	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2008	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Equatorial Guinea	R	2019	2016	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
		2019	2014	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
		2019	2010	Down from 3 to 2	Improved information received	
		2019	2008	Down from 3 to 2	Improved information received	
Ethiopia	R	2019	2008	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Gabon	R	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Madagascar	M	2019	2016	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	New adult survey released.
Mauritania	R	2019	2016	Down from 3 to 2	Improved information received	
Namibia	M	2019	2016	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
Niger	W	2019	2016	Down from 5 to 4	Reassessment by WHO	Pictorial warnings not yet issued.
Rwanda	R	2019	2014	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	
		2019	2012	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	
Rwanda	R	2019	2008	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	
Sao Tome and Principe	R	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2014	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2012	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2010	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2008	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Seychelles	E	2019	2016	Up from 4 to 5	Reassessment by WHO	Legislation was reassessed in light of clarifications from the country.
South Africa	R	2019	2016	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
		2019	2010	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
South Sudan	O	2019	2007	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	
Uganda	R	2019	2016	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
United Republic of Tanzania	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
	W	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New document received.

Table 2. Revisions to country data (continued)

Country	Section	Report year	Data year	Reason for revision		
AMRO						
Belize	M	2019	2016	Down from 3 to 2	Reassessment by WHO	2015 adult survey is not nationally representative.
Costa Rica	R	2019	2010	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
		2019	2008	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
Cuba	R	2019	2008	Up from 4 to 5	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Ecuador	M	2019	2016	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
Guyana	R	2019	2014	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2012	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2010	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Jamaica	M	2019	2016	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	New adult survey released.
Paraguay	M	2019	2007	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
Peru	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 4	Reassessment by WHO	Annual Demographic and Health Surveys are nationally representative for the population aged 15+.
EMRO						
Afghanistan	M	2019	2016	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
Bahrain	R	2019	2016	Down from 3 to 2	Improved information received	
Egypt	P	2019	2016	Up from 3 to 5	Reassessment by WHO	Legislation was reassessed in light of clarifications received.
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	R	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	
Iraq	R	2019	2016	Down from 4 to 2	Improved information received	
Occupied Palestinian Territor	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 4	Reassessment by WHO	Youth surveys were nationally representative.
Oman	M	2019	2016	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
Saudi Arabia	R	2019	2016	Down from 3 to 2	Improved information received	
Syrian Arab Republic	R	2019	2016	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
		2019	2012	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
Sudan	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New adult survey released.
Tunisia	M	2019	2016	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	New adult survey released.
United Arab Emirates	R	2019	2012	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Yemen	M	2019	2016	Down from 3 to 2	Reassessment by WHO	2013 adult survey is not nationally representative.

Table 2. Revisions to country data (continued)

Country	Section	Report year	Data year	Reason for revision		
EURO						
Albania	R	2019	2008	Up from 3 to 4	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Armenia	R	2019	2012	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Israel	R	2019	2010	Down from 5 to 4	Improved information received	
Malta	M	2019	2007	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	New adult survey discovered.
Poland	M	2019	2007	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	New adult surveys discovered.
Russian Federation	M	2019	2007	Up from 2 to 4	Improved information received	New adult surveys discovered.
San Marino	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New adult survey discovered.
United Kingdom	O	2019	2016	Down from 5 to 4	Improved information received	
		2019	2007	Down from 5 to 4	Improved information received	
Uzbekistan	M	2019	2016	Down from 3 to 2	Improved information received	2013 youth survey never released.
SEARO						
Bangladesh	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 4	Improved information received	New adult survey released.
	P	2019	2016	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	Legislation was reassessed in light of clarifications from the country.
	R	2019	2016	Down from 5 to 4	Improved information received	
		2019	2014	Down from 5 to 4	Improved information received	
		2019	2010	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
		2019	2008	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	
Dem. People's Republic of Korea	P	2019	2016	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	Legislation was reassessed in light of clarifications from the country.
India	R	2019	2016	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	
Indonesia	O	2019	2016	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	Data updated by Member State.
Myanmar	R	2019	2014	Up from 3 to 4	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2012	Up from 3 to 4	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2010	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
		2019	2008	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	

Table 2. Revisions to country data (continued)

Country	Section	Report year	Data year	Reason for revision		
WPRO						
Cambodia	R	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Revision of grouping thresholds	
China	R	2019	2014	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	
Cook Islands	P	2019	2016	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	Legislation was reassessed in light of clarifications from the country.
Kiribati	W	2019	2016	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	Regulations not yet approved.
	R	2019	2008	Up from 3 to 4	Revision of grouping thresholds	
Marshall Islands	M	2019	2016	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
Micronesia	P	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 4	Reassessment by WHO	Subnational laws together cover the entire population.
	E	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 4	Reassessment by WHO	Subnational laws together cover the entire population.
Mongolia	P	2019	2016	Down from 5 to 3	Improved information received	New document received.
	R	2019	2016	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	
		2019	2014	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	
Nauru	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New adult survey released.
Papua New Guinea	M	2019	2016	Up from 1 to 2	Improved information received	New youth survey released.
Republic of Korea	P	2019	2016	Down from 3 to 2	Improved information received	Legislation was reassessed in light of clarifications from the country.
Solomon Islands	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New adult survey released.
Tonga	W	2019	2016	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	New document received.
Tonga		2019	2007	Up from 3 to 4	Improved information received	New document received.
Tuvalu	M	2019	2016	Up from 2 to 3	Improved information received	New adult survey released.
Vanuatu	O	2019	2016	Down from 4 to 3	Improved information received	Data updated by Member State.

*For guides to revisions to data appearing in earlier reports, please contact us at tfi@who.int
Table last updated on 31 March 2020.*