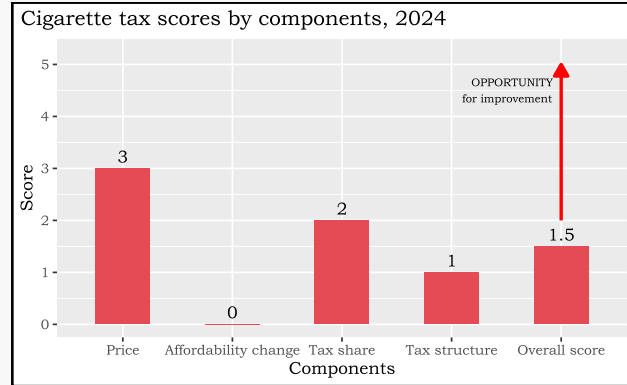


Economics for Health Cigarette Tax Scorecard

India Fact Sheet

Cigarette tax policies in 2024

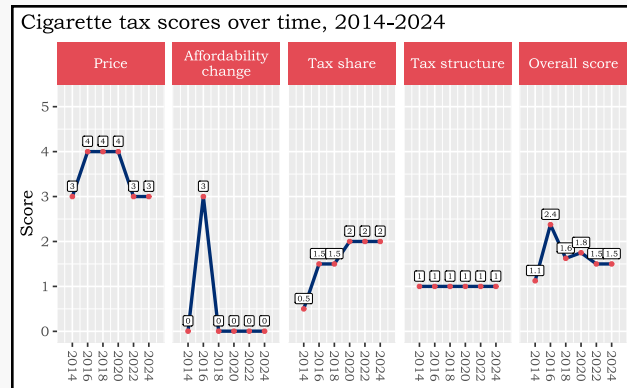
The Scorecard assessed four key tax components using a 5-point scale, namely cigarette price, change in cigarette affordability, tax share and tax structure, with the overall score reflecting an average of India's component scores. The score reflects the current strengths and opportunities in India to further increase tax revenue and improve health.



Cigarette tax policies over time

After a rise in 2016, India's overall score decreased from 2016 to 2022 due to a sharp decrease in the affordability change score in 2018 and a reduction in the cigarette price score in 2022. The country has not been able to reduce cigarette affordability since 2018.

Simplification of the current complex tiered system including reliance on a substantial uniform specific tax that is raised regularly would greatly improve tobacco taxation.



Comparing India to other countries

India overall score is lower than the average score of its region, income group, and the global average. There is ample room for improvement in its cigarette tax system.

An improved structure with substantial tax rates would save millions of lives, generate significant new tax revenues, and increase economic productivity overall.

