

Determinants of tobacco consumption among young people: The case of Senegal

Mamadou Abdoulaye Diallo

Research Assistant,

Consortium pour la Recherche Economique et Sociale (CREs), Dakar, Senegal

Email: mamadou.abdoulaye@cres-sn.org

m.abdoulaye.diallo90@gmail.com



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Introduction (1/2)

- Every year, over 8 million people die from smoking, most of them in low- and middle-income countries.
- Tobacco is one of the main preventable causes of non-communicable diseases (NCDs).
- In Senegal, NCDs are responsible for 45% of deaths.
- Smoking costs the State of Senegal more than 122 billion FCFA (197 million USD) every year.



Introduction (2/2)

- While Senegal has made progress in terms of tobacco taxation policies, tobacco consumption remains high, and the consequences are also being felt by young people.
- Studies characterizing the prevalence of smoking in low-income countries are still lacking, especially among young people in Senegal.
- This study looked at the determinants of tobacco consumption among young people in Senegal.



Data & Methodology

- The data used in this study comes from the Africa Youth Aspirations and Resilience (AYAR) project run by PASGR in partnership with the Mastercard Foundation.
- The survey is representative of young people aged 18-35 and based on a two-stage stratified sample design.
- A total of 1,560 young people including 50% women, were interviewed during period within January 05 to 17, 2023 in 09 regions of Senegal.
- Statistical analysis: Probit regression model



Findings (1/3)

- The descriptive results reveal a smoking prevalence of 4.3%.
- This means, over 217,000 young people who regularly consume tobacco products, the most common of which are cigarettes, chicha and, to a lesser extent, Indian hemp commonly known as "Yamba".
- It also shows that young people have an average of 9 years' experience of using tobacco products.
- Average cigarette consumption is estimated at 7 sticks per day, for a daily expenditure of 300 FCFA (0.5 \$US).



Findings (2/3)

- Young people aged 26-30 (Odds ratio [OR]=1.692, $p<0.05$) and 31-35 (OR=2.383, $p<0.01$) are more likely to smoke than younger people (18-20).
- Single young people (OR=1.389, $p<0.05$) are more likely to use tobacco than married young people.
- Young workers (OR=1.360, $p<0.05$) are more likely to smoke than non-workers.



Findings (3/3)

- Urban residents are 1.3 (OR=1.295, $p<0.05$) times more likely to use tobacco products than rural residents.
- Conversely, young people with higher levels of education were 29% (OR=0.711, $p<0.10$) less likely to smoke than uneducated young people.
- Those who engage in frequent physical activity are 42% (OR=0.584, $p<0.10$) less likely to indulge in tobacco products than non-athletes.



Conclusions and implications

- Smoking is still common among young Senegalese, despite the tax policies introduced.
- To reduce smoking effectively, a comprehensive tobacco control program should consider associated factors.
- This include :
 - Age : Earlier awareness raising among young people
 - Occupation : Taxes on products increase as workers smoke more
 - Education : include in the curriculum the risks linked to tobacco consumption from preschool onwards.
 - Further promote the practice of sport



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