

# Legislation: Smoke-free Areas

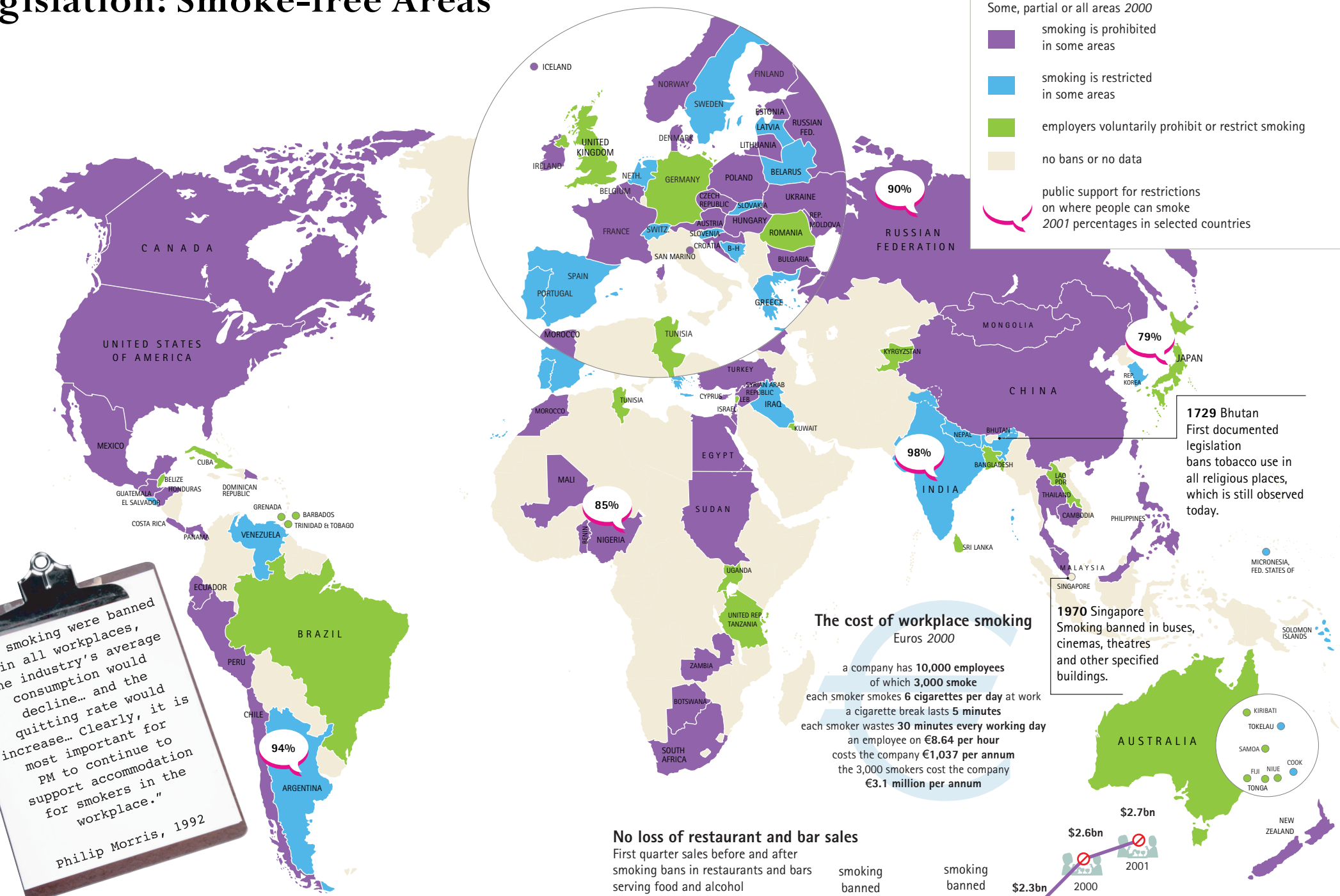
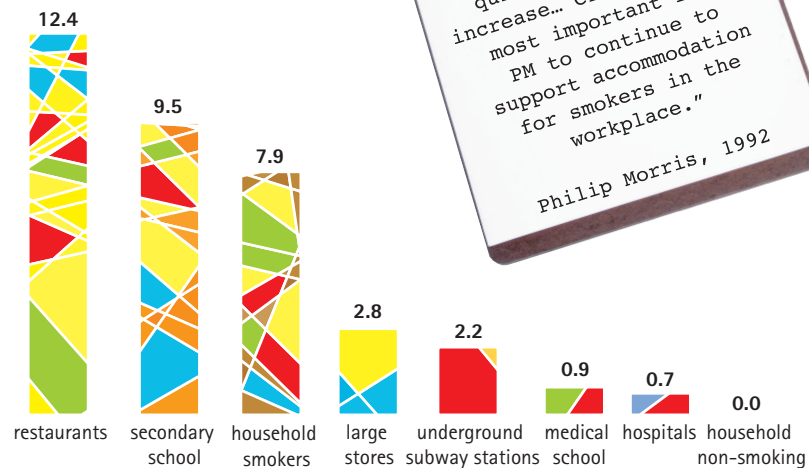
Banning smoking in public places is a sound public health measure to protect the health of non-smokers.

The issue of workplace bans is primarily one of labour legislation to protect the health of workers, who are exposed to passive smoking for long periods during their work shifts, whether this be in public or office buildings, restaurants or public transport.

Workplace smoking bans are effective in reducing exposure to passive smoking. Smokers who are employed in workplaces with smoking bans are likely to consume fewer cigarettes per day, are more likely to consider quitting, and quit at a greater rate, than smokers employed in workplaces with no or weaker policies.

A total ban works better than a partial ban. Most airlines are now smoke-free and the global trend is towards a safer, cleaner indoor environment in the home and in public and work places.

"If smoking were banned in all workplaces, the industry's average consumption would decline... and the quitting rate would increase... Clearly, it is most important for PM to continue to support accommodation for smokers in the workplace."  
Philip Morris, 1992



**The cost of workplace smoking**  
Euros 2000

a company has 10,000 employees of which 3,000 smoke  
each smoker smokes 6 cigarettes per day at work  
a cigarette break lasts 5 minutes  
each smoker wastes 30 minutes every working day  
an employee on €8.64 per hour costs the company €1,037 per annum  
the 3,000 smokers cost the company €3.1 million per annum

### No loss of restaurant and bar sales

