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Tobacco

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25 June 2025

Key facts

- Tobacco kills up to half of its users who don't quit (1–3).
- Tobacco kills more than 7 million people each year, including an estimated 1.6 million non-smokers who are exposed to second-hand smoke (4).
- Around 80% of the world's 1.3 billion tobacco users live in low- and middle-income countries.
- To address the tobacco epidemic, WHO Member States adopted the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) in 2003. Currently 183 countries are Parties to this treaty.
- The WHO MPOWER measures are in line with the WHO FCTC and have been shown to save lives and reduce costs from averted healthcare expenditure.

Overview

The tobacco epidemic is one of the biggest public health threats the world has ever faced, responsible for over 7 million deaths annually as well as disability and long-term suffering from tobacco-related diseases (4).

Related

Using AI to quit tobacco



Meet S.A.R.A.H. – A Smart AI Resource Assistant for Health

Questions and answers

E-cigarettes: how risky are they?

Health benefits of smoking cessation

Tobacco and COVID-19



John Morgan

stated on July 6, 2017 in a lawsuit:

"Despite decades of marijuana being used for smoking in the United States, there have been no reported medical cases of lung cancer" attributed to marijuana.

FLORIDA

MARIJUANA

JOHN MORGAN





Air pollution

Impact

WHO response

Credits +

Air pollution is contamination of the indoor or outdoor environment by any chemical, physical or biological agent that modifies the natural characteristics of the atmosphere.

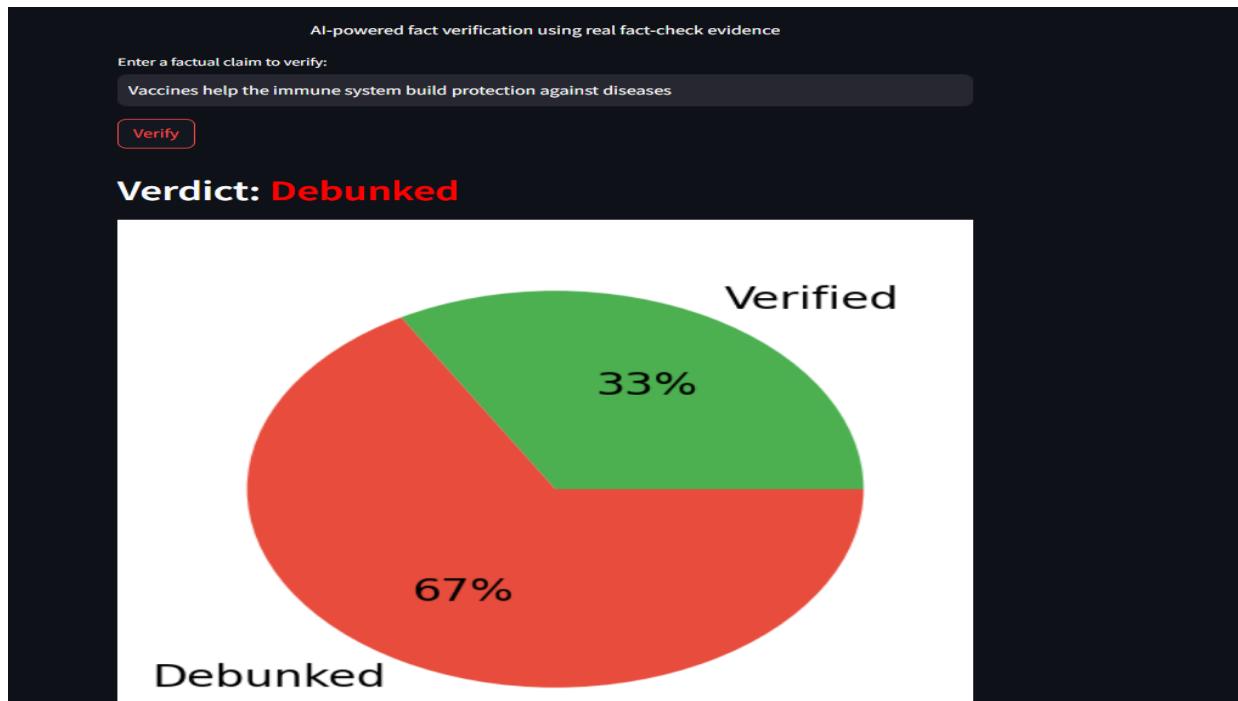
Household combustion devices, motor vehicles, industrial facilities and forest fires are common sources of air pollution.

Fact sheets

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Top Evidence

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Similarity Score: 0.172

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Status: **debunked**

Similarity Score: 0.271

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Status: **debunked**

Similarity Score: 0.278

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Vaccines and immunization

Credits +

Overview Impact WHO response

Immunization is a global health success story, saving millions of lives every year. Vaccines reduce risks of getting a disease by working with your body's natural defenses to build protection. When you get a vaccine, your immune system responds.

Fact sheets +

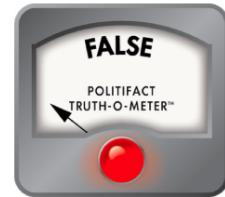
Questions and answers +



Facebook posts

stated on March 8, 2021 in a Facebook post:

Vaccines send the immune system into “perpetual overdrive” by instructing cells to keep “making the protein of an invader, nonstop, forever and ever.”



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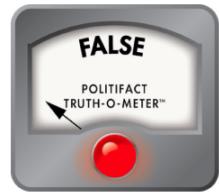
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Ben Carson

stated on September 16, 2015 in the second GOP debate:

There are a "multitude" of vaccines that do not prevent deadly and crippling diseases.



GEORGIA

PUBLIC HEALTH

BEN CARSON

