

Taxing sweetened drinks in France

France has seen an increase in obesity rates between 1997 and 2009 from 8.5% to nearly 15%. To respond to the growing burden it represents on the nation, French Prime Minister François Fillon advocated for the implementation of a sugar-sweetened beverage tax. Enacted since January 1, 2012, this case illustrates the feasibility of a tax on these products, the revenues of which are allocated to public health and allows us to draw lessons from other jurisdictions considering the adoption of tax measures to reduce the consumption of sweetened drinks.

Reference: Alberta Policy Coalition for Chronic Disease Prevention. *Taxing Sweetened Drinks in France.*; 2015. www.senat.fr/rap/r13-399/r13-3997.html