

Data confirm excellent results of smoking ban in Ireland

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Review of first year of smoke-free legislation

One year on since the Irish ban on smoking, cigarette sales have declined by massive levels. Claims that there would be a huge rise in the number of bars going out of business have proven false, albeit takings are in fact down in the licensed trade.

But above all, public support for the ban is overwhelming. Health Minister Seán Power explained: "The Irish public's overwhelming acceptance of this historic public health measure sends a very clear message to legislators around the world who are considering the introduction of similar smoke-free workplace legislation –not only is it very possible to implement such legislation, but citizens fundamentally accept its validity and necessity in order to protect their health."

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