

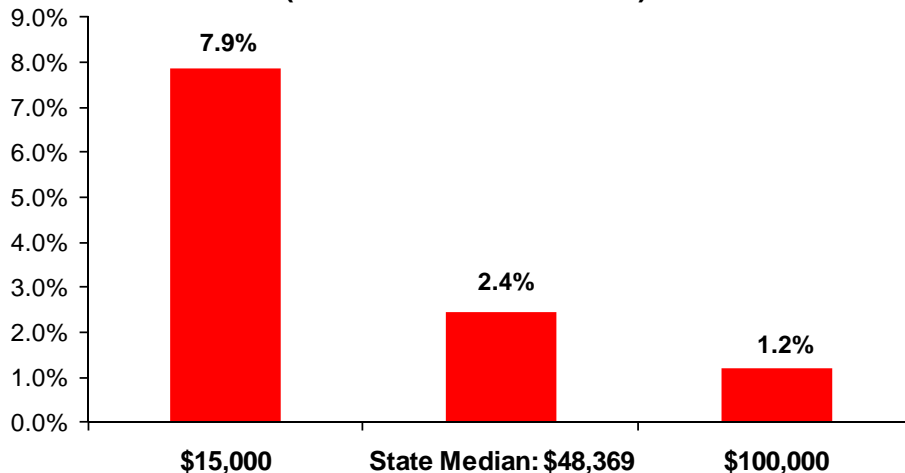
Taxes on Top of Taxes

The government imposed burden on cigarettes is already significant for adult smokers.¹ This is on top of the other taxes that a typical household pays, including income taxes, social security taxes, excise taxes on other products (such as gasoline) and property taxes. If Georgia increased the cigarette excise tax by \$1.00, bringing it to \$1.37 per pack, this burden will increase significantly.

	Government Burden per Pack	Annual Government Burden for Pack a Day Adult Smoker
Current	\$2.23	\$814
After Proposed Increase	\$3.23	\$1,179
Increase	\$1.00	\$365

This government imposed burden takes a large bite out of a household's income and hurts lower income households more than higher income households.² Based on data from the Center for Disease Control, in Georgia more than 31.0% of adults earning less than \$15,000 are adult smokers; whereas only 15.4% of adults earning \$50,000 or more are adult smokers.³

Government Burden on Cigarettes for Households with a Pack a Day Adult Smoker (% of household income)



The Government-imposed burden on cigarettes is already significant and more burdensome on lower-income households. The proposal to raise the state excise tax will exacerbate this situation.

¹ The total government costs include: the federal excise tax, the state excise tax, the state sales tax, the costs to cover the tobacco settlement & quota buyout agreements, and the costs of the new FDA user fee.

² State Median Income is from the U.S. Census, www.census.gov.

³ Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System; Prevalence and Trends Data; Nationwide (States and DC) – 2008 Tobacco Use, U.S. Center for Disease Control, at <http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/BRFSS/income.asp?cat=TU&yr=2008&qkey=4396&state=GA>

