The tobacco industry uses multiple tools and tactics to influence and shape tobacco control public health policy. The U.S. Tobacco Industry Interference Index 2019 explores and quantifies the indicators that are common entry points for the tobacco industry as well as the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC) Article 5.3 Guidelines that strive to counter them.

On a scale where lower means less tobacco industry interference and higher is worse, the United States’ score is the eighth highest overall (in the top quartile) at 72/100.

To combat tobacco industry interference, lawmakers and advocates should take the following steps:

- Track lobbying
- Increase transparency
- Educate lawmakers
- Leverage support
- Raise awareness

Industry tools and tactics include:

- Doubt & Controversy
- Control at the Top
- Boots on the Ground
- Contributions & Gifts
- Front Groups
- Proactive Legislation

Industry related corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities include:

- Benefits to the tobacco industry
- Forms of unnecessary interaction
- Transparency
- Conflict of interest
- Preventive measures

Policy development levels:

- Level of participation in policy development
- Industry-related corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities

Policy development examples:

- Restrict smoking in workplaces
- Raise the price of tobacco products
- Limit marketing of tobacco products
- Reduce youth access to tobacco products
- Develop education programs or prevention research
- Adopt official code of conduct/conflict of interest policies

The U.S. rank in the STOP Global Tobacco Interference Index 2019 indicates a very high level of interference.