

COMPLIANCE WITH THE SMOKE-FREE POLICY IN KARACHI, PAKISTAN

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Background

Despite the implementation of a national tobacco control law in 2003, a comprehensive assessment of the level of compliance with the smoke-free policy in Karachi, Pakistan's most populous city of ~22 million, is lacking.

Methods

Observational data were collected across nine different public venue types in the East and South districts of Karachi (N=1,641). Observations pertaining to evidence of smoking, no-smoking signage, and designated smoking areas (DSAs) and rooms (DSRs) were collected.

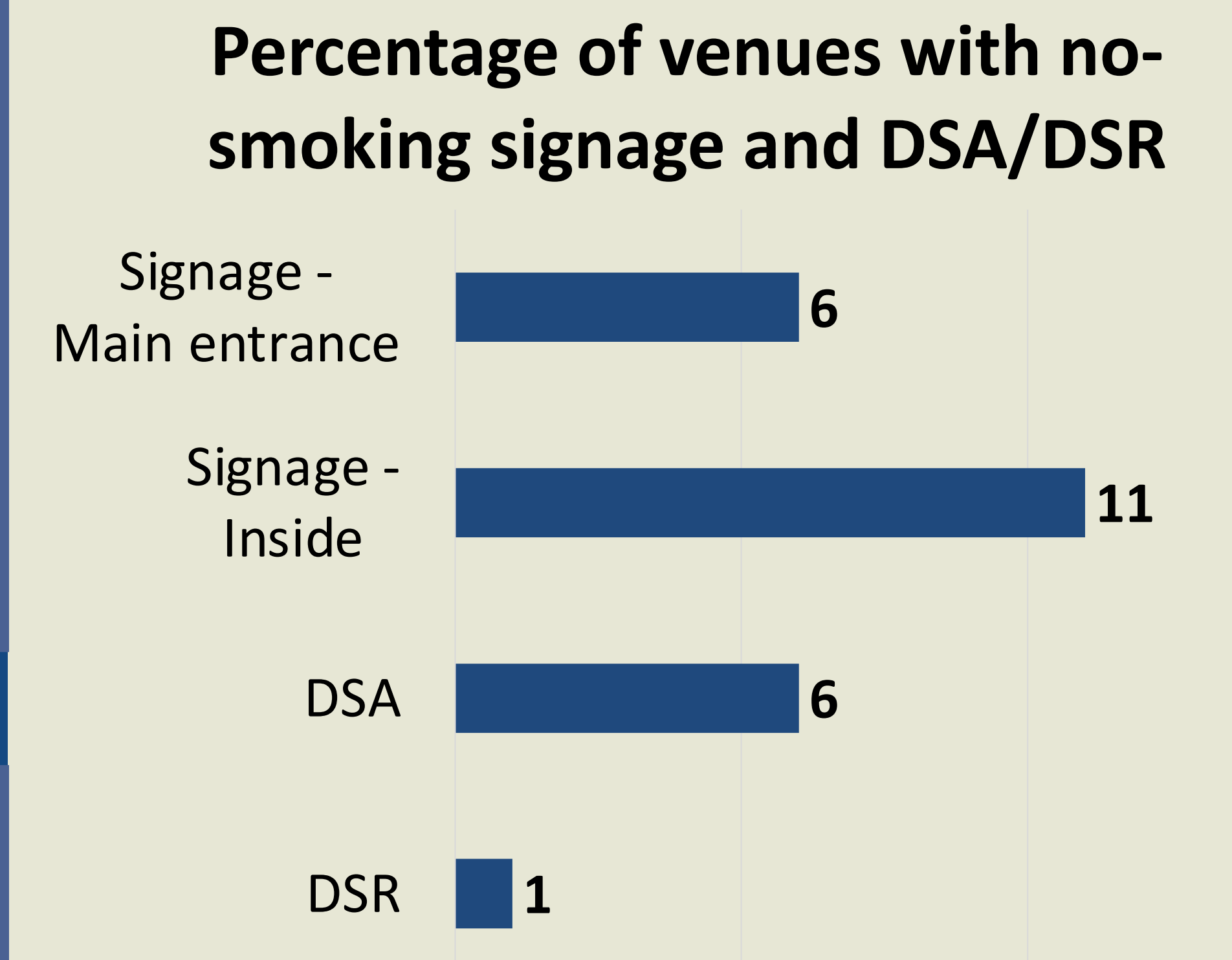
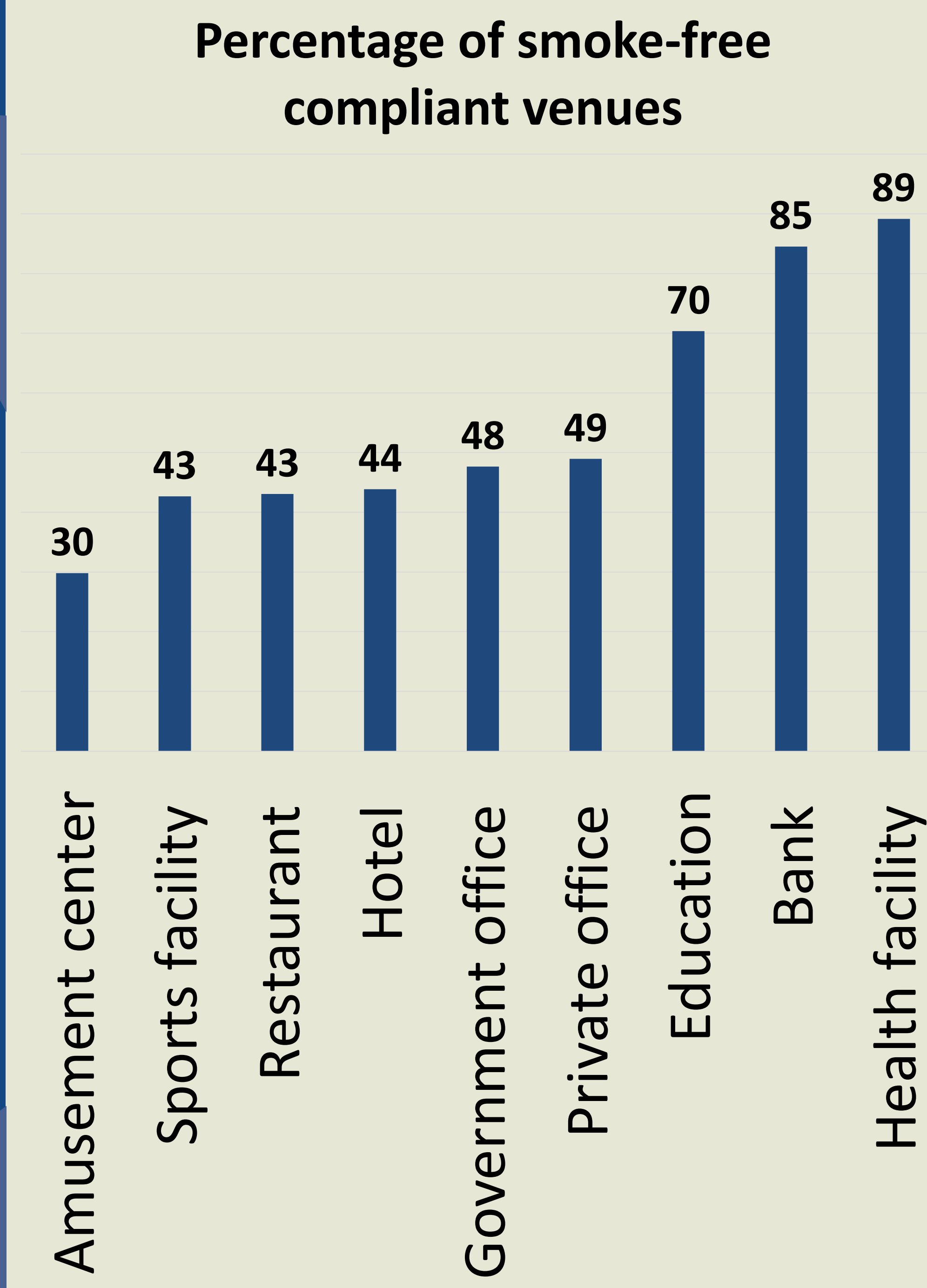
A venue was considered smoke-free compliant if all of the following criteria were met:

- ✓ No one was observed smoking
- ✓ No cigarette butt litter was found
- ✓ No ashtrays were found

Results

922 venues (56%) were smoke-free compliant.

Smoke-free compliance must be improved across ALL public venues in Karachi, especially hospitality venues.



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Authors have nothing to disclose.