



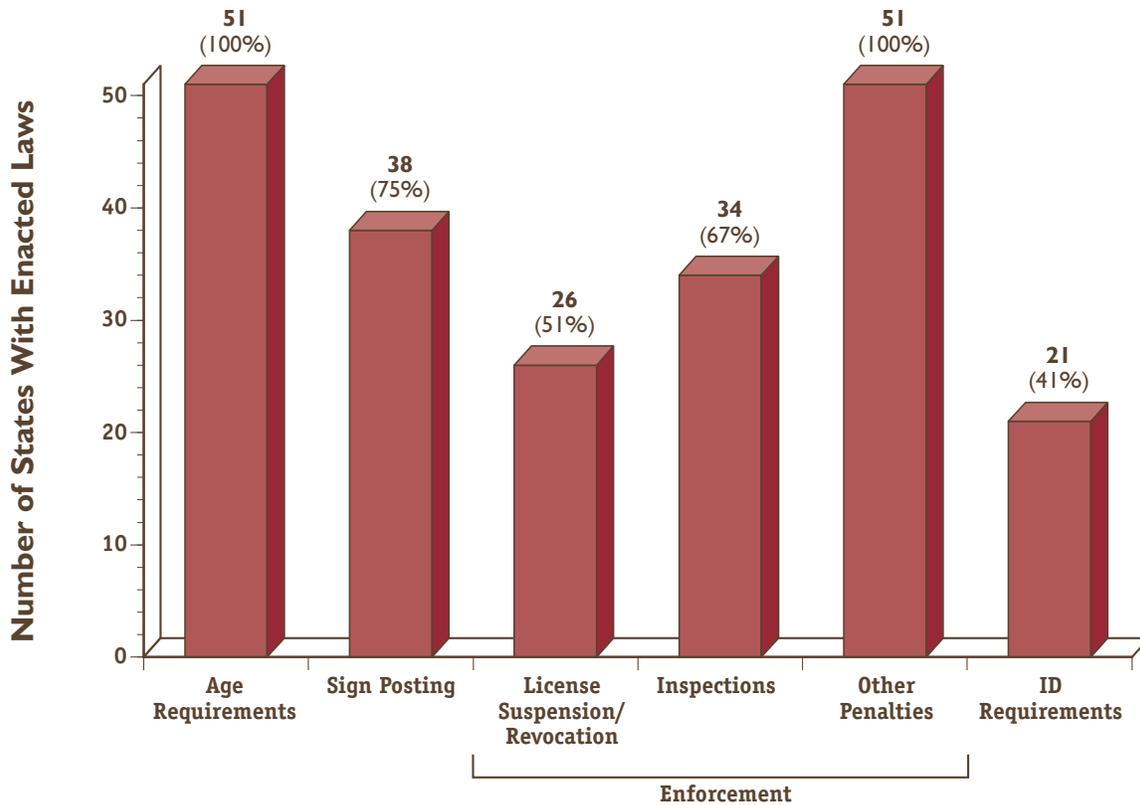
State Cancer  
Legislative  
Database Program

# YOUTH ACCESS TO TOBACCO

FACT SHEET

APRIL 2002

## Number of States with Enacted Youth Access to Tobacco Sale/Purchase/Possession Laws by Category of Law (through March 31, 2002)



### Categories of Laws

(Does not include resolutions or regulations)

Legislation that restricts the sale of tobacco products to minors, or the purchase or possession of tobacco products by minors, has been enacted in all 50 states and the **District of Columbia**. The majority of states prohibit tobacco sales to persons under age 18, although three states—**Alabama**, **Alaska**, and **Utah**—prohibit sales to persons under 19. In **Pennsylvania**, the sale of tobacco products to persons under 18 is illegal, as is the sale of cigarettes to persons under 21. Thirteen states (26%) have enacted legislation that explicitly prohibits or restricts adults from furnishing tobacco products to minors or purchasing tobacco products for minors. A total of 21 states (41%) require retailers to

demand identification to verify a patron's age before selling a tobacco product. Legislation in 38 states (75%) addresses the posting of point of purchase signs that specify restrictions on minors' access to tobacco products. A tobacco vendor's license can be suspended or revoked in 26 states (51%) for selling tobacco products to minors. Some type of civil or criminal penalty (such as a fine and/or imprisonment) is levied by all states for violating youth access laws. In addition, the number of states with laws authorizing inspections of establishments selling tobacco products nearly tripled from 12 (24%) in 1994 to 34 (67%) in 2002.

Source: National Cancer Institute: State Cancer Legislative Database Program, Bethesda, MD, 2002.

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**States with Enacted Youth Access to Tobacco  
Sale/Purchase/Possession Laws by Category of Law  
(through March 31, 2002)**

State	Age Requirements	Sign Posting	Enforcement			ID Requirements
			License Suspension/Revocation	Inspections	Other Penalties	
Alabama	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Alaska	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Arizona	✓				✓	
Arkansas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
California	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Colorado	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Connecticut	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Delaware	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
District of Columbia	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Florida	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Georgia	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Hawaii	✓	✓			✓	
Idaho	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Illinois	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Indiana	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Iowa	✓		✓		✓	
Kansas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Kentucky	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Louisiana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Maine	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Maryland	✓				✓	
Massachusetts	✓	✓			✓	
Michigan	✓	✓			✓	
Minnesota	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Mississippi	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Missouri	✓	✓			✓	✓
Montana	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nebraska	✓		✓		✓	
Nevada	✓			✓	✓	
New Hampshire	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
New Jersey	✓	✓	✓		✓	
New Mexico	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
New York	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
North Carolina	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
North Dakota	✓			✓	✓	
Ohio	✓	✓			✓	
Oklahoma	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Oregon	✓	✓		✓	✓	
Pennsylvania	✓				✓	
Rhode Island	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
South Carolina	✓			✓	✓	
South Dakota	✓			✓	✓	
Tennessee	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Texas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Utah	✓		✓	✓	✓	
Vermont	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Virginia	✓	✓			✓	✓
Washington	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
West Virginia	✓			✓	✓	
Wisconsin	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Wyoming	✓	✓		✓	✓	
<b>Total</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>21</b>

Source: National Cancer Institute: State Cancer Legislative Database Program, Bethesda, MD, 2002.