

Read on for announcements from the [Tobacco Control Network](#) (TCN) and our partners.

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# TCN News

*News and announcements from the Tobacco Control Network*

## TCN Announcements

TCN [published](#) a one-page brief that discusses key elements of the [TCN Strategic Map](#) and how it reflects TCN's priorities in support of state and territorial tobacco control programs for the next three years.

## Help Your Peers Requests

### Healthcare Provider Best Practices

**Deadline:** Dec. 3

The Vermont Department of Health Tobacco Program is seeking healthcare provider research to inform a future marketing campaign. What are best practices to support providers in delivering tobacco and substance use counseling and treatment referral? Please share any findings or insights on what providers report as their needs, misconceptions or barriers to increasing tobacco cessation for patients, including people who are pregnant.

*If you have any information to share or know someone who does, please reply to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org) and we will pass your insights along to the person who submitted the request and to other TCN members interested in learning more.*

## Partner Announcements

*The twice monthly **TCN News** provides a concise digest of tobacco control announcements to the Tobacco Control Network's membership base of tobacco control program managers and additional staff from each state, territory, and D.C., as well as our valued partners.*

### Upcoming Events

[Policy, Systems, and Environmental Changes for E-Cigarettes and Tribal Communities](#)

National Native Network, Indian Health Service, and the American Indian Cancer Foundation  
Nov. 21, 3-4 p.m.  
ET| *Registration required*

[11th Annual National Tribal Public Health Summit](#)

Omaha, NE  
March 17-19, 2020  
| *Registration required*

### Funding Opportunities

*If you are aware of any funding opportunities that would appeal to state and territorial tobacco control programs, please reach out to [tcn@astho.org](mailto:tcn@astho.org).*

### Job Listings

- **ASTHO** continues to update its [Vaping Litigation](#) web page as vaping industry stakeholders sue states over executive orders restricting vaping product sales. See ASTHO's [chart](#) summarizing this information.
- **CDC reports** that, as of Nov. 14, it has identified 2,172 cases of e-cigarette, or vaping, product use-associated lung injuries (EVALI) across 49 states, Washington, D.C., and two U.S. territories, including 42 associated deaths across 24 states and Washington, D.C. CDC and FDA have still not identified a specific vaping product or chemical compound that is causing the outbreak, but note that a majority of patients reported using vaping products containing the cannabis derivative THC.
  - A study published in the Nov. 8, *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* [found](#) that all 29 case-associated bronchoscopy and bronchoalveolar lavage samples were positive for vitamin E acetate, indicating that the compound may be associated with EVALI.
  - Another article from the same issue comparing the vaping habits of EVALI patients and non-patients [identified](#) exclusive and frequent THC product use, obtaining products from informal sources, and using Dank Vapes as risk factors for the disease.
- **FDA published** an infographic detailing findings from the 2019 National Youth Tobacco Survey relating to youth e-cigarette use and [announced](#) that the agency is reopening the public comment period for its cigarette health warnings proposal, with a new deadline of Nov. 27.
- **CDC** published the following data analyses:
  - An analysis of National Health Interview Survey data [found](#) that 19.7 percent of U.S. adults smoke a tobacco product every day or some days, including an all-

[Lead Public Health Analyst](#)  
 CDC National Center for  
 Chronic Disease Prevention  
 and Health Promotion  
 Atlanta, GA

[Program Manager](#)  
 North American Quitline  
 Consortium  
 Part-Time Telecommuting  
 Position

[Manager of Research and  
 Evaluation](#)  
 North American Quitline  
 Consortium  
 Part-Time Telecommuting  
 Position

[Tobacco Treatment Specialist](#)  
 Vermont Department of Health  
 Burlington, VT

### **About the Tobacco Control Network**

The TCN's mission is to improve the public's health by providing education and state-based expertise to tobacco prevention and control at the state and national levels.

The TCN is a network of tobacco program managers and staff from state and territorial health departments as well as Funder's Alliance organizations, and a peer group of the [Association of State and Territorial Health Officials](#) (ASTHO) on behalf of the CDC's Office on Smoking and Health.

### **About ASTHO**

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is the national nonprofit association

time low of 13.7 percent combustible cigarette use and a 3.2 percent e-cigarette use.

- An analysis of longitudinal lung cancer data from 2007 to 2016 published in *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* [concluded](#) that over this period, lung cancer incidence decreased inequitably among those in metropolitan areas, males, and middle-aged adults, and that tobacco prevention and cessation measures are needed to prevent lung cancer.
- An analysis of nationally representative data published in *Pediatrics* [found](#) that in 2016, noncollege and college 18- to 22-year-olds reported 51.6 percent and 46.8 percent prevalence of marijuana use in the past year, respectively, with marijuana use increasing for both groups compared to 2002.

representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia. ASTHO members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions, are dedicated to formulating and influencing sound public health policy and to ensuring excellence in state-based public health practice.



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## State News

- Voters in San Francisco, **California** [rejected](#) Proposition C, the ballot initiative once supported by JUUL Labs, by an 81 percent to 19 percent vote, meaning that all vaping products without FDA approval remain unavailable for sale.

## In the News

- The following news items relate to JUUL Labs:
  - According to reporting from *Reuters*, in 2015 JUUL Labs was [aware](#) that its products might be appealing and addictive to youth, but the company declined to

- implement features that would limit consumers' nicotine intake.
  - JUUL Labs [announced](#) that it would voluntarily end sales of mint-flavored pods, which are especially popular among underage consumers.
  - The U.S. Federal Trade Commission is [probing](#) Altria Group over potentially exerting influence on JUUL Labs in an illicit manner before Altria's 35 percent acquisition of the e-cigarette manufacturer has received antitrust approval.
- President Donald Trump [announced](#) that his administration plans to raise the legal vaping age to 21, but declined to provide additional details.
  - As the Trump administration reportedly considers rules that would restrict the sale of some or all flavored e-cigarettes, pro-vaping stakeholders have been [organizing](#) and stating that their votes may impact the 2020 election cycle.

## Research

- A *JAMA* analysis of 2019 National Youth Tobacco Survey data [found](#) that 27.5 percent of high school students and 10.5 percent of middle school students reported using e-cigarettes in the past 30 days.
- An analysis of Monitoring the Future study data published in *Nicotine & Tobacco Research* [found](#) that the relationship between youth e-cigarette and conventional tobacco product use is largely explained by shared risk factors and not by e-cigarette use itself.
- A *Tobacco Regulatory Science* analysis of 2016-2018 National Youth Tobacco Survey data [concluded](#) that youth most commonly reported

obtaining tobacco products from social sources. The analysis also found that one quarter of surveyed youth were refused sale of retail tobacco products during the study period.

- A longitudinal study of Los Angeles high school students published in *Pediatrics* [concluded](#) that 6.2 percent of all reported e-cigarette use was exclusively of tobacco, mint, and menthol flavors, and that using non-traditional flavors were positively associated with continued and more frequent vaping.

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**Our address:**

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, 2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 450, Arlington, VA 22202  
[TCN@astho.org](mailto:TCN@astho.org)