

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

Happy Anniversary!

In the first newsletter of each month, TCN recognizes anniversaries of state and territorial tobacco program managers to thank them for their leadership in tobacco control and public health more broadly. Thank you and congratulations to the following program managers!

- **Natalya Verscheure (CO)** – 6 years.
- **James Kerrigan (WV)** – 5 years.
- **Amanda Mortensen (NE)** – 5 years.

TCN Announcements

- A recording of the latest TCN coffee chat, which provided a preview of the forthcoming 2021 TCN Policy Recommendations Guide, is [available](#) on the Resources tab of the TCN website.

Help Your Peers Requests

Elementary School Tobacco Prevention Resources
Deadline: August 12

*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

[Endgame Policy: Tobacco-Free Generation](#) – Action on Smoking and Health Webinar
Aug. 13, 12-1:30 pm ET
| *Registration required*

[Nicotine Dependence Conference & National Summit on Smokeless Tobacco Prevention 2020](#) – Mayo Clinic Virtual Conference
Oct. 18-20 | *Registration required*

[State of Black Health Conference](#) – NAATPN, Inc. Charlotte, NC
March 2-4, 2021 | *Registration required*

[National Conference on Tobacco or Health](#) – National Network of Public Health Institutes
New Orleans, LA

Does anyone have great tobacco prevention resources (such as activity sheets, videos, etc.) for elementary school kids? Thanks for your support in advance!

Conducting State Youth Tobacco Survey Online

Deadline: August 14

Do other states conduct your own state youth tobacco survey in schools? If so, do you conduct this survey online? Specifically, how do you deliver the online surveys to the students to ensure that each unique participant can only access the survey once? Texas is looking at moving their state youth tobacco survey online due to COVID-19 and they want to see if other states have already moved their youth tobacco survey online, and understand what their experience was.

If you have any information to share or know someone who does, please reply to 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

- **ASTHO** published a [microlearning video](#) on working with state and territorial leadership on tobacco policy and an [infographic](#) overviewing how state health agencies are encouraging smokers to quit.
- The following announcements come from the **FDA Center for Tobacco Products**:
 - FDA [issued](#) warning letters to 10 companies, including Cool Clouds Distribution Inc. (doing business as Puff Bar), to remove their flavored e-cigarette products from the market for appealing to youths and lacking prior authorization.
 - The Center for Tobacco Products [announced](#) a hiring surge expected to last two to three years to process the anticipated influx of tobacco

June 28-30, 2022 | *Save the date*

Funding Opportunities

[Tobacco Data Analyst](#)

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Lincoln, NE

[Assistant Bureau Director, Bureau of Tobacco Control](#)

New York State Department of Health
Albany, NY

[Research Scientist III](#)

New York State Department of Health
Albany, NY

Job Listings

If you have any job openings that would interest tobacco control professionals, please send them to us at tcn@astho.org.

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

industry premarket authorization applications due on Sept. 9.

- The following announcements come from **CDC**:
 - A study of 23 lung tissue samples from patients with confirmed or suspected EVALI published in *The Lancet* [details](#) observations of acute or subacute lung injury, alveolar damage, and other findings.
 - According to an *MMWR* [detailing](#) county-level prevalence of underlying medical conditions correlated with severe COVID-19 illness, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease has a national prevalence of 6.9% and heart disease has a nationwide prevalence of 6.8%.
 - A *National Health Statistics Report* analysis of 2018 National Health Interview Survey Data [concluded](#) that 49.9% of men and 30.6% of women over 65 were former cigarette smokers, who were at higher risk of reporting fair or poor health and multiple chronic conditions than the general population.
- **WHO** [released](#) a statement on FDA's decision to allow modified risk marketing of IQOS heated tobacco products, highlighting that the approved marketing statements could be misleading to consumers and may violate the [WHO Framework Convention of Tobacco Control](#).
- A new **Geographic Health Equity Alliance** video presentation by Natasha Phelps at the **Public Health Law Center** [overviews](#) tobacco control policy as a key tool to promote health equity.
- **Truth Initiative** published specially tailored tip sheets for employers on how to combat vaping in [education workplaces](#) and among [IT workers](#).

Office on Smoking and Health.

About ASTHO

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



Forward to Friend

State News

- **Colorado** Governor Jared Polis [signed](#) into law a bill that raises the tobacco sales age to 21, inclusive of all nicotine products, and requires that all retailers obtain state licensing and be subject to fines and suspension for violations.
- A *Tobacco Control* audit of four **Minnesota** localities [found](#) that between 84.4% and 100% of retailers complied with local ordinances requiring that menthol tobacco products be sold in adult-only stores.
- **Massachusetts** Attorney General Maura Healey [filed](#) a lawsuit against Puff Bar before FDA removed the products from the market, alleging the company sold flavored tobacco products to Massachusetts consumers in violation of state law.

In the News

- JUUL Labs [announced](#) that it submitted a Premarket Tobacco Product Application with FDA ahead of the agency's Sept. 9 deadline, which, if approved, will allow the company to continue selling its nicotine-salt based pod products in perpetuity.
 - British American Tobacco [reported](#) greater than expected first half profits, thanks to increasing sales of vaping products and higher-priced cigarettes in the United States. Meanwhile, Altria also [announced](#) higher than projected earnings while sharing plans to expand marketing of its IQOS heated tobacco products.
 - Sales volume for combustible cigarettes [decreased](#) only 0.2% during the four-week period ending July 11, which compares favorably to the 13.2% decrease observed in e-cigarette sales during the same period, and the
-

7.2% combustible cigarette decrease that took place during an analogous four-week period in 2019.

- Hannaford Supermarkets, a New England grocery chain with over 180 locations, [announced](#) that it will phase out tobacco products in all locations by this fall.
- According to reporting from *Bloomberg*, JUUL Labs [replaced](#) its original hardware design released in 2015 with an improved version in early 2018, unbeknownst to FDA, over a year after the agency's deeming rule went into effect.

Research

- An analysis of nationally representative data from 2002 to 2017 published in *Journal of Adolescent Health* [concluded](#) that the cigarette flavor ban implemented in 2009 (exempting menthol) correlated with a 43% reduction in youth smoking and a 27% reduction in young adult (ages 18 to 25) smoking compared to modeled projections of smoking rates if the restriction was never implemented.
- A *JAMA Open Network* analysis of Health Information National Trends Survey data [found](#) that while exposure to court-ordered tobacco industry corrective statements was associated with increased odds of smokers intending to quit, less than half of Americans recalled seeing those advertisements.
- A *Biomedical Journal* research review [summarizes](#) the effects of e-cigarette use, as well as secondhand and thirdhand exposure to e-cigarette aerosol, on oral and overall health.

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