



# Vermont Tobacco Control Program 2014 Counter Tools Store Audit Report

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# Executive Summary

This report details store audit results from the Vermont Department of Health's Counter Balance campaign. Counter Balance is one part of the Health Department's work to reduce the toll of tobacco on Vermont's youth. A critical part of this initiative is measuring and reporting the extent of industry point-of-sale marketing.

The Vermont Department of Health Tobacco Control program worked with community partners statewide and the nonprofit organization Counter Tools to audit Vermont's tobacco retail outlets. From October through December 2014, store audit teams visited 885 tobacco licensees and completed 767 audits.

## **Audit Results: Tobacco Retailer Type and Location:**

The majority of Vermont's tobacco retailers are convenience stores (57%), followed by small grocery stores, supermarkets, and pharmacies. Overall, 12% of Vermont's tobacco retailers have a pharmacy counter.

Low-income neighborhoods have nearly twice as many tobacco retailers per 1,000 residents (1.9 retailers) as higher-income neighborhoods (1.1 retailers). In the lowest-income neighborhoods, twice as many tobacco retailers are located near a school or park as in the highest-income neighborhoods (17% versus 8%).

## **Audit Results: Tobacco Product Availability and Marketing**

A wide variety of tobacco products are available in most of Vermont's tobacco retailers. Cigarettes were the most commonly available product, for sale in 98% of tobacco retailers. E-cigarettes were the least commonly available but were still for sale in 63% of retailers. Tobacco retailers in rural areas were more likely to sell smokeless tobacco than those in urban areas. Urban retailers were more likely to sell e-cigarettes and cigars.

# Executive Summary

## **Audit Results: Tobacco Product Availability and Marketing (continued)**

Forty-one percent of all tobacco retailers had some exterior tobacco advertising. Fifty-one percent of retailers near schools had exterior advertising, compared with 39% of stores far from schools. The average total square footage of interior tobacco displays was 37 square feet. Tobacco shops (96 square feet) and pharmacies (66 square feet) had the largest tobacco displays. E-cigarettes were the most likely product to be displayed on the counter.

Eight-five percent of tobacco retailers sold at least one kind of flavored tobacco product. Smokeless products were most likely to have flavored varieties (77%), followed by cigarillos (72%). E-cigarette shops, tobacco shops, and pharmacies were the tobacco retailers most likely to offer flavored products.

## **Audit Results: Tobacco Product Pricing**

More than half of all tobacco retailers (54%) offered price promotions for tobacco products. Two-thirds of tobacco retailers sold single cigarillos or small cigars, and 39% of those retailers advertised them for less than \$1. Pharmacies (83%) and mass merchandisers (80%) were the most likely retailers to offer discounts on any tobacco product.

Tobacco retailers near schools were more likely to offer price discounts in nearly all product categories than retailers farther away from schools. The biggest difference was for cigarillos (37% versus 24%) and smokeless tobacco (28% versus 18%).





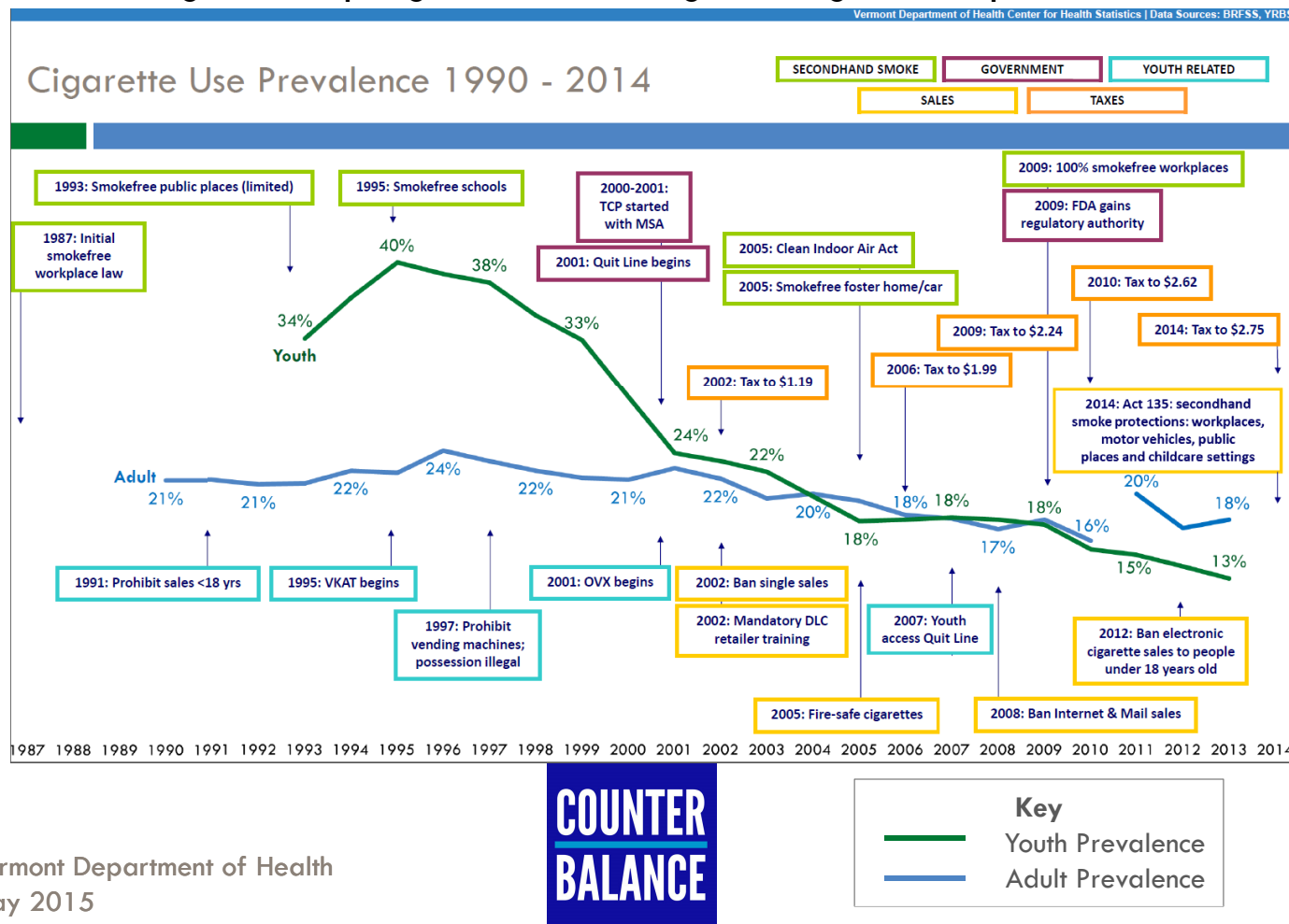
# Counter Balance Background



**COUNTER  
BALANCE**

# Tobacco's Impact in Vermont

- Since creation of the Tobacco Control Program at the Vermont Department of Health, the state has made significant progress in reducing the negative impact of tobacco.



# Tobacco's Impact in Vermont

- Tobacco continues to take a heavy toll on the health and wellbeing of Vermonters. An estimated 1,000 Vermont adults die every year from their own cigarette smoking. This does not count other tobacco use or exposure to secondhand smoke.<sup>1</sup>
- Tobacco results in \$348 million each year in health care expenditures, of which \$87.2 million is covered by Vermont Medicaid.<sup>1</sup>
- Low-income populations and those affected by other addictions and mental illness continue to smoke at higher rates than the general population. Nearly one in three Vermonters receiving Medicaid or suffering from depressive disorder is a current smoker, compared to one in five in the general population.<sup>2</sup>
- The next generation of tobacco interventions must focus on new areas for prevention and limit the tobacco industry's influence on current users, especially among vulnerable groups disproportionately affected by tobacco.



<sup>1</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs, 2014

<sup>2</sup> 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

# Tobacco Retail Environment Impact on Vermont

- Youth exposed to tobacco advertising at the retail point of sale are more likely to use tobacco.<sup>1</sup> For those trying to quit, exposure to marketing makes it harder to be successful.<sup>2</sup>
- Every year, the tobacco industry spends billions of dollars on promotions to reduce tobacco prices and keep tobacco visible. Point-of-sale expenditures accounted for 91% of the industry's marketing budget in 2012.<sup>3</sup> In Vermont, the industry spends \$19 million per year on marketing – approximately \$19,000 for every retailer.<sup>4</sup>
- 90% of smokers begin using before age 18.<sup>1</sup> The tobacco industry recruits new users through store location, product displays and packaging, flavored products, and promotions that keep prices low. The U.S. Surgeon General reports strong and consistent evidence that this marketing causes initiation and continuation of youth smoking.
- Point-of-sale policies can address tobacco marketing to youth and young adults. Across the country, states and localities are taking action by keeping tobacco away from schools, banning industry tactics to keep tobacco cheap, increasing the purchase age for tobacco, and more.



<sup>1</sup> Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General, 2012

<sup>2</sup> Reitzel et al. 2011

<sup>3</sup> Federal Trade Commission, via [www.CounterTobacco.org](http://www.CounterTobacco.org)

<sup>4</sup> Federal Trade Commission, via Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

# Counter Balance Initiative

- Cigarette consumption has been declining for decades nationwide, and tobacco sales are decreasing as a percentage of total sales in most store types.<sup>1</sup> Vermonters are requesting more healthy products and less unhealthy advertising.<sup>2</sup> Even as the tobacco industry promotes its products, sustainable retail stores will shift away from tobacco.
- In fall 2014, the Health Department launched the Counter Balance campaign to address youth exposure to tobacco promotions at the point of sale. Campaign goals are to:
  - ▣ Raise public awareness among parents about the impact of point-of-sale advertising on youth initiation.
  - ▣ Enable communities and coalitions to create healthier retail environments through community design and policy change.
  - ▣ Increase knowledge of tobacco as a health equity issue and possible interventions.
- Counter Balance is one part of our work to reduce the toll of tobacco on youth. A critical part of this initiative is measuring and reporting the extent of industry point-of-sale marketing on Vermont's youth, especially near schools and in low-income communities.



<sup>1</sup> D'Angelo et al., 2015

<sup>2</sup> Vermont Healthy Retailer Report, 2012

# Counter Tools Audits – Goals

- We worked with the nonprofit organization [Counter Tools](#) to conduct a comprehensive assessment of Vermont's tobacco retail environment. Our goals:
  - ▣ Use in-depth data to increase understanding of how the tobacco industry markets in Vermont.
  - ▣ Engage community groups and youth in retail assessments and development of potential interventions.
  - ▣ Establish a baseline to evaluate the impact of the Counter Balance initiative.
- In August 2013, we piloted Counter Tools in Chittenden County with the Health Department Burlington district office and five local community coalitions. Based on this pilot, we initiated statewide audits in fall 2014.



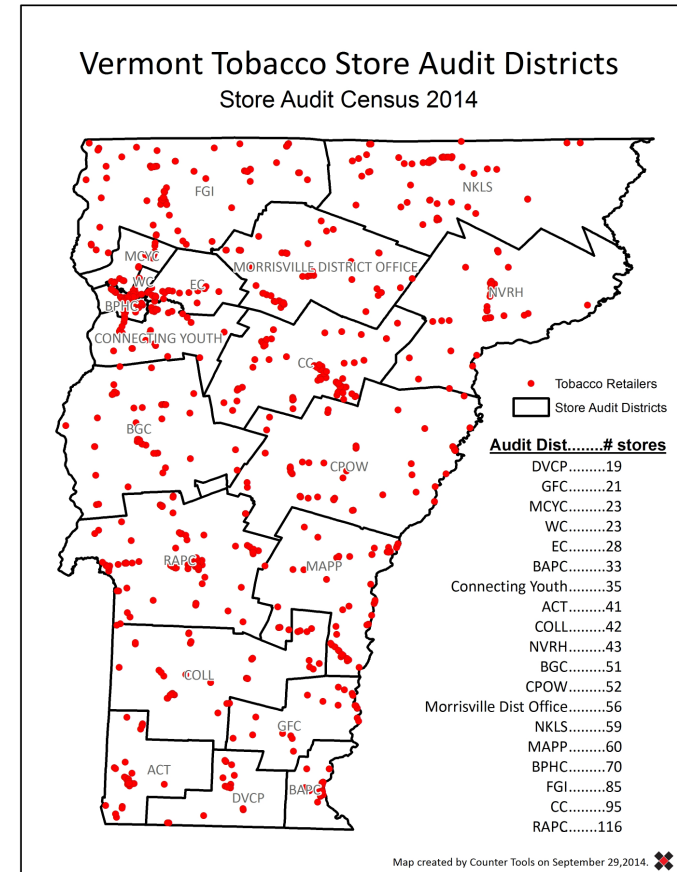
# Counter Tools Audits – Methods

- Store audit teams consisted of community coalitions, Health Department district office staff, and tobacco youth coalitions (OVX & VKAT).
- Coalition staff led the audit teams. Counter Tools, in partnership with the Health Department, trained team leads to conduct audits in a consistent manner. (See Appendices A and B for detailed methodology and survey development and testing.)
- Store audit teams conducted audits by directly observing the retail environment. The Health Department provided a letter detailing its support for the project.
- Store audit teams audited stores for tobacco, alcohol, and food availability and marketing. Food and alcohol results are described elsewhere. The tobacco audit was an adapted version of the [Standardized Tobacco Assessment for Retail Settings \(STARS\) Survey](#). For a copy of the audit form, see Appendix D.



# Counter Tools Audits – Methods

- Counter Tools and Health Department staff divided Vermont into 18 audit districts.
- Counter Tools staff used the Vermont Department of Liquor Control tobacco licensee list to make the store audit list.
  - ▣ Store audit teams visited **885** stores between October 27, 2014 and January 1, 2015.
  - ▣ Teams completed **767** audits for a completion rate of **87%**.
  - ▣ Each team audited between **19** and **116** tobacco retailers.



Map of tobacco retail stores visited by store audit teams. Geographic Information Software slightly distorts the state shape.

# Counter Tools Audits – Partners

## Community Prevention Grantees

Alliance for Community Transformation (Bennington)  
Boys & Girls Club of Greater Vergennes  
Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition  
Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community  
The Collaborative  
Community Connections/Central Vermont New Directions  
Deerfield Valley Community Partnership  
Essex CHIPS  
Franklin County Caring Communities/Franklin-Grand Isle  
Tobacco Prevention Coalition  
Greater Falls Prevention Coalition  
Community Prevention of Orange and Windsor  
Milton Community Youth Coalition  
Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership  
Northeast Kingdom Learning Services (Healthworks ONE)  
Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital Alcohol, Tobacco, &  
Other Drugs Task Force  
Rutland Area Prevention Coalition  
Winooski Coalition for a Safe & Peaceful Community

## Health Department District Offices

Barre  
Bennington  
Brattleboro  
Burlington  
Middlebury  
Morrisville  
Newport  
Rutland  
St. Albans  
St. Johnsbury  
Springfield  
White River Junction

# Counter Tools Audits – Partners

## Our Voices Xposed (High School Youth Coalitions)

Boys & Girls Club – Rutland  
Burlington High School  
The Collaborative – Burr & Burton Academy  
Concord High School  
Connecting Youth – Champlain Valley Union  
High School  
Enosburg Falls High School  
Milton Community Youth Coalition – Milton  
High School  
Richford Junior Senior High School  
Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership –  
Springfield High School  
Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership –  
Windsor High School  
Winooski High School  
Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership –  
Woodstock Union High School

## Vermont Kids Against Tobacco (Middle School Youth Coalitions)

Albert D. Lawton Intermediate School  
Brattleboro Area Middle School  
The Collaborative – Flood Brook Union and  
Dorset Schools  
Concord School  
Edmunds Middle School  
Enosburg Falls Middle School  
Essex Middle School  
Gilman Middle School  
Hartland Elementary School  
Connecting Youth – Hinesburg Community School  
Hunt Middle School  
Middletown Springs Elementary School  
Milton Middle School  
Richford Elementary School  
Richford Junior Senior High School  
Riverside Middle School  
St. Albans City School  
St. Albans Town Educational Center  
Waterford Elementary School  
Waterford Elementary School  
Weathersfield Middle School  
Wells Village School  
Williston Central School  
Windsor State Street School  
Winooski Middle School  
Woodstock Middle School



# Disclaimer

- The information in this report is summary analysis of store audits collected by community prevention coalitions, local Health Department staff, and youth groups. This was not a controlled research project and is therefore subject to some limitations.
- Counter Tools led the store audit training, which consisted of one full-day in-person training, followed by two Webinars, and subsequent technical assistance as needed. This is similar to training of professional data collectors in university-based research studies. While the large number of data collectors helps reduce the potential for systematic error, not all team members were trained directly by Counter Tools staff.
- Counter Tools used the Vermont Department of Liquor Control tobacco licensee list to create the store audit list and assign retailers to audit teams. The discrepancy between the number of assigned stores (n=952) and visited stores (n=885) stems from errors in the store audit list coupled with auditors not noting the store audit list error. For example, CVS Pharmacy stopped selling tobacco one month before audits began, so auditors may have skipped visiting CVS stores without noting the reason they did not visit CVS. For a full list of reasons store audit teams could not complete audits of stores they visited, see Appendix C. Our analyses included only stores that could be audited and sold tobacco.
- Despite limitations, the audit results are a snapshot of nearly all of Vermont's tobacco retailers collected in a two-month period in 2014. The large sample in a short timeframe is a strength and can be used to inform programmatic decision making.



## Audit Results: Tobacco Retailer Type & Location

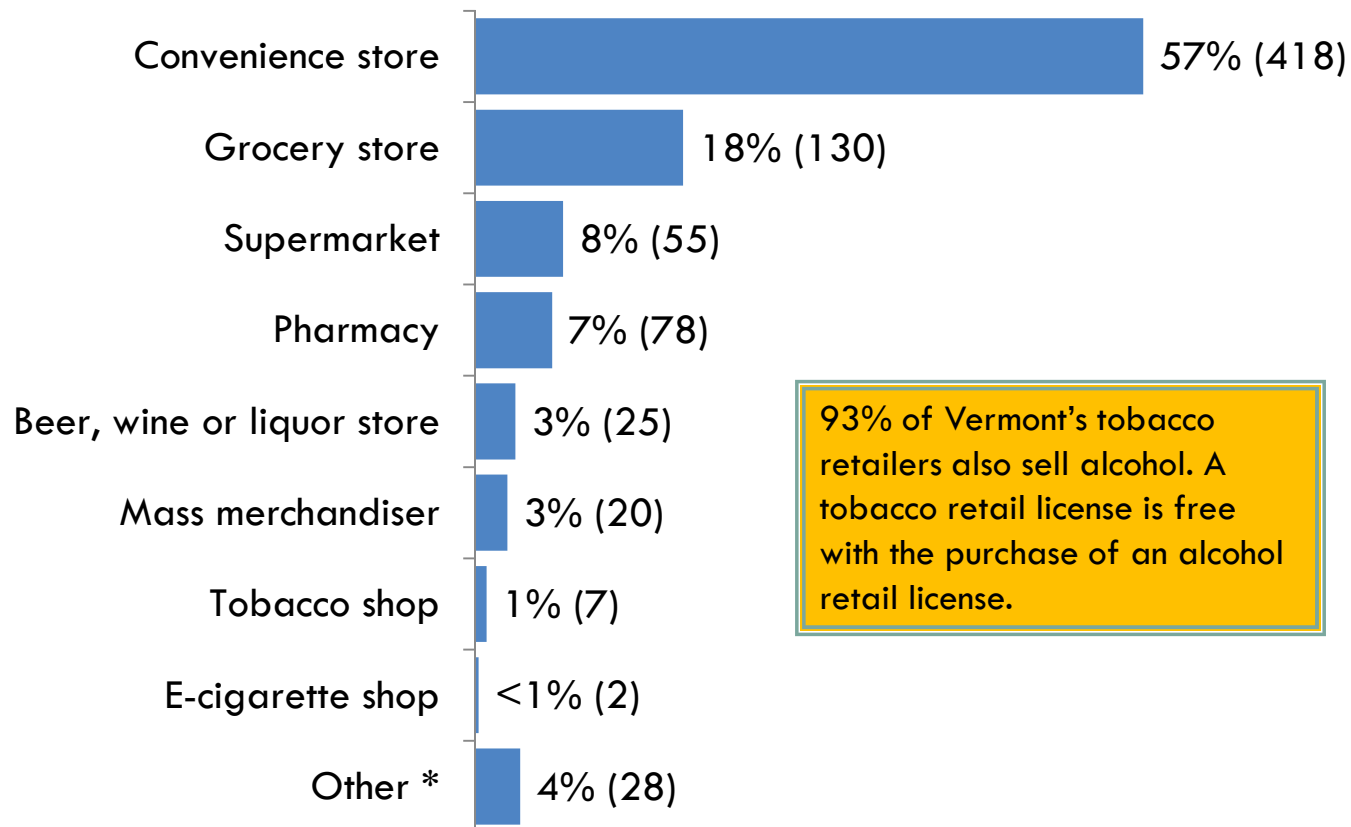
The location and density of tobacco retailers negatively impacts youth smoking initiation and current smokers' ability to quit.

- U.S. Surgeon General, 2012
- Reitzel et al. 2011

# Tobacco Retailer Types

Retailer Type	Definition
Convenience store, with or without gas	Sells limited line of goods that generally includes milk, bread, soda, and snacks. Some sell gas and others don't. Examples: Maplefields, Cumberland Farms, Stewart's
Drug store or pharmacy	Known primarily for selling prescription drugs, as well as over-the-counter medicines. Examples: Rite Aid, Walgreens, Kinney Drugs
Beer, wine, or liquor store	Mostly sells beer, wine, or liquor and may sell limited snack foods. Example: Vermont Liquor Store
Grocery store (small market, deli, produce market)	Small markets with a limited selection of fresh fruits, vegetables, and raw meats intended to be cooked at home. Example: country stores
Supermarket	Primarily engaged in selling a general line of food, such as canned and frozen foods; fresh fruits and vegetables, and fresh and prepared meats, fish, and poultry. Examples: Hannaford, Shaw's, Price Chopper
Mass merchandiser or discount store	Primarily retails a general line of groceries in combination with general lines of new merchandise. Examples: WalMart, Costco, BJ's
Tobacco shop	Smoke shop or other retailer that primarily sells tobacco products. Examples: cigar shop, hookah bar
E-cigarette or vape shop	Retailers that sell electronic vaporizers and paraphernalia (e-liquid, batteries, etc.). Often called "vape shops".

# Retailer Type – All Audited Tobacco Retailers



\*Examples of "other" stores include ski areas, golf clubs, restaurants, and breweries.

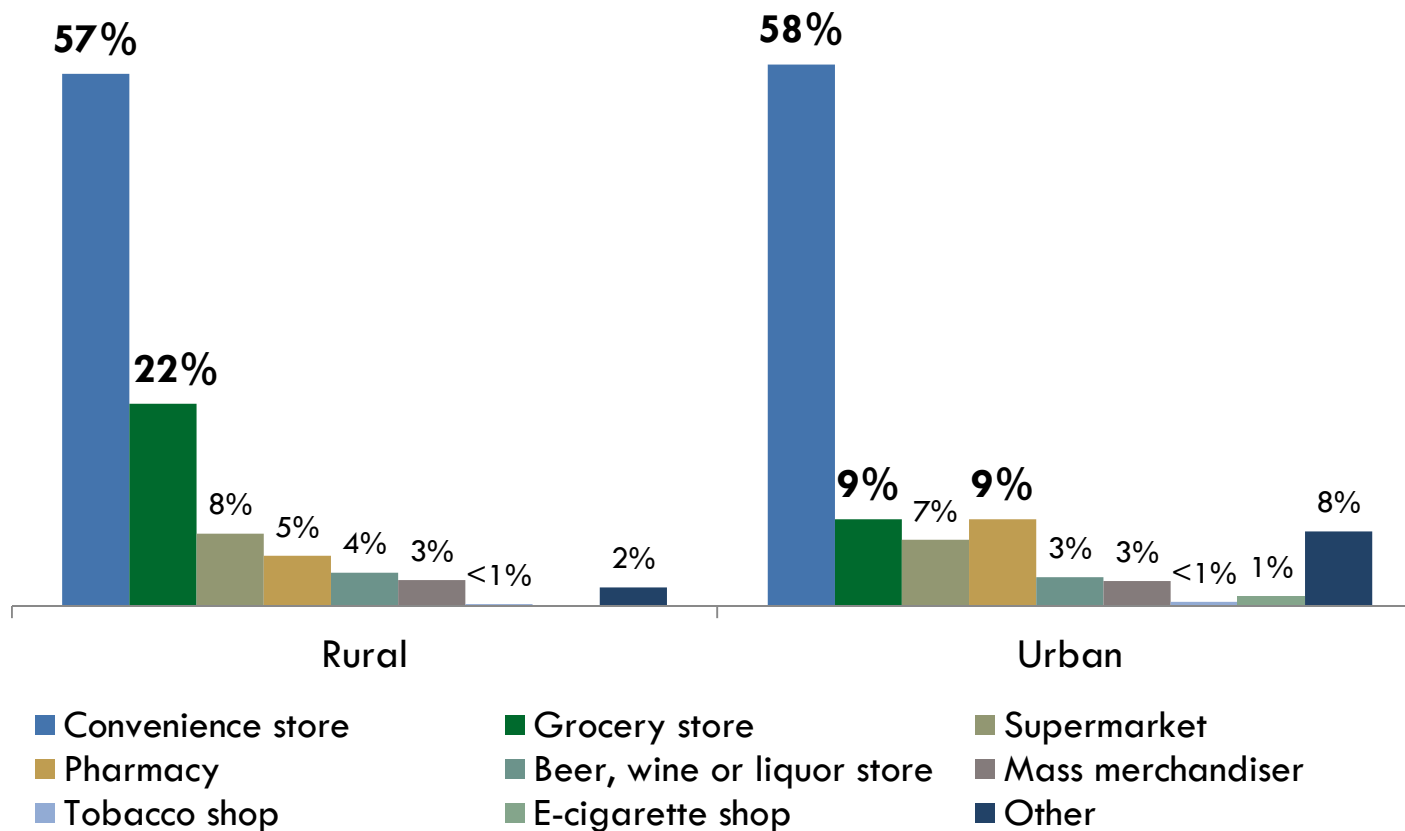
93% of Vermont's tobacco retailers also sell alcohol. A tobacco retail license is free with the purchase of an alcohol retail license.

More than half of audited tobacco retailers were convenience stores. The 10 most common tobacco retailer names in our sample were:

Rite Aid  
Champlain Farms  
Cumberland Farms  
Dollar General  
Kinney Drugs  
Maplefields  
Shaw's  
Hannaford  
Family Dollar  
Simon's



# Retailer Type – Rural Areas vs. Urban Areas



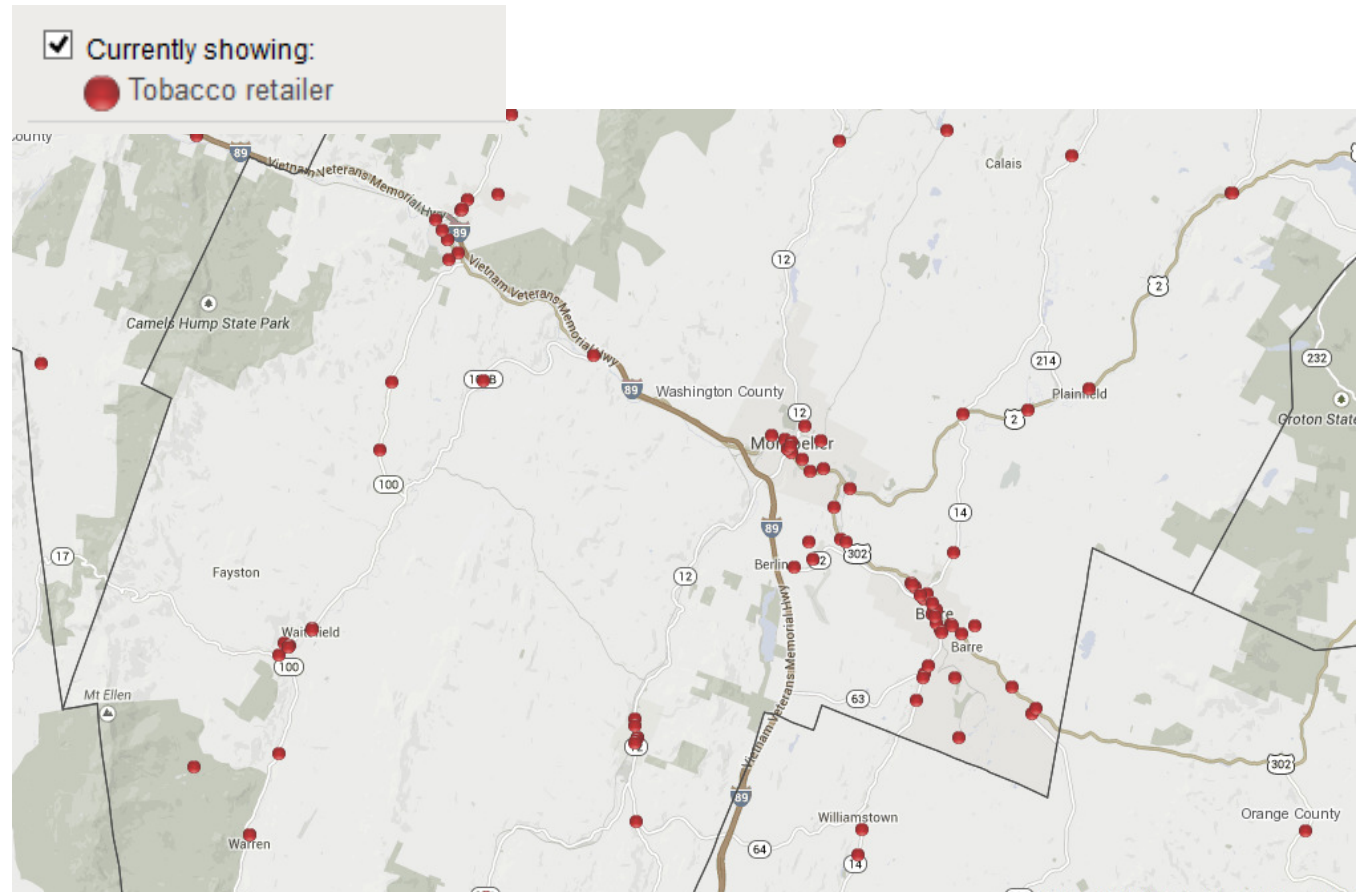
The mix of tobacco retailer types varied between Vermont's rural and urban areas. Rural areas were more likely to have small grocery stores selling tobacco, while urban areas were more likely to have pharmacies and "other" retailers.

# Mapping Retailer Location and Density

- The [Counter Tools Vermont Tobacco Store Mapper](#) is a publicly available, interactive map that visualizes tobacco's impact on Vermont's communities.
- The store mapper includes information on:
  - ▣ Tobacco retailer location as licensed by the Vermont Department of Liquor Control, including e-cigarette retailers
  - ▣ Retailers located near schools, parks, and child care centers
  - ▣ Demographics such as race or ethnicity, population density, and household income
  - ▣ Youth tobacco use prevalence from the 2013 Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey
  - ▣ Rates of illegal tobacco sales to underage youth
  - ▣ Pharmacies that sell tobacco
  - ▣ Information on Food & Drug Administration tobacco compliance checks
  - ▣ Option to visualize data by school district, city, or county
- Pages 21-29 of this report use Washington County, Vermont to illustrate the tool.

# Mapping Retailer Location – Washington County

This map shows the location of all tobacco retailers in Washington County, Vermont as listed in the Vermont Department of Liquor Control tobacco licensee database.



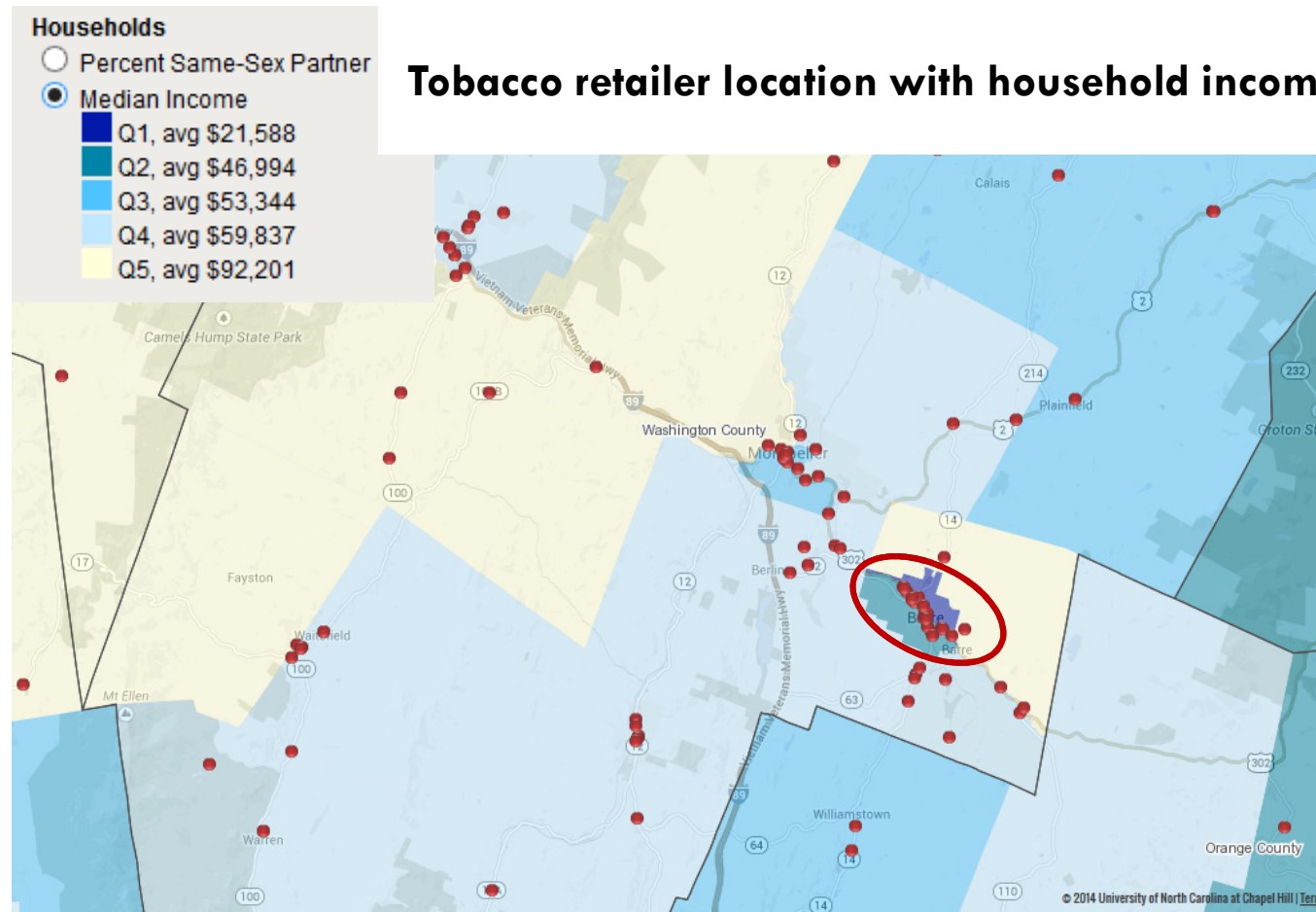
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Source: [www.countertools.org/vtmapping](http://www.countertools.org/vtmapping)

Vermont Department of Health  
May 2015

# Mapping Retailer Location – Washington County

Tobacco retailers in Washington County, Vermont are clustered in census tracts with lower median household income. Low-income Vermonters are more likely to be smokers than the general population but are as likely to try to quit.<sup>1</sup> Living near a retailer decreases the chances of a successful quit.



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Source: [www.countertools.org/vtmapping](http://www.countertools.org/vtmapping)

Vermont Department of Health  
May 2015

<sup>1</sup> 2013 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System

# Retailer Density – Washington County



## Retailer Density Report Washington County

### Vendor Counts and Density By Demographic

#### Washington County

	Tot Pop	Num Retailers	Retailers per 1K	People per retailer
Total	59,462	98	1.6	607.0

#### Vermont Statewide

	Tot Pop	Num Retailers	Retailers per 1K	People per retailer
Total	625,498	952	1.5	657.0

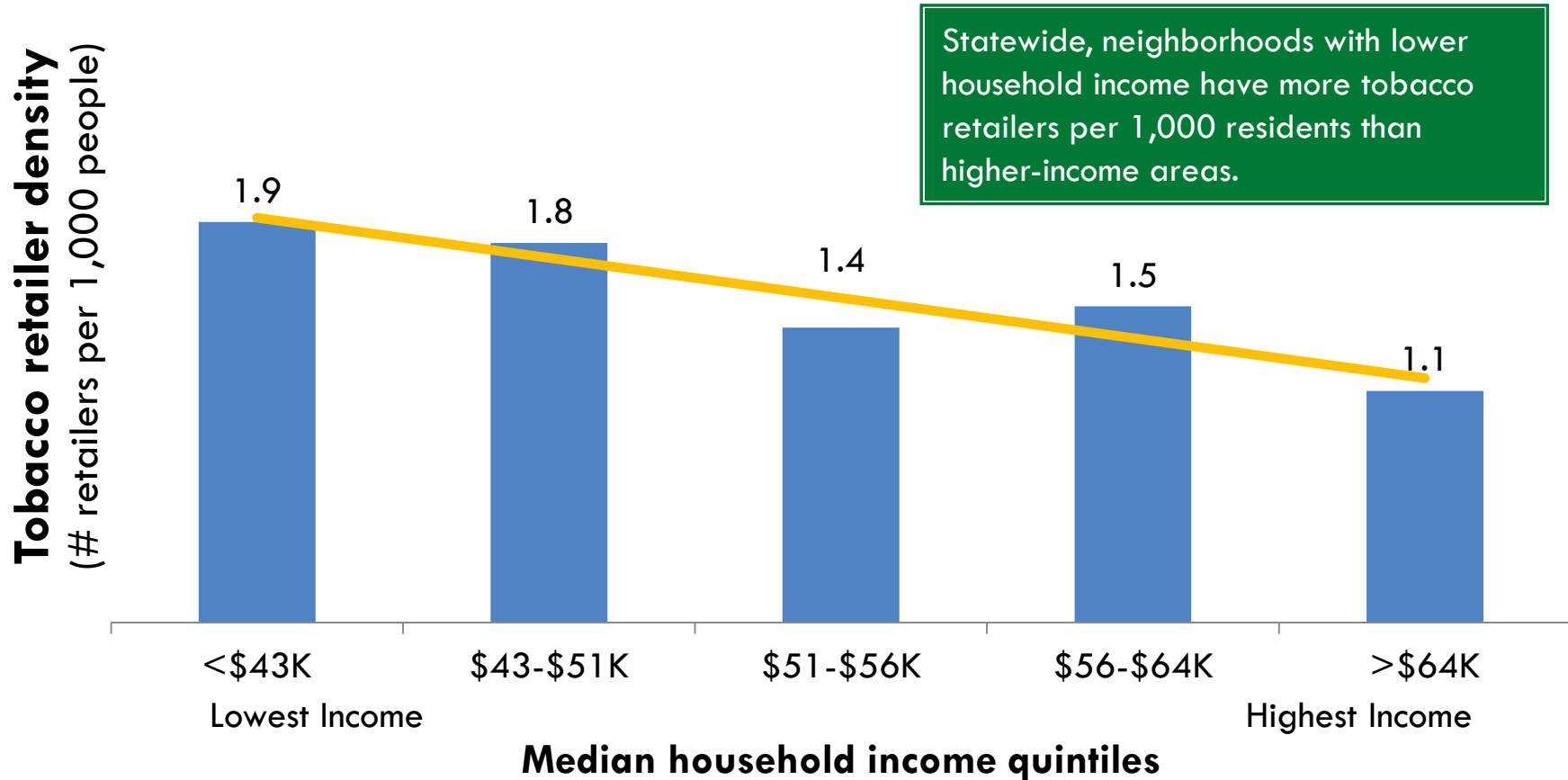
#### Median Household Income

		Tot Pop	Num Retailers	Retailers per 1K	People per retailer
Q1	(under \$43k)	4,096	10	2.4	409.6
Q2	(\$43k - \$51k)	4,948	10	2.0	494.8
Q3	(\$51k - \$56k)	11,105	18	1.6	616.9
Q4	(\$56k - \$64k)	25,863	47	1.8	550.3
Q5	(\$64k+)	13,450	13	1.0	1,034.6

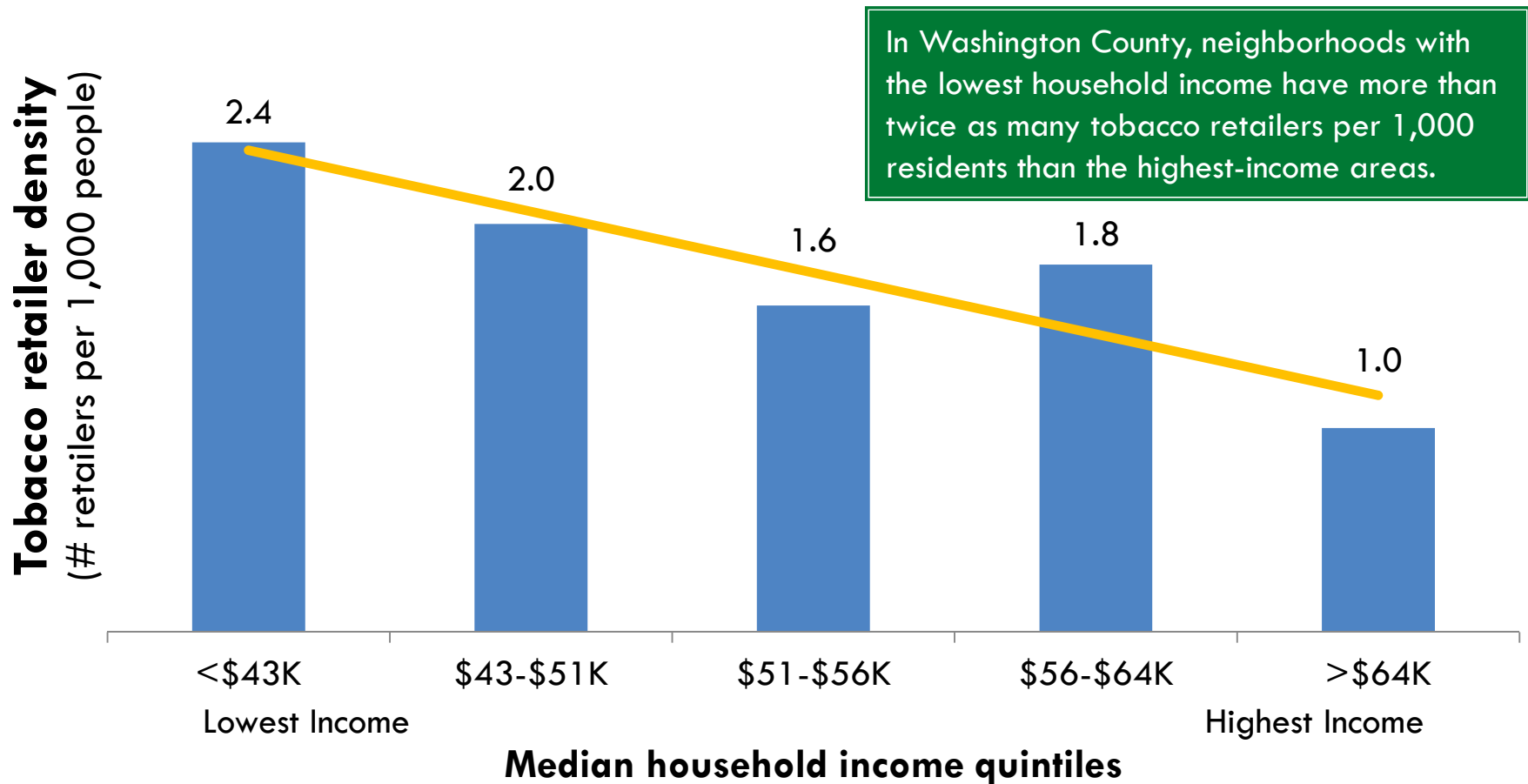
	Tot Pop	Num Retailers	Retailers per 1K	People per retailer
Q1	112,302	218	1.9	515.1
Q2	117,318	216	1.8	543.1
Q3	127,162	174	1.4	730.8
Q4	120,490	178	1.5	676.9
Q5	148,226	166	1.1	892.9

The number of tobacco retailers per 1,000 residents in Washington County is inversely related to median household income. In areas of the county with lower household income, there are more than twice as many retailers per 1,000 residents (2.4 vs. 1.0). This relationship also exists statewide but is amplified in Washington County.

# Retailer Density and Income – Vermont

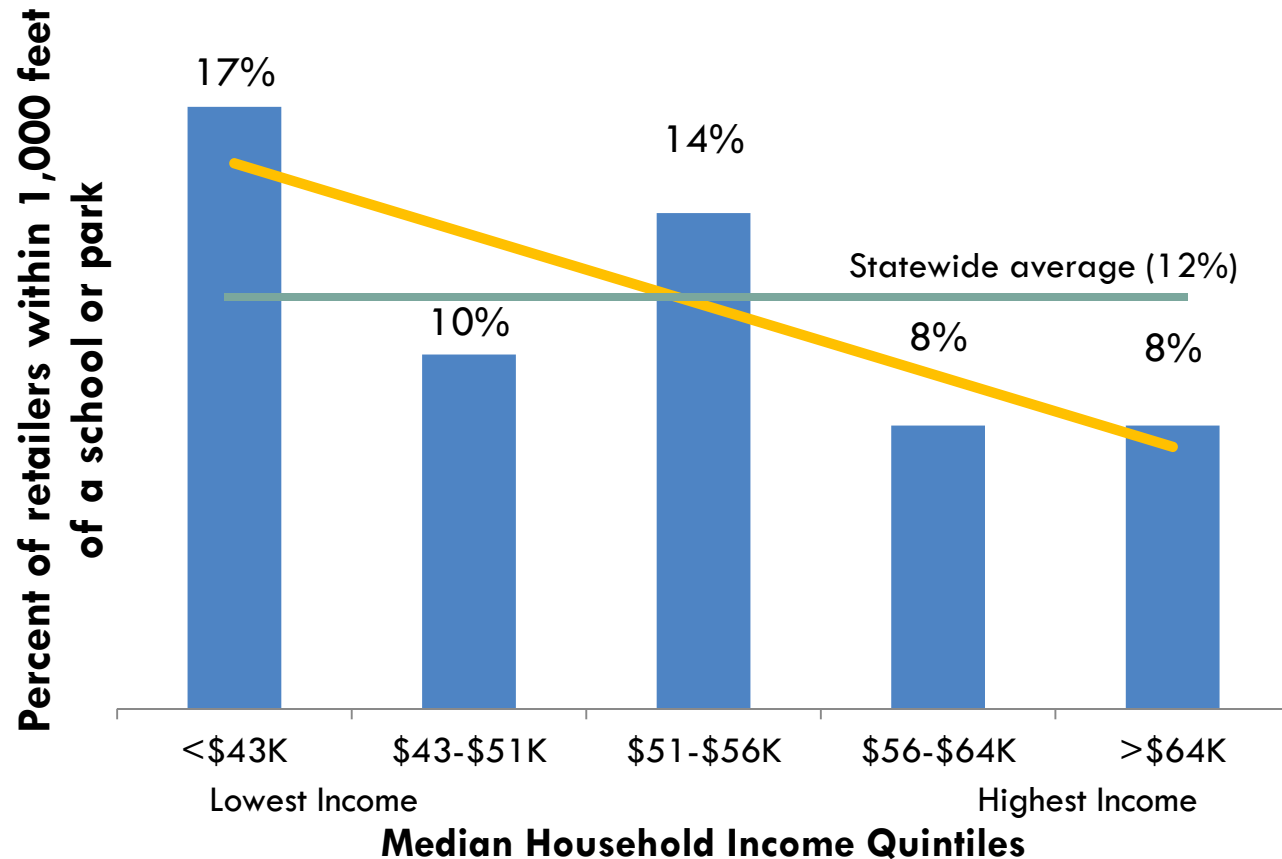


# Retailer Density and Income – Washington County





## Retailer Location – Schools and Parks



Statewide, 12% of Vermont's tobacco retailers are located within 1,000 feet of a school or park. In Vermont's lowest-income neighborhoods, tobacco retailers are twice as likely to be located near a school or park than in the highest-income neighborhoods.

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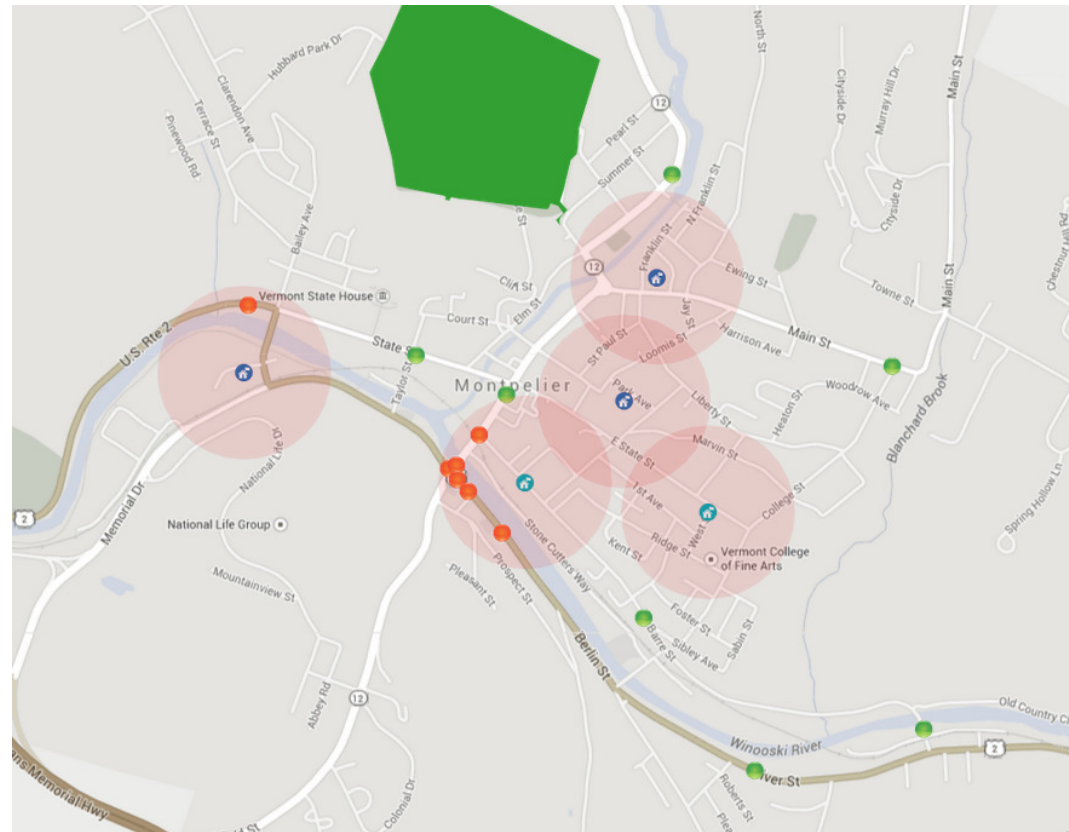
Source: [www.countertools.org/vtmapping](http://www.countertools.org/vtmapping)

# Retailer Location – Montpelier, Vermont

In some of Vermont's communities, a large proportion of retailers are located within 1,000 feet of a school or park.

44% of Montpelier's tobacco retailers are near a school or park versus 12% statewide. Orange dots show tobacco retailers within the pink 1,000 foot buffer zone.

## Tobacco retailer location with proximity to schools and parks



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Source: [www.countertools.org/vtmapping](http://www.countertools.org/vtmapping)

# Underage Youth Sales of Tobacco

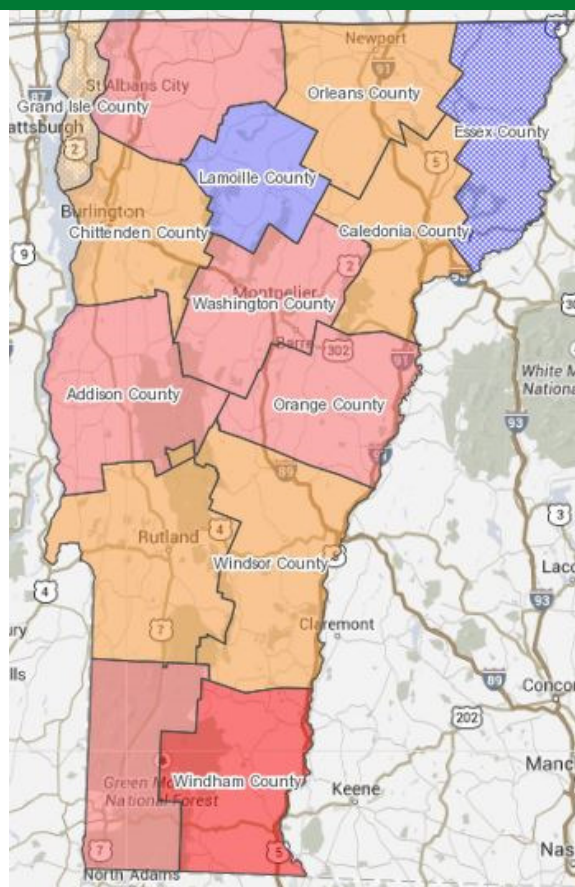
- Vermont prohibits sale of tobacco products and tobacco substitutes (e-cigarettes\*) to minors. Vermont Department of Liquor Control Investigators work with youth to conduct undercover tobacco buys and test retailer compliance with state law.
- Over the past decade, Vermont has consistently had a relatively low rate of retailer sales to minors. Statewide, the violation rate decreased from 14% in 2002 to 12% in 2014.<sup>†</sup> Maps on the following page show the improvement in illegal youth sales over the last decade, by county.
- Despite statewide progress, improvements could still be made:
  - ▣ 20% of high school smokers in Vermont report that they usually buy cigarettes from a retailer.<sup>1</sup>
  - ▣ Our audits found that 8% of retailers do not have the Department of Liquor Control's "no sales to minors" sign clearly posted as required by state law.

\* Vermont state law defines e-cigarettes and other electronic nicotine delivery systems as "tobacco substitutes." However, emerging research shows that these products are usually used concurrently with other tobacco products, and users may have high nicotine-dependence (Pulvers et al., 2014).

<sup>†</sup> These are unweighted numbers that may not be the same as the official sample reported by federal agencies. For tobacco youth sales violation rates by state, visit [www.samhsa.gov/synar](http://www.samhsa.gov/synar).

# Underage Youth Sales of Tobacco

**2002-2003: Percent of successful undercover purchases allowed to a minor**



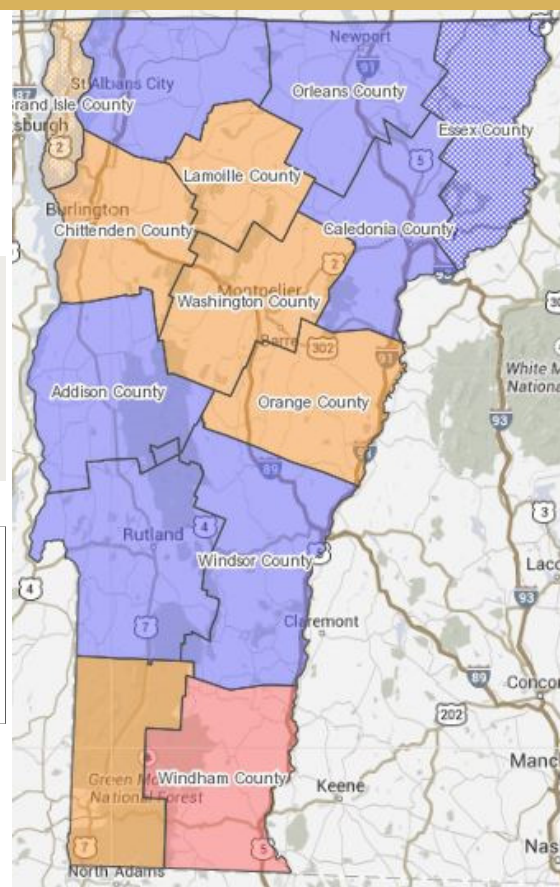
Percentage of undercover purchases allowed to a minor.

- 5% or less
- 5.1% - 9.9%
- 10% - 14.9%
- 15% - 19.9%
- 20% or greater
- No purchase attempts

Note: Areas with crosshatch fill have fewer than 25 attempted purchases in the reporting period.

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**2012-2013: Percent of successful undercover purchases allowed to a minor**



Source: [www.countertools.org/vtmapping](http://www.countertools.org/vtmapping)

## Audit Results: Product Availability & Marketing

Tobacco advertising at the point of sale causes youth initiation, cues cravings in current smokers and quitters, and prompts impulse tobacco purchases by smokers and quitters.

- U.S. Surgeon General, 2012
- Carter et al. 2006
- Wakefield et al. 2008

# Tobacco Product Definitions

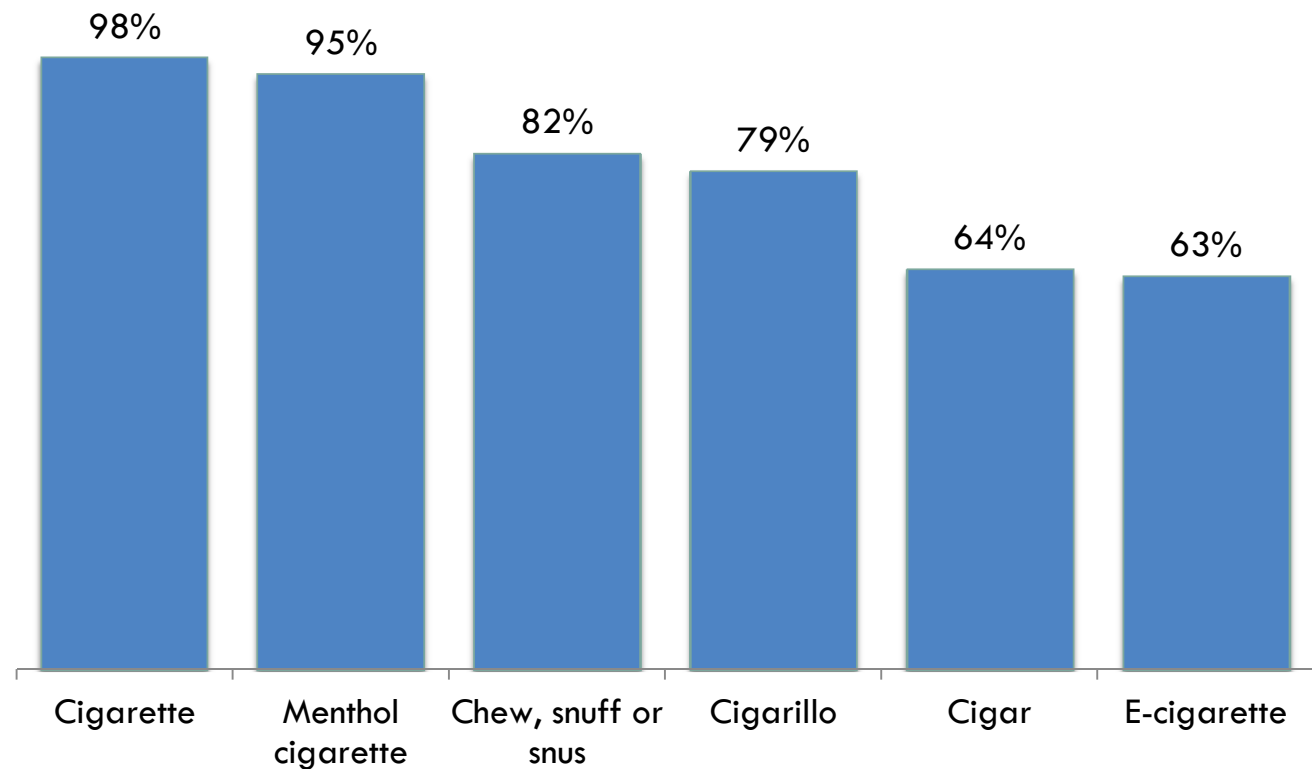
Product Type	Description
Cigarette	The most widely available tobacco product, typically sold in packs and cartons. Popular brands include Marlboro, Pall Mall, Camel, and Winston.
Menthol cigarette	Cigarettes that are marketed as containing menthol. Typically sold in green packs but may come in other colors. Popular brands include Kool, Newport, Salem, and Marlboro menthol.
Cigarillos and little cigars	May be sold individually, in small packs, or in packs of 20 like cigarettes. They are short (3-4 inches) or the size of a cigarette and wrapped in tobacco leaves or brown paper. Popular brands are Swisher Sweets, White Owl, and Prime Time.
Large cigars	Often sold as singles but can also be found in boxes. Some cigarillos and little cigars have the word “cigar” on the package. However, these are not considered large cigars because they are sold in a pack or are smaller than large cigars.
Chew, moist or dry snuff, dip, or snus	Packaged in cans or pouches and usually shelved near cigarettes. Popular brands are Copenhagen, Grizzly, Skoal, Redman, Swedish Match, Camel, and Klondike.
E-cigarettes	Battery-powered devices that produce aerosol instead of smoke. May be disposable or refillable. They may be displayed with tobacco products or found next to Nicotine Replacement Therapy. Popular brands include Blu, NJOY, Vuse, Swisher, and Starbuzz.



# Product Availability – All Audited Tobacco Retailers

All tobacco products were widely available in audited tobacco retailers. The most commonly sold products are traditional cigarettes and menthol cigarettes. Large cigars and e-cigarettes were the least common products but were still available at more than 60% of retailers.

Percent of tobacco retailers carrying each product type



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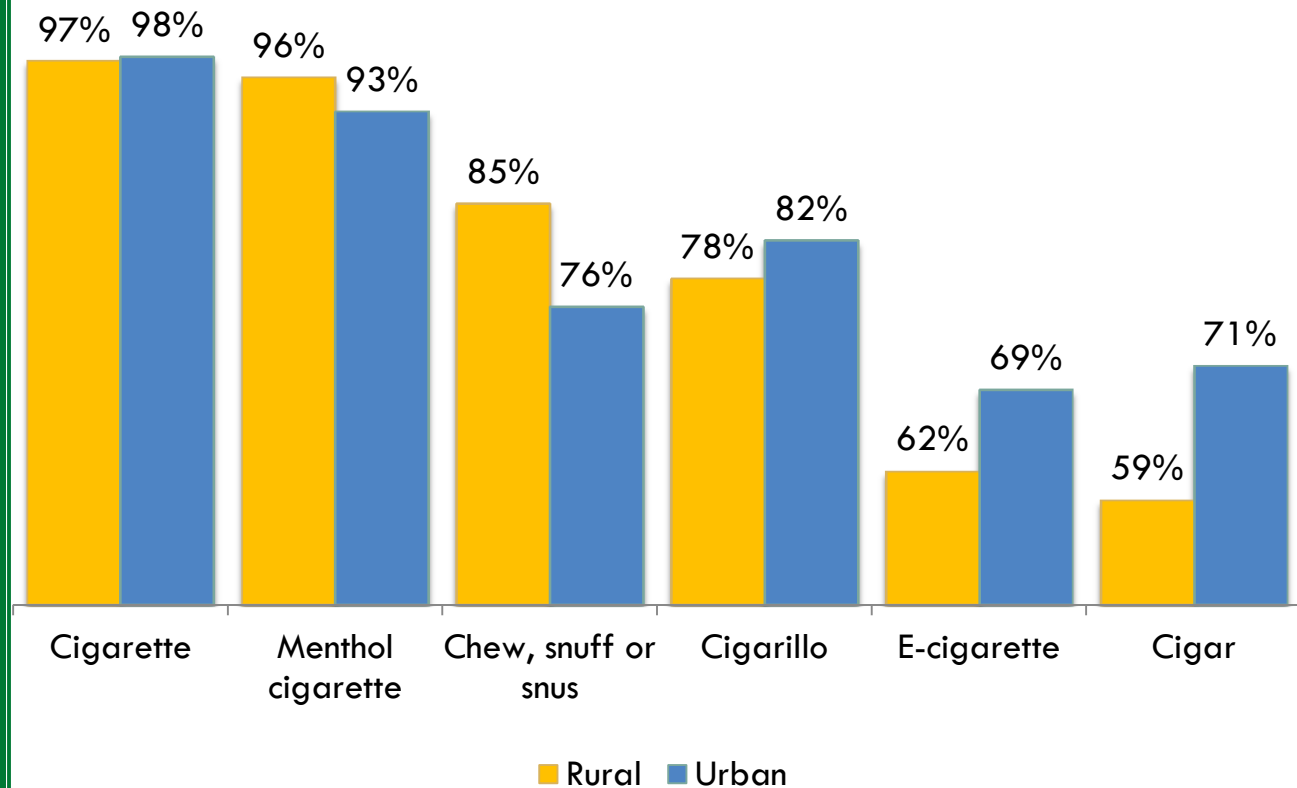


# Product Availability – Rural Areas

Residents of rural areas in the U.S. are more likely to smoke, use smokeless tobacco, and be heavy smokers than urban dwellers.<sup>1</sup>

In Vermont's rural areas, tobacco retailers were more likely to sell menthol cigarettes and smokeless tobacco than retailers in urban areas. Urban retailers were more likely to sell cigarillos, e-cigarettes, and cigars.

Availability of tobacco product type in rural and urban areas

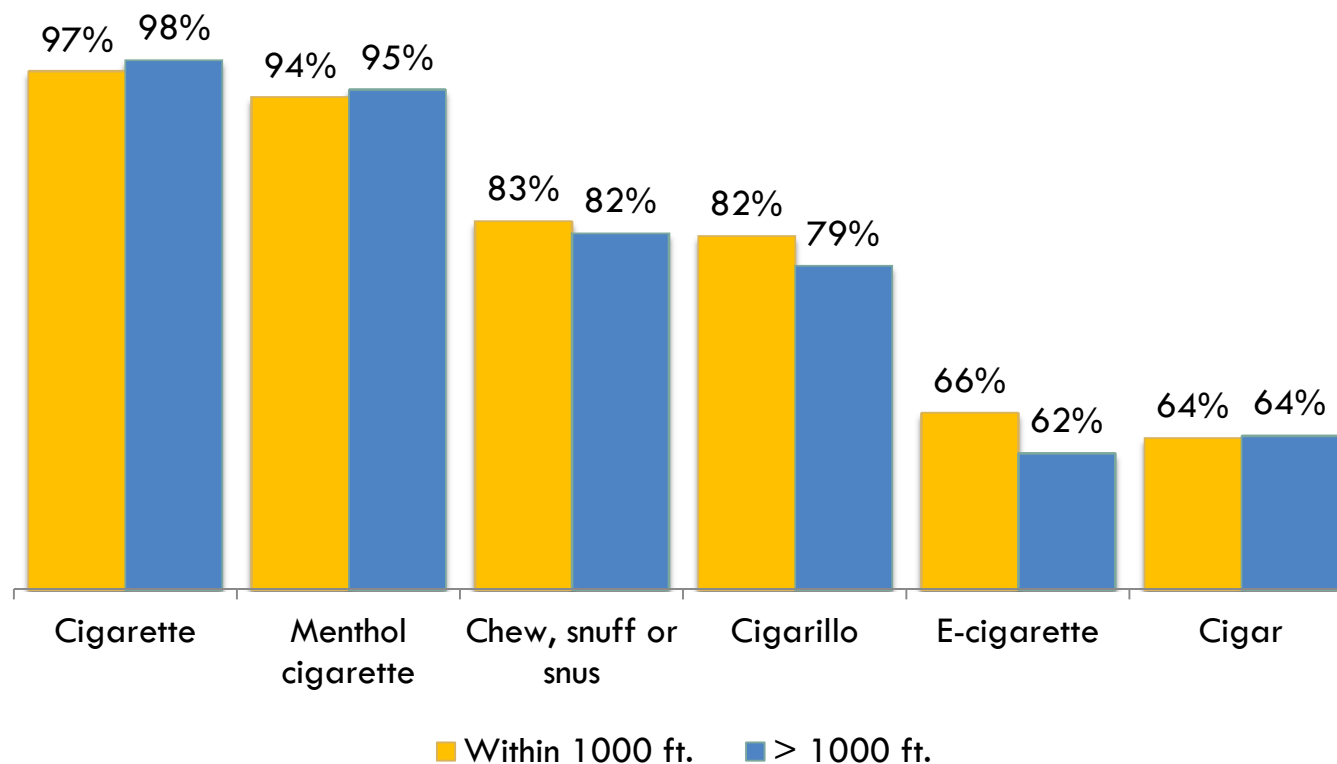


<sup>1</sup> 2010 National Survey on Drug Use and Health, via the American Lung Association

# Product Availability – Proximity to Schools

Cigars and cigarettes are equally popular among Vermont high school students (13% current use), and high school students are twice as likely as adults to report cigar use (13% vs. 6%).<sup>1,2</sup> Nationally, e-cigarette use among youth tripled from 2013-2014.<sup>3</sup> We found that stores near schools were slightly more likely to sell cigarillos and e-cigarettes.

**Availability of tobacco product type by proximity to school**



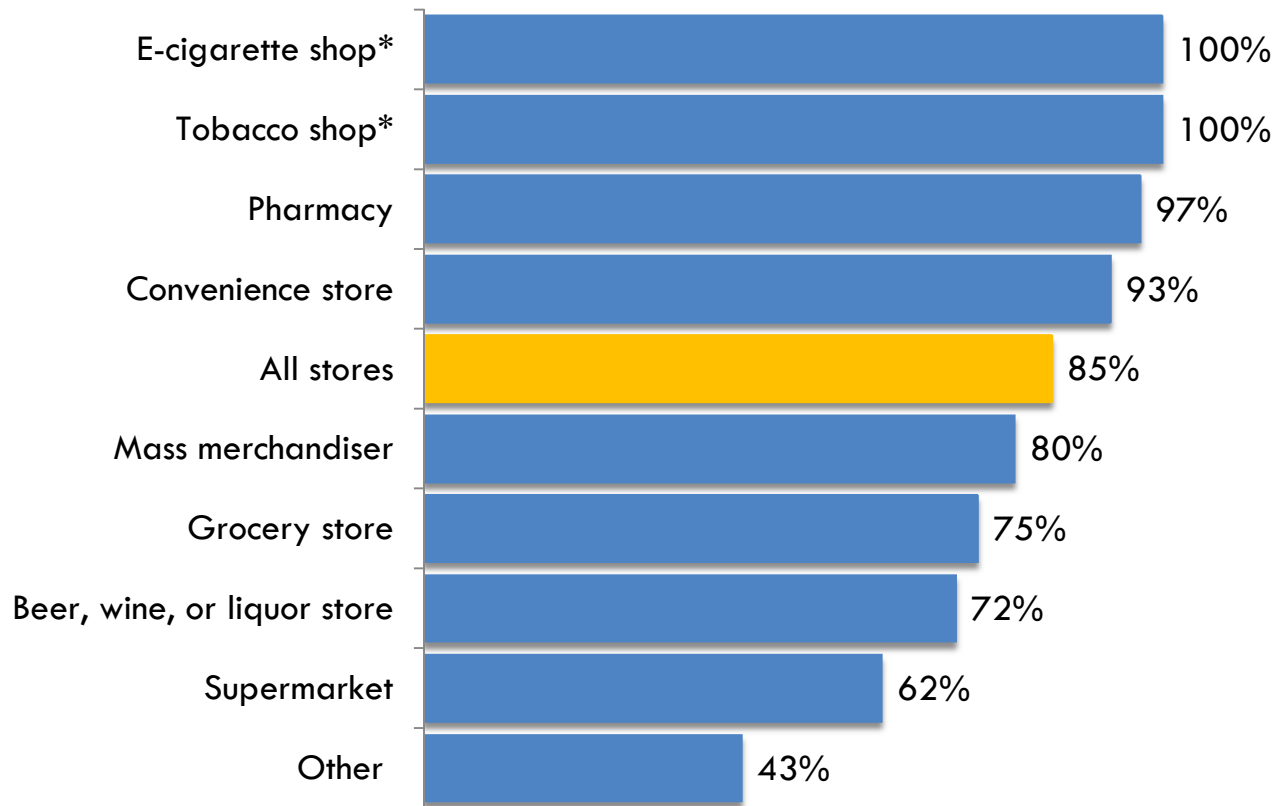
<sup>1</sup> 2013 Vermont Youth Risk Behavior Survey

<sup>2</sup> 2012 Vermont Adult Tobacco Survey

<sup>3</sup> 2014 National Youth Tobacco Survey

# Product Availability – Flavored Products

**Percent of tobacco retailers with any flavored product by retailer type**



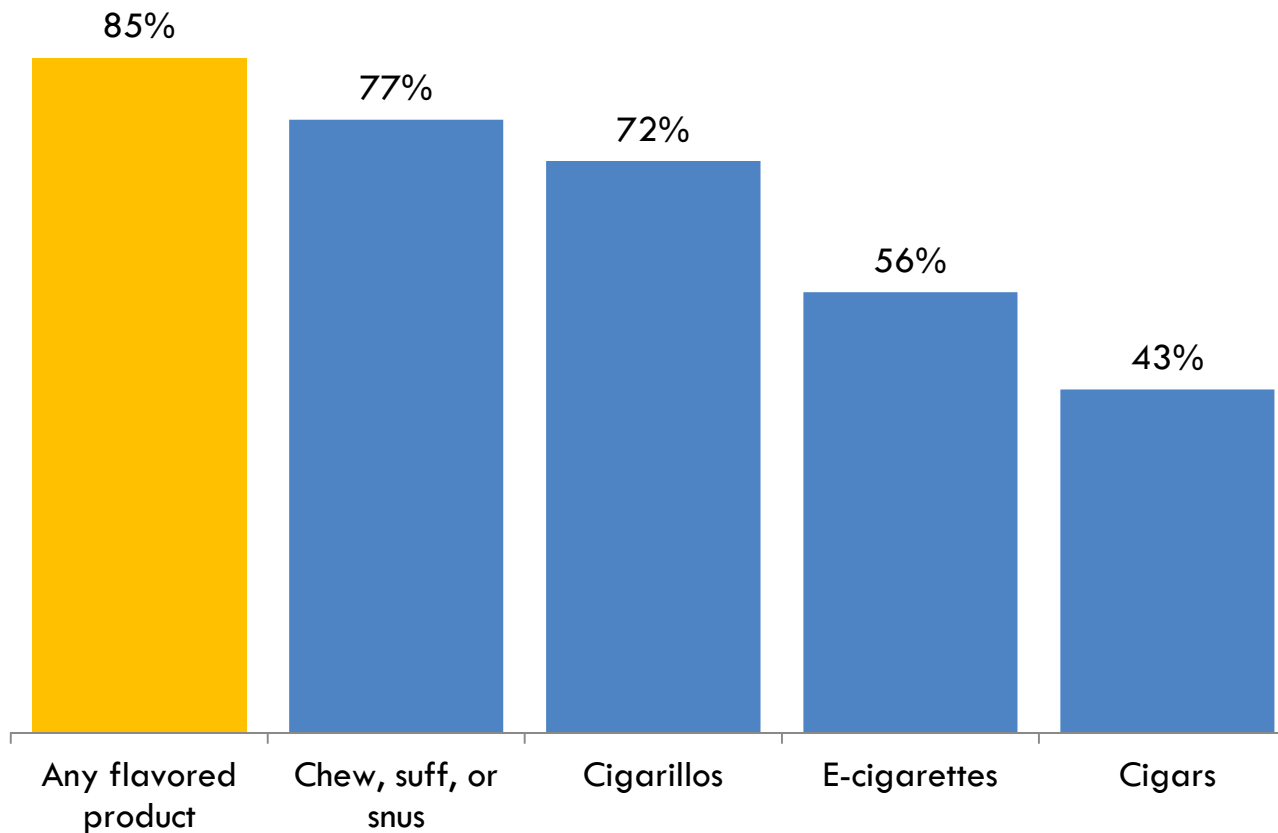
\* Represents fewer than 10 retailers

The vast majority (85%) of audited tobacco retailers sold flavored tobacco products. All e-cigarette and tobacco shops carried flavored products, as did nearly all pharmacies and convenience stores. According to the U.S. Surgeon General, youth are the industry's target consumer for flavored products.<sup>1</sup>



# Product Availability – Flavored Products

Percent of stores selling flavored tobacco products by product type



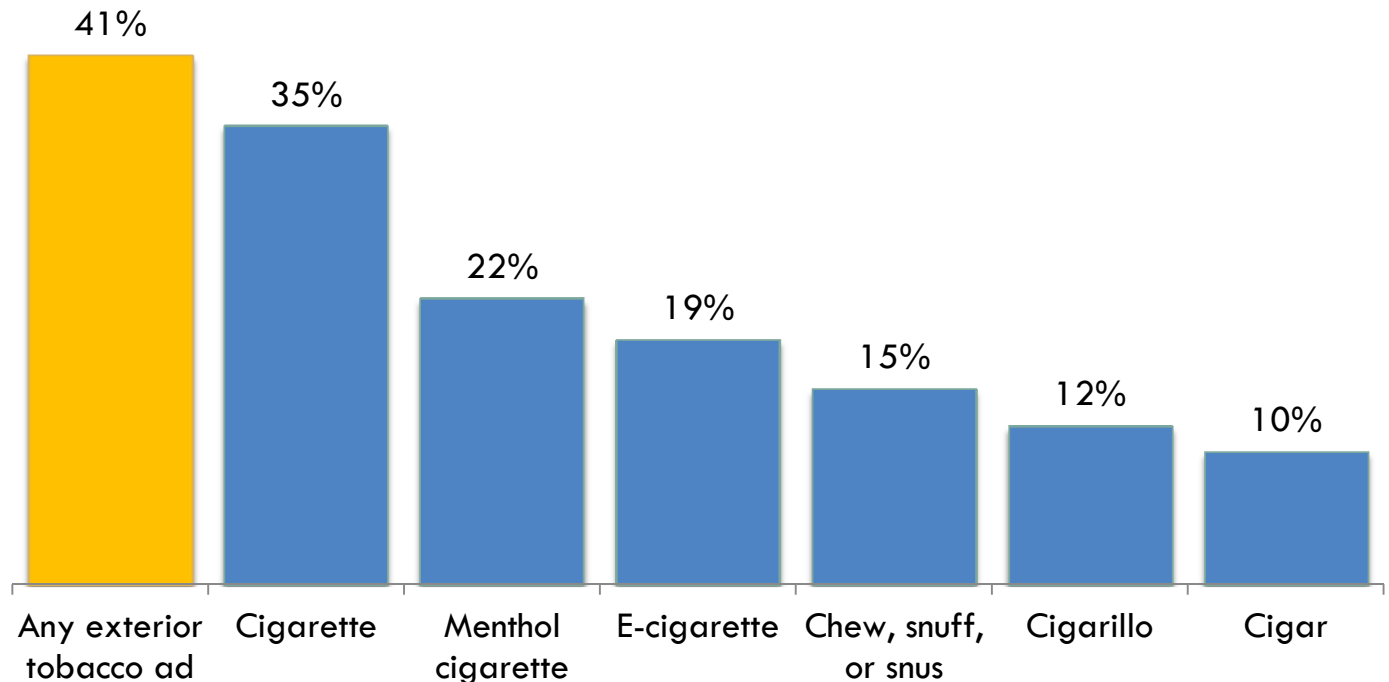
The most common flavored products were smokeless tobacco and cigarillos.

Comparing where flavored products were available, we found that 82% of tobacco retailers within 1,000 feet of a school sold flavored products, compared with 85% farther from schools. However, 77% of stores near schools offered flavored cigarillos, compared to only 71% farther from schools.

# Exterior Marketing – All Audited Tobacco Retailers

The U.S. Surgeon General has reported that tobacco advertising causes youth smoking.<sup>1</sup> Four in 10 of tobacco retailers had some kind of exterior tobacco advertising. Exterior advertising differed by product type.

Percent of tobacco retailers with exterior tobacco advertising by product type



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<sup>1</sup> Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General, 2012

# Exterior Tobacco Marketing – Vermont Examples



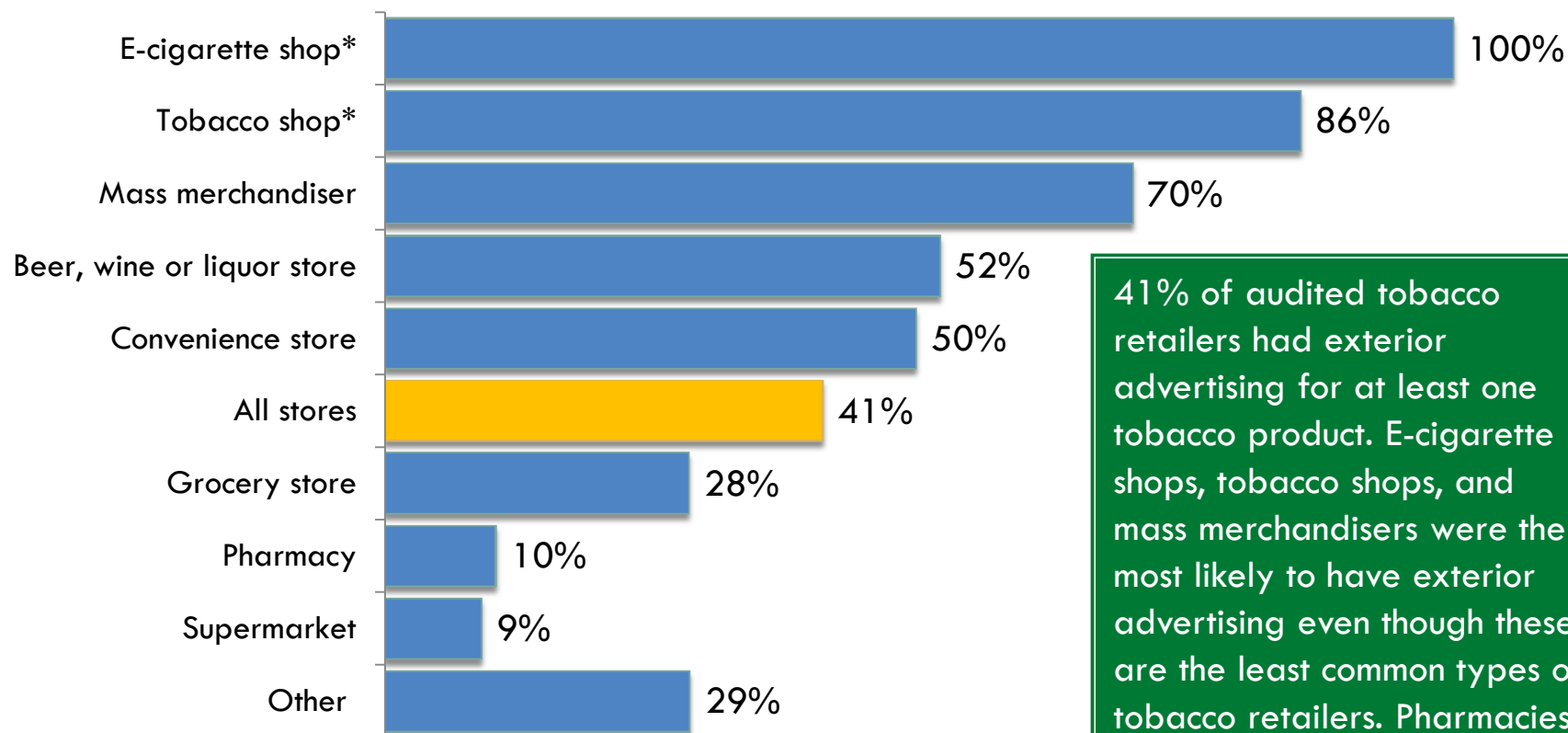
Many Vermont towns have regulations that limit the amount of any advertising visible from outside a store.

Our audits found that 41% of all tobacco retailers still had exterior tobacco ads, and the presence of exterior ads differed by store type and distance to schools.

**COUNTER  
BALANCE**

# Exterior Marketing – Retailer Type

**Percent of tobacco retailers with any exterior tobacco advertising by retailer type**



\* Represents fewer than 10 retailers

41% of audited tobacco retailers had exterior advertising for at least one tobacco product. E-cigarette shops, tobacco shops, and mass merchandisers were the most likely to have exterior advertising even though these are the least common types of tobacco retailers. Pharmacies and supermarkets were the least likely to have exterior advertising.

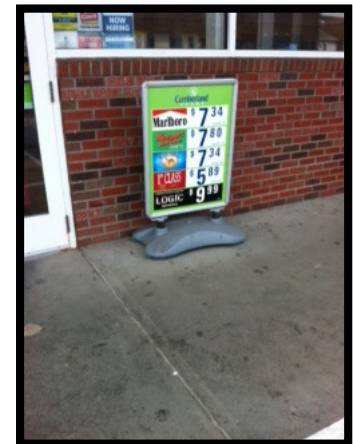
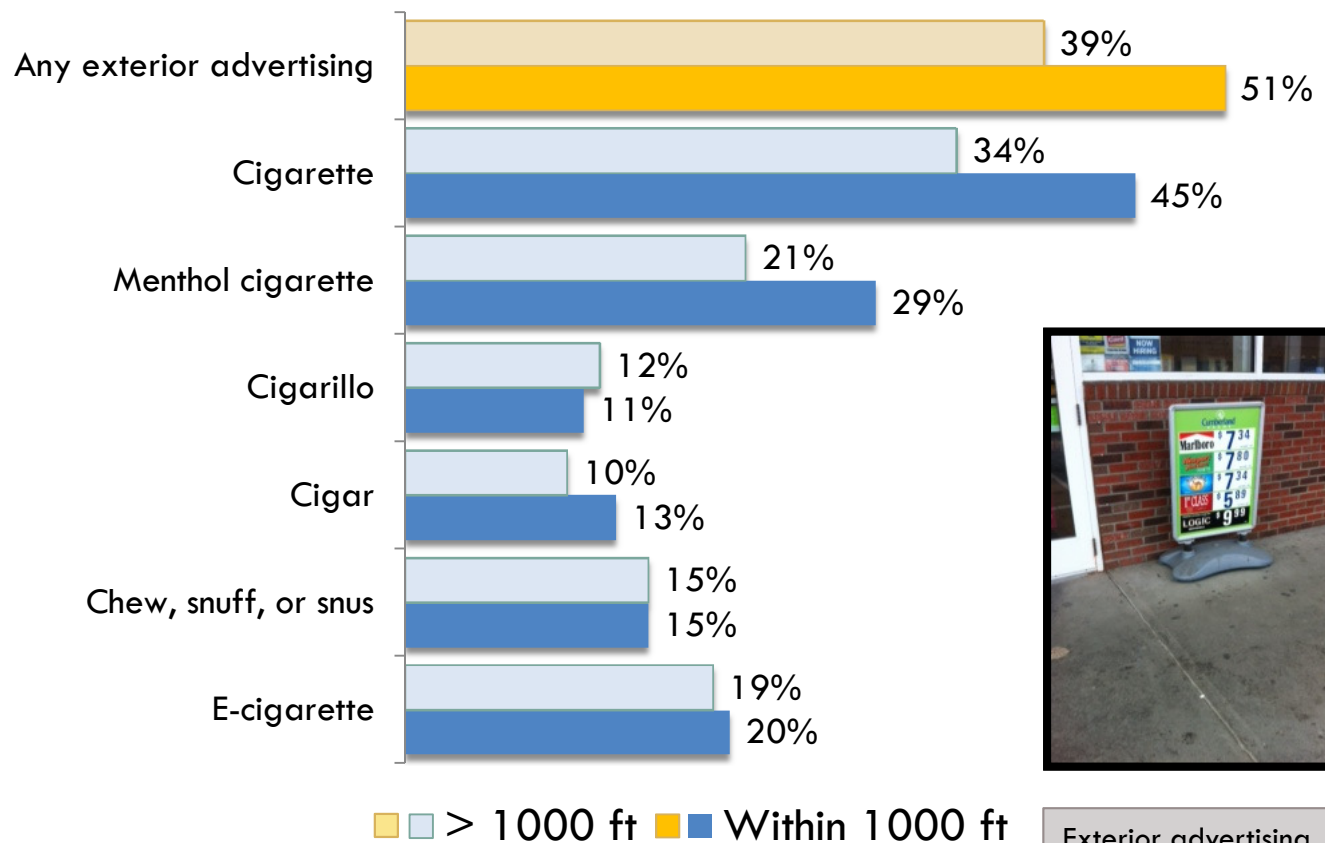
**COUNTER  
BALANCE**

# Exterior Marketing – Proximity to Schools

Tobacco retailers located within 1,000 feet of a school were more likely to have exterior tobacco ads than those more than 1,000 feet away.

The difference was largest for cigarettes and menthol cigarettes.

**Percent of tobacco retailers with exterior advertising by proximity to a school**

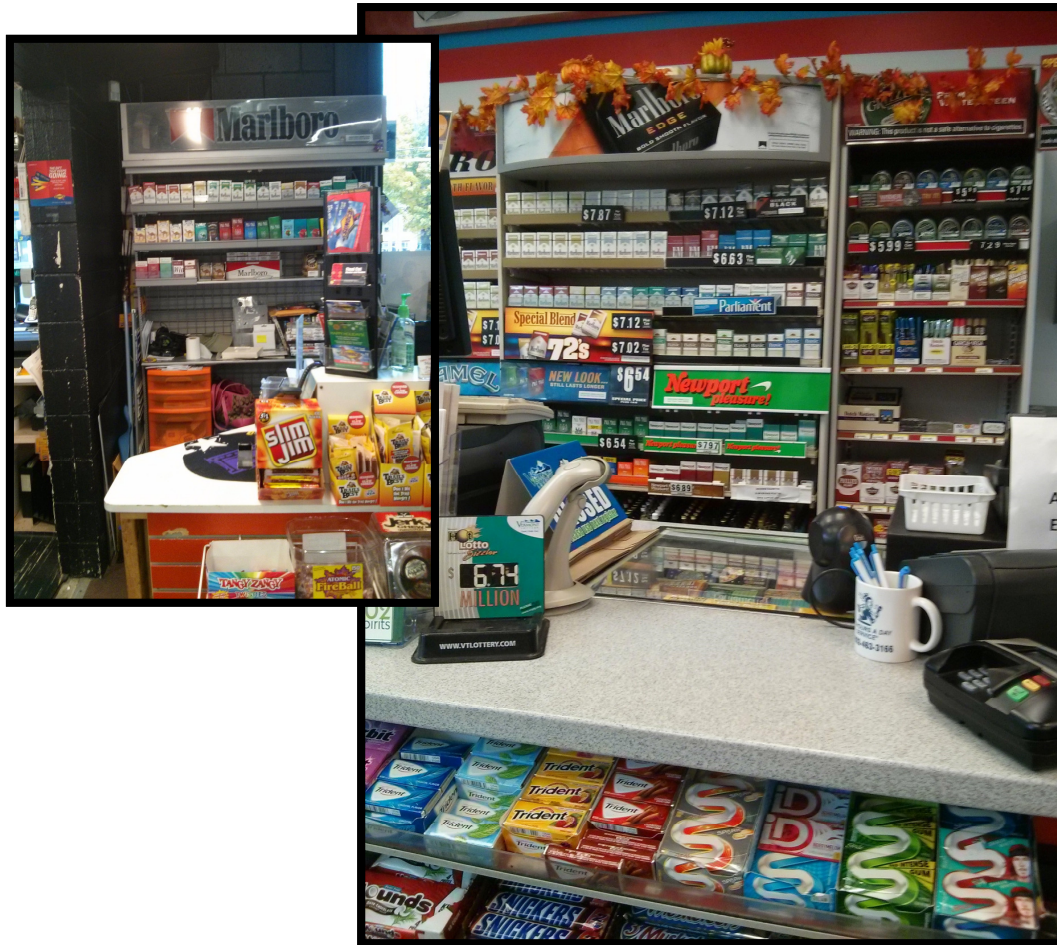


Exterior advertising within 1,000 feet of a Montpelier school.

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# Interior Marketing – Tobacco Display Size



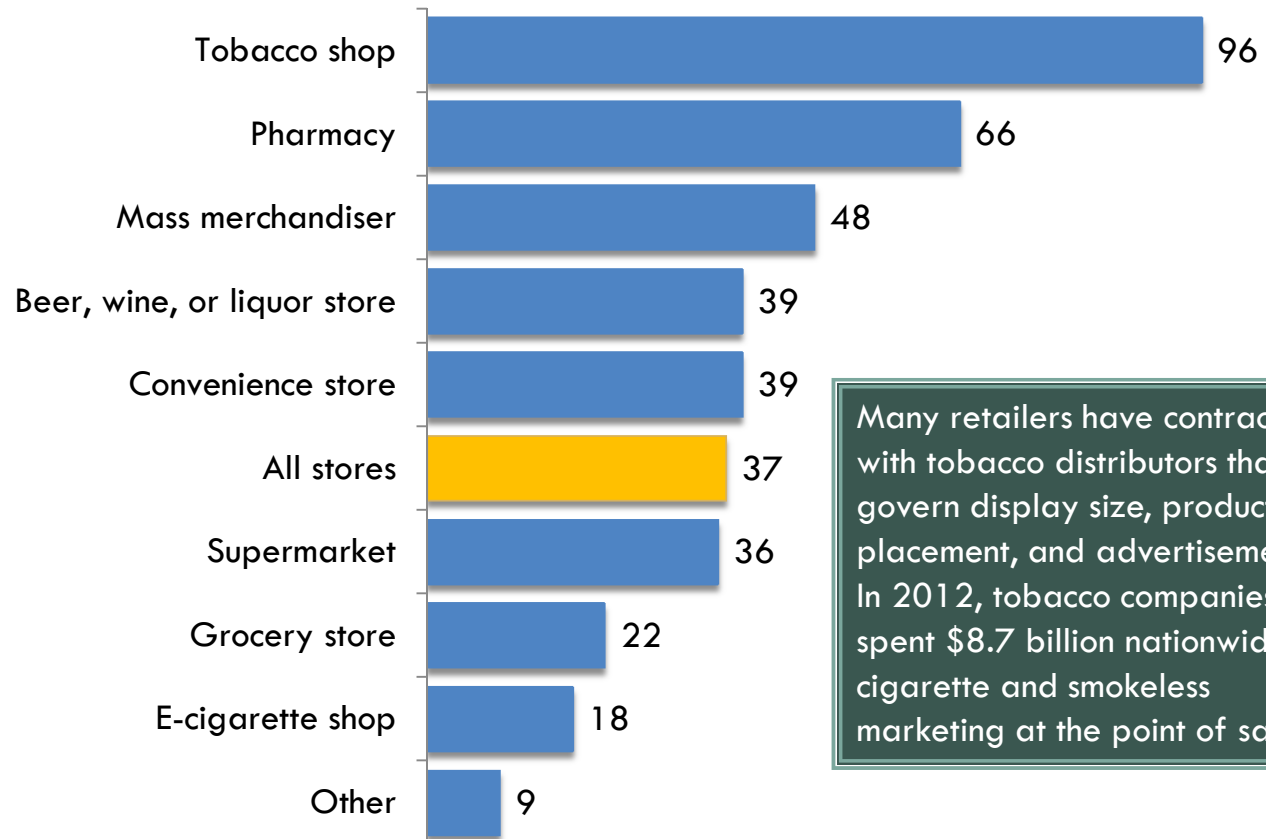
In many retailers, tobacco product displays are called “power walls” because of their size and impact on customer behavior. Tobacco distributors provide the cases and contract with retailers to require certain product displays.

Even as cigarette sales decline nationwide, power walls create the impression that tobacco use is still the norm.

# Interior Marketing – Tobacco Display Size

Youth exposed to tobacco displays and advertising are more likely to try to buy tobacco.<sup>1</sup> We used a new measure to estimate the total size of tobacco displays (see Appendix B). Tobacco shops and pharmacies had the largest tobacco displays, even though few pharmacies had exterior advertising for tobacco.

**Average total square footage of tobacco displays by retailer type**



Many retailers have contracts with tobacco distributors that govern display size, product placement, and advertisements. In 2012, tobacco companies spent \$8.7 billion nationwide on cigarette and smokeless marketing at the point of sale.<sup>2</sup>

**COUNTER  
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<sup>1</sup> Kim et al., 2013

<sup>2</sup> 2012 Federal Trade Commission Cigarette Report

# Interior Marketing – Children’s Eye Level

One in 4 audited retailers had interior tobacco advertising within 3 feet of the floor, which is at eye-level for a small child. E-cigarette or vape shops and tobacco shops were most likely to have advertising close to the floor. Vermont does not require proof of age to enter tobacco shops.

**Percent of tobacco retailers with interior tobacco advertisements within 3 ft. of floor by retailer type**



Eye-level cigarette ad

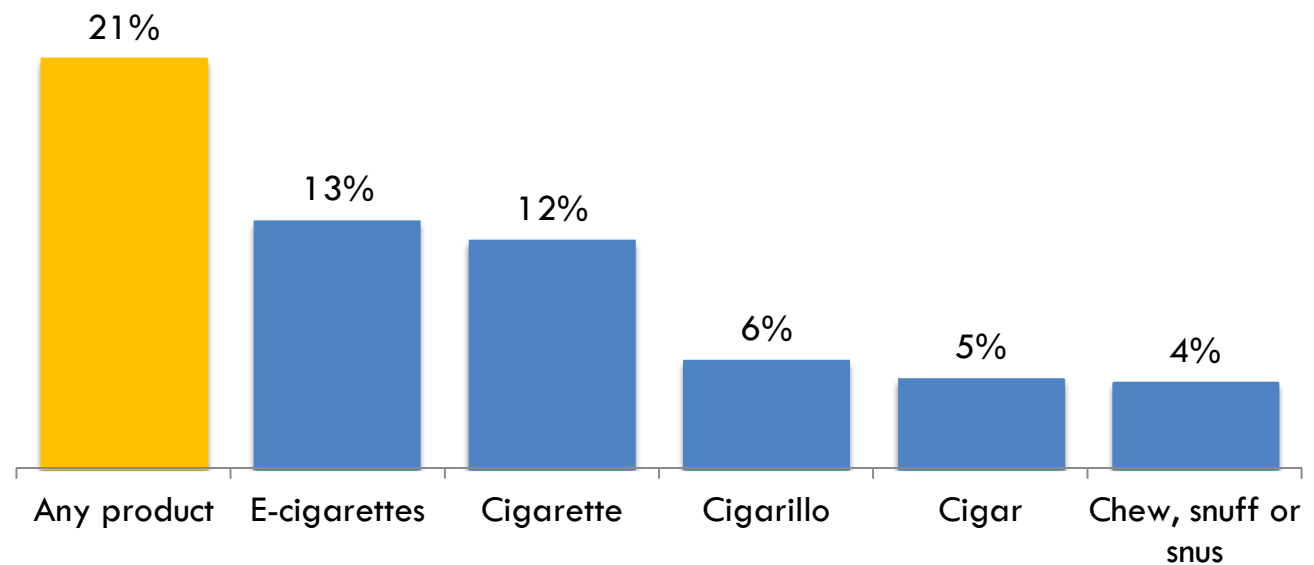


# Interior Marketing – Youth Products

Placement of tobacco close to products popular with youth is a youth targeting tactic used by the tobacco industry.

One in five retailers placed tobacco products near products popular with youth.

**Percent of tobacco retailers that display tobacco products within 12 inches of toys, candy, gum, slushy/soda, or ice cream.**





# Interior Marketing – Youth Products



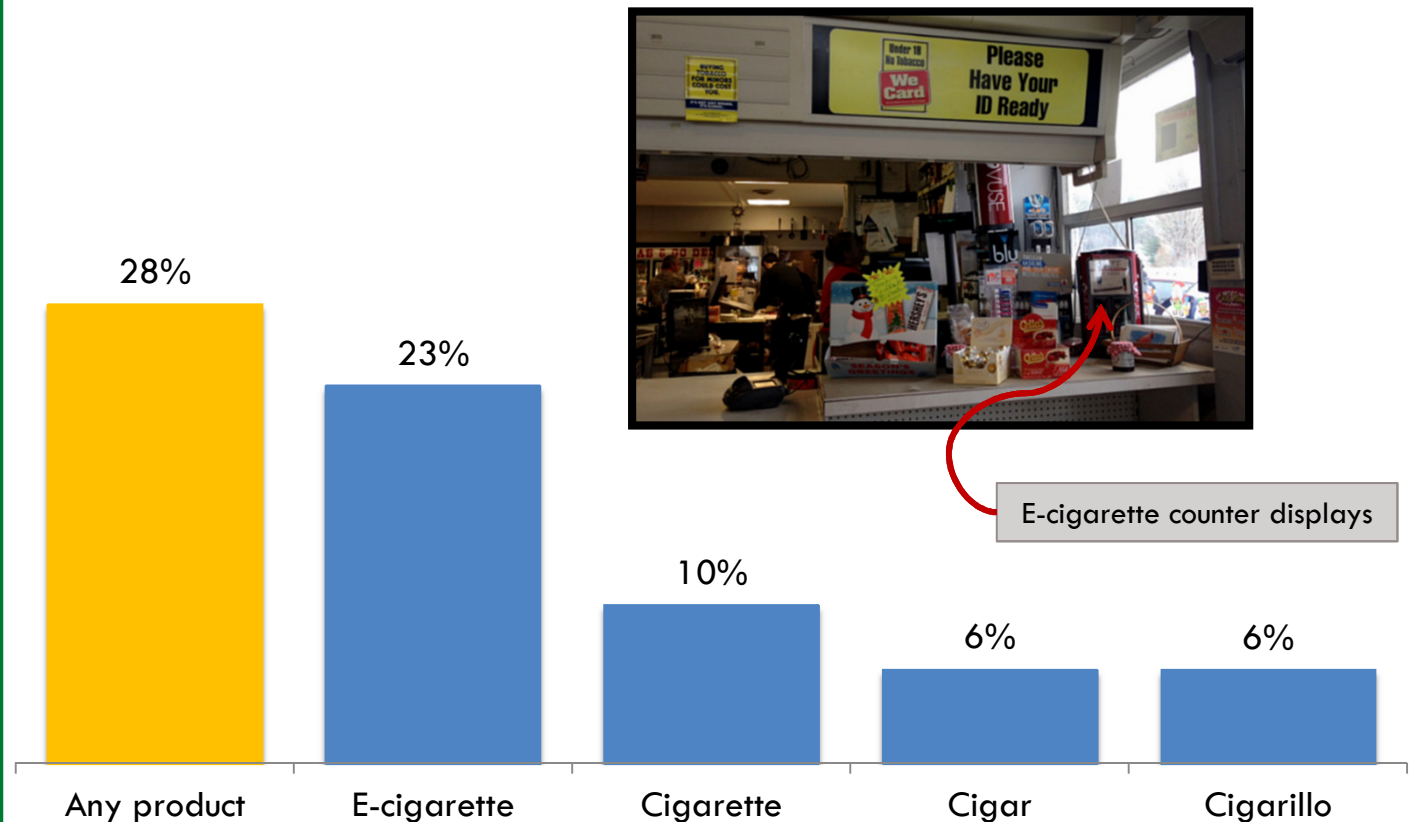
Overall, 38% of audited tobacco retailers advertised tobacco within three feet of the floor or close to youth products.

This photo shows an e-cigarette brand stand next to Drink Blocks and “Toxic Waste” candy. As one of our youth auditors said, “When I walk into stores and I see cigarette advertisements right next to candy, they’re trying to tell me the cigarettes are delicious too.”

# Interior Marketing – Counter Placement

According to internal tobacco industry documents, “eye level is buy level.”<sup>1</sup> Counter displays are not prohibited by Vermont law, and some retailers may have contracts that require counter placement. 23% of audited retailers had e-cigarette displays on the counter.

Percent of retailers with tobacco products on the counter by type of product



E-cigarette counter displays

**COUNTER  
BALANCE**

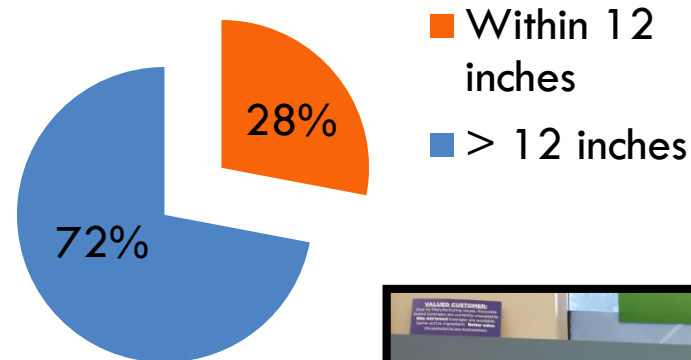
<sup>1</sup> Legacy Tobacco Documents Library

# Interior Marketing – Nicotine Replacement Therapy

Tobacco displays trigger cravings among smokers trying to quit.<sup>1,2</sup>

28% of stores selling tobacco quit medications placed nicotine replacement therapy within 12 inches of tobacco products. This included 19% of pharmacies selling tobacco.

## Percent of audited retailers selling quit smoking medication that placed medication near tobacco products



<sup>1</sup> Carter et al., 2006

<sup>2</sup> Wakefield et al., 2008



## Audit Results: Tobacco Product Pricing

Both youth and adult smokers are more likely to buy tobacco when prices are low. The tobacco industry spends most of its marketing dollars to reduce prices at the point of sale.

- U.S. Surgeon General, 2014
- Federal Trade Commission, 2012



# Product Pricing – Average Pack Price

- Vermont has a lower average pack price and cigarette tax than Massachusetts and New York despite having the 8<sup>th</sup> highest cigarette tax rate nationwide.<sup>1</sup> A federal ban on selling single cigarettes has helped to keep cigarette prices high.
- Cigarillos and small cigars, which are as popular with Vermont youth as cigarettes, can still be sold singly.

- **65%** of retailers sold single cigarillos.
- **39%** of stores with single cigarillos advertised them for less than **\$1**.

• **\$8.35**  
per  
pack

Marlboro Red



• **\$8.73**  
per  
pack

Newport  
Menthol



• **\$10.69**  
per  
single

Blu Disposable  
Menthol E-  
cigarette

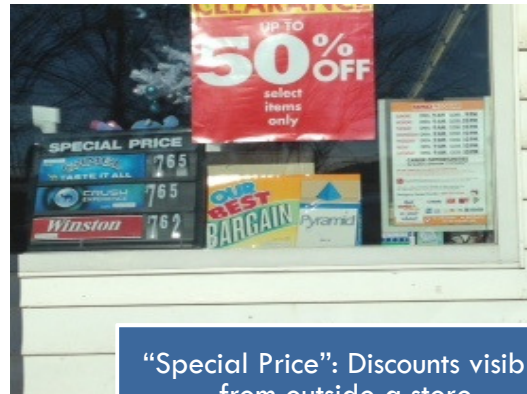


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# Product Pricing – Discounts and Price Promotions



“Best Bargain”: Discount store promotion next to candy dispensers



“Special Price”: Discounts visible from outside a store



Yellow tickets show discounted products on a floor display



E-cigarettes on sale at a pharmacy

High tobacco prices are an extremely effective strategy to help smokers quit and prevent youth from starting to use tobacco.<sup>1</sup> The tobacco industry uses a variety of discounting and promotional practices to keep tobacco prices low.

Name brand products such as Marlboro are both more expensive and overwhelmingly preferred by youth.<sup>2</sup> An important industry marketing tactic is advertising name brand products and then providing steep discounts.

<sup>1</sup> The Health Consequences of Smoking – 50 Years of Progress: A Report of the Surgeon General 2014

<sup>2</sup> Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults: A Report of the Surgeon General, 2012

# Product Pricing – Discounts and Price Promotions

More than half of audited tobacco retailers discounted products. Cigarettes were the most commonly discounted products.

Lower-priced tobacco products attract new youth users and make quitting more difficult. Tobacco companies spend over \$7 billion per year on promotions to keep prices low.<sup>1</sup>

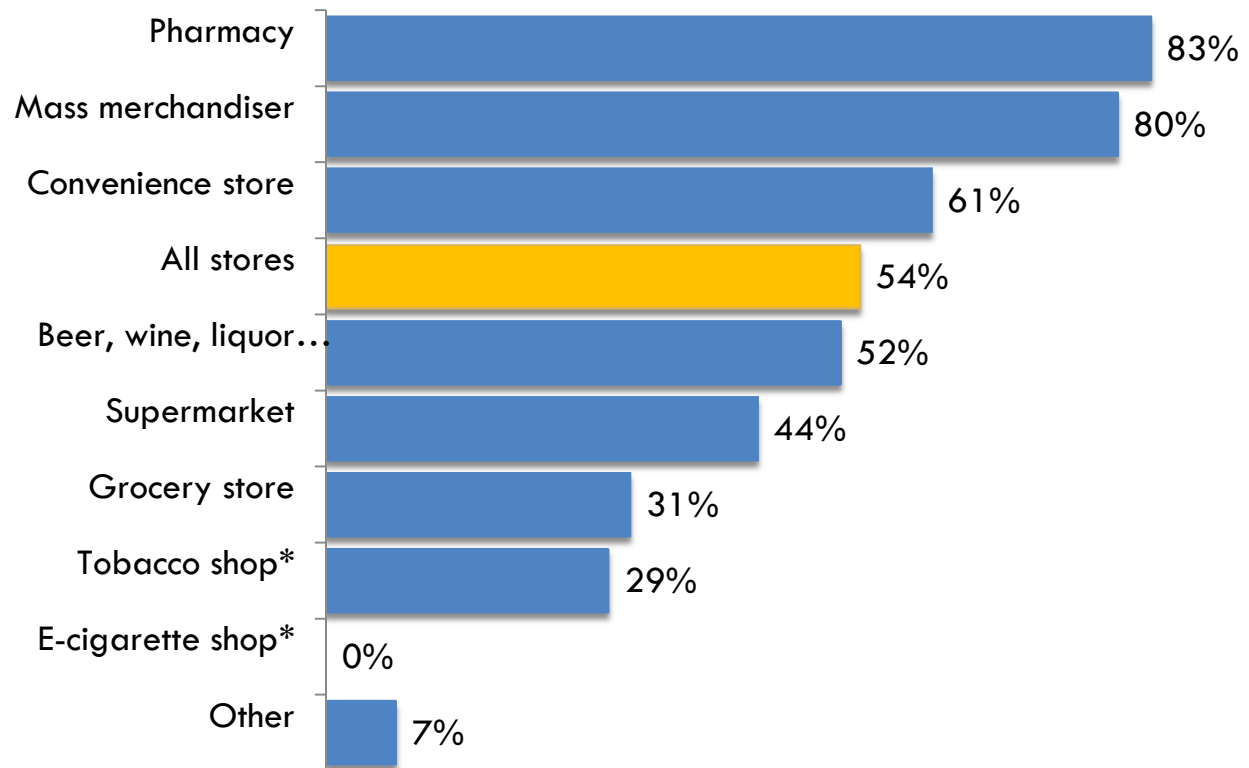
Product	Percent of tobacco retailers offering price promotions
Any product	54%
Cigarette	47%
Menthol cigarettes	33%
Cigarillos	26%
Chew, moist or dry snuff, dip, or snus	20%
E-cigarettes	12%

# Product Pricing – Discounts and Price Promotions

The majority of all tobacco retailers offered a discount on at least one type of tobacco product.

Pharmacies were most likely to offer discounted tobacco products, followed by mass merchandisers (for example, big box stores) and convenience stores.

**Percent of tobacco retailers offering promotions for at least one product by retailer type**

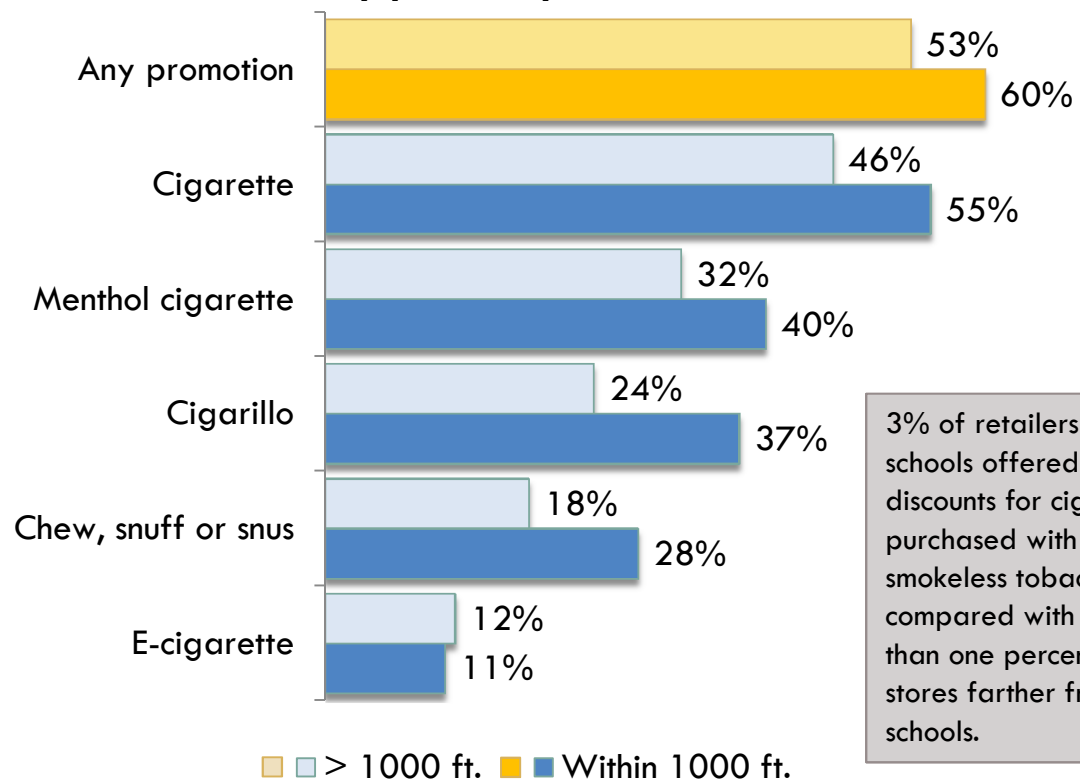


\* Represents fewer than 10 retailers

# Product Pricing – Discounts and Price Promotions

Retailers within 1,000 feet of a school were more likely to offer discounts in every product category except e-cigarettes. The largest differences were for cigarillos and smokeless tobacco.

**Percent of tobacco retailers discounting at least one product by proximity to school**



3% of retailers near schools offered discounts for cigarettes purchased with smokeless tobacco, compared with less than one percent for stores farther from schools.



# Appendices

- A. Methodology
- B. Survey Development and Testing
- C. Sample Characteristics
- D. Surveys

# Appendix A. Detailed Methodology

- Stores were selected for the audit list if they had a tobacco license from the Vermont Department of Liquor Control. Store audit teams were assigned stores for auditing based on their community coalition coverage area. Towns without a community coalition were assigned to adjacent store audit districts or a Health Department district office.
- Data collection was performed using a mobile device, tablet, or paper form. Data from mobile devices and tablets were automatically uploaded to the Counter Tools Store Audit Center. Paper form data were entered by the store audit team into the store audit database using an electronic form in the Counter Tools Store Audit Center. Analyses in this report exclude stores that could not be audited or did not sell tobacco.
- Vermont store audit data were collated by staff at Counter Tools, and a final data file containing all data elements on the survey was provided to the Vermont Department of Health Tobacco Control Program. Counter Tools also provided a separate file containing demographic information for census tracts within the state. This included data on race/ethnicity, income and poverty, and urbanicity measures. The data were retrieved from American Fact Finder ([factfinder2.census.gov](http://factfinder2.census.gov)). Race/ethnicity variables include all persons classifying as that race alone or in combination with any other race. Asian and Hawaiian/Pacific Islander were collapsed onto one variable. Counter Tools spatially joined store audit locations to the census tract inside which they were located using ArcGIS 10.1 thus connecting each audit with the appropriate census tract information. All Census variables were classified into quintiles or five categories with an equal or very similar number of tracts per category, except Percent Urban. The Census definitions of urban are as follows: Urban Cluster (UC): A territory that has at least 2,500 people but fewer than 50,000; Urbanized Area (UA): An area that contains a minimum residential population of at least 50,000 people. Percent urban for each census tract was calculated as the population living in an urban cluster or an urbanized area divided by the total census tract population, multiplied by 100. For our analyses, percent urban was recoded to a dichotomous variable because of the large extent to which Vermont is a mostly rural state. Census tracts in the top three quintiles of percent urban were defined as urban (68.4% urban and above), while tracts in the bottom two quintiles (68.3% urban and below) were defined as rural. Distance to schools is a Boolean variable and is true if the store audit location was within a 1,000-foot buffer around school point locations and false if it fell outside the buffer. Counter Tools collected school point locations from the National Center for Educational Statistics ([NCES.ed.gov](http://NCES.ed.gov)). A 1,000-foot buffer was calculated around each point location in ArcGIS 10.1 and store audit locations were classified based on their location within or without that buffer.
- All frequency and crosstab analyses were completed using SAS 9.3.

## Appendix B. Survey Development & Testing

- The Vermont Department of Health worked with the nonprofit organization Counter Tools to develop and field the Vermont Store Mapper and Store Audit Center. Counter Tools is a nonprofit organization that provides tools and technical assistance to evaluate the tobacco retail environment and identify interventions to reduce its impact on tobacco use. In May 2013 Health Department staff attended a Counter Tools training and subsequently piloted the Store Audit Center in Chittenden County, Vermont in July and August 2013. Five Community Coalitions and the Burlington Office of Local Health participated in the pilot. Based on the pilot results, the Health Department contracted with Counter Tools to support audits statewide.
- The Health Department and Counter Tools used an adapted version of the [Standardized Assessment for Tobacco Retail Settings \(STARS\)](#) survey form. STARS was designed by the National Cancer Institute's State and Community Tobacco Research initiative to "inform state and local tobacco control policies for the point of sale." Counter Tools adapted limited STARS items based on Vermont regulations, changes in the national point of sale environment, and Health Department interest. Counter Tools added a pilot item to estimate the length and width of tobacco display units. During training, auditors used a model store to calibrate size estimates to the nearest foot and then estimated the length and width of display units during store audits. For analysis, we calculated the area of each display unit in the store and then summed within stores to estimate the total display square footage.
- In October 2014 Counter Tools staff conducted one full-day in-person training for Store Audit Center team leads from 16 community coalitions, one Health Department district office, and one youth coalition on the Store Mapper and Audit Center. Store audit teams received audit manuals for the field, including pictorial definitions, which were available online for the duration of the audit period. The in-person training was followed by two follow-up Webinars after the leads completed test audits to discuss challenges, questions about the audit form and definitions, and other concerns. This is equivalent to training of professional data collectors in university-based research studies. Counter Tools made additional changes to the audit form based on feedback from store audit team leads.
- The store audit team lead in each audit district trained additional team members and organized all audits in their area for tobacco, alcohol, and food. Store Audit Teams conducted audits from October 27, 2014 through January 1, 2015. Technical assistance from Health Department and Counter Tools staff was available as needed for the entire audit period.



## Appendix C. Sample Characteristics


Audits completed/reasons why not	N	%
Yes, I can	767	87%
Yes, I can because I am over 18, but the store does not allow under 18 to enter	9	1%
No, store is closed	36	4%
No, asked to leave before completing the survey	24	3%
No, environment is unsafe for me	1	<1%
No, membership or fee required to enter	6	1%
Other (for example: seasonal retailer, closed for renovations, couldn't find store, doesn't sell tobacco, private club)	42	5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>885</b>	<b>100%</b>

# Appendix C. Sample Characteristics

Audits by Store Audit Center team		
Region/coalition that audited	n	%
ACT - Bennington	32	4%
ATOD – Northeastern Vermont Regional Hospital	33	4%
Brattleboro Area Prevention Coalition	33	4%
Boys and Girls Club of Greater Vergennes	49	6%
Burlington Partnership for a Healthy Community	66	7%
Community Connections/Central Vermont New Directions	94	11%
Community Prevention of Orange and Windsor	67	8%
Connecting Youth	36	4%
Collaborative	38	4%
Deerfield Valley Community Partnership	16	2%
Essex CHIPS	27	3%
Franklin Grand Isle Tobacco Prevention Coalition	85	10%
Greater Falls Connections	20	2%
HealthWorks ONE – Northeast Kingdom Learning Services	51	6%
Milton Community Youth Coalition	23	3%
Morrisville District Office	53	6%
Mt. Ascutney Prevention Partnership	41	5%
Rutland Area Prevention Coalition	104	12%
Winooski Coalition for a Safe and Peaceful Community	18	2%

# Appendix D. Surveys – Tobacco

10/24/2014 Vermont Retail Assessment Form | Store Audit Center



## VERMONT RETAIL ASSESSMENT FORM

Name:

Date/Time:

Name of store you are auditing:

### VERMONT CORE ASSESSMENT MODULE

1. Store Name: Does the actual store name match the assigned store name?:

☐ Yes, store name matches assigned name

☐ No - Enter correct name below:

If No, enter correct name:

2. Store Address: Does the actual store address match the assigned store address?:

☐ Yes, actual address matches assigned address

☐ No - Enter correct address below:

If No, enter correct address:

3. Can you survey this store? [If not, then select an option below and STOP:]

☐ Yes, I can

☐ Yes, I can because I am over 18, but the store does not allow under 18 to enter

☐ No, store does not exist

☐ No, store is closed

☐ No, under 18 not allowed to enter

☐ No, membership or fee required to enter

☐ No, environment unsafe for me

☐ No, asked to leave before completing the survey

☐ Other (specify below):

Specify Other:

EXTERIOR

<http://audit.counterstoretobacco.org/auditform/preview/42515>

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10/24/2014 Vermont Retail Assessment Form | Store Audit Center

### 4. Which products are advertised outside the store (on windows/doors, building, sidewalk or elsewhere)?:

	Yes	No
a. Cigarettes – non-menthol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Cigarettes - menthol	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Cigarillos/little cigars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Large cigars	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Chew, moist or dry snuff, dip or snus	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. E-cigarettes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

### INTERIOR

5. Store type (Choose one):

☐ Convenience store with or without gas (e.g., Maplefields, Cumberland Farms, Stewart's)

☐ Drug store/pharmacy (e.g., Rite Aid, Walgreens, Kinney Drugs)

☐ Beer, wine or liquor store

☐ Grocery store (e.g., small market/deli/produce market)

☐ Supermarket (e.g., Hannaford, Shaw's, Price Chopper)

☐ Mass merchandiser (e.g., WalMart, Costco, BJ's, Sam's Club) or discount store (e.g., Family Dollar)

☐ Tobacco shop (e.g., cigar shops, hookah bars, or other tobacco shops)

☐ E-Cigarette/Vape shop

☐ Other, e.g., bait & tackle (Specify below):

Specify Other:

6. Any tobacco products sold here (i.e., cigarettes, cigars, cigarillos/little cigars, chew, moist or dry snuff, dip, snus, or e-cigarettes)? (Choose one):

☐ Yes and visible to customers

☐ Yes but not visible to customers

☐ No

7. Does the store have a pharmacy counter?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

8. Does the store display a sales to minors warning sign?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

9. Does the store sell tobacco paraphernalia (e.g., wrapping papers, blunt wraps, pipes)?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

10. Are tobacco products displayed within 12 inches of nicotine replacement therapy (e.g., patches, gum, lozenges)?:

☐ Yes

☐ No

<http://audit.counterstoretobacco.org/auditform/preview/42515>

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# Survey – Tobacco

10/24/2014 Vermont Retail Assessment Form | Store Audit Center

☐ Yes  
☐ No  
☐ Nicotine replacement therapy not sold

**CIGARETTES**

11. Answer these questions about cigarettes:

	Yes	No
a. Any cigarettes sold here?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. Menthol cigarettes sold here?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
c. Any cigarettes (menthol or non-menthol) within 12 inches of toys, candy, gum, slushy/soda machines, or ice cream?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
d. Cigarette ad (menthol or non-menthol) within 3 feet of the floor?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
e. Any cigarette price promotions?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
f. Any menthol cigarette price promotions?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
g. Any cigarettes displayed on the counter?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

12. Look at the tobacco merchandising area at the checkout area. Is the area one continuous shelving, display, or overhead unit, or is it split into multiple shelving, display, or overhead units?:

☐ One continuous shelving, display, or overhead unit  
☐ Multiple shelving, display, or overhead units

**Shelving, Display or Overhead Unit 1**

Height:  ft.  
Width:  ft.

**Shelving, Display or Overhead Unit 2**

Height:  ft.  
Width:  ft.

**Shelving, Display or Overhead Unit 3**

Height:  ft.  
Width:  ft.

**Shelving, Display or Overhead Unit 4**

Height:  ft.

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10/24/2014 Vermont Retail Assessment Form | Store Audit Center

ft.  
Width:  ft.

**Shelving, Display or Overhead Unit 5**

Height:  ft.  
Width:  ft.

**Shelving, Display or Overhead Unit 6**

Height:  ft.  
Width:  ft.

**OTHER PRODUCTS**

Other Products:

	13. Cigarillos	14. Large cigars	15. Chew, moist/dry snuff, dip, or snus	16. E-cigarettes
a. Sold here?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
b. Flavored products?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
c. Singles sold here?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
d. Advertised for less than \$1?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No			
e. Product within 12 inches of toys, candy, gum, slushy/soda machines, or ice cream?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
f. Product ad within 3 feet of floor?	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No
	<input type="radio"/> Yes	<input type="radio"/> Yes		<input type="radio"/> Yes

<http://audit.countertobacco.org/audit/form/preview/42515>

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# Survey – Tobacco

10/24/2014 Vermont Retail Assessment Form | Store Audit Center

g. Product displayed on counter? ☐ No ☐ No ☐ No

h. Any price promotions? ☐ Yes ☐ Yes ☐ Yes  
☐ No ☐ No ☐ No

i. Cross-product promotion with cigarettes? ☐ Yes ☐ Yes  
☐ No ☐ No

17. WIC and/or SNAP (i.e., food stamps, EBT (3SquaresVT)) accepted here?:

	Yes	No
a. WIC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
b. SNAP	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

**PRICES**

**Marlboro Red:**

a. Sold here?	b. Enter single pack/item price:	c. Sales tax included?	d. How was the price obtained?
18. Marlboro Red <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No <small>[if cigarettes not sold here, skip to Q.20]</small>	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Cashier provided price <input type="radio"/> Advertised price <input type="radio"/> Unable to determine (e.g. only cartons sold)

**Newport menthol (regular hard pack):**

a. Sold here?	b. Enter single pack/item price:	c. Sales tax included?	d. How was the price obtained?
19. Newport menthol (regular hard pack) <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Cashier provided price <input type="radio"/> Advertised price <input type="radio"/> Sold here but price unavailable

**Blu disposable e-cigarette (menthol):**

a. Sold here?	b. Enter single pack/item price:	c. Sales tax included?	d. How was the price obtained?
20. Blu disposable e-cigarette (menthol) <input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Cashier provided price <input type="radio"/> Advertised price <input type="radio"/> Sold here but price unavailable

<http://audit.counter tobacco.org/auditform/preview/42515>

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**FIELD NOTES**

Notes:

**Photo Upload**

Photo 1:  No file chosen

Photo 2:  No file chosen

Photo 3:  No file chosen

Photo 4:  No file chosen

Last updated: 3/22/2014

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# Survey – Alcohol



## VERMONT RETAIL ASSESSMENT FORM

Name:   
Date/Time:   
Name of store you are auditing:

## VERMONT ALCOHOL ASSESSMENT MODULE

1. Alcoholic beverages sold here?: ☒ Yes ☐ No  
If No, skip to end

### Alcoholic Beverages

(Alcopops include products like Mike's Hard Lemonade, Bacardi Silver, Twisted Tea and Smirnoff Ice; Alcoholic energy drinks include products like Joose and Rockstar)

#### Beer, Wine, Alcopops & Alcoholic Energy Drinks:

	Yes	No
2. Ads on doors or windows present?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Ads outside of store (telephone pole, lawn sign, etc.) present?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Ads inside of store present?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Products or promotion within 3 feet of the floor present?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Cooler ads (on cooler doors) present?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Floor displays and/or standing posters present?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Free item with purchase present?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Alcopops next to or mixed with non-alcoholic beverages present?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

#### 10. Is alcohol displayed in the checkout area?:

☐ Yes  
☐ No

#### 11. Is alcohol displayed within 12 inches of toys, candy, gum, slushy/soda machines, or ice cream?:

☐ Yes  
☐ No

Notes:

Photo Upload

Photo 1:  No file chosen

Photo 2:  No file chosen

Photo 3:  No file chosen

Photo 4:  No file chosen

Last updated 9/22/2014

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# Survey – Food

10/24/2014 Vermont Retail Assessment Form | Store Audit Center



## VERMONT RETAIL ASSESSMENT FORM

Name:

Date/Time:

Name of store you are auditing:

## VERMONT FOOD ASSESSMENT MODULE

Store type:

- ☒ Convenience store with or without gas (e.g., Maplesfields, Cumberland Farms, Stewart's)
- ☐ Drug store/pharmacy (e.g., Rite Aid, Walgreens, Kinney Drugs)
- ☐ Beer, wine or liquor store
- ☐ Grocery store (e.g., small market/deli/produce market)
- ☐ Supermarket (e.g., Hannaford, Shaw's, Price Chopper)
- ☐ Mass merchandiser (e.g., WalMart, Costco, BJ's, Sam's Club) or discount store (e.g., Family Dollar)
- ☐ Tobacco shop (e.g., cigar shops, hookah bars, or other tobacco shops)
- ☐ E-cigarette/vape shop
- ☐ Other, e.g., bait & tackle

If not Convenience store or Grocery store, skip to end

**Beverages**

Regular soda:	a. Available?	b. Price for smallest unit	c. Unit	Specify Other
1. Regular soda:	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> 12 oz. <input type="radio"/> 20 oz. <input type="radio"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="text"/>

**100% juice:**

a. Available?	b. Price for smallest unit	c. Unit
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

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2. 100% juice: ☐ Yes ☐ No \$  oz.

**Other sugar sweetened beverages (including juice drinks, sports, energy, and sweetened coffee drinks):**

a. Available?	b. Price for smallest unit	c. Unit
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

**Bottled water:**

a. Available?	b. Price for smallest unit	c. Unit
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## Fruit and Vegetable Availability

**Canned/jarred vegetables:**

a. Plain varieties (no additives) available?	b. Are low-sodium items available?	c. Are items in sauces (e.g. cheese, butter, gravy, heavy syrup) available?
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

**Canned/jarred fruit:**

a. Plain varieties (no additives) available?	b. Are low-sodium items available?	c. Are items in sauces (e.g. cheese, butter, gravy, heavy syrup) available?
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

**Frozen vegetables:**

a. Plain varieties (no additives) available?	b. Locally grown in Vermont?	c. Are low-sodium items available?	d. Are items in sauces (e.g. cheese, butter, gravy, heavy syrup) available?
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

**Frozen fruit:**

a. Plain varieties (no additives) available?	b. Locally grown in Vermont?	c. Are low-sodium items available?	d. Are items in sauces (e.g. cheese, butter, gravy, heavy syrup) available?
<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

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# Survey – Food

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8. Frozen fruit ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Yes ☐ No

**Fresh vegetables:**

	a. Plain varieties (no additives) available?	b. Locally grown in Vermont?	c. Quality of Fresh Produce (if available)
9. Fresh vegetables	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Poor <input type="radio"/> Average <input type="radio"/> Excellent

**Fresh fruit:**

	a. Plain varieties (no additives) available?	b. Locally grown in Vermont?	c. Quality of Fresh Produce (if available)
10. Fresh fruit	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Poor <input type="radio"/> Average <input type="radio"/> Excellent

11. Are there any point-of-purchase signs promoting the produce?:  
☐ Yes  
☐ No

**Dairy**

**Skim milk (unflavored):**

	a. Available?	b. Price for smallest unit	c. Unit	Specify Other
12. Skim milk (unflavored)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Pint <input type="radio"/> Quart <input type="radio"/> Half gallon <input type="radio"/> Gallon <input type="radio"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="text"/>

**1% or 2% milk (unflavored):**

	a. Available?	b. Price for smallest unit	c. Unit	Specify Other
13. 1% or 2% milk (unflavored)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Pint <input type="radio"/> Quart <input type="radio"/> Half gallon <input type="radio"/> Gallon <input type="radio"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="text"/>

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**Whole milk (unflavored):**

	a. Available?	b. Price for smallest unit	c. Unit	Specify Other
14. Whole milk (unflavored)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Pint <input type="radio"/> Quart <input type="radio"/> Half gallon <input type="radio"/> Gallon <input type="radio"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="text"/>

**Flavored milk product:**

	a. Available?	b. Price for smallest unit	c. Unit	Specify Other
15. Flavored milk product (e.g. Strawberry Milk, Yoohoo)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	\$ <input type="text"/>	<input type="radio"/> Pint <input type="radio"/> Quart <input type="radio"/> Half gallon <input type="radio"/> Gallon <input type="radio"/> Other (Specify)	<input type="text"/>

**Reduced fat dairy (cheese, yogurt):**

	a. Available?	b. Single serving sizes available?
16. Reduced fat dairy (cheese, yogurt)	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

**Notes:**

**Photo Upload:**

Photo 1:  No file chosen

Photo 2:  No file chosen

Photo 3:  No file chosen

Photo 4:  No file chosen

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