



Public Notice FFY 2016 Annual Synar Report

The purpose of the Synar Survey is to randomly survey licensed tobacco retailers across North Dakota to check compliance with laws that prohibit the sale of tobacco products to minors. **This is not an enforcement activity**; it is a check on compliance.

2015 Synar Enforcement Activity Results

Tobacco retailer violation rate	17.9%
Weighted tobacco retailer violation rate	17.8%
Number of attempts by minors to purchase tobacco	252
Number of successful attempts by minors to purchase tobacco	45
Number of counties in which successful attempts were made	24

Successful Attempts by Minors to Purchase Tobacco by Location

Western North Dakota	16
Eastern North Dakota	29
TOTAL	45

The full report and abstract are online at <http://www.nd.gov/dhs/info/pubs/abuse.html>.

In an effort to decrease sales to minors, the Behavioral Health Division is partnering with the Department of Health, the Center for Tobacco Prevention and Control Policy and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to employ evidence-based prevention strategies such as enforcement of the youth tobacco purchasing laws and merchant education.

The Synar Survey has been conducted for the past 19 years. Synar is a federally mandated effort from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to reduce tobacco sales to youth. States are required to conduct the annual compliance survey as part of the federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant funding administered in ND by the Department of Human Services. The statewide compliance survey was conducted between July and September 2015. All 50 states and nine jurisdictions (American Samoa, District of Columbia, Guam, Marshall Islands, Micronesia, Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, Palau, and the Virgin Islands) currently participate.

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