

“Illuminating a path forward for Tobacco Nation: Projected impacts of recommended policies on geographic disparities”

Thursday, November 10, 2022, at 1:00 pm EDT

Speakers:

- **Emily Donovan, MPH** – Senior Research Associate, Truth Initiative Schroeder Institute
 - **Michael Maciosek, PhD** – Senior Research Investigator, HealthPartners Institute
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I. Research

- Will there be data available for each state in Tobacco Nation similar to what you presented for Tennessee?
 - Yes, this data will be available in our self-published report, to be posted to the Truth Initiative website in December or January. It will also be available as supplementary material in our peer-reviewed publications.
- Not sure if I missed this question, is there any tracking of Vaping numbers among youth?
 - Given that research is inconclusive about long-term health and economic outcomes from vaping, this study only examines policy impacts on smoking rates and smoking-attributable outcomes. However, youth vaping rates are reported in several state and national surveys, including the Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), Monitoring the Future, state-level Youth Tobacco Surveys, and the National Youth Tobacco Survey.
- Does this study include vaping or solely smoking?
 - Given that research is inconclusive about long-term health and economic outcomes from vaping, this study only examines policy impacts on smoking rates and smoking-attributable outcomes.

II. Policy

- For both presenters please share any enhancements or suggestions for state programs to help reduce disparities, not just reducing smokers.
 - Not all cases of illness that are associated with smoking are caused by smoking. Disparities in cancers, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and respiratory disease can be driven by other factors. Beyond tobacco control policies, these disparities can be reduced through several systems-level interventions. [Healthy People 2030 outlines five objectives for reducing disparities related to social determinants of health](#): increasing economic stability; providing high-quality educational opportunities; increasing access to timely and high-quality health care services; improving health and safety where people live, work, and play; and helping people get social and community support.

- How has Juul been able to delay the FDA's findings?
 - In June 2022, the FDA issued Juul a marketing denial order (MDO), indicating that Juul did not provide sufficient evidence that its products are appropriate for the protection of public health and its products must be removed from the market. Juul swiftly filed a lawsuit against the FDA and in response, a federal court ordered a stay of the MDO. The FDA then voluntarily issued an administrative stay of the MDO, allowing Juul products to remain on the market until the FDA lifts this stay and the federal appeals court makes a decision on the MDO. More information can be found in the following articles:
 - <https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-denies-authorization-market-juul-products>
 - <https://www.npr.org/2022/07/06/1109962374/fda-temporarily-suspends-order-banning-juul-cigarettes>
 - <https://www.theguardian.com/society/2022/jul/06/juul-vaping-fda-ban-appeal>
- Is there a breakdown of how the CDC recommends spending increased tobacco control expenditures?
 - State-level tobacco control expenditures recommended by the CDC were reported in the 2014 report, “Best Practices for Comprehensive Tobacco Control Programs.” This report not only details recommended expenditures, but how states can allocate these funds to most effectively reduce tobacco use. Strategies include mass-reach health communication interventions, cessation support, surveillance and education, and funding for administering and managing tobacco control policies.
- Do you think that in the case of southernmost states, the states that grow tobacco have higher usage? Attitude that it is how people make their livelihood.
 - There is [evidence](#) that the tobacco industry has historically worked to limit passage of tobacco control policies in tobacco-growing states; however, these efforts have been less successful in recent decades. In 2019, a Truth Initiative survey found that although several Tobacco Nation states currently grow or historically grew tobacco, residents of Tobacco Nation states support tobacco control policies at a similar rate to the rest of the US. More information can be found in our 2019 report: https://truthinitiative.org/sites/default/files/media/files/2019/03/Truth_Laws%20of%20Tobacco%20Nation%20Report-FINAL.pdf