



Contact us: 208-334-0642
ID Tobacco Project Website: healthandwelfare.idaho.gov
Select the "medical" menu and then "Idaho Tobacco Permits"

2020 FACTS AND STATS

Compliance Grade:
A
Calendar Year 2019

According to Idaho Code 39-5701, the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare must inspect each business that sells tobacco to ensure that it does not sell tobacco to minors.

How well did Idaho Tobacco Retailers comply with the law?

- 1663 Tobacco Retailers were inspected.*
- 92 Tobacco Retailers sold to the inspecting minor.
- The compliance rate for the last six months was 94.47%

WELL DONE!

*Non-minor Exempt Inspections where purchase attempts were made.

TOBACCO 21 LAW IS NOW IN EFFECT

Legal Age to Purchase Tobacco Products Increased to 21

As of December 20, 2019, a new federal law is now in place in the United States that prohibits the sale of tobacco products to people under the age of 21. According to the FDA, it is now illegal for a retailer to sell any tobacco product- including cigarettes, cigars, and e-cigarettes- to anyone under 21 years of age. Increasing the purchasing age to 21 will help prevent youths from ever starting to smoke or use other tobacco products and help reduce deaths, disease, and health costs related to tobacco use.

The FDA has free resources available to assist retailers in calculating the age of customers. Retailers who would like a *This is Our Watch* digital age verification calendar may order one free of charge from FDA's Center for Tobacco Products Exchange Lab. Additionally, retailers who use FDA's Age Calculator app should update the age limit to 21 years through the app settings. Instructions are provided within the help feature of the app. Other print materials are also available on the FDA's Exchange Lab to assist retailers comply with Federal tobacco laws.

Tobacco 21 and Idaho Retailers

Idaho Tobacco Retailers are expected to comply with the federal law prohibiting the sale of tobacco to anyone under the age of 21 if they haven't already done so. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare is working with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to bring all relevant state statutes and IDAPA Rules into compliance with the federal law. The Idaho Tobacco Project will update retailers as more information becomes available. Should you have additional questions regarding the changes to the tobacco law, please feel free to contact the Idaho Tobacco Project.

Compliance Inspections Continue

The Tobacco 21 law may have increased the legal age to purchase tobacco products throughout the United States to 21, but for now, the process by which Idaho Tobacco Retailers are inspected for compliance with state law will continue as usual.

Currently, Idaho law still requires that at least one random compliance check take place per Idaho Tobacco Retailer per year in the state of Idaho, plus additional checks based on the non-compliance rate for the previous year. Idaho Tobacco Inspection Teams will be conducting inspections to determine if you are complying with the Idaho law. Be sure your tobacco retail location is complying with all Idaho tobacco laws, including:

- no self-service displays,
- no non-vendor assisted sales,
- no selling tobacco to anyone under the age of 21 (given the new Federal law that became effective in December 2019),
- no vending machines,
- no open packages, sample or freebies.

In addition, any retailer who wishes to sell tobacco products in the state of Idaho must obtain an Idaho Tobacco Permit for each retail location which tobacco products are sold. For assistance or questions regarding an Idaho Tobacco Permit go to IdahoTobaccoPermits.com. For more information about the current Idaho laws for Idaho Tobacco Retailers check out “Know the Law” on our Preventthesale.com website.



Need information on the Idaho tobacco law, training and point-of-sale resources, information about what IDs look like, a helpful quiz and game to practice when to refuse the sale of tobacco to a customer, and many other resources tailored to Idaho Tobacco Retailers? Check out our website designed just for Idaho Tobacco Retailers: Preventthesale.com/Idaho



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PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO EMPLOYEES