

ANNUAL SYNAR REPORT

42 U.S.C. 300x-26

OMB № 0930-0222

FFY 2024

State: Nebraska

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INTRODUCTION

The Annual Synar Report (ASR) format provides the means for states to comply with the reporting provisions of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300x-26) and the Tobacco Regulation for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) (45 C.F.R. 96.130 (e)).

How the Synar report helps the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention

In accordance with the tobacco regulations, states are required to provide detailed information on progress made in enforcing youth and young adult tobacco access laws (FFY 2023 Compliance Progress) and future plans to ensure compliance with the Synar requirements to reduce youth and young adult tobacco access rates (FFY 2024 Intended Use Plan). These data are required by 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 and will be used by the Secretary to evaluate state compliance with the statute. Part of the mission of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) is to assist states¹ by supporting Synar activities and providing technical assistance helpful in determining the type of enforcement measures and control strategies that are most effective. This information is helpful to CSAP in improving technical assistance resources and expertise on enforcement efforts and tobacco control program support activities, including state Synar program support services, through an enhanced technical assistance program involving conferences and workshops, development of training materials and guidance documents, and onsite technical assistance consultation.

How the Synar report can help states

The information gathered for the Synar report can help states describe and analyze substate needs for program enhancements. These data can also be used to report to the state legislature and other state and local organizations on progress made to date in enforcing youth and young adult tobacco access laws when aggregated statistical data from state Synar reports can demonstrate to the Secretary the national progress in reducing youth and young adult tobacco access problems. This information will also provide Congress with a better understanding of state progress in implementing Synar, including state difficulties and successes in enforcing retailer compliance

¹The term “state” is used to refer to all the states and territories required to comply with Synar as part of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Program requirements (42 U.S.C. 300x-64 and 45 C.F.R. 96.121).

with youth and young adult tobacco access laws.

Getting assistance in completing the Synar report

If you have questions about programmatic issues, you may call CSAP's Division of Primary Prevention at (240) 276-2550 and ask for your respective State Project Officer, or contact your State Project Officer directly by telephone or email. If you have questions about fiscal or grants management issues, you may call your Grants Management Specialist in the Office of Financial Resources, Division of Grants Management, at (240) 276-1422.

Where and when to submit the Synar report

The ASR must be received by SAMHSA no later than December 31, 2023 and must be submitted in the format specified by these instructions. Use of the approved format will avoid delays in the review and approval process. The chief executive officer (or an authorized designee) of the applicant organization must sign page one of the ASR certifying that the state has complied with all reporting requirements.


The state must upload one copy of the ASR using the online WebBGAS (Block Grant Application System). In addition, the following items must be uploaded to WebBGAS:

- FFY 2024 Synar Survey Results: States that use the Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) must upload one copy of *SSES Tables 1–8* (in Excel) to WebBGAS. **Please note that, in the FFY 2024 ASR, SSES will generate Tables 6, 7, and 8, which are based on the optional microdata on product type, retail outlet type, and whether identification was requested. If your state does not submit these optional data, Tables 6, 7, and 8 will be blank. Tables 6, 7, and 8 are generated for the convenience of the state, and states are not required to submit completed versions of Tables 6, 7, or 8.** States that do not use SSES must upload one copy of ASR Forms 1, 4, and 5, and Forms 2 and 3, if applicable, (in Excel), as well as a database with the raw inspection data to WebBGAS.
- Synar Inspection Form: States must upload one blank copy of the inspection form used to record the result of each Synar inspection.
- Synar Inspection Protocol: States must upload a copy of the protocol used to train inspection teams on conducting and reporting the results of the Synar inspections. This document should be different than the Appendix C attached to the Annual Synar Report.
- A scanned copy of the signed Funding Agreements/Certifications

Each state SSA Director has been emailed a login ID and password to log onto the Synar section of the WebBGAS site.

FFY 2024: FUNDING AGREEMENTS/CERTIFICATIONS

The following form must be signed by the Chief Executive Officer or an authorized designee and submitted with this application. Documentation authorizing a designee must be attached to the application.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES ACT AND SYNAR AMENDMENT	
<p>42 U.S.C. 300x-26 requires each state to submit an annual report of its progress in meeting the requirements of the Synar Amendment and its implementing regulation (45 C.F.R. 96.130) to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services. By signing below, the chief executive officer (or an authorized designee) of the applicant organization certifies that the state has complied with these reporting requirements and the certifications as set forth below.</p>	
SYNAR SURVEY SAMPLING METHODOLOGY	
<p>The state certifies that the Synar survey sampling methodology on file with the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and submitted with the Annual Synar Report for FFY 2024 is up-to-date and approved by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.</p>	
SYNAR SURVEY INSPECTION PROTOCOL	
<p>The state certifies that the Synar Survey Inspection Protocol on file with the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and submitted with the Annual Synar Report for FFY 2024 is up-to-date and approved by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.</p>	
State: Nebraska	
Name of Chief Executive Officer or Designee: Tony Green	
Signature of CEO or Designee:	
Title: Interim Director Division of Behavioral Health	Date Signed: 12/13/2023
If signed by a designee, a copy of the designation must be attached.	

SECTION I: FFY 2023 (Compliance Progress)

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT ACCESS LAWS, ACTIVITIES, AND ENFORCEMENT

42 U.S.C. 300x-26 requires the states to report information regarding the sale/distribution of tobacco products to individuals under age 21.

1. Please indicate any changes or additions to the state tobacco statute(s) relating to youth and young adult access since the last reporting year. If any changes were made to the state law(s) since the last reporting year, please upload a copy of the state law to WebBGAS. (see 42 U.S.C. 300x-26).

a. Has there been a change in the minimum sale age for tobacco products?

Yes No

If Yes, current minimum age: 19 20 21

b. Have there been any changes in state law that impact the state’s protocol for conducting Synar inspections?

Yes No

If Yes, indicate change. (Check all that apply.)

- Changed to require that law enforcement conduct inspections of tobacco outlets
- Changed to make it illegal for youth and young adults to possess, purchase or receive tobacco
- Changed to require ID to purchase tobacco
- Changed definition of tobacco products
- Other change(s) *(Please describe.)* _____

c. Have there been any changes in state law that impact the following?

- Licensing of tobacco vendors Yes No
- Penalties for sales to minors Yes No
- Vending machines Yes No
- Added product categories to youth and young adult access law Yes No

2. Describe how the Annual Synar Report (see 45 C.F.R. 96.130(e)) was made public within the state prior to submission of the ASR. (Check all that apply.)

- Placed on file for public review
- Posted on a state agency Web site *(Please provide exact Web address and the date when the FFY 2024 ASR was posted to this Web address.)*

Web address: <http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Behavioral-Health.aspx>

Date published: 12.18.2023

- Notice published in a newspaper or newsletter

- Public hearing
- Announced in a news release, a press conference, or discussed in a media interview
- Distributed for review as part of the SABG application process
- Distributed through the public library system
- Published in an annual register
- Other *(Please describe.)* _____

3. Identify the following agency or agencies *(see 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 and 45 C.F.R. 96.130).*

a. The state agency(ies) designated by the Governor for oversight of the Synar requirements:

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Behavioral Health

Has this changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?

- Yes No

b. The state agency(ies) responsible for conducting random, unannounced Synar inspections:

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Behavioral Health via the Nebraska State Patrol

Has this changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?

- Yes No

c. The state agency(ies) responsible for enforcing youth and young adult tobacco access law(s):

Nebraska State Patrol

Has this changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?

- Yes No

4. Identify the following agencies and describe their relationship with the agency responsible for the oversight of the Synar requirements.

a. Identify the state agency responsible for tobacco prevention activities (the agency that receives the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Tobacco Control Program funding).

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health, Health Promotion Unit, Tobacco Free Nebraska

b. Has the responsible agency changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?

- Yes No

c. Describe the coordination and collaboration that occur between the agency responsible for tobacco prevention and the agency responsible for oversight of the Synar requirements. (Check all that apply.) The two agencies

- Are the same
- Have a formal written memorandum of agreement
- Have an informal partnership
- Conduct joint planning activities
- Combine resources
- Have other collaborative arrangement(s) *(Please describe.)* _____
- No relationship

d. Does a state agency contract with the Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Tobacco Products (FDA/CTP) to enforce the youth and young adult access and advertising restrictions in the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act?

- Yes No (if no, go to Question 5)

e. If yes, identify the state agency responsible for enforcing the youth and young adult access and advertising restrictions in the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (the agency that is under contract to the Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Tobacco Products (FDA/CTP)).

f. Has the responsible agency changed since last year’s Annual Synar Report?

- Yes No

g. Describe the coordination and collaboration that occur between the agency contracted with the FDA to enforce federal youth and young adult tobacco access laws and the agency responsible for oversight of the Synar requirements. (Check all that apply.) The two agencies:

- Are the same
- Have a formal written memorandum of agreement
- Have an informal partnership
- Conduct joint planning activities
- Combine resources
- Have other collaborative arrangement(s) *(Please describe.)* _____
- No relationship

h. Does the state use data from the FDA enforcement inspections for Synar survey reporting?

- Yes No

5. Please answer the following questions regarding the state’s activities to enforce the state’s youth and young adult access to tobacco law(s) in FFY 2023 (see 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 and 45 C.F.R. 96.130(e)).

a. Which one of the following describes the enforcement of state youth and young adult access to tobacco laws carried out in your state? (Check one category only.)

- Enforcement is conducted exclusively by local law enforcement agencies.
- Enforcement is conducted exclusively by state agency(ies).
- Enforcement is conducted by both local *and* state agencies.

b. The following items concern penalties imposed for all violations of state youth and young adult access to tobacco laws by **LOCAL AND/OR STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES** (this does not include enforcement of local laws or federal youth and young adult tobacco access laws). Please fill in the number requested. If state law does not allow for an item, please mark “NA” (not applicable). If a response for an item is unknown, please mark “UNK.” The chart must be filled in completely.

PENALTY	OWNERS	CLERKS	TOTAL
Number of <u>citations issued</u>	UNK	30	30
Number of <u>finances assessed</u>	UNK	UNK	UNK
Number of <u>permits/licenses suspended</u>	UNK		UNK
Number of <u>permits/licenses revoked</u>	UNK		UNK
Other (Please describe.)	UNK	UNK	UNK

c. Are citations or warnings issued to retailers or clerks who sell tobacco to minors for inspections that are part of the Synar survey?

- Yes No

If “Yes” to 5c, please describe the state’s procedure for minimizing risk of bias to the survey results from retailers alerting each other to the presence of the survey teams:

NEB. REV. STAT 28-1419 states that the sale of tobacco to a person under twenty-one years of age is a class 3 misdemeanor. Therefore, law enforcement must cite an individual, (i.e. clerk, manager or owner) for the criminal violation. The issuance takes place at the time of the offense to ensure the person responsible for the sale is cited.

Synar inspections are conducted monthly from April through September based on a random selection of outlets, in order to reduce/eliminate potential bias of survey results. The sample of outlets are kept confidential and the cooperating youth does not know the location of the intended visits until the date of the visit. If it is determined that a youth has prior “knowledge” of a clerk or of a town being selected for the list then the youth is not used and another youth is scheduled.

To the best of our knowledge, no merchant notification is occurring.

d. Which one of the following best describes the level of enforcement of state youth and young adult access to tobacco laws carried out in your state? (Check one category only.)

- Enforcement is conducted only at those outlets randomly selected for the Synar survey.
- Enforcement is conducted only at a subset of outlets not randomly selected for the Synar survey.
- Enforcement is conducted at a combination of outlets randomly selected for the Synar survey and outlets not randomly selected for the Synar survey.

e. Did every tobacco outlet in the state receive at least one compliance check that included enforcement of the state youth and young adult tobacco access law(s) in the last year?

- Yes No

f. What additional activities are conducted in your state to support enforcement and compliance with state youth and young adult tobacco access law(s)? (Check all that apply and briefly describe each activity in the text boxes below each activity.)

- Merchant education and/or training

Community coalitions help educate retailers and raise awareness about tobacco regulations, their purpose, and the consequences of non-compliance.

- Incentives for merchants who are in compliance (e.g., nonenforcement compliance checks in which compliant retailers are given positive reinforcement and noncompliant retailers are warned about youth and young adult access laws)

Both the Nebraska State Patrol and TFN grantees sends a positive follow up letters to the retailer when the inspection does not result in a citation.

- Community education regarding youth and young adult access laws

A summary of the state's laws related to legal age for tobacco purchase/use and retailer responsibility to enforce youth access laws are sent annually to all county and municipality clerks.

TFN and DBH both provide inspection data to Nebraska's Counter Tools mapping software. Use of this program allows DHHS to house local, state and federal inspection results.

- Media use to publicize compliance inspection results

In addition to posting the ASR results, local coalitions utilize media outlets such as websites, press releases and newspaper ads to highlight retailers that are in

compliance with the state laws. Coalitions conducting retailer compliance checks utilize (earned) media advocacy strategies to inform the public about these results by issuing news releases noting the retailers who were found in compliance and/or those who were not.

- Community mobilization to increase support for retailer compliance with youth and young adult access laws

TFN partners with the DBH to mobilize community education, outreach, and support activities related to youth tobacco issues.

- Other activities (*Please list.*) Approach to Policy

A variety of state policies are in place to protect youth access and to prohibit the sale of tobacco (including smokeless and electronic nicotine delivery systems) products to a minor.

Nebraska law states any individual or licensee who gives or furnishes tobacco products to a person under twenty-one years of age is guilty of a Class III misdemeanor.

Passed into law in August of 2020, and effective as of October 1, 2020, the legal purchasing age is raised to twenty-one years of age. Although there is not a state product placement law, several communities in Nebraska have adopted local ordinances requiring that tobacco products are behind the counter or locked up.

Additionally, several corporate entities with retail tobacco outlets in Nebraska have signed Assurances of Voluntary Compliance with the Nebraska Attorney Generals' office to restrict product placement in their outlets. Each agreement also includes multiple provisions to reduce youth access to tobacco including: hiring and training policies for employees; internal compliance checks and other types of corporate self-monitoring; vendor assisted sales; and enforcement mechanisms.

Nebraska's Clean Indoor Air Act also protects the public health and welfare by prohibiting smoking and e-cigarette use in public places and places of employment.

Passed as part of LB727 on June 6 2023, the final language establishes the state's first ever tax on e-cigarettes.

SYNAR SURVEY METHODS AND RESULTS

The following questions pertain to the survey methodology and results of the Synar survey used by the state to meet the requirements of the Synar Regulation in FFY 2023 (see 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 and 45 C.F.R. 96.130).

6. Has the sampling methodology changed from the previous year?

Yes No

The state is required to have an approved up-to-date description of the Synar sampling methodology on file with CSAP. Please submit a copy of your Synar Survey Sampling Methodology (Appendix B). If the sampling methodology changed from the previous reporting year, these changes must be reflected in the methodology submitted.

a. If yes, describe how and when this change was communicated to SAMHSA

7. Please answer the following questions regarding the state's annual random, unannounced inspections of tobacco outlets (see 45 C.F.R. 96.130(d)(2)).

a. Did the state use the optional Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) to analyze the Synar survey data?

Yes No

If Yes, upload a copy of SSES tables 1–8 (in Excel) to WebBGAS. Then go to Question 8. If No, continue to Question 7b.

b. Report the weighted and unweighted Retailer Violation Rate (RVR) estimates, the standard error, accuracy rate (number of eligible outlets divided by the total number of sampled outlets), and completion rate (number of eligible outlets inspected divided by the total number of eligible outlets).

Unweighted RVR _____

Weighted RVR _____

Standard error (s.e.) of the (weighted) RVR _____

Fill in the blanks to calculate the right limit of the right-sided 95% confidence interval.

RVR Estimate + (1.645 ×) =
plus (1.645 times Standard Error) equals Right Limit

Accuracy rate _____

Completion rate _____

c. **Fill out Form 1 in Appendix A (Forms 1–5).** *(Required regardless of the sample design.)*

d. **How were the (weighted) RVR estimate and its standard error obtained?**
(Check the one that applies.)

- Form 2 (Optional) in Appendix A (Forms 1–5) *(Attach completed Form 2.)*
 Other *(Please specify. Provide formulas and calculations or attach and explain the program code and output with description of all variable names.)*

e. **If stratification was used, did any strata in the sample contain only one outlet or cluster this year?**

- Yes No No stratification

If Yes, explain how this situation was dealt with in variance estimation.

f. **Was a cluster sample design used?**

- Yes No

If Yes, fill out and attach Form 3 in Appendix A (Forms 1–5), and answer the following question.

If No, go to Question 7g.

Were any certainty primary sampling units selected this year?

- Yes No

If Yes, explain how the certainty clusters were dealt with in variance estimation.

g. **Report the following outlet sample sizes for the Synar survey.**

	Sample Size
Effective sample size (sample size needed to meet the SAMHSA precision requirement assuming simple random sampling)	
Target sample size (the product of the effective sample size and the design effect)	
Original sample size (inflated sample size of the target sample to counter the sample attrition due to ineligibility and noncompletion)	
Eligible sample size (number of outlets found to be eligible in the sample)	
Final sample size (number of eligible outlets in the sample for which an inspection was completed)	

h. **Fill out Form 4 in Appendix A (Forms 1–5).**

8. Did the state’s Synar survey use a list frame?

Yes No

If Yes, answer the following questions about its coverage.

a. The calendar year of the latest Sampling frame coverage study: 2023

b. Percent coverage from the latest Sampling frame coverage study: 95.2%

c. Was a new study conducted in this reporting period?

Yes No

If Yes, please complete Appendix D (List Sampling Frame Coverage Study) and submit it with the Annual Synar Report.

d. The calendar year of the next coverage study planned: 2026

9. Has the Synar survey inspection protocol changed from the previous year?

Yes No

The state is required to have an approved up-to-date description of the Synar inspection protocol on file with CSAP. Please submit a copy of your Synar Survey Inspection Protocol (Appendix C). If the inspection protocol changed from the previous year, these changes must be reflected in the protocol submitted.

a. If Yes, describe how and when this change was communicated to SAMHSA

Nebraska Epidemiologist and Prevention Administrator were directed by Grant Project Officer and Federal Project Officer on April 5, 2023, to update Appendix C and Tobacco Compliance Check Reporting Form indicating a change of age for cooperating individuals from 15 to 17 to 19 and 20. The updated form and appendix were provided to GPO by Epidemiologist via email on April 10, 2023.

b. Provide the inspection period: From 04/24/2023 to 09/30/2023
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

c. Provide the number of youth and young adult inspectors used in the current inspection year:

15

NOTE: If the state uses SSES, please ensure that the number reported in 9b matches that reported in SSES Table 4, or explain any difference.

d. Fill out and attach Form 5 in Appendix A (Forms 1–5). (Not required if the state used SSES to analyze the Synar survey data.)

SECTION II: FFY 2024 (Intended Use):

Public Law 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 of the Public Health Service Act and 45 C.F.R. 96.130 (e) (4, 5) require that the states provide information on future plans to ensure compliance with the Synar requirements to reduce youth and young adult tobacco access.

1. In the upcoming year, does the state anticipate any changes in:

Synar sampling methodology Yes No

Synar inspection protocol Yes No

If changes are made in either the Synar sampling methodology or the Synar inspection protocol, the state is required to obtain approval from CSAP prior to implementation of the change and file an updated Synar Survey Sampling Methodology (Appendix B) or an updated Synar Survey Inspection Protocol (Appendix C), as appropriate.

2. Please describe the state's plans to maintain and/or reduce the target rate for Synar inspections to be completed in FFY 2024. Include a brief description of plans for law enforcement efforts to enforce youth and young adult tobacco access laws, activities that support law enforcement efforts to enforce youth and young adult tobacco access laws, and any anticipated changes in youth and young adult tobacco access legislation or regulation in the state.

DBH's Synar efforts are guided by the Prevention Advisory Council (as a subcommittee of the Statewide Advisory Committee on Substance Abuse Services) and are conducted in partnership with the DHHS DPH Tobacco Free Nebraska Program and contractors and subrecipients; Nebraska State Patrol; local law enforcement; Regional Behavioral Health Authorities; and prevention contractors and subrecipients.

DBH's work plan has identified two primary strategies to help accomplish these goals. Prevention staff will summarize violation trend data & make available to stakeholders and offer some form of standardized merchant education to accompany current material posted on the DBH website regarding violation rates.

As subcontractors of the DBH, the Nebraska State Patrol and Omaha Police Department will conduct more than 250 random, unannounced inspections between April 2024 and September 2024. All youth inspectors will receive annual training and be briefed before each round of compliance checks. The supervising officer will train youth one on one by reviewing the youth's responsibilities and the protocol for cooperating individuals. Tobacco products chosen for each attempted buy will be predetermined and culturally relevant to the community.

Local coalitions remain instrumental in implementing year round non-Synar activities in communities where the RVR is higher than the statewide average. The DBH has helped to standardize the practice of positive rewards for vendors that do not sell tobacco to youth during inspections and to publish the names of vendors in compliance in local newspapers, websites and other sources of media. DBH community grantees and Division of Public Health Tobacco Prevention grantees will continue to assist in educating the local community and about the importance of retailer enforcement of youth tobacco access and sale law.

The state will continue to explore adoption and enforcement of stronger tobacco retailer licensing ordinances in order to reduce the illegal sales rate of tobacco to minors and to encourage compliance with all local, state and federal tobacco laws.

3. Describe any challenges the state faces in complying with the Synar regulation. (*Check all that apply and describe each challenge in the text box below it.*)

- Limited resources for law enforcement of youth and young adult access laws

- Limited resources for activities to support enforcement and compliance with youth and young adult tobacco access laws

- Limitations in the state youth and young adult tobacco access laws

- Limited public support for enforcement of youth and young adult tobacco access laws

- Limitations on completeness/accuracy of list of tobacco outlets

- Limited expertise in survey methodology

- Laws/regulations limiting the use of minors in tobacco inspections

- Difficulties recruiting youth and young adult inspectors

Delayed approval for changes to the inspection protocol regarding CI age did not provide local law enforcement partners with adequate time to make necessary adjustments to the CI candidate recruiting pool. Nebraska State Patrol stepped up to successfully complete compliance checks in the Omaha area - as well as the rest of the State. The initial plan was to have checks in the City of Omaha completed by local law enforcement, as in previous years. NSP also had limited time to update their candidate recruiting pool. However, in 6 out of 7 strata, the ages of CIs were 19 and 20. Due to a shortened window of recruitment after not establishing a contract with local law enforcement, the strata containing Omaha included CIs aged 18.

- Issues regarding the balance of inspections conducted by youth inspectors age 15 and under

[Empty text box]

- Issues regarding the balance of inspections conducted by one gender of youth and young adult inspectors

[Empty text box]

- Geographic, demographic, and logistical considerations in conducting inspections

Distances between communities, especially in western Nebraska, make conducting inspections by the Nebraska State Patrol particularly difficult. It is common for many communities to have just one inspection and the travel time from the patrol officers' base to be several hours each way.

- Cultural factors (e.g., language barriers, young people purchasing for their elders)

[Empty text box]

- Issues regarding sources of tobacco under tribal jurisdiction

[Empty text box]

- Other challenges (*Please list.*) _____

[Empty text box]

APPENDIX A: FORMS 1-5

SSES Table 1 (Synar Survey Estimates and Sample Sizes)

CSAP-SYNAR REPORT

State	NE
Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)	2024
Date	11/27/2023 11:51
Data	SSES_V7_0.xlsm
Program Version	Version 7.0
Analysis Option	Stratified SRS with FPC

Estimates

Unweighted Retailer Violation Rate	15.7%
Weighted Retailer Violation Rate	15.7%
Standard Error	2.5%
Is SAMHSA Precision Requirement met?	NO
Right-sided 95% Confidence Interval	[0.0%, 19.9%]
Two-sided 95% Confidence Interval	[10.8%, 20.7%]
Design Effect	1.0
Accuracy Rate (unweighted)	91.0%
Accuracy Rate (weighted)	91.0%
Completion Rate (unweighted)	99.5%

Sample Size for Current Year

Effective Sample Size	155
Target (Minimum) Sample Size	155
Original Sample Size	211
Eligible Sample Size	192
Final Sample Size	191
Overall Sampling Rate	8.4%

SSES Table 2 (Synar Survey Results by Stratum and by OTC/VM)

Samp. Stratum	Var. Stratum	Outlet Frame Size	Estimated Outlet Population Size	Number of PSU Clusters Created	Number of PSU Clusters in Sample	Outlet Sample Size	Number of Eligible Outlets in Sample	Number of Sample Outlets Inspected	Number of Sample Outlets in Violation	Retailer Violation Rate(%)	Standard Error(%)
All Outlets											
Omaha	Omaha	458	422	N/A	N/A	38	35	35	5	14.3%	
Troop A	Troop A	244	198	N/A	N/A	21	17	17	2	11.8%	
Troop B	Troop B	393	333	N/A	N/A	33	28	28	5	17.9%	
Troop C	Troop C	334	297	N/A	N/A	27	24	24	7	29.2%	
Troop D	Troop D	342	330	N/A	N/A	29	28	28	4	14.3%	
Troop E	Troop E	181	170	N/A	N/A	16	15	15	3	20.0%	
Troop H	Troop H	559	535	N/A	N/A	47	45	44	4	9.1%	
Total		2,511	2,285			211	192	191	30	15.7%	2.5%
Over the Counter Outlets											
Omaha	Omaha	458	422	N/A	N/A	35	35	35	5	14.3%	
Troop A	Troop A	244	198	N/A	N/A	17	17	17	2	11.8%	
Troop B	Troop B	393	333	N/A	N/A	28	28	28	5	17.9%	
Troop C	Troop C	334	297	N/A	N/A	25	24	24	7	29.2%	
Troop D	Troop D	342	330	N/A	N/A	28	28	28	4	14.3%	
Troop E	Troop E	181	170	N/A	N/A	15	15	15	3	20.0%	
Troop H	Troop H	559	535	N/A	N/A	44	44	44	4	9.1%	
Total		2,511	2,285			192	191	191	30	15.7%	2.5%
Vending Machines											
Omaha	Omaha	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Troop A	Troop A	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Troop B	Troop B	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Troop C	Troop C	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Troop D	Troop D	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Troop E	Troop E	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Troop H	Troop H	0	0	N/A	N/A	0	0	0	0	0.0%	
Total		0	0			0	0	0	0	0.0%	0.0%

Note: There are some records with unknown outlet type. Therefore, the overall counts may not equal the sum of OTC and VM counts.

SSS Table 3 (Synar Survey Sample Tally Summary)

Disposition Code	Description	Count	Subtotal
EC	Eligible and inspection complete outlet	191	
Total (Eligible Completes)			191
N1	In operation but closed at time of visit	0	
N2	Unsafe to access	0	
N3	Presence of police	1	
N4	Youth inspector knows salesperson	0	
N5	Moved to new location but not inspected	0	
N6	Drive thru only/youth inspector has no drivers license	0	
N7	Tobacco out of stock	0	
N8	Run out of time	0	
N9	Other noncompletion	0	
Total (Eligible Noncompletes)			1
I1	Out of Business	6	
I2	Does not sell tobacco products	7	
I3	Inaccessible by youth	0	
I4	Private club or private residence	1	
I5	Temporary closure	2	
I6	Can't be located	1	
I7	Wholesale only/Carton sale only	0	
I8	Vending machine broken	0	
I9	Duplicate	0	
I10	Other ineligibility (see below)	2	
Total (Ineligibles)			19
Grand Total			211

Give reasons and counts for other ineligibility:

Reason	Count
"online sales only"	1
Problem locating outlet	1

**SSES Table 4 (Synar Survey Inspection Results by Youth Inspector Characteristics)
Frequency Distribution**

Gender	Age	Number of Inspectors	Attempted Buys	Successful Buys
Male	14	0	0	0
	15	0	0	0
	16	0	0	0
	17	0	0	0
	18	2	23	1
	19	4	49	9
	20	0	0	0
	Subtotal	6	72	10
Female	14	0	0	0
	15	0	0	0
	16	0	0	0
	17	0	0	0
	18	1	29	6
	19	5	38	8
	20	3	52	6
	Subtotal	9	119	20
Other		0	0	0
Grand Total		15	191	30

Buy Rate in Percent by Age and Gender

Age	Male	Female	Total
14	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
15	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
16	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
17	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
18	4.3%	20.7%	13.5%
19	18.4%	21.1%	19.5%
20	0.0%	11.5%	11.5%
Other			0.0%
Total	13.9%	16.8%	15.7%

**SSES Table 6 (Synar Survey Inspection Results by Type of Product)
Frequency Distribution and Buy Rate**

Product Type	Attempted Buys	Successful Buys	Violation Rate (%)
Cigarettes	123	17	13.8%
Small cigars/Cigarillos	21	1	4.8%
Smokeless tobacco	16	3	18.8%
ENDS	28	8	28.6%
Other	0	0	0.0%
Missing	3	1	33.3%
Invalid	0	0	0.0%
Grand Total	191	30	15.7%

Buy Rate by Type of Product, Age, and Gender

Male								
Product Type	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Cigarettes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	5.6%	23.1%	0.0%	15.9%
Small cigars/Cigarillos	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Smokeless tobacco	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18.8%	0.0%	18.8%
ENDS	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Male	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	18.4%	0.0%	13.9%

Female								
Product Type	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Cigarettes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	18.5%	9.4%	12.7%
Small cigars/Cigarillos	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	6.2%
Smokeless tobacco	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
ENDS	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	42.9%	16.7%	38.1%
Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	33.3%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Female	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.7%	21.1%	11.5%	16.8%

SSES Table 6 (Synar Survey Inspection Results by Type of Product)

All								
Product Type	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Cigarettes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	7.9%	20.8%	9.4%	13.8%
Small cigars/Cigarillos	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.3%	4.8%
Smokeless tobacco	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18.8%	0.0%	18.8%
ENDS	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	30.0%	16.7%	28.6%
Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	33.3%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.5%	19.5%	11.5%	15.7%

SSES Table 7 (Synar Survey Inspection Results by Type of Retail Outlet)

Frequency Distribution and Buy Rate

Retail Outlet	Attempted Buys	Successful Buys	Violation Rate (%)
Gas Station	89	12	13.5%
Tobacco Store	35	8	22.9%
Restaurant	5	1	20.0%
Hotel	0	0	0.0%
Grocery Store	30	5	16.7%
Drug Store	4	0	0.0%
Other	11	2	18.2%
Missing	17	2	11.8%
Invalid	0	0	0.0%
Grand Total	191	30	15.7%

Buy Rate by Type of Retail Outlet, Age, and Gender

Male								
Retail Outlet	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Gas Station	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	10.0%	0.0%	5.9%
Tobacco Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%	9.1%
Restaurant	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	25.0%
Hotel	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grocery Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	30.0%	0.0%	30.8%
Drug Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	14.3%	0.0%	14.3%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%	33.3%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Male	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	18.4%	0.0%	13.9%

SSES Table 7 (Synar Survey Inspection Results by Type of Retail Outlet)

Female								
Retail Outlet	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Gas Station	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	21.7%	17.4%	18.2%
Tobacco Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	40.0%	25.0%	20.0%	29.2%
Restaurant	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Hotel	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grocery Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	12.5%	0.0%	0.0%	5.9%
Drug Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	25.0%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%	7.1%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Female	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.7%	21.1%	11.5%	16.8%

All								
Retail Outlet	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Gas Station	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	16.3%	17.4%	13.5%
Tobacco Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	22.2%	20.0%	22.9%
Restaurant	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	20.0%
Hotel	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grocery Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	18.2%	25.0%	0.0%	16.7%
Drug Store	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	22.2%	0.0%	18.2%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	11.8%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.5%	19.5%	11.5%	15.7%

SSES Table 8 (Synar Survey Inspection Results by Clerk Asked for ID)

Frequency Distribution and Buy Rate

Clerk Asked for ID	Attempted Buys	Successful Buys	Violation Rate (%)
Yes	171	12	7.0%
No	20	18	90.0%
Missing	0	0	0.0%
Invalid	0	0	0.0%
Grand Total	191	30	15.7%

Buy Rate by Clerk Asked for ID, Age, and Gender

Male								
Clerk Asked for ID	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Yes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	7.0%	0.0%	6.1%
No	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	0.0%	100.0%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Male	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	4.3%	18.4%	0.0%	13.9%
Female								
Clerk Asked for ID	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Yes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	8.0%	12.1%	4.3%	7.6%
No	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	80.0%	80.0%	85.7%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Total Female	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	20.7%	21.1%	11.5%	16.8%
All								
Clerk Asked for ID	Age							Total
	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
Yes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.2%	9.2%	4.3%	7.0%
No	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	90.9%	80.0%	90.0%
Missing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Invalid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grand Total	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	13.5%	19.5%	11.5%	15.7%

APPENDIXES B & C: FORMS

Instructions

Appendix B (Sampling Design) and Appendix C (Inspection Protocol) are to reflect the state's CSAP-approved sampling design and inspection protocol. These appendixes, therefore, should generally describe the design and protocol and, with the exception of Question #10 of Appendix B, are not to be modified with year-specific information. Please note that any changes to either appendix must receive CSAP's advance, written approval. To facilitate the state's completion of this section, simply cut and paste the previously approved sampling design (Appendix B) and inspection protocol (Appendix C) and respond to Question #10 of Appendix B to provide the requested information about sample size calculations for the Synar survey conducted in FFY 2023.

APPENDIX B: SYNAR SURVEY SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

State: Nebraska
 FFY: 2024

1. What type of sampling frame is used?

- List frame (*Go to Question 2.*)
- Area frame (*Go to Question 3.*)
- List-assisted area frame (*Go to Question 2.*)

2. List all sources of the list frame. Indicate the type of source from the list below. Provide a brief description of the frame source. Explain how the lists are updated (method), including how new outlets are identified and added to the frame. In addition, explain how often the lists are updated (cycle). (After completing this question, go to Question 4.)

Use the corresponding number to indicate Type of Source in the table below.

- 1 – Statewide commercial business list 4 – Statewide retail license/permit list
- 2 – Local commercial business list 5 – Statewide liquor license/permit list
- 3 – Statewide tobacco license/permit list 6 – Other

Name of Frame Source	Type of Source	Description	Updating Method and Cycle
Municipal and County Clerks	3	Tobacco Licenses	Annual collection (January-March). Licenses expire December 31 of each year.

3. If an area frame is used, describe how area sampling units are defined and formed.

N/A

a. Is any area left out in the formation of the area frame?

- Yes No

If Yes, what percentage of the state’s population is not covered by the area frame?

_____ %

4. Federal regulation requires that vending machines be inspected as part of the Synar survey. Are vending machines included in the Synar survey?

- Yes No

If **No**, please indicate the reason(s) they are not included in the Synar survey. Please check all that apply.

- State law bans vending machines.
- State law bans vending machines from locations accessible to youth and young adults.
- State has a contract with the FDA and is actively enforcing the vending machine requirements of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act.
- Other (Please describe.) _____

If Yes, please indicate how likely it is that vending machines will be sampled.

- Vending machines are sampled separately to ensure vending machines are included in the sample
- Vending machines are sampled together with over the counter outlets, so it is possible that no vending machines were sampled, however they are included in the sampling frame and have a non-zero probability of selection
- Other reasons (Please describe.) _____

5. Which category below best describes the sample design? (Check only one.)

- Census** (STOP HERE: Appendix B is complete.)

Unstratified statewide sample:

- Simple random sample (Go to Question 9.)
- Systematic random sample (Go to Question 6.)
- Single-stage cluster sample (Go to Question 8.)
- Multistage cluster sample (Go to Question 8.)

Stratified sample:

- Simple random sample (Go to Question 7.)
- Systematic random sample (Go to Question 6.)
- Single-stage cluster sample (Go to Question 7.)
- Multistage cluster sample (Go to Question 7.)
- Other** (Please describe and go to Question 9.) _____

6. Describe the systematic sampling methods. (After completing Question 6, go to Question 7 if stratification is used. Otherwise go to Question 9.)

7. Provide the following information about stratification.

a. Provide a full description of the strata that are created.

Seven strata are used in accordance with the Nebraska State Patrol Troop Areas. The strata are Troop Area A - Omaha and Non Omaha, Troop Area B - Northern Nebraska, Troop Area C - South Central Nebraska, - Troop Area D - Southwest Nebraska, - Troop Area E - Panhandle of Nebraska, and - Troop Area HQ -

Southeast Nebraska. The A and HQ troop areas are the most densely settled comprising metropolitan areas of Omaha and Lincoln respectively (urban strata). The use of State Patrol Troop Areas provides a convenient method of handling Synar investigation as officers are assigned by Patrol Troop area and can work with local youth to conduct compliance checks.

b. Is clustering used within the stratified sample?

- Yes** (Go to Question 8.)
 No (Go to Question 9.)

8. Provide the following information about clustering.

a. Provide a full description of how clusters are formed. (If multistage clusters are used, give definitions of clusters at each stage.)

b. Specify the sampling method (simple random, systematic, or probability proportional to size sampling) for each stage of sampling and describe how the method(s) is (are) implemented.

9. Provide the following information about determining the Synar Sample.

a. Was the Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) used to calculate the sample size?

- Yes** (Respond to part b.)
 No (Respond to part c and Question 10c.)

b. SSES Sample Size Calculator used?

- State Level** (Respond to Question 10a.)
 Stratum Level (Respond to Question 10a and 10b.)

c. Provide the formulas for determining the effective, target, and original outlet sample sizes.

10. Provide the following information about sample size calculations for the Synar survey conducted in FFY 2023.

a. If the state uses the sample size formulas embedded in the SSES Sample Size Calculator to calculate the state level sample size, please provide the following information:

Inputs for Effective Sample Size:

RVR: 5.8%
Frame Size: 2,501

Input for Target Sample Size:
Design Effect: 1.0

Inputs for Original Sample Size:
Safety Margin: 22%
Accuracy (Eligibility) Rate: 95%
Completion Rate: 93.9%

- b. **If the state uses the sample size formulas embedded in the SSES Sample Size Calculator to calculate the stratum level sample sizes, please provide the stratum level information:**

Stratum ID	Stratum Size	Stratum Sample Size [Proportional]
ANonOmaha	242	21
AOmaha	451	38
B	393	33
C	334	28
D	342	29
E	181	16
H	558	47
		212

- c. **If the state does not use the sample size formulas embedded in the SSES Sample Size Calculator, please provide all inputs required to calculate the effective, target, and original sample sizes as indicated in Question 9.**

--

APPENDIX C: SYNAR SURVEY INSPECTION PROTOCOL SUMMARY

State: Nebraska
FFY: 2024

Note: Upload to WebBGAS a copy of the Synar inspection form under the heading “Synar Inspection Form” and a copy of the protocol used to train inspection teams on conducting and reporting the results of the Synar inspections under the heading “Synar Inspection Protocol.”

1. How does the state Synar survey protocol address the following?

a. Consummated buy attempts?

- Required
- Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe:)
- Not permitted

b. Youth and young adult inspectors to carry ID?

- Required
- Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe:)
- Not permitted

c. Adult inspectors to enter the outlet?

- Required
- Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe: Entrance into the outlet by adult inspectors would be permissible in situations where parking does not allow for direct view of the transaction, if there is concern for the safety of the cooperating individual, or where there have been previous cases of difficulty at a particular merchant location)
- Not permitted

d. Youth and young adult inspectors to be compensated?

- Required
- Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe:)
- Not permitted

2. Identify the agency(ies) or entity(ies) that actually conduct the random, unannounced Synar inspections of tobacco outlets. (Check all that apply.)

- Law enforcement agency(ies)
- State or local government agency(ies) other than law enforcement
- Private contractor(s)

Other

List the agency name(s): Nebraska State Patrol

3. Are Synar inspections combined with law enforcement efforts (i.e., do law enforcement representatives issue warnings or citations to retailers found in violation of the law at the time of the inspection?)?

Always Usually Sometimes Rarely Never

4. Describe the type of tobacco products that are requested during Synar inspections.

a. What type of tobacco products are requested during the inspection?

- Cigarettes
- Small Cigars
- Cigarillos
- Smokeless Tobacco
- Electronic Cigarettes/Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)
- Other

b. Describe the protocol for identifying what types of products and what brands of products are requested during an inspection.

This decision is made at the discretion of the officer and/or the cooperating individual and selected based on what products are trending in that community.

5a. Describe the methods used to recruit, select, and train adult supervisors.

All inspectors are certified law enforcement officers who have received training on the required procedures for tobacco compliance checks. Each year the guidelines and any new information are provided to officers who are already trained. New inspectors are assigned to inspectors with experience in order to “learn by doing”. Cooperating individuals are trained by an officer regarding proper procedures and protocols”.

Most of the tobacco compliance checks conducted by the Nebraska State Patrol are with /by investigators that are assigned to the Liquor Division. The inspection process for alcohol compliance and tobacco compliance checks are nearly identical which helps to ensure that the investigators have experience in this area.

5b. Describe the methods used to recruit, select, and train youth and young adult inspectors.

Officers recruit and select cooperating individuals that appear to represent young adults aged 19 and 20 in the area. The officer trains the individuals one on one by reviewing the responsibilities and the protocol for cooperating individuals as outlined in the guidelines below. When the officer is confident that the individual can complete the assigned task the officer and individual then begin conducting inspections.

6. Are there specific legal or procedural requirements instituted by the state to address

the issue of youth and young adult inspectors' immunity when conducting inspections?

a. Legal

Yes **No**

(If Yes, please describe.)

Procedures are the same as established for alcohol compliance checks. See guidelines for "Using Underage Cooperating Individuals During Compliance Checks."

b. Procedural

Yes **No**

(If Yes, please describe.)

Procedures are the same as established for alcohol compliance checks. See guidelines for "Using Underage Cooperating Individuals During Compliance Checks."

7. Are there specific legal or procedural requirements instituted by the state to address the issue of the safety of youth and young adult inspectors during all aspects of the Synar inspection process?

a. Legal

Yes **No**

(If Yes, please describe.)

b. Procedural

Yes **No**

(If Yes, please describe.)

Supervision of the cooperating individual by a law enforcement officer

8. Are there any other legal or procedural requirements the state has regarding how inspections are to be conducted (e.g., age of youth and young adult inspector, time of inspections, training that must occur)?

a. Legal

Yes **No**

(If Yes, please describe.)

b. Procedural

Yes **No**

(If Yes, please describe.)

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APPENDIX D: LIST SAMPLING FRAME COVERAGE STUDY

(LIST FRAME ONLY)

State: Nebraska
FFY: 2024

1. Calendar year of the coverage study: 2023

2. a. Unweighted percent coverage found: 95.1%
b. Weighted percent coverage found: 95.2%
c. Number of outlets found through canvassing: 144
d. Number of outlets matched on the list frame: 137

3. a. Describe how areas were defined. (e.g., census tracts, counties, etc.)

Areas are defined as Census Tracts.

b. Were any areas of the state excluded from sampling?

Yes No

If Yes, please explain.

4. Please answer the following questions about the selection of canvassing areas.

a. Which category below best describes the sample design? (Check only one.)

Census (Go to Question 6.)

Unstratified statewide sample:

Simple random sample (Respond to Part b.)

Systematic random sample (Respond to Part b.)

Single-stage cluster sample (Respond to Parts b and d.)

Multistage cluster sample (Respond to Parts b and d.)

Stratified sample:

Simple random sample (Respond to Parts b and c.)

Systematic random sample (Respond to Parts b and c.)

Single-stage cluster sample (Respond to Parts b, c, and d.)

Multistage cluster sample (Respond to Parts b, c, and d.)

Other (Please describe and respond to Part b.) _____

b. Describe the sampling methods.

All 553 Census tracts in Nebraska were obtained from the US Census Bureau. A stratified sample of Census tracts was selected with probabilities proportionate to size (MOS_{ha}). The measure of size for the Census tracts was a count of the number of tobacco retailers from the license frame as geocoded into the Census tract. Census tracts were sorted within the strata by county, and selected proportionate to the estimated number of tobacco retailers in the tract from the license frame. Overall, 19 Census tracts were selected using a probability proportionate to size systematic selection procedure, with 9 selected from rural counties and 10 selected from urban counties.

c. Provide a full description of the strata that were created.

Strata were defined by counties. Four counties – Lancaster, Douglas, Sarpy, and Hall – were designated as urban counties. All other counties were designated as rural counties.

d. Provide a full description of how clusters were formed.

Clusters were defined as Census tracts as defined by the US Census Bureau for the American Community Survey.

5. Were borders of the selected areas clearly identified at the time of canvassing?

Yes No

6. Were all sampled areas visited by canvassing teams?

Yes (*Go to Question 7.*) No (*Respond to Parts a and b.*)

a. Was the subset of areas randomly chosen?

Yes No

b. Describe how the subsample of visited areas was drawn. Include the number of areas sampled and the number of areas canvassed.

7. Were field observers provided with a detailed map of the canvassing areas?

Yes No

If No, describe the canvassing instructions given to the field observers.

8. Were field observers instructed to find all outlets in the assigned area?

Yes No

If No, respond to Question 9.

If Yes, describe any instructions given to the field observers to ensure the entire area was canvassed, then go to Question 10.

Canvassers, or field observers, utilized current census tract maps with clearly defined geographic boundaries and accurate maps of all roads in the tract in order to find all outlets. When certain roads acted as census tract borders, canvassers were instructed to examine the side of the road that corresponded to their canvassing tract area. These census tract maps were printed and canvassers used highlighters to highlight roads as they were canvassed to document their progress on the maps. During this process, canvassers also used the Merchant Field List, a data collection instrument created in collaboration with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services and the Bureau of Sociological Research at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, to ensure all outlets in the census tract were visited.

9. If a full canvassing was not conducted:

- a. How many predetermined outlets were to be observed in each area? _____
- b. What were the starting points for each area? _____
- c. Were these starting points randomly chosen?
 Yes No
- d. Describe the selection of the starting points.

- e. Please describe the canvassing instructions given to the field observers, including predetermined routes.

10. Describe the process field observers used to determine if an outlet sold tobacco.

For each retail outlet located, a 'Merchant Field List' was completed. The first section of the form was used to record the retail outlet name, address, phone number, type of business, and if the retailer had an age-restricted entrance. If the canvassers (or field observers), were able to enter the business, they completed the following section of the form that gathered information on whether or not the retailer sold tobacco products and/or had a tobacco license (displayed or not displayed). If the canvassers determined the retailer sold tobacco, they would indicate on the form if the tobacco was sold through a vending machine, free standing, and/or protected. If the canvassers determined the retailer had a tobacco license and the retailer allowed them to review the license, canvassers would add the establishment name, address, and license expiration date to the form. If canvassers found a retailer to be closed or uncooperative or additional information was needed from the retailer, follow-up phone calls were attempted to gather necessary information or to clarify information.

11. Please provide the state's definition of "matches" or "mismatches" to the Synar sampling frame? (i.e., address, business name, business license number, etc.)

Matches were identified first using the street address and then business name.

12. Provide the calculation of the weighted percent coverage (if applicable).

$$\text{WeightedCoverage} = \frac{\sum_{\alpha=1}^{19} w_{\alpha}(I=\text{ListFrame\&AreaStudy})}{\sum_{\alpha=1}^{19} w_{\alpha}(I=\text{AreaStudy})}$$

$$\text{where } w_{\alpha}=1/p_{\alpha} \text{ and } p_{\alpha} = \frac{Mos_{ha}}{\sum_{\alpha=1}^{Ah} Mos_{ha}}$$