### **ANNUAL SYNAR REPORT**

42 U.S.C. 300x-26 OMB № 0930-0222

### FFY 2025 State: Nevada

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#### OMB No. 0930-0222 Expiration Date: 06/30/2024

Public Burden Statement: An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0930-0222. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 18 hours per respondent, per year, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

#### **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 2024 Compliance Progress) and future plans to ensure compliance with the Synar requirements to reduce youth and young adult tobacco access rates (FFY 2025 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 states<sup>1</sup> 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 with youth and young adult tobacco access laws.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The 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).

#### 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, 2024 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 2025 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 2025 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 <u>not</u> 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 2025: 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

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.

#### SYNAR SURVEY SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

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 2025 is up-to-date and approved by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

SYNAR SURVEY INSPECTION PROTOCOL

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 2025 is up-to-date and approved by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

State: Nevada

Name of Chief Executive Officer or Designee: Cody Phinney

Signature of CEO or Designee:

Title: Administrator, Division of Public and Behavioral Health Date Signed:

If signed by a designee, a copy of the designation must be attached.

FFY: 2025

State: Nevada \_\_\_\_\_

#### **SECTION I: FFY 2024 (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	$\boxtimes$	No
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If Yes.	current	minimum	age:	19[	20	$\square 21$
1) 1009	curicin	minimum	"Sr. []	- / L		

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

Yes Yes

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.*) The 2023 amendments to <u>NRS 370.521(7)</u> went into effect on 1/1/2024, making licensees responsible for civil penalties starting at \$2,500 and escalating to \$10,000 beginning with the first violation of <u>NRS 370.521(1)</u>.

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

Licensing of tobacco vendors	<b>Yes</b>	🛛 No		
Penalties for sales to minors	X Yes			
Vending machines	Yes	No No		
Added product			7 <u></u>	_
categories to youth and young	adult acce	ss 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 state agency Web site (Please provide exact Web address and the date when the FFY 2025 ASR was posted to this Web address.) Web address: https://dpbh.nv.gov/Programs/ClinicalSAPTA/dta/Synar/Synar; Published: 12/12/24 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

Dther (*Please describe.*) Information will be sent through the Bureau's Listserve as well as to prevention coalitions and tobacco control partners in Nevada with instructions to download the 2025 Annual Synar Report from the citizen WebBGAS login.

- 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:

Nevada Department of Health & Human Services Bureau of Behavioral Health, Wellness, and Prevention (BBHWP)

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

Yes No

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

State of Nevada Office of the Attorney General (OAG)

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):

State of Nevada Office of the Attorney General (OAG)

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).
     <u>Nevada Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public and Behavioral Health Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion, Tobacco Control Program</u>

- b. Has the responsible agency changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?
   Yes X 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.*) <u>BBWHP agrees to</u> fund a full-time Synar Coordinator to be housed within the Tobacco Control <u>Program, support of the ResponsibleTobaccoNV website, and support of the</u> <u>Standardized Tobacco Assessment for Retail Settings (STARS) application through</u> its SUPTRS prevention block grant set-aside.

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 2024 (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 <u>LOCAL AND/OR STATE LAW</u> <u>ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (this does not include enforcement of local laws or</u> <u>federal youth and young adult tobacco access laws</u>). 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 citations issued	78	78	156
Number of fines assessed	48	78	126
Number of permits/licenses suspended	0		0
Number of permits/licenses revoked	0		0

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

#### XYes 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:

Nevada conducts inspections of retailers throughout the State year-round. In very rural areas, the Investigators attempt to inspect every store in the community over a short period of time, rather than over multiple days, to mitigate the risk of word spreading that inspections are taking place. This is merely a precaution. The Investigators have not observed anything suggesting retailers alert one another to the team's presence in an area.

- 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

Under Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 370.521, within a reasonable time after an inspection, a business must be notified of the inspection and the results. Nevada's investigators notify the clerk involved immediately after the inspection and either issue a citation or provide a congratulatory postcard to the clerk for enforcing Nevada's age restriction law. As a result of the passing of Assembly Bill 53 during the 82nd Session of the Nevada Legislature, as of January 1, 2024, NRS 370.521(7) was modified to impose on the retail licensee a civil penalty of \$2,500 for the first violation, \$5,000 for the second violation, \$7,500 for the third violation and \$10,000 for the fourth and any subsequent violation within a 24-month period at the same premises. The retail licensee will continue to receive written notification of the clerk's violation, but upon adjudication or resolution of the clerk's infraction, the retail licensee will also receive a Notice of Civil Penalties.

Immediately following inspections, the Investigator provides the clerk or management with information about Nevada's online merchant education program. The Nevada Responsible Tobacco Retailer Training and Certification Website, <u>www.responsibletobacconv.com</u>, provides a free training and certification program developed and updated with the newest guidelines from the Federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA). This essential education is presented through a set of learning modules that concludes with a certification quiz. Every retail clerk, supervisor, manager, and business owner who completes the training and quiz becomes a State of Nevada Certified Responsible Tobacco Retailer.

In addition to the training and certification, the website also provides several resources and tools for commercial tobacco retailers, including:

•An Employee Guidebook to help navigate store clerks and supervisors through the Free Training and Certification Program.

•Learning Module Resource Sheets that cover Federal and State Tobacco Laws and Regulations, Compliance Inspections, Age Verifications Tips, Health Effects of Youth Tobacco Use, Law Required Point-of Sale Signage, and more.

• In-store signage and Point-of Sale Signage for Tobacco 21, including customerfacing and employee- facing posters, etc.

Through the SUPTRS prevention block grant, BBHWP funds two prevention coalitions in Clark County to provide merchant education to tobacco retailers. BBHWP also funds Nevada Cancer Coalition to conduct a tobacco retail purchase assessment project, as described in the attachment to this annual report. Following each purchase attempt, each retailer receives a targeted education session with resources and materials provided. In FFY26, the Nevada Cancer Coalition will expand the territory of the project and will address findings to improve merchant education effectiveness.

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)

The Investigator provides congratulatory postcards to all clerks that do not sell to underage consumers during compliance checks. The Division of Public and Behavioral Health's Tobacco Control Program also provides Awards of Recognition for complying with the Tobacco 21 Law. Nevada Cancer Coalition's tobacco retail purchase assessment project gives all retailers that pass the assessment by demonstrating appropriate age verification processes selected items to reinforce continued positive practices.

Community education regarding youth and young adult access laws

Nevada has multiple tobacco control partnerships, including health districts and coalitions, that collectively contribute to outreach in their communities to increase awareness and education about youth and young adult access laws. Educational resources are provided as needed in-person and online. Tobacco Control Partners also organize alternative activities in which they are able to reach the community. By doing this, they particularly target youth, parents, educators, and other youth influencers who can affect social norms related to tobacco sale, use, and cessation.

Media use to publicize compliance inspection results

N/A

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

The Nevada Tobacco Control and Smokefree Coalition (NTCSC) is a large, statewide coalition of a variety of community-level partners in collaboration with State and national partnerships. It played a role in distributing educational information about youth access to tobacco in Nevada and use of tobacco and related products. NTCSC also relayed the status of retailer compliance on its website.

Other activities (Please list.)

#### 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 2024 (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?

xXYes 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 <u>right limit</u> of the right-sided 95% confidence interval.

	RVR Estimate	+ plus	.(1.645 .(1.645	times	Standa )	) rd Error	equals	Right Limit
	Accuracy rate				-			
	Completion rate							
c.	Fill out Form 1 in design.)	n Apper	ndix A (F	orms 1	– <b>5).</b> (Req1	uired rega	rdless of t	he sample
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# Effective sample size (sample size needed to meet the SAMHSA precision requirement assuming simple random sampling) Sample Size

<b>Target sample size</b> (the product of the effective sample size and the design effect)	
<b>Original sample size</b> (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: 2022
- b. Percent coverage from the latest Sampling frame coverage study: 90.45%
- 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: 2025

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
- **b.** Provide the inspection period: From <u>10/1/2023</u> to <u>9/30/2024</u> MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY
- c. Provide the number of youth and young adult inspectors used in the current inspection year:  $\underline{6}$

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 2025 (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	X No
Synar inspection protocol	Yes	No 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 2025. 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.

Nevada will continue to employ two full-time Investigators and supporting underage Investigators for the purpose of conducting compliance checks at tobacco retail outlets. Because Nevada's population is largely centralized in the Las Vegas metropolitan area in Clark County, both Investigators are based in Las Vegas. However, the Investigators spend a portion of their time traveling to northern and rural Nevada to ensure tobacco retailers are complying with retail tobacco access laws and to enforce the law statewide. Retail establishments and clerks will be reminded each time they are visited by the Investigators of the importance of checking identification and being diligent in their efforts to comply with legal age minimums.

The Nevada General Assembly voted to update Nevada Revised Statues (NRS) 370.521(7) to take effect on January 1, 2024. The changes to the law made licensees responsible for civil penalties starting at \$2,500 and escalating to \$10,000 beginning with the first violation of NRS 370.521(1) (Selling tobacco products to minors). Before the statute changed, retailers received warnings for the first and second violations and did not receive civil penalties until the third violation, which only were \$500.

Nevada continues promoting its online tobacco merchant training program that is available, free of charge in English and Spanish, to any vendor in the state at <u>https://responsibletobacconv.com</u>. Through ongoing activities of the OAG and community partners, Nevada retailers will receive information about this training. Tobacco control community partners will continue to deliver handouts about the training to retail tobacco outlets, focusing on non-compliant stores. The OAG Investigators also leave these handouts with every outlet they inspect.

The Bureau of Behavioral Health, Wellness, and Prevention will continue funding Nevada Cancer Coalition in FFY2025 through the SUPTRS prevention block grant set-aside to further its pilot Tobacco Purchase Assessment Project that was conducted in the spring and summer of 2024. See the project's Summary Report attached to this Annual Synar Report. In 2025,

the project will continue education tobacco retailers in Carson City and the counties of Clark, Washoe, Douglas, Lyon, and Storey, and will expand into Elko County in northeastern Nevada.

**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

The two full-time investigators conducting compliance checks work a traditional Monday-Friday schedule. As a result, it has been difficult to recruit qualified temporary aide applicants as their schedules are limited by school hours and extracurricular activities. To overcome these obstacles, the OAG has hired an administrative assistant who is under the age of 21 to allow for inspections during traditional working hours. The OAG has continued to try to recruit temporary aids with more flexible schedules. The OAG must consider the long-term availability of aides when making hiring decisions. Schedule availability due to other jobs, school and extra-curricular commitments is the primary consideration determining the qualifications of applicants.

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

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

Geographic, demographic, and logistical considerations in conducting inspections

Because Nevada is mostly rural, it is costly and time consuming to travel to remote areas for very few compliance checks. The State follows a methodology that will reduce the amount of time spent on outlets in frontier geographical areas, while ensuring that an accurate sample of all outlets in the State is still completed.

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

Some clerks are not fluent in English. This was found in the region of Carson City and Douglas, Lyon, and Storey Counties in the summer of 2024 during the Nevada Tobacco Retail Purchase Assessment Project conducted by the Nevada Cancer Coalition's prevention block grant subaward. See attached report.

Issues regarding sources of tobacco under tribal jurisdiction

Nevada has numerous Indian tribes that sell tobacco products on their reservations. Due to the sovereignty afforded the tribes and the related jurisdictional issues, the State's enforcement agents are precluded from engaging in tobacco compliance checks on tribal property. Several of the primary prevention coalitions and other local partner agencies in Nevada specifically provide speakers and disseminate information to tribal entities in their service areas about the impact of tobacco on the human brain and body. These efforts are geared to preventing young people under age 21 from starting to use tobacco and vaping products.

Other challenges (Please list.)\_\_\_\_

#### **APPENDIX A: FORMS 1–5**

FORM 1 (Required for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) to analyze the Synar Survey data)

Complete Form 1 to report sampling frame and sample information and to calculate the unweighted retailer violation rate (RVR) using results from the current year's Synar survey inspections.

**Instructions for Completing Form 1:** In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2025). Provide the remaining information by stratum if stratification was used. Make copies of the form if additional rows are needed to list all the strata.

#### Column 1: If stratification was used:

- 1(a) Sequentially number each row.
- 1(b) Write in the name of each stratum. All strata in the state must be listed.

If no stratification was used:

1(a) Leave blank.

1(b) Write "state" in the first row (indicates that the whole state is a single stratum).

Note for unstratified samples: For Columns 2–5, wherever the instruction refers to "each stratum," report the specified information for the state as a whole.

- Column 2: 2(a) Report the number of over-the-counter (OTC) outlets in the sampling frame in each stratum.
  - 2(b) Report the number of vending machine (VM) outlets in the sampling frame in each stratum.
  - 2(c) Report the combined total of OTC and VM outlets in the sampling frame in each stratum.
- Column 3: 3(a) Report the estimated number of eligible OTC outlets in the OTC outlet population in each stratum.
  - 3(b) Report the estimated number of eligible VM outlets in the VM outlet population in each stratum.
  - 3(c) Report the combined total estimated number of eligible OTC and VM outlets in the total outlet population in each stratum.

The estimates for Column 3 can be obtained from the Synar survey sample as the weighted sum of eligible outlets by outlet type.

- Column 4: 4(a) Report the number of eligible OTC outlets for which an inspection was completed, for each stratum.
  - 4(b) Report the numbers of eligible VM outlets for which an inspection was completed, for each stratum.
  - 4(c) Report the combined total of eligible OTC and VM outlets for which an inspection was completed, for each stratum.
- Column 5: 5(a) Report the number of OTC outlets found in violation of the law as a result of completed inspections, for each stratum.
  - 5(b) Report the number of VM outlets found in violation of the law as a result of completed inspections, for each stratum.
  - 5(c) Report the combined total of OTC and VM outlets found in violation of the law as a result of completed inspections, for each stratum.
- Totals: For each subcolumn (a-c) in Columns 2–5, provide totals for the state as a whole in the last row of the table. These numbers will be the sum of the numbers in each row for the respective column.

	Summary of Synar Inspection Results by Stratum											State: FFY: <u>2025</u>	
(	1)		(2)			(3)			(4)			(5)	
STRA	STRATUM		NUMBER OF OUTLETS IN SAMPLING FRAME		ELIGI	ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ELIGIBLE OUTLETS IN POPULATION			BER OF OU		VIOL	OUTLETS FO ATION DU	RING
(a) Row #	(b) Stratum Name	(a) Over-the- Counter (OTC)	(b) Vending Machines (VM)	(c) Total Outlets (2a+2b)	(a) Over-the- Counter (OTC)	(b) Vending Machines (VM)	(c) Total Outlets (3a+3b)	(a) Over-Ihe- Counter (OTC)	(b) Vending Machines (VM)	(c) Total Outlets (4a+4b)	(a) Over-the- Counter (OTC)	(b) Vending Machines (VM)	(c) Total Outlets (5a+5b)
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FORM 1 (Required for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System [SSES] to analyze the Synar Survey data.)

RECORD COLUMN TOTALS ON LAST LINE (LAST PAGE ONLY IF MULTIPLE PAGES ARE NEEDED).

#### FORM 2 (Optional) Appropriate for stratified simple or systematic random sampling designs.

Complete Form 2 to calculate the weighted RVR. This table (in Excel form) is designed to calculate the weighted RVR for stratified simple or systematic random sampling designs, accounting for ineligible outlets and noncomplete inspections encountered during the annual Synar survey.

Instructions for Completing Form 2: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2025).

Write in the name of each stratum into which the sample was divided. These should match Column 1: the strata reported in Column 1(b) of Form 1. Report the number of outlets in the sampling frame in each stratum. These numbers should Column 2: match the numbers reported for the respective strata in Column 2(c) of Form 1. Report the original sample size (the number of outlets originally selected, including Column 3: substitutes or replacements) for each stratum. Column 4: Report the number of sample outlets in each stratum that were found to be eligible during the inspections. Note that this number must be less than or equal to the number reported in Column 3 for the respective strata. Report the number of eligible outlets in each stratum for which an inspection was Column 5: completed. Note that this number must be less than or equal to the number reported in Column 4. These numbers should match the numbers reported in Column 4(c) of Form 1 for the respective strata. Column 6: Report the number of eligible outlets inspected in each stratum that were found in violation. These numbers should match the numbers reported in Column 5(c) of Form 1 for the stratum. Column 7: Form 2 (in Excel form) will automatically calculate the stratum RVR for each stratum in this column. This is calculated by dividing the number of inspected eligible outlets found in violation (Column 6) by the number of inspected eligible outlets (Column 5). The state unweighted RVR will be shown in the Total row of Column 7. Column 8: Form 2 (in Excel form) will automatically calculate the estimated number of eligible outlets in the population for each stratum. This calculation is made by multiplying the number of outlets in the sampling frame (Column 2) times the number of eligible outlets (Column 4) divided by the original sample size (Column 3). Note that these numbers will be less than or equal to the numbers in Column 2. Column 9: Form 2 (in Excel form) will automatically calculate the relative stratum weight by dividing the estimated number of eligible outlets in the population for each stratum in Column 8 by the Total of the values in Column 8. Column 10: Form 2 (in Excel form) will automatically calculate each stratum's contribution to the state weighted RVR by multiplying the stratum RVR (Column 7) by the relative stratum weight (Column 9). The weighted RVR for the state will be shown in the Total row of Column 10. Column 11: Form 2 (in Excel form) automatically calculates the standard error of each stratum's RVR (Column 7). The standard error for the state weighted RVR will be shown in the Total row of Column 11. TOTAL: For Columns 2-6, Form 2 (in Excel form) provides totals for the state as a whole in the last row of the table. For Columns 7-11, it calculates the respective statistic for the state as a whole.

			Calc	ulation of W	eighted Retail	er Violation	Rate		State:	
			FFY: 2025	- 1071 - E						
(1) Stratum Name	(2) N Number of Outlets in Sampling Frame	(3) n Original Sample Size	(4) n1 Number of Sample Outlets Found Eligible	(5) n2 Number of Outlets Inspected	(6) x Number of Outlets Found in Violation	(7) p=x/n2 Stratum Retailer Violation Rate	(8) N'=N(n1/n) Estimated Number of Eligible Outlets in Population	(9) w=N'/Total Column 8 Relative Stratum Weight	(10) pw Stratum Contribution to State Weighted RVR	(11) s.e. Standard Error of Stratum RV
-										
Total										

#### FORM 2 (Optional) Appropriate for stratified simple or systematic random sampling designs.

N - number of outlets in sampling frame

n - original sample size (number of outlets in the original sample)
 n1 - number of sample outlets that were found to be eligible

n2 - number of eligible outlets that were inspected

x - number of inspected outlets that were found in violation

p - stratum retailer violation rate (p=x/n2)
 N' - estimated number of eligible outlets in population (N'=N\*n1/n)
 w - relative stratum weight (w=N'/Total Column 8)
 pw - stratum contribution to the weighted RVR

s.e. - standard error of the stratum RVR

### FORM 3 (Required when a cluster design is used for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System [SSES] to analyze the Synar survey data.)

Complete Form 3 to report information about primary sampling units when a cluster design was used for the Synar survey.

Instructions for Completing Form 3: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2025).

Provide information by stratum if stratification was used. Make copies of the form if additional rows are needed to list all the strata.

- Column 1: Sequentially number each row.
- Column 2: If stratification was used: Write in the name of stratum. All strata in the state must be listed.

If no stratification was used: Write "state" in the first row to indicate that the whole state constitutes a single stratum.

- Column 3: Report the number of primary sampling units (PSUs) (i.e., first-stage clusters) created for each stratum.
- Column 4: Report the number of PSUs selected in the original sample for each stratum.
- Column 5: Report the number of PSUs in the final sample for each stratum.
- TOTALS: For Columns 3–5, provide totals for the state as a whole in the last row of the table.

	Summary of Clusters		npled State:							
	<b>FFY:</b> 2025									
(1) Row #	(2) Stratum Name	(3) Number of PSUs Created	(4) Number of PSUs Selected	(5) Number of PSUs in the Final Sample						
	· · · · · ·									
	Total									

### FORM 4 (Required for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System [SSES] to analyze the Synar Survey data)

Complete Form 4 to provide detailed tallies of ineligible sample outlets by reasons for ineligibility and detailed tallies of eligible sample outlets with noncomplete inspections by reasons for noncompletion.

Instructions for Completing Form 4: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2025).

- Column 1(a): Enter the number of sample outlets found ineligible for inspection by reason for ineligibility. Provide the total number of ineligible outlets in the row marked "Total."
- Column 2(a): Enter the number of eligible sample outlets with noncomplete inspections by reason for noncompletion. Provide the total number of eligible outlets with noncomplete inspections in the row marked "Total."

		State:	State.
		<b>FFY:</b> 2025	
(1) INELIGIBLE		(2) ELIGIBLE	t di
Reason for Ineligibility	(a) Counts	<b>Reason for Noncompletion</b>	(a) Counts
Out of business		In operation but closed at time of visit	- - 
Does not sell tobacco products		Unsafe to access	
Inaccessible by youth or young adult		Presence of police	
Private club or private residence		Youth or young adult inspector knows salesperson	
Temporary closure		Moved to new location	
Unlocatable		Drive-thru only/youth or young adult inspector has no driver's license	
Wholesale only/Carton sale only		Tobacco out of stock	
Vending machine broken		Ran out of time	
Duplicate Other ineligibility reason(s) (Describe.)		Other noncompletion reason(s) (Describe.)	ď
Total		Total	

### FORM 5 (Required for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System [SSES] to analyze the Synar survey data)

Complete Form 5 to show the distribution of outlet inspection results by age and gender of the youth and young adult inspectors.

**Instructions for Completing Form 5:** In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2025).

Column 1: Enter the number of attempted buys by youth and young adult inspector age and gender.

Column 2: Enter the number of successful buys by youth and young adult inspector age and gender.

If the inspectors are age eligible but the gender of the inspector is unknown, include those inspections in the "Other" row. Calculate subtotals for males and females in rows marked "Male Subtotal" and "Female Subtotal." Sum subtotals for Male, Female, and Other and record in the bottom row marked "Total." Verify that that the total of attempted buys and successful buys equals the total for Column 4(c) and Column 5(c), respectively, on Form 1. If the totals do not match, please explain any discrepancies.

	Synar Survey Inspector Charac	cteristics
		State:
		FFY: 2025
	(1) Attempted Buys	(2) Successful Buys
Male		
15 years		
16 years		
17 years		
18 years		
19 years		
20 years		
Male Subtotal		
Female		
15 years		
16 years		
17 years		
18 years		
19 years		
20 years		
Female Subtotal		
Other		
Total		Manual Shates A Arren

#### **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 2024.

#### APPENDIX B: SYNAR SURVEY SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

State:	Nevada	
FFY:	2025	

#### 1. What type of sampling frame is used?

- X 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
- 2 Local commercial business list
- 3 -
- 4 Statewide retail license/permit list

<ul> <li>Statewide tobacco license/</li> </ul>	/permit	list	
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5 - Statewide liquor license/permit list

 b	Othe	r		

Name of Frame Source	Type of Source	Description	Updating Method and Cycle
Nevada Licensed Tobacco Retail Account	3	The Nevada Department of Taxation maintains a list of entities with active tobacco retail licenses throughout the State.	Nevada law requires tobacco retailers to be licensed. The Nevada Department of Taxation adds newly licensed tobacco retailers to a list on an ongoing basis, which is published to its website. Cancelled licenses are also removed from the list. The Office of the Attorney General compares the Department of Taxation's list to the Synar database to add any new retail establishments that are accessible to youth and to follow up with outlets.
Synar KPS3 Database	6	Electronic database containing tobacco outlets in the state, including the Synar sample.	While conducting inspections throughout the state, Office of the Attorney General investigators identify and inspect any new business they observe that sells tobacco products. Investigators then provide information regarding the business to the Tobacco Enforcement Unit's attorneys, who continuously update the Synar KPS3 database. Ongoing additions and deletions are also made to the KPS3 system following the Nevada Department of Taxation's monthly updates to the tobacco retail dealer

			list of licensees, as discussed further below.
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#### 3. If an area frame is used, describe how area sampling units are defined and formed.

		Ourse and the second se
	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.		regulation requires that vending machines be inspected as part of the Synar Are vending machines included in the Synar survey?
	XYes	
	If No, pi all that	lease indicate the reason(s) they are not included in the Synar survey. Please check apply.
		State law bans vending machines.
	 ad	State law bans vending machines from locations accessible to youth and young ults.

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.)

N/A

#### 7. Provide the following information about stratification.

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

Nevada has divided eligible tobacco outlets into four mutually exclusive and exhaustive strata. The strata are classified as urban, semi-urban, rural, and rural frontier, making the outlets within each stratum largely homogenous and enhancing the sampling efficiency.

#### URBAN STRATUM:

Cities in Nevada having more than 80 tobacco outlets are classified as urban. Of note, the six cities that comprise the urban stratum combine geographically to create the only two metropolitan areas in the State: Las Vegas, North Las Vegas, and Henderson in the South, and Reno, Sparks, and Carson City in the North. The Urban stratum includes more than 80% of the tobacco outlets in the State.

#### SEMI-URBAN STRATUM

Approximately 14% of the tobacco outlets in the state make up the semi-urban stratum. The cities in this stratum all have less than 80 stores but are not geographically isolated in the same manner as the rural and rural frontier strata. This stratum includes all cities with between 18-80 stores but also those cities with less than 18 stores that are within approximately a 30-minute drive to a city with at least 18 stores. The tobacco outlets in this stratum are rarely a consumer's only reasonable option based on proximity from which to purchase tobacco products as is the case in the rural and rural frontier strata. Outlets that sell tobacco in the following cities make up the semi-urban stratum: Elko, Wells, Spring Creek, Carlin, Jiggs, Pahrump, Blue Diamond, Jean, Primm, Sandy Valley, Fallon, Dayton, Stagecoach, Silver Springs, Fernley, Lovelock, Winnemucca, Mill City, Imlay, Lockwood, Laughlin, Boulder City, Searchlight, Cal Neva Ari, Palm Gardens, Mesquite, Overton, Logandale, Moapa Valley, Gardnerville, Zephyr Cove, Genoa, Stateline, Minden, Walker Lake, Yerington, Hawthorne, Mound House, Virginia City, Sun Valley, Incline Village, Crystal Bay, Verdi, and Washoe Valley.

#### RURAL STRATUM

Nevada's third stratum is the rural stratum. Because there are so few stores in the cities comprising this stratum, the 16 cities included combine to contain only approximately 2.5% of the tobacco outlets in the State. The cities in this stratum have 17 or fewer stores and are generally more than an hour drive from a city with more than 17 stores. This makes these towns distinct from the smaller cities in the semiurban stratum in that traveling to a larger city to purchase tobacco products would not be an easily accomplished, potentially daily outing. In some instances, cities in this stratum are near other small cities but they are not located near an urban area. Tobacco outlets in the following cities are considered rural: Battle Mountain, Valmy, West Wendover, Wendover, Ely, East Ely, Tonopah, Goldfield, Beatty, Amargosa Valley, Indian Springs, Alamo, Caliente, Pioche, Panaca, and Hiko.

#### RURAL FRONTIER STRATUM

The last stratum is made up of extremely rural Nevada cities, referred to as rural frontier cities. There are 18 of these cities peppering the vast largely unpopulated regions of the State. On average, these cities contain only 2.1 tobacco outlets and are isolated not only from large cities but from each other. Visiting these small rural towns from either the Las Vegas Metropolitan area or the Reno Metropolitan area would require driving on average 7.2 hours round trip. These 18 cities combine to account for just over 1% of Nevada's tobacco outlets. Tobacco outlets in the following cities are considered rural frontier: Jackpot, Eureka, McGill, Round Mountain, Dyer, Gerlach, Jarbidge, McDermitt, Montello, Orovada, Wellington, Austin, Baker, Coyote Springs, Crescent Valley, Denio, Gabbs, and Smith.

Because investigators are based in the urban metropolitan areas and because rural Nevada spans extreme distances, there is a very significant cost variance between conducting inspections in an urban city and conducting inspections in a rural frontier city. As such, the State of Nevada will use the SSES calculator to determine the per stratum sample size using the optimum allocation. This requires the State to calculate a cost weight and RVR per stratum.

Accepting that a typical workday consists of approximately two hours of administrative time (preparing routes, picking up and dropping off youth inspectors, organizing buy money, etc.), in the urban stratum, six hours can be devoted to conducting inspections. On average, four stores can be inspected each hour.

Therefore, in the urban stratum 24 stores can be inspected, on average, each day. This is the least expensive stratum to survey, so the cost weight is 1.

Using the same inspection period of 6 hours each day and again assuming that four stores can be inspected each hour, but this time accounting for the drive time necessary to reach each semi-urban city, an inspector will be able to inspect 13.9 stores, on average, each day. This stratum has a cost weight of 1.7.

The six clusters that make up the rural stratum are, on average, 3.6 hours away from the urban cities in which investigation teams are based. Still accepting that four stores can be inspected each hour once the rural destination is reached, on average it will take the investigation teams 3.4 hours to inspect the 13.7 stores in each rural cluster. Attributing the same two hours of administrative time as contemplated in the other strata plus the drive time (an average of 7.2 hours round trip) and inspection time, the investigation teams will put in a 12.6-hour day to inspect 13.7 stores. In that same time period in the urban stratum (the cheapest stratum), 42.4 inspections could be done. Therefore, the cost weight of inspections in the rural stratum is 3.1.

The rural frontier cities are substantially more expensive to inspect, primarily because a round trip drive of 7.2 hours will net the inspection team only 2.1 inspections, on average. Including two hours of administrative time plus an average of 7.2 hours of drive time and 30 minutes of inspection time, a 9.7-hour day will be required to complete only 2.1 inspections. If the investigation team worked a 9.7 hour day in the cheapest stratum, 30.8 stores could be inspected, versus the 2.1 conducted in the rural frontier stratum. Therefore, the cost weight of inspections in the rural frontier stratum is 14.7.

#### b. Is clustering used within the stratified sample?

 $\boxtimes$  Yes(Go to Question 8.) $\square$  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.)

The urban stratum is not clustered and tobacco outlets will be selected from that stratum using a simple random sample (SRS).

The semi-urban stratum consists of cities that have between 18 and 80 stores or those smaller cities that are within an approximately 30-minute drive to a city containing at least 18 stores. The 44 cities in this stratum were divided into 9 distinct and exhaustive clusters. Cities were clustered based on both their geographic proximity to one another and their proximity to a metropolitan area. While efforts were made to make the clusters as close in size as possible, geographic constraints resulted in some variance. The clusters in this stratum presently have between 30 and 66 stores.

The rural stratum consists of cities that have less than 17 stores that are not in close proximity to a city with more than 17 stores. Each cluster consists of cities that are all small but in close geographic proximity to one another or small cities that share a common primary highway. For example, Ely and East Ely combine to create one cluster because they are minutes away from one another. However, Amargosa Valley and Beatty are in the same cluster despite being more than an hour away from each other because, in order to get to Beatty from Las Vegas, a visitor must drive through Amargosa Valley. The cities in this stratum have been combined to make 6 clusters each consisting of between 10 and 18 stores.

The rural frontier stratum consists of 18 tiny clusters. Each cluster contains the tobacco outlets in one highly isolated Nevada city. These rural cities are not geographically located such that they can logically be combined with any other city to form a larger cluster. On average, the cities in this stratum contain just 2.1 tobacco outlets.

## 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.

Nevada uses the SSES sample size calculator, using the optimum allocation, to determine the per stratum sample size. With regard to the urban stratum, which includes more than 80% of Nevada's tobacco outlets, an SRS is used to select the number of stores required by the SSES sample size calculator. Each tobacco outlet in the urban stratum is contained in an Excel spreadsheet and, using the randomize function, assigned a random number. The stores are then sorted from smallest random number to largest and are assigned a whole, incremental number. The stores are then

selected from one up to the required stratum sample size as the urban stratum SRS for Synar inspections.

Within the semi-urban stratum, where stores are separated into nine clusters, a multistage SRS is conducted. First, within an Excel sheet, the clusters are assigned a number between 1 and 9 using the randomize function. The State will then similarly randomize each outlet within each cluster using the randomize function and select an SRS of 50% of the stores within each cluster. If there is an odd number of tobacco outlets in a cluster, one more outlet is included in the SRS from that cluster. The Synar sample will be compiled by adding the 50% SRS from each cluster in the order the individual outlets were randomized, in the order of the cluster-level SRS, until the number of outlets selected equals the number required by the SSES sample size calculator for the semi-urban stratum.

The Synar sample for the rural stratum will be selected in a similar manner. Because there are so few outlets in each cluster, a census of the selected clusters will be conducted. The six clusters will be randomized using Excel. All stores in the first cluster will be added to the Synar inspection list. If the SSES sample size calculator determined more stores from this stratum need to be inspected than are included in the random cluster assigned number 1, then all tobacco outlets in the cluster randomly assigned the number 2 will be added to the Synar sample inspection list. This process will continue until the number of stores on the Synar sample inspection list equals or exceeds the required sample size for the rural stratum.

Much like the rural stratum, the 18 clusters in the rural frontier stratum will be randomized using Excel and, in the order the clusters are selected, all outlets in that cluster will be added to the State's Synar sample inspection list. Full clusters will be added until the number of stores on the Synar sample inspection list equals or exceeds the required sample size for the rural frontier stratum.

#### 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.

N/A

- 10. Provide the following information about sample size calculations for the Synar survey conducted in FFY 2024.
  - 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:** 517 RVR: 12.8% Frame Size: 3,510

**Input for Target Sample Size:** 466 Design Effect: 1.0

Inputs for Original Sample Size: 689 Safety Margin: 20% Accuracy (Eligibility) Rate: 93.6% Completion Rate: 98.1%

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 RVR	Cost Weight	Sample Size
1	2,948	28.5	1	572
2	443	21.7	1.7	60
3	82	26.1	3.1	9
4	37	75	12.1	2

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. N/A

#### **APPENDIX C: SYNAR SURVEY INSPECTION PROTOCOL SUMMARY**

State: Nevada FFY: 2025

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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?

X Required

Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe: )

Not permitted

#### c. Adult inspectors to enter the outlet?

#### Required

Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe: The adult inspectors enter the outlet with the underage inspectors, before a purchase attempt is made, if it is feasible to do so without drawing attention to the inspection. If the location is too small, or there are other factors that would draw attention to the inspection, the adult inspectors will keep the underage inspector within line of sight, to the extent possible, but will enter the store after the inspection attempt is completed.)

Not permitted

#### d. Youth and young adult inspectors to be compensated?

#### Required

Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe: Nevada has six parttime paid positions assigned to underage inspectors for the purpose of conducting tobacco and nicotine age-restriction compliance checks, including Synar inspections. However, Nevada is also exploring the possibility of using underage volunteers throughout the state to conduct compliance checks.)

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: State of Nevada Office of the Attorney General

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.

When conducting Synar inspections, underage inspectors are instructed to ask for cigarettes, small cigars, cigarillos, smokeless tobacco, c-liquid, or ENDS products. The underage inspectors train by using a prepared "Tobacco Menu" that is located in the Investigator's vehicle. The "Tobacco Menu" includes brands and styles of cigarettes, small cigars, cigarillos, smokeless tobacco, e-liquid, and ENDS products and also offers suggested language of how underage inspectors can ask for each specific product. During an actual inspection, the brand and style are selected by the underage inspector based on what products are available in the store.

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

The Nevada Office of the Attorney General employs up to two full time investigators who supervise the underage inspectors conducting the compliance checks. The investigators are Nevada POST certified law enforcement officers, hired through the State recruitment system. Applicants are interviewed and selected following State hiring procedures for classified employees. The Investigators have a training manual and are trained in-person by other Investigators.

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

The Nevada Attorney General's Office employs up to six underage inspectors at a time. The underage inspectors are recruited through various means including school counselors, law enforcement scouting groups, the State hiring website, and word of mouth. The underage inspectors are interviewed and selected based on their general availability and age, to ensure they will not age out of the program too quickly. The OAG has created an underage inspector training manual that is provided to each inspector, and newly hired underage inspectors accompany an experienced underage inspector, under supervision of a law enforcement officer, before conducting compliance checks on their own.

- 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.)

To the extent a local ordinance exists criminalizing underage possession, 244.3572(2)(a) specifically provides for immunity when an underage inspector is "assisting in an inspection pursuant to NRS 202.2496."

b. Procedural

Yes No

(If Yes, please describe.)

- 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 x 🛛 No

(If Yes, please describe.)

b. Procedural

Yes No

(If Yes, please describe.)

Each underage inspector is issued a manual with procedures designed to ensure they remain safe throughout each compliance check. When possible, the adult investigator accompanies the underage inspector into the store where tobacco is sold. Underage inspectors are instructed not to conduct a compliance check if they observe any situation that makes them feel uncomfortable, and the adult investigator is advised not to conduct a compliance check if they observe active law enforcement activity or any activity that may jeopardize the safety of the underage inspector.

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 <b>Yes,</b> please describe.)	

b. Procedural

Yes No

(If Yes, please describe.)

The State typically uses underage inspectors that are up to two years younger than the legal age to purchase tobacco and vapor products. The underage inspectors typically "retire" 90 days before the age in which a person can legally sell them tobacco and vapor products. The inspections are conducted during the workweek. Before going out, both adult investigators and underage inspectors receive training manuals for review and are trained by other state employees who currently perform those job duties.

#### **APPENDIX D: LIST SAMPLING FRAME COVERAGE STUDY**

(LIST FRAME ONLY)

 State:
 Nevada

 FFY:
 2025

- 1. Calendar year of the coverage study: N/A
- 2. a. Unweighted percent coverage found: \_\_\_\_%
  - b. Weighted percent coverage found: \_\_\_\_%
  - c. Number of outlets found through canvassing: \_\_\_\_\_
  - d. Number of outlets matched on the list frame:
- 3. a. Describe how areas were defined. (e.g., census tracts, counties, etc.)
  - b. Were any areas of the state excluded from sampling?

Ves	🗌 No
If Yes, ple	ease 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.
	c.	Provide a full description of the strata that were created.
	d.	Provide a full description of how clusters were formed.
5.		orders of the selected areas clearly identified at the time of canvassing?
6.	Were al	I sampled areas visited by canvassing teams?
		(Go to Question 7.) 🗌 No (Respond to Parts a and b.)
	a.	
		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 fi	eld observers provided with a detailed map of the canvassing areas?
	Ves	No
	If No, d	escribe the canvassing instructions given to the field observers.
8.	Were fi	eld observers instructed to find all outlets in the assigned area?
	Ves	No
	If Yes, a	espond to Question 9. lescribe any instructions given to the field observers to ensure the entire area was ed, then go to Question 10.
9.		canvassing was not conducted: 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.

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