

SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT TOBACCO CONTROL PROGRAM

TOBACCO 21

Ages 18 to 21 are a critical period when many young adults move from experimental tobacco use to **regular**, **daily use**. In fact, **MORE THAN 95% OF SMOKERS STARTED BEFORE AGE 21.**



Every day, 350 teens become regular smokers in the U.S.

The CDC projects that without a trajectory change, **nicotine addiction and tobacco use will dramatically shorten the lives of 5.6 million kids alive today.**

To reduce the toll of tobacco on youth, the legal sales age for ANY tobacco product – including cigarettes, cigars, and electronic vapor products – is now

21 NATIONWIDE AND IN NEVADA.

Unfortunately, some tobacco retailers do not comply with this law, putting youth at risk for nicotine addiction and tobaccorelated diseases.



To support enforcement of Tobacco 21, Assembly Bill 360 passed in 2021 to require all tobacco retailers in Nevada to verify age

using scanning technology or an automated software-based system before making a sale of tobacco products.

9.3% of Nevada high school students who smoke reported that they obtained cigarettes in a store/gas station in the past month.

2.3% of Nevada high school students who use electronic vapor products reported that they obtained these products in a store/gas station in the past month.

38.3% of Nevada high school students thought it would be **fairly easy or very easy to get cigarettes** if they wanted some.

47.4% of Nevada high school students thought it would be fairly easy or very easy to get electronic vapor products if they wanted some.

