

# DO YOU SELL TOBACCO PRODUCTS?

**It's illegal to sell tobacco products to people under the age of 21.**

About

**95%**

of adult smokers begin smoking before they turn 21



**75%**

of current smokers ages 15 to 17 reported obtaining cigarettes from friends



References for statistics can be found online: [www.odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/tobacco-use-prevention-and-cessation](http://www.odh.ohio.gov/know-our-programs/tobacco-use-prevention-and-cessation)

## Know the law:

- Beginning October 17, 2019, it is illegal to sell any tobacco or vaping product to any person under the age of 21 (there is no grandfathering clause).
- Retailers must post a sign indicating it is illegal to sell tobacco and vaping products to anyone under the age of 21. The sign must be clearly visible and have lettering at least 1/2 inch high. A sign has been included for your use and more may be ordered or downloaded at the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services or the Ohio Department of Health websites.
- When selling tobacco to anyone under the age of 21 both the person selling and the owner of the retail establishment may face criminal penalties that increase after the first violation.

## Tobacco and vaping products include, but are not limited to:

Cigarettes  
Electronic smoking devices  
Cigars  
Pipe tobacco  
Chewing tobacco  
Snuff  
Snus  
Dissolvable nicotine products  
Filters, rolling papers, pipes, blunt, or hemp wraps

Liquids used in electronic smoking devices (whether or not they contain nicotine).

Vapor products - Any component, part, or additive that is intended for use in an electronic smoking device, a mechanical heating element, battery, or electronic circuit and is used to deliver the product. (See ORC 2927.02 for full list).



NOTE: Tobacco and vapor products do not include any product that is a drug, device, or combination product such as those terms are defined or described in 21 U.S.C. 321 and 353(g) - products such as nicotine replacement therapy for use when quitting tobacco.

**For more information, go to [OhioTobacco21.gov](http://OhioTobacco21.gov) or call the toll-free hotline at 855-OhioT21.**



Department of Health  
Department of Mental Health  
and Addiction Services

**Ohio** Tobacco Program  
Ohio Department of Health

**Quit Line:  
1-800-QUIT-NOW**

