# Tobacco Product Licensing, Production & Distribution

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Developing Public Health Regulations for Marijuana: Lessons from Alcohol and Tobacco Arlington, VA, February 11 2013

## Licensing

#### Licensing – Aims

- Supply chain control
  - Identification & monitoring
  - Tax collection
  - Minimization of tax evasion
  - Enforcement
- Restrict availability of tobacco products
  - Number, type and location of retailers
- Increase costs, prices and revenues

#### **Supply Chain Control**

- Licensing of all engaged in tobacco production and distribution
  - Producers
  - Wholesalers/distributors
  - Importers/exporters
  - Retailers
- Tracking and tracing of all products
  - Monitoring of production and distribution
  - Unique, encrypted pack markings

#### **Supply Chain Control**

- Effective tax collection
  - Licensing, monitoring, and track & trace system coupled with enforcement to ensure all taxes paid
  - Identify where tax evasion is occurring
- Enforcement
  - Sufficient resources needed for enforcement
  - Swift, severe penalties
  - Suspension/revocation of license
  - Administrative sanctions

## Combating Tax Evasion

- California's high-tech tax stamp
  - Adopted 2002; fully implemented 2005
  - Coupled with better licensing standards
  - Examined with hand-held scanners
  - Thousands of compliance checks, hundreds of citations
  - Generated over \$124 million in revenues during 20 month period (mid-2004 through late 2005)





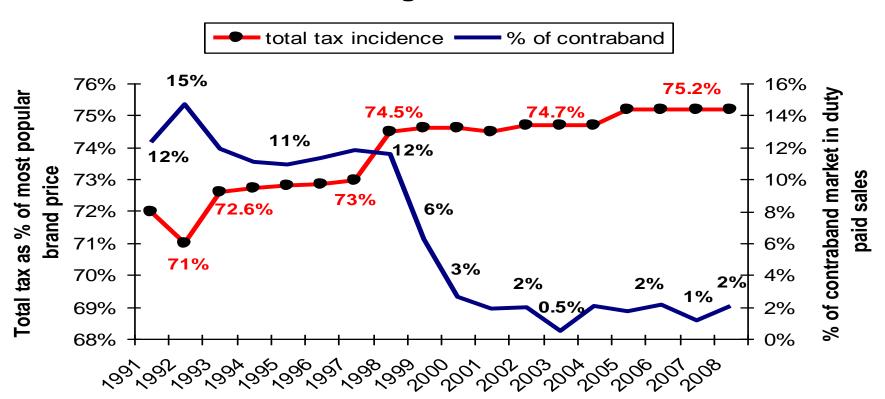
## Combating Tax Evasion

- Illicit Trade Protocol to WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control
  - Adopted late 2012; recently opened for signature
  - Licensing and other supply chain controls
  - Production monitoring
  - Tracking and tracing
  - Enforcement and swift, severe sanctions
  - International cooperation
  - Information sharing



## Cigarette tax and illegal cigarette market, Italy. 1991-2008

Italy: Size of cigarette contraband market & total tax on cigarettes



#### Restricting Availability

- Primarily through licensing of retailers, including restrictions on:
  - Types of business that can sell tobacco products
    - e.g. recent limits on sales in pharmacies
  - Location of tobacco retailers
    - Primarily near schools, parks, other youth venues
  - Density of tobacco retailers
    - Based on population, geography
  - Mode of sales
    - bans on vending machine sales, self-service



#### Form CT-RL Application for Tobacco Retailer License

Massachusetts
Department of
Revenue

This application is for a tobacco retailer license for the period October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2012. Please read the instructions below. Licensi fee is \$50 for over-the-counter digenties seeis, and \$50 for each objective vending machine. Complete a separate application for each vending machine. There is no feet if you are only selfing digars and/or smoking tobacco.

Registration Information. Please print. Note: You must be registered for sales tax before applying.

How are cigarettes sold? ☐ Over the counter ☐ Vending machine
Please check all that apply: ☐ Cigarettes ☐ Cigars and/or smoking tobacco

Lagal name of business	Federal Identification number	Application number (DOR use only)		
				CODE-3
Mailing address	City/Town	Statu	Ζφ	Talaphone
Trade name				
Street address of ratal sale location	City/Town	State	Zip	Talaphona
Name(s) of owner(s)	Type of business	E-mail ad	dross	

I hardsy certify that I agree to conform with the provisions of the Mansachusetts General Laws, Chapters 62C and 64C, as amended, and with all laws of the Commonwealth relating to taxes. Signed under the penalties of perjury.

Mail to: Massachusetts Department of Revenue, PO Box 2004, Boston, MA 0225

#### **General Instructions**

You must obtain a tobacco retailer license before purchasing and selling cigarettes and/or cigars and smoking tobacco. You must be registered to collect sales tax before applying for a tobacco retailer fleense. If you have not registered for sales tax on to DOFs website at www.mass.gov/dor or call the Customer Service Bureau of (617) BSY-MDOF.

Enter all information on application as shown on sample.

Check the box which indicates how you sell cigarettes (cigarettes include "filtle cigars" and smokeless tobacco). If you self cigarettes over the counter, there is a \$50 fee for obtaining or renewing your license. If you self cigarettes in verding machines, there is a \$50 fee for each machine. Complete a separate application for each verding machine. There is no fee if you are only selling cigars and/or smoking tobacco.

**Legal name of business.** Enter the legal name of your business for mailing purposes. For most retailers this will be the same as their trade name.

Federal Identification. Enter your Federal Identification (FID) number. Under Massachusetts law, if you are not a sole proprietor, you must have a FID number to sell cigarettes and/or cigars and smoking tobacco.

Mailing address. If you want your application sent to a location other than the retail sale location, enter that address here. Be sure to include the Zip ode. Also enter your telephone number for that address, including the area code.

Trade name. If the retail sale location is different from the mailing address, enter the trade name of the retail sale location here. If the retail sale location and mailing address are the same, leave this section blank. Address of retail sale location. Enter the address of the retail sale location. If this address is the same as the mailing address, leave this section blank. Also enter the telephone number for the sale location, including the area code.

Enter the name(s) of the owner(s) of the business

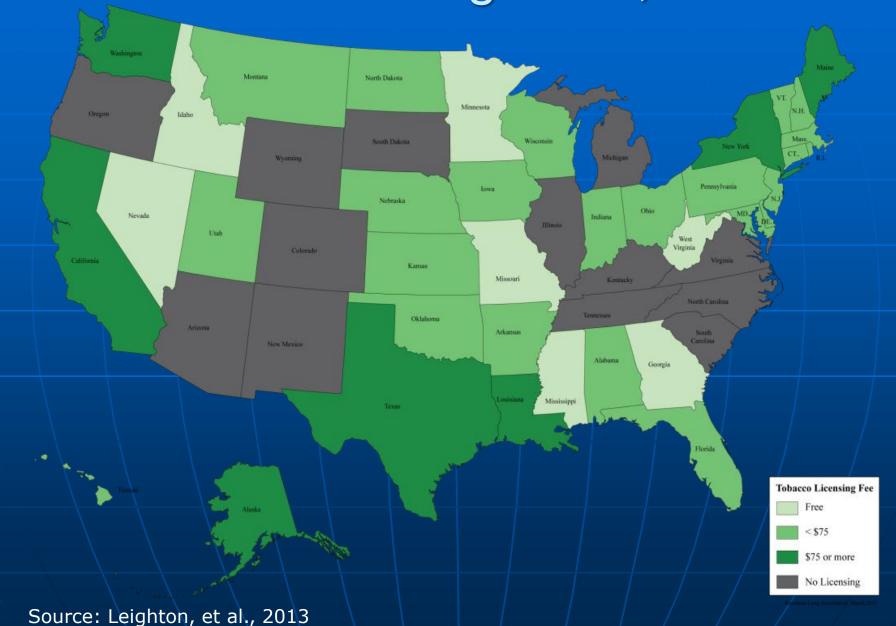
Enter the type of business in which you sell cigarettes, cigars and/ or smoking tobacco; for example, grocery store, gas station, etc. Enter the e-mail address, if any, of the business owner.

Signature. Be sure to sign your name above, and enter your tife and the date on this application. Your application will not be processed without your signature. Make your check(s) payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Mail your application along with any required fee to: Massachusetts Department of Revenue, PO Box 7004, Deston, MA 02204.

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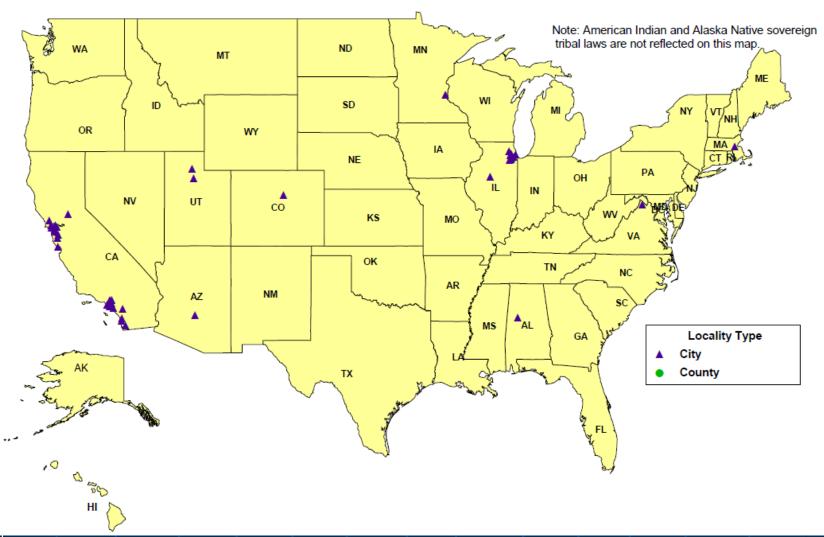
http://www.mass.gov/Ador/docs/dor/Cigarette/PDFs/CT-RL.pdf

#### State Licensing Laws, Fees

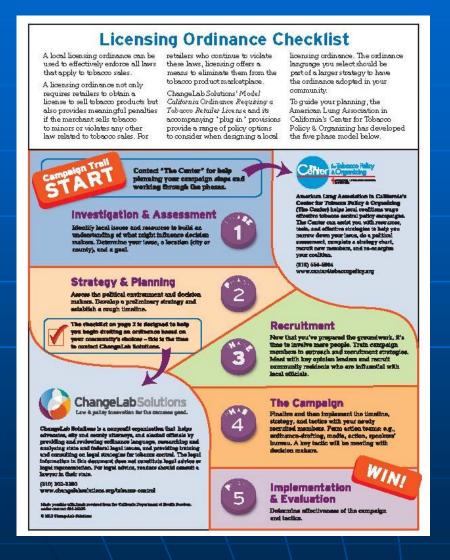


#### U.S. Local Conditional Use Permit Laws American Nonsmokers' Rights Foundation

August 2012



#### Model Licensing Ordinance

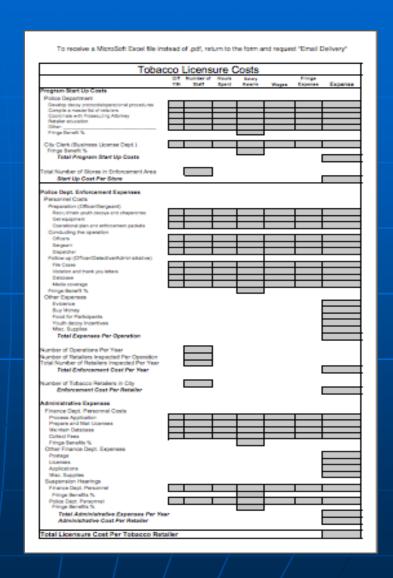


#### **Key Provisions include:**

- Licenses limited by population and density
- No licenses near schools/youth areas
- No licenses in residential zones
- No licenses for bars and restaurants
- License revocation for violating storefront signage laws or ageof-purchase laws
- No sales of single cigars or tobacco look-alike products
- No free tobacco product sampling

#### Revenue Generation

- Set licensing fee to cover enforcement expenses
  - Personnel: Police
     Department, City Clerk,
     Attorneys, Youth Decoys
  - Equipment
  - Training materials
  - Administrative & overhead
  - Data visualization
- Calculator available from <u>ChangeLab Solutions</u>



#### Impact on Tobacco Use

#### Very limited evidence to date:

- Tobacco marketing more prevalent in stores near schools and/or frequented by youth
- Exposure to tobacco marketing increases prevalence and initiation of youth tobacco use
- Exposure to marketing reduces likelihood of cessation and increases relapse

#### A few studies find:

- Youth prevalence higher in neighborhoods with greater outlet and/or advertising density
- Strong licensing laws associated with fewer sales to minors

#### Other Proposals

- Significant licensing fees
  - Much higher than current retail licensing fees to raise costs/prices and government revenues
- Brand licensing fees
  - To reduce brand proliferation, raise costs/prices and government revenues
- Limit number of licensed brands
  - To reduce brand proliferation







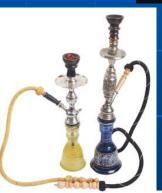




























- Elements of product regulation
  - Packaging and labeling
    - Including colors, imagery, descriptors, warnings
  - Product design
    - Including nicotine, tar, CO, and other constituents
  - Product availability
    - Including limits on where sold, complete bans
- Potentially competing goals:
  - Reduce consumption of tobacco products
  - Reduce harms caused by tobacco consumption
    - Individual level vs. population level

- Challenges to tobacco product regulation
  - Diversity of tobacco products
    - Wide range of tobacco products available globally
    - Differences in design of same product/brand in different places
    - New products seem to emerge continuously
  - Diversity of tobacco industry
    - Increasing concentration globally
    - Increased range of tobacco products
    - Adaptability in response to tobacco control policies

- Challenges to product regulation
  - Lack of regulatory capacity and lack of information
    - Little to no information on long-term consequences of use of emerging products
    - Challenges to measuring risk exposure
    - Questions about net impact on number of users, types of products consumed
    - Potential for harm
      - E.g. initial support for light and low-tar cigarette brands

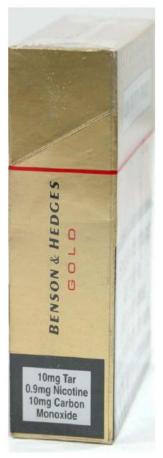
#### US Background

- Historically, tobacco products largely unregulated
  - In contrast to significant regulation of pharmaceutical nicotine products
- FDA Commission David Kessler's effort to gain authority over tobacco products
  - Initiated 1994 two key elements: tobacco use as a pediatric disease and tobacco products as highly engineered drug delivery devices
  - FDA rules issued in 1996; started with focus on youth access
  - FDA jurisdiction over tobacco struck down in March 2000 by US Supreme Court

- Family Smoking and Prevention Act of 2009
  - Tobacco program created at FDA
    - Paid for by industry fees
    - Allows 'fast track' approval of cessation products
  - Banned flavored cigarettes, eff. 9/22/09
    - Excludes menthol flavored cigarettes
    - Doesn't covered other flavored products (small cigarettes, cigarillos, smokeless,....)
  - Restrictions on sale and marketing to youth, April 2010

- Family Smoking and Prevention Act of 2009
  - Brand specific disclosure of product constituents required January 2010
    - Currently trying to figure out how best to communicate risk

#### **EMISSION NUMBERS**



**European Union** 



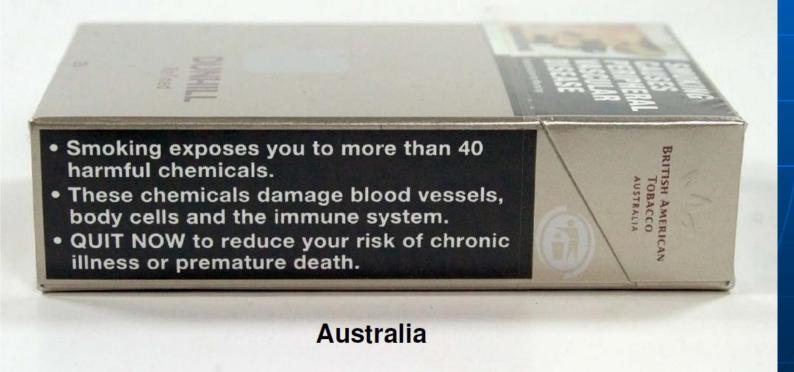


9 out of 10 smokers believe that lower numbers means lower risk.



Source: Hammond (2007)

#### "DESCRIPTIVE" INFORMATION



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#### CONSTITUENT INFORMATION



#### **CANADA**



#### CANADA vs. EU vs. AUSTRALIA (8mg)

"Most useful"

"Least useful"





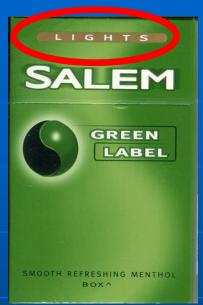




- Family Smoking and Prevention Act
  - Ban on misleading descriptors, July 2010
    - Light, low-tar, mild, etc.

#### "Replacement" Descriptors

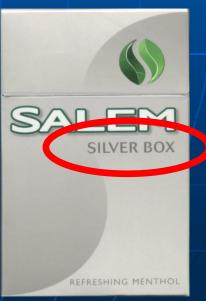




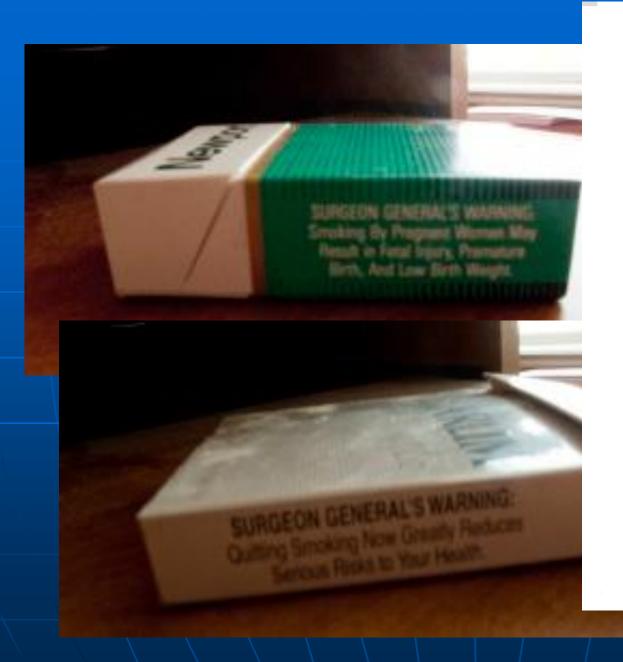








- Family Smoking and Prevention Act of 2009
  - New warning labels:
    - On smokeless products, July 2010
    - Large, graphic warnings on cigarettes, initially to be required by October 2012
    - Currently on hold in courts over First Amendment issues









WARNING: Smoking can kill you.



**WARNING:** Cigarettes cause fatal lung disease.



**WARNING:** Cigarettes are addictive.



-800-QUIT-NOW

WARNING: SMOKING DURING PREGNANCY CAN HARM YOUR BABY.

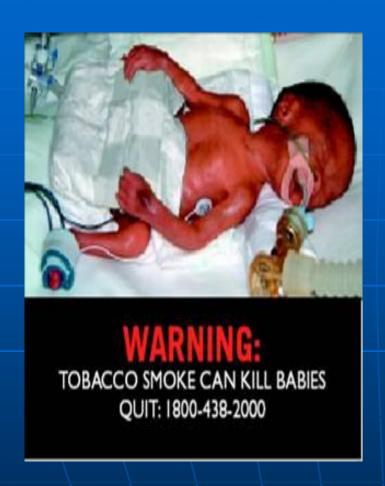




1-800-QUIT-NOW



#### Warning Labels



Singapore 2004



Venezuela 2005



Thailand, 2005

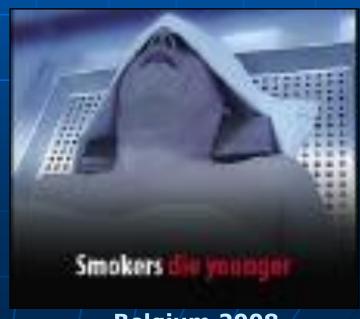


Hong Kong, 2007

Source: Fong 2009; Hammond 2009



#### Australia, 2006



Belgium 2008



**Egypt, 2008** 



Iran, 2009



Malaysia, 2009



Peru, 2009

# Warning Labels

- Summary
  - Strong, prominent warning labels:
    - More likely to be noticed
    - Increase risk perceptions
    - Raise intentions to quit
    - Increase quit attempts
    - Reduce prevalence
  - Graphic pictorial warnings more effective than text only warnings
  - Marginal effect greater in LMICs
    - less history of tobacco control, lower awareness of health consequences
  - Highly cost-effective intervention

- Family Smoking and Prevention Act of 2009
  - Gives FDA authority to
    - Establish product standards
    - Ban/reduce various constituents, including mandating reduction in nicotine delivery

#### Global experiences

- Mandated reductions in toxic constituents
  - United Kingdoms' "low tar programme"
    - Began in early 1970s with measurement, publicity on tar and nicotine content
    - Expanded to include CO in 1981
    - 1980 agreement with industry to reduce sales weighted average tar per cigarette to 15 mg by 1983; 13 by 1987
    - Stronger limits imposed by EU in 1992 reduced to 12 by 1998; 10 by 2005
  - Similar policies in several other countries
  - Little evidence of positive impact
    - Most analysts suggest that these policies are harmful given perceptions they create that products have reduced risks

- Global experiences
  - Reducing fire risk
    - "fire safe" or "reduced ignition propensity" policies
      - First adopted in New York State, June 2004
      - Comparable policies in other states and countries
      - Has significantly reduced burn length of cigarettes in markets with such policies
      - Early evidence that fires caused by smoking fall
      - Potential unintended consequences include increased delivery of tar, CO, nicotine and other constituents, and false sense off security leading to riskier behavior

- Family Smoking and Prevention Act
  - FDA approval of any new tobacco products
    - Issues with 'substantial equivalence' of new and existing products
  - Eliminates federal preemption of strong state restrictions on marketing and more

# Plain Packaging

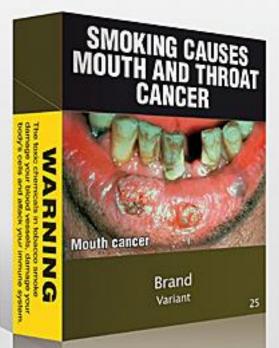
#### Australia first to adopt

- Announced April 29, 2010
- Legislation introduced April 7, 2011
- Passed House August 24, 2011, Senate November 2, 2011
- Phased in as of December 1, 2012
- Prohibits use of trade marks, symbols, graphics or images on pack
- Allows brand, business/company name, variant name in standard font/position

### Coupled with other provisions

- Graphic warnings expanded (75% front, 90% back)
- Pack/cigarette specifications
- Similar details for other tobacco products





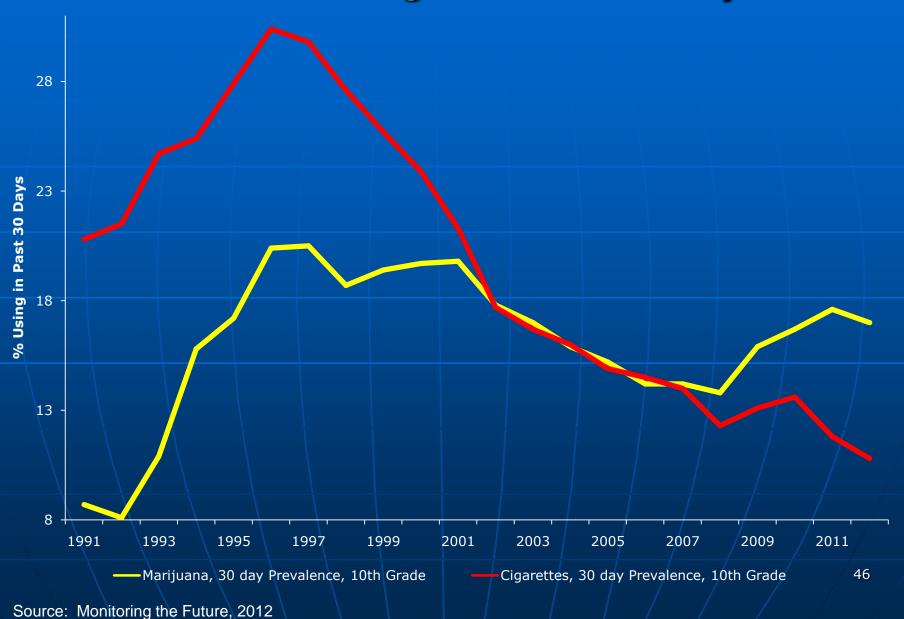


# Plain Packaging

- Subject to multiple challenges from tobacco industry
  - Constitutional challenge to be heard in high court April 2012
  - Philip Morris challenge under Bilateral Investment
     Treaty with Hong Kong (expropriation of intellectual property)
    - PM-Asia acquired PM-Australia on February 23, 2011
  - Ukraine, Honduras, Dominican Republic challenge under the Trade Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS) and other agreements
  - Will be resolved in coming months/years
- Similar policies progressing in other countries

### Lessons Learned

### Prevalence – Cigarettes & Marijuana



### Lessons Learned

- Strong control over production and distribution
  - Licensing of all involved
  - Sizable license fees
  - Annual review/renewal of licenses
  - Production monitoring
  - Tracking and tracing
  - Aggressive enforcement
  - Swift, severe penalties
  - Strong limits on outlet density, location and type

### Lessons Learned

- Strong controls on packaging and labeling
  - Large graphic warnings
  - Plain/standardized packaging
  - Disclosure of product constituents
- Effective product regulation
  - Controls on product constituents and characteristics
    - Including THC content
  - Pre-market product approval of all products

#### For more information:

fjc@uic.edu

www.bridgingthegapresearch.org

www.tobacconomics.org (coming soon)