Local flavored tobacco policies

as of June 30, 2020*

Truth Initiative’s flavor policy database analyzes flavored tobacco product laws enacted by U.S. states, counties, cities, and towns. This database is updated quarterly. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) policy announced in January 2020 is not reflected in the database.

The 2009 Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (TCA) banned the sale of cigarettes with a characterizing flavor (e.g. fruit), but exempted menthol cigarettes and did not apply to flavored tobacco products like electronic cigarettes (also known as e-cigarettes), little cigars, hookah and smokeless tobacco. The passage of the law gave the FDA the power to implement flavor-related product standards on other tobacco products, but the agency has so far not enacted any comprehensive policies. Flavors also play a big role in the youth e-cigarette epidemic — *97% of youth who vape use flavored products* — and while the [FDA issued a policy in January 2020](https://www.fda.gov/news-events/press-announcements/fda-announces-plan-eletronic-cigarmate-products), we believe the policy is deficient and leaves many loopholes, including allowing menthol in all e-cigarettes as well as all flavors in open systems and disposable e-cigarette products. We chose not to include this FDA policy in this database project and instead highlight state and local policies. Implementing strong, local flavor policies that restrict the sale of all flavored tobacco products, including menthol, is an increasingly important tool in ensuring effective tobacco control efforts and protection of the most vulnerable populations. The TCA also includes a provision that allows states and localities across the country to implement their own sales restrictions on flavored tobacco products. These local actions address the regulatory gap and reduce the availability and appeal for flavored tobacco products to youth and young adults.

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*The data on statewide bans were updated August 28, 2020 to include the policy enacted by California. All other information is current as of June 30, 2020.*

Source: Truth Initiative
**NATIONWIDE SUMMARY**

**318 U.S. jurisdictions** have some type of Restriction on Flavored Tobacco Product Sales as of June 30, 2020:

- States = 8
- Full Counties = 5
- Unincorporated Counties = 12
- Cities = 131
- Towns = 156
- Tribes = 5
- Villages = 1

**13 states** have at least one jurisdiction with a Flavored Tobacco Sales Restriction as of June 30, 2020:

- California = 95‡
- Colorado = 5
- Georgia = 1
- Illinois = 2
- Massachusetts = 178‡
- Maine = 1‡
- Maryland = 2‡
- Minnesota = 14
- New Jersey = 4‡
- New York = 5‡
- Pennsylvania = 1
- Rhode Island = 4‡
- Utah = 1‡

‡ Includes statewide policies

**5 Indian tribes** have a Flavored Tobacco Sales Restriction as of June 30, 2020:

- Oglala Sioux Tribe
- Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe
- Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians Tribe
- Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe
- Muckleshoot Tribe

^ Bans all e-cigarette products

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Flavored Tobacco Bans Passed By Year

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1 1 1 1 15 29 50 36 58 92 7 29 4
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**Data through June 30, 2020.**

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The data on statewide bans were updated August 28, 2020 to include the policy enacted by California. All other information is current as of June 30, 2020.

Source: Truth Initiative
STATEWIDE BANS AS OF AUGUST 31, 2020:

- **California (pop. 39.6 million)**: prohibits sale of all flavored tobacco products except for loose leaf tobacco, premium cigars, and hookah (effective: 1/1/2021)
- **Maine (pop. 1.3 million)**: prohibits sale of all flavored cigars except for premium cigars
- **Maryland (pop. 5.9 million)**: prohibits sale of all flavored cartridge-based and disposable e-cigarettes except for menthol
- **Massachusetts (pop. 6.7 million)**: prohibits sale of all flavored tobacco products except in smoking bars†
- **New Jersey (pop. 8.9 million)**: prohibits sale of all flavored vaping products
- **New York (19.7 million)**: prohibits sale of all flavored e-cigarettes, except those approved as part of an FDA premarket approval
- **Rhode Island (1.1 million)**: prohibits sale of all flavored e-cigarettes
- **Utah (2.9 million)**: prohibits sale of flavored e-cigarettes (except for menthol and mint) in non-retail tobacco specialty businesses

† "Smoking bar", is an establishment that exclusively occupies an enclosed indoor space and is primarily engaged in the retail sale of tobacco products for consumption by customers on the premises.

Source: Truth Initiative
**LOCALITIES**

Comprehensive menthol bans, defined as those that prohibit sales of ALL types of flavors across all products, including menthol/mint/wintergreen tobacco products, are gaining momentum at the local and state level.

117 jurisdictions have comprehensive bans as of June 30, 2020.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jurisdiction</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Manhattan Beach, CA</td>
<td>Massachusetts (state)</td>
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<td>Marin County, CA</td>
<td>Acton, MA</td>
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<td>Menlo Park, CA</td>
<td>Ashland, MA</td>
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Policies highlighted in **green** are localities that have an existing flavor policy that removed exemptions for menthol/mint/wintergreen flavors between 4/1/2020 and 6/30/2020, thus making the policy comprehensive.

Policies restricting all tobacco products is in **bold**

§ Restriction applies to unincorporated part of county

Source: Truth Initiative
The following jurisdictions prohibit sales of flavors such as fruit, candy, alcohol, or dessert, excluding tobacco flavor but do not include menthol flavors in bans. These jurisdictions differ in whether or not they include menthol/mint/wintergreen flavors across product types — for example in some jurisdictions the sale of menthol in e-cigarettes is not permitted, but menthol flavored cigarettes, cigars, and other products such as hookah are still sold.

In 196 jurisdictions and five tribes, menthol/mint/wintergreen flavored products are exempted:

1. California (state)
2. Anderson, CA
3. Arroyo Grande, CA
4. Auburn, CA
5. Burbank, CA
6. Calabasas, CA
7. Cloverdale, CA
8. Danville, CA
9. El Cerrito, CA
10. Hayward, CA
11. Laguna Miguel, CA
12. Loomis, CA
13. Morgan Hill, CA
14. Morro Bay, CA
15. Novato, CA
16. Palmdale, CA
17. Pinole, CA
18. San Diego County, CA
19. San Leandro, CA
20. San Luis Obispo, CA
21. San Luis Obispo County, CA
22. Saratoga, CA
23. Sonoma, CA
24. Ventura County, CA
25. Windsor, CA
26. Boulder, CO
27. Watkinsville, GA
28. River Forest, IL
29. Maine (state)
30. Adams, MA
31. Agawam Town, MA
32. Amherst, MA
33. Andover, MA
34. Arlington, MA
35. Ashby, MA
36. Ashburnham, MA
37. Athol, MA
38. Attleboro, MA
39. Avon, MA
40. Ayer, MA
41. Bedford, MA
42. Belmont, MA
43. Beverly, MA
44. Billerica, MA
45. Blackstone, MA
46. Bolton, MA
47. Braintree Town, MA
48. Brewster, MA
49. Brockton, MA
50. Buckland, MA
51. Cambridge, MA
52. Carver, MA
53. Charlestown, MA
54. Charlton, MA
55. Chelmsford, MA
56. Chelsea, MA
57. Clinton, MA
58. Cohasset, MA
59. Concord, MA
60. Conway, MA
61. Danvers, MA
62. Deerfield, MA
63. Dracut, MA
64. Duxbury, MA
65. East Longmeadow, MA
66. Easthampton Town, MA
67. Easton, MA
68. Edgartown, MA
69. Essex, MA
70. Everett, MA
71. Fairhaven, MA
72. Fitchburg, MA
73. Franklin Town, MA
74. Gardner, MA
75. Gill, MA
76. Gloucester, MA
77. Grafton, MA
78. Granby, MA
79. Great Barrington, MA
80. Greenfield Town, MA
81. Groton, MA
82. Hadley, MA
83. Halifax, MA
84. Hamilton, MA
85. Hatfield, MA
86. Haverhill, MA
87. Holbrook, MA
88. Holden, MA
89. Holyoke, MA
90. Hopkinton, MA
91. Hull, MA
92. Ipswich, MA
93. Kingston, MA
94. Lancaster, MA
95. Lanesborough, MA
96. Lawrence, MA
97. Lee, MA
98. Lenox, MA
99. Leominster, MA
100. Leverett, MA
101. Littleton, MA
102. Lowell, MA
103. Ludlow, MA
104. Lynn, MA
105. Lynnfield, MA
106. Marblehead, MA
107. Marblehead, MA

Source: Truth Initiative
Flavored e-cigarette bans are in **bold italics**
- = exempts menthol cigarettes
- = exempts menthol e-cigarettes
- = exempts menthol cigars (includes premium cigars, cigars, little cigars, and cigarillos)
- = exempts other menthol tobacco products (i.e. pipe tobacco, hookah/waterpipe, smokeless tobacco, roll-your-own tobacco)

Source: Truth Initiative
As stated above, the FDA’s January 2020 e-cigarette flavor policy leaves many loopholes in favor of the tobacco industry. However, local and state jurisdictions have taken action to target e-cigarettes.

As of June 30, 2020, 33 jurisdictions and three tribes have banned the sale of all e-cigarettes.

- Alameda County, CA
- Arroyo Grande, CA
- Benicia, CA
- Calabasas, CA
- Carpinteria, CA
- Carson, CA
- Contra Costa County, CA
- Danville, CA
- Dublin, CA
- Livermore, CA
- Los Altos, CA
- Los Gatos, CA
- Manhattan Beach, CA
- Menlo Park, CA
- Morgan Hill, CA
- Morro Bay, CA
- Palo Alto, CA
- Richmond, CA
- San Diego County, CA
- San Luis Obispo, CA
- San Luis Obispo County, CA
- San Mateo County, CA
- Santa Clara County, CA
- South San Francisco, CA
- Watsonville, CA
- Bellingham, MA
- Blackstone, MA
- Dedham, MA
- Hull, MA
- Malden, MA
- Montgomery County, MD
- St. Louis Park, MN
- Hanover Township, NJ
- Oglala Sioux Tribe
- Lac Courte Oreilles Tribe
- Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Indians Tribe

Source: Truth Initiative
### AREA INCLUSIONS AND RETAILER/VENUE EXEMPTIONS

Some jurisdictions include and/or exempt particular venues in their flavored tobacco restriction policies.

Jurisdictions with a restriction around schools:
- Hayward, CA
- Chicago, IL
- Montgomery County, MD
- Westfield, NJ

Jurisdictions with a restriction around libraries:
- Montgomery County, MD

Jurisdictions that exempt smoking/tobacco bars and/or e-cigarette establishments:
1. Burbank, CA
2. Culver City, CA
3. Massachusetts (state)
4. Acton, MA
5. Adams, MA
6. Agawam Town, MA
7. Amherst, MA
8. Andover, MA
9. Arlington, MA
10. Ashburnham, MA
11. Ashby, MA
12. Ashland, MA
13. Athol, MA
14. Attleboro, MA
15. Avon, MA
16. Ayer, MA
17. Barnstable Town, MA
18. Bedford, MA
19. Belmont, MA
20. Beverly, MA
21. Billerica, MA
22. Bolton, MA
23. Boston, MA
24. Braintree Town, MA
25. Brewster, MA
26. Brockton, MA
27. Buckland, MA
28. Cambridge, MA
29. Carver, MA
30. Charlestown, MA
31. Chelmsford, MA
32. Chelsea, MA
33. Clinton, MA
34. Cohasset, MA
35. Concord, MA
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55. Granby, MA
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58. Groton, MA
59. Hadley, MA
60. Halifax, MA
61. Hamilton, MA
62. Harvard, MA
63. Harwich, MA
64. Hatfield, MA
65. Haverhill, MA
66. Holbrook, MA
67. Holden, MA
68. Holyoke, MA
69. Hopkinton, MA
70. Hudson, MA
71. Kingston, MA
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73. Lawrence, MA
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79. Longmeadow, MA
80. Lowell, MA
81. Ludlow, MA
82. Lynn, MA
83. Lynnfield, MA
84. Malden, MA
85. Marblehead, MA
86. Marlborough, MA
87. Marshfield, MA
88. Mashpee, MA
89. Maynard, MA
90. Medfield, MA
91. Medford, MA
92. Millis, MA
93. Milton, MA
94. Montague, MA
95. Middleboro, MA
96. Middleton, MA
97. Newton, MA
98. Norfolk, MA
99. Natick, MA
100. Needham, MA
101. Newburyport, MA
102. North Adams, MA

Source: Truth Initiative
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>City</th>
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<td>North Reading, MA</td>
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Source: Truth Initiative
Jurisdictions that exempt adult-only retailers, retail stores that primarily sell tobacco, or specialty retail establishments with a specified percent of tobacco revenue sales:

- Los Altos, CA (60%) \(^{b,c,d}\)
- Redondo Beach, CA \(^b\)
- South San Francisco, CA \(^b\)
- Chicago, IL (80%) \(^{c,d}\)
- All MA localities \(^b,\Diamond\)
- Bellingham, MA \(^d\)
- Hull, MA \(^d\)
- Topsfield, MA \(^d\)
- Upton, MA \(^d\)
- Westminster, MA \(^d\)
- Duluth, MN (90%) \(^c\)
- Falcon Heights, MN (90%) \(^{b,c}\)
- Hennepin County, MN (90%) \(^{b,c}\)
- Lauderdale, MN (90%) \(^{b,c}\)
- Robbinsdale, MN (90%) \(^c\)
- Shoreview, MN (90%) \(^{a,c}\)
- St. Paul, MN (90%) \(^{b,c}\)
- Minneapolis, MN (90%) \(^b\)
- Westfield, NJ \(^b\)
- Utah (state) (35%) \(^{b,c,d}\)

\(^a\) Exempt 18+ adult retailers
\(^b\) Exempt 21+ adult retailers
\(^c\) Exempt specialty stores/retail establishments with specified %
\(^d\) Exempt retail stores that primarily sell tobacco
\(^\Diamond\) Excludes statewide policy, Blackstone, Brookline, Canton, Chatham, Dedham, North Attleborough, Norwood, Sherborn

Jurisdictions that include venue-based exemptions with some exceptions:

- **Compton, CA:** Retailer exemptions only apply to menthol cigarettes
- **Redondo Beach, CA:** 21+ hookah businesses are exempted
- **Ventura, CA:** Flavored hookah permitted for onsite use and consumption
- **Canton, MA:** Adult store exemption does not apply to e-cigarettes
- **Minneapolis, MN:** Menthol/mint/wintergreen flavors are exempted at 21+ adult retailers
- **St. Paul, MN:** Menthol/mint/wintergreen flavors are exempted at 21+ adult retailers
- **New York, NY:** Exemption from smoking bar does not include e-cigarettes
- **Philadelphia, PA:** Adult store exemption only applies for e-cigarette sales

Source: Truth Initiative