SAMHSA's Approach to Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS): A look at use patterns in the States

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Description of the Prevalence of ENDS Use

- According to the 2017 Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS):

  - 2.2% of students had ever used an electronic vapor product

  - 13.2% of students nationwide had used an electronic vapor product on at least 1 day during the 30 days before the survey

  - 3.3% of students had used an electronic vapor product on 20 or more days during the 30 days before the survey

  - 2.4% of students had used electronic vapor products on all 30 days during the 30 days before the survey

Data available at: https://www.cdc.gov/features/yrbs/index.html

High School Student Demographics at Risk

- For ever used, currently use, or frequently use an electronic vapor product:

  - Male, White, Gay, lesbian, bisexual are all highest risk

- For daily use of an electronic vapor product:

  - Male, Hispanic, Heterosexual are all highest risk

Data available at: https://www.cdc.gov/features/yrbs/index.html

Prevalence of Marijuana Use Amongst Youth

According to the 2016 National Survey on Drug Use (NSDUH) and Health Data:

Amongst 12-17 year olds

- Lifetime Use of Marijuana in 2015 was 15.7%, and 14.6% in 2016

- Past Year usage in 2015 was 12.6% and 12.0% in 2016

- Past month usage in 2015 was 7.0% and 6.5% in 2016

- 2016 National Survey on Drug Use (NSDUH) and Health Data

Data available at: https://www.samhsa.gov/data/data-we-collect/nsduh-national-survey-drug-use-and-health

NSDUH Data (continued)

Amongst 12-17 year olds in 2016:

- Lifetime Use of Marijuana was 14.8% among males and 14.7% among females

- Past Year usage was 11.7% among males and 12.3% in females

- Past month usage was 6.8% among males and 6.1% in females

- Use was highest in the Northeast, large metro or urbanized areas, and 100-199% poverty level

Amongst 12-17 year olds:

- Smoking Marijuana once a month: 27.1%

- Smoking Marijuana one or twice a week: 40.0%

Average number of days used in past year:

- In 2015 82.3, in 2016 76.4

Average number of days used in past month:

- In 2015 24.0, in 2016 22.8

SAMHSA's Response

- Adhering to guidance from FDA's regulatory plan
  - continuum of risk with combustible cigarettes as the most harmful
  - Utilizing messaging and retailer education on ENDS

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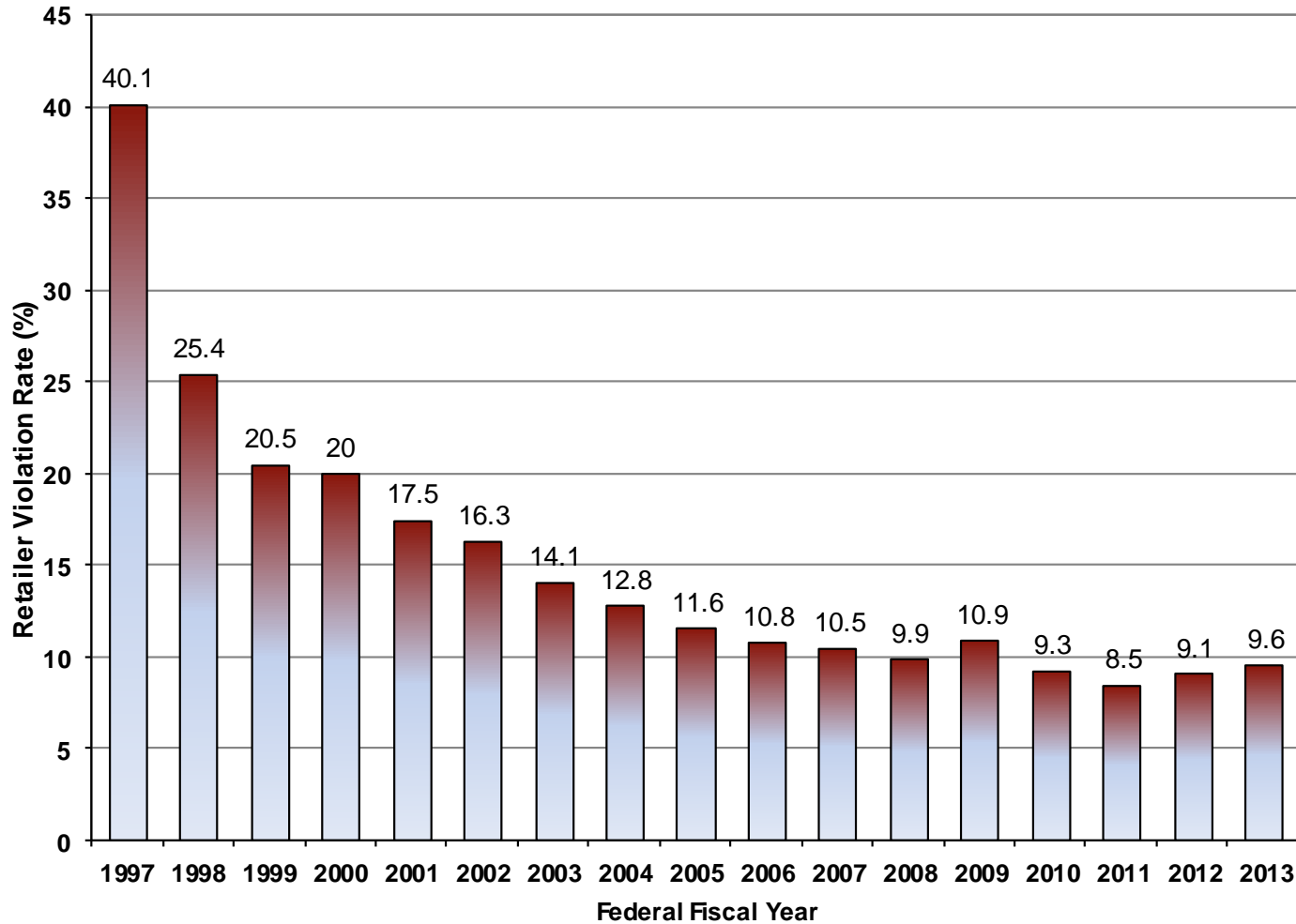
Youth Access Prevention

- Efforts to control youth access are successful when they involve
  - the community
  - tobacco retailers
  - enforcement agencies
  - community groups
  - multifaceted interventions

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A Comprehensive Synar Program

- A comprehensive Synar program includes the following:
    - Needs Assessment and Strategic Planning
    - Policy and Regulatory Approaches
    - Enforcement of Merchant Compliance
    - Interagency Collaboration and Networking
    - Community Education and Support, Including Media Advocacy
    - Merchant Education
    - Youth Involvement
    - Integration of Synar Into Overall Prevention Efforts
    - Integration of Synar Into Statewide Tobacco Control Efforts

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National Weighted Retailer Violation Rate, FFY 1997–FFY 2013

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The Synar Program is Effective

- Since the program was created the RVR has gone down from 40.1% in 1997 to 9.6% in 2013.

- Youth tobacco use prevalence rates have dropped, but have leveled off.

- Synar is a critical component of the success of youth tobacco prevention efforts.

- Regular and statewide enforcement of merchant compliance with youth tobacco access laws

- Policy and regulatory approaches:

  - Enacting and enforcing tobacco license laws

  - Required merchant education

  - Attorney General Assurances of Voluntary Compliance

- Merchant education

  – Non-enforcement compliance checks conducted by community members

  – Warning noncompliant merchants about youth access laws

  – Providing positive reinforcement to compliant merchants

- Community education and support through:

  – Public education media campaigns

  – Support for community-led prevention activities

Thank You

For questions regarding the Synar program, go to https://www.samhsa.gov/synar or contact your CSAP Block Grant/Synar Project Officer.

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