

## Cigarette Sales at Pharmacies

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### Issue

In Connecticut, may retail pharmacies sell cigarettes? Do other states prohibit such sales?

### Summary

Connecticut law does not prohibit retail pharmacies or stores with pharmacies on their premises from being cigarette “dealers” (i.e., selling cigarettes).

We identified only one state with a statewide ban on the sale of cigarettes at pharmacies or retail stores containing them. Under a Massachusetts law that took effect on December 31, 2018, “health care institutions,” such as pharmacies and retail stores and supermarkets containing pharmacies, are prohibited from selling cigarettes and tobacco products, including e-cigarettes and vaping products ([Mass. Gen. Laws Ann. 112, § 61A](#)).

In general, it appears that prohibitions on cigarette sales at pharmacies and retailers containing them are generally locally enacted (i.e., on the town, city, or county level).

Lastly, it is worth noting that some retailers with pharmacy operations have opted to limit or terminate cigarette sales (e.g., [CVS](#) and [Target](#)).

JSB:kl