

State of Tobacco Control in California 2018 Highlights



In 2017, 75 Cities and Counties Adopted Strong Policies

19 communities increased their grade to an “A” in at least one category, 20 communities adopted policies in at least two of the four policy areas.

In 2017, 75 municipalities adopted local ordinances in at least one of the four policy categories included in the *State of Tobacco Control 2018 - California Local Grades* report. This year saw huge increases in the number of communities adopting policies in outdoor areas, with 32 municipalities adopting new ordinances in 2017. Other policies passed in 2017 include 12 new restrictions on smoking in multi-unit housing, 11 requirements for tobacco retailers to obtain licenses, and 47 ordinances on emerging issues that help regulate the sale of novel tobacco products. See the “Cities and Counties on the Rise” section of the report (page 6) for the full list of municipalities that passed policies in 2017.



This year, California began reaping the financial and health benefits of an increased tobacco tax. I've seen personally how effective it can be as one of my close relatives, a long-time smoker, finally quit the day the tobacco tax went into effect. Our family was so grateful for his lifestyle change and we've already seen a big improvement in his health. The new tax will help countless other Californians with millions of dollars in increased funding now flowing to health care, dental and anti-smoking programs in our state.”

- MARK JOHNSON
Board Chair, American Lung Association in California

For the first time, the number of communities awarded “A” grades increased by 10 communities

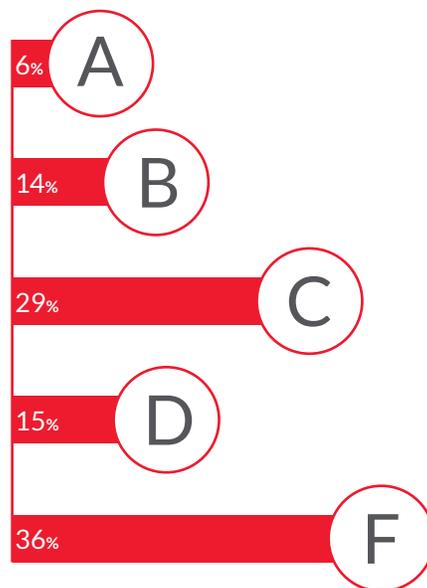


Since 2012, the number of cities and counties that receive an “A” for their Overall Tobacco Control grade has nearly tripled from just 12 communities then to 31 communities in 2017. Notably, the cities of Palo Alto and Los Gatos improved their overall grade from a “D” to an “A” in just one year. (For a complete list of the cities with overall “A” grades, see Appendix B.)

50% of Californians are Still Unprotected

While the overall number of “F” grades continues to decline steadily, half of California’s population still live in communities scoring “D” or “F.” Only 6 percent of Californians live in areas with an “A” grade.

Percent of Population by Overall Tobacco Control Grade



14 Communities Improved Their Grade from an “F” to an “A” in at Least One Policy Category in 2017

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Alturas | Novato |
| Bell | Palo Alto |
| Beverly Hills | Paso Robles |
| Cathedral City | Redwood City |
| Fairfax | San Leandro |
| La Verne | Ventura County |
| Los Gatos | Windsor |