**Introduction**

**PUP Laws**
- Possession, use, and purchase (PUP) laws are youth access tobacco control policies that provide revenue, streamline, and enhance tobacco control efforts.
- Recent trends indicate a sharp increase in the number of state PUP laws.
- In 1990, 17 states had at least 1 PUP law.
- In 2001, 45 states had at least 1 PUP law.
- There is little empirical data on the effectiveness of these laws.

**PUP laws have been controversial.**
- Arguments in favor of PUP laws:
- They divert attention from other tobacco control efforts, including Quitline and other tobacco cessation efforts.
- Arguments against PUP laws:
- They add an additional cost to youth for tobacco use, promote youth accountability.

**Mean Number of Possession, Use, and Purchase Laws Per State – United States, 1990-2003**

Previous analyses have not suggested a relationship between the presence of state PUP laws and adolescent smoking behavior.

**Methods**

A study was conducted to assess measures of state and local PUP enforcement and to develop enforcement indices.

**State PUP enforcement data** on enforcement activities, policies, and practices were collected from appropriately identified tobacco control officials in 45 states with 1 or more PUP laws.

- Telephone interviews were conducted from May-December 2002, with tobacco control officials in all 45 states. Follow-up interviews were conducted, as necessary, with additional state and local contacts.
- Data from key informant interviews for the Project ImpactTeen Tobacco Possession Ordinance Enforcement Feedback Module were further analyzed.

**Local Possession ordinance enforcement data** include responses from enforcement officials (police chiefs and police officers) in 92 community sites for 2000 and 2001.

**Limitations**
- Measures are not longitudinal.
- Data sources to develop enforcement indices.

**Results**

**State PUP enforcement index: possession**

**Local enforcement**

- **Ordinance enforced in community (Max: 1 pt.)**
- **Mean score for effective enforcement (Max: 1 pt.)**
- **Mean total score – 15 pts.**

**State PUP enforcement index: purchase**

**Local enforcement**

- **Ordinance enforced in community (Max: 1 pt.)**
- **Mean score for effective enforcement (Max: 1 pt.)**
- **Mean total score – 15 pts.**

**Discussion**

State and local PUP laws had the highest mean enforcement scores for both 2000 and 2001, while state purchase laws had the lowest scores.

- Use laws had enforcement scores that were slightly lower, but were very similar, to possession enforcement scores.
- PUP laws were more easily enforced when youth are observed smoking.

**Future Research**

The study of state and local PUP enforcement measures is ongoing:
- To assess the separate and combined effects of state and local PUP enforcement.
- To assess the effects of PUP laws, including measures of state and local enforcement, on youth smoking.
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