ANNUAL SYNAR REPORT

42 U.S.C. 300x-26

OMB № 0930-0222

FFY 2016

State: VI

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INTRODUCTION

The Annual Synar Report (ASR) format provides the means for states to comply with the reporting provisions of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300x-26) and the Tobacco Regulation for the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) (45 C.F.R. 96.130 (e)).

How the Synar report helps the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention

In accordance with the tobacco regulations, states are required to provide detailed information on progress made in enforcing youth tobacco accesslaws (FFY 2015 Compliance Progress) and future plans to ensure compliance with the Synar requirements to reduce youth tobacco access rates (FFY 2016 Intended Use Plan). These data are required by 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 and will be used by the Secretary to evaluate state compliance with the statute. Part of the mission of the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) is to assist states[1] by supporting Synar activities and providing technical assistance helpful in determining the type of enforcement measures and control strategies that are most effective. This information is helpful to CSAP in improving technical assistance resources and expertise on enforcement efforts and tobacco control program support activities, including state Synar program support services, through an enhanced technical assistance program involving conferences and workshops, development of training materials and guidance documents, and onsite technical assistance consultation.

How the Synar report can help states

The information gathered for the Synar report can help states describe and analyze substate needs for program enhancements. These data can also be used to report to the state legislature and other state and local organizations on progress made to date in enforcing youth tobacco access laws when aggregated statistical data from state Synar reports can demonstrate to the Secretary the national progress in reducing youth tobacco access problems. This information will also provide Congress with a better understanding of state progress in implementing Synar, including state difficulties and successes in enforcing retailer compliance with youth tobacco access laws.

[1]The term "state" is used to refer to all the states and territories required to comply with Synar as part of the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant Program requirements (42 U.S.C. 300x-64 and 45 C.F.R. 96.121).

Getting assistance in completing the Synar report

If you have questions about programmatic issues, you may call CSAP's Division of State Programs at (240) 276-2550 and ask for your respective State Project Officer, or contact your State Project Officer directly by telephone or email. If you have questions about fiscal or grants management issues, you may call the Grants Management Officer, Office of Financial Resources, Division of Grants Management, at (240) 276-1422.

Where and when to submit the Synar report

The ASR must be received by SAMHSA no later than December 31, 2015 and must be submitted in the format specified by these instructions. Use of the approved format will avoid delays in the review and approval process. The chief executive officer (or an authorized designee) of the applicant organization must sign page one of the ASR certifying that the state has complied with all reporting requirements.

The state must upload one copy of the ASR using the online WebBGAS (Block Grant Application System). In addition, the following items must be uploaded to WebBGAS:

- FFY 2016 Synar Survey Results: States that use the Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) must upload one copy of SSES Tables 1–5 (in Excel) to WebBGAS. States that do not use SSES must upload one copy of ASR Forms 1, 4, and 5, and Forms 2 and 3, if applicable, (in Excel) to WebBGAS.
- Synar Inspection Form: States must upload one blank copy of the inspection form used to record the result of each Synar inspection.
- Synar Inspection Protocol: States must upload a copy of the protocol used to train inspection teams on conducting and reporting the results of the Synar inspections.
- A scanned copy of the signed Funding Agreements/Certifications

Each state SSA Director has been emailed a login ID and password to log onto the Synar section of the WebBGAS site.

Additionally, the state must submit one signed original of the report (including the signed Funding Agreements/Certifications), as well as one additional copy of the signed Funding Agreements/Certifications, to the Grants Management Officer at the address below:

Grants Management Officer
Division of Grants Management
Office of Financial Resources
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

Regular Mail:	**Overnight Mail:**
1 Choke Cherry Road, Rm.7-1091 Rockville, Maryland 20857	1 Choke Cherry Road, Rm.7-1091 Rockville, Maryland 20850

FFY 2016: FUNDING AGREEMENTS/CERTIFICATIONS

The following form must be signed by the Chief Executive Officer or an authorized designee and submitted with this application. Documentation authorizing a designee must be attached to the application.

PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES ACT AND SYNAR AMENDMENT
42 U.S.C. 300x-26 requires each state to submit an annual report of its progress in meeting the requirements of the Synar Amendment and its implementing regulation (45 C.F.R. 96.130) to the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services.By signing below, the chief executive officer (or an authorized designee) of the applicant organization certifies that the state has complied with these reporting requirements and the certifications as set forth below.
SYNAR SURVEY SAMPLING METHODOLOGY
The state certifies that the Synar survey sampling methodology on file with the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and submitted with the Annual Synar Report for FFY 2016 is up-to-date and approved by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.
SYNAR SURVEY INSPECTION PROTOCOL
The state certifies that the Synar Survey Inspection Protocol on file with the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and submitted with the Annual Synar Report for FFY 2016 is up-to-date and approved by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.
State:Virgin Islands
Name of Chief Executive Officer or Designee: Michelle Davis, Ph.D
Signature of CEO or Designee: Michelle A. Davis
Title: Commissioner of Health **Date Signed:** 8/31/16
If signed by a designee, a copy of the designation must be attached.

SECTION I: FFY 2015 (Compliance Progress)

YOUTH ACCESS LAWS, ACTIVITIES, AND ENFORCEMENT

42 U.S.C. 300x-26 requires the states to report information regarding the sale/distribution of tobacco products to individuals under age 18.

1. **Please indicate any changes or additions to the state tobacco statute(s) relating to youth access since the last reporting year. If any changes were made to the state law(s) since the last reporting year, please attach a photocopy of the law to the hard copy of the ASR and also upload a copy of the state law to WebBGAS.** *(see 42 U.S.C. 300x-26).*

   a. **Has there been a change in the minimum sale age for tobacco products?**

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

   If ***Yes****, current minimum age:* ☐ 19 ☐ 20 ☐ 21

   b. **Have there been any changes in statelaw that impact the state's protocol for conducting** ***Synar inspections?***

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

   If ***Yes****, indicate change. (Check all that apply.)*
   ☐ Changed to require that law enforcement conduct inspections of tobacco outlets
   ☐ Changed to make it illegal for youth to possess, purchase or receive tobacco
   ☐ Changed to require ID to purchase tobacco
   ☐ Other change(s) *(Please describe.)*_____

   c. **Have there been any changes in statelaw that impact the following?**

Licensing of tobacco vendors	☐ **Yes**	☒ **No**
Penalties for sales to minors	☐ **Yes**	☒ **No**
Vending machines	☐ **Yes**	☒ **No**

2. **Describe how the Annual Synar Report** *(see 45 C.F.R. 96.130(e))***and the state Plan** *(see 42 U.S.C. 300x-51)* **were made public within the stateprior to submission of the ASR.** *(Check all that apply.)*

   ☐ Placed on file for public review
   ☒ Posted on a state agency Web site *(Please provide exact Web address and the date when the FFY 2016 ASR was posted to this Web address.)* www.http://doh.vi.gov
   ☐ Notice published in a newspaper or newsletter
   ☐ Public hearing
   ☐ Announced in a news release, a press conference, or discussed in a media interview
   ☐ Distributed for review as part of the SABG application process
   ☐ Distributed through the public library system
   ☐ Published in an annual register

☐ Other *(Please describe.)* _____

3. **Identify the following agency or agencies** *(see 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 and 45 C.F.R. 96.130).*

   a. **The stateagency (ies)** ***designated by the Governor for oversight of the Synar requirements:***

   Virgin Islands Department of Health

   Has this changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

   b. **The stateagency(ies)** ***responsible for conducting random, unannounced Synar inspections:***

   Virgin Islands Department of Health

   Has this changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

   c. **The stateagency(ies)** ***responsible for enforcing youth tobacco access law(s):***

   Department of License & Consumer Affairs

   Has this changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

4. **Identify the following agencies and describe their relationship with the agency responsible for the oversight of the Synar requirements.**

   a. **Identify the state agency responsible for tobacco prevention activities (the agency that receives the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Tobacco Control Program funding).**
   Department of Health, Division of Chronic Disease

   b. **Has the responsible agency changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?**
   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

   c. **Describe the coordination and collaboration that occur between the agency responsible for tobacco prevention and the agency responsible for oversight of the Synar requirements.** ***(Check all that apply.)*** **The two agencies**

   ☒ Are the same
   ☐ Have a formal written memorandum of agreement
   ☐ Have an informal partnership
   ☐ Conduct joint planning activities
   ☐ Combine resources
   ☐ Have other collaborative arrangement(s) *(Please describe.)* _____

d. **Identify the state agency responsible for enforcing the youth access and advertising restrictions in the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (the agency that is under contract to the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Tobacco Products (FDA/CTP)).**
There is no contractual agreement between the VI and the FDA.

e. **Has the responsible agency changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?**
☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

f. **Describe the coordination and collaboration that occur between the agency contracted with the FDA to enforce federal youth tobacco access laws and the agency responsible for oversight of the Synar requirements.** ***(Check all that apply.)*** **The two agencies:**

☐ Are the same
☐ Have a formal written memorandum of agreement
☐ Have an informal partnership
☐ Conduct joint planning activities
☐ Combine resources
☒ Have other collaborative arrangement(s) *(Please describe.)* *see response in 4d*

g. **Does the state use data from the FDA enforcement inspections for Synarsurvey reporting?**
☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

5. **Please answer the following questions regarding the state's activities to enforce the state'syouth access to tobacco law(s) in FFY 2015***(see 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 and 45 C.F.R. 96.130(e)).*

a. **Which one of the following describes the enforcement of stateyouth access to tobacco laws carried out in your state?** *(Check one category only.)*

☐ Enforcementis conducted exclusively by local law enforcement agencies.
☒ Enforcementis conducted exclusively by stateagency (ies).
☐ Enforcementis conducted by both local *and*state agencies.

b. The following items concern penalties imposed for all violations ofstate youth access to tobacco laws by LOCAL AND/OR STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (this does not include enforcement of federal youth tobacco access laws).Please fill in the number requested. If state law does not allow for an item, please mark "NA" (not applicable). If a response for an item is unknown, please mark "UNK." The chart must be filled in completely.

PENALTY	OWNERS	CLERKS	TOTAL
Number of citations issued	unk	unk	0
Number of fines assessed	unk	unk	0
Number of permits/licenses suspended	unk		0
Number of permits/licenses revoked	unk		0
Other*(Please describe.)* *A descrepancy exist between 5b annd 5c because no inforcement took place.*			0

c. Which one of the following best describes the level of enforcement of stateyouth access to tobacco laws carried out in your state? *(Check one category only.)*

☒ Enforcement is conducted only at those outlets randomly selected for the Synar survey.

☐ Enforcement is conducted only at a subset of outlets not randomly selected for the Synar survey.

☐ Enforcement is conducted at a combination of outlets randomly selected for the Synar survey and outlets not randomly selected for the Synar survey.

d. Did every tobacco outlet in the state receive at least one compliance check that included enforcement of the state youth tobacco access law(s) in the last year?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

e. What additional activities are conducted in your state to support enforcement and compliance with stateyouth tobacco access law(s)? *(Check all that apply.)*

☒ Merchant education and/or training
☒ Incentives for merchants who are in compliance (e.g., nonenforcement compliance checks in which compliant retailers are given positive reinforcement and noncompliant retailers are warned about youth access laws)
☒ Community education regarding youth access laws
☐ Media use to publicize compliance inspection results
☒ Community mobilization to increase support for retailer compliance with youth access laws
☒ Other activities *(Please list.)* *The VI Law is strategically placed at the Department of Health Department. Vendors seeking health cards are able to see the law posted upon their arrival.*

Briefly describe all checked activities:

Merchant Education and/or training: During the year, merchant education is conducted on St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. John. Packets include the VI Law, tips on selling tobacco and a flyer stating: "Be 18 or Be Gone." Prevention staff also impress upon vendors the importance of being in compliance. Packets are also distributed to vendors during Christmas Village activities on St. Croix.

Incentives for merchants who are in compliance: A certificate is given to the venders who were in compliance during Synar inspections for display in their establishments

Community Education regarding youth access laws: "We Cards" were distributed to vendors. Vendors were asked to have cards placed on doors. This allows individuals entering to see that under the VI Law, selling to minors is prohibited. This was one way to keep the community informed. At ATOD parenting sessions, the VI Law was explained and parents were advised not to send their minors to purchase tobacco in any form. We were not able to do PSA's this time frame due to funding.

Community Mobilization to increase support for retail compliance with youth access laws: Prevention partners continue to support our efforts. This year the trainer for the police cadets assisted with informing several vendors of the VI Law and the consequences for selling to minors.

The Virgin Islands RVR is greater (24.3%) than the 20% maximum limit. Please describe your plan to reduce your RVR: Increase merchant education by designing a flyer for the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs to distribute to each new tobacco retail licensee, begin a media campaign including radio PSA's, increase enforcement efforts by having law enforcement accompany the inspection team and have the Commissioner of Health and/ or Director of the Division of Mental Health establish an understanding by communicating with Law Enforcement Commissioners.

f. Are citations or warnings issued to retailers or clerks who sell tobacco to minors for inspections that are part of the Synar survey?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If "Yes" to 5f, please describe the state's procedure for minimizing risk of bias to the survey results from retailers alerting each other to the presence of the survey teams:

A Crime Prevention Officer was part of the Synar inspection team for a period of two weeks – the time allotted to us. Vendors that were not in compliance during that time frame were given a verbal warning by the officer at the time of violation. Officer also observed sales. At the time of the inspections no activity was conducted to prevent bias.

SYNAR SURVEY METHODS AND RESULTS

The following questions pertain to the survey methodology and results of the Synar survey used by the state to meet the requirements ofthe Synar Regulation in FFY 2015 (see 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 and 45 C.F.R. 96.130).

6. Has the sampling methodology changed from the previous year?

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

The state is required to have an approved up-to-date description of the Synar sampling methodology on file with CSAP. Please submit a copy of your Synar Survey Sampling Methodology (Appendix B). If the sampling methodology changed from the previous reporting year, these changes must be reflected in the methodology submitted.

7. Please answer the following questions regarding the state's annual random, unannounced inspections of tobacco outlets *(see 45 C.F.R. 96.130(d)(2)).*

a. Did the state use the optional Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) to analyze the Synar survey data?

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

*If **Yes**, attach SSES summary tables 1, 2, 3, and 4 to the hard copy of the ASR and upload a copy of SSES tables 1–5 (in Excel) to WebBGAS. Then go to Question 8. If **No**, continue to Question 7b.*

b. Report the weighted and unweighted Retailer Violation Rate (RVR) estimates, the standard error, accuracy rate (number of eligible outlets divided by the total number of sampled outlets), and completion rate (number of eligible outlets inspected divided by the total number of eligible outlets).

Unweighted RVR _____

Weighted RVR _____

Standard error (s.e.) of the (weighted) RVR _____

Fill in the blanks to calculate the <u>right limit</u> of the right-sided 95% confidence interval.

	+	(1.645	×	)	=	
RVR Estimate	**plus**	(1.645	**times**	**Standard Error)**	**equals**	**Right Limit**

Accuracy rate _____

Completion rate _____

c. **Fill out Form 1 in Appendix A (Forms1–5).** *(Required regardless of the sample design.)*

d. **How were the (weighted) RVR estimate and its standard error obtained?** *(Check the one that applies.)*

☐ Form 2 (Optional) in Appendix A (Forms 1–5) *(Attach completed Form 2.)*

☐ Other *(Please specify. Provide formulas and calculations or attach and explain the program code and output with description of all variable names.)*

e. **If stratification was used, did any strata in the sample contain only one outlet or cluster this year?**

☐**Yes**☐**No**☐**No stratification**

If ***Yes****, explain how this situation was dealt with in variance estimation.*

f. **Was a cluster sample design used?**

☐**Yes**☐**No**

If ***Yes****, fill out and attach Form 3 in Appendix A (Forms 1–5), and answer the following question.*

If ***No****, go to Question 7g.*

Were any certainty primary sampling units selected this year?

☐**Yes** ☐**No**

If ***Yes****, explain how the certainty clusters were dealt with in variance estimation.*

g. **Report the following outlet sample sizes for the Synar survey.**

	Sample Size
Effective sample size(sample size needed to meet the SAMHSA precision requirement assuming simple random sampling)	
Target sample size(the product of the effective sample size and the design effect)	
Original sample size(inflated sample size of the target sample to counter the sample attrition due to ineligibility and noncompletion)	
Eligible sample size(number of outlets found to be eligible in the sample)	
Final sample size(number of eligible outlets in the sample for which an inspection was completed)	

h. **Fill out Form 4 in Appendix A (Forms 1–5).**

8. **Did the state's Synar survey use a list frame?**

☒Yes☐No

If Yes, answer the following questions about its coverage.

a. **The calendar year of the latest frame coverage study:** 2013

b. **Percent coverage from the latest frame coverage study:** 69%

c. **Was a new study conducted in this reporting period?**

☐Yes☒ No

If Yes, please complete Appendix D (List Sampling Frame Coverage Study) and submit it with the Annual Synar Report.

d. **The calendar year of the next coverage study planned:** 2017

9. **Has the Synar survey inspection protocol changed from the previous year?**

☐ Yes☒ No

The state is required to have an approved up-to-date description of the Synar inspection protocol on file with CSAP. Please submit a copy of your Synar Survey Inspection Protocol (Appendix C). If the inspection protocol changed from the previous year, these changes must be reflected in the protocol submitted.

a. **Provide the inspection period: From** 7/3/15 **to** 8/31/15
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

b. **Provide the number of youth inspectors used in the current inspection year:**

4

NOTE: If the state uses SSES, please ensure that the number reported in 9b matches that reported in SSES Table 4, or explain any difference.

b. **Fill out and attach Form 5 in Appendix A (Forms 1–5).** *(Not required if the state used SSES to analyze the Synar survey data.)*

SECTION II: FFY 2016(Intended Use):

Public law 42 U.S.C. 300x-26 of the Public Health Service Act and 45 C.F.R. 96.130 (e) (4, 5) require that the states provide information on future plans to ensure compliance with the Synar requirements to reduce youth tobacco access.

1. **In the upcoming year, does the state anticipate any changes in:**

Synar sampling methodology	☐ **Yes**	☒ **No**
Synar inspection protocol	☒ **Yes**	☐ **No**

If changes are made in either the Synar sampling methodology or the Synar inspection protocol, the state is required to obtain approval from CSAP prior to implementation of the change and file an updated Synar Survey Sampling Methodology (Appendix B) or an updated Synar Survey Inspection Protocol (Appendix C), as appropriate.

2. **Please describe the state's plans to maintain and/or reduce the target rate for Synar inspections to be completed in FFY 2016. Include a brief description of plans for law enforcement efforts to enforce youth tobacco access laws, activities that support law enforcement efforts to enforce youth tobacco access laws, and any anticipated changes in youth tobacco access legislation or regulation in the state.**

In 2015, the RVR rate in the territory increased due to several factors. A partenership will be formed between the Division of Mental Health and the Department of Licensing and Consumer Affairs which will allow us to provide enforcement during or after Synar inspections. This will occur on all three islands.

We will provide the Department of Licensing & Consumers Affairs Enforcement Officer with pertinent information for all sales during Synar inspections.

There are no plans for any anticipated changes in youth tobacco access to legislation or regulations.

However, the prevention team is committed to bringing RVR rate down. Collaborations have begun with a non-governmental agency to engage their youth in Synar activities. Age appropriate students will be trained as youth inspectors by Prevention staff. Other students will work on developing public service announcements and assist with merchant education after school. Assistance will also be sought from the Virgin Islands Police Department Division of Crime Prevention. The VI is confident that citations will reduce the sale of tobacco to minors.

3. **Describe any challenges the state faces in complying with the Synar regulation.** *(Check all that apply.)*

- ☒ Limited resources for law enforcement of youth access laws
- ☒ Limited resources for activities to support enforcement and compliance with youth tobacco access laws
- ☐ Limitations in the state youth tobacco access laws
- ☐ Limited public support for enforcement of youth tobacco access laws
- ☐ Limitations on completeness/accuracy of list of tobacco outlets
- ☒ Limited expertise in survey methodology

☐ Laws/regulations limiting the use of minors in tobacco inspections
☒ Difficulties recruiting youth inspectors
☒ Issues regarding the age balance of youth inspectors
☒ Issues regarding the gender balance of youth inspectors
☒ Geographic, demographic, and logistical considerations in conducting inspections
☒ Cultural factors (e.g., language barriers, young people purchasing for their elders)
☐ Issues regarding sources of tobacco under tribal jurisdiction
☒ Other challenges *(Please list.)*Prior to Synar inspections, a meeting was held with newly appointed Commissioner of Licensing & Consumer Affairs. He explained that he was unable to assist us due to the shortage of manpower and that the department only had three (3) enforcement officers. He further stated, due to the shortage of manpower within his department , assigning an officer to assist us would have an impact on enforcements daily assignments.

In our meeting with the Police Chief, we were told that his officers are working 12 hour shifts and he could not commit to assisting with inspections.

Crime Prevention was contacted and a Crime Prevention officer was assigned to us for a period of two weeks only.

A new director was appointed to supervise the Dept. of License & Consumer enforcement officers. In speaking with the director, he stated his commitment to Synar and reassured prevention that for the new fiscal year, an officer will be assigned.

Department of Health has only one officer and he was unable to assist. However, with a significant increase in crime, the present Governor has placed all enforcement officers in the Territory under the police department.

We continue to experience difficulty in getting students. With the increase in crime, parents are afraid to allow their children to assist. It should be noted that on August 29, 2016, 47 homicides were reported in the Territory and the number of homicides continues to increase.

Cultural factors: Individuals from Santo Domingo and the Middle East are coming as merchants and workers. Many of the cashiers did not speak English and they were unable to calculate the correct age when a minor showed ID.

Another contributing factor we observed is that a number of summer students were minors working as cashiers.

Briefly describe all checked challenges and propose a plan for each, or indicate the state's need for technical assistance related to each relevant challenge.

-Limited resources for law enforcement of youth access laws: Have the Commissioner of Health and/or Director of the Division of Mental Health; Alcoholism & Drug Dependency Services communicate with the Commissioner of License and Consumers, the Commissioner of the Virgin Islands Police Department, and the Department of Health Enforcement Officer.

-Limited resources for activities to support enforcement and compliance with youth tobacco access laws: Provide the enforcement officers with a template to record citations with information required by anneal Synar report.

-Limited expertise in survey methodology: request TA for sampling methodology and coverage study.

- Difficulties recruiting youth inspectors, issues regarding age balance, gender balance: Peruse discussions to have enforcement officer accompany with inspection team, peruse homeschooling youth to increase the size of pool of minors for recruitment.

Geographic, demographic, and logistical considerations in conducting inspections: Pursue collaboration with the Director of the Division of Mental Health's discretionary grant to assist in St. Thomas/St. John districts.

-Cultural factors: Pursue translation retail education in other languages.

APPENDIX A: FORMS 1–5

FORM 1(Required for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) to analyze the Synar Survey data)

Complete Form 1 to report sampling frame and sample information and to calculate the unweighted retailer violation rate (RVR) using results from the current year's Synar survey inspections.

Instructions for Completing Form 1: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2016). Provide the remaining information by stratum if stratification was used. Make copies of the form if additional rows are needed to list all the strata.

Column 1: *If stratification was used*:

1(a) Sequentially number each row.
1(b) Write in the name of each stratum. All strata in the state must be listed.

If no stratification was used:

1(a) Leave blank.
1(b) Write "state" in the first row (indicates that the whole state is a single stratum).

Note for unstratified samples: For Columns 2–5, wherever the instruction refers to "each stratum," report the specified information for the state as a whole.

Column 2: 2(a) Report the number of over-the-counter (OTC) outlets in the sampling frame in each stratum.
2(b) Report the number of vending machine (VM) outlets in the sampling frame in each stratum.
2(c) Report the combined total of OTC and VM outlets in the sampling frame in each stratum.

Column 3: 3(a) Report the estimated number of eligible OTC outlets in the OTC outlet population in each stratum.
3(b) Report the estimated number of eligible VM outlets in the VM outlet population in each stratum.
3(c) Report the combined total estimated number of eligible OTC and VM outlets in the total outlet population in each stratum.

The estimates for Column 3 can be obtained from the Synar survey sample as the weighted sum of eligible outlets by outlet type.

Column 4: 4(a) Report the number of eligible OTC outlets for which an inspection was completed, for each stratum.
4(b) Report the numbers of eligible VM outlets for which an inspection was completed, for each stratum.
4(c) Report the combined total of eligible OTC and VM outlets for which an inspection was completed, for each stratum.

Column 5: 5(a) Report the number of OTC outlets found in violation of the law as a result of completed inspections, for each stratum.
5(b) Report the number of VM outlets found in violation of the law as a result of completed inspections, for each stratum.
5(c) Report the combined total of OTC and VM outlets found in violation of the law as a result of completed inspections, for each stratum.

Totals: For each subcolumn (a–c) in Columns 2–5, provide totals for the state as a whole in the last row of the table. These numbers will be the sum of the numbers in each row for the respective column.

FORM 1 (Required for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System [SSES] to analyze the Synar Survey data.)

Summary of Synar Inspection Results by Stratum

State: _____

FFY: 2016

(1)		(2)			(3)			(4)			(5)		
STRATUM		NUMBER OF OUTLETS IN SAMPLING FRAME			ESTIMATED NUMBER OF ELIGIBLEOUTLETS IN POPULATION			NUMBER OF OUTLETS INSPECTED			NO. OF OUTLETS FOUND IN VIOLATION DURING INSPECTIONS		
(a) Row #	(b) Stratum Name	(a) Over-the-Counter (OTC)	(b) Vending Machines (VM)	(c) Total Outlets (2a+2b)	(a) Over-the-Counter (OTC)	(b) Vending Machines (VM)	(c) Total Outlets (3a+3b)	(a) Over-the-Counter (OTC)	(b) Vending Machines (VM)	(c) Total Outlets (4a+4b)	(a) Over-the-Counter (OTC)	(b) Vending Machines (VM)	(c) Total Outlets (5a+5b)

RECORD COLUMN TOTALS ON LAST LINE (LAST PAGE ONLY IF MULTIPLE PAGES ARE NEEDED).

FORM 2 (Optional)
Appropriate for stratified simple or systematic random sampling designs.

Complete Form 2 to calculate the weighted RVR. This table (in Excel form) is designed to calculate the weighted RVR for stratified simple or systematic random sampling designs, accounting for ineligible outlets and noncomplete inspections encountered during the annual Synar survey.

Instructions for Completing Form 2: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2016).

Column 1: Write in the name of each stratum into which the sample was divided. These should match the strata reported in Column 1(b) of Form 1.

Column 2: Report the number of outlets in the sampling frame in each stratum. These numbers should match the numbers reported for the respective strata in Column 2(c) of Form 1.

Column 3: Report the original sample size (the number of outlets originally selected, *including*substitutes or replacements) for each stratum.

Column 4: Report the number of sample outlets in each stratum that were found to be eligible during the inspections. Note that this number must be less than or equal to the number reported in Column 3 for the respective strata.

Column 5: Report the number of eligible outlets in each stratum for which an inspection was completed. Note that this number must be less than or equal to the number reported in Column 4. These numbers should match the numbers reported in Column 4(c) of Form 1 for the respective strata.

Column 6: Report the number of eligible outlets inspected in each stratum that were found in violation. These numbers should match the numbers reported in Column 5(c) of Form 1 for the stratum.

Column 7: Form 2 (in Excel form) will automatically calculate the stratum RVR for each stratum in this column. This is calculated by dividing the number of inspected eligible outlets found in violation (Column 6) by the number of inspected eligible outlets (Column 5). The state unweighted RVR will be shown in the Total row of Column 7.

Column 8: Form 2 (in Excel form) will automatically calculate the estimated number of eligible outlets in the population for each stratum. This calculation is made by multiplying the number of outlets in the sampling frame (Column 2) times the number of eligible outlets (Column 4) divided by the original sample size (Column 3). Note that these numbers will be less than or equal to the numbers in Column 2.

Column 9: Form 2 (in Excel form) will automatically calculate the relative stratum weight by dividing the estimated number of eligible outlets in the population for each stratum in Column 8 by the Total of the values in Column 8.

Column 10: Form 2 (in Excel form) will automatically calculate each stratum's contribution to the state weighted RVR by multiplying the stratum RVR (Column 7) by the relative stratum weight (Column 9). The weighted RVR for the state will be shown in the Total row of Column 10.

Column 11: Form 2 (in Excel form) automatically calculates the standard error of each stratum's RVR (Column 7). The standard error for the state weighted RVR will be shown in the Total row of Column 11.

TOTAL: For Columns 2–6, Form 2 (in Excel form) provides totals for the state as a whole in the last row of the table. For Columns 7–11, it calculates the respective statistic for the state as a whole.

FORM 2 (Optional) Appropriate for stratified simple or systematic random sampling designs.

Calculation of Weighted Retailer Violation Rate										State: FFY: 2016
(1) Stratum Name	(2) N Number of Outlets in Sampling Frame	(3) n Original Sample Size	(4) n1 Number of Sample Outlets Found Eligible	(5) n2 Number of Outlets Inspected	(6) x Number of Outlets Found in Violation	(7) p=x/n2 Stratum Retailer Violation Rate	(8) N'=N(n1/n) Estimated Number of Eligible Outlets in Population	(9) w=N'/Total Column 8 Relative Stratum Weight	(10) pw Stratum Contribution to State Weighted RVR	(11) s.e. Standard Error of Stratum RVR
Total										

N - number of outlets in sampling frame
n - original sample size (number of outlets in the original sample)
n1 - number of sample outlets that were found to be eligible
n2 - number of eligible outlets that were inspected
x - number of inspected outlets that were found in violation
p - stratum retailer violation rate (p=x/n2)
N' - estimated number of eligible outlets in population (N'=N*n1/n)
w - relative stratum weight (w=N'/Total Column 8)
pw - stratum contribution to the weighted RVR
s.e. - standard error of the stratum RVR

FORM 3 (Required when a cluster design is used for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System [SSES] to analyze the Synar survey data.)

Complete Form 3 to report information about primary sampling units when a cluster design was used for the Synar survey.

Instructions for Completing Form 3: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2016).

Provide information by stratum if stratification was used. Make copies of the form if additional rows are needed to list all the strata.

Column 1: Sequentially number each row.

Column 2: *If stratification was used*: Write in the name of stratum. All strata in the state must be listed.

If no stratification was used: Write "state" in the first row to indicate that the whole state constitutes a single stratum.

Column 3: Report the number of primary sampling units (PSUs) (i.e., first-stage clusters) created for each stratum.

Column 4: Report the number of PSUs selected in the original sample for each stratum.

Column 5: Report the number of PSUs in the final sample for each stratum.

TOTALS: For Columns 3–5, provide totals for the state as a whole in the last row of the table.

Summary of Clusters Created and Sampled

State:

FFY: 2016

(1) Row #	(2) Stratum Name	(3) Number of PSUs Created	(4) Number of PSUs Selected	(5) Number of PSUs in the Final Sample
Total				

FORM 4 (Required for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System [SSES] to analyze the Synar Survey data)

Complete Form 4 to provide detailed tallies of ineligible sample outlets by reasons for ineligibility and detailed tallies of eligible sample outlets with noncomplete inspections by reasons for noncompletion.

Instructions for Completing Form 4: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2016).

Column 1(a): Enter the number of sample outlets found ineligible for inspection by reason for ineligibility. Provide the total number of ineligible outlets in the row marked "Total."

Column 2(a): Enter the number of eligible sample outlets with noncomplete inspections by reason for noncompletion. Provide the total number of eligible outlets with noncomplete inspections in the row marked "Total."

Inspection Tallies by Reason of Ineligibility or Noncompletion			
		State:	
		FFY: 2016	
(1) INELIGIBLE		**(2) ELIGIBLE**	
Reason for Ineligibility	**(a) Counts**	**Reason for Noncompletion**	**(a) Counts**
Out of business		In operation but closed at time of visit	
Does not sell tobacco products		Unsafe to access	
Inaccessible by youth		Presence of police	
Private club or private residence		Youth inspector knows salesperson	
Temporary closure		Moved to new location	
Unlocatable		Drive-thru only/youth inspector has no driver's license	
Wholesale only/Carton sale only		Tobacco out of stock	
Vending machine broken		Ran out of time	
Duplicate		Other noncompletion reason(s) *(Describe.)*	
Other ineligibility reason(s) *(Describe.)*			
Total		**Total**	

FORM 5 (Required for all states not using the Synar Survey Estimation System [SSES] to analyze the Synar survey data)

Complete Form 5 to show the distribution of outlet inspection results by age and gender of the youth inspectors.

Instructions for Completing Form 5: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2016).

Column 1: Enter the number of attempted buys by youth inspector age and gender.

Column 2: Enter the number of successful buys by youth inspector age and gender.

If the inspectors are age eligible but the gender of the inspector is unknown, include those inspections in the "Other" row. Calculate subtotals for males and females in rows marked "Male Subtotal" and "Female Subtotal." Sum subtotals for Male, Female, and Other and record in the bottom row marked "Total." Verify that that the total of attempted buys and successful buys equals the total for Column 4(c) and Column 5(c), respectively, on Form 1. If the totals do not match, please explain any discrepancies.

Synar Survey Inspector Characteristics **State:** **FFY:** 2016		
	(1) Attempted Buys	(2) Successful Buys
Male		
15 years		
16 years		
17 years		
18 years		
Male Subtotal		
Female		
15 years		
16 years		
17 years		
18 years		
Female Subtotal		
Other		
Total		

APPENDIXES B & C: FORMS

Instructions

Appendix B (Sampling Design) and Appendix C (Inspection Protocol) are to reflect the state's CSAP-approved sampling design and inspection protocol. These appendixes, therefore, should generally describe the design and protocol and, with the exception of Question #10 of Appendix B, are not to be modified with year-specific information. Please note that any changes to either appendix must receive CSAP's advance, written approval. To facilitate the state's completion of this section, simply cut and paste the previously approved sampling design (Appendix B) and inspection protocol (Appendix C).

APPENDIX B: SYNAR SURVEY SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

State: VI
FFY: 2016

1. **What type of sampling frame is used?**

   ☒ List frame *(Go to Question 2.)*
   ☐ Area frame *(Go to Question 3.)*
   ☐ List-assisted area frame *(Go to Question 2.)*

2. **List all sources of the list frame. Indicate the type of source from the list below. Provide a brief description of the frame source. Explain how the lists are updated (method), including how new outlets are identified and added to the frame. In addition, explain how often the lists are updated (cycle).** *(After completing this question, go to Question 4.)*

   Use the corresponding number to indicate **Type of Source** ***in the table below.***

   1 – Statewide commercial business list
   2 – Local commercial business list
   3 – Statewide tobacco license/permit list
   4 – Statewide retail license/permit list
   5 – Statewide liquor license/permit list
   6 – Other

Name of Frame Source	Type of Source	Description	Updating Method and Cycle
Statewide Permit License	4	All retail vendors are listed. If a vendor sells	List is updated annually and new vendors are added.
		tobacco it will be noted on the list	

3. **If an area frame is used, describe how area sampling units are defined and formed.**

   a. **Is any area left out in the formation of the area frame?**

      ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

      If ***Yes,*** *what percentage of the state's population is not covered by the area frame?*

      _____%

4. **Federal regulation requires that vending machines be inspected as part of the Synar survey. Are vending machines included in the Synar survey?**

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

   If ***No,*** *please indicate the reason(s) they are not included in the Synar survey. Please check all that apply.*

   ☒ State law bans vending machines.
   ☐ State law bans vending machines from locations accessible to youth.

☐ State has a contract with the FDA and is actively enforcing the vending machine requirements of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act.

☐ Other *(Please describe.)* _____

5. **Which category below best describes the sample design?** *(Check only one.)*

☒ **Census** *(STOP HERE: Appendix B is complete.)*

Unstratified statewide sample:

☐ Simple random sample *(Go to Question 9.)*

☐ Systematic random sample *(Go to Question 6.)*

☐ Single-stage cluster sample *(Go to Question 8.)*

☐ Multistage cluster sample *(Go to Question 8.)*

Stratified sample:

☐ Simple random sample *(Go to Question 7.)*

☐ Systematic random sample *(Go to Question 6.)*

☐ Single-stage cluster sample *(Go to Question 7.)*

☐ Multistage cluster sample *(Go to Question 7.)*

☐ **Other** *(Please describe and go to Question 9.)* _____

6. **Describe the systematic sampling methods.** *(After completing Question 6, go to Question 7 if stratification is used. Otherwise go to Question 9.)*

7. **Provide the following information about stratification.**

   a. **Provide a full description of the strata that are created.**

   b. **Is clustering used within the stratified sample?**

      ☐ **Yes** *(Go to Question 8.)*

      ☐ **No** *(Go to Question 9.)*

8. **Provide the following information about clustering.**

   a. **Provide a full description of how clusters are formed.** *(If multistage clusters are used, give definitions of clusters at each stage.)*

   b. **Specify the sampling method (simple random, systematic, or probability proportional to size sampling) for each stage of sampling and describe how the method(s) is (are) implemented.**

9. **Provide the following information about determining the Synar Sample.**

   a. **Was the Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) used to calculate the sample size?**
   ☒ **Yes** *(Respond to part b.)*
   ☐ **No** *(Respond to part c and Question 10c.)*

   b. **SSES Sample Size Calculator used?**
   ☐ **State Level** *(Respond to Question 10a.)*
   ☐ **Stratum Level** *(Respond to Question 10a and 10b.)*

   c. **Provide the formulas for determining the effective, target, and original outlet sample sizes.**

10. **Provide the following information about sample size calculations for the current FFY Synar survey.**

   a. **If the state uses the sample size formulas embedded in the SSES Sample Size Calculator to calculate the state level sample size, please provide the following information:**

   Inputs for Effective Sample Size:
   RVR:
   Frame Size:

   Input for Target Sample Size:
   Design Effect:

   Inputs for Original Sample Size:
   Safety Margin:
   Accuracy (Eligibility) Rate:
   Completion Rate:

   b. **If the state uses the sample size formulas embedded in the SSES Sample Size Calculator to calculate the stratum level sample sizes, please provide the stratum level information:**

   c. **If the state does not use the sample size formulas embedded in the SSES Sample Size Calculator, please provide all inputs required to calculate the effective, target, and original sample sizes as indicated in Question 9.**

APPENDIX C: SYNAR SURVEY INSPECTION PROTOCOL

State: VI
FFY: 2016

Note: Upload to WebBGAS a copy of the Synar inspection form under the heading "Synar Inspection Form" and a copy of the protocol used to train inspection teams on conducting and reporting the results of the Synar inspections under the heading "Synar Inspection Protocol."

1. **How does the state Synar survey protocol address the following?**

   a. **Consummated buy attempts?**

   ☒ Required
   ☐ Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe:)
   ☐ Not permitted

   b. **Youth inspectors to carry ID?**

   ☒ Required
   ☐ Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe:)
   ☐ Not permitted

   c. **Adult inspectors to enter the outlet?**

   ☒ Required
   ☐ Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe:)
   ☐ Not permitted

   d. **Youth inspectors to be compensated?**

   ☒ Required
   ☐ Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe:)
   ☐ Not permitted

2. **Identify the agency(ies) or entity(ies) that actually conduct the random, unannounced Synar inspections of tobacco outlets.** *(Check all that apply.)*

   ☒ Law enforcement agency(ies)
   ☒ State or local government agency(ies) other than law enforcement
   ☐ Private contractor(s)
   ☐ Other

   List the agency name(s):**Department of Health/Prevention and Depatment of Licensing & Consumer Affairs**

3. **Are Synar inspections combined with law enforcement efforts (i.e., do law enforcement representatives issue warnings or citations to retailers found in violation of the law at the time of the inspection?)?**

☒ Always ☐ Usually ☐ Sometimes ☐ Rarely ☐ Never

4. **Describe the type of tobacco products that are requested during Synar inspections.**

   a. **What type of tobacco products are requested during the inspection?**

   ☒ Cigarettes
   ☒ Small Cigars/Cigarillos
   ☐ Smokeless Tobacco
   ☐ Other

   b. **Describe the protocol for identifying what types of products and what brands of products are requested during an inspection.**

   Students will let us know what brand is popular among their peers and we also ask vendors.

5. **Describe the methods used to recruit, select, and train youth inspectors and adult supervisors.**

Students are recruited from schools and the Weed & Seed Program. Time frame for training is two hours and conducted at the Department of Health. Pre- and post- tests are given to check level of comprehension.

Information covers: definition of Synar, adult and youth role when conducting inspections and what should occur once a sale has been carried out. The VI Law is also placed on the agenda during training. Role play is conducted to help students know what to expect once in the field.

6. **Are there specific legal or procedural requirements instituted by the state to address the issue of youth inspectors' immunity when conducting inspections?**

   a. **Legal**

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

   (If Yes, please describe.)

   b. **Procedural**

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

   (If Yes, please describe.)

   Students are instructed not to disclose names during inspections.

7. **Are there specific legal or procedural requirements instituted by the state to address**

the issue of the safety of youth inspectors during all aspects of the Synar inspection process?

a. **Legal**

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

*(If **Yes**, please describe.)*

b. **Procedural**

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

*(If **Yes**, please describe.)*

Adult inspector will approach area to be inspected for safety. If area is unsafe, inspection of location will not be carried out.

8. **Are there any other legal or procedural requirements the state has regarding how inspections are to be conducted (e.g., age of youth inspector, time of inspections, training that must occur)?**

a. **Legal**

☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

*(If **Yes**, please describe.)*

b. **Procedural**

☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

*(If **Yes**, please describe.)*

Youth must not be 18. All youth are required to adhere to the following: During inspections, male should not have any facial hairs or baggy pants. Females should not wear makeup and clothing should not be revealing. No halter tops are allowed. Both male and female should refrain from adorning themselves with gold jewelry. This is also a safety precaution. Inspections are conducted during the summer months and during the day time.

APPENDIX D: LIST SAMPLING FRAME COVERAGE STUDY

(LIST FRAME ONLY)

State: VI
FFY: 2016

1. **Calendar year of the coverage study:** _____

2. a. **Unweighted percent coverage found:**_____%
   b. **Weighted percent coverage found:** _____%
   c. **Number of outlets found through canvassing:** _____
   d. **Number of outlets matched on the list frame:** _____

3. a. **Describe how areas were defined.***(e.g., census tracts, counties, etc.)*

   b. **Were any areas of the state excluded from sampling?**

   ☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

   If ***Yes****, please explain.*

4. **Please answer the following questions about the selection of canvassing areas.**

   a. **Which category below best describes the sample design?** *(Check only one.)*

   ☐**Census***(Go to Question 6.)*

   Unstratified statewide sample:

   ☐Simple random sample *(Respond to Part b.)*
   ☐Systematic random sample *(Respond to Part b.)*
   ☐ Single-stage cluster sample *(Respond to Parts b and d.)*
   ☐ Multistage cluster sample *(Respond to Parts b and d.)*

   Stratified sample:

   ☐Simple random sample *(Respond to Parts b and c.)*
   ☐Systematic random sample *(Respond to Parts b and c.)*
   ☐ Single-stage cluster sample *(Respond to Parts b, c, and d.)*
   ☐ Multistage cluster sample *(Respond to Parts b, c, and d.)*
   ☐**Other***(Please describe and respond to Part b.)*____

   b. **Describe the sampling methods.**

c. **Provide a full description of the strata that were created.**

d. **Provide a full description of how clusters were formed.**

5. **Were borders of the selected areas clearly identified at the time of canvassing?**

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

6. **Were all sampled areas visited by canvassing teams?**

☐ **Yes** *(Go to Question 7.)* ☐ **No** *(Respond to Parts a and b.)*

a. **Was the subset of areas randomly chosen?**

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

b. **Describe how the subsample of visited areas was drawn. Include the number of areas sampled and the number of areas canvassed.**

7. **Were field observers provided with a detailed map of the canvassing areas?**

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If **No,** *describe the canvassing instructions given to the field observers.*

8. **Were field observers instructed to find all outlets in the assigned area?**

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If **No,** *respond to Question 9.*
If **Yes,** *describe any instructions given to the field observers to ensure the entire area was canvassed, then go to Question 10.*

9. **If a full canvassing was not conducted:**

a. **How many predetermined outlets were to be observed in each area?** _____

b. **What were the starting points for each area?** _____

c. **Were these starting points randomly chosen?**

☐ **Yes** ☐ **No**

d. **Describe the selection of the starting points.**

e. **Please describe the canvassing instructions given to the field observers, includingpredetermined routes.**

10. Describe the process field observers used to determine if an outlet sold tobacco.

11. Please provide the state's definition of "matches" or "mismatches" to the Synar sampling frame? (i.e., address, business name, business license number, etc).

12. Provide the calculation of the weighted percent coverage (if applicable).