

ARIZONA
HEALTH CARE COST
CONTAINMENT SYSTEM

ANNUAL SYNAR REPORT

42 U.S.C. 300x-26

OMB No 0930-0222

FFY 2026
State: ARIZONA

Annual Synar Report

Table of Contents

Introduction	i
FFY 2026: Funding Agreements/Certifications	1
Section I: FFY 2025 (Compliance Progress).....	2
Section II: FFY 2026 (Intended Use).....	12
Appendix A: Forms 1–5	15
Appendixes B & C: Forms.....	23
Appendix B: Synar Survey Sampling Methodology	24
Appendix C: Synar Survey Inspection Protocol Summary	28
Appendix D: List Sampling Frame Coverage Study	31

Annual Synar Report

OMB No. 0930-0222

Expiration Date: 06/30/XXXX

Public Burden Statement: An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The OMB control number for this project is 0930-0222. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 18 hours per respondent, per year, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to SAMHSA Reports Clearance Officer, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857.

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 and young adult tobacco access laws (FFY 2025 Compliance Progress) and future plans to ensure compliance with the Synar requirements to reduce youth and young adult tobacco access rates (FFY 2026 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 states¹ 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 and young adult tobacco access laws when aggregated statistical data from state Synar reports can demonstrate to the Secretary the national progress in reducing youth and young adult tobacco

¹The 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).

Annual Synar Report

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 and young adult tobacco access laws.

Getting assistance in completing the Synar report

If you have questions about programmatic issues, you may call CSAP's Division of Primary Prevention 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 your Grants Management Specialist in the 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, 2025 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 2026 Synar Survey Results: States that use the Synar Survey Estimation System (SSES) must upload one copy of *SSES Tables 1–8* (in Excel) to WebBGAS. **Please note that, in the FFY 2026 ASR, SSES will generate Tables 6, 7, and 8, which are based on the optional microdata on product type, retail outlet type, and whether identification was requested. If your state does not submit these optional data, Tables 6, 7, and 8 will be blank. Tables 6, 7, and 8 are generated for the convenience of the state, and states are not required to submit completed versions of Tables 6, 7, or 8.** 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), as well as a database with the raw inspection data 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. This document should be different than the Appendix C attached to the Annual Synar Report.
- 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.

Annual Synar Report

FFY 2026: 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 2026 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 2026 is up-to-date and approved by the Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.

State: Arizona

Name of Chief Executive Officer or Designee: Alisa Randall

Signature of CEO or Designee:



Title: Assistant Deputy Director of Clinical Operations

Date Signed: 12/29/2025

If signed by a designee, a copy of the designation must be attached.

Annual Synar Report

FFY: 2026

State: Arizona

SECTION I: FFY 2025 (Compliance Progress)

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT 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 21.

1. Please indicate any changes or additions to the state tobacco statute(s) relating to youth and young adult access since the last reporting year. If any changes were made to the state law(s) since the last reporting year, please 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: 21*

*SB1247 passed in the 2025 legislative session, raising the minimum age of sale to 21 effective 9/26/2025.

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

Yes

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 and young adults to possess, purchase or receive tobacco

Changed to require ID to purchase tobacco

Changed definition of tobacco products

Other change(s) (Please describe.) Starting 9/26/2025, youth inspectors aged 18, 19, and 20 may be used in state inspections.

c. Have there been any changes in state law that impact the following?

Licensing of tobacco vendors No*

Penalties for sales to minors No

Vending machines Yes**

Added product categories to youth and young adult access law **No**

*Note that three cities in Arizona, Tempe, Tucson, and Flagstaff, currently have tobacco retail licensing ordinances.

**Note that SB1247 included an update in the signage requirement for vending machines.

2. Describe how the Annual Synar Report (see 45 C.F.R. 96.130(e)) was made public within the

Annual Synar Report

state prior 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 2026 ASR was posted to this Web address.)
Web address: <https://www.azahcccs.gov/AHCCCS/PublicNotices/>
Date published: 12/18/25
- 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 state agency(ies) designated by the Governor for oversight of the Synar requirements:

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)

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

Yes No

b. The state agency(ies) responsible for conducting random, unannounced Synar inspections:

Arizona Department of Health Services/ Bureau of Chronic Disease and Health Promotion and Arizona Attorney General's Office

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

Yes No

c. The state agency(ies) responsible for enforcing youth and young adult tobacco access law(s):

Arizona Attorney General's Office

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

Annual Synar Report

Control Program funding).

Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)

- 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.)* AHCCCS has an Interagency Services Agreement (ISA) with Arizona Department of Health Services / Bureau of Chronic Disease and Health Promotion, and a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Arizona Attorney General's Office.
- d. **Does a state agency contract with the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Tobacco Products (FDA/CTP) to enforce the youth and young adult access and advertising restrictions in the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act?**
 Yes No (if no, go to Question 5)
- e. **If yes, identify the state agency responsible for enforcing the youth and young adult 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)).**
Arizona Department of Health Services
- f. **Has the responsible agency changed since last year's Annual Synar Report?**
 Yes No
- g. **Describe the coordination and collaboration that occur between the agency contracted with the FDA to enforce federal youth and young adult 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: Yes
 - Have an informal partnership
 - Conduct joint planning activities: Yes

Annual Synar Report

- Combine resources: Yes
- Have other collaborative arrangement(s) *(Please describe.)* AHCCCS has an Interagency Service Agreement with Arizona Department of Health Services

h. Does the state use data from the FDA enforcement inspections for Synar survey reporting?

- Yes No

5. Please answer the following questions regarding the state’s activities to enforce the state’s youth and young adult access to tobacco law(s) in FFY 2025 (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 state youth and young adult access to tobacco laws carried out in your state? (Check one category only.)

- Enforcement is conducted exclusively by local law enforcement agencies.
- Enforcement is conducted exclusively by state agency(ies).
- Enforcement is conducted by both local *and* state agencies.

b. The following items concern penalties imposed for all violations of state youth and young adult access to tobacco laws by LOCAL AND/OR STATE LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES (this does not include enforcement of local laws or federal youth and young adult 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 <u>citations issued</u>	206	184	390
Number of <u>finest assessed</u>	12	13	25
Number of <u>permits/licenses suspended</u>	NA		NA
Number of <u>permits/licenses revoked</u>	NA		NA
Other <i>(Please describe.)</i>			
Resolved through diversion	78	79	156
Warrant Issued	NA	4	4
Dismissed, reason unknown	16	12	28
Pending (FTA, motion to continue, not yet appeared, or other)	99	78	177

c. 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 5c, 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:

Annual Synar Report

Yes. All Synar inspections were conducted using Food and Drug Administration (FDA) inspections protocols. As part of ongoing tobacco enforcement activities, some Synar survey inspections were conducted jointly with AGO inspection teams, and some were conducted by AGO-only teams. These joint and AGO only inspections include citations to clerks and businesses at the time of inspection. However, ongoing joint tobacco inspections have resulted in consistent Retailer Violation Rates (RVR) between joint inspections with citations issued, Food and Drug Administration-only inspections with no state citations issued, and AGO-only inspections with state citations issued, indicating that any bias to results from citing at the time of inspection versus not citing at the time of inspection is minimal.

d. Which one of the following best describes the level of enforcement of state youth and young adult 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.

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

- Yes No

f. What additional activities are conducted in your state to support enforcement and compliance with state youth and young adult tobacco access law(s)? (Check all that apply and briefly describe each activity in the text boxes below each activity.)

- Merchant education and/or training

State enforcement can be combined with educational opportunities, including the state diversion tobacco education program called the Arizona Retail Tobacco Training (ARTT). The AGO, ADHS, and county health partners developed the ARTT curriculum and the AGO continues to update the program to reflect changing tobacco laws and available health data. AGO works closely with all 15 Arizona counties to train ARTT instructors, educate courts and prosecutors about the availability of ARTT, and provide ongoing technical assistance to all partners as necessary. Maricopa County, the largest county in Arizona by population, began offering the ARTT program in April of 2013. Class attendance has gone from one or two defendants per class with classes held every other month to completely full classes with up to 30 attendees per class and two classes per month. ARTT is designed to serve both as a diversion option for clerks and businesses who fail inspections and as a free training resource for all Arizona

Annual Synar Report

tobacco retailers. In Maricopa County, approximately one-third of attendees at an average class are there voluntarily while two thirds are there to resolve a citation. County health partners in several counties have provided classes to larger groups of employees from one store or chain at the request of a local business. Several smaller, local chains have indicated to trainers that they will send all of their new employees to ARTT as part of their new employee training. The Maricopa County Attorney's Office (MCAO), the prosecuting agency for the majority of youth tobacco citations, is highly supportive of the ARTT program. MCAO entered into an MOU with ADHS to provide ARTT through a contractor. The contractor receives specialized training from AGO. AGO tobacco staff routinely participate in co-teaching the Maricopa County ARTT classes. All Maricopa County classes are presented live via video conferencing platform to provide for direct engagement and immediate Q&A. Most counties outside of Maricopa provide in-person instruction for ARTT attendees. In May of 2024, the city of Tempe implemented a tobacco retail license. This license included a requirement that every tobacco retailer must present proof of attendance and participation in an ARTT class to receive their tobacco retail license. AGO and the Maricopa County contractor intend to evaluate the impact of the proactive education component on retail compliance and youth tobacco access in Tempe. Initial findings indicate that proactive participation in ARTT, along with active enforcement, improves compliance in a city with a tobacco retail license.

- 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 and young adult access laws)

All inspections that are conducted in Arizona are enforcement inspections. However, retailers who pass inspection receive a letter congratulating them for their efforts in keeping tobacco out of the hands of youth. Additionally, all state inspection results, and all public FDA inspection results are available to the public, including on Arizona's public-facing database website. Tobacco inspection results are available on the public page of the Tobacco Enforcement System (TES), available at <https://az.countertools.org/>

- Community education regarding youth and young adult access laws

Tobacco inspection results are available on the public page of the TES, available at <https://az.countertools.org/>. This webpage is shared with law enforcement, schools, parents, public health partners and others. ADHS has implemented digital and print media efforts to promote the statewide youth coalition efforts, ARTT, and the youth tobacco inspection program. See <https://www.azdhs.gov/standaz/>. AGO now offers a class on vaping to both youth and adults as part of their education outreach program. AGO and FDA also provide education about youth tobacco laws during recruitment presentations for potential youth tobacco inspectors. ADHS has a contract with a youth coalition technical assistance

Annual Synar Report

partner, the American Lung Association, which works with Students Taking a New Direction (STANDAZ), Arizona's anti-tobacco youth coalitions, to assist in the state's program goals of making tobacco and electronic vapor products less desirable, acceptable, and accessible to youth and young adults. Some tasks and activities for this contract are directly related to recruitment for the youth tobacco inspection programs and building coalition capacity to educate communities on access laws and related ordinances.

Media use to publicize compliance inspection results.

See response above under community education.

Community mobilization to increase support for retailer compliance with youth and young adult access laws

Youth coalitions in every county are working to establish local policies that restrict tobacco sales to youth, including engaging in community outreach and education. Anti-tobacco youth coalitions throughout the state representing urban, rural, and tribal communities have continued coalition efforts to address youth and young adult tobacco and electronic vapor product use. Coalitions' local efforts include conducting peer education, community awareness campaigns, and pursuing policy action plans to address: 1. Reducing youth and young adult access to tobacco and electronic vapor products and 2. Reducing exposure to secondhand smoke. Coalitions have continued to establish strong foundations with increased youth engagement and participation. Coalitions have seen continued successes contributing to passing smoke-free park ordinances and spreading awareness and educating communities regarding raising the legal age to purchase tobacco products to 21 in municipalities, issues related to vaping in schools, and the impact of flavored tobacco products on youth and marginalized communities. More specifically, coalitions have collaborated with parks and recreation programs within their county to develop and place park signage for smoke-free areas, participate in cigarette butt cleanups for data collection to advance efforts of smoke free public places, and two county coalitions have conducted corrective statement audits at their local tobacco retailer establishments to ensure retailers were in compliance displaying signage.

Other activities (*Please list.*)

Annual Synar Report

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 of the Synar Regulation in FFY 2025 (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.

a. If yes, describe how and when this change was communicated to SAMHSA:

N/A

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, upload a copy of SSES tables 1–8 (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 right limit of the right-sided 95% confidence interval.

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

Accuracy rate _____

Completion rate _____

Annual Synar Report

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

Annual Synar Report

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 Sampling frame coverage study: _____

b. Percent coverage from the latest Sampling frame coverage study: _____

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: _____

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. **If Yes, describe how and when this change was communicated to SAMHSA**

Synar inspection protocol changed as of 9/26/2025. Arizona's FFY 2025 ASR indicated that state inspections would incorporate youth volunteers aged 18-20 if and when a state law was passed raising the legal age of sale to 21. However, Synar inspections were completed prior to the implementation date of SB1247, so no state inspections were conducted using 18-20 year old inspectors for the purposes of the Synar report.

b. **Provide the inspection period: From 10/01/2024 to 09/30/2025**

MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

c. **Provide the number of youth and young adult inspectors used in the current inspection year: 43**

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.

Two youth were reported by two separate numbers, YV1592, reported as both YV1592 and 1592, and YV1598, reported as both YV1598 and V1598.

d. **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 2026 (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 and young adult tobacco access.

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

- Synar sampling methodology Yes No
Synar inspection protocol Yes No

*The state intends to continue to use youth volunteers aged 18-20 for state inspections, in addition to youth aged 15-17, as begun on 9/26/2025 and previously reported in ASR FFY2025.

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 2026. Include a brief description of plans for law enforcement efforts to enforce youth and young adult tobacco access laws, activities that support law enforcement efforts to enforce youth and young adult tobacco access laws, and any anticipated changes in youth and young adult tobacco access legislation or regulation in the state.

The combination of the federal, state, and local programs creates a more effective overall tobacco enforcement effort. The State of Arizona enforcement can be combined with educational opportunities, including the state diversion tobacco education program called the ARTT. Federal enforcement does not include education, but penalties for repeat offenders can top \$14,000 and can include actions such as a No Tobacco Sales Order (NTSO). Arizona had its first NTSO issued on August 19, 2020, for a Chevron in Maricopa County. No further NTSOs have been issued, but this may be due to the inspections pause caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. A business having one violation in a joint inspection will therefore ideally obtain further education about the laws relating to the sale of tobacco products and will avoid further penalties, while businesses that continue to sell to Arizona youth will face stiff penalties that are unavailable under state statutes. This comprehensive approach to enforcement, including retailer education and holding businesses accountable for violations, is effective. The AGO and FDA programs also participate in a task force aimed at improving compliance with laws regarding sales of all age-restricted products and related issues in Maricopa County. This task force assists in identifying retailers with significant compliance issues, allows for in-depth inspections of hookah lounges, and provides additional law enforcement resources to both the state and federal inspection programs. AGO actively collaborates with the City of Tempe and the City of Tucson, including joint inspections planning with local police departments to assist in enforcement of their licensing ordinances. The Tempe collaboration was directly based on successes in collaboration with Tucson and

Annual Synar Report

added the aspect of proactive retailer education for all tobacco retail license applicants. The City of Flagstaff has expressed an interest in similar collaboration and AGO is providing technical assistance to cities who are considering local licensing and are exploring enforcement options. There are some early indications that there is political will for changes to youth tobacco access laws in the 2026 legislative session, though no bills have yet been proposed. In July of 2025, AGO filed two civil complaints against tobacco retailers for repeated sales of tobacco and vapor products to minors, including one store with an 83% RVR and a small chain of stores with an overall RVR of 67%. See press release at <https://www.azag.gov/press-release/attorney-general-mayes-cracks-down-vape-stores-selling-minors>. AGO may consider filing additional, similar cases as appropriate.

3. Describe any challenges the state faces in complying with the Synar regulation. (Check all that apply and describe each challenge in the text box below it.)

- Limited resources for law enforcement of youth and young adult access laws
- Limited resources for activities to support enforcement and compliance with youth and young adult tobacco access laws
- Limitations in the state youth and young adult tobacco access laws

SB1247 raised the minimum legal age of sale for tobacco products to 21 as of 9/26/2025. However, the law includes an exception, which is not currently in effect, for underaged purchase, use, and possession of tobacco products by active duty military members between the age of 18 and 20. While the exception never applies to retailers furnishing tobacco to individuals under age 21, there is some concern that it could create confusion for retailers, particularly in areas near military bases. The state is working with county partners to provide consistent messaging around the new law, informing any retailers who inquire that there are no exceptions.

- Limited public support for enforcement of youth and young adult tobacco access laws
- Limitations on completeness/accuracy of list of tobacco outlets

Arizona does not have Statewide Retail Licensing.

- Limited expertise in survey methodology
- Laws/regulations limiting the use of minors in tobacco inspections
- Difficulties recruiting youth and young adult inspectors

Localized issues with youth recruitment have continued to be a challenge. These issues have been addressed by transporting youth from areas with many youth inspectors to areas with fewer youth inspectors or trading youth between small towns where they may be recognized in their local retail stores. AGO and FDA have worked tirelessly to rebuild our network of youth volunteers across the state with significant successes. Youth volunteers have been successfully recruited in all 15 Arizona counties. AGO and FDA have begun joint efforts to recruit young adult volunteers aged 18-20, including

Annual Synar Report

providing recruitment presentations at local community colleges.

Issues regarding the balance of inspections conducted by youth inspectors age 15 and under

Youth recruitment has presented a challenge, and many new recruits are 15 when they begin conducting inspections. Every effort is made to maintain a balance of youth 16 and older, particularly given the newly consistent age of sale of 21. FDA inspections that contributed to the Synar sample did include inspectors age 18 and older, though this was a small fraction of total Synar sample inspections.

Issues regarding the balance of inspections conducted by one gender of youth and young adult inspectors

Youth recruitment continues to present a challenge. Some areas for inspection are in remote, rural areas with a limited number of youth inspectors available within practical traveling distance. As such, both inspection programs may be limited to the male vs female balance of the successfully recruited youth inspectors in any given area. Efforts are consistently made to recruit and retain a diverse group of youth inspectors, including youth inspectors of both sexes.

Geographic, demographic, and logistical considerations in conducting inspections

Arizona is a large state with a lot of rural and undeveloped land. As a result, inspections often involve a large amount of travel time and resources for a small number of inspections. Retailers in extremely rural areas may only be inspected once every several years, leading to high localized RVRs. The close coordination of AGO and FDA is improving the consistency of inspections in more rural areas, including identifying accurately the retailers in operation in these areas.

Cultural factors (e.g., language barriers, young people purchasing for their elders)

Both Attorney General's Office and Food and Drug Administration inspectors have encountered language barriers during inspections.

Issues regarding sources of tobacco under tribal jurisdiction

The state does not have jurisdiction to conduct state inspections for selling tobacco to underaged individuals on reservation land.

Other challenges (*Please list.*) _____

SB1247 raised the minimum legal age of sale for tobacco products to 21 as of 9/26/2025. However, the law includes an exception, which is not currently in effect, for underaged purchase, use, and possession of tobacco products by active duty military members between the age of 18 and 20. While the exception never applies to retailers furnishing tobacco to individuals under age 21, there is some concern that it could

Annual Synar Report

create confusion for retailers, particularly in areas near military bases. The state is working with county partners to provide consistent messaging around the new law, informing any retailers who inquire that there are no exceptions. This information is also specifically addressed in ARTT.

Annual Synar Report

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.

*Please See SSES Excel Tables Uploaded for FORMS 1-5

Instructions for Completing Form 1: In the top right-hand corner of the form, provide the state name and reporting federal fiscal year (FFY 2026). 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.

Annual Synar Report

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.

Annual Synar Report

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 2026).

- 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.

Annual Synar Report

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

Calculation of Weighted Retailer Violation Rate										
										State: _____
										FFY: 2026
(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 ($w=N'/\text{Total Column 8}$)
- pw - stratum contribution to the weighted RVR
- s.e. - standard error of the stratum RVR

Annual Synar Report

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 2026).

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: 2026
(1) Row #	(2) Stratum Name	(3) Number of PSUs Created	(4) Number of PSUs Selected	(5) Number of PSUs in the Final Sample
Total				

Annual Synar Report

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 2026).

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: 2026	
(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 or young adult		Presence of police	
Private club or private residence		Youth or young adult inspector knows salesperson	
Temporary closure		Moved to new location	
Unlocatable		Drive-thru only/youth or young adult 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) <i>(Describe.)</i>	
Other ineligibility reason(s) <i>(Describe.)</i>			
Total		Total	

Annual Synar Report

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 and young adult 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 2026).

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

Column 2: Enter the number of successful buys by youth and young adult 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: 2026
	(1) Attempted Buys	(2) Successful Buys
Male		
15 years		
16 years		
17 years		
18 years		
19 years		
20 years		
Male Subtotal		
Female		
15 years		
16 years		
17 years		
18 years		
19 years		
20 years		
Female Subtotal		
Other		
Total		

Annual Synar Report

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) and respond to Question #10 of Appendix B to provide the requested information about sample size calculations for the Synar survey conducted in FFY 2025.

APPENDIX B: SYNAR SURVEY SAMPLING METHODOLOGY

State: Arizona
 FFY: 2026

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
City of Tucson List	6	List of retail locations that have applied for a tobacco retail license with the City of Tucson	Tucson’s licensing ordinance went into effect in 2020. This list will be compared to TES at least annually.
City of Tempe List	6	List of retail locations that have applied for a tobacco retail license with the City of Tempe.	Tempe’s licensing ordinance went into effect in May 2024. Tempe posts their licensee list online and updates it monthly. This list will be compared to TES at least quarterly.
Tobacco Enforcement System (“TES”)	1	Comprehensive list of all locations inspected by AGO, Dept. of Revenue, and FDA since 2012 plus AGO list back to 2010.	Continually updated throughout the year as inspections are conducted.
City of Flagstaff List	6	List of retail locations that have applied for a tobacco retail license with the City of Flagstaff	Once Flagstaff implements the tobacco retail license ordinance, this list will be compared to TES at least annually.
New outlets from last year’s sample	6	ADHS and AGO conduct ground truthing of all Arizona tobacco retailers included in the Synar sample.	All newly identified outlets are added to TES as they are identified, typically in the field. Outlets can also be added or edited in the office.
Attorney General’s Office List	6	This is a list of all retail locations inspected by the AGO in the current FY and historical and is incorporated in the complete TES database list.	Continually updated throughout the year as inspections are conducted.
Tobacco Manufacturer’s List (US v. Phillip Morris)	6	This is the state-specific subset of the list of all tobacco retailers with a contract with	Manufacturers will be providing several updates on a set schedule

Annual Synar Report

		major tobacco manufacturers provided by the manufacturers as part of the resolution to the US v Phillip Morris case.	per the case resolution. This is a temporary list but will be utilized until the last update is provided.
FDA's List	6	This is a list of all retail locations inspected by the FDA in the current FY and historically and is incorporated in the complete TES database list.	Continually updated throughout the year as inspections are conducted.
TIMS List	6	Once clusters are identified, the list of outlets from TES will be cross-checked by the FDA program with the TIMS database to ensure that there are no additional outlets in TIMS that do not currently appear in TES.	Comparison will be made on initial selection of clusters and just before each cluster is inspected.

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

Sampling units are defined by census tracts.

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?

_____ %

Yes. Native American reservations and military bases are not included (actual percentage is not available).

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 and young adults.

Annual Synar Report

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.) _____

If Yes, please indicate how likely it is that vending machines will be sampled.

Vending machines are sampled separately to ensure vending machines are included in the sample

Vending machines are sampled together with over the counter outlets, so it is possible that no vending machines were sampled, however they are included in the sampling frame and have a non-zero probability of selection

Other reasons (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.)

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.)

The Tobacco Enforcement System (TES) is the database and GIS mapping tool that is utilized in Arizona to collect tobacco retailer and inspections data. The system was designed to provide a random sample of retailers for the Synar survey. The total number of outlets required to be inspected for the Synar survey sample is entered

Annual Synar Report

into the TES clustering tool. TES randomly selects census tracts that include retail tobacco outlets until the total number plus 25% (to allow for locations that have closed or cannot be inspected) is selected. There are 1,526 total census tracts in Arizona, so we anticipate that a random sample of census tracts will provide a more effective sample than a selection based on zip codes.

- 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.**

The method used was simple random sample of census tracts (single stage cluster sample). All outlets are inspected within each cluster/census tract including all new outlets found in the cluster area. FDA and AGO teams will meet to examine and divide clusters. Clusters will be assigned to either the FDA, AGO, or joint FDA/AGO team based on the best use of limited resources. For example, inspections may already be planned by one team in an outlying rural area. That team would be assigned Synar inspections in that area as opposed to duplicating efforts. Each cluster entered for inspection must be comprehensively canvassed for all tobacco outlets, which must then be inspected along with the pre-listed outlets. All outlets inspected for Synar will appear and be tracked in TES, allowing for additional in-office quality control methods such as cross-checking the Synar survey inspections list with the outlets appearing on the TES GIS map.

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.**

N/A

10. Provide the following information about sample size calculations for the Synar survey conducted in FFY 2025.

- 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: 378

Annual Synar Report

RVR: 14.1%
Frame Size: 619

Input for Target Sample Size: 437
Design Effect: 15

Inputs for Original Sample Size: 667
Safety Margin: 98.8%
Accuracy (Eligibility) Rate: 92.8%
Completion Rate: 100%

- 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:**

N/A

- 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.**

N/A

APPENDIX C: SYNAR SURVEY INSPECTION PROTOCOL SUMMARY

State: Arizona
FFY: 2026

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 and young adult 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 and young adult inspectors to be compensated?

- Required
- Permitted under specified circumstances (Describe: Most of the youth are volunteers, but on an as needed basis, Arizona may contract with an agency to provide youth for inspections and those youth may be paid)
- 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

Annual Synar Report

List the agency name(s):

Arizona Department of Health Services/ Bureau of Chronic Disease and Health Promotion
and Arizona Attorney General's Office

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
- Electronic Cigarettes/Electronic Nicotine Delivery Systems (ENDS)
- Other Hookah, snus, and any other tobacco products covered by statute.

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

Youth are trained on the types of products and brands of products prior to conducting inspections. The FDA has designed a program training them on protocols and products and must pass with 80% or higher score before conducting inspections. Youth are provided with a book of photos of tobacco products to review for familiarization.

5a. Describe the methods used to recruit, select, and train adult supervisors.

Inspectors are FDA commissioned officers and Special Agents from the AGO.

5b. Describe the methods used to recruit, select, and train youth and young adult inspectors.

Youth are recruited through our statewide youth coalition and other community-based youth groups such as Police Explorers and Civil Air Patrol. The inspection programs are promoted by local grantees and AGO. Youth who complete FDA paperwork and training are selected to be youth inspectors for all tobacco inspection programs.

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

a. Legal:

Yes No

b. Procedural:

Yes No

Annual Synar Report

(If Yes, please describe.)

AGO provides a periodic statement to FDA indicating that AGO has no intention of prosecuting youth who participate in inspections and no county prosecutors have indicated an intent to prosecute youth volunteers for tobacco purchases completed during inspections.

7. Are there specific legal or procedural requirements instituted by the state to address the issue of the safety of youth and young adult inspectors during all aspects of the Synar inspection process?

a. Legal:

Yes No

b. Procedural:

Yes No

The FDA and youth inspectors receive training in safety procedures prior to commencement of inspections. Youth are instructed to not inspect any business that they perceive to be unsafe. Businesses not inspected for these reasons are documented. Inspections conducted by the AGO include at least one Arizona Peace Officer Standards and Training (AZPOST) certified law enforcement officer.

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

a. Legal:

Yes No

b. Procedural:

Yes No

Currently, all youth inspectors must be age 15 through 20 to participate in the AGO youth tobacco inspection program. The gender balance of selected youth is 50% female and 50% male. Exceptions to the gender balance take place when unexpected events arise, such as a resignation of a youth inspector. Inspections occur at a variety of times during the day and days of the week including weekends. All youth inspectors are required to complete the FDA youth inspector training. Beginning in FFY2023, FDA incorporated Underage Purchasers who are 18, 19, and 20 years old. FDA intends to use inspectors who are representative of all ages 16-20 years of age. Upon commencement of including 18-year-old and older inspectors, FDA implemented procedures including background clearance for these young adult volunteers, as required by state and/or federal protocols. The state's new age of sale law went into effect 9/26/2025 and AGO began to incorporate inspectors ages 18-20 as of that date.

Annual Synar Report

Annual Synar Report

APPENDIX D: LIST SAMPLING FRAME COVERAGE STUDY

(LIST FRAME ONLY)

State: Arizona
FFY: 2026

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.) _____

Annual Synar Report

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?

Annual Synar Report

Yes No

d. Describe the selection of the starting points.

e. Please describe the canvassing instructions given to the field observers, including predetermined 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).