

### Tailoring tobacco control policy resources to overcome the challenges of differential tobacco retail density in New York

Emily Nink, M.S. December 5, 2017

Public Health Advocacy Institute *at* Northeastern University School of Law 360 Huntington Avenue, 117CU · Boston, MA 02115 · tobaccopolicycenter.org

### **Presenter Disclosures**

**Emily Nink, M.S.** 

The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No relationships to disclose.



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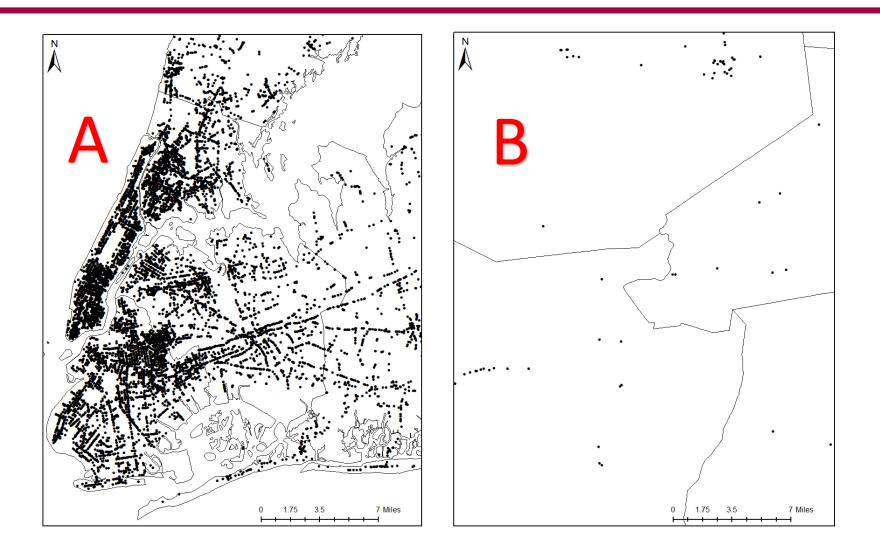
### **Presentation Outline**

### What is Tobacco Retail Density?

### Why is it a Problem?

### Tailoring Messages for Urban and Rural Communities



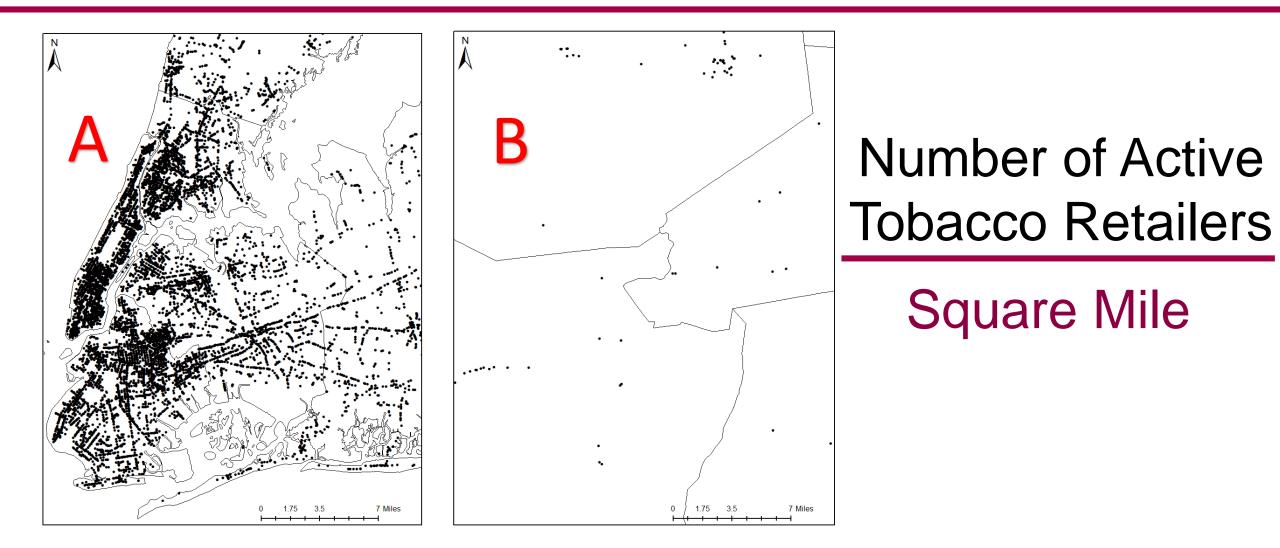


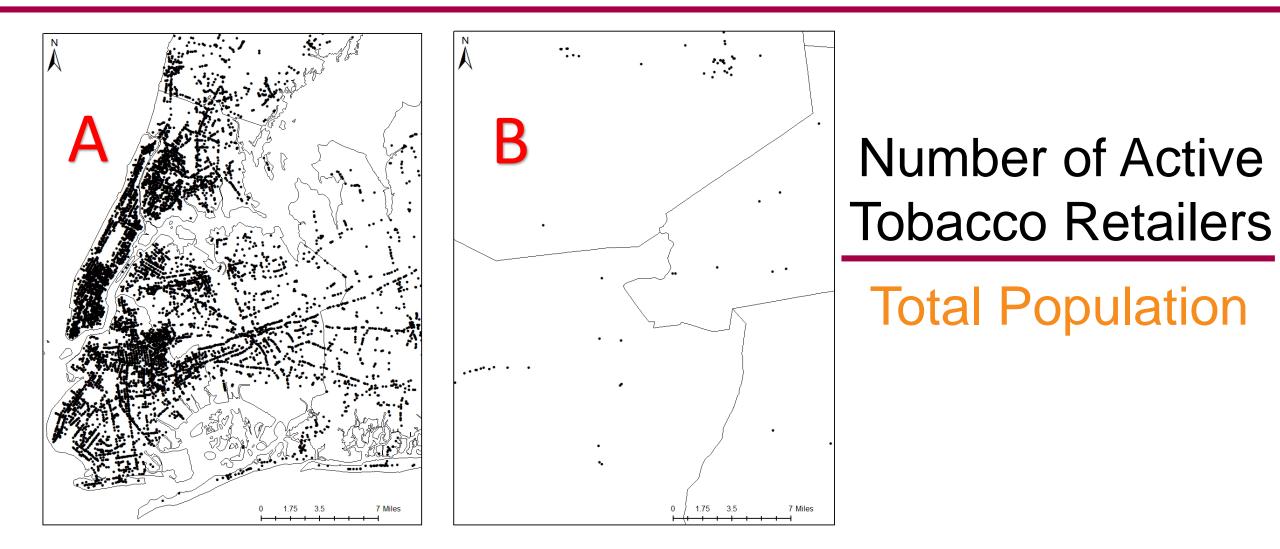
Data is from "Active Tobacco Retail Vendors," (2017) available at health.data.ny.gov.

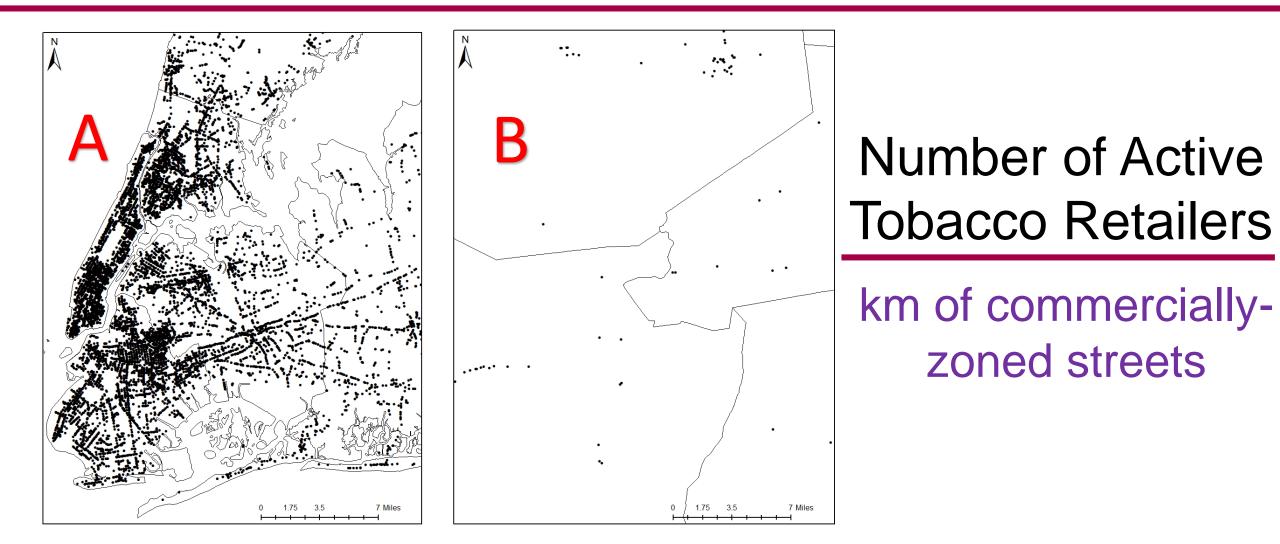
### Density is a ratio.

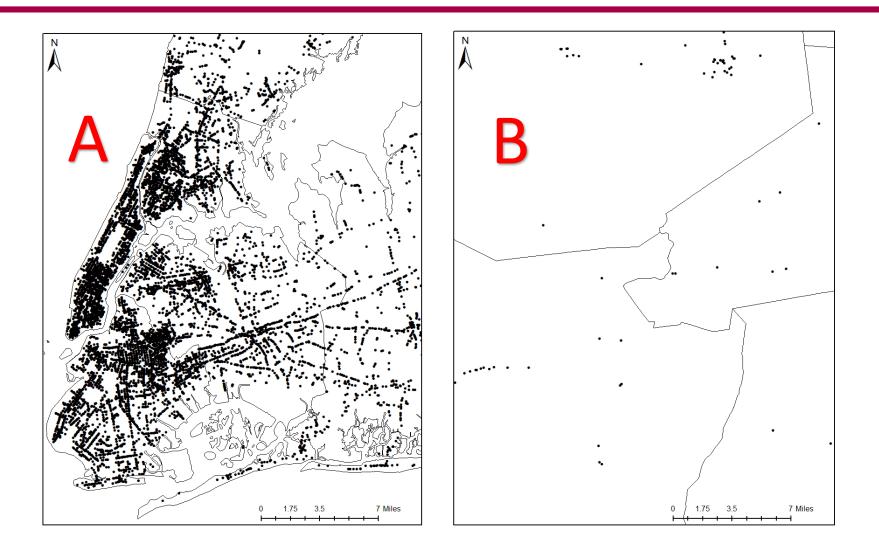
#### LEGEND

Active Tobacco Retailers (2017)
--County Lines









Data is from "Active Tobacco Retail Vendors," (2017) available at health.data.ny.gov.

# It Depends!

#### LEGEND

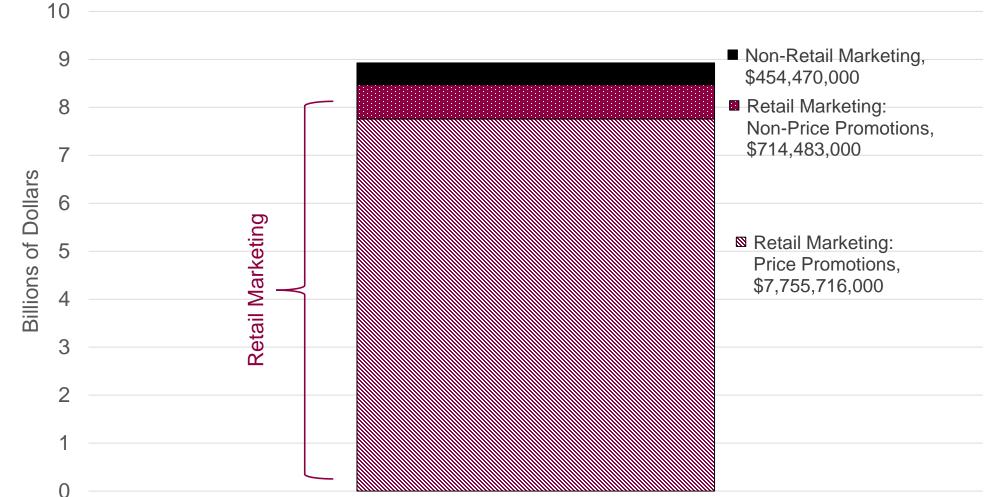
Active Tobacco Retailers (2017)
--County Lines

# Tobacco Marketing is Concentrated in the Retail Environment





### **Tobacco Industry Marketing Expenditures, 2015**





tobaccopolicycenter.org/documents/IndustryMarketingExpenditures

# Tobacco Marketing is Concentrated in the Retail Environment





# Tobacco Marketing is Concentrated in the Retail Environment







#### Legend

County Retailer (n=319)

#### Target Area 1 Census Tracts

#### Median Household Income



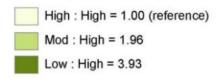
#### Data Findings, Newburgh, NY Area:

#### Tobacco Retail Outlets per 10,000 Persons:

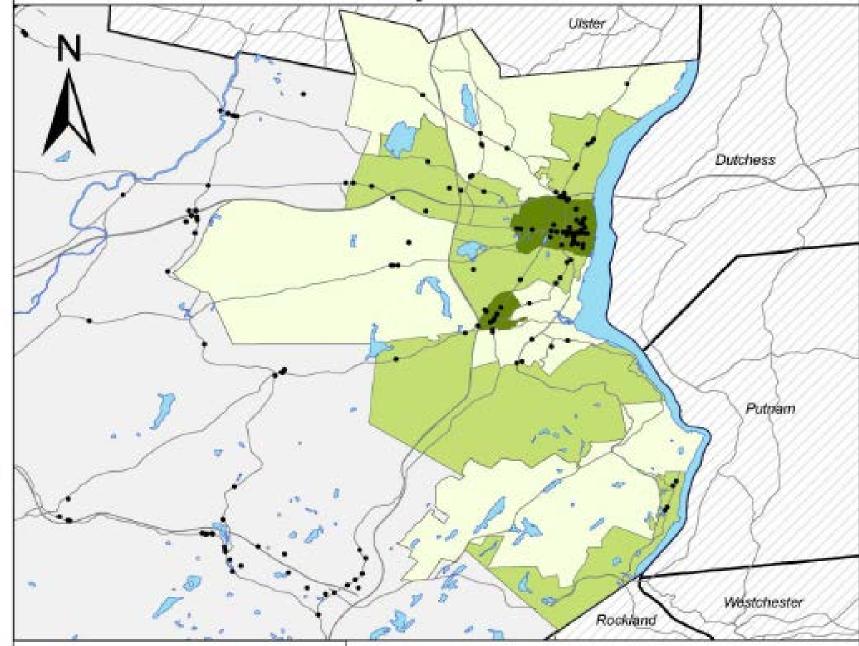


Low: 19.54 tobacco retail outlets per 10,000 persons Mod: 9.66 tobacco retail outlets per 10,000 persons High: 4.93 tobacco retail outlets per 10,000 persons

#### Ratio: Comparing Low and Moderate to High Income Areas:



Public Health and Tobacco Policy Center

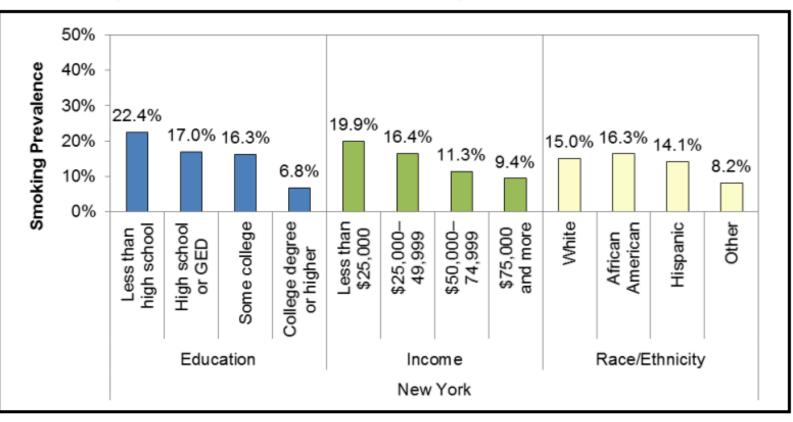






# **Tobacco Use Disparities**

Figure 5. Percentage of New York Adults Who Currently Smoke, by Education, Income, and Race/Ethnicity, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System 2014



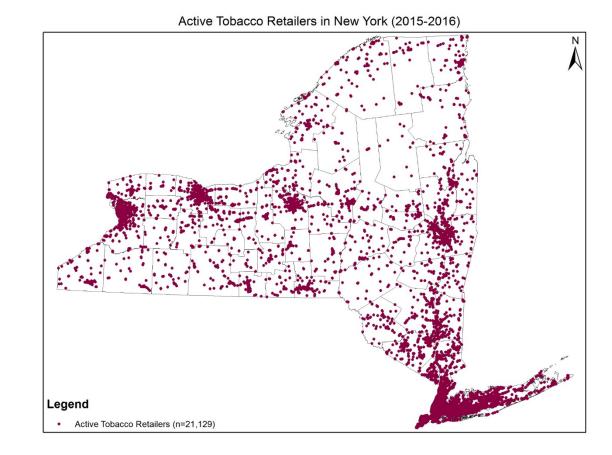


Source: 2015 Independent Evaluation Report of the New York Tobacco Control Program, prepared by RTI International, available at: https://www.health.ny.gov/prevention/tobacco\_control/docs/2015\_independent\_evaluation\_report.pdf

# Reducing Exposure to Tobacco Marketing

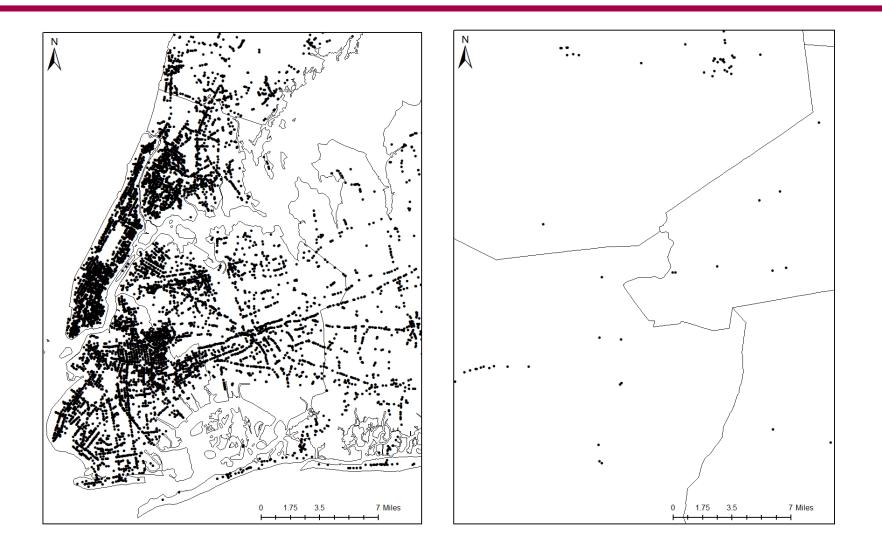
Local governments may enact policies to regulate:

- Number of tobacco retail outlets
- Location of tobacco retail outlets
- **Type** of retail outlet allowed to sell tobacco
- Use of **price** promotions





# **Reducing Exposure to Tobacco Marketing**



Data is from "Active Tobacco Retail Vendors," (2017) available at health.data.ny.gov.

#### LEGEND

Active Tobacco Retailers (2017)
--County Lines

# Tailored Messages: Impact of Marketing

### URBAN:

Our community is oversaturated with tobacco outlets. It seems like there is one on every corner, and each one is plastered with eye-catching tobacco marketing.

### RURAL:

There aren't enough places in our community where people can buy their basic goods without being confronted by tobacco marketing.



# Tailored Messages: Number of Outlets

### URBAN:

For every Starbucks store in our City, there are 27 stores that sell tobacco products. This high density creates an illusion that tobacco use is normal and nontoxic.

### RURAL:

I'm all for economic development in our community. But stores should be assets— they don't need to sell tobacco to be viable businesses. Instead, they should serve our community's needs.



# Tailored Messages: Location of Outlets

### URBAN:

On my walk to school, I pass so many stores selling tobacco. I'm curious about the cigarettes and pipes shown in the glamourous advertisements.

### RURAL:

We're revitalizing our Main Street. Tobacco products are directly at odds with our community's mission to promote a healthy live-work environment in the revitalized commercial district.



# Tailored Messages: Type of Outlets

### URBAN:

Our community is oversaturated with tobacco outlets. We don't need pharmacies, which are in the business of health care, to sell tobacco products alongside cancer medications.

### RURAL:

It isn't fair that tobacco users who are trying to quit are confronted by tobacco marketing when they visit our only pharmacy for their cessation therapies.



# In Summary:

- The majority of tobacco marketing is concentrated in the retail environment
- Density of tobacco sales and marketing is higher in disadvantaged communities
- Educational messages that illustrate this problem can be tailored to fit the context of urban and rural retail environments



tobaccopolicycenter.org/documents/Disparities.pdf

# Thank you!

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http://www.tobaccopolicycenter.org/documents/Disparities.pdf

