

Jurisdictions Prohibiting the Visible Tobacco Product Displays at Point of Purchase

Canadian Cancer Society, May 2, 2008

Two countries (Iceland, Thailand), 12 Canadian provinces and territories, the Australian state of Tasmania, and the British Virgin Islands have adopted laws to prohibit the visible display of tobacco products at point of purchase. Further, Ireland has adopted legislation that has not yet been commenced.

Countries (3)

1. Iceland (August 1, 2001)
2. Thailand (September 24, 2005)¹
3. Ireland (awaiting commencement)²

Canada (12 of 13 provinces/territories)³

1. Saskatchewan (March 11, 2002)*
2. Manitoba (January 1, 2004)*
3. Nunavut (February 1, 2004)
4. Prince Edward Island (June 1, 2006)
5. Northwest Territories (Jan. 21, 2007)*
6. Nova Scotia (March 31, 2007)
7. British Columbia (March 31, 2008)**
8. Ontario (May 31, 2008)
9. Quebec (May 31, 2008)
10. Alberta (July 1, 2008)
11. New Brunswick (Jan. 1, 2009)
12. Yukon Territory (May 15, 2009)

Australian states

1. Tasmania (Feb. 1, 2011)

Other

1. British Virgin Islands (May 31, 2007) (British territory, Caribbean)

*applies to premises accessible to minors under age 18

** applies to premises accessible to minors under age 19

¹ In Thailand, the ban on retail displays through the new application of existing legislation, with enforcement of the ban on retail displays beginning on September 24, 2005.

² In Ireland, on Oct. 5, 2007, the Minister for Health and Children announced a decision to commence s.43, as amended, of the Public Health (Tobacco) Acts 2002 and 2004, with a consultation period ending Nov. 16, 2007 <http://www.dohc.ie/press/releases/2007/20071005.html>. The commencement date has not yet been determined.

³ In Canada, as a result of legal proceedings involving the Saskatchewan legislation, enforcement of the legislation in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Nunavut was affected until after the January 19, 2005 unanimous judgment of the Supreme Court of Canada upholding the Saskatchewan legislation. In Saskatchewan, the legislation was enforced between March 11, 2002 and October 3, 2003, not enforced between October 3, 2003 and January 19, 2005 (although a proportion of retailers continued to comply), and enforced again starting January 19, 2005. In Manitoba, the Government began to enforce the legislation as of August 15, 2005. In Nova Scotia, full enforcement was delayed until September 1, 2007.