Table 1: Stakeholder Categories

☐ Policy Experts
      ☐ National/state/local/territorial/tribal legislators and staff
      ☐ National/state/local/territorial/tribal tobacco prevention and control program staff
      ☐ Relevant enforcement agency staff (e.g., Department of Health, Attorney General's Office, alcohol and tobacco boards, state enforcement agencies)
      ☐ State/national/local nonprofit organizations (e.g., American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, Public Health Law Center)

☐ Evaluation Experts
      ☐ State, federal, academic, or contract evaluation research partners
      ☐ Agency evaluation staff

☐ Subject Matter Experts
      ☐ State/local/territorial/tribal department of health and tobacco prevention and control program staff
      ☐ SAMHSA-funded (Synar compliance) staff
      ☐ Legal support partners (e.g., legal technical assistance centers)
      ☐ State/national nonprofit organizations (e.g., Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, American Cancer Society, American Heart Association, American Lung Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, youth organizations)
      ☐ Local substance abuse agencies, local arms of the state alcohol and tobacco agency
      ☐ University research partners
      ☐ National Network representatives (e.g., National LGBT Cancer Network, National African American Tobacco Prevention Network)
      ☐ State and local partners of National Networks

☐ Implementers
      ☐ Inspection or enforcement agency staff (e.g., Department of Health, SAMHSA-funded staff such as Synar compliance staff, Alcohol and Tobacco boards/agencies, local law enforcement)
      ☐ Local enforcement agency staff (Department of Finance, Office of Consumer Affairs)

      ☐ City/county boards/workgroups responsible for enforcing laws
      ☐ Local advocates, coalition members, mobilized stakeholders
      ☐ Mayor's staff responsible for implementing new laws
      ☐ Attorney General's Office
      ☐ Military stakeholders
      ☐ Tribal stakeholders
      ☐ Business associations, retailers selling tobacco (engaged only in the context of implementation-related outcomes and only as appropriate)

☐ Other. Please specify_____

Table 2: Focus Group Participant Characteristics

Stakeholder Category[†]	n (%)
Policy Expert	12 (38.7%)
Evaluation Expert	5 (16.1%)
Subject Matter Expert	17 (54.8%)
Implementation Staff	4 (12.9%)
Other	4 (12.9%)
[†]Participants could select more than one category	
State	
AR	1 (3%)
AZ	1 (3%)
CA	1 (3%)
CO	1 (3%)
DC	1 (3%)
FL	1 (3%)
GA	1 (3%)
KS	1 (3%)
KY	2 (6.5%)
MD	1 (3%)
MO	5 (16%)
NC	1 (3%)
NE	10 (32.3%)
NY	1 (3%)
OH	1 (3%)
Other	1 (3%)
SC	1 (3%)

Table 3: Interview Protocol

Focus groups were conducted using virtual video conferencing software. Discussions were facilitated by two trained members of the research team (DC and SW) using a semi-structured interview protocol to guide discussion. The constructs of the semi-structured interview included an introduction and questions related to T21 implementation, enforcement, retailer compliance, and impact (see Appendix 2). Two to three additional members of the research team were present during each focus group to take notes to ensure data collection quality and provide additional follow-up questions to participants. Signed informed consent was obtained from each participant prior to the focus group. All study materials and focus group discussions were held in English. For their participation, participants received a $40 Visa gift card. After all interested participants had participated, members of the research team present during the focus groups (DC, DD, SW, KS) agreed that saturation had been met for each question and no further participants would be recruited for the study.

Introduction	What is your current position? What is your role in Tobacco 21 adoption and implementation?
Tobacco 21 implementation	What approach or strategies have been used to implement Tobacco 21? Describe any resources offered or educational efforts made to inform stakeholders (including retailers, youth/young adults, and the general public)? • Probes if needed: • Do you have an allocated budget for Tobacco 21 implementation? • Did tobacco retailers receive new age-of-sale warning signs? • Were materials developed and disseminated to educate retailers about the age of sale? • Was there any training for tobacco retailer employees? • Was there any educational effort to raise the awareness of Tobacco 21 among youth and young adults? • Were there any advertisements/media campaigns notifying the public about the new Tobacco 21 laws?

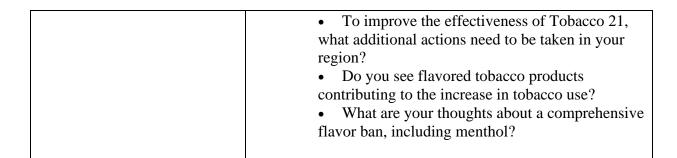|	
Tobacco 21 enforcement	Describe any Tobacco 21 enforcement and compliance efforts. • Probes if needed: • Have decoys aged 18-20 years old been included in compliance inspection? • Have enforcement-related compliance checks been conducted for tobacco sales to minors under 21? • What are the penalties for the first violation and repeated violations? • Any changes in the penalty for violations? • Were new age-of-sale warning signs posted at tobacco retailers?
Retailer compliance	How can we improve retail compliance in preventing sales of tobacco products to people under 21? • Probes if needed: • What is the most effective way to prevent tobacco retailer sale of tobacco products to people under 21? • How about the online sale of tobacco products to people under 21? • How frequently should we conduct retailer training? • How frequently should we conduct retailer inspections? • Should we conduct training and inspections at random or with more focus on the high-risk neighborhood?
Tobacco 21 Impacts	• Do you think Tobacco 21 can promote health equity and reduce health disparity in your community? Why or Why not? • What, if any, barriers exist in implementing Tobacco 21 to reduce health disparity? • What resources are needed to implement Tobacco 21 and reduce health disparities? • How do we best implement Tobacco 21 in communities with a high prevalence of tobacco use or neighborhoods with underserved or minority populations? • Do you see an increase of retailers in minority neighborhoods? • Are there local or state rules about proximity of tobacco retailers to schools?

	• To improve the effectiveness of Tobacco 21, what additional actions need to be taken in your region? • Do you see flavored tobacco products contributing to the increase in tobacco use? • What are your thoughts about a comprehensive flavor ban, including menthol?

Table 4: Consolidated criteria for reporting qualitative studies (COREQ): 32-item checklist

No. Item	Guide Questions/Description	Comments
Domain 1: Research Team and Reflexivity		
Personal Characteristics		
1. Interviewer/Facilitator	Which author/s conducted the focus group?	D.C. and S.W. conducted focus groups.
2. Credentials	What were the researcher's credentials?	Summer Woolsey, BA, TTS, Kaeli Samson, MA, MPH, Athena Ramos, PhD, MBA, MS, CPM, Keyonna King, DrPH, MA, Delwyn Catley, PhD, Hongying (Daisy) Dai PhD
3. Occupation	What was their occupation at the time of the study?	Summer Woolsey (Graduate Student), Kaeli Samson (Biostatistician), Athena Ramos (Associate Professor), Keyonna King (Assistant Professor), Delwyn Catley (Professor), Hongying Dai (Professor)
4. Gender	Was the researcher male or female?	Summer Woolsey (Female), Kaeli Samson (Female), Athena Ramos (Female), Keyonna King (Female), Delwyn Catley (Male), Hongying Dai (Female)
5. Experience and Training	What experience or training did the researcher have?	Summer Woolsey (tobacco treatment specialist), Kaeli Samson (biostatistics), Athena Ramos (qualitative research, health disparities, tobacco control research), Keyonna King (community based participatory research), Delwyn Catley (qualitative research and tobacco control research), Hongying Dai (tobacco research and vaping prevention)
Relationship with Participants		

6. Relationship established	Was a relationship established prior to study commencement?	There was no prior relationship between participants and investigators.
7. Participant knowledge of the interviewer	What did the participants know about the researcher? E.g., personal goals, reasons for doing the research	Participants were provided with an information sheet and consent form, which outlined the aim of the study.
8. Interviewer characteristics	What characteristics were reported about the interviewer/facilitator? e.g., Bias, assumptions, reasons, and interests in the research topic	Participants knew the investigators were researchers with expertise on tobacco control and community engagement.
Domain 2: Study Design		
Theoretical Framework		
9. Methodological orientation and theory	What methodological orientation was stated to underpin the study? e.g., grounded theory, discourse analysis, ethnography, phenomenology, content analysis	Thematic Analysis
Participant Selection		
10. Sampling	How were participants selected? e.g., purposive, convenience, consecutive, snowball	Purposive
11. Method of approach	How were participants approached? e.g., face-to-face, telephone, mail, email	Participants were contacted via email to complete an initial survey and asked to report if they would like to participate in a focus group.
12. Sample Size	How many participants were in the study?	There were 31 participants.
13. Non-participation	How many refused to participate or dropped out? Reasons?	Three participants signed up for a focus group but did not show. No other participants dropped-out.
Setting		
14. Setting of data collection	Where was the data collected? e.g., home, clinic, workplace	Focus groups were conducted online through a private virtual meeting call
15. Presence on non-participants	Was anyone else present besides the participants and researchers?	No

16. Description of the sample	What are the important characteristics of the sample? e.g., demographic data, date	Stakeholder category and state
Data Collection		
17. Interview Guide	Were questions, prompts, guides provided by the authors? Was it pilot tested?	A moderator elicited discussions using open-ended questions and clarification probes on issues related to the key constructs of interest described in Table 2. The questions were refined by a third-party reviewer who is a tobacco control expert.
18. Repeat Interviews	Were repeat interviews carried out? If yes, how many?	None
19. Audio/Visual recording	Did the research use audio or visual recording to collect the data?	Yes, both audio and video were recorded for each focus group
20. Field Notes	Were field notes made during and/or after the interview or focus group?	Yes, a researcher took notes as an observer
21. Duration	What was the duration of the interviews or focus group?	Approximately 60 to 75 minutes
22. Data Saturation	Was data saturation discussed?	Yes. After conducting focus groups with each available participant, the research team present during the focus groups agreed that saturation had been met for each question and no further recruitment of participants should take place.
23. Transcripts returned	Were transcripts returned to participants for comment and/or correction?	No
Domain 3: Analysis and Findings		
Data Analysis		
24. Number of coders	How many coders coded the data?	2
25. Description of the coding tree	Did authors provide a description of the coding tree?	Coding under each theme is provided.
26. Derivation of themes	Were themes identified in advance or derived from the data?	Thematic analysis was performed using a hybrid approach of inductive and

		deductive coding and theme development.
27. Software	What software, if applicable, was used to manage the data?	RedCap, SAS, NVivo
28. Participant checking	Did participants provide feedback on the findings?	No
Reporting		
29. Quotations Presented	Were participant quotations presented to illustrate the themes/findings? Was each quotation identified? e.g., participant number	Yes, participant quotations are provided in Tables 2-5. Each quotation was identified using a focus group number.
30. Data findings consistent	Was there consistency between the data presented and the findings?	Yes
31. Clarity of Major Themes	Were major themes clearly presented in the findings?	Yes, major themes are presented in the results section
32. Clarity of minor themes	Is there a description of diverse cases or discussion of minor themes	No sub-themes were generated