2017 TOBACCO USAGE COMMUNITY SURVEY

Tobacco-Free Action of Columbia Greene

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Columbia County 2017: Summary

While the current rate of smoking is down slightly in Columbia County in 2017 when compared to 2015, in general, citizens tend to support more restrictive regulation of the availability and display of tobacco products.

Smoking Behavior

- Forty-seven percent of Columbia County residents have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their life.
    - This is a decrease from 51 percent in 2015.
    - Only 36 percent of those 18-29 have ever smoked.
- Today, 14 percent of Columbia residents smoke. Just under a quarter (24 percent) of those that have ever smoked, or eleven percent of all citizens, smoke everyday while 7 percent of all those who have ever smoked smoke on some days.
    - Current smoking rates (smokes every day or some days) are greatest among those earning less than $50,000 (28 percent), between 18 and 29 (36 percent) and with less than a college degree (17 percent).
- Fourteen percent of residents have ever tried using an E-cigarette and less than one percent of those residents, use them today. Thirty-six percent of those 18-29 have tried an Electronic Cigarette, but 0 percent of those 18-29 currently use E-cigarettes.

Display and Sale of Tobacco Products

- Asked whether they think each of four different types of stores should or should not sell tobacco products including cigarettes and cigars, a majority of all citizens think tobacco products should be sold in gas stations and convenience stores but a majority do not think tobacco products should be sold in pharmacies or grocery stores. The percent in favor of selling tobacco products is down relative to all four types of stores, most precipitously in the case of convenience stores (from 63 to 58 percent).
- Seventy-seven percent of all county residents and 69 percent of smokers, think that tobacco products should not be sold in stores that are located near schools.
- Sixty-four percent support a regulation that would ban the sale of tobacco products in stores that are located near schools. A small majority of smokers support this potential regulation with 47 percent supporting it, 33 percent opposed and 21 percent neither in favor nor against.
- Fifty-five percent of all residents are in favor of a regulation that would limit the number of stores that could sell tobacco in their community while 29 percent oppose that regulation. Smokers support the limitation of stores by 50 to 28 percent. Of those that have never smoked, this regulation is favored by 60 to 25 percent.
- Seventy percent, up from 66 percent in 2015, of all residents are in favor of a regulation that would ban the sale of all tobacco products in pharmacies.

- Seventy-six percent of county residents (unchanged from 2015) have over the past 30 days noticed packs of cigarettes or cigars visible behind the cash register or in other areas of stores at least occasionally.
- Sixty-four percent of residents favor, while 27 percent are against a regulation that would raise the legal age to purchase cigarettes and other tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, from 18 to 21 years of age.
- Forty percent, down from 45 percent in 2015, favor while 37 percent are against a regulation that would prevent retailers from accepting coupons that reduce the price of cigarettes. Compared to 2015, there is an increase of eight percentage points in those in those against the regulation.
- Similarly, 39 percent are in favor while 37 percent are against, a regulation that would prevent retailers from offering multi-pack discounts on cigarettes. In 2015, 43 percent were in favor and 34 percent were against this proposed regulation.

Attitudes towards Teen Smoking

- Seventy-four percent, up from 69 percent, of all residents, but only 69 percent of smokers, think teen smoking is a significant problem in their community.
- Majorities agree that:
    - In-store advertising make teens more likely to smoke (56 percent).
    - In-store tobacco displays make teens more likely to smoke (58 percent).
    - Seeing actors smoking in the movies encourages smoking among teens (62 percent).
    - Movies rated G, PG, and PG13 should not show actors smoking (66 percent).
    - Movies with significant amounts of smoking should be rated R (45 percent).

Methods and Nature of the Sample

Using random digit-dialing (RDD) interviews were conducted with 350 residents of Columbia County. Of those, 87 were conducted via cell phone. Completed interviews from both landline and cell phones calls were merged and weighted by known age and gender characteristics so as to enhance representativeness.

Data is reported with a margin of error of +/- 5.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level having included the design effect of weighting on that margin of error.

Greene County 2017: Summary

The current rate of smoking is the same in Greene County when compared to 2015 and, in general, citizens tend to support more restrictive regulation of the availability and display of tobacco products.

Smoking Behavior

- Fifty-three percent of Greene County residents have smoked at least 100 cigarettes in their life.
    - Only 31 percent of those 18-29 have ever smoked.
- Today, 17 percent of Greene residents smoke. Less than a quarter (23 percent) of those that have ever smoked or twelve percent of all citizens smoke everyday while nine percent of all Greene County smokers smoke on some days.
    - Current smoking rates are greatest among those earning less than $50,000 (29 percent), between 45 and 59 (25 percent) and with less than a college degree (20 percent).
- Twenty-three percent of residents have ever tried using an E-cigarette and eight percent of those respondents use them today.

Display and Sale of Tobacco Products

- Asked whether they think each of four different types of stores should or should not sell tobacco products including cigarettes and cigars, a majority of all citizens think tobacco products should be sold in gas stations and convenience stores but a majority do not think tobacco products should be sold in pharmacies or grocery stores. The percent in favor of selling tobacco products is down relative to all four types of stores, most precipitously in the case of gas stations (from 70 to 66 percent).
- Seventy-three percent of all county residents and 64 percent of smokers, think that tobacco products should not be sold in stores that are located near schools.
- Sixty-one percent support a regulation that would ban the sale of tobacco products in stores that are located near schools. A small majority of smokers support this potential regulation with 43 percent in favor and 37 percent opposing it.
- Forty-eight percent of all residents are in favor of a regulation that would limit the number of stores that could sell tobacco in their community while 30 percent oppose that regulation. Smokers are split on their opinion of the limitation of stores by 42 percent to 42 percent. Of those that have never smoked, this regulation is favored by 48 percent to 27 percent.
- Sixty-four percent of all residents are in favor of a regulation that would ban the sale of all tobacco products in pharmacies.

- Eighty-two percent of county residents (up seven percentage points from 2015) have over the past 30 days noticed packs of cigarettes or cigars visible behind the cash register or in other areas of stores at least occasionally.
- Fifty-four percent are in favor of a regulation that would raise the legal age to purchase cigarettes and other tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, from 18 to 21 years of age.
- Forty-two percent favor while 35 percent are against a regulation that would prevent retailers from accepting coupons that reduce the price of cigarettes. In 2015, 35 percent favored this proposed regulation while 40 percent were against it.
- Similarly, 39 percent are in favor while 36 percent are against, a regulation that would prevent retailers from offering multi-pack discounts on cigarettes. This is a slight increase from 2015 where 36 percent were in favor while 39 percent were against this regulation.

Attitudes towards Teen Smoking

- 71 percent, same as in 2015, of all residents, but only 66 percent of smokers, think teen smoking is a significant problem in their community.
- Majorities agree that:
    - In-store advertising make teens more likely to smoke (57 percent).
    - In-store tobacco displays make teens more likely to smoke (54 percent).
    - Seeing actors smoking in the movies encourages smoking among teens (66 percent).
    - Movies rated G, PG, and PG13 should not show actors smoking (68 percent).

Methods and Nature of the Sample

Using random digit-dialing (RDD) interviews were conducted with 350 residents of Greene County. Of those, 88 were conducted via cell phone. Completed interviews from both landline and cell phones calls were merged and weighted by known age and gender characteristics so as to enhance representativeness.

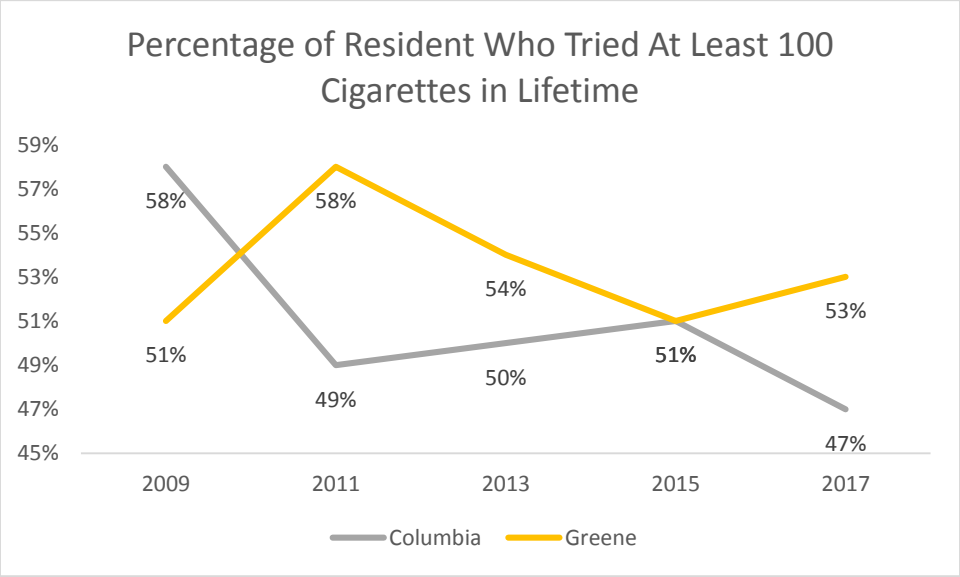
Data is reported with a margin of error of +/- 5.2 percentage points at the 95% confidence level having included the design effect of weighting on that margin of error.

Charts and Tables

Past and Current Tobacco Usage

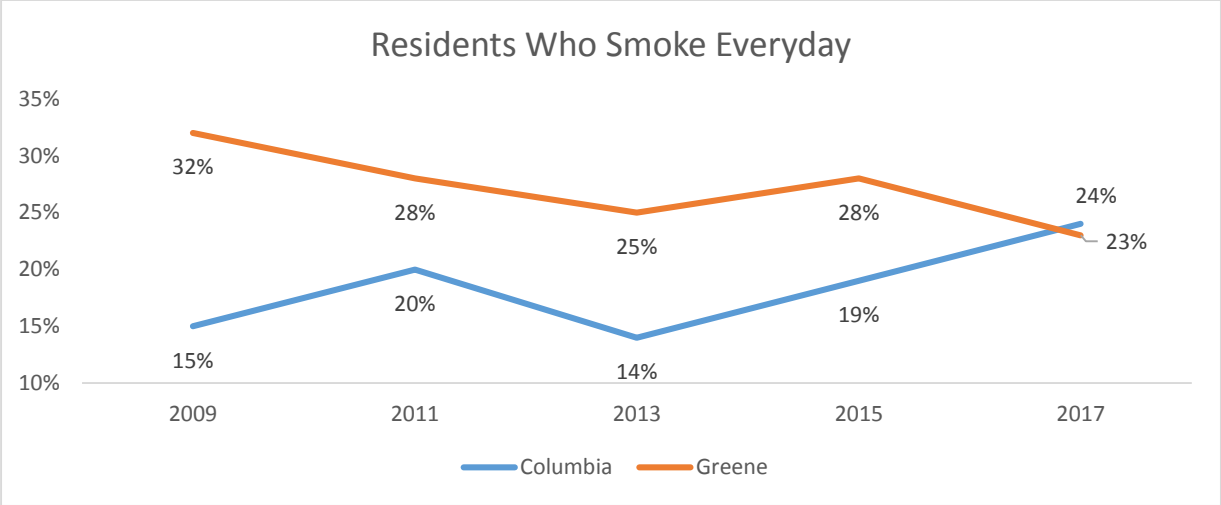
Q11: Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life?

	Columbia					Greene				
	2009	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2009**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Yes	58%	49%	50%	51%	**47%**	51%	58%	54%	51%	**53%**
No	42%	51%	50%	49%	**53%**	49%	42%	46%	49%	**47%**



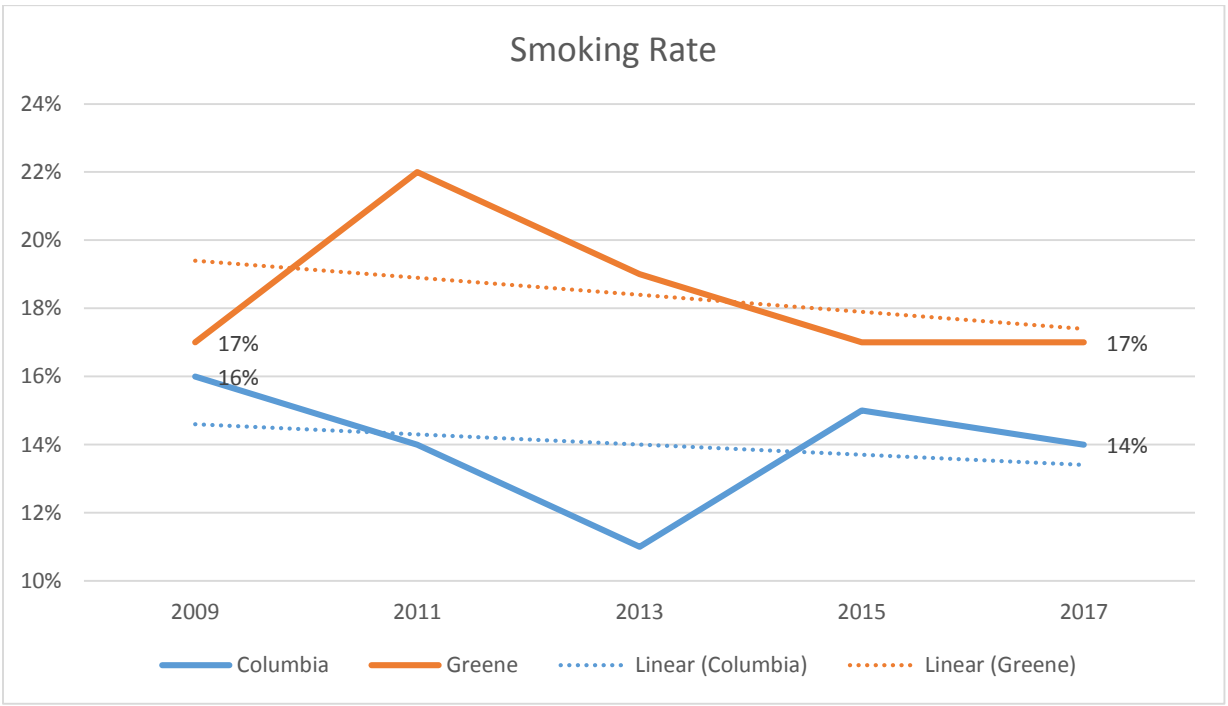
Q12: Do you NOW smoke cigarettes every day, some days, or not at all?

	Columbia					Greene				
	2009	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2009**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Everyday	15%	20%	14%	19%	**24%**	32%	28%	25%	28%	**23%**
Some days	13%	8%	7%	9%	**7%**	3%	10%	10%	6%	**9%**
Not at all	72%	72%	79%	71%	**69%**	65%	62%	65%	67%	**67%**



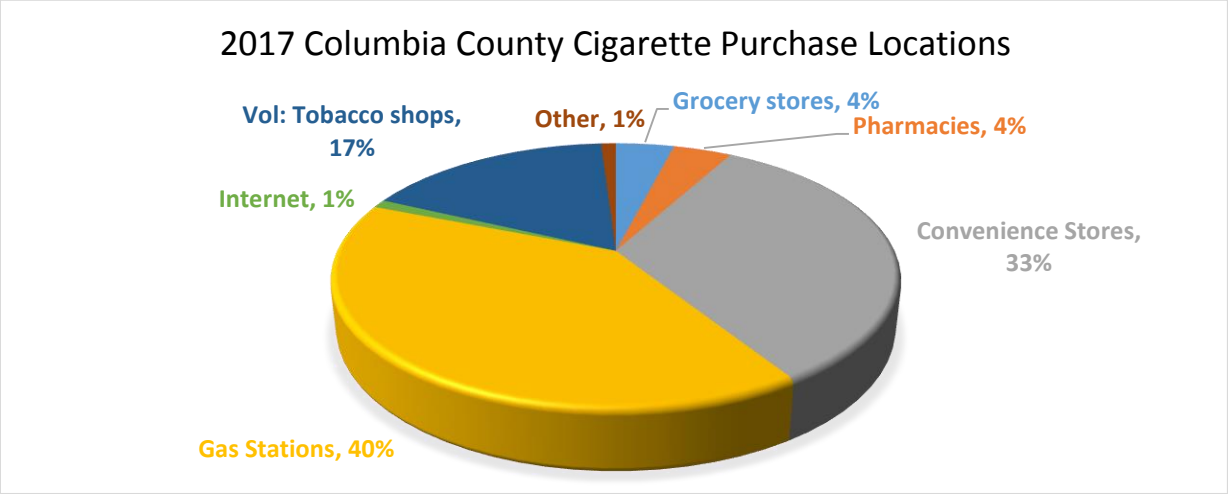
Summary

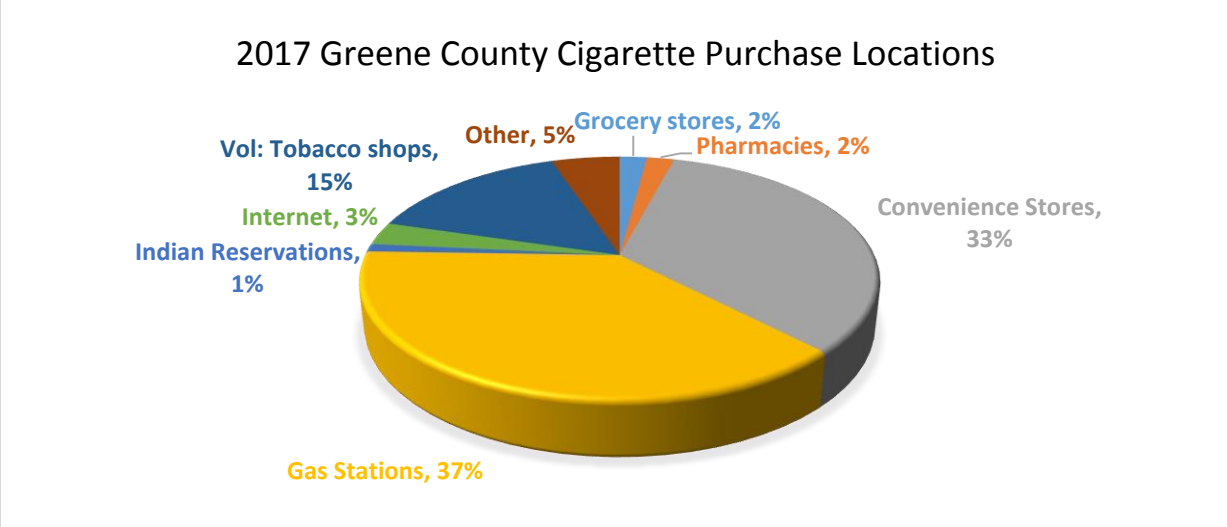
	Columbia					Greene				
	2009	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2009**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Currently smoke	16%	14%	11%	15%	**14%**	17%	22%	19%	17%	**17%**
Did smoke	42%	36%	40%	36%	**32%**	35%	36%	35%	34%	**36%**
Never smoked	42%	51%	50%	49%	**53%**	49%	42%	46%	49%	**47%**



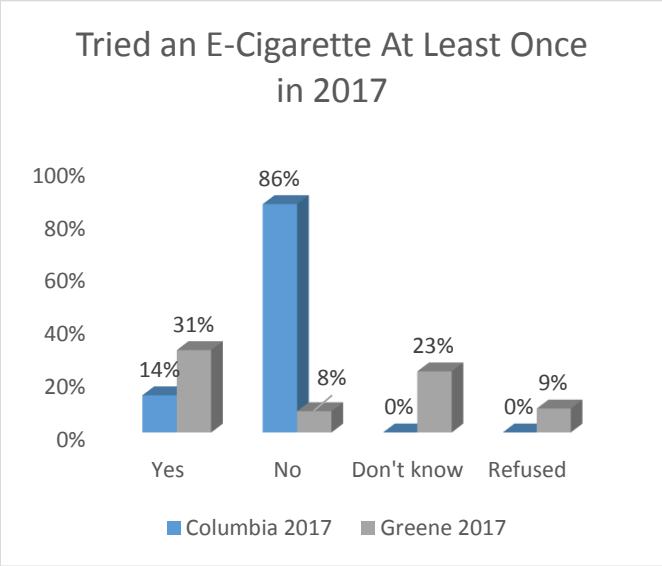
Q13: Where do you purchase your cigarettes MOST of the time?

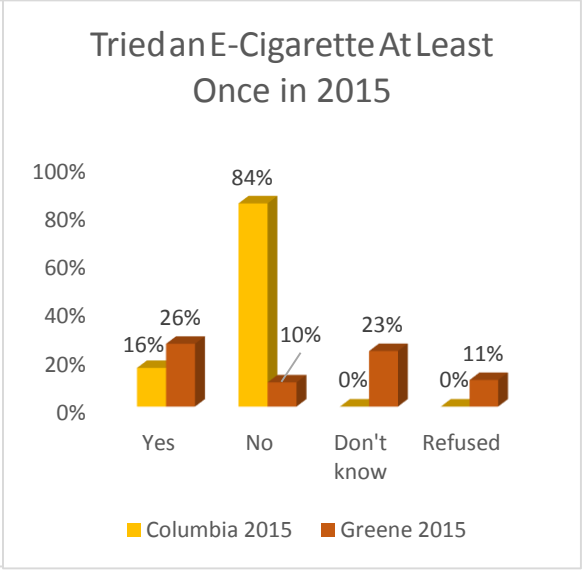
	Columbia					Greene				
	2009	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2009**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Grocery Store	8%	2%	0%	2%	**4%**	2%	12%	0%	7%	**2%**
Convenience Store/Gas Station	64%	61%	60%	64%	**73%**	76%	61%	80%	71%	**70%**
Pharmacy	0%	0%	0%	2%	**4%**	2%	3%	0%	1%	**2%**
Indian Reservation	1%	4%	0%	4%	**0%**	2%	5%	4%	0%	**1%**
Internet	11%	1%	0%	0%	**1%**	5%	0%	0%	0%	**3%**
Tobacco Shop	N/A	15%	27%	14%	**17%**	N/A	9%	14%	17%	**15%**
Other	16%	17%	12%	15%	**1%**	13%	10%	2%	3%	**5%**



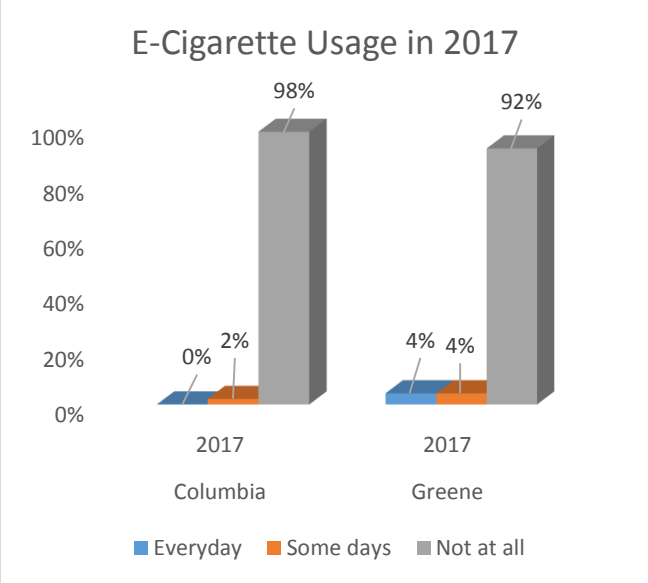


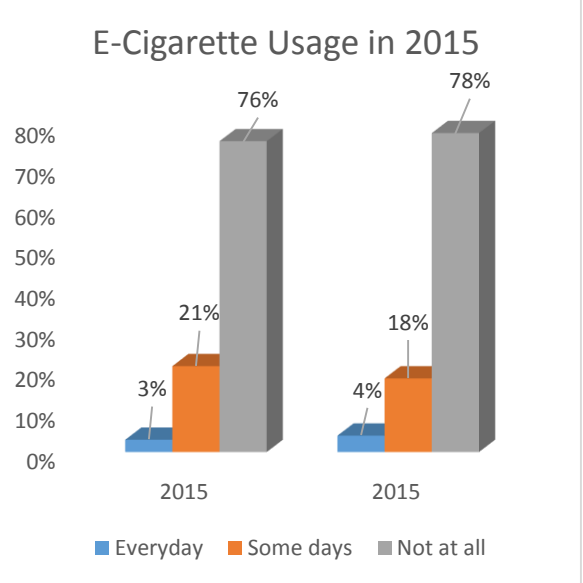
Q14: Have you ever tried using an Electronic Cigarette or E-cigarette, even just one time?





Q15: Do you now use e-cigarettes every day, some days or not at all?





Selling Tobacco Products

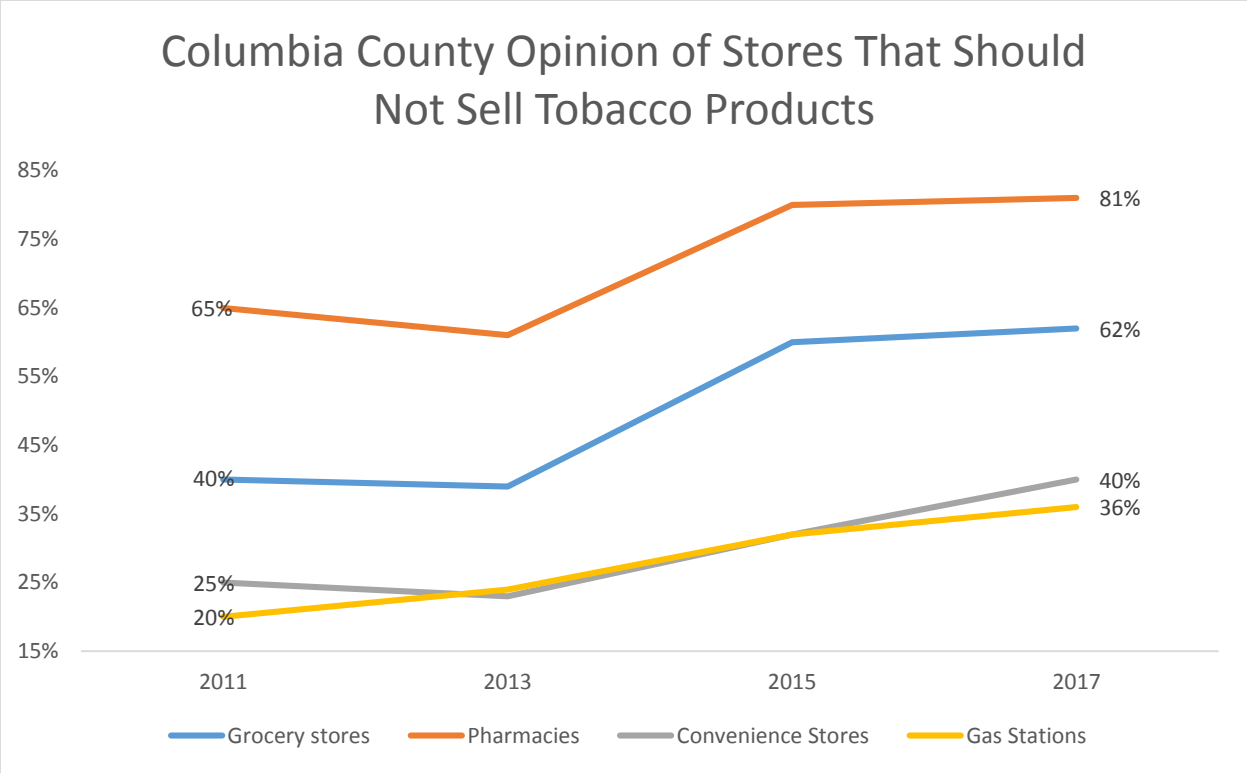
Q1: In your opinion, do you think that the following types of stores should or should not sell tobacco products (cigarettes, cigars, etc.)?

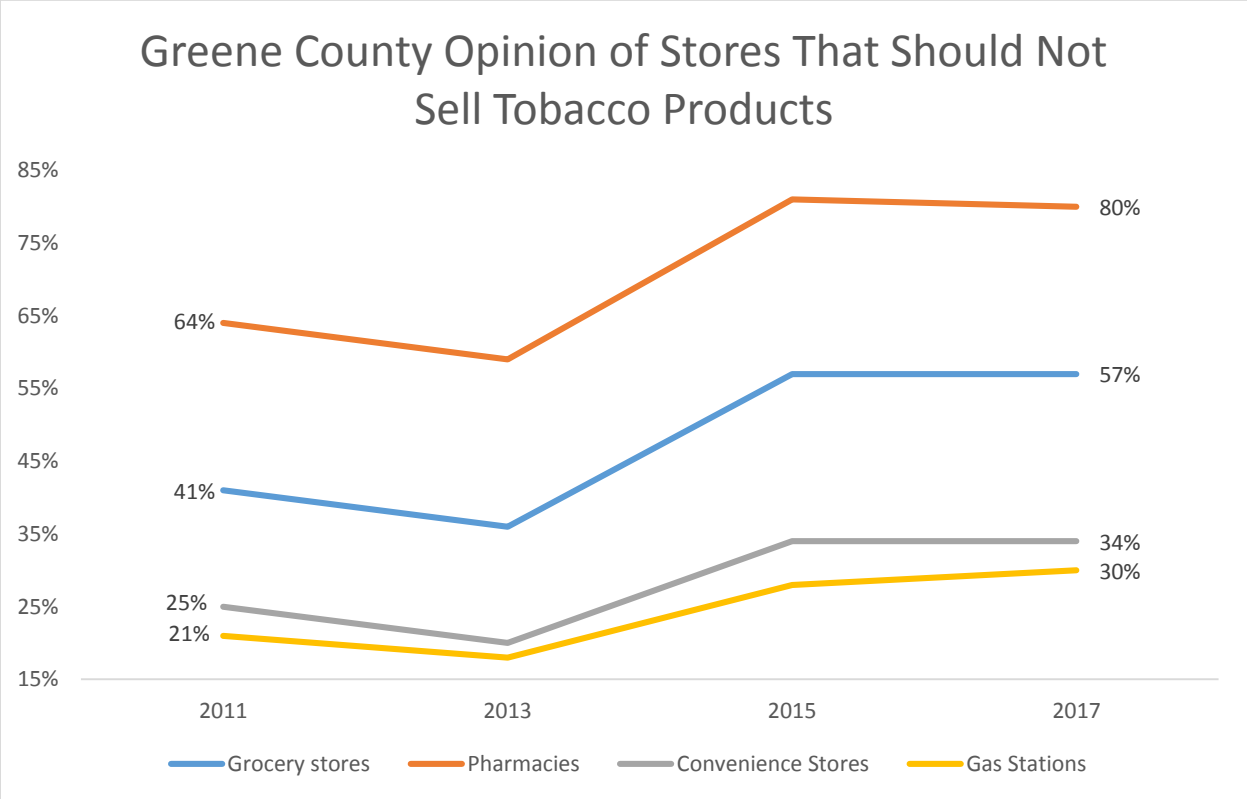
Grocery stores?	Columbia					Greene				
	2009	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2009**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Should	59%	58%	59%	35%	**35%**	51%	58%	63%	41%	**39%**
Should not	38%	40%	39%	60%	**62%**	47%	41%	36%	57%	**57%**
Don't know	3%	2%	1%	5%	**3%**	2%	1%	1%	2%	**4%**

Pharmacies?	Columbia					Greene				
	2009	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2009**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Should	34%	33%	37%	15%	**17%**	28%	34%	39%	18%	**17%**
Should not	64%	65%	61%	80%	**81%**	71%	64%	59%	81%	**80%**
Don't know	2%	1%	2%	5%	**2%**	1%	3%	2%	1%	**3%**

Convenience stores?	Columbia					Greene				
	2009	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2009**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Should	80%	73%	75%	63%	**58%**	76%	73%	79%	64%	**63%**
Should not	16%	25%	23%	32%	**40%**	23%	25%	20%	34%	**34%**
Don't know	4%	2%	2%	5%	**2%**	1%	2%	1%	1%	**3%**

Gas stations?	Columbia					Greene				
	2009	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2009**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Should	79%	77%	73%	64%	**63%**	81%	78%	81%	70%	**66%**
Should not	18%	20%	24%	32%	**36%**	17%	21%	18%	28%	**30%**
Don't know	2%	3%	3%	4%	**2%**	2%	1%	1%	2%	**4%**


Columbia County Opinion of Stores That Should Not Sell Tobacco Products
85%
75%
65%
55%
45%
35%
25%
15%
65%
81%
62%
40%
40%
36%
25%
20%
2011
2013
2015
2017
Grocery stores
Pharmacies
Convenience Stores
Gas Stations


Greene County Opinion of Stores That Should Not Sell Tobacco Products
85%
75%
65%
55%
45%
35%
25%
15%
64%
80%
57%
41%
34%
30%
25%
21%
2011
2013
2015
2017
Grocery stores
Pharmacies
Convenience Stores
Gas Stations

Q7: What is your opinion about a regulation that would ban the sale of all tobacco products in pharmacies?

	Columbia				Greene			
	2011	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly in favor	39%	40%	53%	**52%**	35%	37%	54%	**45%**
Somewhat in favor	17%	12%	13%	**18%**	16%	11%	15%	**19%**
Neither in favor nor against	15%	12%	10%	**11%**	16%	15%	10%	**9%**
Somewhat against	8%	10%	9%	**5%**	9%	12%	7%	**9%**
Strongly against	20%	25%	15%	**12%**	21%	24%	15%	**18%**
Don't know/Refused	1%	1%	1%	**2%**	2%	0%	0%	**0%**

Q4: What is your opinion about a regulation that would limit the number of stores that could sell tobacco in your community?

	Columbia				Greene			
	2011	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly in favor	26%	26%	29%	**31%**	25%	23%	28%	**29%**
Somewhat in favor	14%	21%	17%	**24%**	16%	17%	17%	**19%**
Neither in favor nor against	20%	14%	21%	**14%**	17%	19%	23%	**20%**
Somewhat against	13%	12%	12%	**10%**	14%	9%	14%	**11%**
Strongly against	27%	25%	20%	**19%**	28%	31%	18%	**19%**
Don't know/Refused	1%	2%	2%	**1%**	1%	1%	0%	**2%**

Q5: Do you think tobacco products should or should not be sold in stores that are located near schools?

	Columbia				Greene			
	2011	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Should	31%	31%	19%	**19%**	31%	33%	22%	**22%**
Should not	64%	64%	73%	**77%**	65%	63%	73%	**73%**
Don't know/Refused	4%	5%	8%	**4%**	4%	5%	4%	**4%**

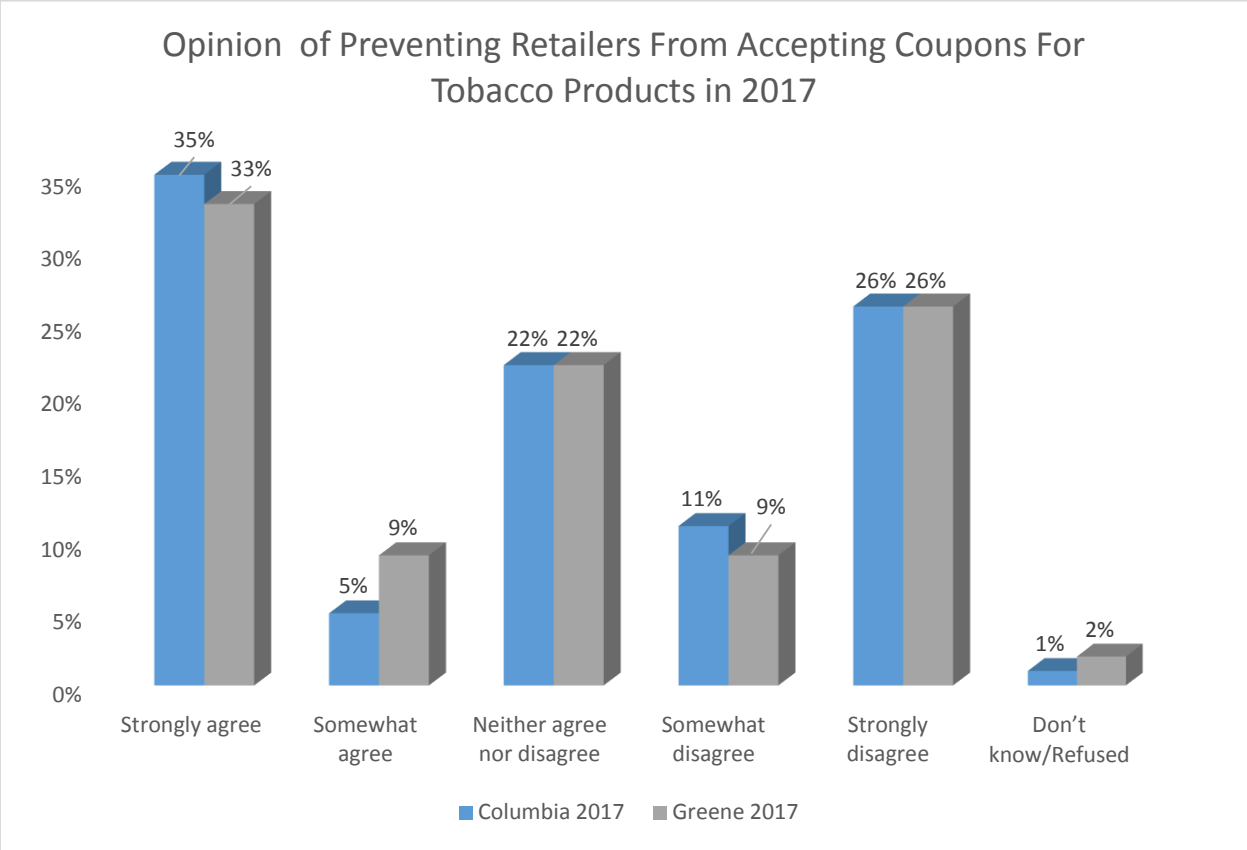
Q6: What is your opinion about a regulation that would ban the sale of tobacco products in stores that are located near schools?

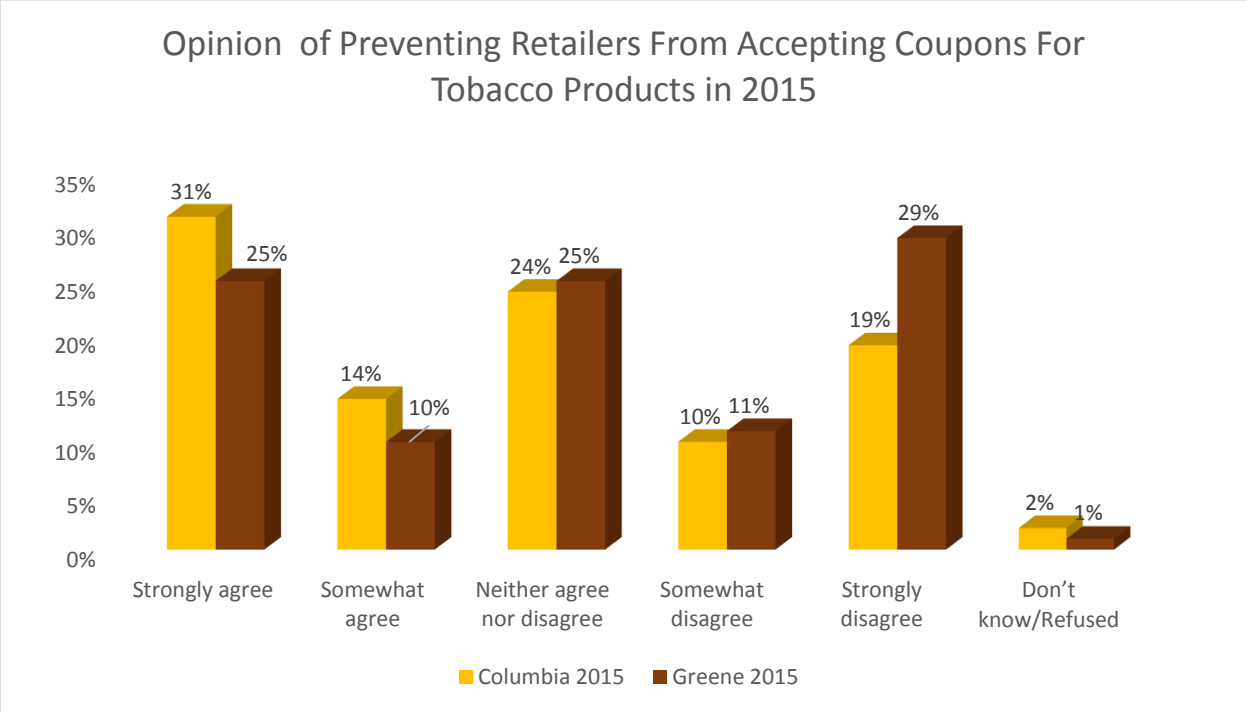
	Columbia				Greene			
	2011	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly in favor	43%	39%	45%	**47%**	36%	38%	45%	**43%**
Somewhat in favor	15%	16%	15%	**17%**	17%	15%	12%	**18%**
Neither in favor nor against	13%	12%	13%	**10%**	15%	13%	14%	**11%**
Somewhat against	9%	9%	10%	**9%**	7%	10%	13%	**11%**
Strongly against	19%	23%	16%	**17%**	24%	23%	16%	**18%**
Don't know/Refused	1%	1%	1%	**0%**	0%	1%	1%	**0%**

Q2: Over the past 30 days, how often did you notice packs of cigarettes or cigars visible behind the cash register or in other areas of stores?

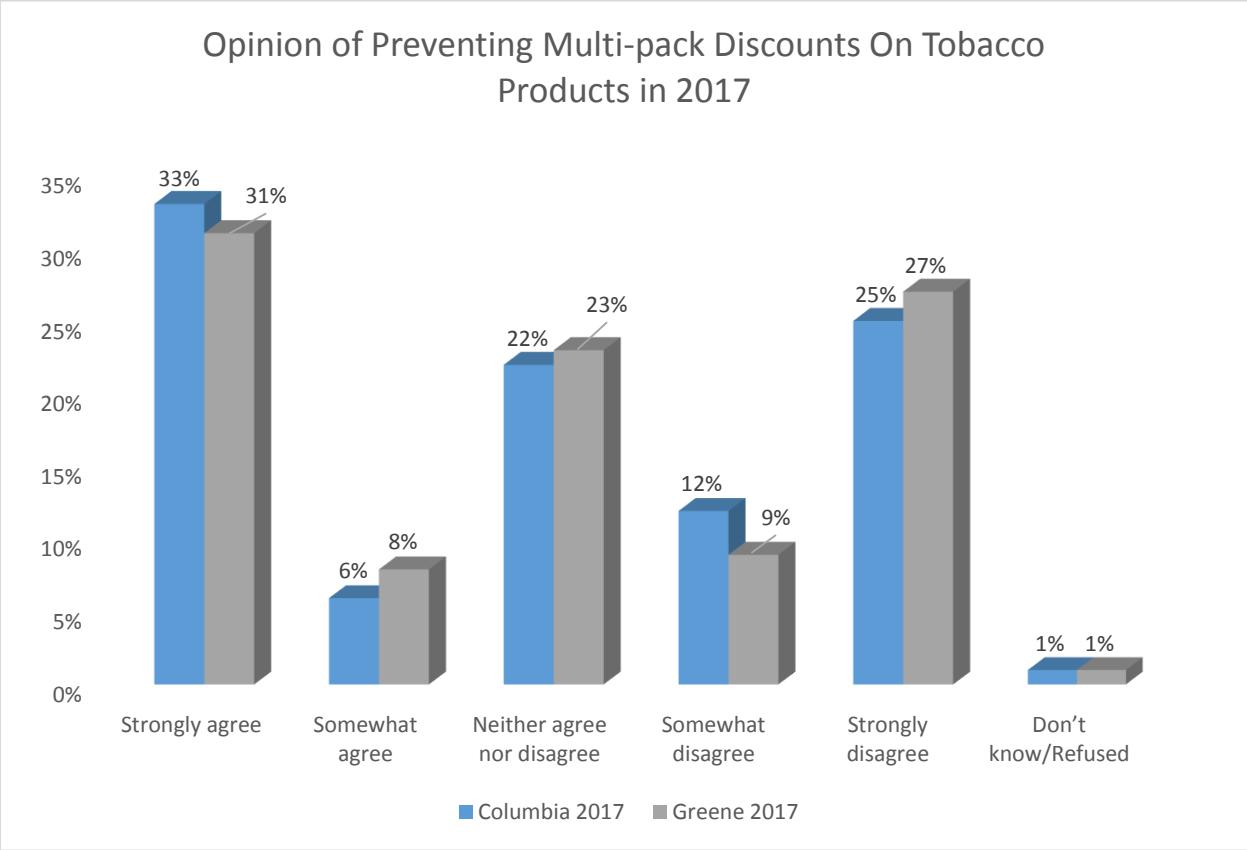
	Columbia				Greene			
	2011	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Almost every time you were in a store	33%	26%	24%	**19%**	40%	33%	28%	**28%**
Frequently when you were in a store	23%	23%	19%	**22%**	21%	24%	21%	**21%**
Occasionally when you were in a store	24%	26%	33%	**35%**	23%	18%	26%	**33%**
Never/not that I remember	18%	24%	23%	**23%**	14%	24%	24%	**18%**
Have not visited a store in the past 30 days	1%	1%	1%	**2%**	1%	1%	2%	**1%**
Don't know/Refused	1%	0%	1%	**1%**	1%	0%	0%	**1%**

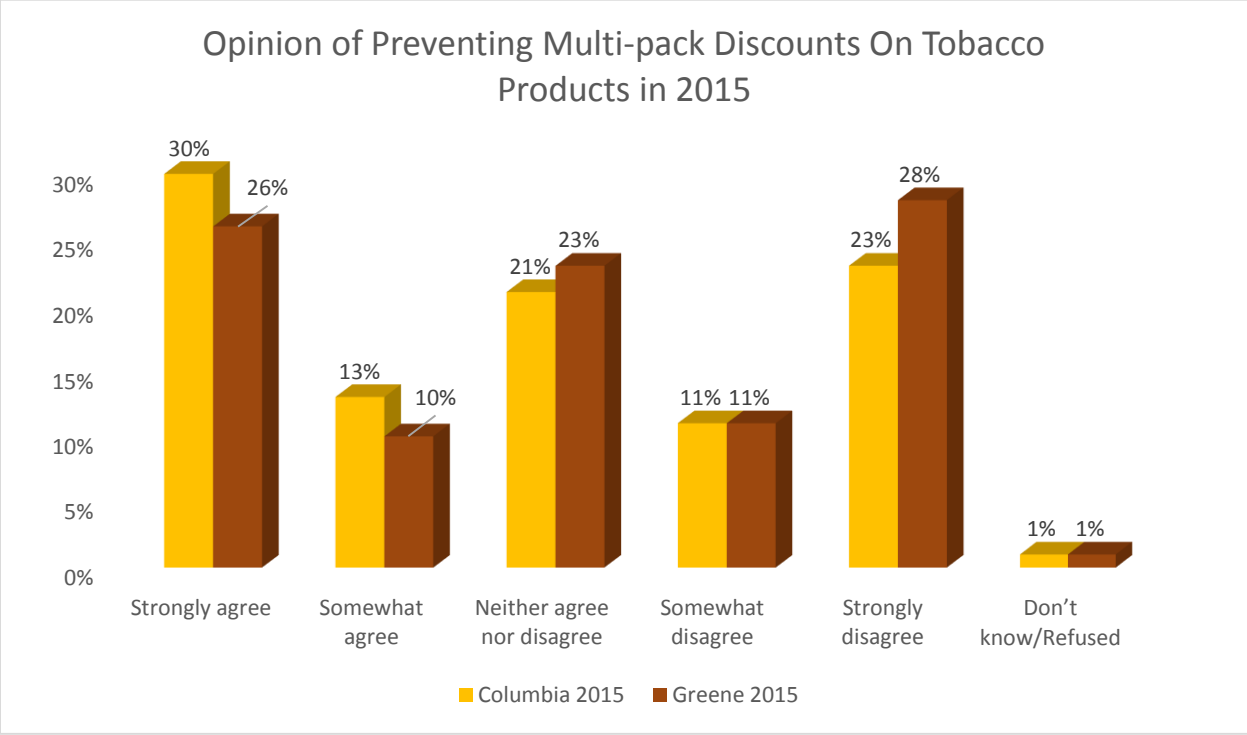
Q8: What is your opinion about a regulation that would prevent retailers from accepting coupons that reduce the price of cigarettes?





Q9: What is your opinion about a regulation that would prevent retailers from offering multi-pack discounts on cigarettes, such as 2 packs for the price of 1?

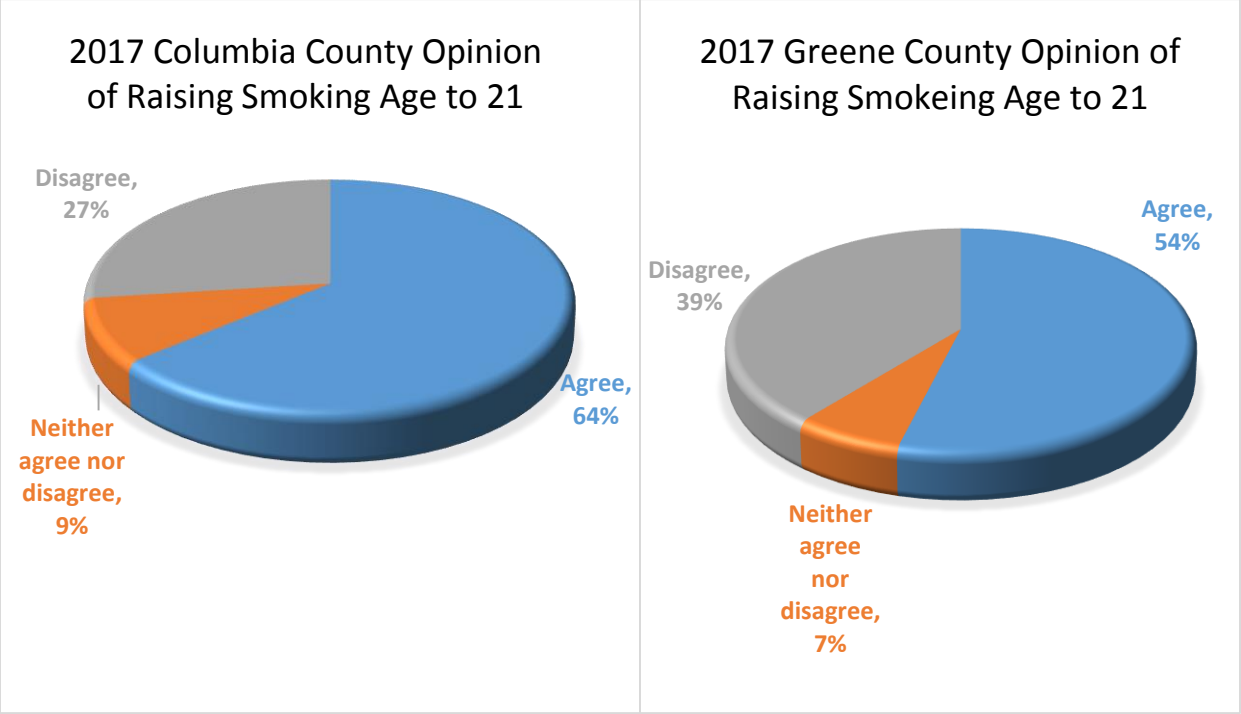




Teen Smoking

I'm going to read you a series of statements about teens and smoking, for each tell me whether you strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree.

Q10: What is your opinion about a regulation that would raise the legal age to purchase cigarettes and other tobacco products, including e-cigarettes, from 18 to 21 years of age?



Q10A: Teen smoking is a significant problem in our community

	Columbia				Greene			
	2011	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**	**2011**	**2013**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly agree	52%	47%	44%	**44%**	47%	52%	48%	**44%**
Somewhat agree	17%	29%	25%	**30%**	23%	22%	23%	**27%**
Neither agree nor disagree	11%	8%	10%	**8%**	10%	9%	11%	**6%**
Somewhat disagree	9%	8%	7%	**6%**	10%	7%	7%	**9%**
Strongly disagree	7%	4%	9%	**7%**	7%	6%	8%	**9%**
Don't know/Refused	4%	4%	6%	**5%**	4%	4%	2%	**4%**

Q10B: In-store tobacco advertising makes teens more likely to smoke

Note: This question was slightly reworded from the 2013 version, "Advertising in local stores make teens more likely to smoke."

	Columbia		Greene	
	2015	**2017**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly agree	32%	**28%**	33%	**29%**
Somewhat agree	27%	**30%**	25%	**28%**
Neither agree nor disagree	10%	**10%**	12%	**7%**
Somewhat disagree	14%	**14%**	13%	**13%**
Strongly disagree	16%	**17%**	17%	**22%**
Don't know/Refused	1%	**1%**	0%	**1%**

Q10C: In-store tobacco displays make teens more likely to smoke

Note: This question was reworded from the 2013 version, "Tobacco products that are visible in stores make teens more likely to smoke."

	Columbia		Greene	
	2015	**2017**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly agree	32%	**28%**	28%	**29%**
Somewhat agree	27%	**30%**	29%	**25%**
Neither agree nor disagree	10%	**10%**	10%	**8%**
Somewhat disagree	14%	**14%**	16%	**13%**
Strongly disagree	16%	**17%**	15%	**22%**
Don't know/Refused	1%	**1%**	2%	**2%**

Q10D: Seeing actors smoking in the movies encourages smoking among teens

	Columbia		Greene	
	2015	**2017**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly agree	38%	**33%**	38%	**33%**
Somewhat agree	32%	**29%**	31%	**33%**
Neither agree nor disagree	8%	**9%**	8%	**11%**
Somewhat disagree	9%	**15%**	11%	**9%**
Strongly disagree	12%	**14%**	12%	**14%**
Don't know/Refused	1%	**1%**	0%	**1%**

Q10E: Movies rated G, PG, and PG13 should not show actors smoking

	Columbia		Greene	
	2015	**2017**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly agree	45%	**42%**	47%	**46%**
Somewhat agree	23%	**24%**	16%	**22%**
Neither agree nor disagree	11%	**10%**	9%	**10%**
Somewhat disagree	10%	**11%**	13%	**9%**
Strongly disagree	10%	**13%**	13%	**12%**
Don't know/Refused	1%	**0%**	1%	**1%**

Q10F: Movies with significant amounts of smoking should be rated R

	Columbia		Greene	
	2015	**2017**	**2015**	**2017**
Strongly agree	28%	**24%**	30%	**25%**
Somewhat agree	22%	**21%**	18%	**19%**
Neither agree nor disagree	14%	**14%**	12%	**12%**
Somewhat disagree	17%	**19%**	14%	**18%**
Strongly disagree	19%	**23%**	26%	**25%**
Don't know/Refused	0%	**0%**	1%	**0%**

Nature of the Sample

Residents	**Columbia County**		**Greene County**	
	2015	**2017**	**2015**	**2017**
Gender				
Male	50%	**50%**	52%	**52%**
Female	50%	**50%**	48%	**48%**
Age				
18 to 29	15%	**15%**	17%	**17%**
30 to 44	20%	**21%**	21%	**21%**
45 to 59	30%	**31%**	29%	**29%**
60 and older	31%	**31%**	29%	**29%**
Children in Household				
No	66%	**68%**	65%	**68%**
Yes	33%	**31%**	34%	**31%**
Education				
Less than college degree	56%	**61%**	68%	**69%**
Bachelor's degree or higher	42%	**39%**	32%	**30%**
Income				
Less than $50,000	36%	**33%**	41%	**30%**
$50,000 to $100,000	28%	**31%**	30%	**36%**
$100,000 or more	20%	**23%**	17%	**23%**
Cigarette Smoker				
Never smoked	49%	**53%**	49%	**47%**
Smoked in past	36%	**32%**	34%	**36%**
Currently smokes	15%	**14%**	17%	**17%**