Cannabis Policy 2024 SCORECARD

Santa Cruz County



This scorecard analyzes local cannabis ordinances passed prior to January 1, 2024, in each California city or county that legalized storefront retail sales, to assess policies in effect going into 2023. It evaluates to what extent potential best practices were adopted to protect youth, reduce problem cannabis use and promote social equity beyond those already in state law. Scores fall into six public health and equity focused categories for a total maximum of 100 points.









RETAILER REQUIREME		TAXES & PRICES		PRODUCT LIMITS	MARKETING	SMOKE-FREE AIR	EQUITY & CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
Limit # of retailers (max. 10 pts)	2	Local retail tax (6 pts)	6	Limit high potency products (max. 6 pts)	Limit billboards 6 (max. 6 pts)	Prohibit temporary event permits (5 pts)	Licensing priority for equity 0 applicants (3 pts)
Require distance >600 ft. from schools (5 pts)	0	Revenue dedicated to youth, prevention or equity (max. 6 pts)	0	END THE CANNABIS KIDS MENU	Prominent health warnings on O ads (4 pts)	Prohibit on-site consumption (3 pts)	Equity in hiring requirements (3 pts)
Require distance between retailers (2 pts)	2	Tax by THC content (5 pts)	0	No flavored products for combustion or inhalation (max. 5 pts)	Limit therapeutic or health claims (3 pts)		Cost deferrals for equity applicants (1 pt)
Other location restrictions (max. 3 pts)	3	Prohibit discounting (2 pts)	0	No cannabis- infused beverages (4 pts)	Business signage restrictions (3 pts)		No prescriber on retail premises or 1 in ownership (max. 2 pts)
Health warnings posted in store or handed out (max. 8 pts)	0	Minimum price (1 pt)	0	Limit other products/ packaging attractive to youth (2 pts)	Limit marketing attractive to 2 youth (2 pts)		