



Indiana State Excise Police News Release

302 West Washington Street, Room E112 ~ Indianapolis, IN 46204
Telephone: (317) 232-2469 ~ Fax: (317) 233-6114
www.in.gov/atc

For Immediate Release

Contact Person:

Officer Travis Thickstun
tthickstun@atc.in.gov
(317) 232-2469

Excise Police Announce Mid-Year Alcohol Compliance Rates

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – Since the Survey for Alcohol Compliance began in April 2007, the number of Indiana businesses willing to sell alcoholic beverages to minors has continued to fall. From Jan. 1-June 30, 2011, Indiana State Excise Police officers conducted 5,027 inspections, with 328 failures (6.5% failure rate).

To conduct the Survey for Alcohol Compliance, individuals aged 18-20 accompany officers into alcoholic beverage establishments in an attempt to purchase alcoholic beverages. The program has strict protocols that officers and youth must follow. From April 2007 to July 2009, officers merely gathered statistical data on rates of noncompliance. Beginning July 1, 2009, officers started the enforcement phase of the SAC program by administratively citing businesses and clerks who failed their inspections. On average, each business is inspected once or twice each year. Those establishments that fail an inspection will be re-inspected until a passing inspection occurs.

The following is a breakdown of non-compliance rates, by business type, for Jan. 1-June 30, 2011:

Restaurants/Bars – 8.8% Non-Compliance

Non-compliance rate down from 13.9% in 2010 and 44.2% in 2009.

Hotels – 27.3% Non-Compliance

Non-compliance rate up from 22.0% in 2010 and 26.7% in 2009.

Private Clubs – 2.6% Non-Compliance

Non-compliance rate down from 3.6% in 2010 and 11.5% in 2009.

Grocery Stores – 2.0% Non-Compliance

Non-compliance rate down from 4.7% in 2010 and 22.6% in 2009.

Drug Stores – 0.1% Non-Compliance

Non-compliance rate down from 2.9% in 2010 and 15.4% in 2009.

Package Stores – 4.3% Non-Compliance

Non-compliance rate down from 7.7% in 2010 and 41.2% in 2009.

Farm Wineries – 28.6% Non-Compliance

Clearly, the Survey for Alcohol Compliance continues to have a significant effect on the number of businesses willing to sell alcoholic beverages to minors. Coupled with the educational programs Excise officers provide to the alcoholic beverage industry, the SAC program has resulted in fewer and fewer minors being sold alcoholic beverages.

For data on SAC compliance for a particular county, contact Officer Travis Thickstun at tthickstun@atc.in.gov or 317-232-2469.

Indiana State Excise Police officers are the enforcement division of the Indiana Alcohol & Tobacco Commission. While excise officers have the authority to enforce any state law, they focus primarily on enforcing Indiana's alcohol and tobacco statutes.