

FACT SHEET



BLACK-MARKET VAPOR PRODUCTS

1 The sale of illicit vapor products benefits criminal actors and illegal enterprises more than adult smokers or consumers who are just looking for lower prices on goods.

4 Currently, it is not safe to assume that all online retailers—including third-party merchants—use state-of-the-art technology to verify a customer’s age requirements before making a sale.

2 While illicit vapor products pose additional health and safety risks for adult consumers, black-market sales of vapor products have a disproportionately negative impact on young people than on other sectors of the population.

5 Contrary to what black-marketeers want consumers to believe, fake vapor products are not safe for adults who already smoke cigarettes and are looking for an alternative.

3 Counterfeit tobacco products cost governments approximately \$40 billion each year in taxes that could be used to provide public services.

6 Nearly 80 percent of patients who received a diagnosis of E-Cigarette, or Vaping, Associated Lung Injury (EVALI) told FDA they acquired their vaping products from only informal sources, such as friends, family, street dealers, or online e-commerce sites.

