

Delaware DDATA

Delaware Drug and Alcohol Tracking Alliance

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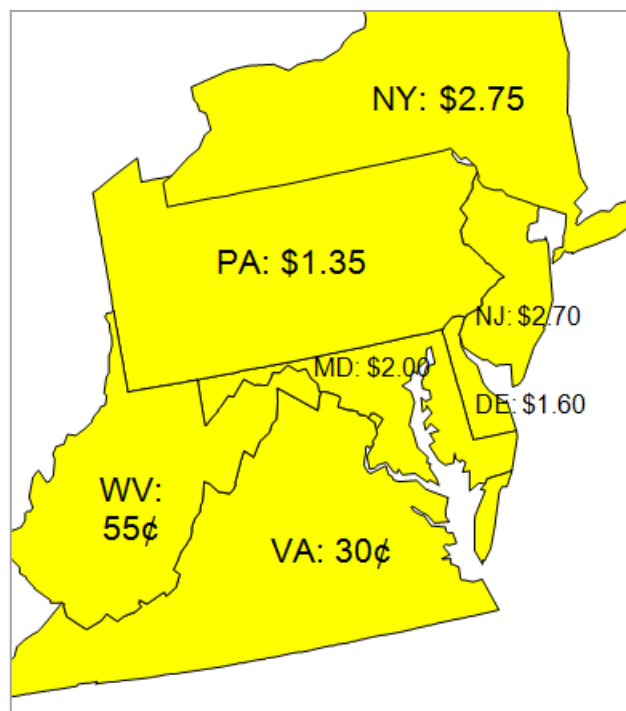
Delaware Cigarette Tax Rate Increases: Now Above the National Average

Effective August 1, 2009, Delaware raised its cigarette tax by 45 cents from \$1.15 to \$1.60. Delaware's tax rate is now above the national average of \$1.31 per pack. Based on this new tax rate, Delaware is ranked 18th among the 50 states and DC for highest cigarette sales tax.

Delaware's tax rate remains much lower than that in New York and New Jersey, somewhat lower than the rate in Maryland, but higher than the rate in Pennsylvania. The fact that Delaware is no longer the lowest tax state in the region may help curtail the proliferation of "tobacco outlets" in the state. Delaware continues to have a much higher tax rate than West Virginia and Virginia, both tobacco-growing states.

According to a report by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, the average cigarette tax in the United States among states that are major producers of tobacco is \$0.38. States that are not major producers of tobacco have an average rate of \$1.43, which is also below Delaware's new rate.

State	Tax	Rank
New York	\$2.75	2nd
New Jersey	\$2.70	3rd
DC	\$2.00	9th
Maryland	\$2.00	9th
Delaware	\$1.60	18th
Pennsylvania	\$1.35	23rd
West Virginia	\$0.55	43rd
Virginia	\$0.30	49th
South Carolina	\$0.07	50th



Source: Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids, July 1, 2009

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