

Final Paper: Loopholes in Local Tobacco Policies

School of Global Policy and Strategy
GPEC 443 GIS and Spatial Data Analysis
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Abstract

This project aimed to investigate the relationship between local tobacco flavor restrictions and the prevalence of e-commerce tobacco retailers, while additionally focusing on Social Deprivation Index scores across San Diego County municipalities. Key research questions include whether brick and mortar tobacco shops are more likely to use e-commerce in areas with flavor bans, and what SDI characteristics are associated with higher concentrations of e-commerce retailers. Using pilot data from the Tobacco E-commerce Lab¹ at UCSD, findings aim to inform further research and improve regulatory frameworks for flavored tobacco products.

¹ The Tobacco E-commerce Lab: <https://www.tobaccoecommercelab.com/>

Background

E-cigarettes contain the highly addictive neurotoxin nicotine and emit aerosols with at least ten Proposition 65-listed chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects, or reproductive harm.² They increase oxidative stress, a key factor in toxicity and addiction, and contribute to health issues like asthma, depression, and social adjustment challenges in young adults.³ Flavored tobacco products have driven youth tobacco use, with 85.6% of youth tobacco users reporting flavored product use.⁴ Thus, enforcing restrictions on addictive products and underage sales is critical.

California's Tobacco Endgame strategy aims to eliminate tobacco industry harm by 2035, partly through enforcing flavor restrictions. Governor Newsom's SB-793⁵, banning most flavored tobacco products, faced a referendum-backed delay until 2022. Meanwhile, 108 local jurisdictions enacted flavor bans, ensuring some protections. However, SB-793 excluded e-commerce platforms, creating a loophole for online sales. This shift toward e-commerce by previously brick-and-mortar establishments undermines restrictions. Following SB-793, online searches for cigarettes and vapes spiked by 194% and 162%, respectively and preliminary data suggest that tobacco retailers in jurisdictions with flavored tobacco product bans are 3.3 times more likely to operate online⁶, highlighting potential gaps in youth protection .

Youth surveys indicate increased online purchasing of flavored products despite bans.⁷ Surveillance of e-commerce is vital to enforce compliance. California's AB-3218⁸, effective January 1, 2025, will further regulate online sales, banning flavored product deliveries to limit youth access. This is significant, as youth accounted for 40% of online vape purchases in 2021.⁹ Marginalized youth face greater nicotine addiction risks due to targeted tobacco marketing.¹⁰ Incorporating variables like poverty, education, and housing insecurity, the Social Deprivation Index¹¹ quantifies geographic disadvantage, with higher scores indicating greater deprivation.

My questions include whether flavor bans increase e-commerce use by tobacco retailers, and how SDI scores correlate with e-commerce prevalence. I hypothesized that local bans drive retailers to e-commerce and that more deprived regions face higher tobacco e-commerce prevalence.

² California Department of Public Health, 2015. *California youth tobacco survey 2023 annual report*.

³ Gunnell, Appleby, & Araya, 2019. The contribution of social determinants of health to suicide rates: An overview of the evidence.

⁴ California Department of Public Health. (2023). *California youth tobacco survey 2023 annual report*.

⁵ Bill Text - SB-793: Flavored tobacco products.

⁶ Leas et al., 2023. E-commerce licensing loopholes: A case study of online shopping for tobacco products following a statewide sales restriction on flavoured tobacco in California.

⁷ Chaffee et al., 2024. Flavored tobacco product use among California adolescents before and immediately after a statewide flavor ban.

⁸ Bill Text - AB-3218: Unflavored Tobacco List.

⁹ Do et al., 2023. Underage Youth Continue to Obtain E-Cigarettes from Retail Sources in 2022: Evidence from the Truth Continuous Tracking Survey.

¹⁰ Tercyak et al., 2020. Prevalence and correlates of lifetime e-cigarette use among adolescents attending public schools in a low-income community in the US.

¹¹ The Robert Graham Center, n.d. *Social deprivation index*.

Methods

Data Sources & Measures: Retailer data, collected by The Tobacco E-commerce Lab at UCSD, includes a sample of all current tobacco retailers within the county of San Diego, identified through map-based searches using the Google Places API and Yelp. This data was then filtered with a focus on retailers offering e-commerce platforms. The resultant retailers are referred to as “brick-and-click” retailers, due to them having both online and in person means of sales. This particular data was collected in a pilot study conducted by the lab, who are now replicating this within the entire state of California.

The Social Deprivation Index (SDI) was used to examine socioeconomic factors potentially influencing tobacco e-commerce sales. US census tracts provided geometries for SDI scores to be geospatially merged to. This was then again merged, this time with the municipality names, retailer counts, and flavored tobacco restriction (FTR) status. Policy data indicating whether municipalities have FTRs were provided by the American Nonsmokers’ Rights Foundation, and I checked online with outside sources to ensure up to date reportings. Two main tables were used in my analyses, one aggregated on the retailer level, and one aggregated on the municipality level.

Data at Brick-and-click Retailer Level:

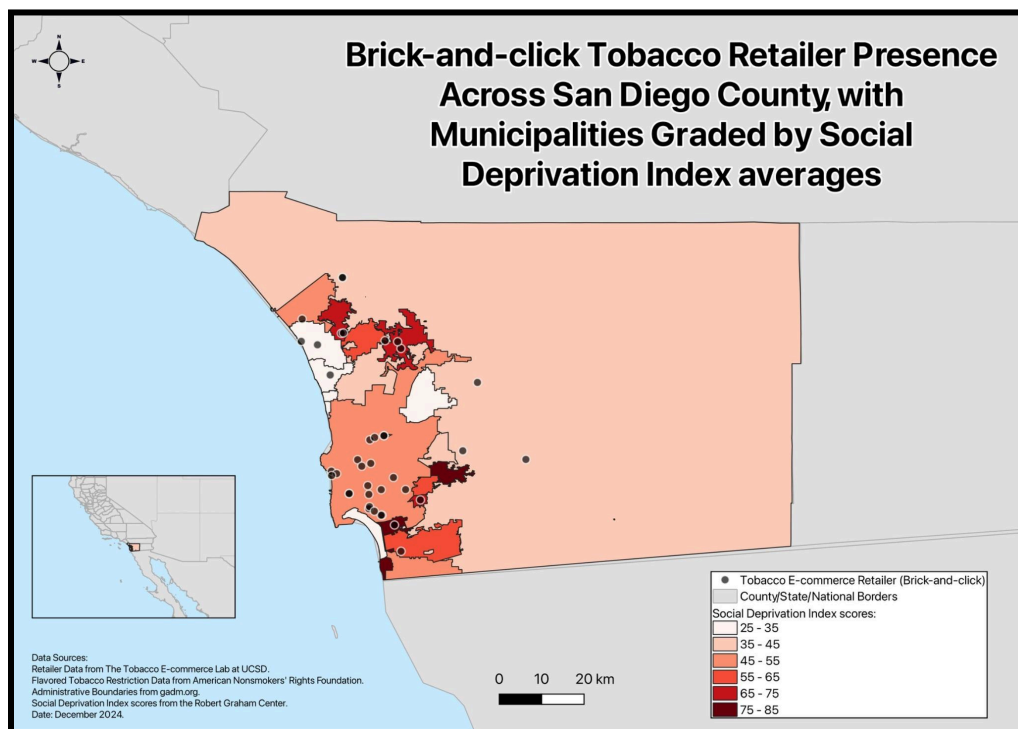
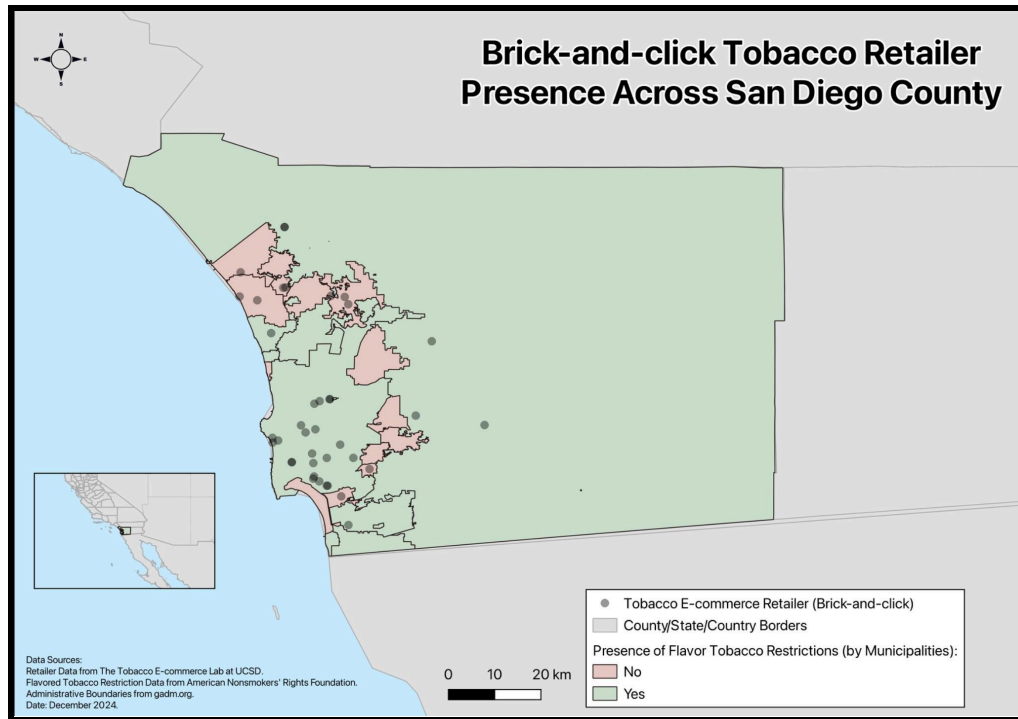
	lat	lon	name	FTR	geometry
1	32.69622	-117.1278	SAN DIEGO	1	POINT (-117.1278 32.69622)
2	32.71230	-117.1608	SAN DIEGO	1	POINT (-117.1608 32.7123)
3	32.69607	-117.1298	SAN DIEGO	1	POINT (-117.1298 32.69607)
4	32.60582	-117.0802	CHULA VISTA	1	POINT (-117.0802 32.60582)
5	33.02791	-116.8893	S.D. COUNTY	1	POINT (-116.8893 33.02791)
6	32.82564	-117.1559	SAN DIEGO	1	POINT (-117.1559 32.82564)
7	33.11287	-117.0805	ESCONDIDO	0	POINT (-117.0805 33.11287)
8	32.89485	-117.1230	SAN DIEGO	1	POINT (-117.123 32.89485)
9	32.89485	-117.1230	SAN DIEGO	1	POINT (-117.123 32.89485)

...

Data Aggregated on Municipality Level:

	name	geometry	FTR	retailers	average_sdi_score	Population
1	CARLSBAD	POLYGON ((-117.2601 33.1571...	0	2	26.58824	113018
2	CHULA VISTA	POLYGON ((-116.9333 32.6483...	1	1	62.43902	273841
3	CORONADO	POLYGON ((-117.1186 32.5912...	0	NA	30.75000	NA
4	DEL MAR	POLYGON ((-117.2562 32.9795...	0	NA	25.00000	NA
5	EL CAJON	POLYGON ((-116.9622 32.8251...	0	NA	76.33333	101963
6	ENCINITAS	POLYGON ((-117.2166 33.0760...	1	1	33.23077	60455
7	ESCONDIDO	MULTIPOLYGON (((-117.0648 3...	0	2	69.58333	147158
8	IMPERIAL BEACH	POLYGON ((-117.1189 32.5349...	1	NA	83.33333	25243
9	LA MESA	POLYGON ((-116.9881 32.779...	0	NA	63.83333	60350
10	LEMON GROVE	POLYGON ((-117.0231 32.7184...	0	1	68.83333	26420
11	NATIONAL CITY	POLYGON ((-117.0803 32.6928...	0	1	84.83333	54910
12	OCEANSIDE	MULTIPOLYGON (((-117.1688 3...	0	1	53.12500	168705
13	POWAY	POLYGON ((-117.0667 32.9749...	0	NA	28.58333	47805
14	S.D. COUNTY	MULTIPOLYGON (((-117.1063 3...	1	5	39.66067	542063
15	SAN DIEGO	MULTIPOLYGON (((-116.9308 3...	1	20	52.52330	1388996
16	SAN MARCOS	MULTIPOLYGON (((-117.1397 3...	0	1	57.90909	93967
17	SANTEE	POLYGON ((-116.9577 32.8580...	0	NA	37.72727	59349
18	SOLANA BEACH	POLYGON ((-117.2428 33.0074...	1	NA	27.00000	NA
19	VISTA	POLYGON ((-117.2724 33.2057...	0	2	65.12500	98289

“NA” indicates that the given municipality does not have any tobacco e-commerce retailers present.



These maps created in QGIS mark the geolocations of brick-and-click retailers across San Diego County. In the upper map, municipalities are represented according to their flavored tobacco ban status. The lower map represents municipalities by their corresponding census tracts' average Social Deprivation Index scores.

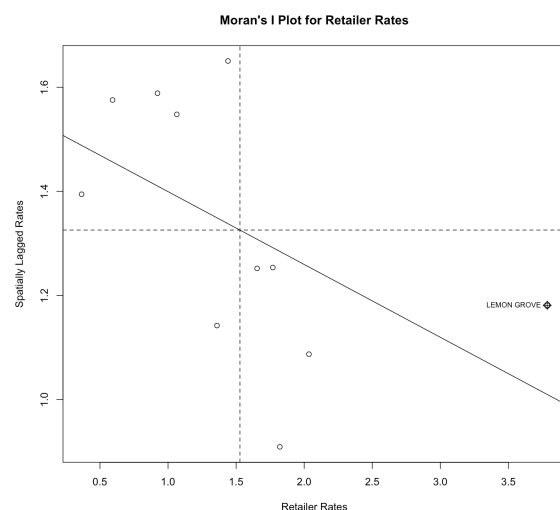
Analyses

To start my analyses, reprojection was necessary to align each of my datasets to the same coordinate reference system (CRS). I then conducted the Welch Two Sample t-test to compare the mean number of retailers per 100,000 population between municipalities with flavored tobacco restrictions (FTR = 1) and those without (FTR = 0). The test yielded a t-value of 1.4172 with 8.9714 degrees of freedom, and a p-value of 0.1902. The 95% confidence interval for the difference in means ranged from -0.4058477 to 1.7655263. These results indicate that the difference in the mean number of retailers per 100,000 population between the two groups is not statistically significant ($p > 0.05$). Specifically, the mean for municipalities without flavored tobacco restrictions (FTR = 0) was 1.775237, while the mean for municipalities with restrictions (FTR = 1) was 1.095397. This threw me off from my initial expectations, but I proceeded with additional analyses.

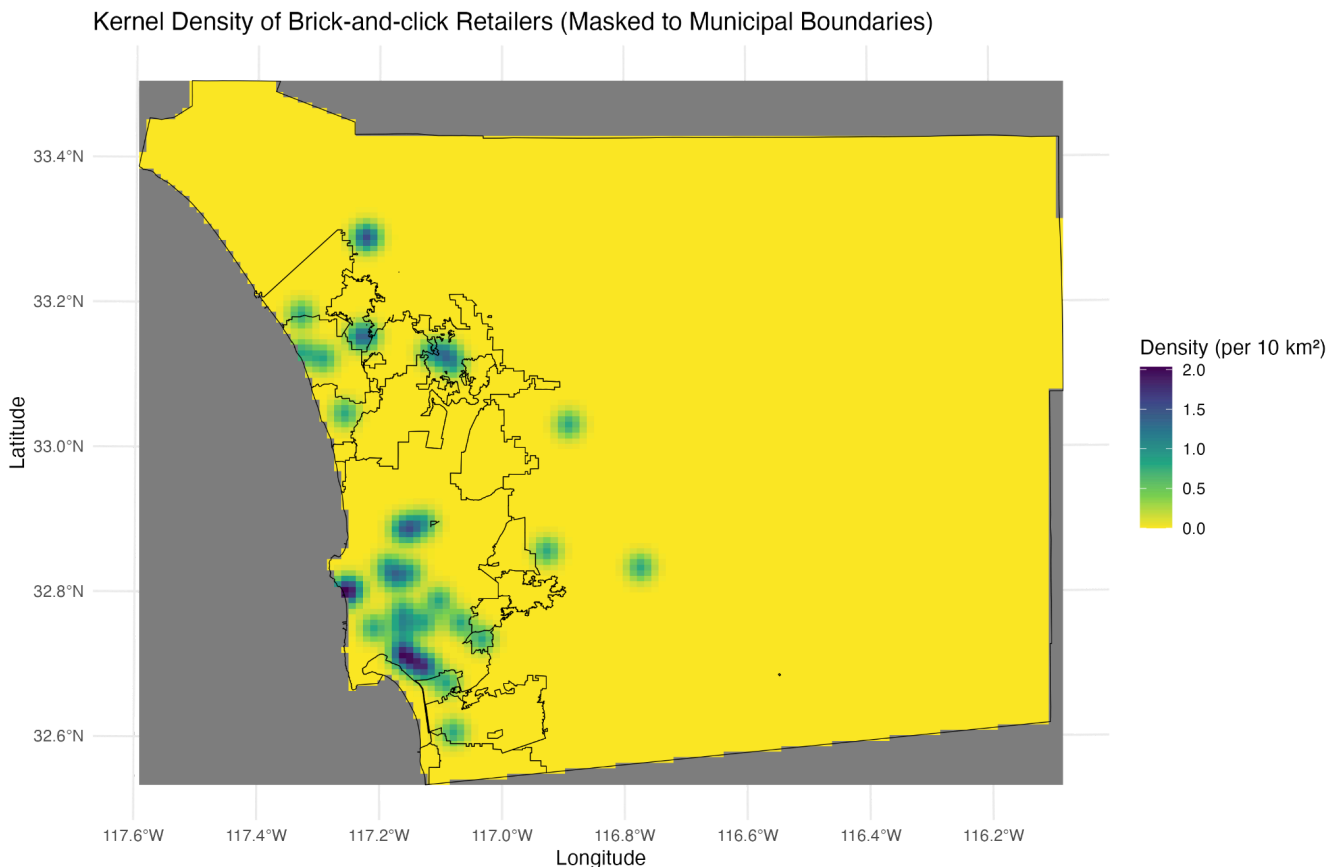
Comparing Brick-and-click Retailer Presence (Count Per 100,000 Population) in Municipalities with and without Flavored Tobacco Restrictions.

```
Welch Two Sample t-test
data: retailers_per_100k by FTR
t = 1.4172, df = 8.9714, p-value = 0.1902
alternative hypothesis: true difference in means between group 0 and group 1 is not equal to 0
95 percent confidence interval:
 -0.4058477  1.7655263
sample estimates:
mean in group 0 mean in group 1
 1.775237      1.095397
```

A nearest neighbor analysis was conducted to examine the spatial distribution of brick-and-click tobacco retailers across municipalities. The observed mean nearest neighbor distance was 3.29 kilometers. This yielded a Nearest Neighbor Index of 0.6521, indicating a clustered spatial pattern, like we've observed in the visualizations. This indicated that there is some combination of factors influencing where e-commerce is being turned to, perhaps for regulatory circumvention. I also created a Moran's scatterplot which examines the spatial autocorrelation of retailer rates. The negative slope indicates a negative spatial relationship, where municipalities with high retailer rates tend to have neighbors with lower rates, and vice versa. Lemon Grove, identified as a high-low outlier, exhibits significantly higher retailer rates compared to its neighbors, warranting further investigation into its unique spatial pattern and into the particular tobacco e-commerce trends of Lemon Grove.



A kernel density estimation (KDE) was performed to visualize the density of retailers across the region. This KDE used a bandwidth of 1420 meters, smoothing the retailer points to highlight areas of concentration. The density values, originally calculated per square meter, were converted to represent densities per 10 square kilometers to better align with regional-level analysis. The KDE raster was then masked to municipal boundaries, ensuring that density values were restricted to relevant municipal areas. The resulting map presents density levels, with the color scale adjusted to represent densities between 0 and 2 retailers per 10 square kilometers. High-density areas are more concentrated around urban centers such as San Diego City, as indicated by darker purple marks. Brick-and-click retailers are less densely situated in eastern and northern regions of San Diego County.



The next step was to use R to craft a map displaying OLS regression residuals, in an analysis that explored the effects of (1) flavored tobacco restrictions, (2) Social Deprivation Index scores, and (3) population size, on brick-and-click retailer counts across the municipalities of San Diego County.

Results of the regression model showed that population size was a highly significant predictor ($p < 0.001$), with a positive relationship to retailer counts ($\beta = 1.51 \times 10^{-5}$, $t = 12.15$). The model suggests that an increase of 100,000 people in the population corresponds to an expected increase of $1.51 \times 10^{-5} \times 100,000 = 1.512$ additional brick-and-click retailers. Conversely, flavored tobacco restrictions ($p = 0.127$) and SDI scores ($p = 0.764$) were not

statistically significant predictors in this model. While the coefficient for FTR ($\beta = -1.84$) indicated a potential negative association with retailer counts, the lack of statistical significance suggests that the effect may not be reliably distinguished from zero in this dataset. Similarly, SDI ($\beta = -0.16$) showed no meaningful influence on retailer counts in this analysis. The model as a whole explained a substantial proportion of the variation in retailer counts, with a multiple $R^2 = 0.9652$ and an adjusted $R^2 = 0.9502$, indicating that the included predictors account for about 95% of the variability. The F-statistic ($F = 64.63$, $p < 0.001$) confirmed that the model provides a significant fit to the data, though this may be mainly due to the population input rather than FTRs and SDI scores.

```
Call:
lm(formula = retailers ~ FTR + sdi_indice + Population, data = analyze)

Residuals:
    Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
-1.5235 -0.7795  0.1087  0.6946  1.7925

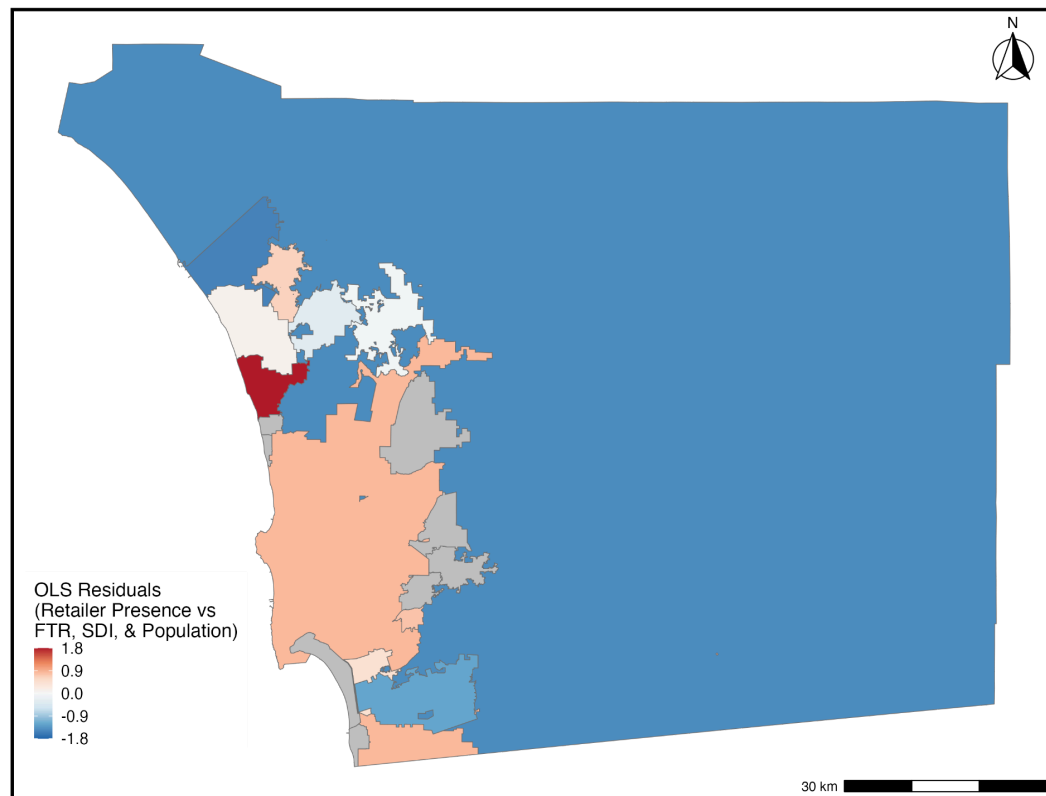
Coefficients:
              Estimate Std. Error t value Pr(>|t|)
(Intercept) -1.845e-02  5.367e-01  -0.034   0.974
FTR          -1.836e+00  1.060e+00  -1.732   0.127
sdi_indice   -1.606e-01  5.147e-01  -0.312   0.764
Population    1.512e-05  1.245e-06  12.152 5.84e-06 ***
---
Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

Residual standard error: 1.259 on 7 degrees of freedom
Multiple R-squared:  0.9652,    Adjusted R-squared:  0.9502
F-statistic: 64.63 on 3 and 7 DF,  p-value: 1.813e-05
```

The residuals of this model, shown in the following map, highlight spatial patterns that may indicate the influence of local factors not captured by the model. These patterns can help identify specific municipalities where additional variables or unique local dynamics could be playing a role in retailer distribution, suggesting areas for further investigation and analysis.

OLS Residuals of FTR, SDI, and Population on Brick-and-click Presence Across San Diego County

Effects of flavored tobacco restrictions, social deprivation, and population size on e-commerce tobacco retailer counts.



Grey: No brick-and-click tobacco retailers present.
Date: December 2024

Discussion

This analysis provides valuable insights into the relationship between flavored tobacco restrictions, e-commerce prevalence, and socioeconomic factors. However, several limitations and opportunities for further research have emerged from this study. Future research should incorporate data on "click-only" retailers (tobacco retailers that operate exclusively online with no physical brick-and-mortar establishment), as this analysis focuses solely on brick-and-click operations. Including click-only retailers would offer a more comprehensive understanding of the broader e-commerce landscape and its connection to flavored tobacco restrictions. This would also allow for a better evaluation of the extent to which online sales may circumvent local policies.

In addition, the differences between aggregating the data on the retailer level versus municipality level is something I wish that I had understood better before starting this project. I see now how this can have drastically different implications even when using the same data for each.

I've also realized now that the aggregation of Social Deprivation Index (SDI) scores into averages throughout the municipality level may obscure critical within-municipality socioeconomic disparities. Future analyses should utilize census tract-level SDI data to capture finer-grained variations in socioeconomic deprivation and their potential influence on retailer behaviors. Such an approach would enhance the granularity and relevance of the findings.

While population size emerged as a significant predictor of retailer counts, other potentially influential factors remain unexplored. These include local zoning use types, demographic characteristics such as age distribution and income levels, and the stringency or enforcement of flavored tobacco restrictions. Incorporating these variables in future models could provide a deeper understanding of the mechanisms driving the geographic distribution of e-commerce retailers.

Regulatory loopholes in online sales, particularly those targeting youth populations, warrant immediate attention. Strengthened frameworks should focus on bridging gaps in current policies, with a particular emphasis on jurisdictions with higher youth vulnerability to targeted tobacco marketing. By addressing these gaps, policymakers can better safeguard public health and prevent the exploitation of e-commerce platforms by tobacco retailers.

This study lays a foundation for future exploration into the intersection of public health and tobacco policies, socioeconomics, and e-commerce. Expanding the scope of analysis to other regions, including the extent of all of California, integrating additional variables, and leveraging longitudinal data could yield richer insights and inform more effective regulatory strategies aimed at reducing youth tobacco use and e-commerce exploitation.

References

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The Robert Graham Center, (n.d). *Social deprivation index*.

<https://www.graham-center.org/maps-data-tools/social-deprivation-index.html>

Code with commentary

```

1 # Load necessary libraries
2 library(sf)
3 library(dplyr)
4 library(readr)
5 library(ggplot2)
6 library(spgwr)
7 library(sp)
8 library(spdep)
9 library(spatialEco)
10 library(spatstat)
11
12 # Load shapefiles
13 retailers_per_muni <- st_read("~/Documents/GPEC_443/Final/ecom.shp")
14 census_sf <- st_read("~/Downloads/calenviroscreen40shpf2021shp/CES4 Final Shapefile.shp")
15 sdi <- read_csv("~/Documents/GPEC_443/Final/SDI_censustract.csv")
16 muni_geoms <- st_read("~/Documents/GPEC_443/Final/sd_munis.shp")
17 population <- read_csv("~/Documents/GPEC_443/Final/Updated_Population_Data.csv")
18 by_retailer <- st_read("~/Documents/GPEC_443/Final/by_retailer.shp")
19
20 # =====
21 # Data Preparation, Aggregated by Muni and Aggregated by Retailer (by_retailer)
22 # =====
23
24 # Clean and prepare retailers_per_muni
25 retailers_per_muni <- retailers_per_muni %>%
26   mutate(name = ifelse(name == "S.D. COUNTY", "Unincorporated Areas", name)) %>%
27   mutate(name = tools::toTitleCase(tolower(name))) %>%
28   st_drop_geometry()
29
30 # Filter census data for San Diego County
31 census_sf_sd <- census_sf %>%
32   filter(County == "San Diego") %>%
33   st_drop_geometry() # Drop geometry as it's not needed
34
35 # Prepare SDI data
36 sdi <- sdi %>%
37   rename(Tract = CENSUSTRACT_FIPS) # Rename for joining
38
39 # Merge census data with SDI data
40 sdi_tracts <- census_sf_sd %>%
41   left_join(sdi, by = "Tract") %>%
42   dplyr::select(ApproxLoc, SDI_score) %>%
43   mutate(SDI_score = as.numeric(SDI_score))
44
45 # Aggregate SDI scores by municipality
46 sdi_aggregated <- sdi_tracts %>%
47   group_by(ApproxLoc) %>%
48   summarize(average_sdi_score = mean(SDI_score, na.rm = TRUE))
49
50 # Match SDI scores to retailers_per_muni
51 retailers_per_muni <- retailers_per_muni %>%
52   left_join(sdi_aggregated, by = c("name" = "ApproxLoc"))
53
54 # Handle unmatched rows by adding them to Unincorporated Areas
55 unmatched_rows <- sdi_aggregated %>%
56   filter(!ApproxLoc %in% retailers_per_muni$name)
57

```

```

58 unincorporated_row <- retailers_per_muni %>%
59   filter(name == "Unincorporated Areas") %>%
60   mutate(average_sdi_score = mean(unmatched_rows$average_sdi_score, na.rm = TRUE))
61
62 retailers_per_muni <- retailers_per_muni %>%
63   filter(name != "Unincorporated Areas") %>%
64   bind_rows(unincorporated_row)
65
66 # Add population data to retailers_per_muni
67 retailers_per_muni <- retailers_per_muni %>%
68   left_join(population, by = c("name" = "Municipality"))
69
70 # Calculate retailer rate (retailers per 100,000 population)
71 retailers_per_muni <- retailers_per_muni %>%
72   mutate(retailers_per_100k = (retailers / Population) * 100000)
73
74 # Log-transform retailer rate
75 retailers_per_muni <- retailers_per_muni %>%
76   mutate(log_retailers_per_100k = ifelse(
77     retailers_per_100k == 0, NA, log(retailers_per_100k)
78   ))
79
80 # Calculate the SDI indice (normalized SDI score)
81 retailers_per_muni <- retailers_per_muni %>%
82   mutate(
83     sdi_indice = (average_sdi_score - mean(average_sdi_score, na.rm = TRUE)) /
84     sd(average_sdi_score, na.rm = TRUE)
85   )
86
87 # Aggregate geometries by municipality
88 aggregated_geoms <- muni_geoms %>%
89   group_by(name) %>%
90   summarize(geometry = st_union(geometry))
91
92 # Clean `name` column in `retailers_per_muni`
93 retailers_per_muni <- retailers_per_muni %>%
94   mutate(name = toupper(name)) %>%
95   mutate(name = ifelse(name == "UNINCORPORATED AREAS", "S.D. COUNTY", name))
96
97 # Perform the left join
98 muni_data <- aggregated_geoms %>%
99   left_join(retailers_per_muni, by = "name")
100
101 # Filter for complete cases
102 analyze <- muni_data %>%
103   filter(!is.na(log_retailers_per_100k) & !is.na(sdi_indice))
104
105 # Add the log_retailers column to analyze
106 analyze <- analyze %>%
107   mutate(log_retailers = ifelse(retailers == 0, NA, log(retailers)))
108
109 # Merge on "name"
110 analyze_ret <- by_retailer %>%
111   left_join(aggregated_geoms %>% st_drop_geometry(), by = "name")
112
113 # Add the polygon geometry from aggregated_geoms to the merged table
114 analyze_ret <- analyze_ret %>%
115   mutate(geometry = st_geometry(aggregated_geoms)[match(name, aggregated_geoms$name)])
116

```

```

117 # Ensure the resulting table is an sf object
118 analyze_ret <- st_as_sf(analyze_ret)
119
120 muni_data <- muni_data %>%
121   mutate(retailers_z_score = (retailers - mean(retailers, na.rm = TRUE)) /
122     sd(retailers, na.rm = TRUE))
123
124 # Ensure both are in the same CRS (Coordinate Reference System)
125 muni_data <- st_transform(muni_data, crs = st_crs(by_retailer))
126
127 # Perform the spatial join
128 final_table <- st_join(by_retailer, muni_data, left = TRUE)
129
130 # Select the desired columns
131 final_table <- final_table %>%
132   select(lat, lon, name.x, FTR.x, average_sdi_score, Population, sdi_indice, retailers_z_score)
133
134 # saving a sf
135 #st_write(muni_data, "~/Documents/GPEC_443/Final/muni_sdi.shp")
136
137 # =====
138 # Welch's Two Sample T-test
139 # =====
140
141 t_test_z <- t.test(retailers_per_100k ~ FTR, data = muni_data)
142 print(t_test_z)
143
144 # =====
145 # Nearest Neighbors
146 # =====
147
148 st_crs(by_retailer)
149
150 # Extract coordinates
151 coords <- st_coordinates(final_table)
152
153 # Define the bounding window
154 window <- owin(
155   xrange = range(coords[, 1]),
156   yrange = range(coords[, 2])
157 )
158
159 # Convert to ppp object
160 retailer_ppp <- as.ppp(coords, W = window)
161
162 # Nearest neighbor distances
163 nn_dist <- nn_dist(nearest_neighbor_ppp)
164 summary(nn_dist)
165
166 # Calculate observed mean nearest neighbor distance
167 observed_mean_distance <- mean(nn_dist)
168
169 # Calculate expected mean nearest neighbor distance for a Poisson process
170 area <- area.owin(nearest_neighbor_ppp$window)
171 expected_mean_distance <- 1 / (2 * sqrt(npoints(nearest_neighbor_ppp) / area))
172
173 # Compute Nearest Neighbor Index (NNI)
174 nni <- observed_mean_distance / expected_mean_distance

```

```

176 # Interpret the NNI
177 if (nni < 1) {
178   interpretation <- "Clustered pattern"
179 } else if (nni == 1) {
180   interpretation <- "Random distribution"
181 } else {
182   interpretation <- "Regular pattern"
183 }
184
185 # Print results
186 cat("Observed Mean Distance:", observed_mean_distance, "\n")
187 cat("Expected Mean Distance:", expected_mean_distance, "\n")
188 cat("Nearest Neighbor Index (NNI):", nni, "\n")
189 cat("Interpretation:", interpretation, "\n")
190
191 # =====
192 # OLS Regression, Muni
193 # =====
194
195 # Perform the OLS regression
196 ols_model <- lm(retailers ~ FTR + sdi_indice + Population, data = analyze)
197
198 # Print the summary of the regression model
199 summary(ols_model)
200
201 # Calculate residuals from ols_model2 and add them to a new data frame
202 residuals_df <- analyze %>%
203   mutate(ols_residuals = residuals(ols_model)) %>% # Reference the correct model
204   select(name, ols_residuals) %>% # Keep only name and residuals for joining
205   st_drop_geometry() %>% # Drop geometry to avoid conflicts
206   as.data.frame() # Convert to a standard data frame
207
208 # Merge the residuals back into muni_data using st_join
209 muni_data <- muni_data %>%
210   left_join(residuals_df, by = "name")
211
212 # Create the map
213 ols_plot <- ggplot() +
214   geom_sf(
215     data = muni_data %>% filter(!is.na(ols_residuals)),
216     aes(fill = ols_residuals),
217     color = "grey44",
218     size = 0.0005
219   ) +
220   scale_fill_distiller(
221     palette = "RdBu",
222     limits = c(-1.8, 1.8),
223     breaks = seq(-1.8, 1.8, by = 0.9),
224     name = "OLS Residuals\n(Retailer Presence vs\nFTR, SDI, & Population)"
225   ) +
226   geom_sf(
227     data = muni_data %>% filter(is.na(ols_residuals)),
228     fill = "grey",
229     color = "gray44",
230     size = 0.0005
231   ) +

```

```

232 labs(
233   title = "OLS Residuals of FTR, SDI, and Population on Brick-and-click Presence Across San Diego County",
234   subtitle = "Effects of flavored tobacco restrictions, social deprivation, and population size on e-commerce tobacco retailer counts.",
235   caption = "Grey: No brick-and-click tobacco retailers present.\nDate: December 2024"
236 ) +
237 annotation_north_arrow(
238   location = "tr",
239   which_north = "true",
240   style = north_arrow_fancy_orienteering()
241 ) +
242 annotation_scale(
243   location = "br",
244   width_hint = 0.25
245 ) +
246 theme_minimal() +
247 theme(
248   legend.position = c(0.12, 0.18),
249   legend.background = element_rect(fill = alpha("white", 0.8), color = NA),
250   legend.key.size = unit(0.8, "lines"),
251   legend.title = element_text(size = 12),
252   legend.text = element_text(size = 10),
253   plot.title = element_text(size = 14, face = "bold"),
254   plot.subtitle = element_text(size = 11),
255   panel.grid = element_blank(),
256   axis.text = element_blank(),
257   axis.title = element_blank(),
258   axis.ticks = element_blank(),
259   panel.border = element_rect(color = "black", fill = NA, size = 2)
260 )
261
262 # Print and save the plot
263 print(ols_plot)
264 ggsave("~/Documents/GPEC_443/Final/ols_residuals_map_2.png", plot = ols_plot, width = 10, height = 8, dpi = 300)
265
266 # =====
267 # Kernel density
268 # =====
269
270 # Reproject spatial data to UTM Zone 11N
271 final_table <- st_transform(final_table, crs = 32611)
272
273 # Reproject muni_data to UTM Zone 11N
274 muni_data <- st_transform(muni_data, crs = 32611)
275
276 # Create unique points dataset by removing duplicates
277 final_table_unique <- final_table %>%
278   distinct(geometry, .keep_all = TRUE)
279
280 # Step 1: Define the Extent from muni_data
281 # Get bounding box from muni_data
282 muni_bbox <- st_bbox(muni_data)

```

```

284 # Create a window from the bounding box
285 window <- owin(
286   xrange = c(muni_bbox["xmin"], muni_bbox["xmax"]),
287   yrange = c(muni_bbox["ymin"], muni_bbox["ymax"])
288 )
289
290 # Convert retailer points to ppp format
291 coords <- st_coordinates(final_table_unique) # Use your unique points dataset
292 ppp_data <- ppp(x = coords[, 1], y = coords[, 2], window = window)
293
294 # Perform KDE
295 kde <- density(ppp_data, sigma = 1421, edge = TRUE) # Adjust sigma as needed
296
297 # Convert KDE to raster
298 kde_raster <- raster(kde)
299
300 # Update CRS of the raster to match muni_data
301 crs(kde_raster) <- st_crs(muni_data)$proj4string
302
303 # Convert density to per 10 square kilometers
304 kde_raster_10km2 <- kde_raster * 1e7
305
306 # Debugging Step: Plot KDE raster before masking
307 kde_raster_df <- as.data.frame(kde_raster_10km2, xy = TRUE)
308 kde_raster_df <- kde_raster_df %>% na.omit()
309 colnames(kde_raster_df) <- c("x", "y", "density")
310
311 initial_plot <- ggplot() +
312   geom_raster(data = kde_raster_df, aes(x = x, y = y, fill = density)) +
313   geom_sf(data = muni_data, fill = NA, color = "black", size = 0.5) +
314   scale_fill_viridis_c(option = "D", name = "Density (per 10 km²)", direction = -1) +
315   labs(
316     title = "Kernel Density of Retailers (Before Masking)",
317     x = "Longitude", y = "Latitude"
318   ) +
319   theme_minimal()
320
321 print(initial_plot)
322
323 # Mask Raster to Municipal Boundaries
324 muni_sp <- as(st_geometry(muni_data), "Spatial") # Convert sf to Spatial object
325 kde_raster_masked <- mask(kde_raster_10km2, muni_sp)
326
327 # Convert masked raster to a data frame for ggplot2
328 kde_df_masked <- as.data.frame(kde_raster_masked, xy = TRUE)
329 kde_df_masked <- kde_df_masked %>% na.omit()
330 colnames(kde_df_masked) <- c("x", "y", "density")
331

```



```

332 # Plot the KDE with Municipal Boundaries
333 kde_plot <- ggplot() +
334   # Raster layer (KDE)
335   geom_raster(data = kde_df_masked, aes(x = x, y = y, fill = density)) +
336   # Municipal boundaries
337   geom_sf(data = muni_data, fill = NA, color = "black", size = 0.5) +
338   # Adjust color scale
339   scale_fill_viridis_c(option = "D", name = "Density (per 10 km²)", direction = -1) +
340   # Add labels and theme
341   labs(
342     title = "Kernel Density of Brick-and-click Retailers (Masked to Municipal Boundaries)",
343     x = "Longitude", y = "Latitude"
344   ) +
345   theme_minimal()
346
347 print(kde_plot)
348 # Save the plot
349 ggsave("kde_density_plot.png", plot = kde_plot, width = 10, height = 8, dpi = 300)
350
351 # =====
352 # Global Moran's I, Muni, test if retailer rates exhibit spatial clustering
353 # =====
354
355 # Create a new spatial weights matrix based on the filtered dataset
356 nb_analyze <- poly2nb(analyze, queen = TRUE)
357 listw_non_na <- nb2listw(nb_analyze, style = "W")
358
359 # Moran's I test
360 moran_test <- moran.test(analyze$retailers_per_100k, listw_non_na)
361
362 # Print the result
363 print(moran_test)
364
365 # Visualize spatial autocorrelation
366 library(spatialEco)
367 moran.plot(
368   analyze$retailers_per_100k,
369   listw_non_na,
370   labels = analyze$name,
371   xlab = "Retailer Rates",
372   ylab = "Spatially Lagged Rates",
373   main = "Moran's I Plot for Retailer Rates"
374 )
375

```