

# Neighborhood Disparities in the Retail Marketing of Menthol Cigarettes

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### Funding

Cancer Control Education Program
UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center
NCI award T32 CA057726

Advancing Science and Practice in the Retail Environment NCI award U01 CA15428

No tobacco industry funding

### Menthol cigarettes

One third of smokers use menthol cigarettes



- Menthol
  - Chemical compound extracted from the peppermint plant
  - Provides anesthetic and cooling effects
  - Minty taste
- Easier to start smoking and more difficult to quit



### Current menthol cigarette use among smokers by...



Disparities in the tobacco retail environment



Disparities in menthol cigarette smoking

Tobacco Retail Marketing

High Tobacco Use Environmental Cues & Normalization

Tobacco retail marketing is associated with:

- Initiation
- Brand preference
- Cravings
- Impulse buys
- Relapse

### Objectives

- 1) Describe menthol cigarette marketing in a nationally representative sample of tobacco retailers
- Examine associations between menthol cigarette marketing and neighborhood demographic characteristics





Disparities in retail marketing for menthol cigarettes in the United States, 2015



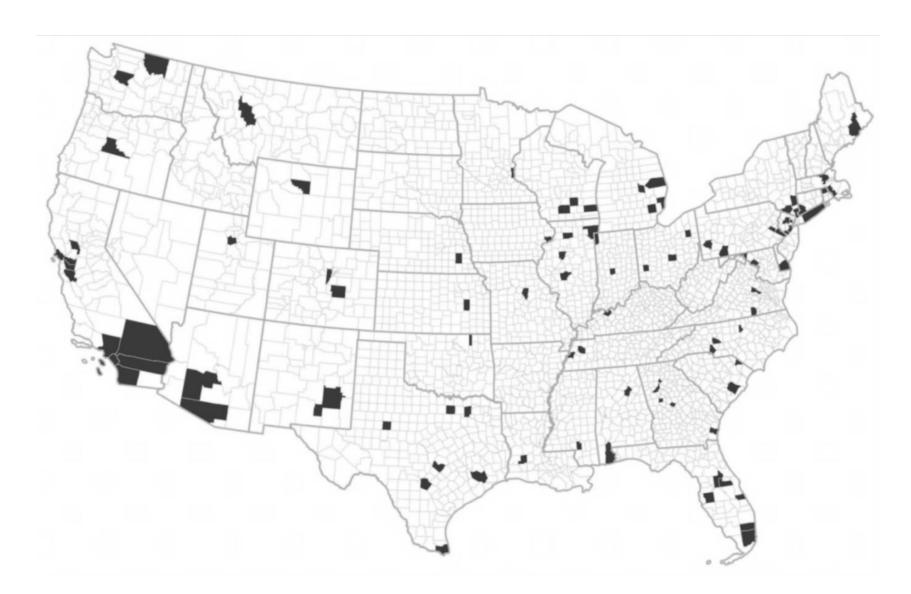
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### Advancing Science and Practice in the Retail Environment (ASPiRE)





Outcome I: Exterior menthol cigarette advertisements



Outcome II: Menthol cigarette price promotion



Outcome III: Newport menthol pack price

### Independent variables

American Community Survey 5-year estimates (2011-2015)

- Black
- Asian/Pacific Islander
- Hispanic
- Youth (5 17 years)
- Median household income

#### N = 2,124 tobacco retailers



38% with exterior menthol cig ad

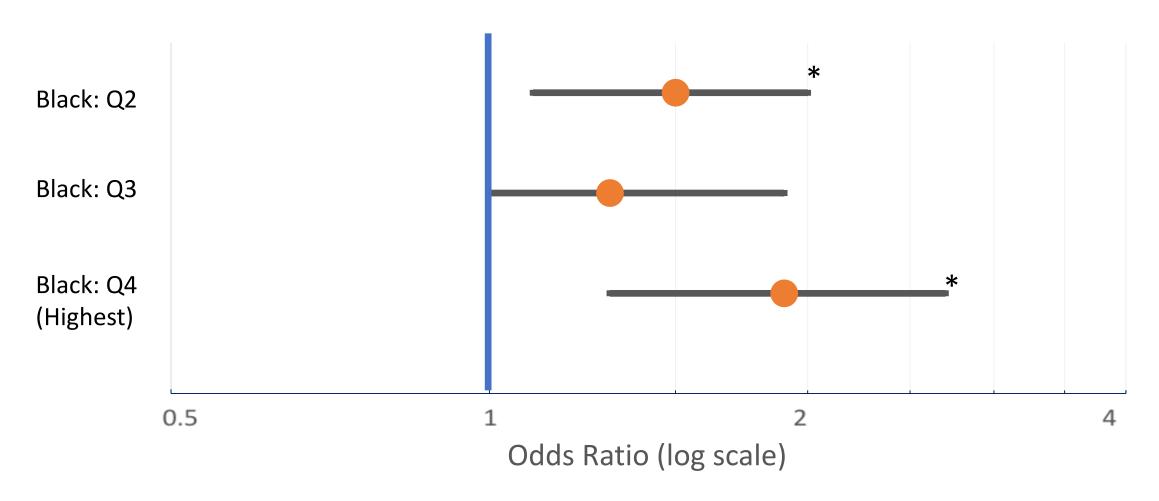


69% with menthol cig price promotion

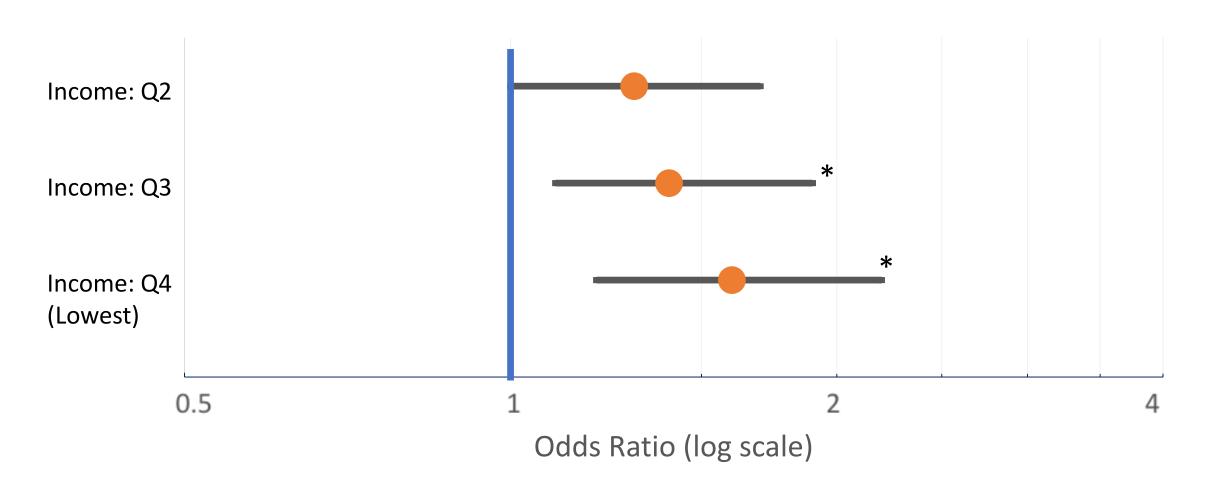


\$6.89, Newport menthol pack price

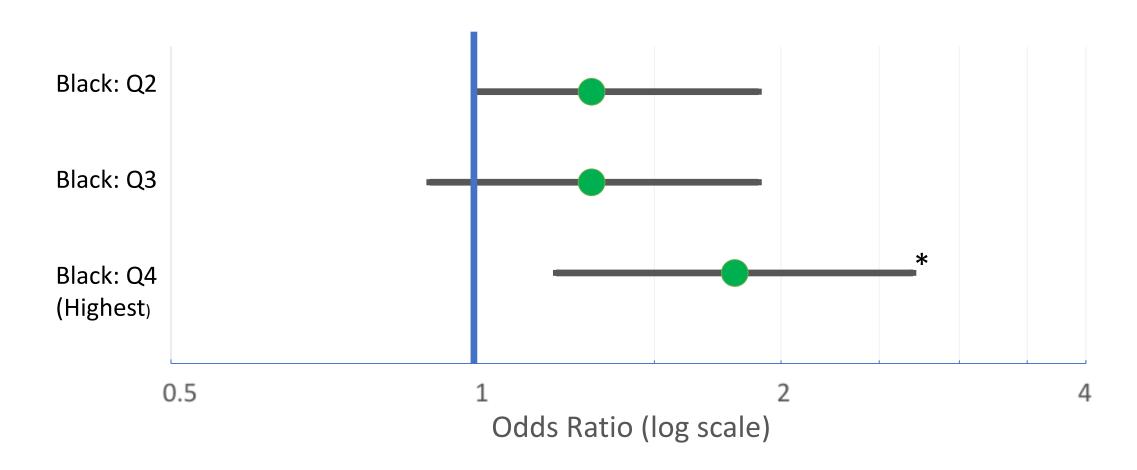
## Menthol Advertising on the Store Exterior: Percentage of Black Residents



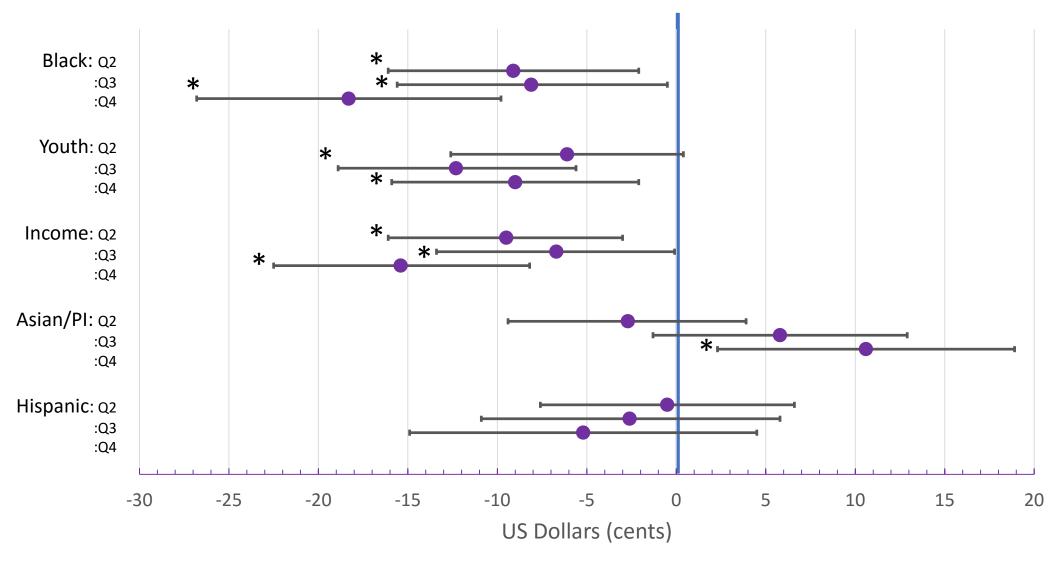
### Menthol Advertising on the Store Exterior: Median Household Income



### Newport Menthol Price Promotion



### Newport Menthol Pack Price



### Retail Marketing for Menthol Cigarettes: Summary of Results

	Black	Asian/ Pacific Islander	Hispanic	Youth	Lower Income
Exterior Menthol	X				X
Advertising					
Newport Menthol	X				
Promotion					
Newport Green Full	X			X	X
Flavor Menthol Pack					
Price					

### The New York Times

### F.D.A. Plans to Seek a Ban on Menthol Cigarettes

By Sheila Kaplan

Nov. 9, 2018



### Thank you

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