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A Different Take on Policy Surveillance: Policy Inventory in Nebraska

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Acknowledgments

- Research Team

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- Darrell Klein, Colleen Svoboda



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Accessing the Law?



Using the law

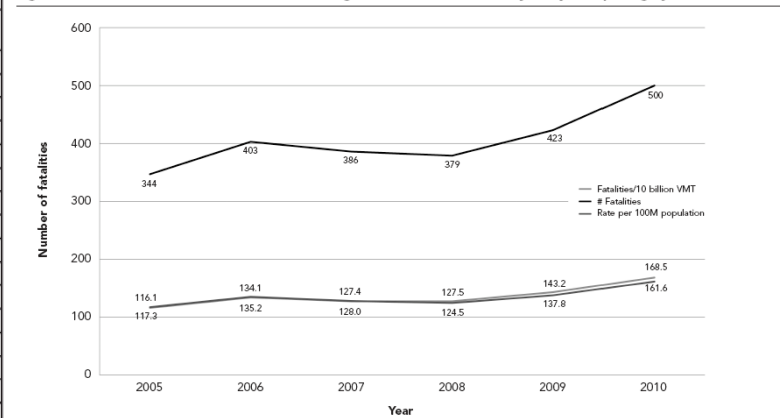


Need for Legal Datasets

- Policy surveillance
 - Tracking laws over time
 - Tracking laws across jurisdictions
 - Examining legal provisions in a particular topic area

Distracted Driving Laws By State								
State	Texting	Cell Phones	State	Texting	Cell Phones	State	Texting	Cell Phones
AL	x	x	KY	x	x	ND	x	
AK	x		LA	x	x	OH	x	
AZ		x	ME	x	x	OK	x	x
AR	x		MD	x	x	OR	x	x
CA	x	x	MA	x	x	PA		
CO	x	x	MI	x		RI	x	x
CT	x	x	MN	x	x	SC		
DE	x	x	MS	x		SD		
DC	x	x	MO	x		TN	x	x
FL			MT			TX	x	x
GA	x	x	NE	x	x	UT	x	x
HI			NV	x		VT	x	x
ID			NH	x	x	VA	x	x
IL	x	x	NJ	x	x	WA	x	x
IN	x	x	NM		x	WV	x	x
IA	x	x	NY	x	x	WI	x	
KS	x	x	NC	x	x	WY	x	

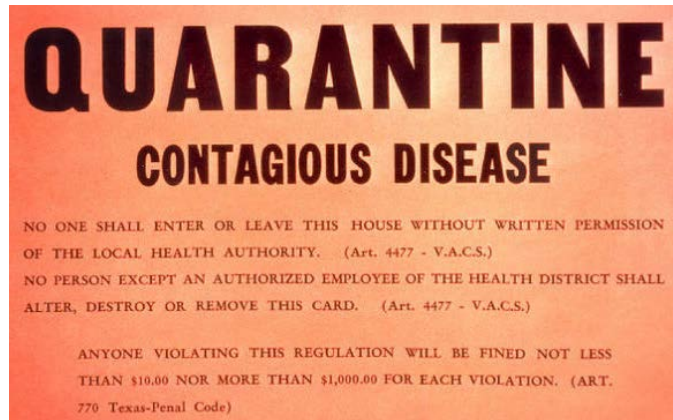
Figure 1. Pedestrian fatalities from distracted driving crashes in the U.S.: Fatality Analysis Reporting System, 2005–2010



VMT = vehicle miles traveled

Need for Information on Law

- Policy Inventory
 - What does the law say?
 - How does the law impact my authority to act?





Difference in Methods

- Scope of Laws
 - Everything in state and local law
 - Not just topic specific
- Data Collection
 - Nebraska team collected laws
 - Temple team verifies

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-5716 Act, how cited.

Sections 71-5716 to 71-5734 shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-5717 Purpose of act.

The purpose of the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act is to protect the public health and welfare by prohibiting smoking in public places and places of employment. The act shall not be construed to prohibit or otherwise restrict smoking in outdoor areas. The act shall not be construed to permit smoking where it is prohibited or otherwise restricted by other applicable law, ordinance, or resolution. The act shall be liberally construed to further its purpose.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-5718 Definitions, where found.

For purposes of the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act, the definitions found in sections 71-5719 to 71-5728 apply.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-5719 Employed, defined.

Employed means hired, contracted, subcontracted, or otherwise engaged to furnish goods or services.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-5720 Employee, defined.

Employee means a person who is employed by an employer in consideration for direct or indirect monetary wages, profit, or other remuneration.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 71-5721 Employer, defined.

Employer means a person, nonprofit entity, sole proprietorship, partnership, joint venture, corporation, limited partnership, limited liability company, cooperative, firm, trust, association, organization, or other business entity, including retail establishments where goods or services are sold, who or which employs one or more employees.

Difference in Methods

- Defining questions
– generalizability
- Data Coding in
Workbench on
LawAtlas.org

Where is smoking prohibited under the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act?

clear

- Place of employment
- Public place
- Child care program
- Outdoor areas

?

What is a place of employment restricted by the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act?

clear

- An indoor area under the control of a proprietor that an employee accesses as part of his or her employment without regard to whether the employee is present or work is occurring at any given time

?

2 child question(s) ▼

What is a public place restricted by the Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act?

clear

- An indoor area to which the public is invited or in which the public is permitted, whether or not the public is always invited or permitted

?

2 child question(s) ▼

Bodies of Law Covered

- Alcohol, Tobacco & Other Drugs
- Chronic Disease & Injury
- Environmental Health
- Foodborne Illness
- Structure & Governance
- Health Professions & Licensure
- Disasters & Emergencies
- Maternal Health, Children & Families
- Nutrition & Physical Activity
- Vital Statistics
- Mental & Behavioral Health
- Seniors & Aging
- Disabilities

NEBRASKA'S LAWATLAS SYSTEM

LawAtlas

The Policy Surveillance Portal

Home / Nebraska Public Health Laws

Nebraska Public Health Laws

The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (NE DHHS) provides public health services to Nebraskans and promotes public health by implementing laws and regulations that address health issues, track health outcomes, and certify and license health professionals.

This section of LawAtlas tracks laws and regulations that relate to NE DHHS's core mission. Below are links to pages that provide contextual information and texts of relevant laws and regulations on key functions of the NE DHHS. Select one of these options below for more information on the specific topic area and to access the surveillance of key public health laws and regulations.

- [Alcohol, Tobacco, and Other Drugs](#)
- [Chronic Disease and Injury](#)
- [Disabilities](#)
- [Disasters and Emergencies](#)
- [Environmental Health](#)
- [Foodborne Illnesses](#)
- [Health Professions Licensure](#)
- [Maternal Health, Children, and Families](#)
- [Mental and Behavioral Health](#)
- [Seniors and Aging](#)
- [Structure and Governance](#)
- [Vital Statistics](#)



Available at:

www.lawatlas.org/nebraska

Local Level Laws

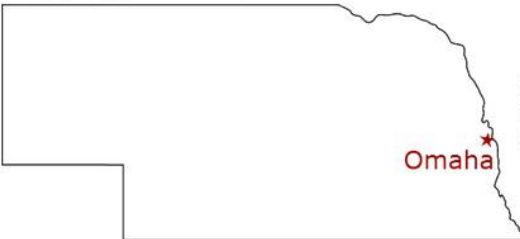
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The Policy Surveillance Portal

Home / Interactive Map

Nebraska Local Laws: Animal Control - Beekeeping and Apiaries

This page provides information on laws and regulations governing permit requirements for beekeeping in Omaha. This page has been updated through May 1, 2015 to include laws currently in effect. To explore variation in these laws click the "Start Here" button below or see the table for a default query displaying information on this topic.



Omaha population (est. 2013): 434,353
Douglas County population (est. 2013): 537,258 (approximately 1/4th of Nebraska's population)
Douglas County total area: 339 sq. mi.

Omaha

Data Codebook Protocol

view table share results

Start here

Nebraska

1 Jurisdiction Found

Nebraska Omaha	
03/01/2015 - 03/31/2015 View Law	
Does the jurisdiction have laws regulating bee hives?	Yes \$
Must an individual have a bee hive permit?	Yes
Who issues a bee hive permit?	County health department \$

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Home / Interactive Map

Nebraska: Professional Licenses - Physicians

This page provides information on Nebraska's laws and regulations addressing the licensure and functions of physicians. Physicians licensed in Nebraska are health professionals who prevent, diagnose, and treat human illness and impairments through the practice of medicine. This page has been updated through October 1, 2014 to include laws currently in effect. To explore variation in these laws click the "Start Here" button below or see the table for a default query displaying information on this topic.

Data Codebook Protocol

view table share results

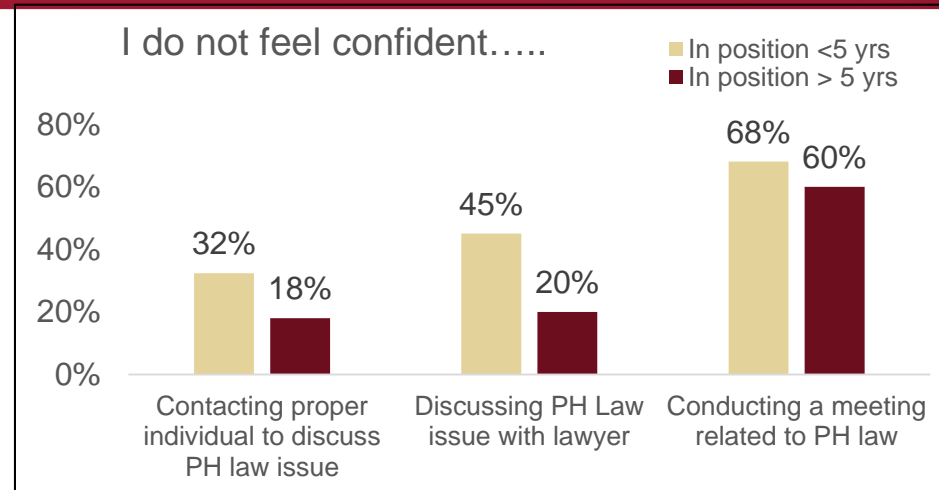
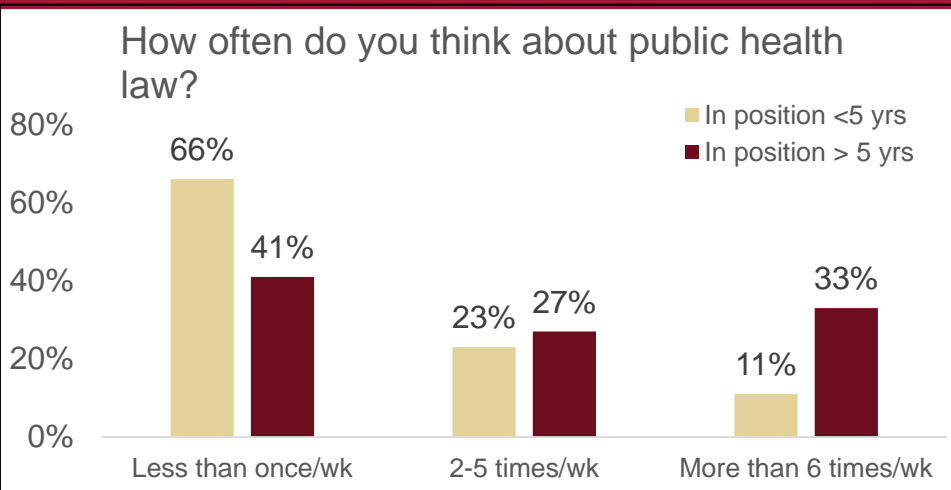
Start here

Nebraska

1 Jurisdiction Found

Nebraska	
12/21/2013 - 10/01/2014 View Law	
What are the requirements to issue a license by examination for a physician?	Receive a doctorate degree related to that profession Pass one or more professional exams Complete a residency or other supervised training program Have good moral character Completed application U.S. citizenship or legal resident \$
Does Nebraska allow for reciprocity with other jurisdictions?	Yes \$
What is the minimum age required to be licensed in this profession?	19 \$
Who is exempt from the license requirements of this profession?	Students Clergy members performing ministerial duties Individuals acting in emergency situations State, local, or federal employees performing official duties Individuals licensed in other jurisdictions \$
How long is a license valid?	Two years \$

Workforce Assessment of Public Health Law



- How to find PH laws? Respondents looked up the law themselves (29%), used Google (51%), used the Department of Health website (40%) or the state legislative website (60%).
- Requests for additional resources include: online directory of laws (84%), in-person workshops (89%) or live webinars (85%) and an online certificate program in public health law (74%)

Evaluation of PH Law

- Integration of legal dataset with existing surveillance data within the health department
 - Clean indoor air laws with data on secondhand smoke exposure and infractions of the law



PHLR PUBLIC HEALTH LAW RESEARCH

Making the Case for Laws that Improve Health

Thank you

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