

Comparison of laws for firearms, alcohol, tobacco, and seat belt use

Courtesy of the Ireland's family, Essex, VT

Issue	Law	Penalty
Alcohol	<p>Must be 21 to legally consume alcohol.</p> <p>Must be 18 to serve or pour alcohol.</p>	<p><u>Penalty for an adult serving or selling to a minor:</u> \$500 to \$2000 fine and/or imprisonment up to 2 years.</p> <p><u>Penalty for a minor who violates this law and operates a motor vehicle and causes death or serious bodily injury to self or others:</u> imprisonment for up to 5 years and/or fined up to \$10,000</p>
Tobacco product	<p>Must be 18 to purchase or possess tobacco products.</p>	<p><u>Penalty for an adult selling or making tobacco products available to a minor:</u> first offence: \$100; subsequent offence; \$500.</p> <p><u>Penalty for a minor who misrepresents their age:</u> \$50 or 10 hours of community service, or both.</p>
Seat belt use	<p>All children under 16 must be in a restraint system or use a seatbelt.</p>	<p><u>Penalty for an adult failing to have child in restraint system/seatbelt:</u> First offence: \$25; Second offence: \$50; Third offence: \$100</p>
Access to guns	<p>Adults other than parents are not allowed to sell or furnish firearms to children under 16.</p> <p>Children under 16 are not allowed to possess firearms without parental consent.</p>	<p><u>Penalty for an adult:</u> Fined not more than \$50 or less than \$10.</p> <p><u>Penalty for a minor who violates this provision:</u> deemed a delinquent child.</p>