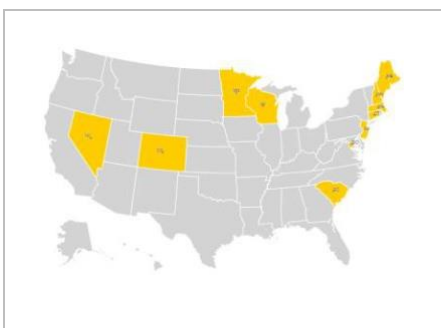


# Summary Report

## Syringe Possession Laws

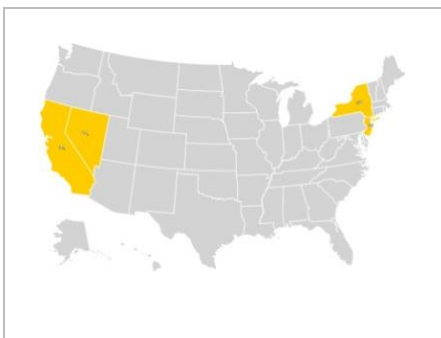
The legality of distributing or possessing a syringe for illegal drug use is governed by drug paraphernalia, syringe prescription, controlled substances, and pharmacy practice laws and regulations. The rules covering distribution and possession may differ, as will the rules on distribution in pharmacies versus syringe exchange programs. For a legal analysis, see Scott Burris, et al., [Racial disparities in Injection-Related HIV: A Case Study of Toxic Law](#), 82 Temple Law Review 1263 (2011). You can see additional maps and tables by visiting [www.lawatlas.org](http://www.lawatlas.org).



### Syringes Removed from Drug Paraphernalia Definition

Ten states and the District of Columbia have removed references to syringes from their definition of drug paraphernalia.

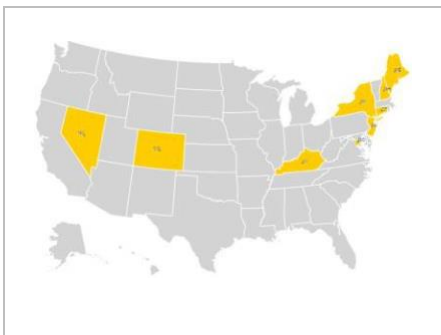
Jurisdictions: 11 (CO, CT, DC, MA, ME, MN, NH, NJ, NV, SC, WI)



### Prescription required for adult possession of a syringe

Four states require a prescription for an adult to legally possess syringes.

Jurisdictions: 4 (CA, NJ, NV, NY)



### Trace Amounts Permitted

While it is illegal to possess controlled substances in the United States, 8 states and the District of Columbia have laws that make exceptions for trace amounts.

Jurisdictions: 9 (CO, CT, DC, KY, ME, NH, NJ, NV, NY)