

2017 ASH Year 10 Snapshot

Information and Methods

The ASH Year 10 Snapshot surveys 20,000-30,000 students every year on their smoking behaviour and attitudes – one of the largest youth smoking surveys in the world.

25 YEARS SINCE THE FIRST ASH YEAR 10 SNAPSHOT

The ASH Year 10 Snapshot is a census style survey – all New Zealand public and private schools with Year 10 students are invited to participate each year. The Snapshot began in 1992 and has been running annually since 1999.

SURVEY ADMINISTRATION



- ASH sends all consenting schools survey packs
- Teachers administer the survey to all Year 10 classes in the school
- The one-page, two sided survey is completed in class time
- Surveys are anonymous with no identifying information
- Completed surveys are returned by courier to ASH
- Spoiled and/or incomplete surveys are removed; completed surveys are sent to data entry provider for entry and coding

DATA ANALYSIS



Returned questionnaires are checked for logical consistency. Only questionnaires with completed answers on age, gender, ethnicity, and ever-smoking status are included for analysis. Ethnicity is coded using prioritised ethnicity classification.* For comparison to previous years, analysis is restricted to those aged 14 and 15 years of age. No other adjustments are made.

PARTICIPANTS

The number of completed questionnaires returned in 2017 was 28,080. The number completed by 14 and 15-year-olds answering age, gender, ethnicity, and smoking status questions correctly reduced the number of questionnaires analysed to 27,005.

27,005 STUDENTS PARTICIPATED

PARTICIPATION RATE

49% SCHOOL PARTICIPATION RATE

49% (263 out of 541) of invited schools agreed to participate in 2017, compared to 54% for the 2016 Snapshot. All but 9 schools returned their questionnaires in time for inclusion in analysis.

SAMPLE CHARACTERISTICS

While not all schools participated in the 2017 Snapshot, the sample characteristics were very similar to the national Year 10 population for 2017.

	2017 ASH Year 10 Snapshot Sample	2017 National Year 10 Population**
Year 10 (n)	27,005	58,604
Gender		
- Male	48%	51%
- Female	52%	49%
Ethnicity (prioritised)*		
- NZ European	53%	52%
- Māori	21%	24%
- Pacific	9%	10%
- Asian	12%	11%
- Other	4%	2%
School decile group		
- Low (1-3)	15%	19%
- Medium (4-7)	45%	44%
- High (8-10)	40%	36%

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The NZYTM is a collaboration between ASH and the Health Promotion Agency (HPA). Particular thanks to NZYTM Project Manager Sicily Sunseri.

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STRENGTHS & LIMITATIONS

Strengths of the Snapshot include its frequent survey points allowing good measurement of trends, large sample allowing detailed sub-sample analysis, and the ability to provide results to individual schools.

Limitations include a potential for bias, with lower participation rates for wharekura (Māori medium schools). As questionnaires are not administered by researchers, there is a potential effect on response rates and quality of data collection. Clustered sampling by school is not factored into the analysis, as a large proportion of the population is sampled.

REFERENCES

*Ministry of Health, 2004. Ethnicity data protocols for the health and disability sector. Wellington, NZ: Author.

**Ministry of Education, 2018. School rolls. Available from: <http://educationcounts.govt.nz>