

Factsheet 1

Youth Smoking in New Zealand



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This factsheet describes the daily, regular and never smoking rates for 14-15 year old students who participated in the ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey 1999-2012.

The ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey has been used to monitor student smoking since 1999. This annual survey samples around half of the schools in New Zealand with Year 10 students. Results are reported for students who were 14 or 15 at the time of the survey. The results reported here are estimates for the whole population based on the Year 10 sample.

This is the largest survey of youth smoking in New Zealand and samples around half of all Year 10 students.

Up until 2010 the survey normally took place in term 3. Since 2011 the fieldwork has changed to term 2.

Methodology

To measure if students had ever tried smoking, they were asked: *Have you **ever** smoked a cigarette, even just a few puffs?* They can answer either 'yes' or 'no'.

To measure smoking frequency, students were asked: *How often do you smoke **now**?*

Options for response were: 'I have never smoked/I am not a smoker now', 'At least once a day', 'At least once a week', 'At least once a month', or 'Less often than once a month'.

Regular smokers are those students who report that they smoke daily, weekly or monthly.

Detailed methodology can be found in the *methodology* factsheet.

Key findings

- 4.1% of all Year 10 students were *daily smokers*, unchanged from 4.1% in 2011.
- 7.7% of students were *regular smokers* (daily, weekly or monthly) in 2012. 8.2% were *regular smokers* in 2011.
- 70.1% of students were *never smokers*.

Figure 1. Percentage of Year 10 students who were daily or regular smokers, 1999-2012

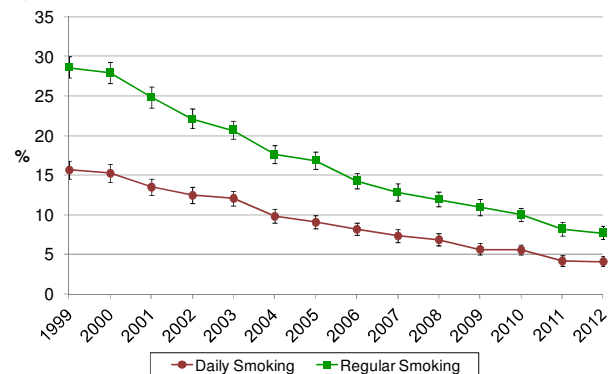
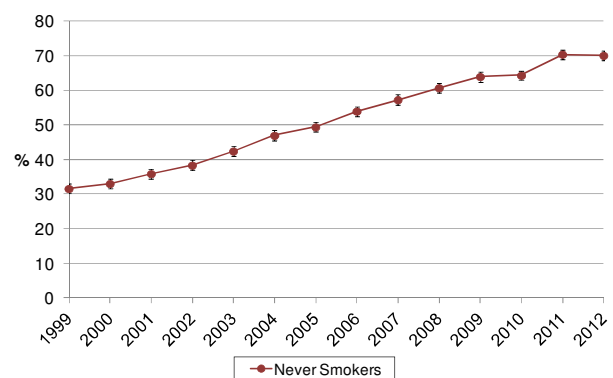


Figure 2. Percentage of Year 10 students who were never smokers, 1999-2012



Discussion points

The survey results show no statistically significant decline in youth smoking, or any increase in *never smoking* rates.

Further information

Detailed information on the survey. Methodology and further results from the 2012 and previous ASH Year 10 Surveys can be found at www.ash.org.nz

Supplementary tables

Supplementary Table 1: Smoking status for all students, percentage, 1999-2012

Smoking Status	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Daily	15.6	15.2	13.5	12.4	12.1	9.8	9.0	8.2	7.3	6.8	5.6	5.5	4.1	4.1
Weekly	6.7	6.3	5.7	4.7	4.3	4.0	3.6	3.3	3.0	2.6	2.7	2.4	2.0	1.8
Monthly	6.3	6.4	5.6	4.9	4.3	3.8	4.1	2.8	2.5	2.5	2.6	2.1	2.1	1.8
Regular	28.6	27.9	24.8	22.1	20.7	17.6	16.8	14.2	12.8	11.9	10.9	10.0	8.2	7.7
Experimental	25.5	25.5	24.6	28.4	26.8	27.7	26.1	25.5	24.0	22.0	19.9	20.1	16.7	17.3
Never Smoked	31.6	33.0	35.9	38.4	42.4	47.0	49.4	54.0	57.3	60.7	64.0	64.4	70.4	70.1
Total (n)	28896	29198	29209	29182	32705	31629	32564	32827	25978	30872	25759	32605	26645	28443

More supplementary tables may be found at www.ash.org.nz