



Factsheet: Youth Smoking in New Zealand

This factsheet describes the daily, regular and never smoking rates for 14-15 year old students in the ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey 1999-2013.

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.

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

- 3.2% of all Year 10 students were *daily smokers*, down from 4.07% in 2012.
- 6.78% of students were *regular smokers* (daily, weekly or monthly) in 2013. 7.68% were *regular smokers* in 2012.
- 75.07% of students were *never smokers*.

Figure 1. Percentage of Year 10 students who were daily or regular smokers, 1999-2013

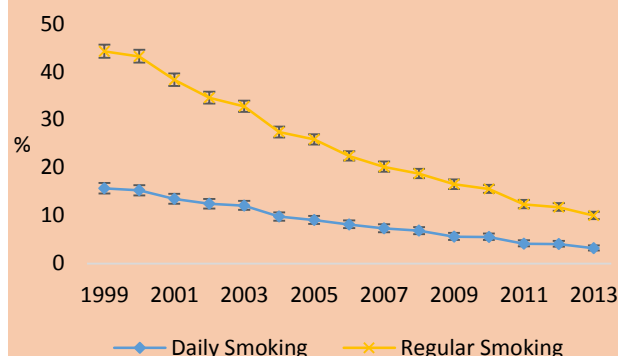
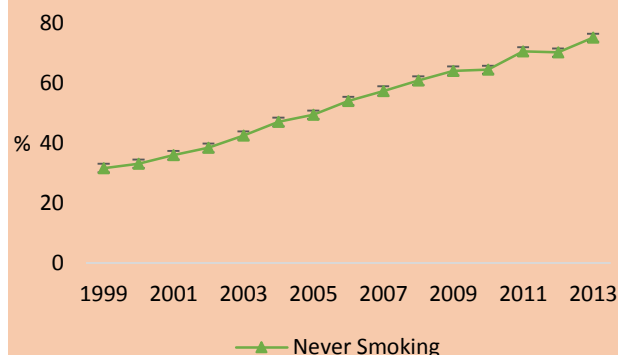


Figure 1. Percentage of Year 10 students who were never smokers, 1999-2013



Discussion points

The survey results show a statistically significant decline in daily, regular smoking rates and an increase in *never smoking* rates from 2012 to 2013.

Further information

Detailed information on the survey. Methodology and further results from the 2013 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, 1999-2013

Smoking Status	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Daily	15.64	15.23	13.48	12.44	12.06	9.78	9.04	8.15	7.31	6.83	5.61	5.53	4.14	4.07	3.2
Weekly	6.68	6.33	5.69	4.74	4.31	3.99	3.62	3.28	3.04	2.55	2.69	2.4	1.99	1.76	1.77
Monthly	6.28	6.38	5.64	4.93	4.3	3.83	4.14	2.8	2.49	2.52	2.59	2.06	2.07	1.84	1.81
Regular	28.6	27.94	24.81	22.1	20.67	17.59	16.8	14.23	12.84	11.9	10.89	9.99	8.2	7.68	6.78
Experimented	25.51	25.53	24.55	28.35	26.81	27.72	26.11	25.53	24	22.01	19.9	20.14	16.69	17.25	13.87
Never Smoked	31.59	33.03	35.89	38.36	42.44	46.98	49.4	53.98	57.28	60.72	63.98	64.35	70.44	70.11	75.07
Total (n)	28,896	29,198	29,209	29,182	32,705	31,629	32,564	32,827	25,978	30,872	25,759	32,605	26,645	28,443	27,921

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