



ASH YEAR 10 SNAPSHOT SURVEY 2021

Information for researchers

What is the ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey?

The ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey is a national school-based self-complete pen and paper survey of Year 10 students run by Action for Smokefree 2025 (ASH). The survey has run every year since 1999 (aside from 2020, when it was cancelled due to Covid-19) and gathers information on smoking and vaping related attitudes and behaviours among Year 10 students.

The ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey is a census-style survey where all schools with Year 10 students in Aotearoa New Zealand are invited to participate. Students complete the two-page questionnaire, which takes around 10 minutes. The questionnaire is administered by teachers in the schools.

Ethical approval for this study has been granted by the Ministry of Health's Health and Disability Ethics Committee (Number MEC/07/10/141).

Why is this being conducted?

The ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey provides national, regional, and school-level smoking prevalence figures. It helps to inform health promotion, advocacy, and education activities to reduce tobacco use among young people. The results are widely reported in the media and in published research in New Zealand and internationally.

Who takes part in the survey?

All schools with Year 10 students are invited to participate, and usually around half of all schools consent to participate. The ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey is then run with all Year 10 classes in each participating school.

What topics are covered?

The survey covers smoking status, e-cigarette/vape use, susceptibility to smoking uptake, quitting experience, access to tobacco and e-cigarettes, and exposure to second-hand smoke.

Where and when are the data published?

ASH reports yearly on national findings (https://www.ash.org.nz/ash_year_10), provides national and regional break downs where possible, and provides schools with their school-level prevalence figures. Findings from 2021 ASH snapshot will be released from 2022 onwards.

Can we use the results/data from the survey?

Anyone can quote information released by ASH, providing the source of information is acknowledged. For information about accessing survey data, please contact Sally Wong at ASH (contact details below).

How do schools and students consent to take part?

ASH will be in touch to gain written consent from principals or deputy principals to participate in the ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey.

ASH sends reminders to schools that have not returned consent forms. Schools are given an insert for their school newsletters that provides information about the survey to parents. It is recommended that this notice be included in a newsletter at least two weeks before the school undertakes the survey.

Parental consent is not sought for the ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey as the questionnaires are anonymous and confidential, and because the consent of the principals as 'responsible adults' is considered sufficient. On the day, students can choose whether or not to participate.

At an individual level, the questionnaires remain anonymous and confidential to protect the privacy of students' responses. The results may also be shared with local Public Health Unit (PHU) if consent is obtained (this is part of the consent form process). Results will not be shared with the school or PHU if a school that returns 10 or fewer completed the questionnaires, in order to protect students' anonymity. Schools participating in the research will not be named or identified in any form in any published reports.

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Key dates

- April 2021: Principals of all New Zealand schools with Year 10 students receive a letter informing them of the upcoming NZYTM
- April to May 2021: Schools are contacted to ask for consent to participate
- May 2021: Questionnaire packs are delivered to consenting schools
- 26 May to 9 July 2021: Schools undertake the ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey
- 6 August 2021: Last date to return completed questionnaires.

Schools will receive their school-level smoking results from ASH in early 2022, provided that they have returned the surveys to ASH by the due date. If there are fewer than ten students returning completed surveys, the school-level prevalence figures will not be provided to protect the anonymity of those students.

More information

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For more information on the ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey visit
https://www.ash.org.nz/ash_year_10