

ASH Year 10 Snapshot 2013

Information for those working with schools

Please Note: This information only relates to the 2013 survey.

The ASH Year 10 Snapshot is part of the New Zealand Youth Tobacco Monitor (NZYTM). It is an annual survey of around 30,000 Year 10 students throughout New Zealand. It has been running for more than a decade and provides valuable insights into youth smoking.

Each year ASH publishes data on the youth smoking trends for Year 10 students in New Zealand schools, with regional breakdowns where possible. This information is used in a range of published articles and cited by local and national news media outlets.

How do schools participate?

- **March 2013:** Principals of all New Zealand schools with Year 10 students received a letter of invitation and a consent form to return to ASH by **19 April 2013**.
- **May - July 2013:** ASH sends school packs to schools that have consented, including questionnaires, a cover letter, and instructions for class teachers.
- **03 June – 12 July 2013 (Term 2):** Schools run the survey.
- **02 August 2013:** Deadline for schools to return questionnaires to ASH.

How do schools and pupils consent to take part?

Principals or Deputy Principals consent by returning the signed consent form to ASH. Students can choose to complete the questionnaire or not. This approach has been approved by the Ministry of Health's Multi-regional Ethics Committee.

How is the survey run in schools?

The survey is a paper questionnaire which takes 10 minutes to complete. Instructions for administering the survey are provided to teachers who run it in a way that works for the school.

When do schools run the survey?

The survey is run in Term 2, at least 30 days into term (from 03 June 2013) so that the responses represent school term time rather than holidays.

When do schools get results?

Schools will receive their school-level smoking data in Term 4, provided that schools return the surveys to ASH by **02 August**. If there are fewer than ten students in Year 10 at a school, school-level prevalence figures are not provided to protect the anonymity of those students.

Should health promoters encourage schools in their area to participate?

If you are talking with a school you should refer them to the letter of invite that was sent to the Principal and encourage them to return the consent form to ASH.

Can we find out which schools are participating?

Under our ethical obligations, we cannot give information out about which schools participate as we must protect confidentiality.

What if a school has not been invited to participate?

All New Zealand schools with Year 10 students are invited to participate, unless they have specifically asked ASH in the past **not** to contact them. If a school has not received or has lost the letter of invite, ask them to contact Deidre at ASH who will send out another letter. ASH also sends reminders to schools that have not returned consent forms.

More information

If you would like any other information or copies of information provided to schools, please contact Deidre Patchett at ASH on (09) 520 4866 or email dpatchett@ash.org.nz.

Previous years' questionnaires and reports can also be found at <http://www.ash.org.nz/research-and-information/ash-research/latest-ash-year-10-survey/>

For further information about the wider NZYTM project, please contact Joanna White at HPA on (04) 912 0319 or email j.white@hpa.org.nz.