

Information topic	Details
Indicator name	Percentage of children and adults exposed to second-hand smoke in their home
Domain and topic	Indoor environment (and Children's Environmental Health) domain: Second-hand smoke exposure
Indicator definition and units	Number and percentage of children and adults exposed to second-hand smoke in their home.
Data source	2012/13, 2015/16, 2023/24, and 2024/25 New Zealand Health Survey, conducted by the Ministry of Health.
Numerator	Children and adults who are exposed to second-hand smoke in their home.
Denominator	All children and adults.
Methodology	<p>Exposure to second-hand smoke was asked about in the adult (15+ years) and child (0–14 years) questionnaires of the New Zealand Health Survey. The question asked was:</p> <p><i>Does anyone smoke while inside your home? Yes/No/Don't know/Refused</i></p> <p>For children aged 0–14 years, a primary caregiver answered the child questionnaire as a proxy for the child. The above questions were reworded to refer to the child.</p> <p>The 2024/25 survey results refer to the usually resident population of all ages, who are living in permanent dwellings, aged-care facilities, student accommodation; usual residents who live in a household, but are away for less than four weeks; children under shared care arrangements if they spend at least four days per week in the current household or use equal time in the current household and somewhere else, and they are present in the household on the day of recruitment; overseas visitors who intend to stay in New Zealand for more than 12 months.</p> <p>The following people were not included in the survey: those in most types of non-private dwellings (prisons, hospitals, hospices,</p>

	<p>dementia care units and hospital-level care in aged-care facilities); non-New Zealand diplomats, diplomatic staff and their dependants; people who usually live in a household but are currently away and will not return within the next four weeks (except students based in hostels and boarding schools); people in households located on islands other than the North Island, South Island and Waiheke Island.</p> <p>Confidence interval: 95% confidence intervals were calculated by the Ministry of Health using jack-knife weights. Confidence intervals are presented in brackets in the text and tables, and as vertical bars on graphs.</p> <p>For more details, see the NZHS Methodology report (Ministry of Health 2025).</p>
Time period and time scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2024/25 data: survey data was collected from July 2024 to July 2025 - 2023/24 data: survey data was collected from July 2023 to July 2024 - 2015/16 data: survey data was collected from July 2015 to June 2016 - 2012/13 data: survey data was collected from July 2012 to June 2013
Population coverage	National
Spatial Coverage	<p>National and by health region.</p> <p>The four health regions, and the districts they cover, are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Northern – Northland, Waitematā, Auckland and Counties Manukau • Te Manawa Taki – Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Lakes, Tairāwhiti and Taranaki • Central – MidCentral, Whanganui, Capital & Coast/Hutt Valley, Hawkes Bay and Wairarapa • Te Waipounamu – Canterbury, West Coast, Nelson Marlborough, Southern and South Canterbury.
Measures of frequency	Results are presented by sex, age group, ethnic group (total response), neighbourhood deprivation (NZDep2018 quintiles), and health regions.

Metadata

Limitations of indicator	There is some uncertainty in the estimates due to taking a sample, reflected in the 95% confidence intervals for estimates.
Limitations of data source	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The survey results may under- or over-estimate indicators due to the nature of self-reported information. - Estimates with a high relative sampling error (RSE) are suppressed if the RSE is over 100% or flagged as 'low quality' if the RSE is over 30%. These should be interpreted with caution as they have lower precision.
Related indicators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maternal smoking at two weeks postnatal - Health burden due to second-hand smoke exposure - Sudden unexpected death in infancy (SUDI) - Asthma hospitalisations (0–14 years) - Asthma prevalence (2–14 years) - Lower respiratory tract infections hospitalisations (0–14 years) - Meningococcal disease notifications (0–14 years) - Household crowding (0–14 years, and total population)
For more information	<p>For more information on the New Zealand Health Survey, visit the New Zealand Health Survey website:</p> <p>https://www.health.govt.nz/statistics-research/surveys/new-zealand-health-survey</p>
References	<p>Ministry of Health. 2025a. Questionnaires and Content Guide 2024/25: New Zealand Health Survey Ministry of Health NZ Wellington: Ministry of Health.</p> <p>Ministry of Health. 2025b. Methodology Report 2024/25: New Zealand Health Survey Ministry of Health NZ Wellington: Ministry of Health.</p>