

New Zealand Health Survey 2016/17 results on daily smoking prevalence¹

Overall daily smoking prevalence has dropped

- 13.8% (about 529,000) of adults were daily smokers in 2016/17, down from 14.2% in 2015/16 and 18.3% in 2006/07
- Smoking prevalence has decreased significantly² among both males and females since 2006/07

Those living in the most deprived areas³ are almost 4 times as likely to smoke daily

- Adults living in the most socio-economically deprived areas were more than 3.85 times as likely to be daily smokers as people living in the least deprived areas, after adjusting for age, sex and ethnic differences

Māori adults⁴ have shown the greatest decrease in smoking prevalence between 2015/16 and 2016/17, compared to other ethnic groups

- 32.5% of Māori adults were daily smokers, down from 35.5% in 2015/16 and 39.2% in 2006/07
- Māori adults were 2.79 times more likely to smoke daily than non-Māori
- Daily smoking prevalence changed from 36.5% in 2015/16 to 35.5% in 2016/17 for Māori women, and from 34.3% in 2015/16 to 29.1% in 2016/17 for Māori men

Pacific adult smoking prevalence has not significantly changed

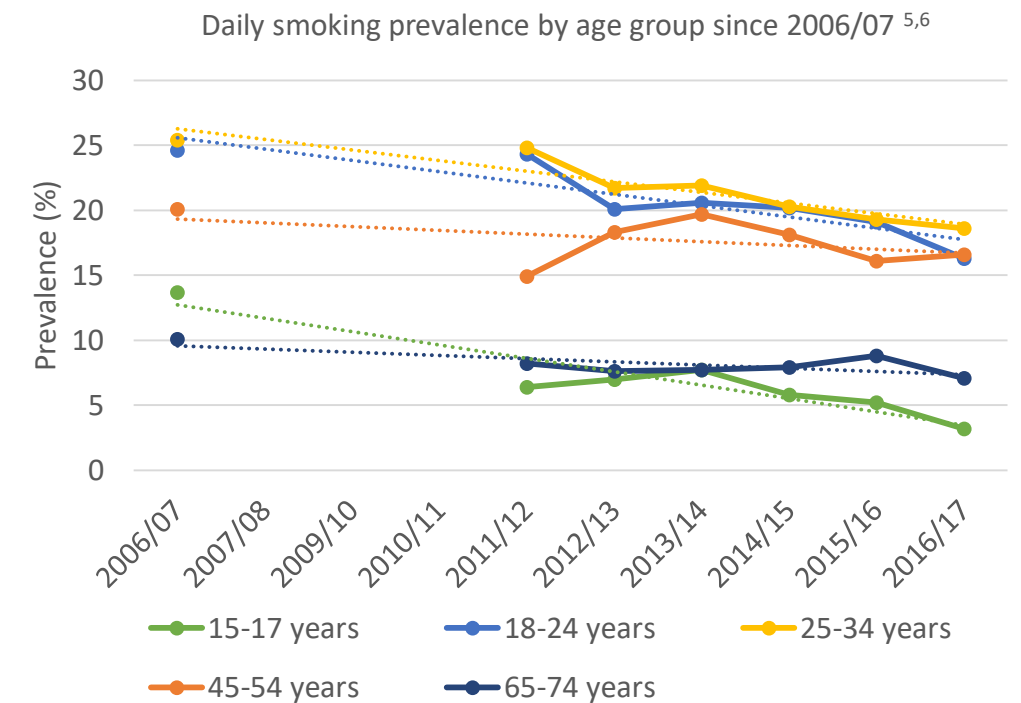
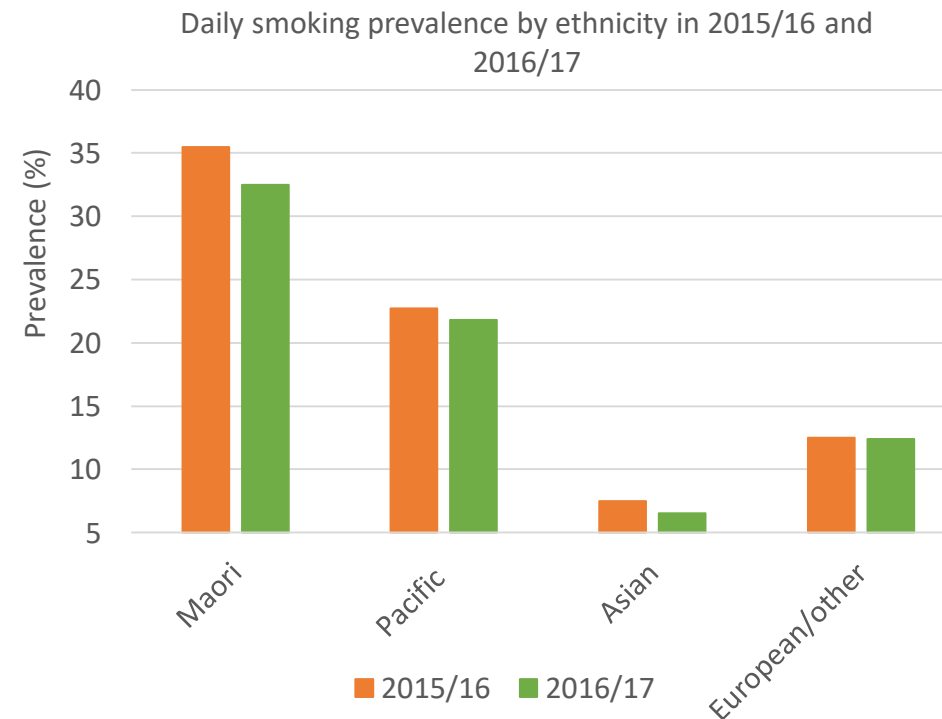
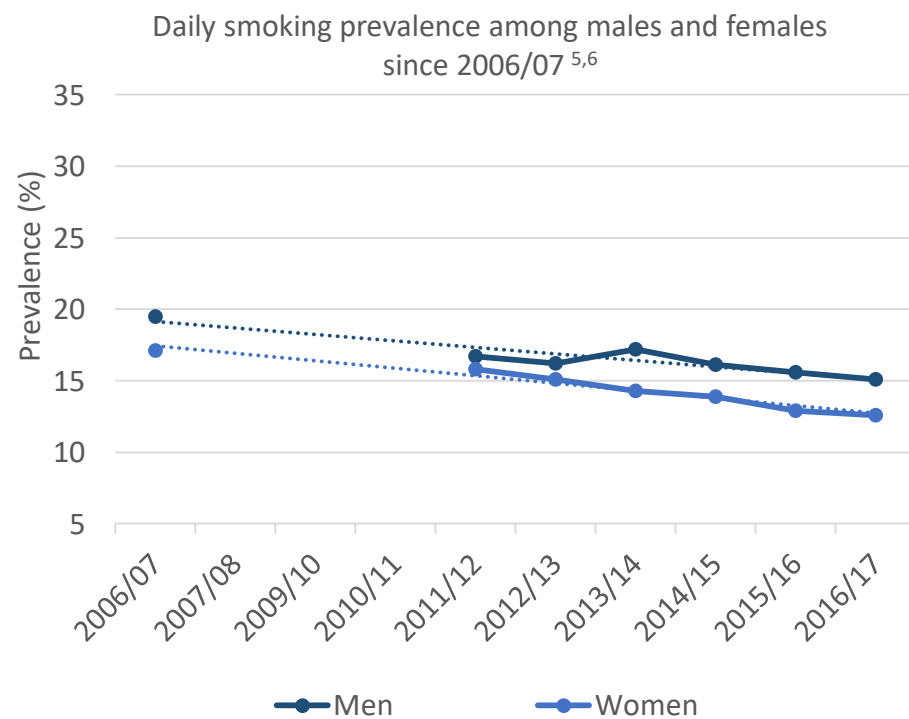
- 21.8% of Pacific adults were daily smokers in 2016/17 (not a significant change from previous years (22.7% in 2015/16), nor was it over the 10-year period (24.8% in 2006/07))

Young adult smoking prevalence has continued to drop since 2011/12. 18-24 year olds showed a much higher prevalence of smoking than 15-17 year olds

- 18-24 year olds showed a change in daily smoking prevalence (16.3% in 2016/17 down from 19.1% in 2015/16), although they have very high rates compared to 15-17 year olds (3.2% in 2016/17 down from 5.2% in 2015/16)

There has been no significant change for adults over 35 years

- Since 2011/12, daily smoking rates have declined for younger adults (aged 15-34), but there has been no significant change for adults aged 35 years and over
- Adults aged 45-54 years and 65-74 years are the only age groups above 35 years who have seen a significant reduction in smoking prevalence since 2006/07^{5,6}



¹ Daily smokers (aged 15+ years) are current smokers who smoke every day, and have smoked more than 100 cigarettes in their whole life. The 100-cigarette threshold limits the indicator to people with established tobacco use.

² A statistically significant difference is likely to represent a real change over time rather than a random variation due to the sampling process.

³ This refers to the NZDep2013, which measures the level of socioeconomic deprivation for each neighbourhood according to a range of variables including income, transport, household crowding, employment status and qualifications.

⁴ Adults aged 15 years and over. Smoking prevalence by age and ethnicity breakdowns is not available.

⁵ These figures can jump about – most importantly, the trend is downward over the 10-year period.

⁶ The dotted lines are trend lines. There was no data for 2007/08-2010/11.