

ASH Year 10 Snapshot Survey 2023

Topline – Youth Smoking and Vaping

The ASH Year 10 Snapshot surveys Year 10 students in Aotearoa New Zealand every year on their smoking and vaping behaviours and attitudes. It is one of the largest ongoing youth smoking surveys in the world, with 29,260 students participating in 2023. The Survey uses robust and validated measures and is conducted to a high methodological standard, that has been subject to peer review and ethics approval. It was not carried out in 2020 due to Covid-19. All graphs are shown with 95% confidence intervals.

Key findings

No changes in daily vaping or daily smoking; regular vaping decreases, never smoking increases, and ever tried vaping decreases for second consecutive year

- Daily smoking remains low (stable at 1.2%); no change in daily vaping (stable at 10.0%)
- Regular vaping significantly decreases for the second consecutive year (18.2% in 2022 to 16.4% in 2023)
- Never smoking significantly increases (85.8% to 87.8%) and ever tried vaping significantly decreases (40.1% to 37.5%) for the second consecutive year.

No changes in daily vaping or daily smoking by ethnicity; regular vaping and ever tried vaping decreases for European/Pākehā students; never smoking increases for Māori students

- No significant changes in daily vaping or daily smoking when analysed by ethnicity and by ethnicity & gender
- European/Pākehā students showed significant decreases in regular vaping (15.7% to 13.9%) and ever tried vaping (37.6% to 35.5%)
- Māori students showed a significant increase in never smoking (73.8% to 77.7%), in particular for Māori girls (71.0% to 76.8%)
- Non-Māori non-Pacific boys and girls showed a significant decrease in regular vaping and ever tried vaping
- Māori boys showed a significant decrease in ever tried vaping (56.4% to 52.6%)
- Smoking and vaping prevalences are highest in Māori students, followed by Pacific, European/Pākehā, and then Asian students.

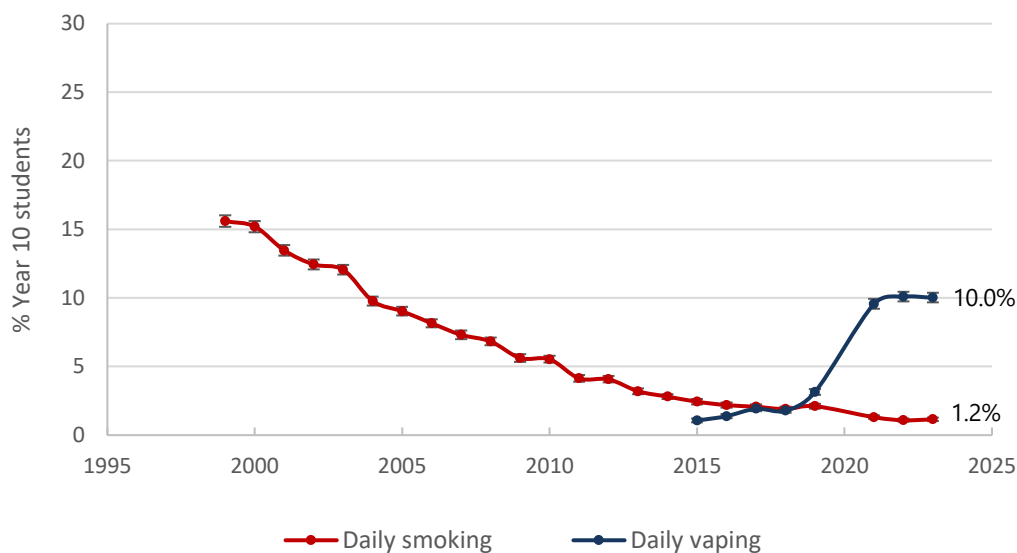
Regular vaping among students who have never smoked decreases

- Regular vaping among students who have never smoked showed a significant decrease (10.3% to 9.5%)
- There was no significant change in daily vaping prevalence for students who have never smoked (4.6% in 2023).

No changes in daily vaping or daily smoking; regular vaping decreases, never smoking increases, and ever tried vaping decreases for second consecutive year

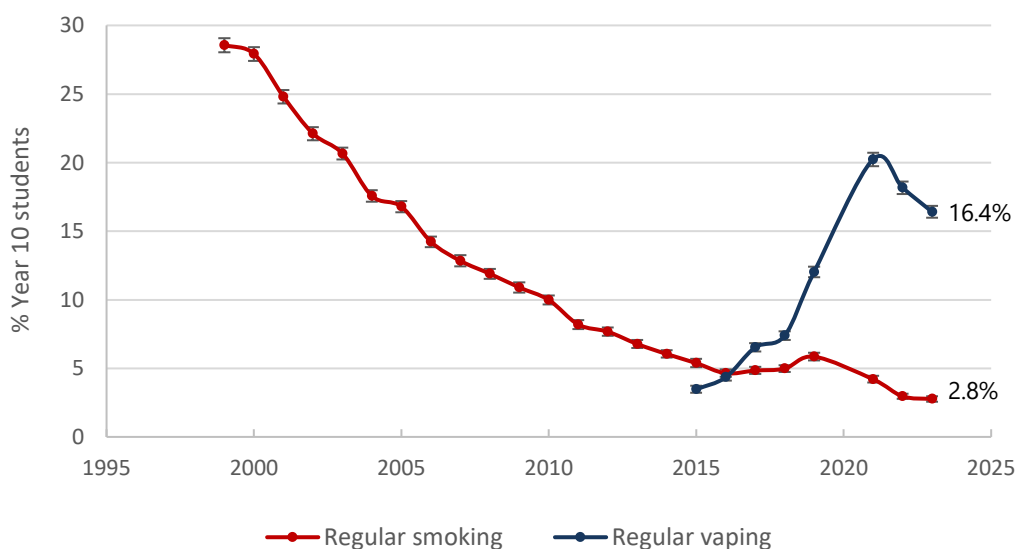
Daily smoking remains low (stable at 1.2%); no change in daily vaping (stable at 10.0%). After a large increase in daily vaping between 2019 and 2021, the prevalence of daily vaping appears to have levelled off. Daily use is those who answer that they vape or smoke at least once a day. See Figure 1.

Figure 1: Youth daily smoking (1999–2023) and daily vaping prevalence (2015–2023)



“Regular” use is defined as participants that report smoking or vaping either daily, weekly, or monthly. **Regular vaping showed a statistically significant decrease** (18.2% in 2022 to 16.4% in 2023), for the second consecutive year. There was no change in regular smoking (2.8% in 2023). See Figure 2.

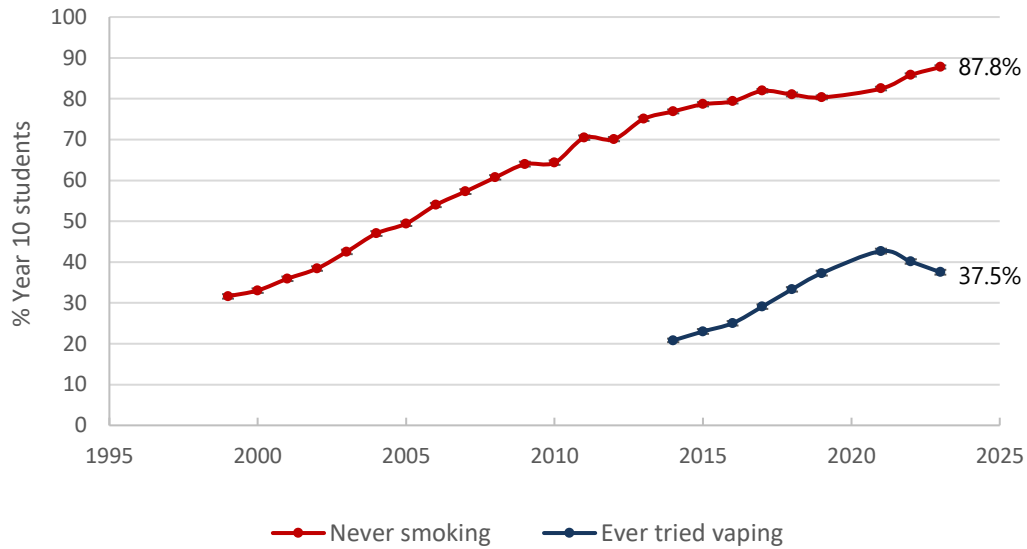
Figure 2: Regular smoking (1999–2023) and regular vaping prevalence (2014–2023)



Never smoking rates measure the proportion of students who have never smoked a cigarette, even just a few puffs. **Never smoking continues to increase by a statistically significant amount**, from 85.8% in 2022 to 87.8% in 2023 – the highest never smoking prevalence in the history of the Survey. See Figure 3.

“Ever tried” vaping is defined as having ever tried an vape, even just a few puffs. It is a measure of overall experimental use and includes both current vapers and one-off experimental use. **Ever tried vaping decreases by a statistically significant amount**, a decreasing trend that continues from last year (40.1% in 2022 to 37.5% in 2023). See Figure 3.

Figure 3: Never smoking (1999–2023) and ever tried vaping prevalence (2014–2023)



No changes in daily vaping or daily smoking by ethnicity; regular vaping and ever tried vaping decreases for European/Pākehā students; never smoking increases for Māori students

There were no statistically significant changes in daily vaping or daily smoking by ethnicity between 2022 and 2023. Smoking and vaping prevalences were highest in Māori students, followed by Pacific, European/Pākehā, and then Asian students. See Figure 4 and 5.

There were no statistically significant changes in daily vaping or daily smoking by ethnicity & gender between 2022 and 2023. Girls were more likely to report daily vaping than boys for both Māori and non-Māori non-Pacific by a statistically significant amount. See Figure 6 and 7.

Figure 4: Daily smoking prevalence by ethnicity (1999–2023)

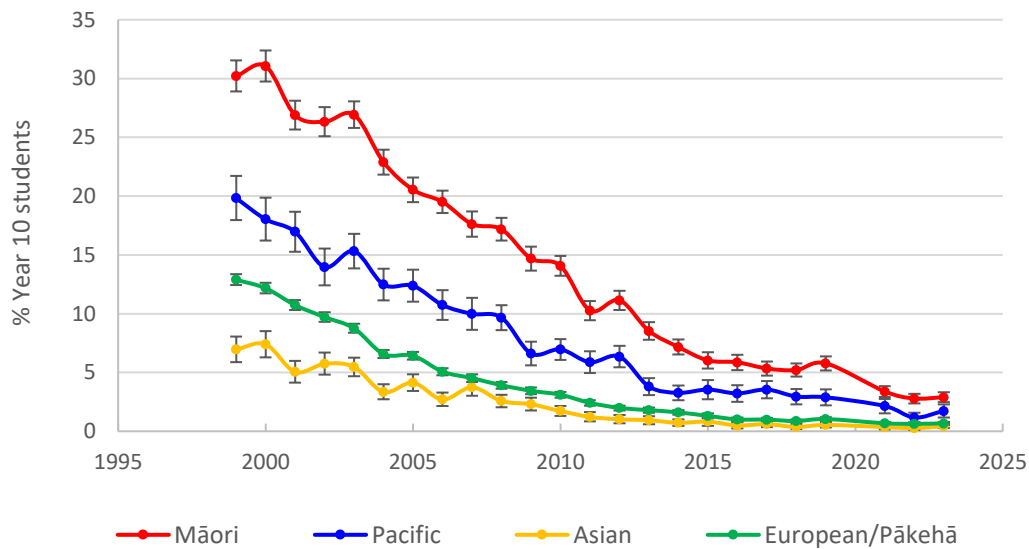


Figure 5: Daily vaping prevalence by ethnicity (2015–2023)

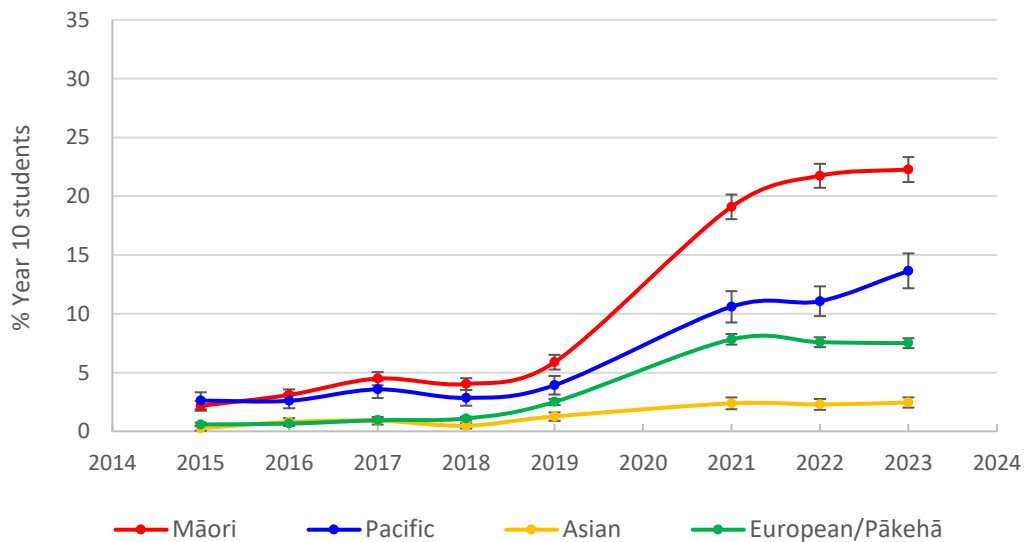


Figure 6: Daily smoking prevalence by ethnicity & gender (1999–2023)

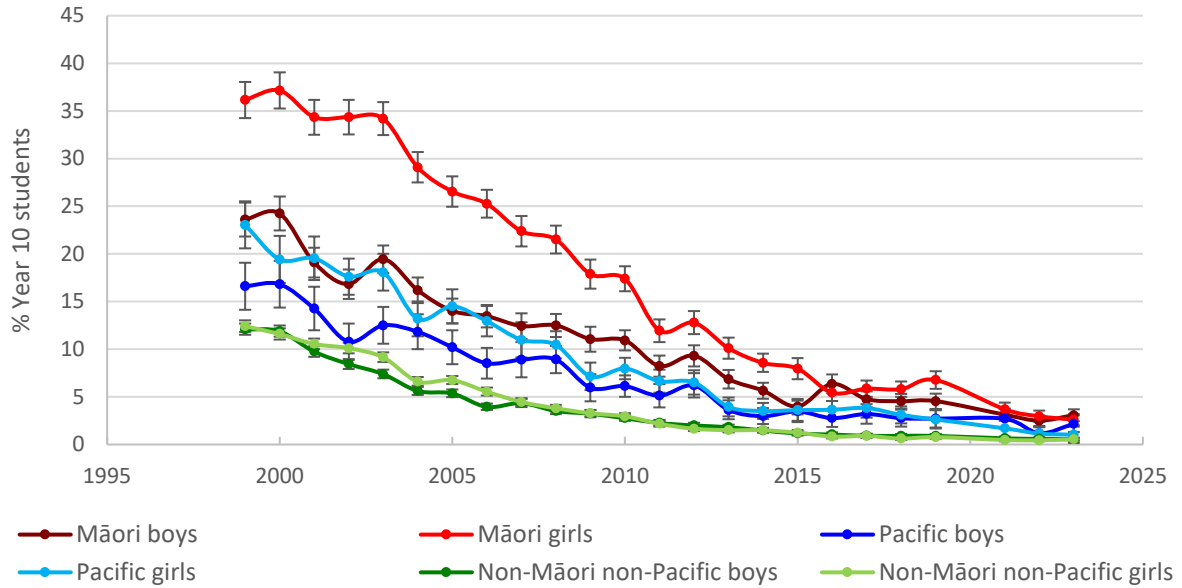
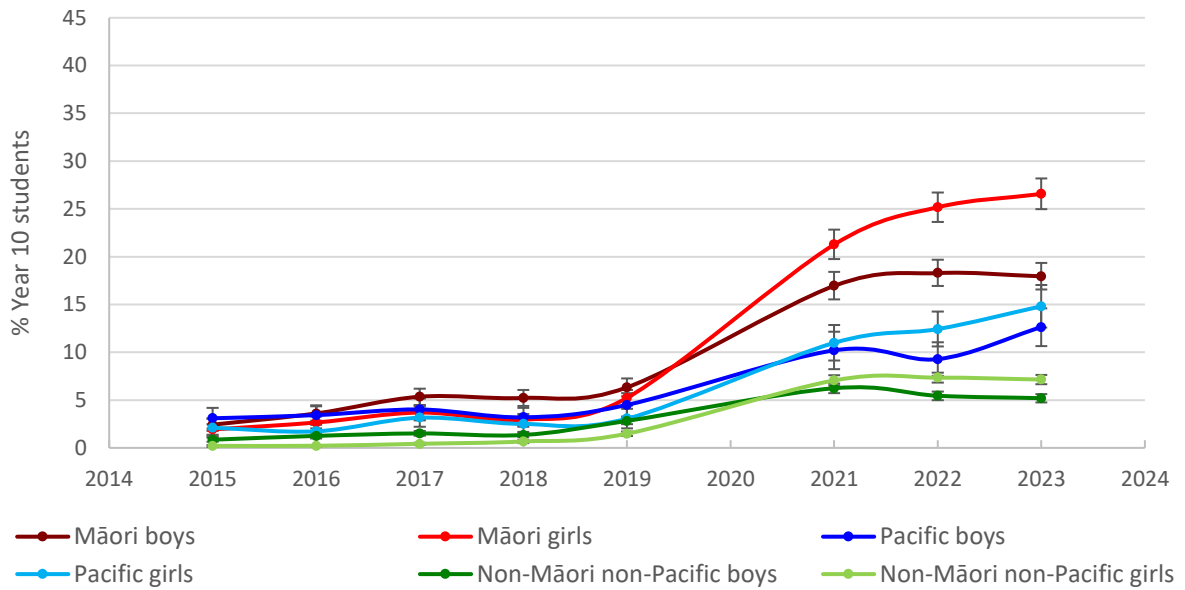


Figure 7: Daily vaping prevalence by ethnicity & gender (2015–2023)



There were no statistically significant changes in regular smoking by ethnicity or by ethnicity & gender. There have been large decreases in regular smoking prevalence for all ethnicities since 1999, however there are still differences between the four major ethnicities. Regular smoking was highest for Māori students at 6.2%, followed by Pacific (3.7%), European/ Pākehā (2.0%), and Asian (1.0%) students – all differences statistically significant. There have been large decreases in regular smoking prevalence for Māori girls and boys in recent years, with Māori girls now reporting statistically similar levels of regular smoking (6.3%) to Māori boys (5.9%). See Figure 8 and 9.

Figure 8: Regular smoking prevalence by ethnicity (1999–2023)

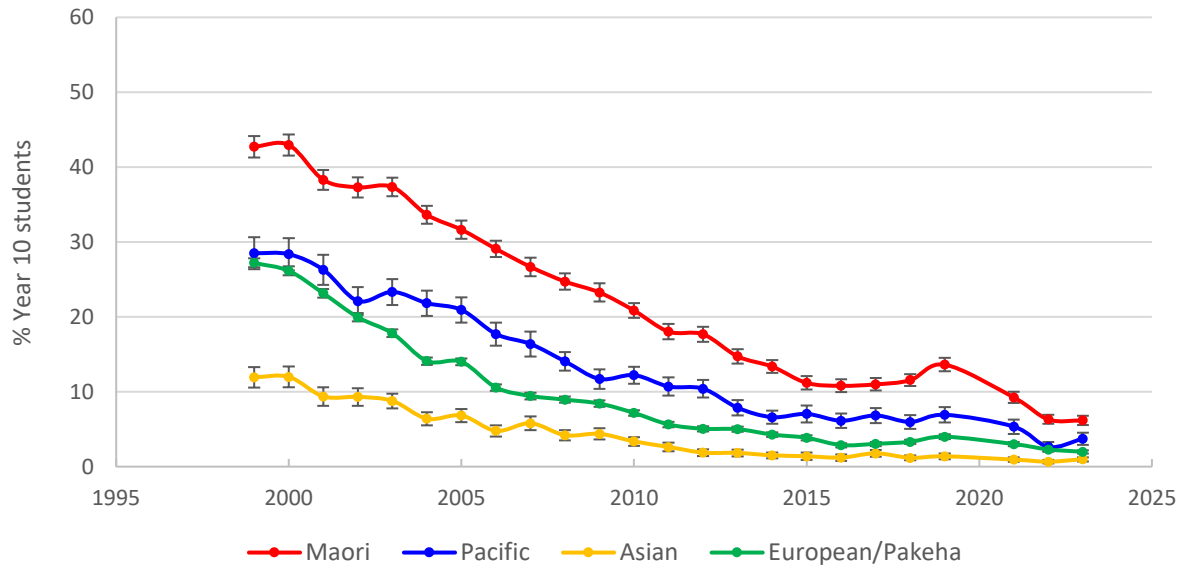
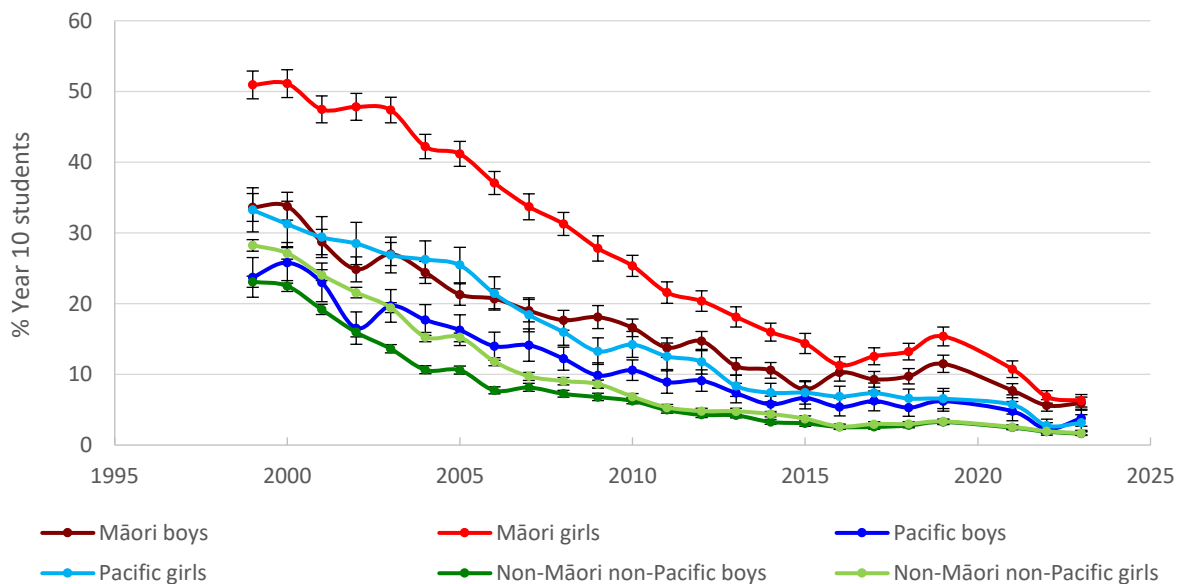


Figure 9: Regular smoking prevalence by ethnicity & gender (1999–2023)



There was a statistically significant decrease in regular vaping for European/Pākehā students (15.7% to 13.9%) and non-Māori non-Pacific boys (11.1% to 9.2%) and girls (15.3% to 13.6%), but there were no statistically significant changes for other ethnicities. Regular vaping was highest for Māori students (32.0%), followed by Pacific (22.5%), European/ Pākehā (13.9%), and Asian (4.5%) students – all differences statistically significant. Regular vaping prevalence was highest for Māori girls (38.7%), and lowest for non-Māori non-Pacific boys (9.2%). Girls were more likely to report regular vaping than boys for all main ethnicities by a statistically significant amount. See Figure 10 and 11.

Figure 10: Regular vaping prevalence by ethnicity (2015–2023)

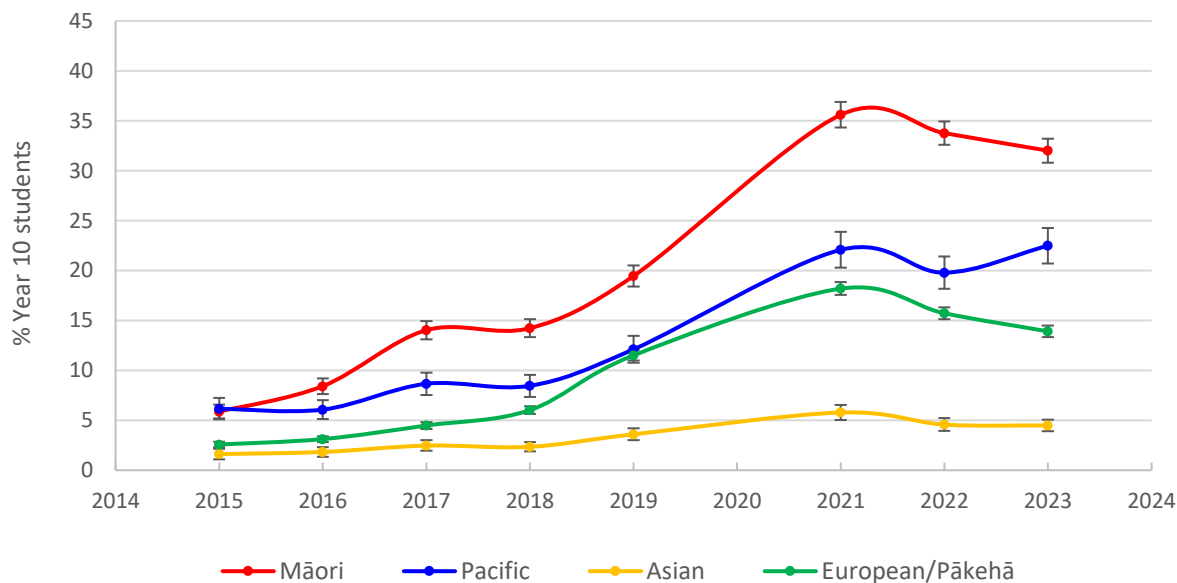
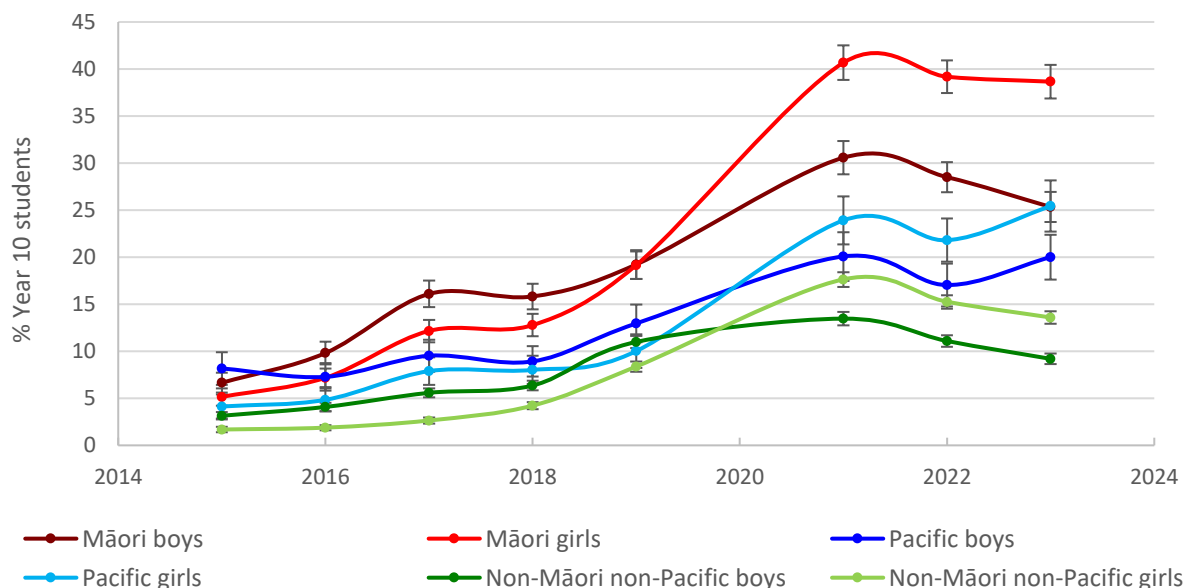


Figure 11: Regular vaping prevalence by ethnicity & gender (2015–2023)



Māori students showed a statistically significant increase in never smoking (73.8% to 77.7%), in particular for Māori girls (71.0% to 76.8%). Despite this increase, the never smoking prevalence for Māori students (77.7%) remains lower than other major ethnicities. Pacific students have a never smoking prevalence of 87.0%, followed by European/Pākehā (89.1%) and Asian (95.5%) students. There have been large increases in never smoking prevalence for Māori girls and boys in recent years, with Māori girls now reporting statistically similar levels of never smoking (76.8%) to Māori boys (78.9%). There were no statistically significant differences between girls and boys for any ethnicity. See Figure 12 and 13.

Figure 12: Never smoking prevalence by ethnicity (1999–2023)

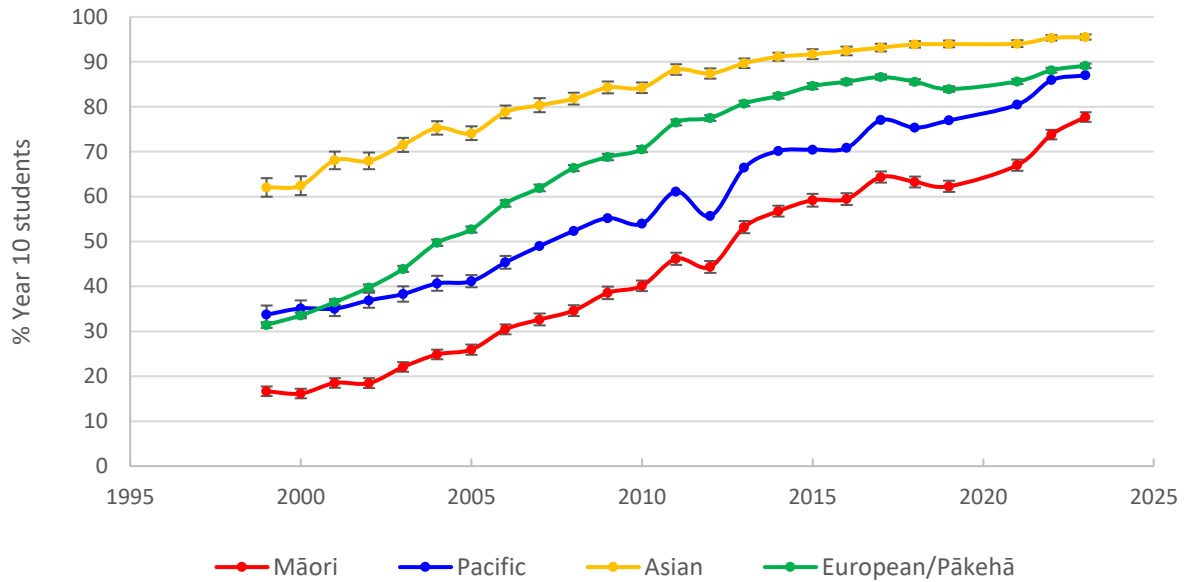
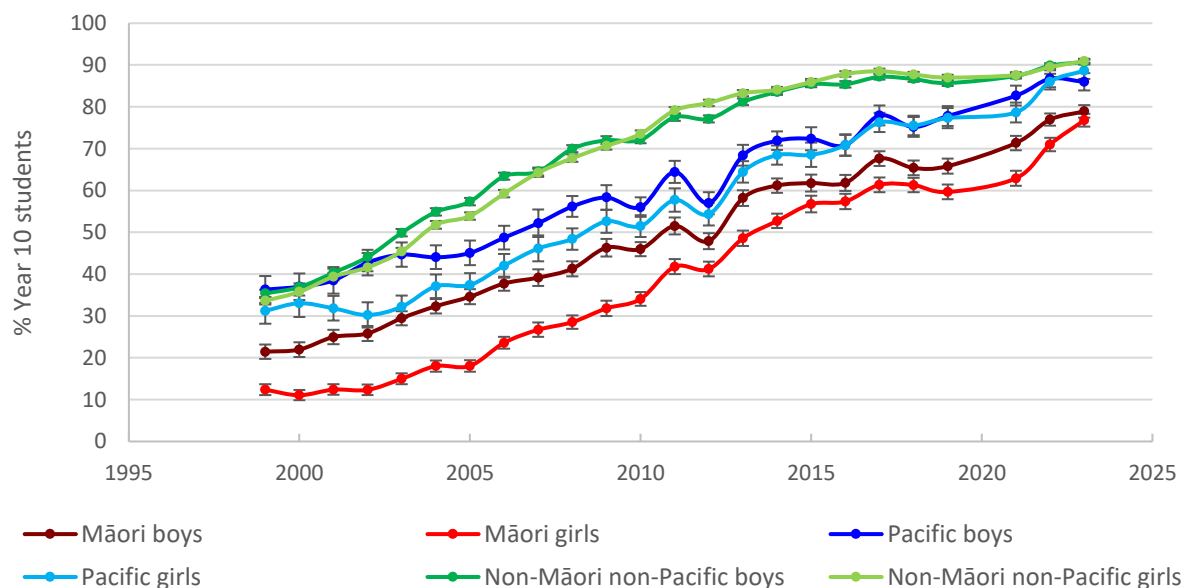


Figure 13: Never smoking prevalence by ethnicity & gender (1999–2023)



European/Pākehā students showed a statistically significantly decrease in ever tried vaping (37.6% to 35.5%) for the second consecutive year, but there was no statistically significant change for all other ethnicities. There are statistically significant differences in ever tried vaping between the major ethnicities, with Māori students reporting the highest prevalence (59.0%), followed by Pacific students (48.3%), then European/Pākehā students (35.5%), and Asian students (15.2%). See Figure 14.

Māori boys (56.4% to 52.6%) and non-Māori non-Pacific boys (31.7% to 28.6%) and girls (34.3% to 32.1%) showed a statistically significantly decrease in ever tried vaping. In 2023, ever tried vaping prevalence was highest for Māori girls (65.4%), and lowest for non-Māori non-Pacific boys (28.6%). Girls were more likely to report ever trying vaping than boys for all groups by a statistically significant amount. See Figure 15.

Figure 14: Ever tried vaping prevalence by ethnicity (2014–2023)

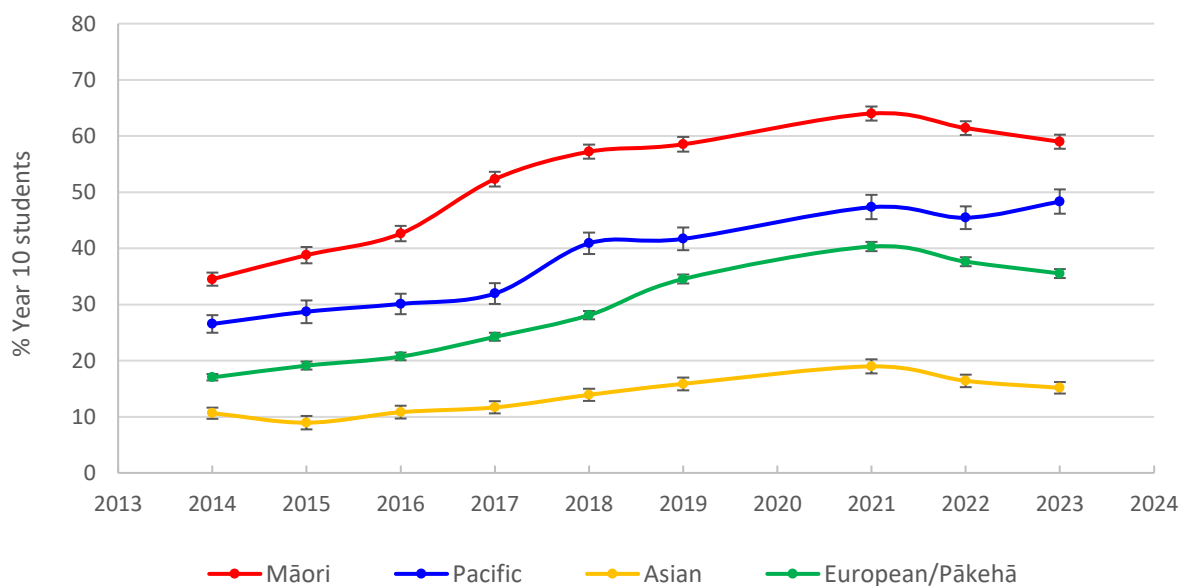
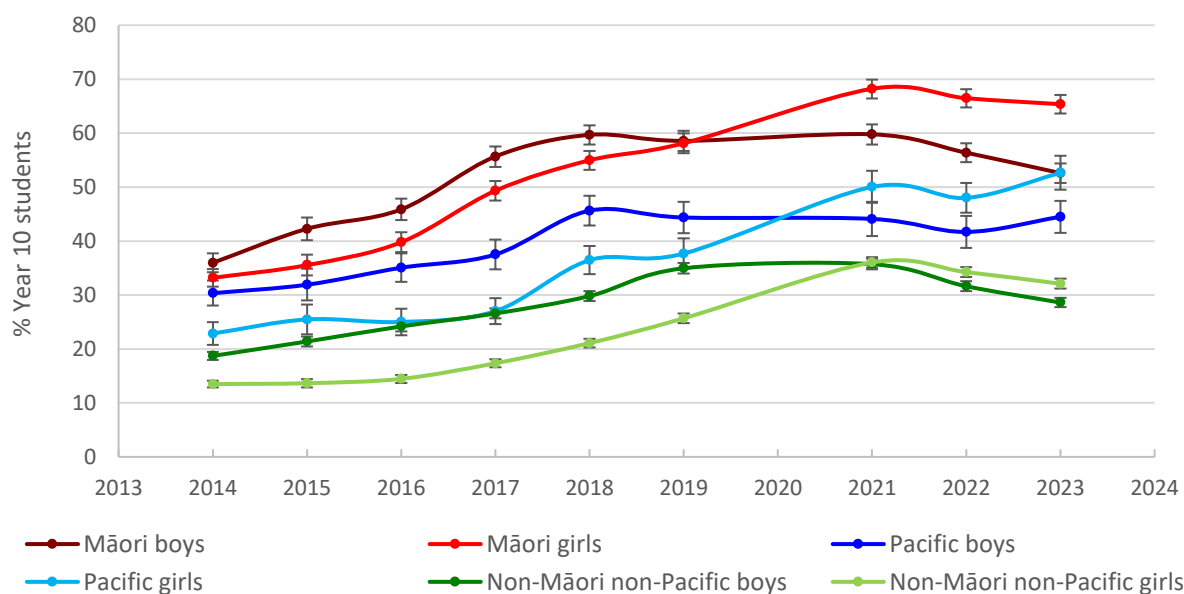


Figure 15: Ever tried vaping prevalence by ethnicity & gender (2014–2023)



Regular vaping among students who have never smoked decreases

Of the 25,251 students that reported never smoking, 4.6% also reported vaping daily in 2023. There was no statistically significant change in daily vaping prevalence for students who have never smoked. There was also no statistically significant change in daily vaping prevalence for students who smoke daily (87.5% in 2023). See Figure 16.

Regular vaping among those who have never smoked showed a statistically significant decrease (10.3% in 2022 to 9.5% in 2023). This is the first decrease in regular vaping for students who have never smoked. There was also no statistically significant change in regular vaping prevalence for students who smoke daily (93.1% in 2023). See Figure 17.

Figure 16: Daily vaping prevalence by smoking status (2015–2023)

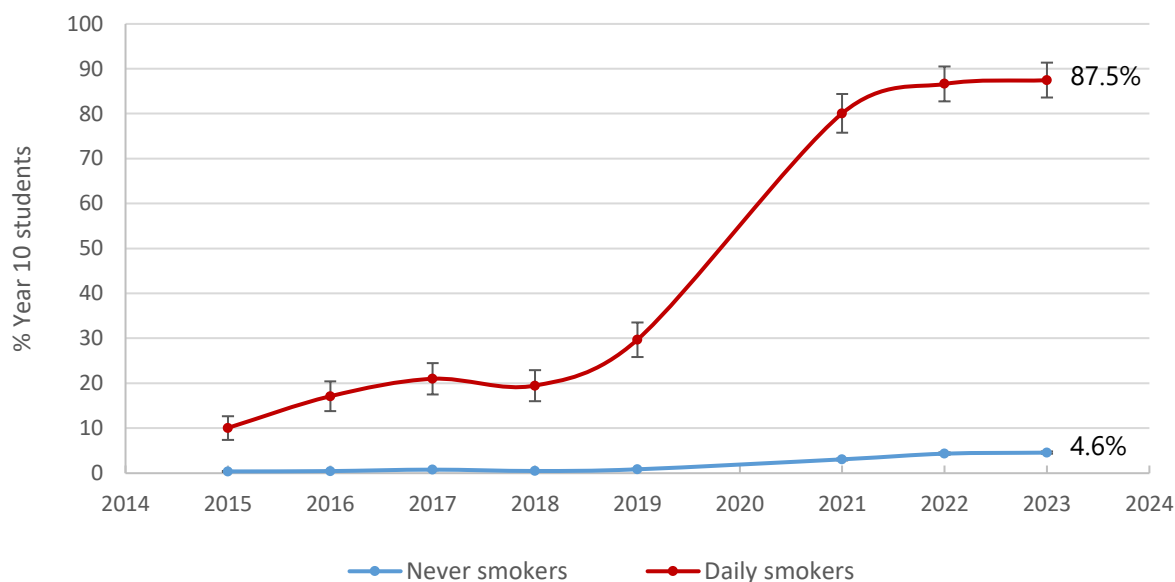
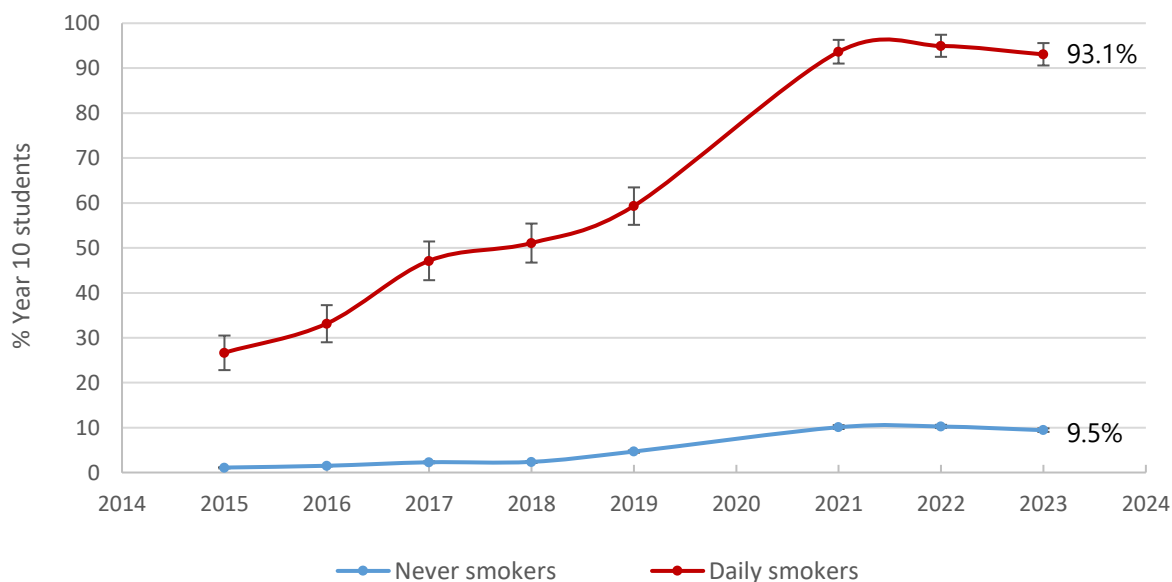


Figure 17: Regular vaping prevalence by smoking status (2015–2023)



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	Daily smoking	Daily vaping	Regular smoking*	Regular vaping*	Never smoking	Ever tried vaping
Total	1.2%	10.0%	2.8%	16.4%	87.8%	37.5%
By ethnicity						
- Māori	2.9%	22.3%	6.2%	32.0%	77.7%	59.0%
- Pacific	1.7%	13.7%	3.7%	22.5%	87.0%	48.3%
- Asian	0.4%	2.5%	1.0%	4.5%	95.5%	35.5%
- European/Pākehā	0.7%	7.5%	2.0%	13.9%	89.1%	37.6%
By ethnicity & gender						
- Māori boys	3.1%	18.0%	5.9%	25.3%	78.9%	52.6%
- Māori girls	2.6%	26.6%	6.3%	38.7%	76.8%	65.4%
- Pacific boys	2.2%	12.6%	3.8%	20.0%	86.0%	44.5%
- Pacific girls	1.0%	14.8%	3.2%	25.4%	88.6%	52.7%
- Non-Māori non-Pacific boys	0.6%	5.2%	1.6%	9.2%	90.7%	28.6%
- Non-Māori non-Pacific girls	0.6%	7.2%	1.7%	13.6%	90.9%	32.1%

*Regular use is defined as participants that report smoking or vaping either daily, weekly, or monthly.

Suggested citation

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