

Information topic	Details
Indicator name	Maternal smoking at two weeks postnatal
Domain and topic	Indoor environment domain: Second-hand smoke exposure
Indicator definition and units	The percentage of mothers who were smoking at two weeks postnatal, among all mothers who gave birth in that year (excluding those without a known smoking status at two weeks postnatal).
Data source	<i>New Zealand Maternity Clinical Indicators – series</i> published by Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora (Health NZ) using data from the National Maternity Collection.
Numerator	Total number of women identified as smokers at two weeks after birth.
Denominator	Total number of women with a reported smoking status at two weeks after birth.
Methodology	<p>Confidence interval 95% confidence intervals were calculated based on the methodology outlined in APHO (2008). Confidence intervals are presented as error bars on graphs.</p> <p>We have used the variables provided in the Excel tables for the publication <i>New Zealand Maternity Clinical Indicators</i> (Health NZ 2023) for the analysis.</p> <p>For ethnicity in this publication, Health NZ distinguishes between mothers of Indian ethnicity and mothers belonging to all other Asian ethnicities. This is because Indian mothers tend to have different pregnancy profiles than the rest of the Asian prioritised ethnic group. However, as smoking rates are the focus of this indicator and do not differ significantly between Indian and other Asian mothers, we have recalculated the rates to represent all mothers belonging to the ‘Asian’ prioritised ethnicity as a single group.</p> <p>Only crude results are available in published Excel tables. However, crude results are a better proxy for second-hand smoke exposure in infants than age-standardised results for maternal smoking at two weeks postnatal.</p>
Time period and time scale	Annual data, from 2009 to the most recent data available. Year refers to the year of delivery.
Population coverage	All mothers who gave birth in a calendar year.

Metadata

Spatial Coverage	National.
Measures of frequency	Results are presented by year, ethnic group and district.
Limitations of indicator	This indicator uses self-reported smoking status. Consequently, some women do not have a reported smoking status at two weeks postnatal and have therefore been excluded from the analysis. The proportion of women without a reported smoking status at the national level is generally between 88-93%. This appears to be consistent over time. However, the reported smoking status by district varies over time and may have an influence on the results.
Limitations of data source	As above.
Related indicators	Sudden unexpected death in infancy (SUDI) Second-hand smoke exposure Health burden due to second-hand smoke exposure Asthma Lower respiratory tract infections Meningococcal disease Household crowding Home heating
For more information	https://www.health.govt.nz/nz-health-statistics/health-statistics-and-data-sets/new-zealand-maternity-clinical-indicators-series
References	<p>APHO. 2008. <i>Commonly used public health statistics and their confidence intervals</i>. Technical Briefing No.3. York: APHO.</p> <p>Health New Zealand – Te Whatu Ora. 2023. <i>Maternity Clinical Indicator Trends in New Zealand</i>. URL: https://tewhatuora.shinyapps.io/maternity-clinical-indicator-trends/ (accessed 20 December 2023).</p>