

Smoking

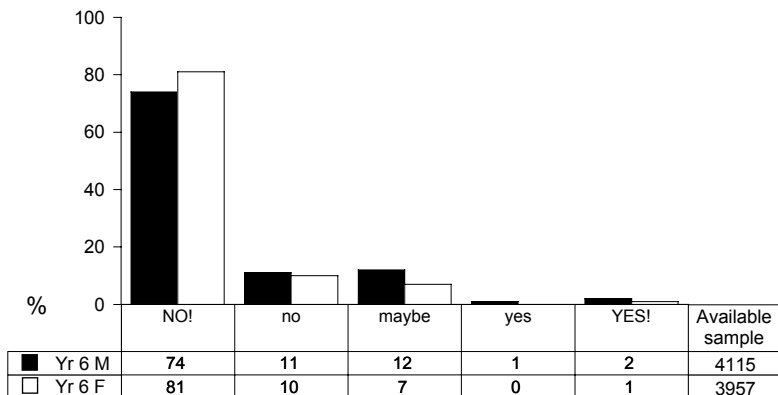
Up to 15% said *maybe* or *yes*

Do you think you will smoke when you are older?

- Up to 81% of these youngsters said that they don't think they will smoke when they are older.
- Up to 15% said *maybe* or *yes*.

Comments

- Up to 15% of over 8,000 primary school pupils say that they might well smoke. Are their perception, of the dangers, may be outweighed by their perceptions of smoking by role models?
- On the next page we see that at age 10-11 years old, 95% of the 10-11 year old females report having never smoked at all. By the time they are 14-15 years old, 54% of the females report having never smoked at all.
- If the messages about the dangers of smoking could be reinforced earlier, would fewer young people take up smoking? Most primary pupils are adamantly anti-smoking.

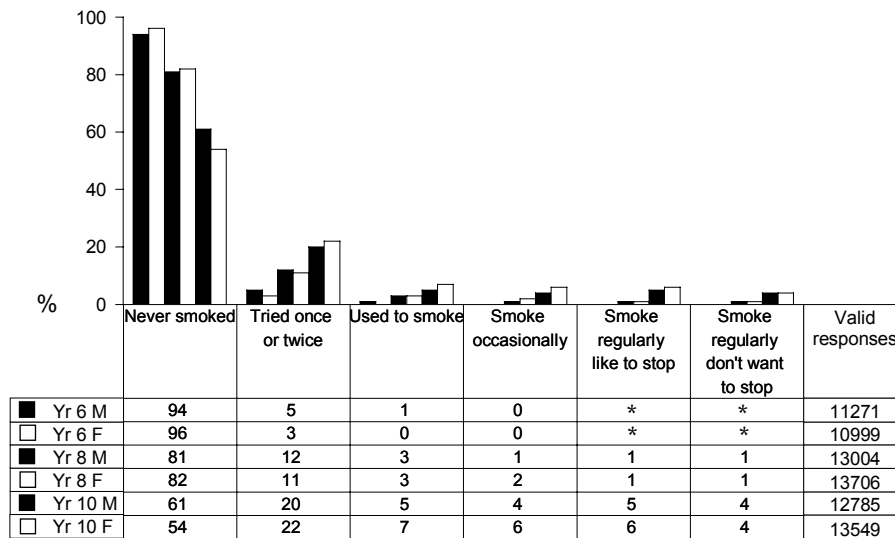


Type of smoker

Up to 46% will have smoked by Year 10

What kind of smoker are you?

1. In Year 6 around 95% report *never smoked*. By Year 10, this number declines to 61% for males and 54% for females.
4. 46% of Year 10 females have smoked.
5. The majority of the current smokers say that they would *like to stop*.



* Year 6 pupils were not asked about these activities

Comments

1. Two-thirds of smokers want to give up. If addiction is not their problem, can we help them? Raw et al., (1998) publication recommends interventions shown to be effective with adults should be considered for use with young people with the content modified as necessary - this includes stop-smoking groups and the possible use of nicotine replacement therapy.
2. Data from 1986 show a rising trend, from around the late 1990s, of those pupils who report 'never smoking at all'.

