

Our ref: **NIC-158238-3R3F9**

26th July 2012

Dear Ms Zou,

Re: Information Request – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000

I can confirm that the NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care (NHS IC) has considered your query dated the 14th July 2012 received by us on the 16th of July 2012.

“Could you provide me the data of teenagers alcohol abuse in UK in recent year? And what age of the teenagers in UK begin to drink alcohol since 2000? I am doing a research about the influences of media on teenagers alcohol abuse in UK.”

Thank you for your enquiry. Figures on children's self-reported experience of alcohol are available in Table 6 of the Health Survey for England (HSE) 2011 child trend tables. This table presents a time series of self-reported experiences of alcohol from 1999 to the latest survey year (2010). The data are based on children aged 8 – 15 and includes a breakdown by age as well as gender.

These data are available at: www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/hse10trends

Figures on the prevalence of alcohol consumption in school pupils aged 11 to 15 can also be found in the ‘*Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England in 2010*’ (SDD10) report. These data tables can be found in Chapter 3 of the report (pg 95 – 140). Data is provided from 1988 to the latest survey year (2010).

These data are available at: www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/sdd10fullreport

More up to date information will be available in the ‘*Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People in England in 2011*’ report which is expected to be published on July 26th 2012.

A copy of the datasets listed above can also be found in the UK data archive:
www.esds.ac.uk:

Background notes

1. The Health Survey for England (HSE) is a series of annual surveys designed to measure health and health related behaviours in adults and children, in England.

It has a series of core elements that are included every year and special topics that are included in selected years.

- Core topics include: general health; smoking, drinking and fruit and vegetable consumption; height; weight; blood pressure measurements and blood and saliva samples.
- Special topics include: cardiovascular disease; physical activity; accidents; lung function measurement and certain blood analytes.

2. Smoking, drinking and drug use among young people in England in 2010 (SDD10);

- This survey is the latest in a series designed to monitor smoking, drinking and drug use among secondary school pupils aged 11 to 15. Information was obtained from 7,296 pupils in 246 schools throughout England in the autumn term of 2010.
- The National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) and the National Foundation for Educational Research (NFER) carried out the survey on behalf of The NHS Information Centre for health and social care, the Home Office and the Department for Education (formerly the Department for Children, Schools and Families). This is the most recent survey in a series that began in 1982. Each survey since 1998 has included a core set of questions on smoking, drinking and drug use and, since 2000 the remainder of the questions have focused in alternate years on smoking and drinking or on drug use. The emphasis of the 2010 survey is on smoking and drinking.
- The survey report presents information on the percentage of pupils who have ever smoked, tried alcohol or taken drugs. The report explores the attitudes and beliefs of school children towards smoking, drinking and drug use and where children obtain cigarettes, alcohol and drugs. Relationships between smoking, drinking and drug use are explored along with the links between smoking, drinking and drug use with other factors such as age, gender, ethnicity, previous truancy or exclusion.

I trust you are satisfied with our response to your request for information. However, if you are not satisfied, you may request a review from a suitably qualified member of staff not involved in the initial query, via the xxxxxxxx@xx.xxx.xx mail address or by post at the above postal address.

I will assume that your request to the organisation is now closed.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Shippen
Higher Information Governance Officer

Further information about your right to complain under the Freedom of Information Act is available from the Information Commissioner's Office, Wilmslow, Cheshire, and on The Information Commissioner's website www.ico.gov.uk.

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