

Statistics on alcohol: England, 2006

Summary

This statistical bulletin presents a range of information on alcohol use and misuse. Sources used within this publication include the General Household Survey, Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People and various publications from Office for National Statistics, Home Office, Department for Transport, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs and The Information Centre. The main summary points are

- In England in 2004, 74% of men and 59% of women reported drinking an alcoholic drink on at least one day in the week prior to interview. Fifteen per cent of men and 8% of women reported drinking on every day in the previous week;
- Thirty-nine per cent of men and 22% of women had drunk more than the recommended number of units on at least one day in the week prior to interview. Twenty-three per cent of men and 9% of women had drunk more than twice the recommended daily intake;
- Older people were more likely to drink regularly - 30% of men and 19% of women aged 45-64 drank on five or more days in the week prior to interview compared to 8% of men and 5% of women aged 16-24. Younger people were more likely to drink heavily, with 48% of men and 39% of women aged 16-24 drinking above the daily recommendations compared to 19% of men and 5% of women aged 65 and over;
- In the UK in 2004, 61% of people reported that they had heard of the government guidelines on alcohol intake. Of these people, more than a third (36%) said that they did not know what the recommendations were;
- In 2005, 22% of pupils in England aged 11-15 reported drinking alcohol in the week prior to interview; the proportion doing so has fluctuated around this level since the mid 1990s. Average weekly consumption almost doubled between 1990 (5.3 units) and 2000 (10.4 units), fluctuating around this level since then;
- In 2004, 39% of pupils agreed with the statement that it is 'OK to drink alcohol once a week'. A smaller proportion (14%) thought that it was 'OK to get drunk once a week';
- In the UK in 2000, 30% of mothers who drank before pregnancy reported giving up drinking during pregnancy. Those mothers who continued to drink during pregnancy reported drinking very little, with 71% consuming less than 1 unit of alcohol a week, on average;
- In 2004/05, there were around 35,600 NHS hospital admissions with a primary diagnosis of mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol. Around two thirds (68%) of those admitted with this primary diagnosis were men.

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1 Introduction

This statistical bulletin presents a range of information on drinking habits and the health effects of alcohol, drawing together data from a variety of sources. The data relate to England where possible. Where figures for England are not available, figures for England and Wales, Great Britain or the United Kingdom are provided.

Chapter 2 reports on alcohol consumption among adults, looking at how much and how often people drink. Statistics are also presented on people's knowledge of alcohol units and government guidelines on sensible drinking.

Chapter 3 covers alcohol consumption among children and their attitudes towards drinking.

Chapter 4 looks at drinking in pregnancy and Chapter 5 reports on the health risks associated with alcohol misuse.

Chapter 6 reports on the relationship between alcohol and crime. Chapter 7 presents some economic statistics relating to alcohol, including affordability and taxation.

Throughout the bulletin, references are given to sources for further information. The bulletin also contains four appendices. Appendix A describes the key sources and outlines their methodologies. Appendix B covers Government and NHS plans and guidelines on sensible drinking. Appendix C provides editorial notes on the tables presented in this bulletin and the Appendix D gives a list of sources of further information and useful contacts.

2 Drinking among adults

Background

Information on drinking for those aged 16 and over is taken from the General Household Survey (GHS). The latest GHS available is the GHS 2004¹, which covers the period April 2004 to March 2005, published in December 2005. For 2004/05, 8,700 households were surveyed, which yielded a sample of around 20,400 people of all ages. The survey response rate was 69%.

The GHS collects information on a wide range of topics to provide a comprehensive picture of how we live, and the social change we experience, in Britain. Each year questions are asked about adults drinking habits and alcohol consumption.

Statistics on drinking among ethnic minorities are taken from the Health Survey for England (HSE) 2004². The HSE is an annual survey, begun in 1991 and designed to monitor the health of the population of England. Each survey consists of core questions and measurements (e.g. blood pressure and analysis of blood samples) plus modules of questions on specific issues that change periodically such as on cardiovascular disease or on specific population groups such as older people or ethnic minorities. The 2004 survey focused on the health of ethnic minorities and is preferred to the GHS because of the larger sample size among the ethnic groups. The 2004 HSE achieved a sample of 6,704 adults in the general population plus an additional 5,940 adults in an ethnic minority boost sample.

Information on adults' knowledge of alcohol units and government recommendations are taken from the report *Drinking: Adults' Behaviour and Knowledge in 2004*³. The data for this report are collected as part of the Office for National Statistics (ONS) Omnibus survey. The questions were asked

of 3,528 adults aged 16 and over. The data relate to Great Britain.

This chapter also covers alcohol consumption levels across Europe. These data have been taken from the World Health Organisation⁴ (WHO), and report the per capita alcohol consumption for countries in the European Union.

Drinking in the last week

In England in 2004, 74% of men and 59% of women (aged 16 and over) reported drinking an alcoholic drink on at least one day during the week prior to interview. Men tended to drink on more days of the week than women; 24% of men had drunk on five or more days during the previous week, compared with 13% of women. Twice as many men than women reported drinking on every day in the previous week (15% compared with 8%). (Table 2.1)

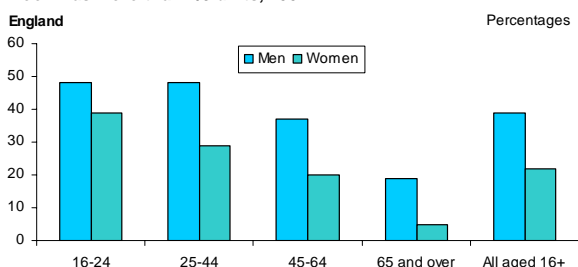
The proportion reporting drinking in the last week increased with age for both men and women but fell again after the age of 65. Thirty per cent of men aged 45 and over had drunk on five or more days during the previous week compared with only 8% of those aged 16-24. Among women, 19% of 45 to 64 year olds and 17% of those aged 65 and over had drunk on five or more days during the previous week but only 5% of those aged 16-24 had done so.

Drinking above daily recommendations

It is recommended that men drink no more than 3 or 4 units of alcohol a day and women drink no more than 2 or 3 units a day. In 2004, 39% of men reported drinking more than 4 units on at least one day in the week prior to interview. The proportion drinking above this level decreased with age, from 48% of men aged 16-24 to 19% of men aged 65 and over. (Table 2.2)

Women were much less likely than men to have drunk above the recommended drinking guidelines (Figure 2.1). Twenty-two per cent of women had drunk more than 3 units of alcohol on at least one day in the week prior to interview. As with men, the prevalence of drinking above this level was strongly related to age; 39% of women aged 16-24 reported drinking more than 3 units on at least one day compared with 5% of those aged 65 and over.

Figure 2.1 Men and women whose maximum daily amount last week was more than 4/3 units, 2004



Source: General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)
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More young people drink above the daily guidelines than older people but, as shown in the last section, older people drank more frequently.

The proportion of men and women drinking above daily benchmarks has remained at the same level between 1998 and 2004, as has the per cent reporting drinking in the last week and drinking on 5 or more days in a week. (Tables 2.2 and 2.3)

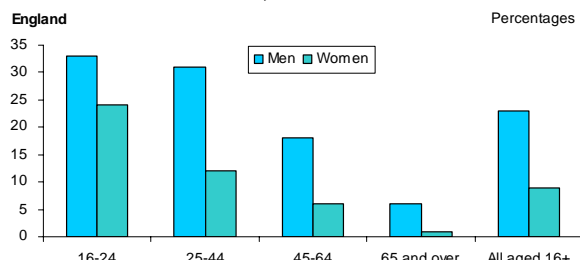
Binge drinking

The best available measure of levels of binge drinking is the number who drank more than twice the recommended daily benchmark on at least one day in the previous week.

Using this measure, 23% of men reported drinking more than 8 units on at least one day in the week prior to interview. The proportion ranged from 33% of men aged 16-24 to 6% of those aged 65 and over.

Among women, 9% reported drinking more than 6 units on at least one day during the previous week; 24% of those aged 16-24, but just 1% of those aged 65 and over. (Tables 2.2, 2.3, Figure 2.2)

Figure 2.2 Men and women whose maximum daily amount last week was more than 8/6 units, 2004



Source: General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)
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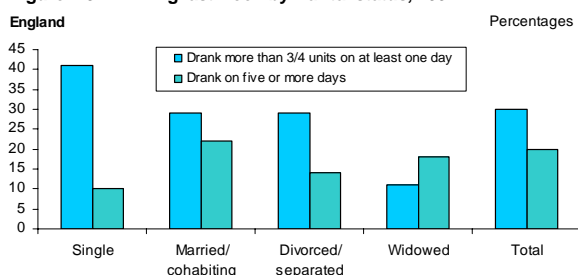
Drinking and marital status

Table 2.4 shows drinking patterns in the last week for men and women by marital status. Results show that people who are married or cohabiting are most likely to have reported drinking in the week prior to interview (69%) while those who are widowed were least likely to report drinking in the previous week (49%).

The biggest difference in the percentage of men and women drinking in the week prior to interview is for widowed people; 67% of widowed men drank compared to 44% of widowed women.

For both men and women, single people were the most likely to have exceeded the recommended daily benchmark on at least one day in the week prior to interview (41%). Single people also had the highest prevalence of drinking more than 8/6 units on at least one day in the previous week (26%). Single people were, however, least likely to report drinking on five or more days in the previous week (10%). As well as being the least likely to report drinking in the previous week, widowed people were also the least likely to have drunk more than 6/8 units or more than 3/4 units on one day in the week prior to interview (Figure 2.3).

Figure 2.3 Drinking last week by marital status, 2004



Source: General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)
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Drinking and socio-economic classification

Routine and manual workers were the least likely to drink more than recommended daily benchmarks. Twenty-eight per cent had drunk more than the recommendation, compared with 30% of intermediate workers and 32% of managerial and professionals. In all groups, around twice as many men as women had drunk above the government recommended guidelines. (Table 2.5)

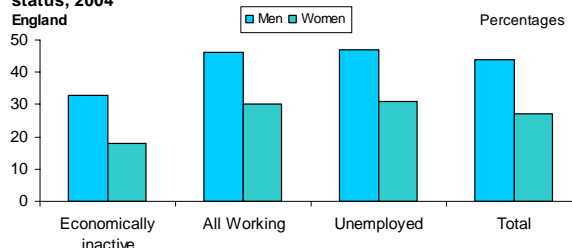
There was no similar pattern for those drinking more than 8 units (men) and 6 units (women) on at least one day in the previous week; in all socio-economic groups around a quarter of men and one-tenth of women had done so.

Table 2.6 shows that 46% of men aged 16 to 64 and in employment had drunk more than 4 units on at least one day during the week prior to interview. This compares with 33% of those who were economically inactive. Similarly, 28% of men in employment had drunk more than 8 units on at least one day during the previous week compared with 20% of those who were economically inactive. However, the relatively low proportion among economically inactive men can be partially explained by the large proportion of men aged 60 and over who make up this group and are less likely to drink more than the recommended number of units.

Among women aged 16-64, 30% of those who were in work had drunk more than 3

units on at least one day during the week prior to interview. Only 18% of economically inactive women had done so. Similarly, 13% of women who were in work had drunk more than 6 units but only 8% of economically inactive women had done so. Although some women in the economically inactive group will be retired, others will be looking after their family and/or home. This means that the relatively low consumption of this group is not so closely related to age (Table 2.6, Figure 2.4).

Figure 2.4 Men and women whose maximum daily amount last week was more than 4/3 units, by gender and economic activity status, 2004



Source: General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)
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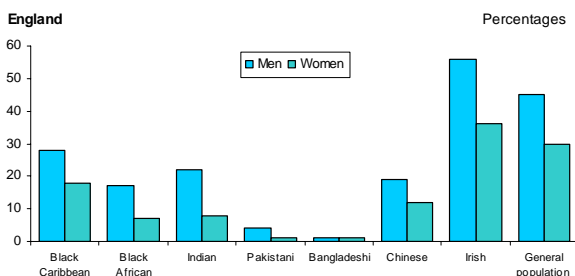
Drinking and Ethnicity

The 2004 HSE collected information about alcohol consumption among ethnic minority groups. Apart from Irish respondents, both men and women in minority ethnic groups were less likely than the general population to have had a drink in the week prior to interview or to have drunk above the daily recommendations. The proportion of Bangladeshi men consuming more than 4 units on their heaviest drinking day in the previous week was 1%, compared with 56% of Irish men, and 45% of the general population.

A similar pattern was seen for women. The proportion of women drinking more than 3 units of alcohol on their heaviest drinking day in the week prior to interview was higher among Irish women than the general population and those in other minority ethnic groups; 36% of Irish women had drunk above this level, compared with 30% in the general population and 1% of both

Bangladeshi and Pakistani women. (Table 2.7, Figure 2.5)

Figure 2.5 Men and women who have drunk more than 4/3 units on at least one day last week by ethnic group, 2004



Source: Health Survey for England 2004: Health of ethnic minorities, The Information Centre

Drinking and Government Office Region

In 2004, results from the GHS indicated that the proportion of men who had drunk more than 4 units on at least one day in the previous week varied between 48% in the North East Government Office Region and 32% in London. There is also a North/South divide in the proportion of men who had drunk more than 8 units on at least one day in the week prior to interview. In Yorkshire and the Humber and the North East, 30% and 29%, respectively, of men reported drinking more than 8 units compared with 18% in both London and the East of England.

Similarly, the proportion of women drinking more than 3 units of alcohol on at least one day in the week prior to interview was higher in the North than elsewhere. Among women in Yorkshire and the Humber, 32% drank more than 3 units on at least one day in the previous week, compared with 15% in both London and the East of England. This pattern is also seen for women drinking more than 6 units. Fifteen per cent of women had drunk more than 6 units on at least one day in the previous week in Yorkshire and the Humber compared with 6% in both London and the East of England. The percentage of women in Yorkshire and the Humber who reported drinking more than 3 units on at least one day in the previous week rose from 19% in 1998 to 32% in 2004. For those drinking more than 6 units, the increase was

from 7% to 15% in the same period. (Table 2.8, 2.9)

Average weekly alcohol consumption

The GHS has included questions on daily alcohol consumption since 1998. Prior to this, questions were asked on weekly alcohol consumption. In 1992, the Government recommended that men should consume no more than 21 units, and women no more than 14 units, per week. The most recent data on average weekly consumption is taken from the GHS 2002⁵ survey, the most recent year in which these questions were asked. The questions are due to be repeated again in the 2005 survey.

Table 2.10 shows that average weekly alcohol consumption in the last 12 months in England for men increased from 15.7 units in 1992 to 17.0 units in 2002. For women there was an increase from 5.5 to 7.6 units during the same period. This indicates an increase in alcohol consumption for both men and women, but a more substantial one for women.

In 2002 in England, 27% of men drank more than the recommended weekly benchmark of 21 units, on average. This proportion has remained largely unchanged since 1992. Among women, however, the proportion drinking more than the recommended weekly benchmark of 14 units, increased from 12% in 1992 to 17% in 2002.

Chronic drinking

Chronic drinking, as described by the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy⁶, is drinking large amounts of alcohol regularly. This is defined as drinking more than 51 units for men and 36 units for women in a week. In 2002, 7% of men's and 3% of women's usual weekly alcohol consumption was above these levels. (Table 2.10)

Average weekly consumption and maximum daily amount drunk last week

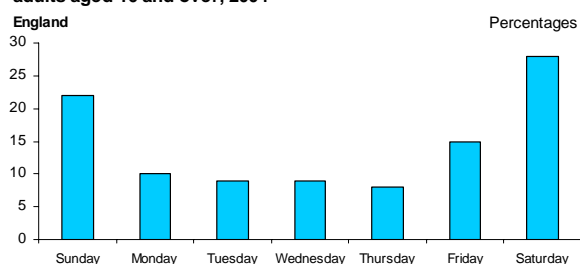
In 2002, men whose usual weekly consumption of alcohol in the last 12 months was more than 21 units were more likely than other men to have exceeded the daily benchmarks during the previous week. Of these men, 77% had drunk more than 4 units on at least one day during the previous week and 52% had drunk more than 8 units. This compares with 16% and 5%, respectively, of men who consumed between 1 and 10 units weekly. (Table 2.11)

This pattern was also evident among those women whose average weekly consumption exceeded 14 units. Of such women, 66% had drunk more than 3 units on at least one day during the week prior to interview, and 36% had drunk more than six units. This compares with 14% and 4%, respectively, of women who consumed between 1 and 10 units weekly. (Tables 2.12)

Heaviest drinking day

Table 2.13 shows the day of the week that respondents who reported drinking in the week prior to interview had drunk the most. In 2004, more people said that their heaviest drinking day was on Saturday (Figure 2.6).

Figure 2.6 Heaviest drinking day in the week prior to interview, adults aged 16 and over, 2004



Source: General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)
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There were interesting variations with age in the days that were reported as the heaviest drinking day. Among those aged 16-24, Saturday was the most common response, followed by Friday, with Sunday the third most common. Among those aged 25-44,

Saturday was also the most frequent response but Friday and Sunday were equally likely to be reported. For 45-64 year olds, Saturday and Sunday were the most common heavy drinking days followed by Friday. For the oldest age group, those aged 65 and over, more respondents reported their heaviest drinking day as Sunday than any other day.

Knowledge of alcohol units and daily recommendations

All respondents to the Omnibus survey, regardless of whether or not they drank, were asked if they were aware of the government advice on drinking. Those who had heard of it were asked to say what this was for men and for women.

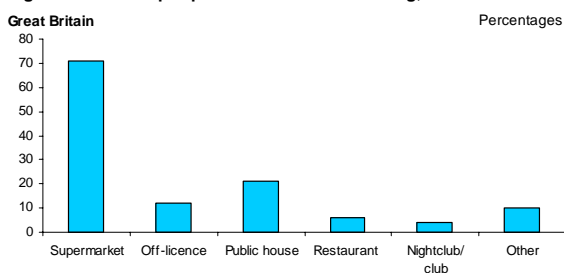
In 2004, 61% of adults in Great Britain had heard of the daily recommendations (Table 2.14). Of these, 14% thought that, for men, drinking up to 4 units a day was within the guidelines and 11% said that, for women, drinking a maximum of 3 units a day was recommended. More than a third of respondents who said they had heard of the recommendations said they didn't know what they were.

Awareness of unit labelling

In the Omnibus survey, drinkers who said previously that they had heard of measuring alcohol in units were asked if they had seen any alcoholic drinks with the units of alcohol on the label and, if so, where.

In 2004, nearly a third (31%) of drinkers had heard of unit labelling on alcohol, an increase from 23% in 2000. Men were more likely than women to say that they had seen unit labelling (35% and 28%, respectively). The percentages of men and women who had seen unit labelling had both increased since 2000 with the increase being larger for men (11 percentage points) than for women (5 percentage points) (Table 2.15).

Figure 2.7 Where people had seen unit labelling, 2004



Source: Drinking: Adults' behaviour and knowledge in 2004, Office for National Statistics
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In 2004, people were most likely to have seen unit labelling at the supermarket (71%). The least likely place where people had seen unit labelling was at a nightclub or club, with 4% of respondents reporting this (Table 2.16, Figure 2.7).

European comparison

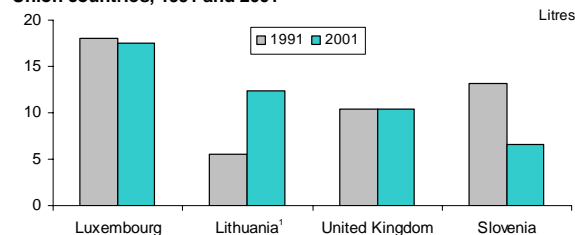
Table 2.17 shows per capita alcohol consumption for European Union countries. Of these countries, Luxembourg had the highest consumption with 17.54 litres per adult in 2001, followed by the Czech Republic with 16.21 litres.

The United Kingdom had an average consumption level of 10.39 litres in 2001. This has stayed around the same level since 1991, which was also 10.39 litres.

Slovenia had the lowest consumption among the European Union countries with 6.55 litres of alcohol per capita, around a third of Luxembourg's consumption.

Between 1991 and 2001, the greatest fall in consumption was seen in Slovenia, which has more than halved its consumption. Slovenia consumed 13.18 litres per capita in 1991 compared with 6.55 litres in 2001. The country with the greatest rise in per capita consumption was Lithuania, which rose from 5.51 litres in 1992 to 12.32 litres in 2001, an increase of 55%. (Figure 2.8)

Figure 2.8 Alcohol consumption per capita, selected European Union countries, 1991 and 2001



1. Data for Lithuania is for 1992 and 2001

Source: World Health Organisation (WHO)

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Table 2.1 Number of drinking days in the week prior to interview, by age¹ and gender, 2004

England	Percentages				
	All ages	16-24	25-44	45-64	65 or over
All adults					
0	34	36	31	30	43
1	18	23	20	16	16
2	14	17	17	13	9
3	10	11	12	10	5
4	6	5	6	6	4
5	4	3	5	6	3
6	2	2	3	3	2
7	11	2	7	15	18
Drank on 5 or more days	18	7	15	24	22
Drank in the week prior to interview	66	64	69	70	57
Men					
0	26	33	24	22	30
1	18	21	19	16	16
2	15	20	17	13	12
3	12	13	13	12	7
4	6	6	6	7	5
5	6	3	7	7	4
6	3	2	4	4	2
7	15	3	10	19	23
Drank on 5 or more days	24	8	21	30	30
Drank in the week prior to interview	74	67	76	78	70
Women					
0	41	40	38	37	54
1	19	25	20	16	15
2	14	15	17	14	7
3	8	9	11	9	4
4	5	5	5	5	3
5	3	2	3	5	2
6	2	1	2	2	1
7	8	2	5	12	14
Drank on 5 or more days	13	5	10	19	17
Drank in the week prior to interview	59	60	62	63	46
<i>Weighted bases (000s)</i>					
<i>All adults</i>	35,914	4,642	12,905	11,283	7,085
<i>Men</i>	16,818	2,210	6,090	5,385	3,133
<i>Women</i>	19,097	2,432	6,815	5,897	3,952
<i>Unweighted bases</i>					
<i>All adults</i>	12,688	1,472	4,508	4,154	2,554
<i>Men</i>	5,873	675	2,061	1,940	1,197
<i>Women</i>	6,815	797	2,447	2,214	1,357

1. Aged 16 and over

Source:

General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.2. Drinking in the week prior to interview among men¹, by age, 1998 to 2004

England	Percentages				
	All ages	16-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over
Drank in the week prior to interview					
1998	75	71	79	78	65
2000	75	70	78	77	68
2001	74	70	77	76	68
2002	73	68	76	76	66
2003	75	70	77	77	69
2004	74	67	76	78	70
Drank on 5 or more days					
1998	24	14	22	30	26
2000	22	12	20	26	29
2001	22	14	20	26	27
2002	23	12	19	27	29
2003	23	15	20	27	29
2004	24	8	21	30	30
Drank more than 4 units on at least one day					
1998	39	52	47	37	16
2000	38	49	44	37	16
2001	38	49	46	35	18
2002	37	48	45	37	15
2003	40	49	47	40	19
2004	39	48	48	37	19
Drank more than 8 units on at least one day					
1998	22	39	29	17	4
2000	21	36	26	16	5
2001	21	36	28	15	5
2002	21	34	27	17	4
2003	23	35	30	19	5
2004	23	33	31	18	6
<i>Weighted bases (000s)</i>					
1998	16,527	2,047	6,529	5,017	2,934
2000	17,604	2,263	6,955	5,378	3,007
2001	17,207	2,136	6,781	5,259	3,031
2002	16,780	2,103	6,185	5,346	3,149
2003	16,676	2,116	6,053	5,341	3,166
2004	16,815	2,211	6,086	5,385	3,133
<i>Unweighted bases</i>					
1998	5,616	600	2,066	1,811	1,139
2000	5,707	669	2,020	1,896	1,122
2001	6,128	665	2,259	1,971	1,233
2002	5,907	662	2,055	1,979	1,211
2003	7,034	811	2,490	2,244	1,489
2004	5,872	675	2,060	1,940	1,197

1. Aged 16 and over

Source:

General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.3 Drinking in the week prior to interview among women¹ by age, 1998 to 2004

England	Percentages				
	All ages	16-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over
Drank in the week prior to interview					
1998	59	62	65	62	46
2000	60	62	67	62	44
2001	60	59	67	61	46
2002	60	59	65	63	47
2003	60	61	65	64	46
2004	59	60	62	63	46
Drank on 5 or more days					
1998	13	9	12	15	14
2000	13	7	12	16	15
2001	14	8	12	18	16
2002	14	7	12	18	16
2003	14	4	11	18	18
2004	13	5	10	19	17
Drank more than 3 units on at least one day					
1998	21	42	27	16	4
2000	22	39	30	18	4
2001	22	39	30	18	5
2002	22	40	30	19	5
2003	22	38	30	19	4
2004	22	39	29	20	5
Drank more than 6 units on at least one day					
1998	8	23	11	4	1
2000	9	26	12	5	1
2001	9	26	13	5	1
2002	9	26	13	5	1
2003	9	25	13	5	1
2004	9	24	12	6	1
<i>Weighted bases (000s)</i>					
1998	18,512	2,182	6,855	5,376	4,099
2000	18,955	2,248	7,020	5,655	4,032
2001	18,851	2,183	7,069	5,581	4,018
2002	19,150	2,323	6,955	5,732	4,144
2003	18,616	2,168	6,690	5,694	4,065
2004	19,092	2,435	6,810	5,897	3,949
<i>Unweighted bases</i>					
1998	6,659	677	2,479	2,006	1,497
2000	6,455	700	2,367	2,028	1,360
2001	7,159	783	2,663	2,170	1,543
2002	6,887	776	2,434	2,215	1,462
2003	7,955	838	2,875	2,477	1,765
2004	6,813	798	2,445	2,214	1,356

1. Aged 16 and over

Source:

General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.4 Drinking in the week prior to interview, by gender and marital status, 2004

England	Percentages		
	All adults ¹	Men	Women
Drank in the week prior to interview			
Total	66	74	59
Single	64	69	59
Married/cohabiting	69	77	62
Divorced/separated	60	71	52
Widowed	49	67	44
Drank on five or more days			
Total	18	27	13
Single	10	14	6
Married/cohabiting	22	27	16
Divorced/separated	14	22	9
Widowed	18	30	14
Drank more than 4/3 units on at least one day			
Total	30	39	22
Single	41	47	34
Married/cohabiting	29	37	21
Divorced/separated	29	40	21
Widowed	11	24	8
Drank more than 8/6 units on at least one day			
Total	16	23	9
Single	26	31	19
Married/cohabiting	14	20	8
Divorced/separated	14	23	9
Widowed	3	8	2
<i>Weighted bases (000s)</i>			
<i>Total</i>	<i>35,908</i>	<i>16,815</i>	<i>19,092</i>
<i>Single</i>	<i>7,964</i>	<i>4,178</i>	<i>3,786</i>
<i>Married/cohabiting</i>	<i>22,478</i>	<i>10,979</i>	<i>11,499</i>
<i>Divorced/separated</i>	<i>2,940</i>	<i>1,129</i>	<i>1,811</i>
<i>Widowed</i>	<i>2,526</i>	<i>530</i>	<i>1,996</i>
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
<i>Total</i>	<i>12,685</i>	<i>5,872</i>	<i>6,813</i>
<i>Single</i>	<i>2,534</i>	<i>1,264</i>	<i>1,270</i>
<i>Married/cohabiting</i>	<i>8,293</i>	<i>4,047</i>	<i>4,246</i>
<i>Divorced/separated</i>	<i>993</i>	<i>357</i>	<i>636</i>
<i>Widowed</i>	<i>865</i>	<i>204</i>	<i>661</i>

1. Aged 16 and over

Source:

General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.5 Adults¹ drinking more than recommended daily levels, by gender and socio-economic classification², 2004

England	Percentages		
	All adults	Men	Women
<i>Drank more than 3/4 Units</i>			
Managerial and professional	32	40	24
Large employers and higher managerial	35	42	27
Higher professional	31	36	24
Lower managerial and professional	32	41	24
Intermediate	30	41	21
Intermediate	31	43	23
Small employers/own account	30	39	19
Routine and manual	28	37	20
Lower supervisory and technical	31	38	23
Semi-routine	27	37	19
Routine	27	36	19
All adults³	30	39	22
<i>Drank more than 6/8 units</i>			
Managerial and professional	15	22	9
Large employers and higher managerial	16	24	9
Higher professional	13	18	8
Lower managerial and professional	16	24	9
Intermediate	15	23	9
Intermediate	15	24	9
Small employers/own account	16	23	8
Routine and manual	15	22	10
Lower supervisory and technical	16	23	10
Semi-routine	16	22	11
Routine	14	20	9
All adults³	15	22	9
<i>Weighted bases (000's)</i>			
Managerial and preprofessional	13,957	6,721	7,234
Intermediate	6,576	3,076	3,500
Routine and manual	13,458	6,203	7,254
All adults ³	34,908	16,372	18,536
<i>Unweighted bases</i>			
Managerial and preprofessional	5,143	2,450	2,693
Intermediate	2,280	1,053	1,227
Routine and manual	4,669	2,129	2,540
All adults ³	12,387	5,748	6,639

1. Aged 16 and over

2. Based on the current or last job of the household reference person

3. From April 2001 the National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC) was introduced for all official statistics and surveys. It has replaced Social Class based on Occupation and Socio-economic Groups (SEG). Full-time students, persons in inadequately described occupations, persons who have never worked and the long term unemployed are not shown as separate categories, but are included in the figure for 'All adults'

Source:

General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.6 Alcohol consumption among adults¹, by maximum daily amount in the week prior to interview by gender and economic activity status, 2004

England	Percentages					
	All adults ²	Total working	Working full time	Working part time	Unemployed	Economically inactive ³
Men						
Drank nothing in the week prior to interview	25	21	20	29	31	41
Up to 4 units	31	33	33	32	22	26
More than 4, up to 8 units	17	18	18	16	18	14
More than 8, up to 12 units	11	12	13	9	12	7
More than 12 units	15	15	15	15	17	12
More than 4 units	44	46	46	39	47	33
More than 8 units	26	28	28	24	29	20
Women						
Drank nothing in the week prior to interview	38	32	31	34	38	52
Up to 3 units	35	37	36	39	31	30
More than 3, up to 6 units	15	18	18	17	15	10
More than 6, up to 9 units	5	6	7	5	4	4
More than 9 units	6	7	8	6	11	4
More than 3 units	27	30	33	28	31	18
More then 6 units	12	13	15	11	16	8
<i>Weighted bases (000s)</i>						
<i>Men</i>	13,682	10,825	9,609	1,136	571	2,286
<i>Women</i>	15,138	10,348	5,706	4,581	360	4,429
<i>Unweighted bases</i>						
<i>Men</i>	4,675	3,741	3,329	386	178	756
<i>Women</i>	5,455	3,712	2,016	1,673	123	1,620

1. Aged 16 to 64

2. People who do unpaid family work, have inadequately described working hours or are on a government scheme are not included as separate categories but are included in the figures for 'total working' and 'all adults'

3. Economically inactive people are people who are neither working or unemployed by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) measure. For example, this would include those who were looking after a home or retired

Source:

General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.7 Amount consumed on the heaviest drinking day in the week prior to interview, by minority ethnic group and gender, 2004¹

England								Percentages
	Black Caribbean	Black African	Indian	Pakistani	Bangladeshi	Chinese	Irish	General population ²
Men								
None	40	62	53	93	99	52	20	24
Under 2 units	12	8	11	1	0	14	10	13
2, under 3 units	14	7	9	1	-	12	9	12
3, under 4 units	6	6	4	1	-	3	5	6
4, under 5 units	5	6	8	1	0	4	13	8
5, under 6 units	4	1	2	-	-	1	3	3
6, under 8 units	7	3	3	0	0	4	9	9
8 or more units	12	7	9	3	0	10	32	25
4 or more units	28	17	22	4	1	19	56	45
8 or more units	12	7	9	3	0	10	32	25
Women								
None	53	74	79	97	99	68	33	39
Under 2 units	17	11	8	1	-	15	18	18
2, under 3 units	11	7	5	0	-	5	13	13
3, under 4 units	7	2	3	0	-	4	10	8
4, under 5 units	4	2	0	0	0	2	5	5
5, under 6 units	1	1	1	0	-	2	5	3
6, under 8 units	3	1	1	0	-	2	8	7
8 or more units	3	1	2	0	0	2	8	7
3 or more units	18	7	8	1	1	12	36	30
6 or more units	6	2	4	1	0	4	16	14
<i>Bases (weighted)</i>								
<i>Men</i>	<i>465</i>	<i>357</i>	<i>873</i>	<i>406</i>	<i>172</i>	<i>147</i>	<i>1,751</i>	<i>45,229</i>
<i>Women</i>	<i>641</i>	<i>454</i>	<i>1043</i>	<i>488</i>	<i>194</i>	<i>158</i>	<i>2,329</i>	<i>47,623</i>
<i>Bases (unweighted)</i>								
<i>Men</i>	<i>397</i>	<i>369</i>	<i>531</i>	<i>416</i>	<i>395</i>	<i>337</i>	<i>490</i>	<i>2,829</i>
<i>Women</i>	<i>618</i>	<i>446</i>	<i>618</i>	<i>495</i>	<i>448</i>	<i>364</i>	<i>642</i>	<i>3,745</i>

1. Aged 16 and over

2. The General Population comprises the whole population and includes respondents from all ethnic groups. The sample for the general population does not include respondents from the ethnic minority boost. See HSE report for further details

Source:

Health Survey for England 2004: The Health of Ethnic Minorities. The Information Centre

Table 2.8 Adults¹ who drank more than 4 units (men) and 3 units (women) on at least one day in the week prior to interview, by Government Office Region, 1998 to 2004

England							Percentages	
	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Weighted base (000's) 2004	Unweighted base 2004
Men who drank more than 4 units on at least one day in the week prior to interview								
England	39	38	39	37	40	39	16,818	5,873
North East	46	44	47	49	47	48	888	310
North West	46	45	49	42	45	46	2,194	789
Yorkshire and the Humber	41	42	44	44	47	47	1,730	622
East Midlands	42	43	43	41	45	39	1,618	583
West Midlands	42	35	34	36	42	39	1,640	587
East of England	35	31	34	31	35	35	1,837	664
London	33	31	36	32	32	32	2,374	688
South East	37	39	34	33	35	36	2,813	1,004
South West	37	35	38	37	38	37	1,721	626
Women who drank more than 3 units on at least one day in the week prior to interview								
England	21	22	22	22	22	22	19,097	6,815
North East	23	25	29	32	26	25	1,015	364
North West	26	28	28	27	26	28	2,531	930
Yorkshire and the Humber	19	23	25	26	26	32	2,018	731
East Midlands	21	23	27	18	25	26	1,756	647
West Midlands	21	19	17	19	21	19	1,966	712
East of England	18	20	20	19	17	15	2,107	777
London	17	19	18	18	15	15	2,730	826
South East	20	22	21	22	23	22	3,099	1,129
South West	21	21	23	23	24	24	1,875	699

1. Aged 16 and over

Source:

General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.9 Adults¹ who drank more than 8 units (men) and 6 units (women) on at least one day in the week prior to interview, by Government Office Region, 1998 to 2004

England	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	<i>Weighted base (000's) 2004</i>	<i>Unweighted base 2004</i>
Men who drank more than 8 units on at least one day in the week prior to interview								
England	22	21	22	21	23	22	16,818	5,873
North East	24	25	29	29	25	29	888	310
North West	28	24	29	24	28	28	2,194	789
Yorkshire and the Humber	25	23	27	26	28	30	1,730	622
East Midlands	21	22	22	22	27	23	1,618	583
West Midlands	26	17	18	18	23	22	1,640	587
East of England	15	18	20	15	20	18	1,837	664
London	19	17	20	19	18	18	2,374	688
South East	20	22	18	17	18	20	2,813	1,004
South West	20	20	20	21	22	21	1,721	626
Women who drank more than 6 units on at least one day in the week prior to interview								
England	8	9	10	10	9	10	19,097	6,815
North East	8	13	15	17	9	11	1,015	364
North West	11	13	13	11	13	14	2,531	930
Yorkshire and the Humber	7	10	12	14	13	15	2,018	731
East Midlands	8	8	12	8	9	11	1,756	647
West Midlands	9	7	7	8	9	7	1,966	712
East of England	7	8	8	6	6	6	2,107	777
London	7	7	8	8	5	6	2,730	826
South East	7	10	7	8	9	9	3,099	1,129
South West	8	9	9	9	9	9	1,875	699

1. Aged 16 and over

Source:

General Household Survey 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.10 Alcohol consumption (units per week) among adults¹, by gender, 1992 to 2002

England	Percentages/mean weekly units							
	Unweighted				Weighted ²			
	1992	1994	1996	1998	1998	2000	2001	2002
Men								
Non-drinker	7	7	7	7	7	9	9	9
Under 1 unit	10	9	8	8	7	8	11	8
1 - 10 units	36	35	35	37	36	34	31	33
11 - 21 units	21	22	23	22	22	22	22	22
22 - 35 units	13	14	15	14	14	14	14	14
36 - 50 units	7	6	7	6	7	7	6	6
51 units and over	6	6	6	6	7	7	7	7
More than 21 units	26	27	27	27	28	28	27	27
Mean weekly units	15.7	15.4	16.1	16.4	17.2	17.1	16.9	17.0
Women								
Non-drinker	12	14	13	14	14	14	15	15
Under 1 unit	22	21	20	19	19	17	22	16
1 -7 units	39	37	37	37	37	36	32	37
8 -14 units	15	15	16	16	16	16	15	15
26-35 units	8	9	9	10	10	11	9	10
26 -35 units	2	2	3	3	3	3	3	3
36 units and over	2	2	2	2	2	3	3	3
More than 14 units	12	13	14	15	15	17	15	17
Mean weekly units	5.5	5.6	6.3	6.4	6.5	7.1	7.5	7.6
<i>Weighted bases (000s)</i>								
Men	..	..	..	..	16,541	17,594	17,192	16,781
Women	..	..	..	..	18,518	18,912	18,847	19,160
<i>Unweighted bases</i>								
Men	7,265	6,603	6,145	5,621	5,621	5,704	6,124	5,906
Women	8,364	7,832	7,227	6,661	6,661	6,442	7,157	6,889

1. Aged 16 and over

2. In 2000 the decision was made to weight the data to compensate for under-representation of people in some groups. This table shows weighted and unweighted data for 1998 to give an indication of the effect of weighting. Caution should be exercised when comparing weighted data with unweighted data

Source:

General Household Survey 2002, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.11 Maximum daily amount drunk last week among men¹, by average weekly consumption, 2002

England	Percentages				
	Average weekly consumption				
	Total ²	< 1 unit	1-10 units	11-21 units	22+ units
Drank nothing last week	27	79	27	6	3
Up to 4 units	36	19	56	45	20
More than 4, up to 8 units	17	1	11	27	25
More than 8, up to 12 units	9	0	3	14	20
More than 12 units	11	0	2	8	32
More than 4 units	37	1	16	49	77
More than 8 units	21	0	5	22	52
<i>Weighted bases (000s)</i>	16,781	1,350	5,590	3,754	4,515
<i>Unweighted base</i>	5,906	485	1,994	1,332	1,559

1. Aged 16 and over

2. Total includes non-drinkers

Source:

General Household Survey 2002, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.12 Maximum daily amount drunk last week among women¹, by average weekly consumption, 2002

England	Percentages				
	Average weekly consumption				
	Total ²	< 1 unit	1-7 units	8-14 units	15+ units
Drank nothing last week	40	79	29	5	5
Up to 3 units	37	20	58	51	29
More than 3, up to 6 units	13	0	10	28	30
More than 6, up to 9 units	4	0	2	9	13
More than 9 units	5	0	2	4	23
More than 3 units	22	1	14	41	66
More than 6 units	9	0	4	13	36
<i>Weighted bases (000s)</i>	19,160	3,133	7,098	2,858	3,200
<i>Unweighted bases</i>	6,889	1,134	2,574	1,037	1,136

1. Aged 16 and over

2. Total includes non-drinkers

Source:

General Household Survey 2002, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.13 Adults^{1,2} heaviest drinking day in the week prior to interview by age, 2004

England	Percentages				
	All ages	16-24	25-44	45-64	65 or over
Sunday	22	13	19	26	30
Monday	10	8	7	11	14
Tuesday	9	5	8	9	14
Wednesday	9	8	7	9	12
Thursday	8	9	7	7	9
Friday	15	23	18	13	7
Saturday	28	33	35	24	14
<i>Unweighted base</i>	<i>8,449</i>	<i>938</i>	<i>3,097</i>	<i>2,935</i>	<i>1,479</i>
<i>Weighted base (000s)</i>	<i>23,687</i>	<i>2,952</i>	<i>8,861</i>	<i>7,869</i>	<i>4,004</i>

1. Aged 16 and over

2. Data relate only to those who had an alcoholic drink in the week prior to interview

Source:

General Household Survey, 2004. Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.14 Knowledge of daily recommendations, by gender, 2004

Great Britain	Percentages		
	All adults ¹	Men	Women
Heard of daily recommendations	61	62	61
<i>Base</i>	3,511	1,572	1,939
Number of units for men²			
1	1	1	1
2	11	15	7
3	24	24	24
4	14	16	13
5 or more	14	11	15
Don't know	36	32	38
Number of units for women²			
1	8	12	6
2	35	33	36
3	11	9	12
4 or more	10	9	11
Don't know	35	36	34
<i>Base</i>	2,157	971	1,186

1. Aged 16 and over

2. Data relate only to those who said that they had heard of daily benchmarks

Source:

Drinking: Adults' Behaviour and Knowledge in 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.15 Drinkers¹ who had seen unit labelling, by gender, 2000, 2002 and 2004

Great Britain	Percentages		
	2000	2002	2004
All adults ²	23	27	31
Men	24	28	35
Women	23	26	28
<i>Bases</i>			
All adults	2,555	2,710	2,646
Men	1,210	1,340	1,211
Women	1,345	1,370	1,435

1. Data relate only to those who said that they had heard of units

2. Aged 16 and over

Source:

Drinking: Adults' Behaviour and Knowledge in 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.16 Where drinkers¹ had seen unit labelling, by gender, 2000, 2002 and 2004

Great Britain	Percentages ²		
	2000	2002	2004
All adults³			
Supermarket	77	76	71
Off-licence	17	14	12
Public house	16	25	21
Restaurant	4	5	6
Nightclub/ club	3	5	4
Other	10	4	10
Men			
Supermarket	78	74	74
Off-licence	19	16	14
Public house	14	25	20
Restaurant	4	5	6
Nightclub/ club	3	5	5
Other	11	4	10
Women			
Supermarket	76	78	68
Off-licence	15	12	10
Public house	19	24	23
Restaurant	3	5	6
Nightclub/ club	3	5	3
Other	10	5	10
<i>Bases</i>			
<i>All adults</i>	580	697	806
<i>Men</i>	278	354	409
<i>Women</i>	302	343	396

1. Data relate only to those who said that they had seen unit labelling
2. Percentages sum to more than 100% as respondents could give more than one answer
3. Aged 16 and over

Source:

Drinking: Adults' Behaviour and Knowledge in 2004, Office for National Statistics (ONS)

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Table 2.17 Alcohol consumption per Capita¹ in the European Union, 1991 to 2001

European Union	litres										
	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Luxembourg	17.97	17.91	18.08	17.84	17.5	16.89	16.79	18.92	18.36	18.56	17.54
Czech Republic	15.57	16.52	15.71	15.93	15.83	16.06	16.47	16.37	16.48	16.33	16.21
Ireland	11.15	11.35	11.24	11.17	11.45	12.21	12.83	13.15	13.79	14.21	14.45
France	15.7	15.5	15.02	14.86	14.87	14.49	14.18	13.97	13.77	13.41	13.54
Germany	15.13	15.12	14.33	14.34	13.93	13.67	13.5	13.23	13.23	12.99	12.89
Austria	14.44	13.78	13.79	13.45	13.41	13.26	13.03	12.76	12.79	12.92	12.58
Portugal	15.65	15.22	14.81	14.68	14.41	13.9	13.5	13.29	12.96	12.8	12.49
Slovakia	13.44	12.83	12.2	13.18	12.7	13	13.07	12.33	12.62	12.44	12.41
Lithuania	..	5.51	..	..	11.76	11.84	11.65	10.83	11.26	12.21	12.32
Spain	13.19	12.47	12.04	11.63	11.35	11.09	12	11.88	11.82	11.92	12.25
Denmark	12.33	12.23	12.19	12.45	12.56	12.59	12.51	11.98	11.92	11.98	11.93
Hungary	15.43	14.83	14.26	13.81	12.69	12.73	12.45	12.63	11.96	11.94	11.92
Finland	9.66	9.47	9.06	8.81	9.22	9.2	9.66	9.76	9.98	10.03	10.43
United Kingdom	10.39	10.07	9.96	10.21	9.71	9.94	10.23	9.92	10.25	10.23	10.39
Belgium	11.7	11.9	11.93	11.36	11.3	11.19	11.19	10.07	10.24	10.21	10.06
Estonia	..	7.72	7.9	7.97	9.42	6.43	8.14	8.6	8.02	8.98	9.85
Netherlands	10.13	10.18	9.75	9.74	9.81	9.91	9.96	9.88	9.91	9.84	9.74
Latvia	7.26	7.08	8.75	10.1	9.53	8.72	8.88	8.91	9.57	9.43	9.31
Greece	10.63	10.43	11.15	10.87	10.55	10.12	9.96	9.45	9.92	9.43	9.3
Italy	11.44	11.39	11.11	10.79	10.45	9.88	9.82	9.55	9.36	9.32	9.14
Poland	8.77	8.39	8.35	8.42	8.12	8.05	8.5	8.48	8.61	8.54	8.68
Sweden	7.48	7.63	7.58	7.82	7.45	7.04	7.28	6.98	7.07	6.97	6.86
Malta	7.01	6.98	7.05	6.98	7.04	7.1	6.37	6.6	6.72	6.95	6.74
Cyprus	9.66	10.91	9.9	9.69	9.93	6.48	6.4	6.58	6.57	6.61	6.67
Slovenia	13.18	13.4	14.09	13.21	13.22	11.93	11.14	8.26	7.87	11.6	6.55

1. Aged 15 and over

Source:

World Health Organisation (WHO)

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3 Drinking among school children

Background

Most results presented in this chapter are taken from the survey Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005 (SDD 05)¹. Over 9,000 secondary school children in years 7 to 11, from 305 schools in England, were surveyed in the autumn term of 2005 about their drug use, smoking and drinking behaviours. Headline results from the survey were published in March 2006 with the full report due in August 2006.

SDD 05 is the most recent survey in a series that began in 1982. Each survey since 1998 has included a core section of questions on smoking, drinking and drug use. Since 2000, the remainder of the questionnaire has focused in alternate years on smoking and drinking or on drug use. The emphasis of the 2005 survey is on drug taking. The most recent full report available currently is the Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use among Young People in England in 2004² (SDD 04), which covered drinking in some detail. Hence, some information in this chapter is taken from the most recent headline report, while some is from the report of the 2004 survey.

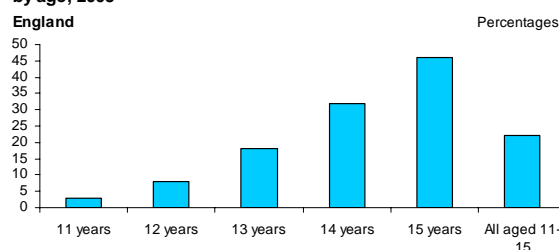
Mental Health of Children and Young People in Great Britain, 2004³ is a survey that was carried out by Office for National Statistics on behalf of the Department of Health and the Scottish Executive. The aim of the survey is to provide information about the prevalence of mental disorders among young people in Great Britain. The survey examines the relationship between mental disorder and aspects of children's lives, including the use of alcohol. It was carried out between March and June 2004 and a sample size of around 8,000 children and young people aged 5-16 was achieved.

Drinking prevalence

Figure 3.1 shows that in 2005, 22% of 11 to 15 year olds said that they had drunk alcohol in the week prior to interview. This was a similar proportion to 23% in 2004, and lower than 25% in 2003.

The proportion reporting drinking alcohol increased sharply with age. In 2005, only 3% of pupils aged 11 said they had had a drink in the week prior to interview, compared with 46% of those aged 15. There was no difference between the proportion of boys and girls who reported drinking in the previous week (Table 3.1).

Figure 3.1 Secondary school children who drank in the last week, by age, 2005

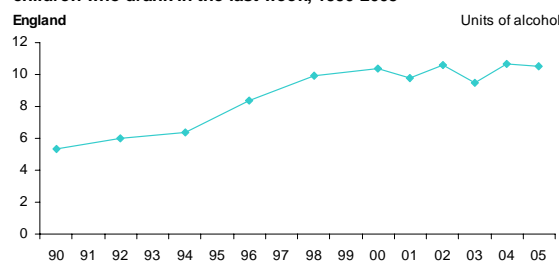


Source: Drug use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005, headline figures, The Information Centre

Weekly consumption

The mean alcohol consumption of pupils who had drunk in the week prior to interview doubled from 5.3 units in 1990 to 10.4 units in 2000, and has fluctuated around this level since then. (Figure 3.2)

Figure 3.2 Mean alcohol consumption of secondary school children who drank in the last week, 1990-2005



Source: Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005: Headline Figures, The Information Centre

Average consumption per week increased with age, from 8.2 units among 11 to 13 year olds, to 11.8 units among 15 year olds. In all age groups, boys reported drinking more than girls of the same age (13.1 units compared with 10.5 units in the last week, for 15 year olds). (Table 3.2)

Drinking frequency

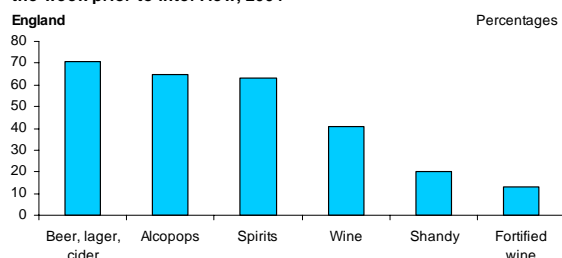
In 2005, the proportion of secondary school children who had never had an alcoholic drink was the highest ever measured by this survey. Forty two per cent of pupils had never had a drink (although this was not significantly higher than 41% in 2004). This rise is due to the increase in the proportion of boys reporting never having had an alcoholic drink, from 35% in 1988 and 1990 to 43% in 2005. The proportion of girls who have never had a drink has fluctuated between 38% in 1990, 44% in 1992 and was 40% in 2005. (Table 3.3)

Types of alcohol consumed

In 2004, as with previous years, beer, lager and cider were the most commonly consumed type of drink. Seventy one per cent of pupils who drank in the last week reported drinking this type of alcohol in 2004. Alcopops were the second most consumed type of drink (65%).

Boys were most likely to drink beer, lager or cider (86%), with girls preferring alcopops (73%).

Figure 3.3 Types of alcohol drunk by secondary school children in the week prior to interview, 2004



Source: Smoking, Drinking and Drug use among Young People in England in 2004, The Information Centre

Consumption of beer, lager and cider has remained relatively stable since 1990.

Consumption of spirits however has risen steadily from 35% in 1990 to 64% in 2003 and remained stable in 2004, at 63%. (Table 3.4, Figure 3.3)

Where children buy alcohol

In 2004, the most popular place where pupils purchased their alcohol was at an off licence or from a friend or relative. Seventeen per cent of secondary school children reported that they usually bought alcohol from these two places. In recent years, there appears to have been a noticeable shift towards buying from friends and relatives and away from buying from off-licences. Purchasing from off licences fell from 27% in 1996 to 17% in 2000 and has since remained at this level. Buying from friends and relatives increased from 9% in 1998 to 17% in 2000, and has since remained stable.

The survey also shows that pupils were least likely to purchase their alcohol from a garage forecourt or off the street (both 1%). (Table 3.5)

Where children drink alcohol

In 2004, 60% of pupils reported usually drinking at home or at someone else's house. Other popular places where pupils drank were at parties with friends (31%), or on the street, in a park or somewhere else outside (25%). Secondary school children were least likely to drink in a club or disco (7%), however girls were twice as likely to drink in a club or disco as boys (10% compared with 5%). Only 10% reported usually drinking in a pub or bar. Those saying that they drank at parties with friends increased from 23% in 1996 to 31% in 2004. (Table 3.6)

Children's attitudes to drinking

Results from SDD 04 indicate that 62% of secondary school children believe that it's 'OK to try drinking alcohol to see what it's like'; with 39% saying it is 'OK to drink

alcohol once a week'. Acceptability of drinking alcohol increased with age. For example, 84% of 15 year olds thought it was 'OK to try drinking to see what it's like', compared with 47% of 12 year olds and 29% of 11 year olds.

As we might expect, pupils were less likely to think it was 'OK to try getting drunk to see what its like' (24%). The proportion of boys and girls who agree that it was 'OK to try getting drunk to see what it's like' was 24%. Similarly, the same percentage of boys and girls thought it was 'OK to get drunk once a week' (14%). (Table 3.7)

Drinking and mental health

Results from the Mental Health of Children and Young People in Great Britain, 2004³ survey show that young people aged 11-16 with emotional disorders were more likely to drink regularly than other young people. This is also the case for young people with

conduct disorders but is not true of children with hyperkinetic disorders (No tables).

References

1. Drug use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005: Headline figures. The Information Centre, 2006. Available at: www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/drugsmokedrinkyoungeng2005
2. Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use among Young People in England in 2004 Information Centre, 2005. Available at: www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/icpublication.2006-01-04.0315032678
3. Mental Health of Children and Young People in Great Britain, 2004. Office for National Statistics, 2005. Available at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/statbase/product.asp?vlnk=14116>

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- 3.6 Where secondary school children usually drink, by gender, 1996 to 2004
- 3.7 Attitudes to drinking among secondary school children, by gender and age, 2004

Table 3.1 Secondary school children¹ who drank in the last week, by age and gender, 1992 to 2005

England	Percentages										
	1992	1994	1996	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
All pupils											
All aged 11-15	21	24	27	21	21	24	26	24	25	23	22
11 years	6	6	7	3	6	5	6	5	6	4	3
12 years	10	9	11	10	9	10	12	11	11	10	8
13 years	13	19	24	15	16	19	22	20	21	18	18
14 years	29	30	36	29	28	32	35	34	33	33	32
15 years	45	50	53	44	45	48	52	47	49	45	46
Boys											
All aged 11-15	24	26	27	23	22	25	28	25	26	23	22
11 years	8	8	7	4	7	5	8	7	8	5	4
12 years	13	10	12	14	10	11	14	12	12	11	7
13 years	15	22	27	16	16	18	22	20	22	17	18
14 years	32	34	37	28	28	34	35	34	32	32	31
15 years	49	52	50	48	48	51	54	49	49	44	46
Girls											
All aged 11-15	17	22	26	18	20	23	25	23	24	23	23
11 years	5	4	6	2	4	5	4	4	5	3	2
12 years	7	9	9	6	8	9	11	9	9	9	9
13 years	11	16	22	14	17	19	22	21	19	19	18
14 years	25	26	35	29	28	31	35	34	34	33	33
15 years	40	48	55	40	41	45	50	45	48	46	45
<i>Bases</i>											
<i>All pupils</i>											
<i>All aged 11-15</i>	<i>3,271</i>	<i>3,020</i>	<i>2,823</i>	<i>4,617</i>	<i>9,374</i>	<i>7,031</i>	<i>9,232</i>	<i>9,630</i>	<i>10,290</i>	<i>9,572</i>	<i>9,068</i>
<i>11 years</i>	<i>588</i>	<i>497</i>	<i>535</i>	<i>577</i>	<i>1,763</i>	<i>1,176</i>	<i>1,614</i>	<i>1,664</i>	<i>1,750</i>	<i>1,681</i>	<i>1,463</i>
<i>12 years</i>	<i>690</i>	<i>611</i>	<i>568</i>	<i>702</i>	<i>1,913</i>	<i>1,421</i>	<i>1,897</i>	<i>1,981</i>	<i>2,128</i>	<i>1,947</i>	<i>1,844</i>
<i>13 years</i>	<i>685</i>	<i>630</i>	<i>552</i>	<i>675</i>	<i>1,872</i>	<i>1,433</i>	<i>1,893</i>	<i>1,970</i>	<i>2,141</i>	<i>1,948</i>	<i>1,896</i>
<i>14 years</i>	<i>608</i>	<i>615</i>	<i>582</i>	<i>1,254</i>	<i>1,854</i>	<i>1,441</i>	<i>1,840</i>	<i>1,896</i>	<i>2,000</i>	<i>1,894</i>	<i>1,891</i>
<i>15 years</i>	<i>683</i>	<i>667</i>	<i>586</i>	<i>1,409</i>	<i>1,972</i>	<i>1,560</i>	<i>1,988</i>	<i>2,119</i>	<i>2,271</i>	<i>2,102</i>	<i>1,974</i>
<i>Boys</i>											
<i>All aged 11-15</i>	<i>1,652</i>	<i>1,509</i>	<i>1,432</i>	<i>2,256</i>	<i>4,816</i>	<i>3,635</i>	<i>4,611</i>	<i>4,961</i>	<i>5,204</i>	<i>4,947</i>	<i>4,609</i>
<i>11 years</i>	<i>284</i>	<i>266</i>	<i>269</i>	<i>285</i>	<i>882</i>	<i>612</i>	<i>814</i>	<i>866</i>	<i>894</i>	<i>861</i>	<i>735</i>
<i>12 years</i>	<i>335</i>	<i>307</i>	<i>296</i>	<i>336</i>	<i>1,017</i>	<i>740</i>	<i>930</i>	<i>1,003</i>	<i>1,052</i>	<i>1,024</i>	<i>957</i>
<i>13 years</i>	<i>351</i>	<i>304</i>	<i>275</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>947</i>	<i>737</i>	<i>937</i>	<i>1,035</i>	<i>1,084</i>	<i>1,007</i>	<i>977</i>
<i>14 years</i>	<i>310</i>	<i>306</i>	<i>297</i>	<i>597</i>	<i>921</i>	<i>750</i>	<i>898</i>	<i>950</i>	<i>1,017</i>	<i>977</i>	<i>938</i>
<i>15 years</i>	<i>366</i>	<i>326</i>	<i>295</i>	<i>745</i>	<i>1,049</i>	<i>796</i>	<i>1,032</i>	<i>1,107</i>	<i>1,157</i>	<i>1,078</i>	<i>1,002</i>
<i>Girls</i>											
<i>All aged 11-15</i>	<i>1,614</i>	<i>1,511</i>	<i>1,391</i>	<i>2,362</i>	<i>4,558</i>	<i>3,396</i>	<i>4,621</i>	<i>4,669</i>	<i>5,086</i>	<i>4,625</i>	<i>4,459</i>
<i>11 years</i>	<i>304</i>	<i>231</i>	<i>266</i>	<i>291</i>	<i>881</i>	<i>564</i>	<i>800</i>	<i>798</i>	<i>856</i>	<i>820</i>	<i>728</i>
<i>12 years</i>	<i>354</i>	<i>304</i>	<i>272</i>	<i>365</i>	<i>896</i>	<i>681</i>	<i>967</i>	<i>978</i>	<i>1,076</i>	<i>923</i>	<i>887</i>
<i>13 years</i>	<i>333</i>	<i>326</i>	<i>277</i>	<i>383</i>	<i>925</i>	<i>696</i>	<i>956</i>	<i>935</i>	<i>1,057</i>	<i>941</i>	<i>919</i>
<i>14 years</i>	<i>298</i>	<i>309</i>	<i>285</i>	<i>657</i>	<i>933</i>	<i>691</i>	<i>942</i>	<i>946</i>	<i>983</i>	<i>917</i>	<i>953</i>
<i>15 years</i>	<i>317</i>	<i>341</i>	<i>291</i>	<i>666</i>	<i>923</i>	<i>764</i>	<i>956</i>	<i>1,012</i>	<i>1,114</i>	<i>1,024</i>	<i>792</i>

1. Children in secondary school years 7 to 11, mostly aged 11-15

Source:

Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005: Headline Figures, The Information Centre

Table 3.2 Mean alcohol consumption (in units) of secondary school children¹ who had drunk in the last week, by age and gender, 1990² to 2005³

England	Units of alcohol										
	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
All pupils											
All aged 11-15	5.3	6.0	6.4	8.4	9.9	10.4	9.8	10.6	9.5	10.7	10.5
11-13 years	..	3.4	4.1	5.5	6.3	6.4	5.6	6.8	7.1	7.8	8.2
14 years	..	4.7	6.1	7.7	9.9	9.8	9.6	10.3	9.0	9.9	10.3
15 years	..	8.1	7.7	10.4	11.5	12.9	12.3	13.0	11.3	12.9	11.8
Boys											
All aged 11-15	5.7	7.0	7.4	9.7	11.3	11.7	10.6	11.5	10.5	11.3	11.5
11-13 years	..	3.6	5.2	7.1	6.2	8.3	5.5	7.3	7.7	8.1	8.6
14 years	..	5.3	6.7	7.3	12.3	9.5	10.0	10.7	9.4	10.1	11.1
15 years	..	9.6	8.8	12.9	12.9	14.5	13.8	14.3	12.9	13.9	13.1
Girls											
All aged 11-15	4.7	4.7	5.4	7.0	8.4	9.1	8.9	9.6	8.5	10.2	9.5
11-13 years	..	3.1	3.0	4.0	6.4	4.6	5.7	6.3	6.4	7.3	7.9
14 years	..	3.8	5.5	8.2	8.1	10.1	9.3	10.0	8.7	9.7	9.5
15 years	..	6.0	6.6	8.0	9.7	11.2	10.7	11.4	9.8	12.1	10.5
<i>Bases</i>											
<i>All pupils</i>											
<i>All aged 11-15</i>	<i>423</i>	<i>641</i>	<i>606</i>	<i>585</i>	<i>686</i>	<i>1,411</i>	<i>2,026</i>	<i>1,915</i>	<i>2,136</i>	<i>1,813</i>	<i>1,670</i>
<i>11-13 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>176</i>	<i>177</i>	<i>157</i>	<i>108</i>	<i>347</i>	<i>557</i>	<i>512</i>	<i>604</i>	<i>463</i>	<i>403</i>
<i>14 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>170</i>	<i>154</i>	<i>165</i>	<i>282</i>	<i>392</i>	<i>532</i>	<i>533</i>	<i>558</i>	<i>527</i>	<i>504</i>
<i>15 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>290</i>	<i>276</i>	<i>263</i>	<i>487</i>	<i>672</i>	<i>937</i>	<i>870</i>	<i>974</i>	<i>823</i>	<i>763</i>
<i>Boys</i>											
<i>All aged 11-15</i>	<i>231</i>	<i>376</i>	<i>329</i>	<i>292</i>	<i>351</i>	<i>719</i>	<i>1,027</i>	<i>973</i>	<i>1,069</i>	<i>888</i>	<i>822</i>
<i>11-13 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>104</i>	<i>101</i>	<i>78</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>163</i>	<i>283</i>	<i>256</i>	<i>312</i>	<i>237</i>	<i>189</i>
<i>14 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>98</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>85</i>	<i>122</i>	<i>205</i>	<i>253</i>	<i>254</i>	<i>267</i>	<i>256</i>	<i>238</i>
<i>15 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>169</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>129</i>	<i>266</i>	<i>351</i>	<i>491</i>	<i>463</i>	<i>490</i>	<i>395</i>	<i>395</i>
<i>Girls</i>											
<i>All aged 11-15</i>	<i>192</i>	<i>264</i>	<i>277</i>	<i>293</i>	<i>334</i>	<i>692</i>	<i>999</i>	<i>942</i>	<i>1,067</i>	<i>925</i>	<i>848</i>
<i>11-13 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>71</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>53</i>	<i>184</i>	<i>274</i>	<i>256</i>	<i>292</i>	<i>226</i>	<i>214</i>
<i>14 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>72</i>	<i>66</i>	<i>80</i>	<i>160</i>	<i>187</i>	<i>279</i>	<i>279</i>	<i>291</i>	<i>271</i>	<i>266</i>
<i>15 years</i>	<i>..</i>	<i>121</i>	<i>135</i>	<i>134</i>	<i>221</i>	<i>321</i>	<i>446</i>	<i>407</i>	<i>484</i>	<i>428</i>	<i>368</i>

1. Children in secondary school years 7 to 11, mostly aged 11-15

2. Figures are not available by age group for 1990 data

3. Questions on units of alcohol consumed in the last week were not asked in the 1999 survey

Source:

Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005: Headline Figures, The Information Centre

Table 3.3 When secondary school children¹ last had a drink, by gender, 1988 to 2005

England													Percentages	
When last had a drink	1988	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	
All pupils														
During the last week	20	21	21	24	27	21	21	24	26	24	25	23	22	
One to four weeks ago	18	15	12	15	14	15	16	14	15	14	15	15	14	
One to six months ago	12	13	13	11	12	13	12	11	11	12	12	11	11	
More than six months ago	11	15	13	10	9	11	11	10	8	10	10	10	10	
Never had a drink	38	36	41	39	38	40	40	40	39	39	39	41	42	
Boys														
During the last week	24	22	24	26	27	23	22	25	28	25	26	23	22	
One to four weeks ago	19	15	12	14	15	15	16	13	14	14	14	14	13	
One to six months ago	12	13	13	11		12	12	11	11	12	12	12	11	
More than six months ago	11	15	14	10	9	12	11	11	9	11	10	10	10	
Never had a drink	35	35	37	39	37	38	38	40	38	38	38	41	43	
Girls														
During the last week	17	20	17	22	26	18	20	23	25	23	24	23	23	
One to four weeks ago	17	14	12	16	13	15	17	15	17	15	16	16	15	
One to six months ago	13	13	14	12	13	13	12	11	11	12	12	11	12	
More than six months ago	11	15	12	10	10	11	10	10	8	9	9	10	11	
Never had a drink	41	38	44	40	38	42	41	41	40	40	39	41	40	
<i>Bases</i>														
<i>All pupils</i>	3,015	3,082	3,252	3,009	2,823	4,609	9,374	7,065	9,232	9,630	10,290	9,572	9,068	
<i>Boys</i>	1,427	1,619	1,646	1,503	1,432	2,249	4,816	3,656	4,611	4,961	5,204	4,947	4,609	
<i>Girls</i>	1,518	1,456	1,606	1,506	1,391	2,362	4,558	3,409	4,621	4,669	5,086	4,625	4,459	

1. Children in secondary school years 7 to 11, mostly aged 11-15

Source:

Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005: Headline Figures, The Information Centre

Table 3.4 Types of alcohol drunk by secondary school children¹ in the week prior to interview, by gender, 1990 to 2004

England	Percentages									
	1990	1992	1994	1996	1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
All pupils										
Alcopops ²	..	..	..	55	37	62	68	68	68	65
Beer, lager, cider	67	76	76	74	71	75	70	71	69	71
Shandy	31	25	24	20	18	20	22	19	21	20
Wine	50	52	48	40	51	44	42	43	43	41
Fortified wine	18	17	15	15	20	19	12	14	13	13
Spirits	35	37	39	45	54	59	57	61	64	63
Boys										
Alcopops ²	..	..	..	52	33	55	59	61	61	57
Beer, lager, cider	76	81	82	81	78	85	83	85	85	86
Shandy	38	26	27	22	19	23	21	22	28	24
Wine	44	46	44	38	47	38	33	34	35	33
Fortified wine	14	15	12	11	16	17	10	13	14	14
Spirits	33	38	37	42	52	55	54	55	60	60
Girls										
Alcopops ²	..	..	..	58	42	69	77	76	76	73
Beer, lager, cider	56	67	70	67	63	63	57	55	53	56
Shandy	22	23	21	18	18	15	15	15	14	15
Wine	56	60	52	43	55	52	51	53	52	49
Fortified wine	22	20	18	19	24	21	14	15	13	12
Spirits	38	36	42	48	56	63	61	68	68	67
Bases										
<i>Total</i>	623	669	699	721	856	1,704	2,026	2,346	2,552	2,182
<i>Boys</i>	339	394	375	372	446	914	1,027	1,253	1,335	1,118
<i>Girls</i>	284	275	324	349	410	790	999	1,093	1,217	1,064

1. Children in secondary school years 7 to 11, mostly aged 11-15

2. Alcopops were first asked about in the 1996 Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use Among Young People survey

Source

Smoking, Drinking and Drug use among Young People in England in 2004, The Information Centre

Table 3.5 Where secondary school children^{1,2} usually buy alcohol, by gender, 1996 to 2004³

England	Percentages ⁴					
	1996	1998	1999	2000	2002	2004
All pupils						
Friend/ relative	..	9	9	17	17	17
Off-licence	27	20	21	17	16	17
Shop or supermarket	13	10	12	9	10	12
Pub or bar	10	9	9	9	8	9
Club or disco	6	6	5	7	5	6
Off the street ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	1
Garage forecourt ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	1
Somewhere else	8	6	8	8	8	9
Never buys alcohol	49	53	49	46	48	51
Boys						
Friend/ relative	..	10	9	16	15	16
Off-licence	26	22	22	17	16	17
Shop or supermarket	12	11	11	8	9	11
Pub or bar	8	9	8	9	8	7
Club or disco	4	6	4	5	3	4
Off the street ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	1
Garage forecourt ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	1
Somewhere else	10	7	8	9	8	9
Never buys alcohol	51	51	48	48	51	53
Girls						
Friend/ relative	..	9	9	19	20	19
Off-licence	28	18	21	17	16	17
Shop or supermarket	14	10	12	9	10	14
Pub or bar	12	9	10	10	9	11
Club or disco	8	6	7	9	6	8
Off the street ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	0
Garage forecourt ⁴	..	..	..	..	..	1
Somewhere else	6	6	7	7	8	9
Never buys alcohol	47	56	47	44	45	49
Bases						
All pupils	1,640	2,827	5,299	3,952	5,514	5,184
Boys	838	1,427	2,772	2,070	2,854	2,666
Girls	802	1,400	2,527	1,882	2,660	2,518

1. Children in secondary school years 7 to 11, mostly aged 11-15

2. Pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink were asked how often they usually had an alcoholic drink. Those who gave an answer other than 'I never drink alcohol now' were categorised as pupils who 'drink now'. Analysis of alcohol purchase is based on all pupils 'who drink now'. This was the base used in previous reports and retaining the base allows for analysis of trends

3. 'Friends/ relatives' was introduced as a separate answer category in 1998. 'Off the street' and 'Garage forecourt' were introduced as a separate answer categories in 2004

4. Percentages total more than 100, because pupils could give more than one answer

Source:

Smoking, Drinking and Drug use among Young People in England in 2004, The Information Centre

Table 3.6 Where secondary school children^{1,2} usually drink, by gender, 1996 to 2004³

England	Percentages ⁴			
	1996	1998	1999	2004
All pupils				
At home or someone else's home	52	58	61	60
Parties with friends	23	23	22	31
On the street, in a park, or somewhere else outside ⁴	..	..	21	25
Pub or Bar	13	12	11	10
Club or disco	13	10	10	7
Somewhere else	26	21	5	6
Boys				
At home or someone else's home	53	60	61	59
Parties with friends	23	23	20	30
On the street, in a park, or somewhere else outside ⁴	..	..	22	26
Pub or Bar	11	12	11	10
Club or disco	9	10	8	5
Somewhere else	28	22	5	6
Girls				
At home or someone else's home	52	56	61	61
Parties with friends	24	24	24	33
On the street, in a park, or somewhere else outside ⁴	..	..	21	25
Pub or Bar	15	12	12	11
Club or disco	16	11	12	10
Somewhere else	24	21	4	6
<i>Bases</i>				
<i>All pupils</i>	1,644	2,808	5,324	5,219
<i>Boys</i>	840	1,411	2,788	2,675
<i>Girls</i>	804	1,397	2,536	2,544

1. Children in secondary school years 7 to 11, mostly aged 11-15

2. Pupils who had ever had an alcoholic drink were asked how often they usually had an alcoholic drink. Those who gave an answer other than 'I never drink alcohol now' were categorised as pupils who 'drink now'. Analysis of where pupils drink is based on all pupils 'who drink now'. This was the base used in previous reports and retaining the base allows for analysis of trends

3. 'Out on the street, in a park or somewhere else outside' was introduced as a separate answer category in 1999

4. Percentages total more than 100 because pupils could give more than one answer

Source:

Smoking, Drinking and Drug use among Young People in England in 2004, The Information Centre

Table 3.7 Attitudes to drinking among secondary school children¹, by gender and age, 2004

England	Percentages					
	All aged 11-15	11 years	12 years	13 years	14 years	15 years
All pupils						
OK to try drinking alcohol to see what it's like	62	29	47	65	80	84
OK to try getting drunk to see what it's like	24	3	9	19	36	48
OK to drink alcohol once a week	39	13	23	36	54	64
OK to get drunk once a week	14	2	5	9	21	32
Boys						
OK to try drinking alcohol to see what it's like	62	34	47	62	78	82
OK to try getting drunk to see what it's like	24	4	9	18	37	47
OK to drink alcohol once a week	40	16	26	36	55	64
OK to get drunk once a week	14	3	4	8	22	32
Girls						
OK to try drinking alcohol to see what it's like	63	24	46	69	81	86
OK to try getting drunk to see what it's like	24	2	9	21	34	49
OK to drink alcohol once a week	38	11	21	36	53	63
OK to get drunk once a week	14	2	5	11	20	31
<i>Bases</i>						
<i>All pupils</i>	9,571	1,689	1,948	1,942	1,895	2,097
<i>Boys</i>	4,944	865	1,025	1,006	975	1,073
<i>Girls</i>	4,627	824	923	936	920	1,024

1. Children in secondary school years 7 to 11, mostly aged 11-15

Source:

Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use among Young People in England in 2004. The Information Centre

4 Drinking and pregnancy

Background

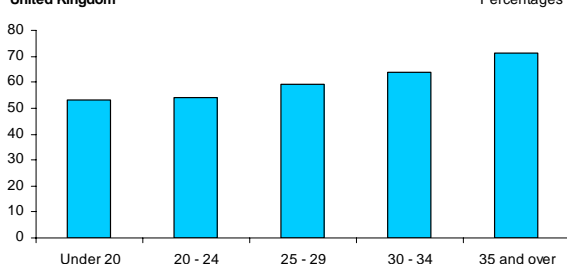
Statistics on drinking during pregnancy are taken from the publication *Infant Feeding 2000*¹, which reports on the Infant Feeding Survey (IFS). This survey is carried out in the United Kingdom every 5 years. The main aim of the survey is to provide figures on the incidence, prevalence and duration of breast feeding and other feeding practices. The survey also collects information on the smoking and drinking behaviours of women before, during and after pregnancy. A full report on the 2005 survey will be published in spring 2007.

Drinking during pregnancy

In 2000, 87% of mothers who had recently given birth reported drinking alcohol before their pregnancy, 61% continued to drink while they were pregnant - a fall from 66% in 1995 (Table 4.1).

Figure 4.1 shows that older mothers are more likely to drink during pregnancy; 71% of mothers aged 35 or over did so compared with 53% of those under 20.

Figure 4.1 Mothers who drank during pregnancy, by age, 2000
United Kingdom

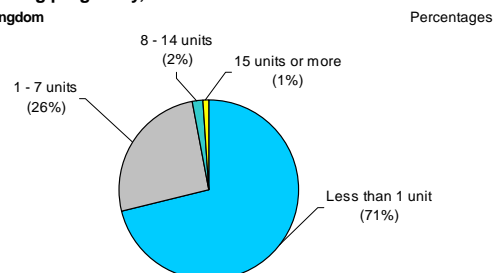


Source: *Infant Feeding 2000*, The Department of Health
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Thirty per cent of mothers who drank before pregnancy reported giving up drinking during pregnancy. This compares with 24% in 1995. In addition to the 30% of mothers who gave up drinking during their pregnancy, 65% said that they had reduced their alcohol intake (data not shown).

Those mothers who continued to drink during pregnancy reported drinking very little; 71% of those who continued to drink consumed less than 1 unit of alcohol a week, on average, and only 3% drank, on average, more than 7 units a week. (Tables 4.1, 4.2, Figure 4.2)

Figure 4.2 Estimated weekly alcohol consumption of mothers who drank during pregnancy, 2000
United Kingdom



Source: *Infant Feeding 2000*, The Department of Health
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- 4.1 Mothers who drank alcohol before and during pregnancy and those who gave up during pregnancy, by age, 1995 and 2000
- 4.2 Estimated weekly alcohol consumption of mothers who drank during pregnancy, by age of mother, 2000

Table 4.1 Mothers who drank alcohol before and during pregnancy and those who gave up during pregnancy, by age, 1995 and 2000

United Kingdom	Percentages				
	Drank before pregnancy ¹	Drank during pregnancy	Base: all mothers	Gave up during pregnancy	Base: drank before pregnancy
Under 20	87	53	657	39	573
20 - 24	84	54	1,670	36	1,408
25 - 29	87	59	2,703	33	2,353
30 - 34	88	64	2,894	27	2,536
35 and over	90	71	1,534	21	1,377
All² new mothers³ (2000)	87	61	9,492	30	8,266
All² new mothers³ (1995)	86	66	5,165	24	4,446

1. In the two years before the birth of their baby
2. Includes some mothers for whom age was not recorded
3. Mothers whose babies were 4 to 10 weeks old

Source:

Infant Feeding 2000, The Department of Health

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Table 4.2 Estimated weekly alcohol consumption of mothers who drank during pregnancy, by age of mother, 2000

United Kingdom						Percentages
	Under 20	20 - 24	25 - 29	30 - 34	35 or over	All mothers who drank during pregnancy ¹
Less than 1 unit	68	73	73	70	65	71
1 - 7 units	25	23	23	27	30	26
8 - 14 units	3	2	2	2	4	2
15 units or more	4	2	1	1	1	1
<i>Base: New² mothers who drank during pregnancy</i>	349	905	1,585	1,858	1,094	5,805

1. Includes some mothers for whom age was not recorded

2. Mothers whose babies were four to ten weeks old

Source:

Infant Feeding Survey 2000, The Department of Health

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5 Drinking related ill health and mortality

Background

Alcohol misuse can cause serious harm to a person's health (physical, psychological and social). The cost to the NHS of alcohol misuse has been estimated at £1.7 billion each year¹.

This chapter looks at hospital admissions where either the primary or the secondary diagnosis was alcohol related. The most common alcohol related diagnoses are included. These data are based on Hospital Episode Statistics² and use the tenth revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD 10) to identify alcohol related admissions. Information on alcohol related deaths are also presented and use the ICD 10 codes for classification.

Data on alcohol dependence and hazardous drinking are also presented from a survey of psychiatric morbidity carried out by the Office for National Statistics³. The survey covered adults aged 16 to 74 living in private households in Great Britain in 2000³. Around 8,500 respondents completed the survey questionnaire from which hazardous drinking and alcohol dependence was assessed.

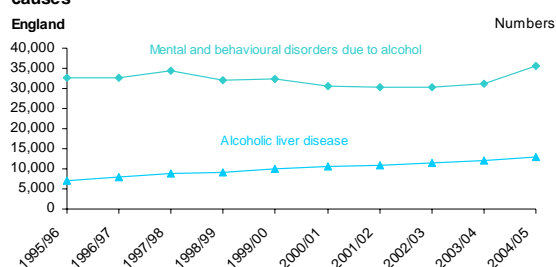
Alcohol related hospital admissions

Table 5.1 shows that in 2004/05 there were around 35,600 NHS hospital admissions² in England with a primary diagnosis of mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol consumption and almost a total of 126,300 where this was either the primary or secondary diagnosis. Around two thirds (68%) of those admitted with this primary diagnosis were men.

The number of hospital admissions with a primary diagnosis of mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol fell from around 32,500 in 1995/96 to under 30,300 in

2001/02 and has since risen to just over 35,600 in 2004/05. The number with either a primary or a secondary diagnosis of this nature rose more steadily in this period from just over 72,500 in 1995/96 to slightly under 126,300 in 2004/05 (Table 5.2, Figure 5.1).

Figure 5.1 Hospital admissions (primary diagnosis) for selected causes



Source: Hospital Episode Statistics, The Information Centre

Alcoholic liver disease was a less common alcohol related diagnosis than mental or behavioural disorders. Admissions where there was any mention (primary or secondary diagnosis) of alcoholic liver disease more than doubled between 1995/96 (14,350) and 2004/05 (35,393). As with mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol, men were more likely to be admitted with alcoholic liver disease than women; twice as many men as women were admitted with this diagnosis.

A diagnosis of toxic effects of alcohol was much less common, with only 1,646 admissions in 2004/05. However, admissions for men and women were approximately the same (Tables 5.1, 5.2).

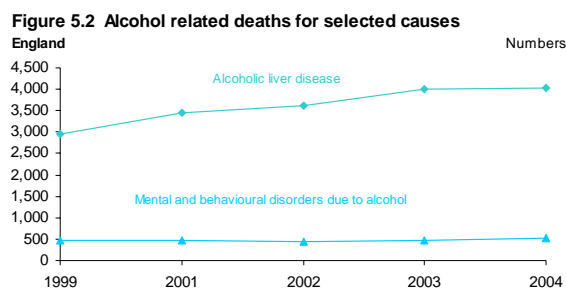
Alcohol related deaths

Alcohol misuse can be directly linked to deaths from certain types of disease, such as liver cirrhosis, and in some cases, it may also be associated with other causes of death, such as stroke. The Alcohol Harm

Reduction Strategy for England¹ estimates that up to 22,000 premature deaths per year are associated in some way with alcohol misuse.

Deaths from selected causes linked to alcohol consumption are shown in Table 5.3. Following the Office for National Statistics definition of alcohol-related deaths, these causes are chosen because they are regarded as being the direct result of alcohol consumption. Such deaths are increasing for most of the causes listed. In 2004, 4,037 people died in England and Wales from alcohol liver disease, an increase of 37% since 1999 when the number of deaths from this disease was 2,954. The number of deaths due to fibrosis and cirrhosis of the liver has remained stable since 1999 and was 1,718 in 2004. Since 1999, deaths from alcohol cardiomyopathy have gone down by 35% from 142 in 1999, to 92 in 2004.

More men than women died from each of the alcohol related causes except for chronic hepatitis, where the reverse was true.



Source: ONS DH2 Mortality Statistics - Cause, No.s 28, 29 and 30, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004
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Figure 5.2 shows that the number of deaths due to alcoholic liver disease has been steadily increasing, mirroring the trend in the number of admissions with this disease.

Alcohol dependence

The principle method for assessing alcohol misuse in the 2000 Psychiatric Morbidity Survey, was the Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test (AUDIT). It is based on a World Health Organization (WHO) measure

that defines hazardous alcohol use as a pattern of drinking which brings the risk of physical and psychosocial harm.

In this survey, alcohol dependence in the six months prior to interview was assessed using the Severity of Alcohol Dependence questionnaire. This consists of 20 questions covering a range of symptoms of dependence.

In 2000, a quarter (26%) of adults in Great Britain were assessed as being hazardous drinkers. The prevalence of hazardous drinking was higher among men (38%) than among women (15%). Prevalence of hazardous drinking decreased with age, although there were differences between the sexes. For women prevalence was highest in the 16-19 year old group (32%), whereas for men it was highest among those aged 20-24 (62%) (Table 5.4)

Seven per cent of adults were assessed as being dependent on alcohol. In nearly all cases, the level of dependence was assessed as mild. Prevalence rates were 69 per 1,000 population for mild dependence, 4 per 1,000 for moderate dependence, and 1 per 1,000 for severe dependence. Men were more likely to show signs of dependence than women, and younger people were more likely to have signs of dependence than the older groups. All cases of severe dependence were found among people aged between 30 and 65. (Table 5.5)

A survey in 1997 of psychiatric morbidity among prisoners⁴ shows prevalence figures of drinking among people before being sentenced to prison. Similar surveys of adults living in institutions⁵, homeless people⁶ and people with psychotic disorders⁷ have also been carried out. An overview of alcohol dependence in these surveys was published in 1998⁸.

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- 5.3 Deaths from selected causes linked to alcohol consumption, by gender, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004
- 5.4 Hazardous drinking of people living in private households, by gender and age, 2000
- 5.5 Alcohol dependence of people living in private households, by gender and age, 2000

Table 5.1 NHS¹ hospital admissions² where there was either a primary, or secondary, diagnosis of selected alcohol related diseases, by gender, 2004/05³

England		Number of admissions		
Diagnosis (ICD ⁴ 10)		All persons ⁵	Males	Females
Primary diagnosis⁶				
Total		50,262	33,941	16,304
F10	Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol	35,624	24,288	11,323
	F10.0 Acute intoxication	12,342	7,568	4,768
	F10.1 Harmful use	2,860	1,951	909
	F10.2 Dependence syndrome	9,979	6,872	3,101
	F10.3 Withdrawal state	8,034	6,147	1,886
	F10.4 Withdrawal state with delirium	994	760	234
	F10.5 Psychotic disorder	423	322	101
	F10.6 Amnesic syndrome	212	165	47
	F10.7 Residual and late-onset psychotic disorder	154	104	50
	F10.8 Other mental and behavioural disorders	54	33	21
	F10.9 Unspecified mental and behavioural disorders	572	366	206
K70	Alcoholic liver disease	12,992	8,783	4,207
T51	Toxic effect of alcohol	1,646	870	774
Primary and secondary diagnosis⁷				
Total		183,400	126,182	57,176
F10 (3)	Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol	126,281	91,336	34,916
	F10.0 Acute intoxication	35,251	25,004	10,235
	F10.1 Harmful use	28,885	20,961	7,922
	F10.2 Dependence syndrome	51,405	37,307	14,087
	F10.3 Withdrawal state	13,841	10,565	3,273
	F10.4 Withdrawal state with delirium	1,398	1,078	319
	F10.5 Psychotic disorder	638	485	153
	F10.6 Amnesic syndrome	673	522	151
	F10.7 Residual and late-onset psychotic disorder	505	358	147
	F10.8 Other mental and behavioural disorders	122	84	38
	F10.9 Unspecified mental and behavioural disorders	1,134	739	395
K70	Alcoholic liver disease	35,393	24,545	10,844
T51	Toxic effect of alcohol	21,726	10,301	11,416

1. The data include private patients in NHS hospitals (but not private patients in private hospitals)

2. A finished in-year admission is the first period of in-patient care under one consultant within one healthcare provider, excluding admissions beginning before 1 April at the start of the data year. Please note that admissions do not represent the number of in-patients, as a person may have more than one admission within the year

3. Figures have not been adjusted for shortfalls in data

4. See Appendix A for further information about International Classification of Disease

5. "All persons" includes those whose gender was not known

6. Patients admitted with a primary diagnosis of one of the alcohol related diseases shown, are included both at "primary diagnosis" and "primary and secondary diagnosis". Patients admitted with a primary diagnosis not related to alcohol (eg an injury), but who have an alcohol related secondary diagnosis are included at "primary and secondary diagnosis" only

7. The "Primary and Secondary diagnosis" summary data for ICD code F10, are less than the sum of the data for the subdivisions of F10, because a patient may be admitted with more than one diagnosis within the subdivisions of F10

Source:

Hospital Episode Statistics. The Information Centre, 2006

Table 5.2 NHS¹ hospital admissions² where there was either a primary, or secondary, diagnosis³ of selected alcohol related diseases, 1995/96 to 2004/05^{4,5,6}

England	Number of admissions					
	F 10 Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol		K70 Alcoholic liver disease		T51 Toxic effect of alcohol	
	Primary diagnosis	Primary and secondary diagnosis	Primary diagnosis	Primary and secondary diagnosis	Primary diagnosis	Primary and secondary diagnosis
1995/96	32,510	72,516	7,116	14,350	2,214	13,572
1996/97	32,503	79,003	7,897	16,444	2,265	16,372
1997/98	34,414	85,312	8,953	18,481	2,353	18,389
1998/99	32,087	84,162	9,245	19,731	1,998	16,998
1999/00	32,319	88,565	10,116	22,594	1,977	17,264
2000/01	30,679	88,595	10,549	24,317	1,767	16,625
2001/02	30,257	91,543	10,916	26,079	1,832	16,888
2002/03	30,203	96,095	11,591	28,811	1,427	16,634
2003/04	31,266	107,467	12,141	31,558	1,474	18,664
2004/05	35,624	126,281	12,992	35,393	1,646	21,726

1. The data include private patients in NHS hospitals (but not private patients in private hospitals)

2. A finished in-year admission is the first period of in-patient care under one consultant within one healthcare provider, excluding admissions beginning before 1 April at the start of the data year. Please note that admissions do not represent the number of in-patients, as a person may have more than one admission within the year

3. Patients admitted with a primary diagnosis of the alcohol related disease shown, are included both at "primary diagnosis" and "primary and secondary diagnosis". Patients admitted with a primary diagnosis not related to ICD10 code F10 (eg an injury), but who have ICD10 code F10 as their secondary diagnosis are included at "primary or secondary diagnosis" only

4. Data not available for ICD10 prior to 1995/96

5. Figures are grossed for both coverage and missing/invalid clinical data, except for 2003/04 and 2004/05, which are not yet adjusted for shortfalls in data

6. See Appendix A for further information about International Classification of Disease

Source

Hospital Episode Statistics. The Information Centre, 2006

Table 5.3 Deaths¹ from selected causes linked to alcohol consumption, by gender, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004

England and Wales		Numbers				
ICD-10 code ²		1999 ³	2001	2002	2003	2004
All persons						
F10	Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol	465	477	435	469	538
I42.6	Alcoholic cardiomyopathy	142	120	119	108	92
K70, K73–K74		4,735	5,243	5,376	5,844	5,824
K70	Alcoholic liver disease	2,954	3,464	3,617	3,991	4,037
K73	Chronic hepatitis, not elsewhere specified	81	78	77	60	69
K74	Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver	1,700	1,692	1,682	1,793	1,718
X45	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol	138	139	103	159	160
Men						
F10	Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol	316	332	311	339	384
I42.6	Alcoholic cardiomyopathy	111	103	90	97	75
K70, K73–K74		2,872	3,271	3,354	3,735	3,651
K70	Alcoholic liver disease	1,928	2,292	2,418	2,700	2,641
K73	Chronic hepatitis, not elsewhere specified	16	23	17	14	18
K74	Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver	928	956	919	1,021	992
X45	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol	91	94	60	110	110
Women						
F10	Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol	149	145	124	130	154
I42.6	Alcoholic cardiomyopathy	31	17	29	11	17
K70, K73–K74		1,863	1,963	2,022	2,109	2,173
K70	Alcoholic liver disease	1,026	1,172	1,199	1,291	1,396
K73	Chronic hepatitis, not elsewhere specified	65	55	60	46	51
K74	Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver	772	736	763	772	726
X45	Accidental poisoning by and exposure to alcohol	47	45	43	49	50

1. Deaths occurring in each calendar year, data for 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004

2. See Appendix A for further information about International Classification of Disease

3. Data for 1999 are death registrations

4. Data not available by ICD10 for 2000

5. Data may include non-residents

Sources:

DH2 Mortality Statistics - Cause, Nos 28, 29 and 30, 2001, 2002, 2003 and 2004, Office for National Statistics

Dual-coded mortality data, 1999, Office for National Statistics

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Table 5.4 Hazardous drinking¹ of people² living in private households, by gender and age, 2000

Great Britain												Percentages	
Audit score	All ages	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74
All persons													
Score: 0-7	74	61	55	62	72	71	75	76	79	80	86	85	91
Score: 8-15	23	32	35	32	24	24	22	22	19	18	13	13	9
Score: 16-40	4	6	9	6	4	4	3	2	2	2	1	1	1
Hazardous drinking (score 8 and over)	26	39	45	38	28	29	25	24	21	20	14	15	9
Mean Audit Score	5	7	7	7	6	6	5	5	5	5	4	4	3
Men													
Score: 0-7	62	55	38	49	59	59	64	63	70	68	80	76	86
Score: 8-15	32	37	48	40	33	35	32	34	27	29	18	22	13
Score: 16-40	6	8	14	10	7	6	4	3	3	3	2	2	1
Hazardous drinking (score 8 and over)	38	45	62	51	41	41	36	37	30	32	20	24	14
Mean Audit Score	7	8	9	8	7	7	7	6	6	6	5	5	4
Women													
Score: 0-7	85	68	71	77	83	84	86	89	87	92	92	94	95
Score: 8-15	14	27	24	21	16	14	13	10	12	8	8	6	5
Score: 16-40	2	5	5	2	1	2	1	1	1	-	-	0	-
Hazardous drinking (score 8 and over)	15	32	29	23	17	16	14	11	13	8	8	6	5
Mean Audit Score	4	6	6	5	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3
<i>Bases</i>													
All persons	8,580	334	460	730	953	1,006	842	723	822	703	739	668	600
Men	3,852	183	202	332	379	442	382	360	387	314	332	295	244
Women	4,728	151	258	398	574	564	460	363	435	389	407	373	356

1. The Alcohol Use Disorders Identification Test is used to identify hazardous drinking

2. Aged 16 to 74 years

Source:

Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug use and Mental Health, Office for National Statistics

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Table 5.5 Alcohol dependence¹ of people² living in private households, by gender and age, 2000

Great Britain	Rate per thousand population in last six months												
	All ages	16-19	20-24	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74
All persons													
Mild	69	124	150	137	66	96	56	36	41	42	14	17	9
Moderate	4	14	3	3	4	5	7	2	3	-	1	-	-
Severe	1	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	1	-	1	-	-
Men													
Mild	111	164	237	206	105	158	93	62	63	78	24	29	20
Moderate	7	26	7	5	6	9	12	3	6	-	2	-	-
Severe	1	-	-	-	3	3	2	-	3	-	2	-	-
Women													
Mild	28	74	71	53	30	33	18	10	18	7	6	7	-
Moderate	1	-	-	-	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Severe	0	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
Bases													
All persons	8,580	334	460	730	953	1,006	842	723	822	703	739	668	600
Men	3,852	183	202	332	379	442	382	360	387	314	332	295	244
Women	4,728	151	258	398	574	564	460	363	435	389	407	373	356

1. The Severity of Alcohol Dependence questionnaire was used to provide a standardised measure of dependence. Questions refer to a typical period of heavy drinking in the last 6 months

2. Aged 16 to 74 years

3. Rates rounded to the nearest one per thousand population

Source

Tobacco, Alcohol and Drug use and Mental Health, Office for National Statistics

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6 Alcohol related crime

Background

As well as the direct health risks, alcohol misuse can contribute to crime. Data on violent offenders in England and Wales have been taken from the Home Office publications Crime in England and Wales 2004/05¹ and Criminal Statistics England and Wales 2004², and show the number of violent offenders who were thought to be under the influence of alcohol and the number of people found guilty or cautioned for drunkenness. Data from the Offending, Crime and Justice Survey³ (OCJS) are also presented which show self-reported offending and volumes of crime committed by young people.

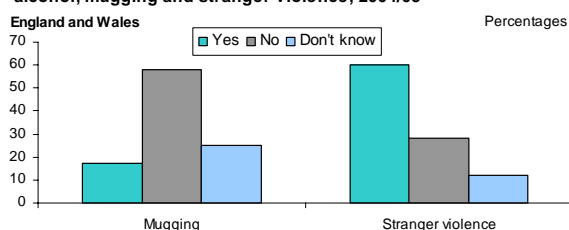
Information on alcohol related traffic accidents are collected by Department for Transport⁴ (DfT).

This chapter also provides statistics on roadside screening breath tests⁵ conducted in England and Wales, and proceedings at magistrates' courts relating to driving under the influence of drink or drugs, both provided by the Home Office.

Criminal Offences

Results from the British Crime Survey in England and Wales, show that 48% of violent offenders were perceived to be under the influence of alcohol by their victims. (Table 6.1)

Figure 6.1 Whether offender thought to be under the influence of alcohol; mugging and stranger violence, 2004/05

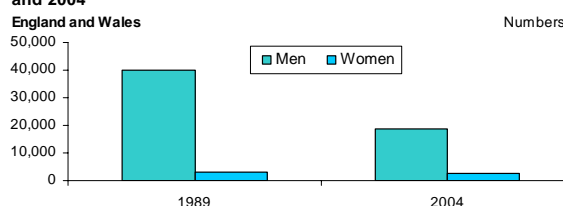


Source: Home Office Crime in England and Wales 2004/05: Supplementary Volume Nature of burglary, vehicle and violent crime
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Figure 6.1 shows the proportion of muggings and attacks by strangers where the victim perceived the offender to be under the influence of alcohol. For muggings, only 17% of victims perceived the offender to be under the influence compared with 60% of victims of attacks by strangers.

In England and Wales, around 21,100 people (18,700 men and 2,500 women) were found guilty of drunkenness in 2004. This was considerably fewer than the equivalent figure of around 42,900 in 1989. In addition, around 13,500 people were cautioned for drunkenness. (Tables 6.2, Figure 6.2)

Figure 6.2 Persons found guilty of drunkenness, by gender, 1989 and 2004



Source: Home Office Criminal Statistics England and Wales. Supplementary Tables 2004 volumes 1 and 3
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Young people and offences

The OCJS reports on the relationship between the volume of crimes committed by young people (aged 10 to 17 years old) and their drinking patterns. Those who drank at least once a month accounted for a disproportionate amount of crimes committed by 10 to 17 year olds in the survey. Disproportionate offending was particularly apparent among those who drank once a week or more as shown in Figure 6.3.

Those respondents aged 10 to 17 years old, who drank once a week or more, committed 37% of offences but only accounted for 14% of all respondents. By contrast, those who had never drunk alcohol in the past year

committed 16% of all offences, accounting for just less than half (45%) of respondents. A similar pattern was observed amongst violent crimes, as 34% of 10 to 17 year olds committed such crimes whilst representing 15% of the sample.

Figure 6.3 Proportion of offences by young people¹ accounted for by drinking patterns

England and Wales	Percentages ²			
	All offences	Sample	Violent offences	Sample
Once a week or more	37	14	34	15
1 to 3 times a month	34	18	32	18
Less often	13	22	13	22
Not drunk in the past 12 months/ never drunk alcohol	16	45	20	45

1. Aged 10 to 17
2. Weighted data

Source

Underage Drinking: Findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey. The Home Office

Re-used with the permission of The Home Office. Crown copyright ©, Home Office Underage Drinking: Findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and

Alcohol related traffic accidents

Provisional estimates from the Road casualties Great Britain 2004 report suggest that 6% of road traffic accidents involved illegal alcohol levels. Drink driving related deaths have been increasing steadily since 1999 (460), rising to 590 in 2004. The number of people killed or seriously injured in drink-drive accidents in Great Britain fell to below 3,000 in 1998 and 1999, and then steadily increased until 2002. This figure fell in 2003 (3,170), and provisional estimates show another fall in 2004, to 2,940. The total number of casualties resulting from drink driving incidents was 17,000 in 2004, the lowest since 1999 (Table 6.3).

The more detailed figures available for 2003 show that, of all casualties involved in drink drive accidents, 34% were car drivers who were over the legal alcohol limit. It is estimated that more than twice as many men as women were casualties in alcohol related road accidents. Almost 90% of alcohol related road accident casualties were adults aged 16 to 59. (Tables 6.4 and 6.5)

Breath tests

There are three reasons for the police to require a person to take a screening breath test. They must have reasonable cause to suspect that the person has been driving or attempting to drive with alcohol in his body, that they have committed a moving traffic offence, or that they have been involved in an accident.

The number of breath tests required increased from 180,000 in 1980 to 816,000 in 1998 and fell to 578,000 in 2004. The number of tests which were positive (or refused) increased from 89,000 in 1980 to a peak of 112,000 in 1988. There were 103,000 positive tests in 2004. The proportion testing positive (or refused) declined from 49% in 1980 to 12% in 1999, but then rose gradually to 20% in 2003. In 2004, 18% of tests were positive. The required number of breath tests rose from 534,000 in 2003 to 578,000 in 2004, while the number of positive tests fell from 106,000 to 103,000 over the same period. The number of convictions for driving whilst under the influence of alcohol or drugs was 96,000 in 2004 (Table 6.6).

Drinking and driving offences

In 2004, in England and Wales there were around 107,000 proceedings at magistrates' courts for offences related to driving after consuming alcohol or taking drugs (including attempting to drive, or being in charge of a motor vehicle on a road or other public place). This number fell between 1990 (128,000) and 2001 (96,000) and has since increased to 107,000 in 2004. (Tables 6.7)

References

1. Crime in England and Wales 2004/05. London: The Home Office, 2006. (Home Office Statistical Bulletin 11/05). Available at: www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/hosb1105.pdf

2. Criminal Statistics England and Wales, 2004 - Supplementary tables, volumes 1 and 2. Home Office, 2006. Available at: www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/crimstats04.html

3. Underage drinking: findings from the 2004 Offending, Crime and Justice Survey. Home Office, 2006. Available at: <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs06/r277.pdf>

4. Road casualties in Great Britain: 2004 – Annual report. Department for Transport, 2006. Available at: www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_control/documents/contentservertemplate/dft_index.html?n=8290&l=4

5. Motoring Offences and Breath Test Statistics England and Wales 2004. (Statistical Bulletin 05/04). Home Office, 2005. Available at: www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs05/hosb0605.pdf

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Table 6.1 Whether offender/s perceived by victims to be under the influence of alcohol in violent incidents , by type of incident, 1998 to 2004/05

England and Wales		Percentages				
	1998	2000	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04	2004/05
Domestic¹						
Yes	33	43	45	42	47	53
No	60	55	49	56	48	45
Don't know	7	2	5	2	5	2
Acquaintance²						
Yes	45	37	51	41	51	46
No	50	53	43	51	43	49
Don't know	4	10	6	8	6	5
Stranger³						
Yes	59	53	59	60	62	60
No	30	34	31	26	25	28
Don't know	11	13	10	14	14	12
Mugging⁴						
Yes	15	17	19	20	18	17
No	53	70	62	58	61	58
Don't know	32	13	18	22	21	25
All violence⁵						
Yes	42	40	47	44	50	48
No	48	50	44	45	40	43
Don't know	10	9	9	11	10	9
<i>Bases</i>						
<i>Domestic</i>	195	229	243	259	258	256
<i>Acquaintance</i>	347	390	426	492	460	483
<i>Stranger</i>	250	308	452	458	517	535
<i>Mugging</i>	150	125	219	245	230	255
<i>All violence</i>	946	1,052	1,340	1,455	1,465	1,529

1. Domestic violence comprises common assaults and woundings which involve partners, ex-partners, household members or other relatives

2. Acquaintance violence comprises common assault and woundings in which the victim knew one or more of the offenders, at least by sight. In 1998 there was one incident of acquaintance violence where the offender was said to be under school age

3. Stranger violence includes common assaults and woundings, in which the victim did not know any of the offenders in any way. In 2001/02 there was one incident of stranger violence for which the offender was under school age

4. Mugging comprises robbery, attempted robbery, and snatch theft from the person

5. The BCS does not cover crimes against those aged under 16 or those not living in private households

Sources:

Crime in England and Wales 2004/05: Supplementary Tables: Volume Nature of burglary, vehicle and violent crime. Home Office

British Crime Survey, 2000. Home Office

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Table 6.2 Persons cautioned, proceeded against and those found guilty of drunkenness, by gender, 1989, 2000 to 2004

	England and Wales									Numbers
	All adults			Men			Women			
	Drunkenness, simple ¹	Drunkenness, with aggravation ²	Total	Drunkenness, simple ¹	Drunkenness, with aggravation ²	Total	Drunkenness, simple ¹	Drunkenness, with aggravation ²	Total	
Persons cautioned										
1989	36,143	13,769	49,912	33,240	12,611	45,851	2,903	1,158	4,061	
2000	2,435	15,616	18,051	2,106	12,655	14,761	329	2,961	3,290	
2001	1,692	14,947	16,639	1,459	11,993	13,452	233	2,954	3,187	
2002	1,190	15,041	16,231	1,023	11,912	12,935	167	3,129	3,296	
2003	1,336	16,796	18,132	1,137	13,253	14,392	199	3,543	3,742	
2004	1,009	12,447	13,456	828	9,562	10,390	181	2,915	3,096	
Persons proceeded against										
1989	6,187	42,186	48,373	5,861	39,141	45,002	326	3,045	3,371	
2000	3,375	30,688	34,063	3,108	27,457	30,565	267	3,231	3,498	
2001	3,196	30,057	33,253	2,917	26,918	29,835	279	3,139	3,418	
2002	2,867	31,066	33,933	2,566	27,670	30,236	301	3,396	3,697	
2003	2,640	31,635	34,275	2,375	27,967	30,342	265	3,668	3,933	
2004	2,251	22,904	25,155	1,991	20,100	22,091	260	2,804	3,064	
Persons found guilty										
1989	5,623	37,287	42,910	5,334	34,715	40,049	289	2,572	2,861	
2000	2,969	24,213	27,182	2,740	21,809	24,549	229	2,404	2,633	
2001	2,741	23,505	26,246	2,511	21,230	23,741	230	2,275	2,505	
2002	2,510	24,388	26,898	2,255	21,893	24,148	255	2,495	2,750	
2003	2,299	25,398	27,697	2,069	22,617	24,686	230	2,781	3,011	
2004	1,948	19,185	21,133	1,729	16,929	18,658	219	2,256	2,475	

1. Simple drunkenness - the majority are offences under the Licensing Act 1872, section 12 (Being found drunk in a highway or other public place or on licensed premises)

2. Drunkenness with aggravation - the majority are offences under the Criminal Justice Act 1967, section 91 (Being guilty while drunk of disorderly behaviour)

Source:

Criminal Statistics England and Wales. Supplementary Tables 2004 volumes 1 and 3. Home Office

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Table 6.3 Estimates of casualties¹, in road accidents involving illegal alcohol levels, 1980 to 2004²

Great Britain	Numbers				
	Total of all casualties	Casualties in accidents involving illegal alcohol levels			Slight
		Total	Fatal	Serious	
1980	326,732	29,830	1,450	7,970	20,420
1981	324,840	27,950	1,420	7,370	19,160
1982	334,331	30,220	1,550	8,010	20,660
1983	308,584	26,520	1,110	6,800	18,610
1984	324,314	27,390	1,170	6,820	19,410
1985	317,524	27,220	1,040	6,810	19,380
1986	321,489	26,650	990	6,440	19,220
1987	311,473	24,470	900	5,900	17,670
1988	322,305	22,740	790	5,100	16,860
1989	341,592	22,220	810	4,790	16,620
1990	341,141	20,400	760	4,090	15,550
1991	311,368	17,880	660	3,610	13,610
1992	310,753	16,710	660	3,280	12,770
1993	306,135	14,980	540	2,660	11,780
1994	315,359	15,160	540	2,840	11,780
1995	310,687	16,000	540	3,000	12,450
1996	320,578	17,040	580	3,010	13,450
1997	327,803	16,800	550	2,940	13,310
1998	325,212	15,590	460	2,520	12,610
1999	320,310	16,910	460	2,470	13,980
2000	320,283	18,060	530	2,540	14,990
2001	313,309	18,770	530	2,690	15,550
2002	302,605	20,100	550	2,790	16,760
2003	290,607	18,990	580	2,590	15,820
2004	280,840	17,000	590	2,350	14,050

1. Estimates are adjusted for under reporting

2. The data for 2004 are provisional

Source:

Road Casualties Great Britain: 2004 - Annual Report. Department for Transport

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Table 6.4 Estimates of casualties in road accidents where at least one of the drivers or riders involved was over the legal limit, by mode of road user and age group, 2003¹

Great Britain	Numbers							
	Total	Pedestrians	Cyclists	Motor - cyclists	Car drivers		Car passengers	Other
					Over the limit	Under the limit		
Children	1,050	130	40	20	10	0	820	30
Adults, 16-24	6,680	170	30	480	2,310	610	2,940	140
25-59	9,940	270	60	650	3,880	2,480	2,220	390
Elderly, 60+	840	60	0	0	190	280	250	50
All ages ²	18,990	670	140	1,170	6,390	3,370	6,620	630

1. 2003 is the earliest year for which this detailed breakdown of casualty figures is available

2. Includes age not known

3. Note that in the previous bulletin, 'Statistics on alcohol: England 2004', the figures for Car drivers: over the limit, Car drivers: under the limit and Car passengers were combined as Car occupants. This has been discontinued in this bulletin and the figures are presented in the same format as in the DFT annual report

Source:

Road Casualties Great Britain: 2004 - Annual Report. Department for Transport

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Table 6.5 Estimates of casualties in road accidents where at least one of the drivers or riders involved was over the legal limit, by gender and age group, 2003

Great Britain	Numbers		
	Total ²	Male	Female
Children	1,050	540	510
Adults, 16-24	6,680	4,790	1,890
25-59	9,940	6,910	3,040
Elderly, 60+	840	470	370
All ages ³	18,990	13,000	5,990

1. 2003 is the earliest year for which this detailed breakdown of casualty figures is available

2. Total also includes gender not known

3. Includes age not known

Source:

Road Casualties Great Britain: 2004 - Annual Report. Department for Transport

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Table 6.6 Roadside screening breath tests, by outcome, 1998 to 2004^{1,2,3}

England and Wales	Thousands/ percentages		
	Number required	Of which positive/refused	
		Number	Percentage
1980	180.1	89.2	49
1981	177.4	80.6	45
1982	206.6	88.6	43
1983	241.2	98.4	41
1984	207.6	87.6	42
1985	250.3	95.7	38
1986	303.0	97.8	32
1987	399.8	111.4	28
1988	443.3	111.7	25
1989	540.9	108.0	20
1990	596.6	102.4	17
1991	562.5	90.3	16
1992	531.3	87.8	17
1993	599.6	89.4	15
1994	678.5	93.3	14
1995	702.7	94.4	13
1996	781.1	100.5	13
1997	800.3	103.5	13
1998	815.5	102.3	13
1999	764.5	94.1	12
2000	714.8	94.6	13
2001	623.9	99.5	16
2002	570.2	103.5	18
2003	534.3	106.3	20
2004	577.6	103.0	18

1. During 1992 a new system of collecting this particular source of breath test data from police forces was introduced. Consequently data from 1992 onwards may not be fully comparable with previous years as levels of under-reporting may have changed

2. Includes persons unable to provide a breath test specimen prior to 1987

3. Reporting of breath tests is not comprehensive. Following a comparison between the number of positive breath tests reported by each police force and the number of court proceedings, it became clear that there was under-reporting in a number of forces. Some adjustment has been made to the figures to attempt to compensate.

Sources:

Statistical Bulletin (04/05) 'Motoring Offences and Breath Test Statistics, England and Wales 2004. Home Office

Statistical Bulletin (21/92) 'Breath Test Statistics, England and Wales 1991. Home Office

Statistical Bulletin (24/87) 'Statistics of Breath Tests England and Wales 1986. Home Office

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Table 6.7 Proceedings¹ and convictions² for offences of driving after consuming alcohol or taking drugs³, 1990 to 2004

England and Wales	Thousands	
	Proceedings	Convictions
1990	127.6	113.2
1991	118.6	103.8
1992	110.2	95.2
1993	105.2	91.2
1994	104.7	89.7
1995	105.4	92.5
1996	107.9	95.7
1997	112.1	100.2
1998	104.0	93.1
1999	99.5	89.4
2000	96.2	85.8
2001	96.0	84.8
2002	102.0	90.5
2003	105.7	93.7
2004	107.1	96.2

1. At magistrates' court

2. At all courts

3. These data relate to driving, attempting to drive or in charge of a motor vehicle on a road or other public place after consuming alcohol or taking drugs

Sources:

Statistical Bulletin 'Motoring Offences and Breath Test Statistics, England and Wales 2004'. Home Office
Statistical Bulletin 'Breath Test Statistics, England and Wales 1991'. Home Office

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7 Alcohol costs and economics

Background

Data on alcohol expenditure and household expenditure are taken from Office for National Statistics (ONS) Consumer Trends¹. Alcohol and Retail Price Index data are published in Focus on Consumer Price Indices (ONS)² and figures for households' disposable index are taken from Economic Trends (ONS)³.

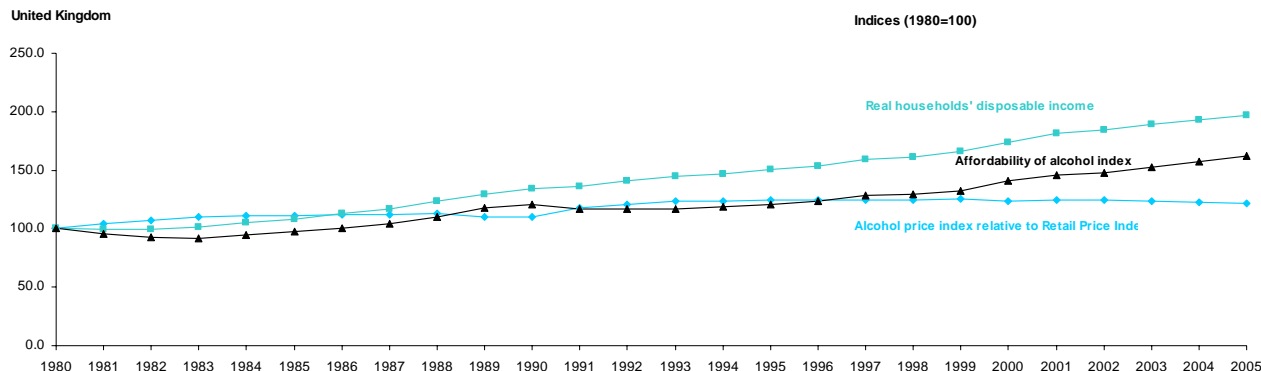
Data on alcohol released for home consumption and excise duty from alcoholic drink are taken from Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs statistical bulletins⁴.

Expenditure on wine has shown the greatest increase since 1970, the first year for which these data are available.

Alcohol prices

UK prices of alcoholic drink as measured by the Alcohol Price Index, have increased - more than general price increases since 1980. Between 1980 and 2005 the price of alcohol increased by 22% more than prices generally. However, households' disposable income increased by 97% in real terms between 1980 and 2005, making alcohol 62% more affordable in 2005 than in 1980. (Table 7.2, Figure 7.1)

Figure 7.1 Indices of alcohol price relative to retail price index, real households' disposable income (RHDI) and affordability of alcohol, 1980 to 2005 United Kingdom



Source: Focus on Consumer Price Indices, Office for National Statistics and Economic Trends, Office for National Statistics

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Expenditure on alcohol

Table 7.1 shows that, in 2005, total UK household expenditure on alcohol was £41.9 billion. This figure excludes legitimate cross-border shopping, which is included in tourist expenditure, but includes estimates of the value of smuggled alcohol.

During the period 1950 to 2005, expenditure on alcohol as a proportion of total household expenditure has fallen. It was 7.9% in 1950 and stood at 5.5% in 2005.

Expenditure on beer, at over £20 billion in 2005, was higher than expenditure on both wine (£13.75 billion) and spirits (£8 billion).

Home consumption

Information on the volume of alcohol released for home consumption is collected by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs and relates to the United Kingdom as a whole. The data on alcohol released for home consumption exclude personal imports - both legal and illegal.

Releases of beer have fallen slightly since the early 1990s, but releases of cider and perry, and wine, have increased, almost doubling in the last 15 years. Releases of spirits fell in the early 1990s, but have been increasing since 1997/98. However, changes in levels of wine and spirits

released for home consumption since 2002/03 could in part be due to the classification of spirit-based coolers as spirits rather than wines from April 2002. (Table 7.3).

The volume of pure alcohol released for home consumption per person aged 16 and over fell in the early 1990s, but has since increased from 9.4 litres in 1993/94 to 11.7 litres in 2004/05. (Table 7.4)

Tax revenue

Table 7.5 shows that in 2005/06, UK excise duty revenue from alcoholic drinks was £7,861 million. This compares with £2,601 million in 1980/81. Although duty revenue from 'wine, cider and perry' is smaller than that from beer, revenue from this source has increased fivefold since 1980/81.

References

1. Consumer Trends. Office for National Statistics. Available at: <http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=242&Pos=&ColRank=1&Rank=422>
2. Focus on Consumer Price Indices. Office for National Statistics. Available at: www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=867&Pos=&ColRank=1&Rank=422
3. Economic Trends. Office for National Statistics. Available at: www.statistics.gov.uk/STATBASE/Product.asp?vlnk=308
4. HM Customs & Excise Statistical Bulletins: Beer and cider, Made wine, Wine of fresh grape, Spirits. Available at: www.uktradeinfo.com/index.cfm?task=statistics

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Table 7.1 Household expenditure¹ on alcohol, 1950, 1960, 1970 and 1980 to 2004

United Kingdom,				£ million at current prices		
	Beer ²	Spirits ²	Wine ²	Total household expenditure on alcohol	Total household final consumption expenditure	Expenditure on alcohol as percentage of total household final consumption expenditure
1950	494	..	..	734	9,257	7.9
1960	566	..	..	962	16,573	5.8
1970	1,355	612	333	2,300	30,547	7.5
1980	5,320	2,720	1,913	9,953	132,663	7.5
1981	5,971	2,908	2,274	11,153	147,120	7.6
1982	6,450	3,003	2,550	12,003	160,997	7.5
1983	7,138	3,265	2,867	13,270	176,695	7.5
1984	8,085	3,471	3,111	14,667	189,397	7.7
1985	8,762	3,831	3,404	15,997	206,700	7.7
1986	9,248	3,947	3,555	16,750	228,870	7.3
1987	9,886	4,145	3,773	17,804	251,390	7.1
1988	10,562	4,550	3,894	19,006	283,965	6.7
1989	11,216	4,611	4,117	19,944	311,437	6.4
1990	12,345	4,985	4,471	21,801	337,646	6.5
1991	13,274	5,296	4,848	23,418	359,616	6.5
1992	13,432	5,243	5,311	23,986	379,758	6.3
1993	13,605	5,524	5,650	24,779	401,970	6.2
1994	14,507	5,820	5,879	26,206	422,397	6.2
1995	14,842	5,284	6,529	26,655	443,367	6.0
1996	15,713	5,460	7,980	29,153	474,311	6.1
1997	16,703	5,911	8,168	30,782	503,606	6.1
1998	17,029	6,062	9,386	32,477	536,921	6.0
1999	17,230	6,769	9,667	33,666	570,634	5.9
2000	17,062	6,795	10,782	34,639	603,457	5.7
2001	17,342	6,971	11,690	36,003	635,651	5.7
2002	18,077	7,431	12,766	38,274	667,361	5.7
2003	18,853	7,714	12,221	38,788	697,764	5.6
2004	19,274	7,939	13,464	40,677	731,517	5.6
2005	20,139	8,026	13,755	41,920	758,455	5.5

1. Excludes legitimate cross-border shopping, which is included in tourists' expenditure

2. 'Spirits' includes spirits and liqueurs, 'Wine' includes grape and fruit wines, alco pops, cider and perry, 'Beer' includes beers, ales, lagers, porters, shandies, and low alcohol beverages

Source:

Consumer Trends (Table ALC.CS: codes CCEL, CCSA, CCSB, CCRY; Table OGS.CS: code ABJQ), Office for National Statistics

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Table 7.2 Indices of alcohol price, retail prices, alcohol price index relative to retail prices index (all items), real households' disposable income, and affordability of alcohol, 1980 to 2005

United Kingdom	Indices (1980 = 100)				
	Alcohol price index	Retail price index (all items)	Alcohol price index relative to Retail price index (all items)	Real households' disposable income	Affordability of alcohol index ¹
1980	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
1981	116.9	111.9	104.5	99.5	95.2
1982	130.2	121.5	107.2	99.2	92.5
1983	140.0	127.1	110.1	101.2	91.9
1984	148.1	133.4	111.0	105.0	94.6
1985	157.4	141.5	111.2	108.6	97.6
1986	164.5	146.3	112.4	113.0	100.6
1987	171.2	152.4	112.3	117.2	104.3
1988	179.9	159.9	112.5	123.6	109.9
1989	190.1	172.3	110.3	129.4	117.3
1990	208.4	188.6	110.5	133.8	121.1
1991	234.3	199.7	117.3	136.5	116.4
1992	249.4	207.2	120.3	140.5	116.8
1993	260.4	210.5	123.7	144.6	116.9
1994	266.7	215.6	123.7	146.7	118.6
1995	276.8	223.1	124.1	150.2	121.0
1996	284.8	228.4	124.7	153.9	123.5
1997	292.7	235.6	124.2	159.4	128.3
1998	302.7	243.7	124.2	160.9	129.5
1999	310.6	247.4	125.5	166.0	132.3
2000	315.4	254.8	123.8	173.9	140.5
2001	322.0	259.3	124.2	181.1	145.8
2002	329.3	263.6	124.9	184.2	147.4
2003	336.3	271.2	124.0	189.4	152.7
2004	342.8	279.3	122.7	193.2	157.4
2005	349.6	287.2	121.7	197.2	162.1

1. See Appendix A for affordability calculations

Sources:

Alcohol Price, and Retail Prices Indices - all items: derived from Focus on Consumer Price Indices: tables 4.1 and 4.8 (Codes CBAA, CBAB, CHBD, CHAW). Office for National Statistics

Real Households' Disposable Income: Economic Trends, table 2.5 (Code NRJR). Office for National Statistics

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Table 7.3 Alcoholic drink released for home consumption, by type of drink, 1990/91 to 2005/06

United Kingdom	Thousand hectolitres ¹			
	Beer	Cider & perry	Wine	Spirits ²
1990/91	64,541	3,777	7,342	987
1991/92	62,975	3,912	7,391	888
1992/93	60,462	4,162	7,737	863
1993/94	59,372	4,593	8,117	851
1994/95	59,420	4,916	8,434	887
1995/96	60,400	5,581	8,920	814
1996/97	59,545	5,677	9,997	823
1997/98	60,483	5,536	10,092	810
1998/99	58,761	5,603	10,476	840
1999/00	59,979	6,291	12,118	926
2000/01	56,139	5,943	13,047	937
2001/02 ³	58,763	5,900	14,795	978
2002/03	59,791	5,872	12,757	1,158
2003/04	60,594	5,966	12,643	1,210
2004/05	58,845	6,126	13,777	1,213
2005/06 ^{4,5}	57,853	6,462	13,988	1,171

1. Numbers rounded to the nearest thousand hectolitres of alcohol: a hectolitre is one hundred litres

2. Data for spirits are for thousand hectolitres of pure alcohol (only the data for spirits relate to pure alcohol)

3. Up to 28 April 2002, wine includes wine of fresh grape, made wine and wine and spirit-based coolers (coolers or ready-to-drink products are alcoholic lemonade and similar products). From that date, duty on spirit-based 'coolers' has been charged at the same rate as spirits, so spirit-based coolers are now included under spirits. This change in classification explains, at least in part, the decrease in wine and increase in spirits from 2002/03

4. In 2005/06, wine based 'coolers' accounted for 570 thousand hectolitres of the total for "wine" (27 thousand hectolitres of pure alcohol)

5. Data for 2005/06 are provisional

Source

HM Revenue & Customs Statistical Bulletins: Beer and cider, Made wine, Wine of fresh grape, Spirits, which can be accessed on the internet via the HM Revenue & Customs UK Trade Information Site at:

<http://www.uktradeinfo.com/index.cfm?task=statbulltwo>

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Table 7.4 Drink (pure alcohol) released for home consumption, per person¹, 1990/91 to 2005/06

United Kingdom	Litres of pure alcohol				
	Total ²	Beer	Wine	Spirits	Cider & Perry
1990/91	10.01	5.62	1.81	2.15	0.43
1991/92	9.65	5.47	1.81	1.93	0.44
1992/93	9.45	5.24	1.87	1.87	0.47
1993/94	9.41	5.09	1.96	1.84	0.52
1994/95	9.71	5.21	2.03	1.91	0.55
1995/96	9.75	5.29	2.09	1.75	0.62
1996/97	9.98	5.27	2.29	1.78	0.63
1997/98	10.14	5.37	2.40	1.75	0.62
1998/99	10.14	5.25	2.47	1.81	0.62
1999/00	10.74	5.31	2.76	1.98	0.69
2000/01	10.51	5.01	2.86	2.00	0.64
2001/02	11.02	5.17	3.15	2.07	0.63
2002/03 ^{3,4}	11.35	5.24	3.06	2.44	0.62
2003/04	11.57	5.31	3.10	2.53	0.63
2004/05	11.65	5.14	3.36	2.52	0.64
2005/06 ⁵	11.44	4.95	3.38	2.42	0.67

1. Aged 16 and over

2. Totals may not sum, due to rounding

3. Up to 28 April 2002, wine includes wine of fresh grape, made wine and wine and spirit-based coolers (coolers or ready-to-drink products are alcoholic lemonade and similar products). From that date, duty on spirit-based 'coolers' has been charged at the same rate as spirits, so spirit-based coolers are now included under spirits

4. In 2002/03, wine based 'coolers' accounted for 1,003 thousand hectolitres of the total for "wine". This change in classification explains, at least in part, the decrease in wine and increase in spirits between 2001/02 and 2002/03

5. Data for 2005/06 are provisional

Source:

HM Revenue & Customs. A full historic series of alcohol data detailing the amount of goods cleared and the amount of duty collected can be accessed on the internet via the HM Revenue & Customs UK Trade Information Site at: <http://www.uktradeinfo.com/index.cfm?task=statbulltwo>

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Table 7.5 Excise Duty revenue from alcoholic drink, 1980/81 to 2005/06

United Kingdom		£ million at current prices			
	Estimated total receipts on alcoholic drinks ¹	Duty receipts on alcoholic drinks	Duty receipts on beer	Duty receipts on spirits	Duty receipts on wine, cider and perry
1980/81	4,080	2,601	1,048	1,153	400
1981/82	4,760	3,101	1,356	1,222	523
1982/83	4,810	3,021	1,526	965	530
1983/84	6,060	4,076	1,679	1,702	695
1984/85	5,940	3,760	1,825	1,242	693
1985/86	6,580	4,197	1,958	1,503	736
1986/87	6,670	4,184	1,969	1,465	750
1987/88	6,990	4,343	2,001	1,558	784
1988/89	7,340	4,512	2,104	1,574	834
1989/90	7,410	4,438	2,074	1,513	851
1990/91	8,110	4,856	2,229	1,703	924
1991/92	8,560	5,065	2,325	1,742	998
1992/93	8,680	5,108	2,378	1,661	1,069
1993/94	8,860	5,172	2,282	1,707	1,183
1994/95	9,450	5,560	2,534	1,776	1,250
1995/96	9,560	5,616	2,642	1,653	1,321
1996/97	9,840	5,631	2,629	1,593	1,409
1997/98	10,160	5,742	2,696	1,546	1,500
1998/99	10,590	5,966	2,702	1,643	1,621
1999/00	11,250	6,429	2,813	1,804	1,812
2000/01	11,640	6,664	2,850	1,842	1,972
2001/02	12,230	6,955	2,899	1,919	2,137
2002/03 ²	12,920	7,297	2,935	2,273	2,089
2003/04	13,260	7,565	3,044	2,362	2,159
2004/05	..	7,876	3,101	2,385	2,390
2005/06 ³	..	7,861	3,076	2,309	2,476

1. In addition to duty revenue, VAT is also paid on alcoholic drinks and estimated total receipts on alcoholic drinks includes VAT revenue on alcohol expenditure and Excise Duty receipts

2. Up to 28 April 2002, wine includes wine of fresh grape, made wine and wine and spirit-based coolers (coolers or ready-to-drink products are alcoholic lemonade and similar products). From that date, duty on spirit-based 'coolers' has been charged at the same rate as spirits, so spirit-based coolers are now included under spirits. This change in classification explains, at least in part, the decrease in wine and increase in spirits from 2002/03

3. The figures for 2005/06 are provisional. Data on estimated total receipts on alcoholic drink in 2004/05 and 2005/06 are not yet available

Source:

HM Revenue & Customs Statistical Bulletins: Beer and cider, Made wine, Wine of fresh grape, Spirits, which can be accessed on the internet via the HM Revenue & Customs UK Trade Information Site at: <http://www.uktradeinfo.com/index.cfm?task=statbulltwo>

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Appendix A: Key sources

General Household Survey

The General Household Survey (GHS) is a continuous survey carried out by the Office for National Statistics (ONS). It collects information on a range of topics from people living in private households in Great Britain. Questions about drinking were included in the survey every two years from 1978 to 1998. Following a review of the GHS, questions on alcohol consumption have been included in the questionnaire every year from 2000 onwards.

Since 1998, the GHS has used two measures of alcohol consumption

- (1) maximum daily amount drunk in the week prior to interview
- and
- (2) average weekly alcohol consumption.

Questions on the maximum daily amount drunk in the week prior to interview have been included in the GHS since 1998, following an inter-departmental review of the effects of drinking. This review concluded that it was more appropriate to set benchmarks for daily than for weekly consumption of alcohol. The government's advice on sensible drinking is now based on these daily benchmarks and GHS data are used to monitor the extent to which people are following the advice given.

Questions to establish average weekly alcohol consumption have been included in the GHS, in their current form, periodically since 1986. This measure was developed in response to earlier medical guidelines on drinking related to maximum recommended weekly amounts of alcohol. Respondents are asked how often over the last year they have drunk a range of alcoholic drinks and how much of these they have usually drunk on any one day. This information is combined to give an estimate of the respondent's weekly alcohol consumption. The questions were last asked in 2002 and they will be repeated in the 2005 survey.

Figures published using the GHS data on drinking nearly always relate to Great Britain, and therefore differ from those shown in this Bulletin, which cover England only. Most of the England figures presented in this bulletin have been obtained by re-analysing the GHS dataset.

A unit of alcohol is 10ml of pure alcohol. The General Household Survey uses the approximations shown in [Table A.1](#) to estimate the number of units drunk.

Data from the GHS are used in Chapter 1.

General Household Survey 2004: Smoking and Drinking among Adults, 2004. Office for National Statistics. December 2005.

Available at:

http://www.statistics.gov.uk/downloads/theme_compendia/GHS2004_Smoking%20and%20Drinking_Report.pdf

Health Survey for England

The Health Survey for England (HSE) comprises a series of annual surveys of which the 2004 survey is the fourteenth. All of the surveys have covered the adult population aged 16 and over living in private households in England. Since 1995, the surveys have also covered children aged 2 to 15 living in households selected for the survey. The 2001 survey was the first to include infants aged under 2 as well as older children.

The HSE is part of a programme of surveys commissioned by the Department of Health, and provides regular information on various aspects of the public's health. Since April 2005, commissioning the survey has been the responsibility of the Information Centre. In 1999, the survey concentrated on the health of adults in six minority ethnic groups: Black Caribbean, Indian, Pakistani, Bangladeshi, Chinese and Irish. In 2004, the survey once again investigated the health of minority ethnic groups; the category of Black African was added to the six groups in the 1999 survey.

Data from the HSE are used in Chapter 1.

Health Survey for England 2004: Health of Ethnic Minorities. The Information Centre. April 2006. Available at:

<http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/healthsurvey2004ethnicfull>

ONS Omnibus Survey

The Omnibus Survey is a multi-purpose continuous survey carried out by the Office for National Statistics on behalf of a range of government departments, and other bodies. In 2004, interviews were conducted with around 3,500 adults aged 16 or over, throughout Great Britain, during the period in which questions on alcohol were included.

Questions on drinking are included on an ad hoc basis, usually for two months, in February and March. In 2004, data collected included: alcohol consumption by type of drink; frequency of drinking; maximum daily amount last week; drinking-related knowledge and behaviour; and places where people buy alcohol.

Data from the Omnibus survey are used in Chapter 1.

Drinking: Adults' Behaviour and Knowledge in 2004. Office for National Statistics, 2004.

Available at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/Publications/PublicationsStatistics/PublicationsStatisticsArticle/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=4098652&chk=T%2Bsr9C

World Health Organization (WHO)

The World Health Organization Statistical Information System (WHOSIS) alcohol database collates estimates of the level of alcohol consumption per adult (15 years of age and older) of pure alcohol in litres. The estimates are taken in the relevant country during a calendar year, as calculated from official statistics on production, sales, import and export, taking into account stocks whenever possible.

WHO figures on alcohol consumption are presented in Chapter 1.

www3.who.int/whosis/alcohol/alcohol_apc_data.cfm?path=whosis.alcohol.alcohol_apc.alcohol_apc_data&language=english

Smoking, Drinking & Drug Use among Young People in England

Between 1982 and 2003, surveys of secondary school children in England were carried out for the Department of Health; by the Office of Population Census and Surveys (OPCS) between 1982 and 1994, by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) between 1994 and 1999 and by the National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) and the National Foundation for Educational Research (nfer) between 2000 and 2003. Since 2004, the survey has been run by NatCen and nfer on behalf of The Information Centre for Health and Social Care.

The surveys were conducted biennially until 1998 but are now annual, with the focus in alternative years moving from smoking and drinking, to drug use: the 1998, 2000, 2002 and 2004 surveys focussed on smoking and drinking. From 1982 to 1988, the survey was solely concerned with monitoring trends of young people and smoking. In 1988, questions on alcohol consumption were added and have been included in the survey ever since. The 1998 survey was expanded to include questions on drug use. The core of the questionnaire comprises questions about the prevalence of drug use, smoking and drinking and, since 2000, the remainder of the questionnaire focuses, in alternate years, on either smoking and drinking or drug taking. The most recent survey in the series, Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005 (SDD 05) concentrates on drug use. Headline results from this survey were published in March 2006; a full report on the survey is due to be published in August 2006.

Some of the data in this bulletin use results from the 2004 survey, and some are from the 2005 headline figures. This is because the headline figures report only contains data on a small number of alcohol topics.

The approximations used in Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England to estimate the number of units drunk are shown in [Table A.2](#).

Results from this survey are presented in Chapter 2.

Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking among Young People in England in 2005: Headline Figures. The Information Centre. March 2006.

Available at: <http://www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs/drugsmokedrinkyoungeng2005>

Infant Feeding Survey

Statistics on drinking during pregnancy are taken from Infant Feeding 2000. The Infant Feeding Survey (IFS) covers the population of new mothers in the United Kingdom and is carried out

every 5 years, the first in 1975. In 2000, the survey was conducted by the British Market Research Bureau (BMRB) with a sample size of around 9,500. The main aim of the survey is to provide figures on the incidence, prevalence and duration of breastfeeding and other feeding practises. The survey also collects information on the smoking and drinking behaviours of women before, during and after pregnancy. The 2005 Infant Feeding Survey is currently in its final stages. The 2005 drinking results are due to be reported in spring 2007.

Information from the IFS is presented in Chapter 4.

Infant Feeding 2000. The Department of Health. May 2002.

Available at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/Publications/PublicationsStatistics/PublicationsStatisticsArticle/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=4079223&chk=UpJ4Sr

ONS Psychiatric Morbidity Surveys

A series of national surveys of psychiatric morbidity have been carried out by ONS (previously OPCS), commissioned by the Department of Health, the Scottish Executive and the National Assembly for Wales. Each survey has covered a different population group - adults aged 16 to 64 living in private households, prisoners, adults living in institutions, homeless people, people with psychotic disorders, children and adolescents, and young people looked after by local authorities.

The second survey of Psychiatric Morbidity among adults in private households in Great Britain was conducted in 2000 (the first was carried out in 1993). The survey assessed alcohol dependence from answers to a self-completion questionnaire of 12 questions that focused on the three components of dependence: loss of control, symptomatic behaviour and binge drinking.

This data is discussed in chapter 5.

Psychiatric morbidity among adults living in private households, 2000. Office for National Statistics. 2001.

Available at:

http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/Publications/PublicationsStatistics/PublicationsStatisticsArticle/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=4019414&chk=EqHYm9

International Classification of Diseases and related health problems

The Tenth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases (ICD) codes is the latest in a series of classifications, which started in 1993, and incorporates a major reorganisation of the structure and groupings used in the ninth revision. An alphanumeric coding scheme replaced the numeric one, e.g. alcohol dependence syndrome changed from 303 in ICD 9 to F10.2 in ICD 10. The regrouping of classifications means that classifications may not map precisely between the two revisions. For example, the nearest equivalent to ICD 9 571.1 (acute alcoholic hepatitis), is K70.1 (alcoholic hepatitis) and ICD 10 K70.9 (alcoholic liver disease, unspecified).

Deaths in England and Wales are classified using ICD 9 to 2000 and by ICD 10 for both 1999, and from 2001 onwards. Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) have been classified using ICD 10 for 1995/96 onwards. All figures in this bulletin, for both alcohol-related deaths and for hospital admissions, are classified using ICD 10. ICD codes used in this bulletin are shown in [Table A.3](#).

Data that use the ICD 10 coding are found in Chapter 5.

Hospital Episode Statistics

The statistics on hospital activity in England are derived from data collected on NHS hospital in-patient care. Thus, they do not fully reflect hospital treatment of patients with alcohol related diagnoses or conditions, as local choice might favour outpatient treatment, for which detailed information is not available. Figures are grossed for both coverage and missing/invalid clinical data, except for 2001/02 and 2002/03, which are not yet adjusted for shortfalls, but for these years, grossing is expected to make a minimal difference.

HES data are shown in Chapter 5.

Alcohol- related deaths

The ONS definition of alcohol related deaths only includes those causes regarded as being most directly due to alcohol consumption. It does not include other diseases where alcohol has been shown to have some causal relationship, such as pancreatitis or cancers of the mouth, pharynx, larynx, oesophagus and liver.

The definition does include all deaths from chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, even when alcohol is not specifically mentioned on the death certificate.

Apart from deaths due to accidental poisoning with alcohol, this definition also excludes any other external causes of death, such as road traffic deaths and other accidents, and alcohol-related suicides and homicides.

The definition used by ONS allows for consistent comparisons over time for those deaths most clearly associated with alcohol consumption.

Data on alcohol- related deaths are presented in chapter 5.

Affordability data

The Alcohol Price Index used in this bulletin shows how much the average price of alcohol has changed compared with the base price (1980).

The Retail Prices Index (RPI) shows how much the prices of all items have changed compared with the base price (1980).

The Relative Alcohol Price Index is calculated in the following way:

$$(\text{Alcohol Price Index} / \text{Retail Prices Index}) * 100$$

This shows how the average price of alcohol has changed since the base (1980) compared with prices of all items. A value greater than 100 shows that the price of alcohol has increased by more than inflation during that period, for example between 1980 and 2005, the price of alcohol increased by 249.6%. After considering inflation (at 187.2%), alcohol prices increased by 21.7% over the period, as shown by the relative index of 121.7.

Real Households' Disposable Income is an index of the total households' income, less payments of income tax and other taxes, social contributions and other current transfers, converted to real terms (i.e. after dividing by a general price index to remove the effect of inflation).

Affordability of alcohol gives a measure of the relative affordability of alcohol, by comparing the relative changes in the price of alcohol, with changes in Households' Disposable Income over the same period (with both allowing for inflation). It is now calculated in the following way:

$(\text{Real Households' Disposable Income Index} / \text{Relative Alcohol Price Index}) * 100$

If the affordability index is above 100, then alcohol is relatively more affordable than in the base year, 1980. For example, in 2005 alcohol prices were 249.6% higher than in 1980 but, after taking inflation and households' disposable income into account, alcohol was 62.1% more affordable, as shown by the affordability index of 162.1.

Affordability data can be found in Chapter 7.

List of tables

- A.1 Approximations used in the General Household survey to calculate alcohol consumption
- A.2 Approximations used in Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking to calculate alcohol consumption
- A.3 International Classification of Disease (ICD) codes, ninth and tenth revision

Table A.1 Approximations used in the General Household Survey to calculate alcohol consumption

Types of drink and measures asked about	Alcohol units
Normal strength beer, lager, stout cider or shandy (excluding cans and bottles of shandy)	
Half pint	1 unit
Small can	1 unit
Large can	1.5 units
Bottle (size and brand obtained)	half pint=1.5 units
Strong beer, lager, stout or cider (6% abv or greater)	
Half pint	1.5 units
Small can	1.5 units
Large can	2.25 units
Bottle (size and brand obtained)	half pint=1.5 units
Spirits or liqueurs, such as gin, whisky, brandy, rum, vodka, advocaat, cocktails	
Single	1 unit
Sherry or martini, including port, vermouth, cinzano and dubonnet	
Glass	1 unit
Wine¹, including Babycham and champagne	
Glass	1 unit (1 bottle=6 glasses, 1 litre=8)
Alcopops, such as alcoholic lemonade, alcoholic cola or other alcoholic fruit or herb flavoured drinks	
Bottle	1.5 units

1. In calculating alcohol consumption, a 125ml glass of wine is treated as containing one unit of alcohol

Table A.2 Approximations used in Drug Use, Smoking and Drinking to calculate alcohol consumption

Types of drink and measures asked about	Alcohol units
Beer, Lager, Cider	
Less than half pint	0.5 unit
Half pint	1 unit
Small can	1 unit
Bottle	1 unit
Large can	1.5 units
Pint	2 units
Shandy	
Less than half pint	0.25 units
Half pint	0.5 units
Small can	0.5 units
Bottle	0.5 units
Large can	0.75 units
Pint	1 unit
Wine¹	
Less than 1 glass	0.5 units
Glass	1 unit
Martini and Sherry	
Less than 1 glass	0.5 units
Glass	1 unit
Spirits (e.g. whisky, vodka, gin) and liquers	
Less than 1 glass	0.5 units
Glass	1 unit
Alcopops (e.g. hooch etc.) or pre-mixed alcoholic drinks (e.g. Barcardi Breezer, Metz, Smirnoff Ice etc.)	
Less than 1 bottle	0.5 units
Can	1 unit
Bottle	1 unit

1. In calculating alcohol consumption, a 125ml glass of wine is treated as containing one unit of alcohol

Table A.3 International Classification of Disease (ICD) codes, ninth and tenth revision

Code	Disease
ICD 9	Alcoholic psychoses
291	Alcohol dependence syndrome
303	Non-dependent abuse of alcohol
305.0	Alcoholic cardiomyopathy
425.5	Chronic liver disease and cirrhosis
571	Toxic effect of alcohol
980	
ICD 10	
F10	Mental and behavioural disorders due to alcohol
F10.0	Acute intoxication
F10.1	Harmful use
F10.2	Dependence syndrome
F10.3	Withdrawal state
F10.4	Withdrawal state with delirium
F10.5	Psychotic disorder
F10.6	Amnesic syndrome
F10.7	Residual and late-onset psychotic disorder
F10.8	Other mental and behavioural disorder
F10.9	Unspecified mental and behavioural disorder
I42.6	Alcoholic cardiomyopathy
K70	Alcoholic liver disease
K73	Chronic hepatitis, not elsewhere specified
K74	Fibrosis and cirrhosis of liver
T51	Toxic effect of alcohol
S00-T74	Injuries (excludes certain cause of injury)
R78.0	Finding alcohol in blood
Y90	Evidence of alcohol involvement determined by alcohol level
Y91	Evidence of alcohol involvement determined by level of intoxication
X45	Accidental poisoning by exposure to alcohol

Appendix B: Government and NHS plans

Government Plans

Tackling alcohol misuse was emphasised as a key priority in the NHS Plan in July 2000. The government's strategy consists of a wide range of measures to address alcohol misuse and encourage sensible drinking.

www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/05/57/83/04055783.pdf

Sensible Drinking Guidelines

In 1992, the government introduced weekly guidelines that men should consume no more than 21 units per week and women should consume no more than 14 units per week. These recommendations were based upon considerations of harm and benefits of drinking at various levels. In December 1995, Sensible Drinking: the Report of an Interdepartmental Working Group was published which advised that drinking guidelines be amended to focus upon daily levels of consumption. The revised benchmarks stated that regular consumption of between 2 to 3 units per day for women and 3 to 4 units per day for men does not pose significant health risks.

www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/08/47/02/04084702.pdf

Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy

The Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England was published in March 2004, following on from the commitment made by the government in the NHS Plan. It encompasses a co-ordinated national strategy, where the responsibility of implementation spans government departments; namely the Department of Health and the Home Office. The main aims of the strategy are to

- tackle alcohol- related disorder in towns and city centres;
- improve treatment and support for people with alcohol problems;
- clamp down on irresponsible promotions by the industry;
- provide better information to consumers about the dangers of alcohol misuse;
- change attitudes to irresponsible drinking and behaviour.

www.strategy.gov.uk/output/page3669.asp

Choosing Health

The white paper Choosing Health: Making Healthier Choices Easier was published in November 2004. It builds upon the recommendations set out in the Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy through

- guidance and training to ensure all health professionals are able to identify alcohol problems early;
- piloting approaches to targeted screening and brief intervention in both primary care and hospital settings;
- similar initiatives in criminal justice settings with the aim of reducing repeat offending, by ensuring that alcohol treatment needs are met alongside drug misuse treatment needs;

- developing a programme for improvement for alcohol treatment services.
<www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidanceArticle/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=4094550&chk=aN5Cor>

Alcohol Needs Assessment Research Project

The Alcohol Needs Assessment Research Project (ANARP) report, published in 2005, provides a national assessment concerning alcohol misuse in England and details services that are responsive to these needs. The primary aim of the study was to measure the gap between the demand for, and provision of, specialist alcohol treatment services in England.

<www.dh.gov.uk/assetRoot/04/12/22/39/04122239.pdf>

The Licensing Act 2003

The Licensing Act 2003 came into force in November 2005. The Act establishes a single integrated scheme for licensing premises, which are used for the supply of alcohol. One of the key measures contained within the Act include flexible opening hours for premises, with the potential of 24 hour opening. The four key licensing objectives that were set are

- prevention of crime and disorder;
- prevention of public nuisance;
- public safety;
- prevention of harm to children.

<www.opsi.gov.uk/ACTS/acts2003/20030017.htm>

Appendix C: Editorial notes

Editorial Notes

For the purpose of clarity, figures in the bulletin are shown in accordance with the Information Centre publication conventions.

These are as follows:

- . not applicable
- .. not available
- zero
- 0 less than 0.5

Numbers greater than or equal to 0.5 are rounded to the nearest integer. Totals may not sum due to rounding.

Appendix D: Further information

This annual bulletin draws together statistics on alcohol use and misuse. It is expected the next bulletin will be published in 2007. This bulletin forms part of a suite of statistical reports. Other bulletins cover drug use among young people, smoking and obesity, nutrition and physical activity. All bulletins will become available on the Information Centre website during 2006.

Constructive comments on this bulletin would be welcomed. Any questions concerning any data in this publication, or requests for further information, should be addressed to:

Lifestyles Statistics

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Fax: 0113 2547165
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Telephone: 0845 300 6016
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Service Desk
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Email: enquiries@ic.nhs.uk

This bulletin is available on the internet at:
<www.ic.nhs.uk/pubs>

Previous editions of this bulletin were published by the Department of Health. Information about their statistics and surveys is available on the Department of Health's website at:
<www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/fs/en>

The Department of Health Alcohol Misuse website is available at:
<www.dh.gov.uk/PolicyAndGuidance/HealthAndSocialCareTopics/AlcoholMisuse/fs/en>

Information about the Department of Health's statistics and surveys is available on the internet at:
<www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/Statistics/fs/en>

Hospital Episode Statistics

Hospital Episode Statistics (HES) is the national statistical data warehouse for England of the care provided by NHS hospitals and for NHS hospital patients treated elsewhere. HES is the data source for a wide range of healthcare analysis for the NHS, Government and many other organisations and individuals.

<www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/Statistics/HospitalEpisodeStatistics/fs/en>

Alcohol Concern

Alcohol Concern is a national agency working to reduce the level of alcohol misuse. It has a library in which most of the source documents cited in this bulletin are available.

<www.alcoholconcern.org.uk/>

The Portman Group

The Portman Group is not a trade association, but a pan-industry organisation whose purpose is to help prevent misuse of alcohol and to promote sensible drinking. An independent company, limited by guarantee, The Portman Group was set up in 1989 by the UK's leading drinks manufacturers, which together supply about 95% of the alcohol sold in the UK.

<www.portman-group.org.uk/>

The Institute of Alcohol Studies

The Institute of Alcohol Studies (IAS) is an educational body with the basic aims of increasing knowledge of alcohol and the social and health consequences of its misuse, encouraging and supporting the adoption of effective measures for the management and prevention of alcohol-related problems. The Institute is financially independent of both government and the drinks industry and is supported by the Alliance House Foundation, a registered educational charity.

<www.ias.org.uk>

HM Revenue and Customs

HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC) is the new department responsible for the business of the former Inland Revenue and HM Customs and Excise.

Website: <www.hmrc.gov.uk/>

Data sets can be obtained from the internet at: <www.uktradeinfo.com>

Office for National Statistics

Information about National Statistics can be found at:

<www.statistics.gov.uk/>

Department for Transport

The Department for Transport website contains material for local government, the transport sector, passengers and motorists. Please use the links on the right hand side to Transport Direct and DirectGov for journey planners and further motoring information.

www.dft.gov.uk/stellent/groups/dft_control/documents/homepage/dft_home_page.hcsp

Home Office

Further information and other (RDS) Home Office publications can be found on the internet at:

www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/index.htm

<p>Statistics on alcohol: England, 2006 Price: Free</p>	<p>Published by The Information Centre</p> <p>ISBN 1-84636-062-5 Bulletin 2006/11/HSCIC</p> <p>This publication may be requested in large print or other formats. For further information contact: online: www.ic.nhs.uk telephone: 0845 300 6016 email: enquiries@ic.nhs.uk</p> <p>Copyright © 2006, The Information Centre, Lifestyles Statistics. All rights reserved.</p> <p>This work remains the sole and exclusive property of The Information Centre, and may only be reproduced, and publicly displayed, where there is explicit reference to the ownership of The Information Centre.</p> <p>This work may only be reproduced in a modified format with the express written permission of The Information Centre.</p>
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