

Actions to prevent underage drinking: Appendix



TRENDS IN UNDERAGE DRINKING 2010–2023

The trend is illustrated as decrease, no increase (a decrease in one sex and no change in the other), no change, opposite trends by sex, or increase, based on the direction of change of at least two percentage points between the first value available from 2010 onward and the most recent value available, without assessment of statistical significance. The illustrated measure is reported prevalence of having had one or more alcohol beverages in the past month, except in Australia and New Zealand (having had one or more alcohol beverages in the past year). For countries with multiple data sources available, the longest time period and most recent data points were selected for mapping.

Survey instrument abbreviations

ESPAD: [European School Survey Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs](#), “a collaborative effort of independent research teams in more than 40 European countries ... The overall aim of the project is to repeatedly collect comparable data on substance use among 15-16 year old students in as many European countries as possible.”

GSHS: [Global school-based student health survey](#), a WHO-supported “collaborative surveillance project designed to help countries measure and assess the behavioral risk factors and protective factors in 10 key areas among young people aged 13 to 17 years”. GSHS findings are

available between 2010 and 2021 from Kuwait, Morocco, Oman, and United Arab Emirates, but summary figures are not reported for past-month drinking for these countries.

HBSC: [Health Behavior in School-Aged Children](#), a “research collaboration with the WHO Regional Office for Europe ... conducted every four years in 50 countries and regions across Europe and North America.”

SIDUC: Data collected by instruments conforming to the Inter-American Uniform Drug Use Data System (SIDUC)'s Protocol of the survey of secondary school students 2011 [1]; some countries seem to have moved from using this instrument on to using the GSHS.

Country	Years	Values	Trends	Data source
Albania	2014–2018	Boys: 33% to 31% Girls: 15% to 16%	No change	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds
Argentina	2012–2018	Boys: 49% to 45% Girls: 51% to 50%	Decrease in boys No change in girls	GSHS [3, 4] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Armenia	2014–2018	Boys: 44% to 45% Girls: 25% to 24%	No change	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds
Australia	2010–2019	All: 52% to 30%	Decrease	National Drug Strategy Household Survey (NDHS) [5] Change in past-year drinking % among people aged 14–17
Austria	2015–2019	Boys: 67% to 60% Girls: 69% to 65%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds <i>Note that the legal purchase age for some beverages is 16.</i>
Bolivia	2012–2018	Boys: 16% to 20% Girls: 14% to 19%	Increase	GSHS [7, 8] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Bulgaria	2011–2019	Boys: 66% to 57% Girls: 62% to 50%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Canada	2014–2018	Boys: 35% to 32% Girls: 36% to 39%	Decrease in boys Increase in girls	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds

Chile	2011–2019	Boys: 35% to 27% Girls: 35% to 33%	Decrease	SIDUC [9] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–17-year-olds
Colombia	2013–2019	All: 20% to 12%	Decrease	SIDUC [10] Change in past-month drinking % among 12–17-year-olds
Cook Islands	2011–2015	Boys: 29% to 29% Girls: 29% to 23%	No change in boys Decrease in girls	GSHS [11, 12] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Croatia	2011–2019	Boys: 71% to 61% Girls: 61% to 54%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Cyprus	2011–2019	Boys: 78% to 63% Girls: 62% to 53%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Czech Republic	2011–2019	Boys: 81% to 63% Girls: 77% to 63%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Denmark	2011–2019	Boys: 77% to 73% Girls: 75% to 75%	Decrease in boys No change in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds Note that the legal purchase age for some beverages is 16.
Estonia	2011–2019	Boys: 57% to 34% Girls: 60% to 40%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Fiji	2010–2016	Boys: 22% to 16% Girls: 11% to 9%	Decrease in boys No change in girls	GSHS [13, 14] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Finland	2011–2019	Boys: 46% to 28% Girls: 50% to 32%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
France	2011–2019	Boys: 70% to 54% Girls: 64% to 52%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Georgia	2015–2019	Boys: 53% to 53% Girls: 33% to 41%	No change in boys Increase in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Germany	2014–2018	Boys: 45% to 53% Girls: 47% to 54%	Increase	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds
Greece	2011–2019	Boys: 76% to 62% Girls: 68% to 62%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Hungary	2011–2019	Boys: 62% to 65% Girls: 60% to 58%	Increase in boys No change in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Iceland	2011–2019	Boys: 16% to 9% Girls: 19% to 13%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Ireland	2011–2019	Boys: 48% to 42% Girls: 52% to 40%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Italy	2011–2019	Boys: 70% to 60% Girls: 56% to 57%	Decrease in boys No change in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Jamaica	2010–2017	Boys: 58% to 55% Girls: 47% to 36%	Decrease	GSHS [15, 16] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Lebanon	2011–2017	Boys: 37% to 21% Girls: 22% to 15%	Decrease	GSHS [17, 18] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Latvia	2011–2019	Boys: 63% to 42% Girls: 67% to 53%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Lithuania	2011–2019	Boys: 63% to 24% Girls: 64% to 30%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Malta	2011–2019	Boys: 70% to 47% Girls: 66% to 49%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Mauritius	2011–2017	Boys: 28% to 20% Girls: 22% to 21%	Decrease in boys No change in girls	GSHS [19, 20] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Mexico	2011–2016	Boys: 17% to 17% Girls: 12% to 15%	No change in boys Increase in girls	National Survey on the Use of Drugs, Alcohol and Tobacco (ENCODAT) [21] Change in past-month drinking % among 12–17-year-olds
Moldova	2014–2018	Boys: 42% to 36% Girls: 33% to 23%	Decrease	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds
Monaco	2011–2019	Boys: 67% to 54% Girls: 71% to 53%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Mongolia	2010–2013	Boys: 7% to 5% Girls: 5% to 4%	No change	GSHS [22, 23] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Montenegro	2011–2019	Boys: 48% to 43% Girls: 28% to 32%	Decrease in boys Increase in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Netherlands	2011–2019	Boys: 66% to 50% Girls: 63% to 52%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
New Zealand	2011/12–2020/21	All: 60% to 57%	Decrease	New Zealand Health Survey (NZHS) [24] Change in past-year drinking % among 15–17-year-olds

Niue	2010–2019	All: 23% to 23% Boys: 36% to 26%	No change Decrease in boys	GSHS [25, 26] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
North Macedonia	2015–2019	Boys: 45% to 46% Girls: 32% to 37%	No change in boys Increase in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Norway	2011–2019	Boys: 33% to 23% Girls: 36% to 27%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Philippines	2011–2019	Boys: 23% to 28% Girls: 15% to 19%	Increase	GSHS [27, 28] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Poland	2011–2019	Boys: 62% to 50% Girls: 58% to 58%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Portugal	2011–2019	Boys: 56% to 45% Girls: 50% to 42%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Romania	2011–2019	Boys: 55% to 59% Girls: 44% to 44%	Increase in boys No change in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Russia	2014–2018	Boys: 22% to 15% Girls: 19% to 12%	Decrease	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds
Samoa	2011–2017	Boys: 43% to 13% Girls: 25% to 7%	Decrease	GSHS [29, 30] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Serbia	2011–2019	Boys: 59% to 59% Girls: 46% to 53%	No change in boys Increase in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Slovakia	2011–2019	Boys: 62% to 50% Girls: 58% to 58%	Decrease in boys No change in girls	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Slovenia	2011–2019	Boys: 68% to 54% Girls: 62% to 46%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Spain	2012–2021	Boys: 73% to 52% Girls: 75% to 55%	Decrease	National survey on drug use in secondary schools (ESTUDES) [31] Change in past-month drinking % among school population age 14–18
Sweden	2011–2019	Boys: 34% to 23% Girls: 41% to 26%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Switzerland	2014–2018	Boys: 43% to 41% Girls: 37% to 37%	No change	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds
Thailand	2015–2021	Boys: 27% to 27% Girls: 19% to 29%	No change in boys Increase in girls	GSHS [32, 33] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–17-year-olds
Tonga	2010–2017	Boys: 15% to 15% Girls: 18% to 6%	No change in boys Decrease girls	GSHS [34, 35] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Trinidad and Tobago	2011–2017	Boys: 38% to 28% Girls: 35% to 32%	Decrease	GSHS [36, 37] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
United Kingdom, Scotland	2014–2018	Boys: 43% to 40% Girls: 48% to 48%	Decrease in boys No change in girls	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds
United Kingdom, Wales	2014–2018	Boys: 43% to 49% Girls: 49% to 54%	Increase	HBSC [2] Change in past-month drinking % among 15-year-olds
United Kingdom, England	2016–2021	Boys: 23% to 18% Girls: 24% to 21%	Decrease	Smoking, Drinking and Drug Use among Young People [38] Change in past-week drinking % among 15-year-olds <i>This survey question was changed in 2016, so the data from earlier years are not comparable as a single series.</i>
Ukraine	2011–2019	Boys: 53% to 39% Girls: 54% to 48%	Decrease	ESPAD [6] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
United States of America	2011–2021	All: 27% to 14%	Decrease	Monitoring the Future (MTF) [39] Change in past-month drinking % among 15–16-year-olds
Uruguay	2012–2019	Boys: 47% to 41% Girls: 43% to 54%	Decrease in boys Increase in girls	GSHS [40, 41] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds
Vanuatu	2011–2016	Boys: 10% to 15% Girls: 6% to 10%	Increase	GSHS [42, 43] Change in past-month drinking % among 13–15-year-olds

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