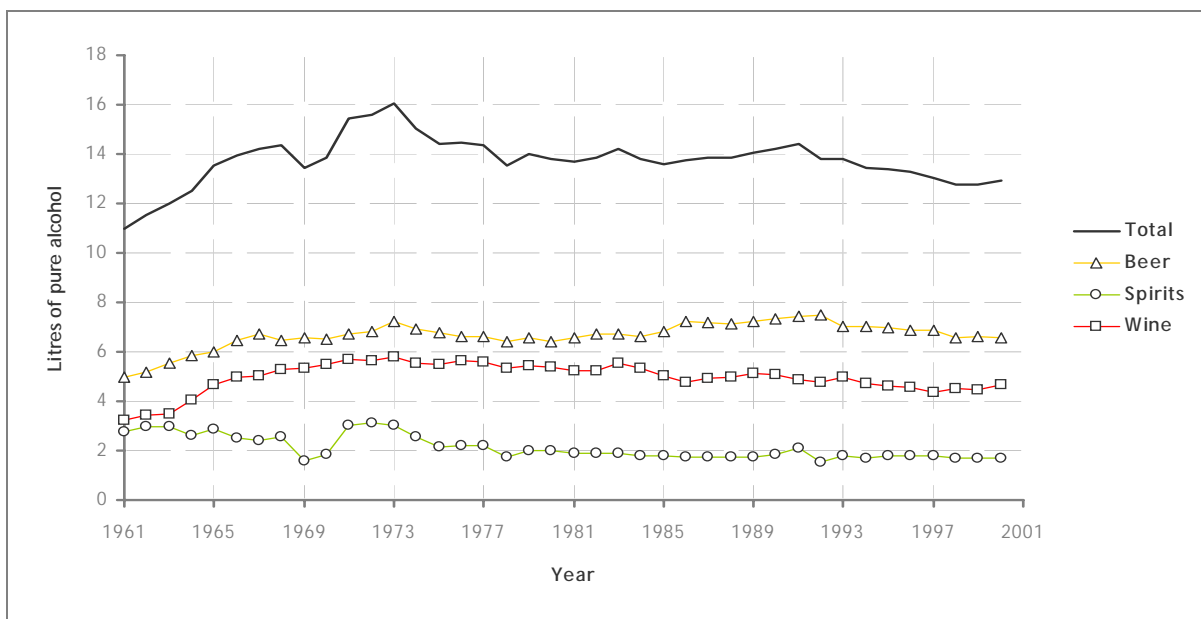


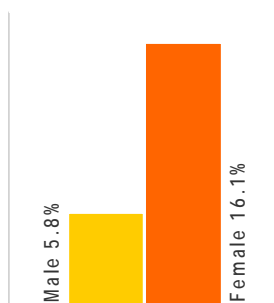
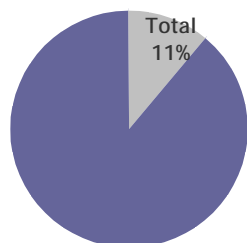
AUSTRIA

Recorded adult per capita consumption (age 15+)



Sources: FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), World Drink Trends 2003

Last year abstainers



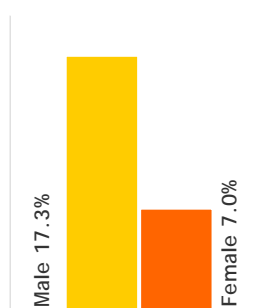
Data from the WHO GENACIS study. National survey conducted in 1993 (age group 20 to 64 years). Total sample size $n = 6020$; males $n = 2937$ and females $n = 3083$.¹

Estimates from key alcohol experts show that the proportion of adult males and females who had been abstaining (last year before the survey) was 13% (males) and 33% (females). Data is for after year 1995.²

Data from a 1993/1994 survey (total sample size $n = 11\ 150$; males $n = 5330$ and females $n = 5819$) show that the rate of current abstainers was 23.3% (total), 13.2% (males) and 32.8% (females).³

According to a national survey conducted in 2003 (total sample size $n = 1022$; aged 15 years and over), the average number of drinks consumed per drinking day was 1.88.⁴

Heavy and hazardous drinkers (among drinkers)



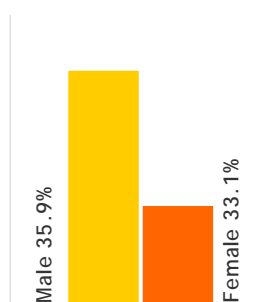
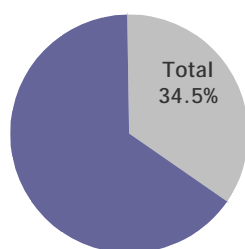
Data from the WHO GENACIS study. National survey conducted in 1993 (age group 20 to 64 years). Total sample size $n = 6020$; males $n = 2937$ and females $n = 3083$. Definition used: average consumption of 40 g or more of pure alcohol a day for males and 20 g or more of pure alcohol a day for females.³

Data from a 1993/1994 survey (total sample size $n = 11\,150$; males $n = 5330$ and females $n = 5819$) show that the rate of heavy drinkers (among drinkers) was 18.3% (total), 28.7% (males) and 8.5% (females). Heavy drinking was defined as daily drinkers who drink over 60 g of pure alcohol on average for men and over 40 g of pure alcohol on average for women. The survey also found that the average consumption of pure alcohol was 31.2 g (total), 50.9 g (males) and 13.2 g (females).³

Heavy episodic drinking

According to a national survey conducted in 2003 (total sample size $n = 1022$; aged 15 years and over), the average number of times that respondents had consumed the equivalent of one bottle of wine, five pints/bottles of beer or five measures of spirits on one drinking occasion was 0.86.⁴

Youth drinking (drink at least weekly)



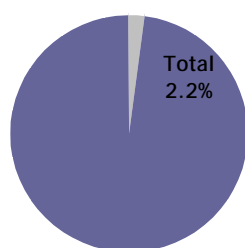
HBSC survey 2001/2002. Data shows proportion of 15-year-olds who report drinking beer, wine or spirits at least weekly. Total sample size $n = 1298$.⁵

According to the 1997/1998 HBSC survey (total sample size $n = 1376$), 39% of 15-year-old boys and 23% of 15-year-old girls reported drinking beer, wine or spirits at least weekly.⁶

Youth drinking (drunkenness)

According to the 2001/2002 HBSC survey (total sample size $n = 1298$), the proportion of 15-year-olds who reported ever having been drunk two or more times was 37.8% for boys and 34.9% for girls.⁵

Alcohol dependence



A random sample of the general population drawn in 1996 ($n = 531$). The ratio of male to female alcohol dependence was 4:1. Alcohol dependence was measured as having four positive CAGE answers. The same survey also found that 16–24% of the general population were rated as problem drinkers (two or more positive CAGE answers).⁷

Drunkenness

Data from a 1993/1994 survey (total sample size $n = 11\ 150$; males $n = 5330$ and females $n = 5819$) show that 2.8% of males and 0.6% of females reported experiencing drunkenness once a week. Drunkenness was defined as being very intoxicated and having memory blanks the next day.³

Traditional alcoholic beverages

Cherry liquor and schnapps are consumed.

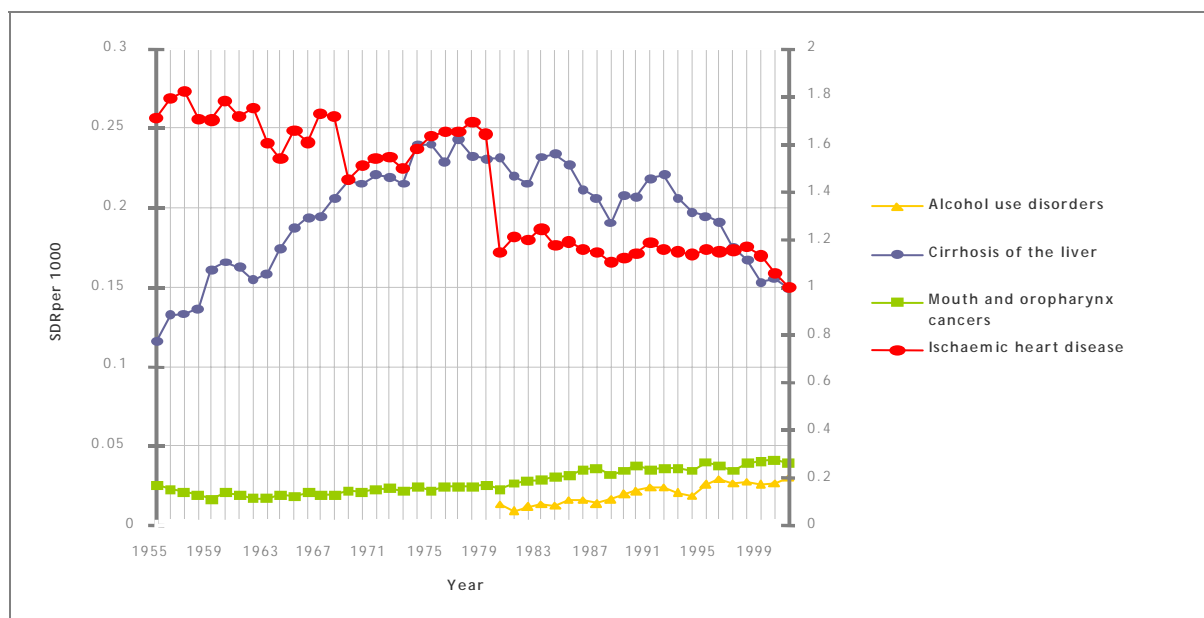
Unrecorded alcohol consumption

The unrecorded alcohol consumption in Austria is estimated to be 1.0 litre pure alcohol per capita for population older than 15 for the years after 1995 (estimated by a group of key alcohol experts).²

Mortality rates from selected death causes where alcohol is one of the underlying risk factors

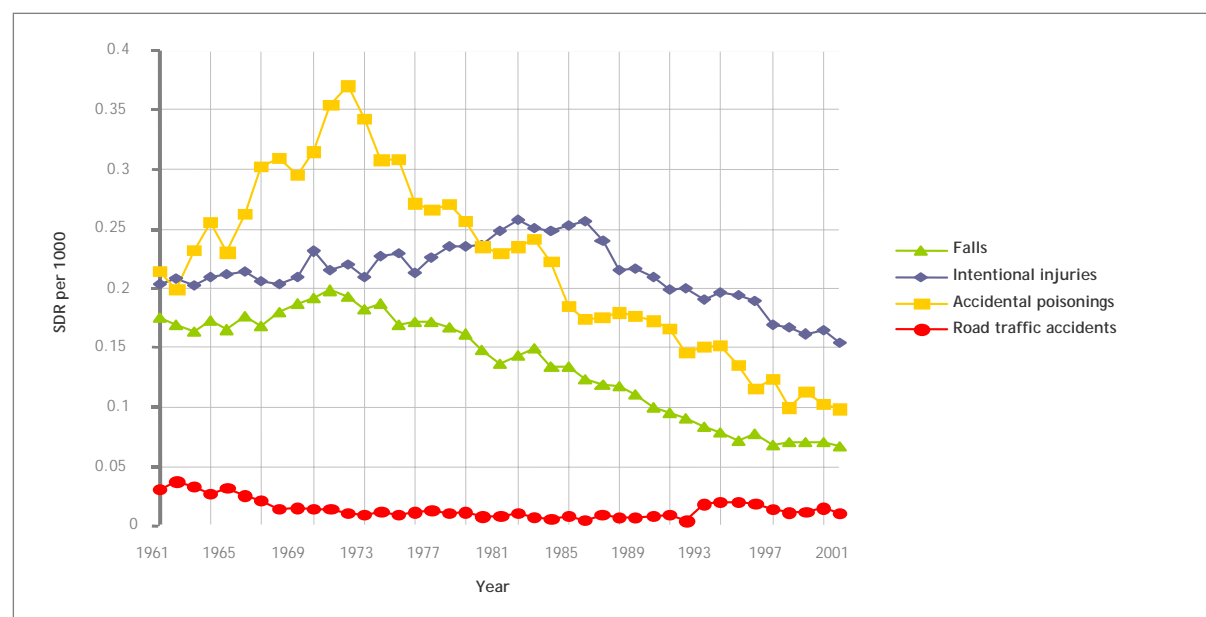
The data represent all the deaths occurring in a country irrespective of whether alcohol was a direct or indirect contributor.

Chronic mortality



Note: Chronic mortality time-series measured on two axes, ischaemic heart disease on right axis and the other causes on the left.

Acute mortality



Source: WHO Mortality Database

Morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use

In a blood sample analysis of all patients (269) involved in a traffic accident and admitted to the Emergency Room of the University Hospital of Trauma Surgery in Innsbruck, alcohol was the most commonly found drug in all groups (drivers: 36.9%, passengers: 15.1%, cyclists: 29.4%, pedestrians: 18.2%), with a mean BAC (blood alcohol concentration) high above the legal limit at the time of the study in Austria of 0.8 g/l (drivers: 1.49 +/- 54 g/l; passengers: 1.52 +/- 71 g/l; cyclists: 1.72 +/- 51 g/l; pedestrians: 1.67 +/- 25 g/l). The percentage of alcohol users was highest in drivers.⁸

A study of 402 victims of ski accidents found that 20% of the samples were positive for alcohol. The prevalence of alcohol was significantly higher among male accident victims.⁹

The number of alcohol-related accidents dropped slightly from 2574 cases in 2000 to 2559 cases in 2001, and 6.5% of all fatalities were alcohol-related.¹⁰ The number of alcohol-related road traffic accidents per 100 000 population was 31.74 in 2000 and 31.47 in 2001.¹¹

Austria records the highest liver cirrhosis mortality rates in Europe with 47.1 deaths per 100 000 men and 15.1 deaths for 100 000 women.¹² The SDR per 100 000 population for chronic liver disease and cirrhosis was 18.88 in 2001 and 17.69 in 2002.¹¹

Alcohol consumption during methadone maintenance treatment (MMT) often becomes a problem. A group of 68 patients undergoing MMT were investigated. A set of risk factors for problematic alcohol use ('alcohol indicators') was set up consisting of patients' account and laboratory parameters. 52% of patients were positive for these 'alcohol indicators' and 32% of patients fulfilled more severe criteria for alcohol abuse. While patients without 'alcohol indicators' showed an improvement of liver parameters over time, those with 'alcohol indicators' suffered a considerable deterioration, indicating that alcohol consumption had increased.¹³

Country background information

Total population 2003	8 116 000	Life expectancy at birth (2002)	Male	76.4
Adult (15+)	6 817 440		Female	82.2
% under 15	16	Probability of dying under age 5 per 1000 (2002)	Male	6
Population distribution 2001 (%)			Female	4
Urban	67	Gross National Income per capita 2002	US\$	23 390
Rural	33			

Sources: Population and Statistics Division of the United Nations Secretariat, World Bank World Development Indicators database, The World Health Report 2004

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