

# Low risk drinking guidelines in Europe: overview of RARHA survey results

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**RARHA**  
REDUCING ALCOHOL RELATED HARM

# ISS Work Group and RARHA Italian National Team

## RARHA NATIONAL TEAM MEMBERS and INSTITUTIONS

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4	Crialesi	Roberta	ISTAT
5	Galluzzo	Lucia	Istituto Superiore di Sanità
6	Gandin	Claudia	Istituto Superiore di Sanità
7	Gargiulo	Lidia	ISTAT
8	Ghirini	Silvia	Istituto Superiore di Sanità
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15	Spizzichino	Lorenzo	Ministero della salute
16	Tamburini	Cristina	Ministero della salute
17	Tinto	Alessandra	ISTAT
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19	Solipaca	Alessandro	ISTAT-Osservatorio sulle regioni
20	Ricciardi	Walter	Osservatorio sulle regioni
21	Carle	Flavia	Ministero della salute-SDO
22	Migliore	Maria	Ministero della salute



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- 1. Overview of drinking guidelines given in MS and of their main features (ISS)**
2. Overview of the uses of drinking guidelines in the context of Early Identification and Brief Interventions (EIBI) on Hazardous/Harmful Alcohol Consumption (HHAC) in PHC and other settings, drawing in particular on projects ODHIN and BISTAIRS (ISS)
3. Overview of guidelines on drinking by young people (LWL)
4. Overview of science underpinnings drawing on recent work done for Australian and Canadian guidelines (THL)
5. Overview of "standard drink" definitions across the EU and of main approaches to increase awareness of such tools for monitoring alcohol consumption (HSE)
6. Mapping consumer views on risk/safety communication as an approach to reduce alcohol related harm by on-line surveys in 16 MS (EUROCARE)
7. From science to practice: Expert/policymaker meeting (at ISS) to discuss preliminary results and conclusions from the overviews and to help develop a policy Delphi survey (THL)
8. Second Expert/policymaker meeting to foster dialogue on good practice principles in the use of drinking guidelines as a public health measure drawing on all previous tasks
9. Coordination and production of synthesis report (THL)



- ✓ The questionnaire has been submitted by email (July 2014) to the **country representatives** of the Committee on National Alcohol Policy and Action - CNAPA as experts with qualified experience and competence on the specific topic
- ✓ Participants were asked to:
  - **check the validity of the information** derived from a preliminary ISS review of sources of information on low risk drinking guidelines ("review of available sources")
  - **provide the most updated and reliable information** for their Country ("RARHA survey")
- ✓ Detailed **instructions to fill in the Country report/Questionnaire, standardizing the data collection**, were provided
- ✓ The present version of this overview has been amended (May 2016) with all corrections suggested by respondents to the 2014 survey. Data on guidelines/recommendations issued after the data collection were not included.



# The RARHA survey questionnaire

## COUNTRY

Dear CNAPA member,  
 this table summarizes data gathered through ISS preliminary review of available sources of information on EU drinking guidelines or recommendations and their main features (sub-groups, high risk contexts addressed, etc.).  
 For any listed "Variables", please check the validity of the data reported under "Review of available sources" and fill in the column "RARHA survey" providing the most updated and reliable information for your Country. The input must follow the format specified under the column "Codes, categories and format".  
 Do not hesitate to contact the ISS RARHA staff for any doubt or clarification.  
 Thank you very much for your very kind collaboration.

### RARHA WP5-Task1 Drinking Guidelines

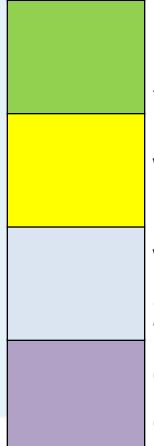
Legend of review sources:	
Furtwaengler&Visser review [Drug and Alcohol Review (January 2013), 32, 11–18]	
WHO additional survey 2012	
WHO Status report on alcohol and Health in 35 EU countries 2013	
OECD Collection on national drinking guidelines (provisional version 19 May 2014)	

The different background colours are present only when the specific variable was investigated in the corresponding source (null if missing)

X=Contradictory information among data available from different sources

Investigated aspects	Variables	Codes, categories and format	Review of available sources	RARHA survey
STANDARD DRINK	Is the "Standard Drink" concept currently being used in your country?	1=Yes 2=No		
	If Yes, In advice (brief interventions) provided by health care professionals	1>To a large extent 2>To some extent 3=Not at all 4=Do not know		
	If Yes, In public education messages	1>To a large extent 2>To some extent 3=Not at all 4=Do not know		
	If Yes, On alcoholic beverage packages to indicate the alcoholic content	1>To a large extent 2>To some extent 3=Not at all 4=Do not know		
	How is the "Standard Drink" (SD) defined in your country?	In grams of pure alcohol; how many grams in one SD:		
		In centiliters of pure alcohol; how many cl in one SD:		
		Other; please specify:		

The sources of available information are:

  
 Furtwaengler&Visser review [Drug and Alcohol Review (January 2013), 32, 11–18]

WHO additional survey 2012

WHO Status report on alcohol and Health in 35 EU countries 2013

OECD Collection on national drinking guidelines (provisional version 19 May 2014)

The four different sources of available information has been adapted/harmonized in order to include into a comprehensive category the different wordings of the variables (i.e. limits, recommendations, guidelines, guidance have been considered all together).



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✓ **31 European countries addressed**

(all RARHA associated and collaborating countries + 1 additional country\*).

✓ **30 out of 31 European countries replied**

(Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic\*, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Norway, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom).

✓ **Slovakia did not reply**



# Standard Drink definition and use in EU countries

Country	DATA SOURCE					Is the "Standard Drink" concept currently being used in your country?		Used in which way? 1=To a large extent; 2=To some extent; 3=Not at all; 4=Do not know						How is the "Standard Drink" (SD) defined in your country?							
	Review	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	OECD 2014	RARHA	1=Yes; 2=No		If Yes, In advice (brief interv.) provided by health care professionals	If Yes, In public education messages	If Yes, On alcoholic bev packages to indicate the alcoholic content	How many grams in one SD (in grams of pure alcohol)				How many cl in one SD (in centiliters of pure alcohol)						
											cl of pure alcohol	Wine	Beer	Aperitif	Spirit	Other					
AUSTRIA						2	1	1	1	2	20	10	20		50						
BELGIUM								2	2												
BULGARIA						1	1		1	2	2	2	3	10	10	13					
CROATIA							1		1	1 & 2	2	1	1	4	3	10	10	1,65			
CYPRUS							2		1		2	2	3	3			15	33	5	4,5	
CZECH REPUBLIC						2	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	~ 16	16	16	2			
DENMARK						1		1	1		2	1	3	12		12	12	1,5			
ESTONIA						1	1	1	1	1	1	2	3	3	10	10	10	10			
FINLAND						1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	12	12	12	1,5			
FRANCE							1		1	1	2	2	3	3	10		10	10	10	25	
GERMANY						1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	12	10	12	10; 12			
GREECE							1		1	2	3	2	2	3	3	10-16	10	10; 16			
HUNGARY							1		1	2	2	3	3	3	10	16-20	12; 14				
ICELAND							1		1	1	2	2	3		12		12	10	3		
IRELAND						1	1	1	1	2	2	2	3	3	10	10	10	10			
ITALY						1	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	3	2	12	12	12	12,5	33	
LATVIA							1		1	2	2	2	2	3	3	12		12		8	
LITHUANIA							1	2		1	2	2	2	3	10		10			4	
LUXEMBOURG								1		1	2	2	2	3			12				
MALTA							1		1	2	2	1	2	3	3	8-10		8; 10	10; 12,7		
NETHERLANDS (THE)							1		1	1	1	1	1		3	10		10	10		
NORWAY								1	1	2	2	3	3	3			12-15	12; 15	g/0,79		
POLAND						1	1	1	1	2	2	1	2	3&4	3	10	10	10			
PORTUGAL						1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	3	3	10	10-12	12	10		
ROMANIA							1		1		2	2	2	3		13		12			
SLOVAKIA							1		2						14						
SLOVENIA						1	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	10	10	10			
SPAIN							1		1	1	1	1	2	3	3	10		10	10		
SWEDEN						1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2	3	3	12	12	1,4; 2,1			
SWITZERLAND							1		1	1	1	2	2	3	3	10	10-12	10; 12			
UNITED KINGDOM						1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	10	10	



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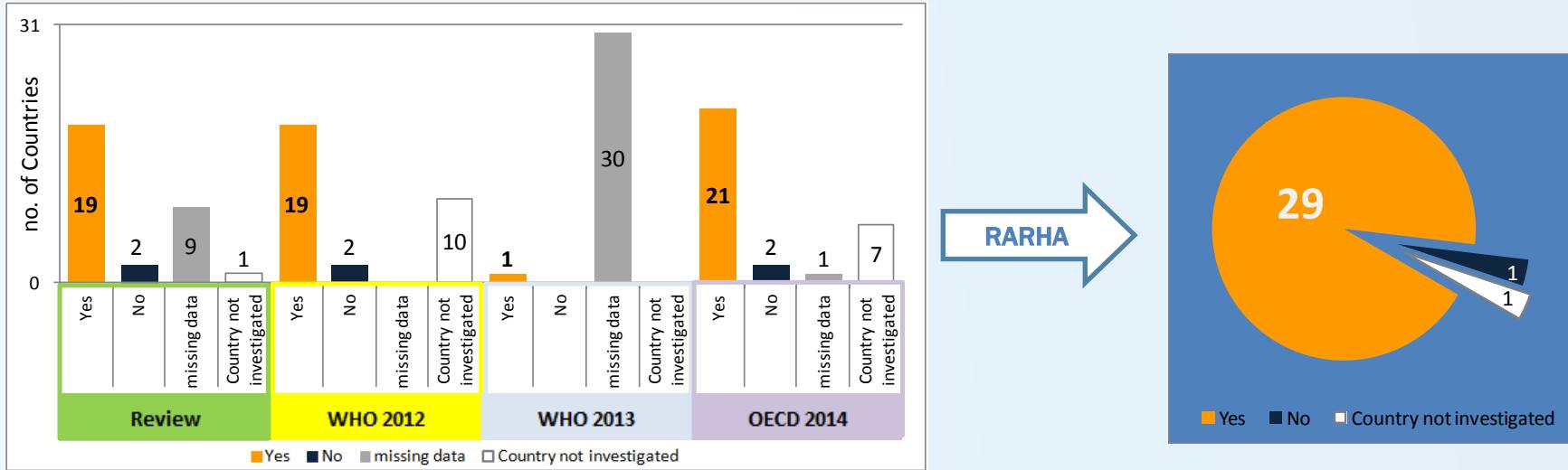
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# Standard Drink in EU countries, in grams of pure alcohol

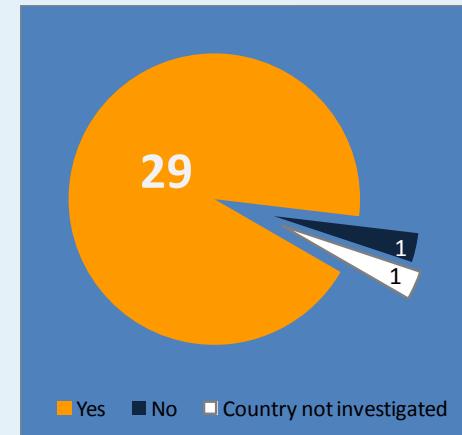


0 - 10	11 - 12	13 - 20	missing value	No SD	non-participants
CROATIA	DENMARK	AUSTRIA			
ESTONIA	FINLAND	BULGARIA			
FRANCE	GERMANY	CZECH REPUBLIC			
ICELAND	ITALY	GREECE			
IRELAND	LATVIA	HUNGARY			
LITHUANIA	LUXEMBOURG	NORWAY			
MALTA	ROMANIA				
NETHERLANDS	SWEDEN				
POLAND	SWITZERLAND				
PORTUGAL					
SLOVENIA					
SPAIN					
UNITED KINGDOM					

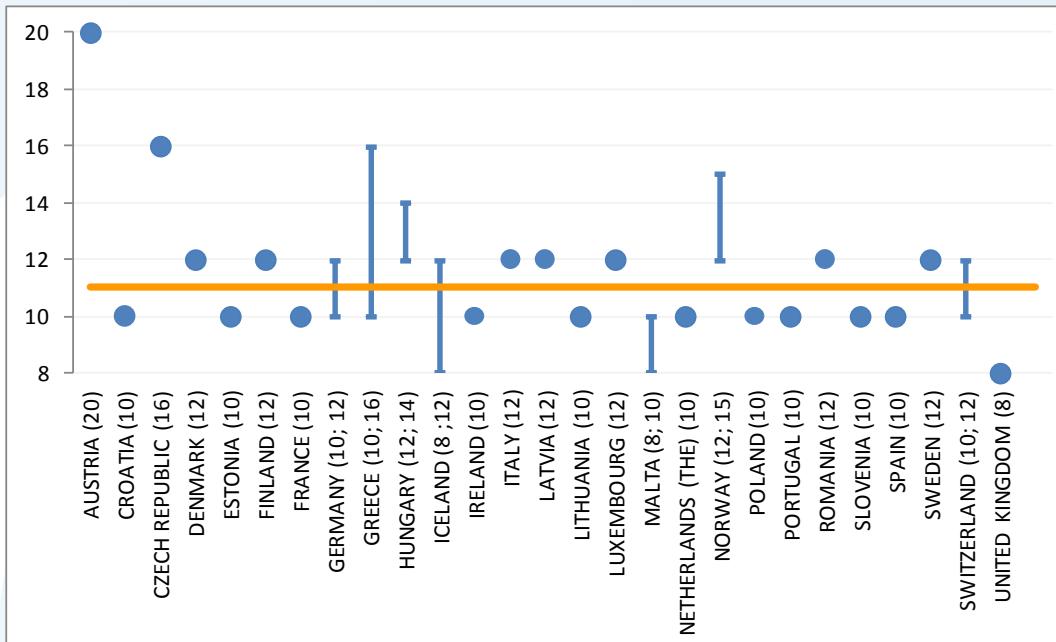
# Standard Drink in grams of pure alcohol



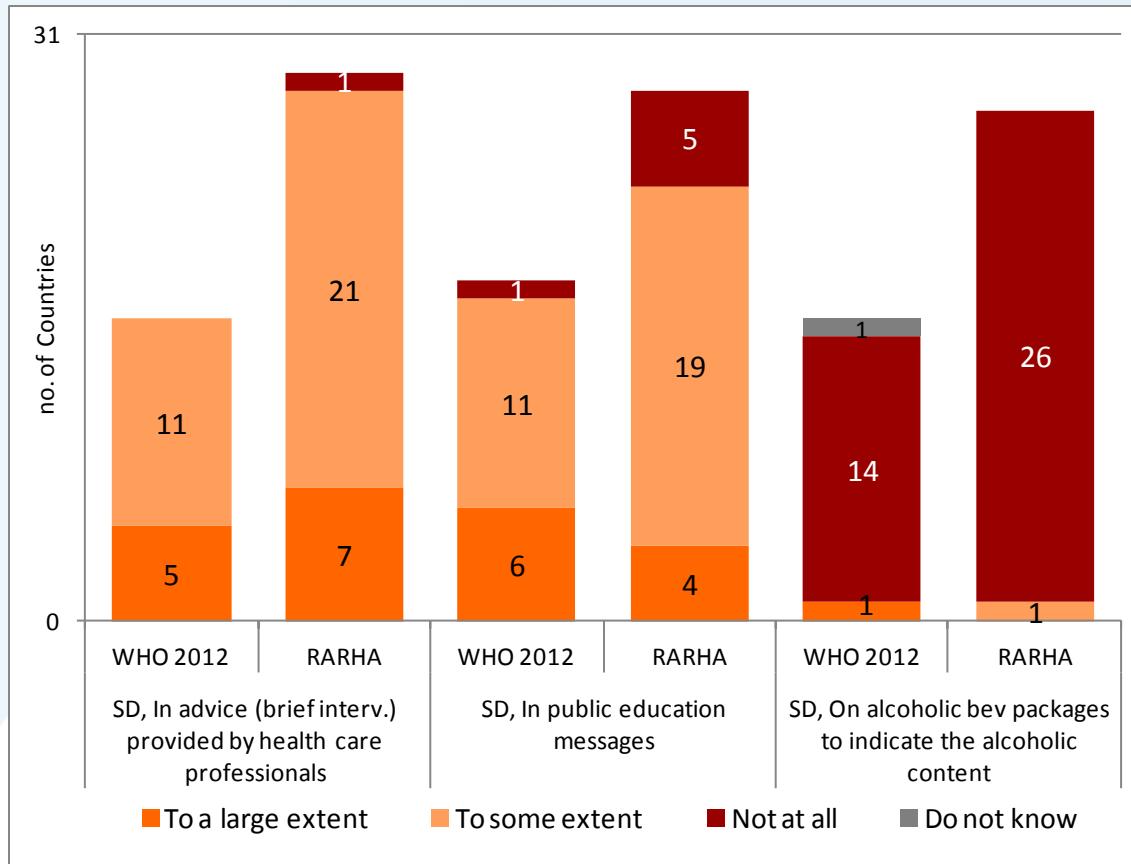
RARHA



RARHA survey  
SD in grams of pure alcohol:



# Standard Drink current use in EU countries

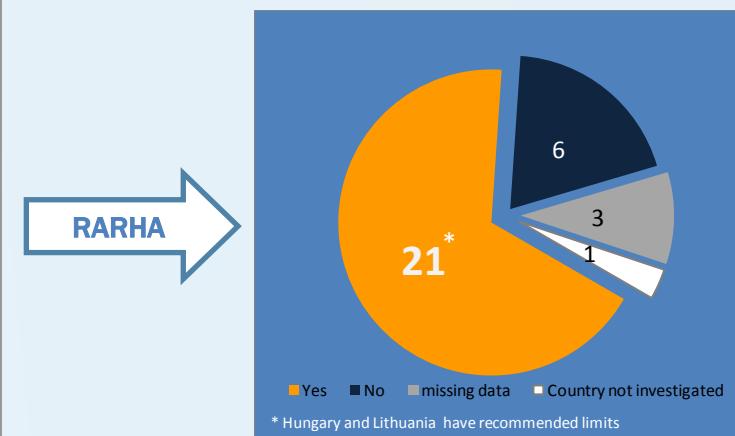
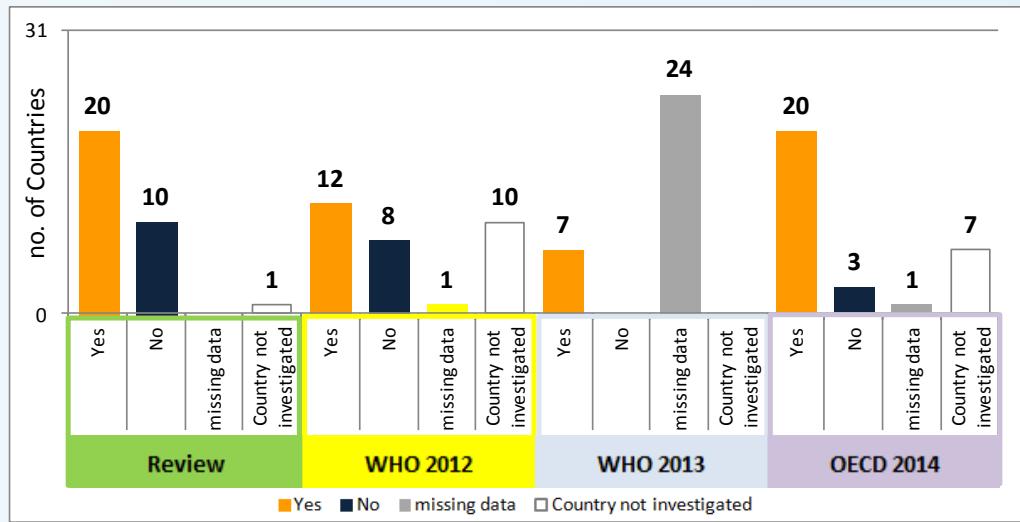


# Low Risk Guidelines (GL)/Recommendations (R)

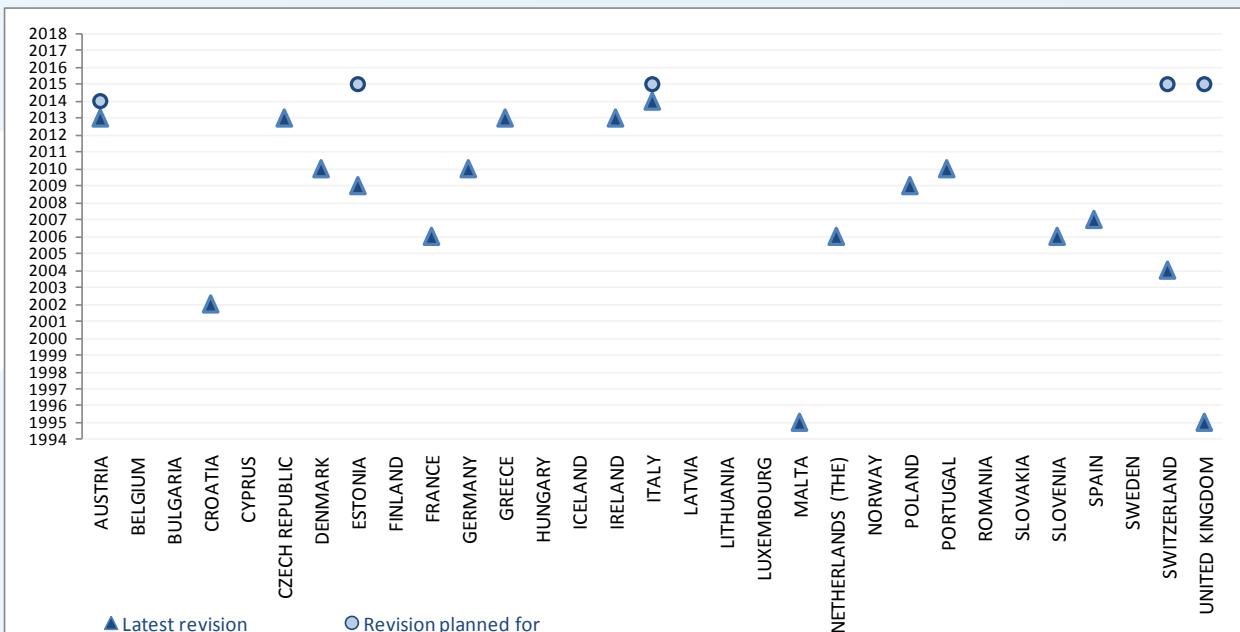
Country	DATA SOURCE					Have guidelines for low risk drinking been issued in your country?		Organization	Latest revision			Not revised since		Revision planned for		
	Review	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	OECD 2014	RARHA	1=Yes; 2=No			Year (YYYY)			Year (YYYY)		Year (YYYY)		
AUSTRIA						1	1	Ministry of Health	2009			2013	2009	2013	Not yet agreed	2014
BELGIUM						2		Ministry of Health								
BULGARIA						1	2									
CROATIA								Croatian Association for Treated Alcoholics					2002			
CYPRUS						2	2									
CZECH REPUBLIC						1	2						2013			
DENMARK						1		1		2010			2010	2010		
ESTONIA						1	1	1	National Institute for Health Development	2009	2009	2009				2015
FINLAND						1	1		Alcohol programme (guidelines are not official)					2003		
FRANCE						1			There are no official guidelines that explicitly refer to "low risk" but other risk drinking limits are included				2006	2006		
GERMANY						1	1	1	German Centre for Addiction Issues (DZS)	2010	2008	2010		2010		
GREECE						2	2		Ministry of Health				2013			
HUNGARY						2	2									
ICELAND						1										
IRELAND						1	1	1	Department of Health				2013			2012/13
ITALY						1	2	1	THERE ARE ADVICES FROM THE ITALIAN NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR FOOD AND NUTRITION	2011		2014	2003			2015
LATVIA						2										
LITHUANIA						2	2									
LUXEMBOURG						2			Directorate of Health							
MALTA						2	1							1995	1995	
NETHERLANDS (THE)						1		1	Second National Health Council of the Netherlands				2006	2006		
NORWAY						2		2								
POLAND						1	1	1	MINA	2009		2009	2009	2009	no	
PORTUGAL						1	1	1	WHO guidelines reflected in the Action Plan against Alcoholism 2000 and in the National Action Plan for 2010-2012	2010		2010				
ROMANIA						2	1		2 Romanian Forum for Responsible Consumption - RFR							
SLOVAKIA						1		2								
SLOVENIA						1	1	1	Faculty of Medicine, Department of Family Medicine	2006		2006	2006	2006		
SPAIN						1		1	Ministry of Health, Social Services and Equality					2007		
SWEDEN						1	1	1	National Board of Health and Welfare	2011						
SWITZERLAND						1		1	Federal Office of Public Health/Addiction			2008	2004	2004		2015
UNITED KINGDOM						1	1	1	Chief Medical Officer (CMO)	Review in progress		1995	1995	2012	2015	



# Low Risk Guidelines/Recommendations in EU



Latest revision  
(year)



# Weekly Low Risk Guidelines/Recommendations (in g)

Country	DATA SOURCE					Men			Women			All consumers		Guidelines on average alcohol intake in a week		No guidelines but RECOMMENDATIONS on average alcohol intake in a week		
	Review	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	OECD 2014	RARHA	Average alcohol intake in a week not to be exceeded (grams of pure alcohol)			Average alcohol intake in a week not to be exceeded (grams of pure alcohol)			Average alcohol intake in a week not to be exceeded (grams of pure alcohol)		2=Not issued				
AUSTRIA						160			120			300		2		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
BELGIUM																	2	
BULGARIA						0			0			0		2		2		
CROATIA						200			120								2	
CYPRUS																	2	
CZECH REPUBLIC														2			2	
DENMARK						168			168	84		84						
ESTONIA						160	160	160	80	80	80							
FINLAND						280			288	190		192		2				
FRANCE						210				140								
GERMANY						120				60	60			2		2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
GREECE																	2	
HUNGARY																	2	
ICELAND						168				84								
IRELAND						210	168 (sugg)	21 SU	170	168	140	112 (sugg)	14 SU	110	112			
ITALY														2	2	2		
LATVIA																		
LITHUANIA										210				140			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
LUXEMBOURG																		
MALTA						189			189		126			126			2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NETHERLANDS (THE)																	2	
NORWAY																		
POLAND						280	280		280	140	140			140				
PORTUGAL															2	2	2	
ROMANIA						195					130						2	
SLOVAKIA															2			
SLOVENIA						140			140		70			70		2		
SPAIN						210			280	140				170				
SWEDEN						168	168		168	108	108		108				2	
SWITZERLAND										168	168	112		112		2	2	
UNITED KINGDOM										168	168	112		112		2	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



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# Daily Low Risk Guidelines/Recommendations (in g)

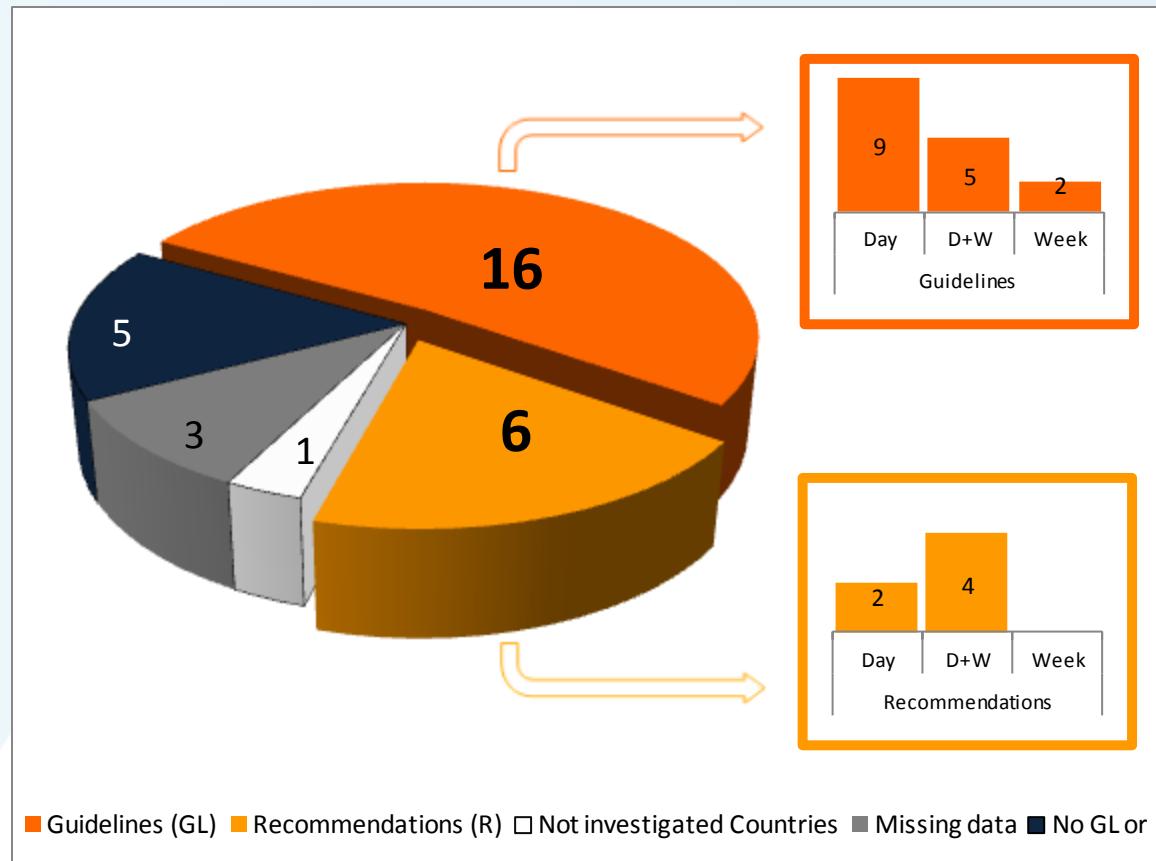
Country	DATA SOURCE					Men				Women				All consumers		Guidelines on average alcohol intake in a day		No guidelines but RECOMMENDATIONS on average alcohol intake in a day		
	Review	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	OECD 2014	RARHA	Average alcohol intake in a day not to be exceeded (grams of pure alcohol)				Average alcohol intake in a day not to be exceeded (grams of pure alcohol)				Average alcohol intake in a day not to be exceeded (grams of pure alcohol)		2=Not issued				
AUSTRIA						24	24	24	24	16	16	16	16	40			2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
BELGIUM																		2		
BULGARIA						30	20			20	10							2		
CROATIA							40			20	20			10				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
CYPRUS																		2		
CZECH REPUBLIC						24		40		40	16			20	20					
DENMARK								24		24				12	12		2			
ESTONIA						40	40		40	20	20		20	20						
FINLAND						20			24	20	10		12	10				2		
FRANCE						30			30	20			20	20						
GERMANY						24	24	24	24	12	12	12	12							
GREECE									30	30-48			20	20-32						
HUNGARY									48-60	24-48			32-40	18-21				2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
ICELAND						24			24		12		16							
IRELAND						40			24		30		16				2	2		
ITALY						36	24-36		24-36	24	24	12-24		12-24	12					
LATVIA																				
LITHUANIA									30-40					20-30			2	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
LUXEMBOURG										24				12				2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
MALTA										36				27	20-30			2	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NETHERLANDS (THE)						30			20-30	20	20		10	10						
NORWAY																				
POLAND						40	40		40	40	20	20	20	20						
PORTUGAL									20	24	24-36	20	20	16	12-24	10				
ROMANIA												26						2		
SLOVAKIA						28				14										
SLOVENIA						20	20		20	20	10	10	10	10						
SPAIN						30			40	40	20		20	20-25						
SWEDEN										24				15			2	2		
SWITZERLAND						40			40-48	20 - 36	20		20-24	10 - 24						
UNITED KINGDOM						32	24-32		24	24-32	24	16-24		16	16-24			2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	



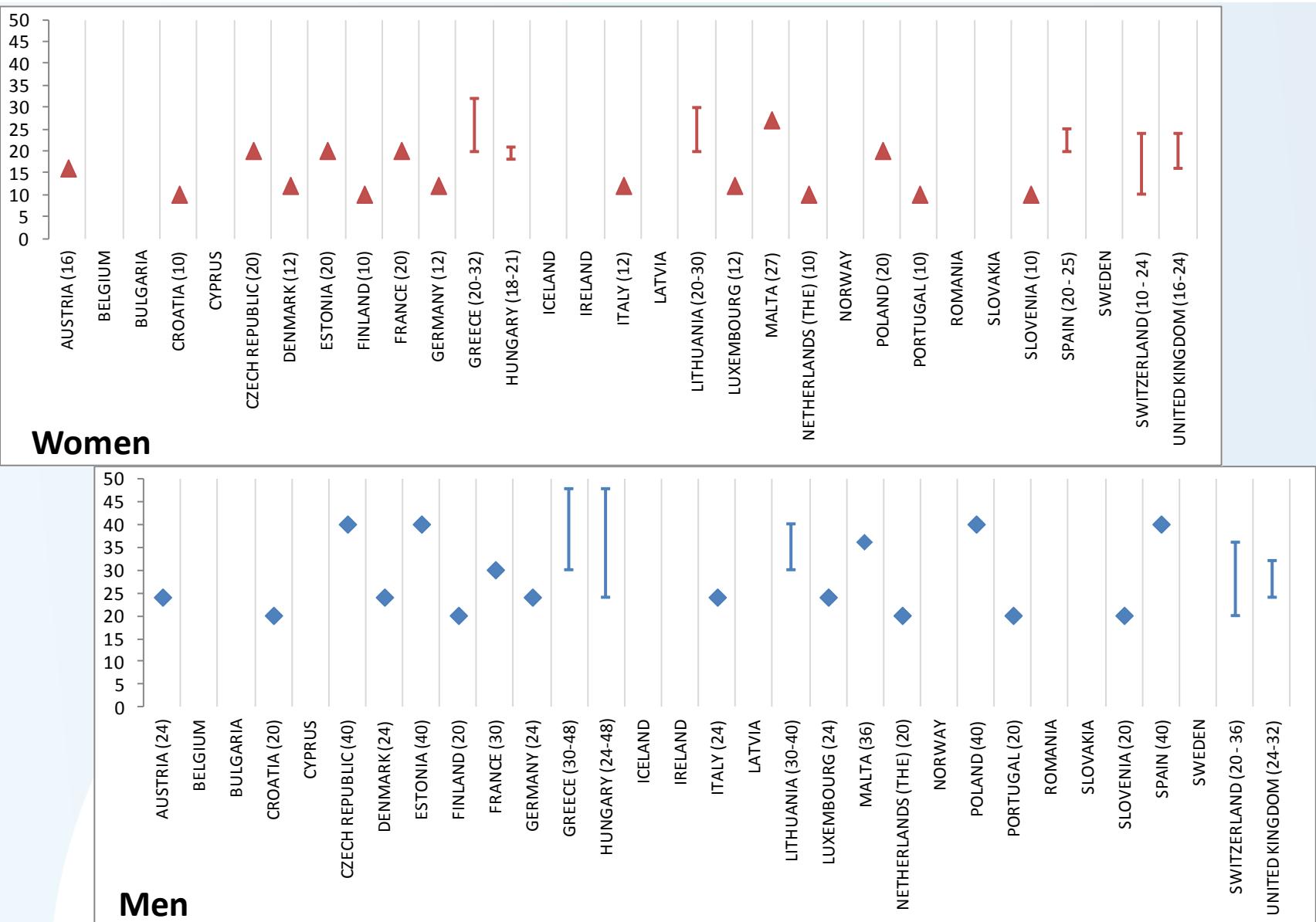
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## Daily alcohol intake average not to be exceeded (grams of pure alcohol)

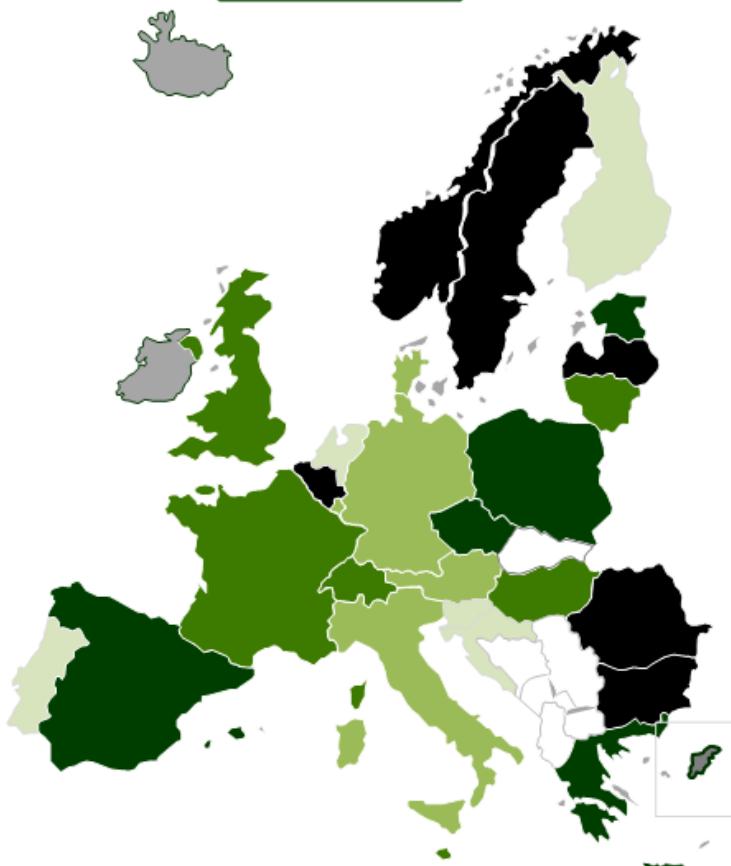


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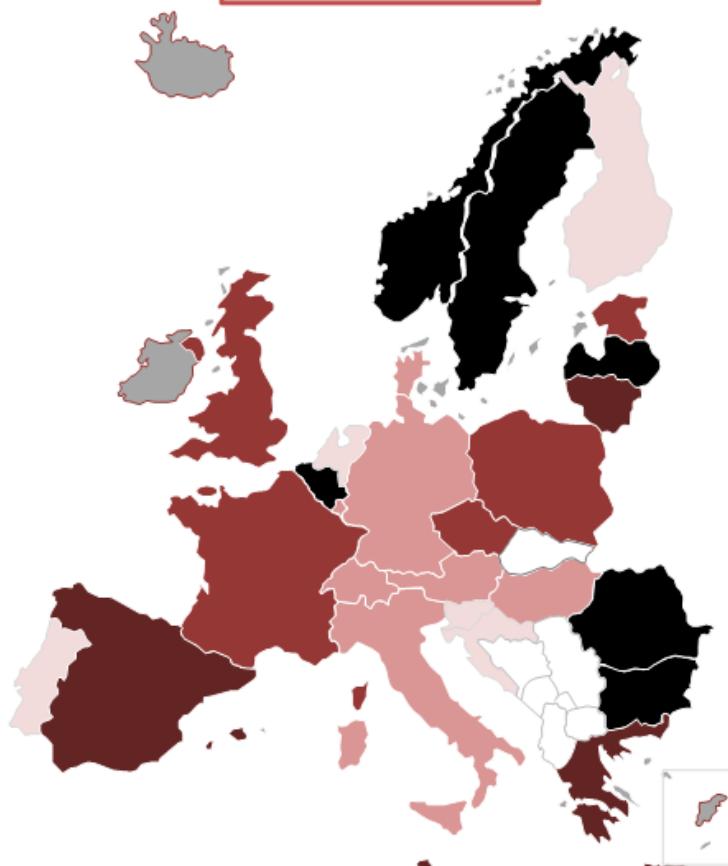
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# RARHA Daily alcohol intake not to be exceeded (g pure alcohol)

MEN



WOMEN



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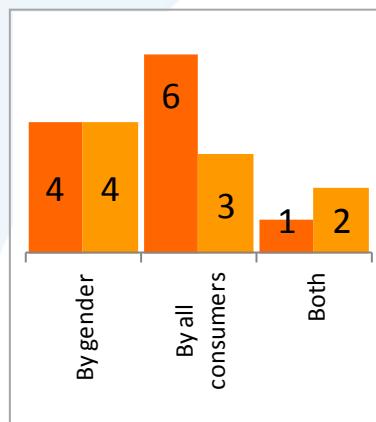
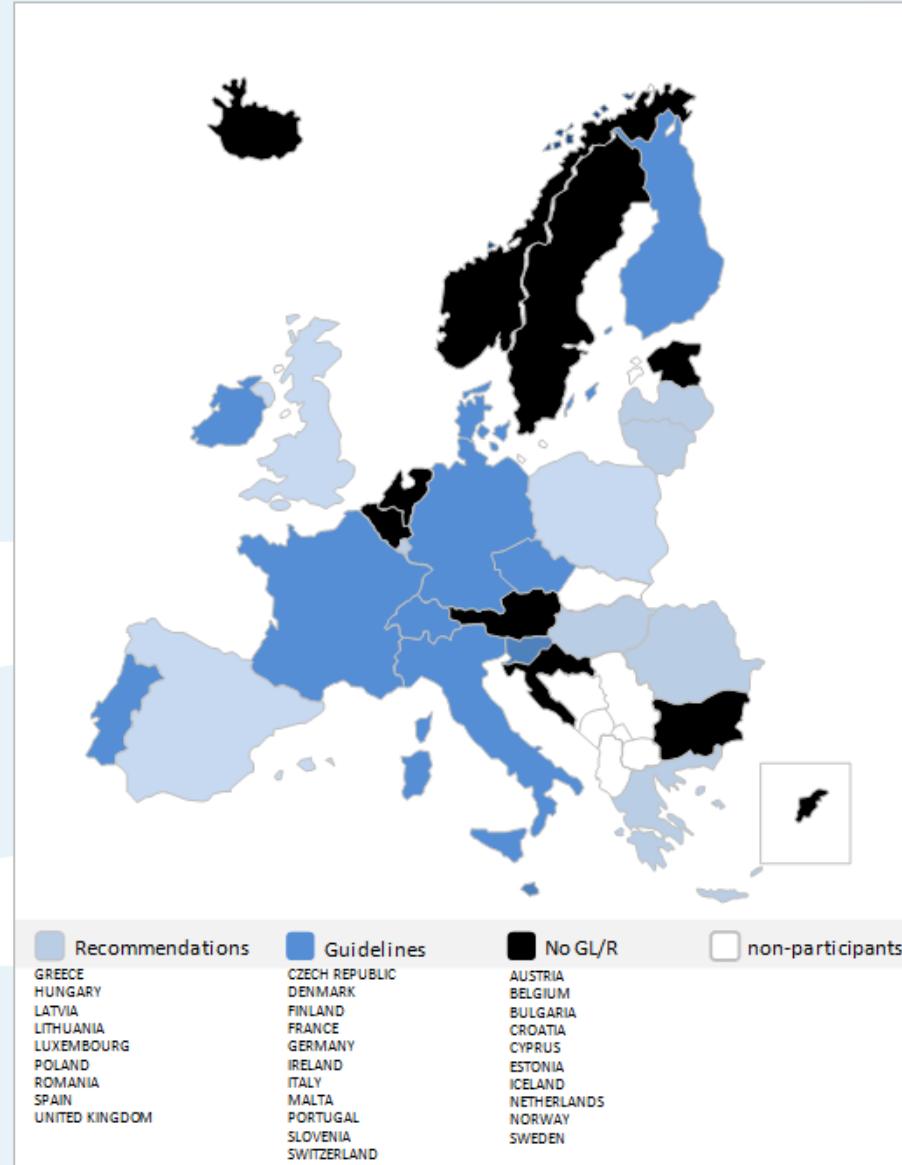
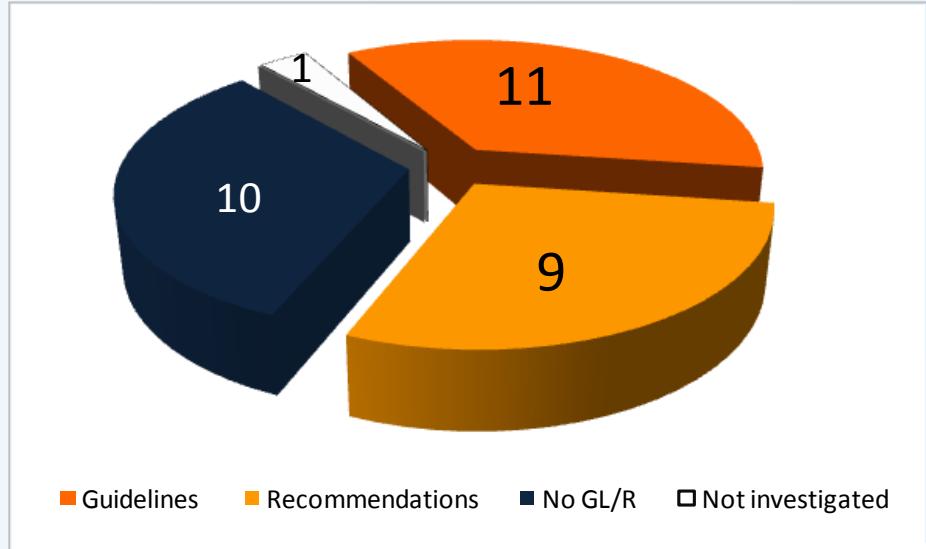
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# Binge Drinking definitions

Country	DATA SOURCE				Men		Women		All consumers			Guidelines on binge drinking			No guidelines but RECOMMENDATIONS on binge drinking	
	Review	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	OECD 2014	RARHA	Maximum intake per drinking occasion (binge drinking) (grams of pure alcohol)	Maximum intake per drinking occasion (binge drinking) (grams of pure alcohol)	Maximum intake per drinking occasion (binge drinking) (grams of pure alcohol)	Maximum intake per drinking occasion (binge drinking) (grams of pure alcohol)	1=Issued	2=Not issued					
AUSTRIA		Yellow				80	80	80	80			2	2			
BELGIUM												2	2			
BULGARIA	Yellow					100		50							2	
CROATIA											2				2	
CYPRUS	Yellow														2	
CZECH REPUBLIC	Yellow									80	80			1	1	
DENMARK						60		60		48			1	1		
ESTONIA	Yellow									60			1	2		
FINLAND						84	84	84	60	60-72			1	1		
FRANCE										60	40	1	1	1		
GERMANY	Yellow					50		50		60	50	1	1	1		
GREECE										40-64		2			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
HUNGARY	Yellow									96-120	72-84		1	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
ICELAND													2	2		
IRELAND						*70 (old law) nak)		*50 (old law) nak)		60	60		1	1		
ITALY										60-72	72	2	1	1		
LATVIA	Yellow						60		40		60			2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
LITHUANIA							60-80		40-80					2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
LUXEMBOURG							60		60		60		2	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
MALTA	Yellow									36	36			1		
NETHERLANDS (THE)													2	2		
NORWAY										72-90			1	2		
POLAND						60	60	60	40				1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
PORTUGAL						60	72	60	48	60	50		1	1		
ROMANIA												72	2		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SLOVAKIA											6 SU			1		
SLOVENIA	Yellow					50	50	50	30	30	30		1	1		
SPAIN									40	40			1		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
SWEDEN	Yellow								48		48		1	2		
SWITZERLAND							50-60	40 - 48	40-48	30 - 36			1	1		
UNITED KINGDOM	Yellow						64	64	48	48		2	1	1	2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



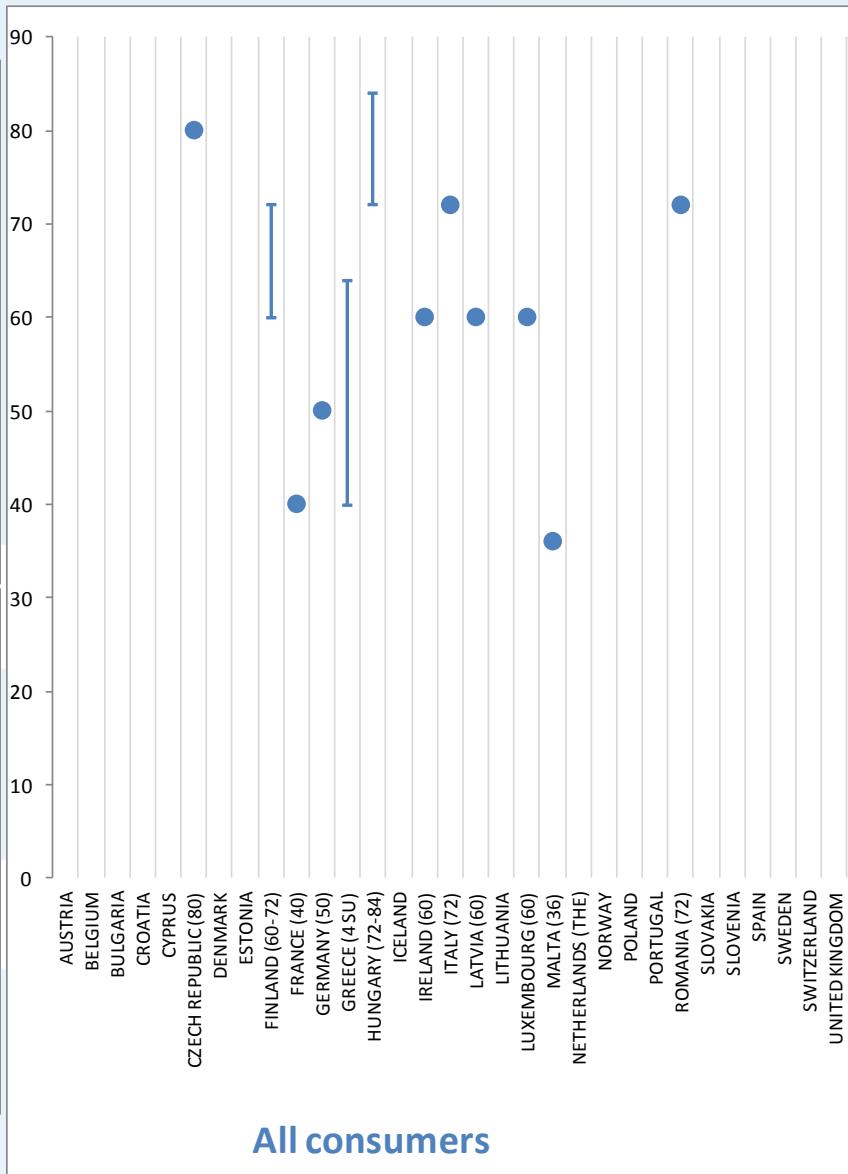
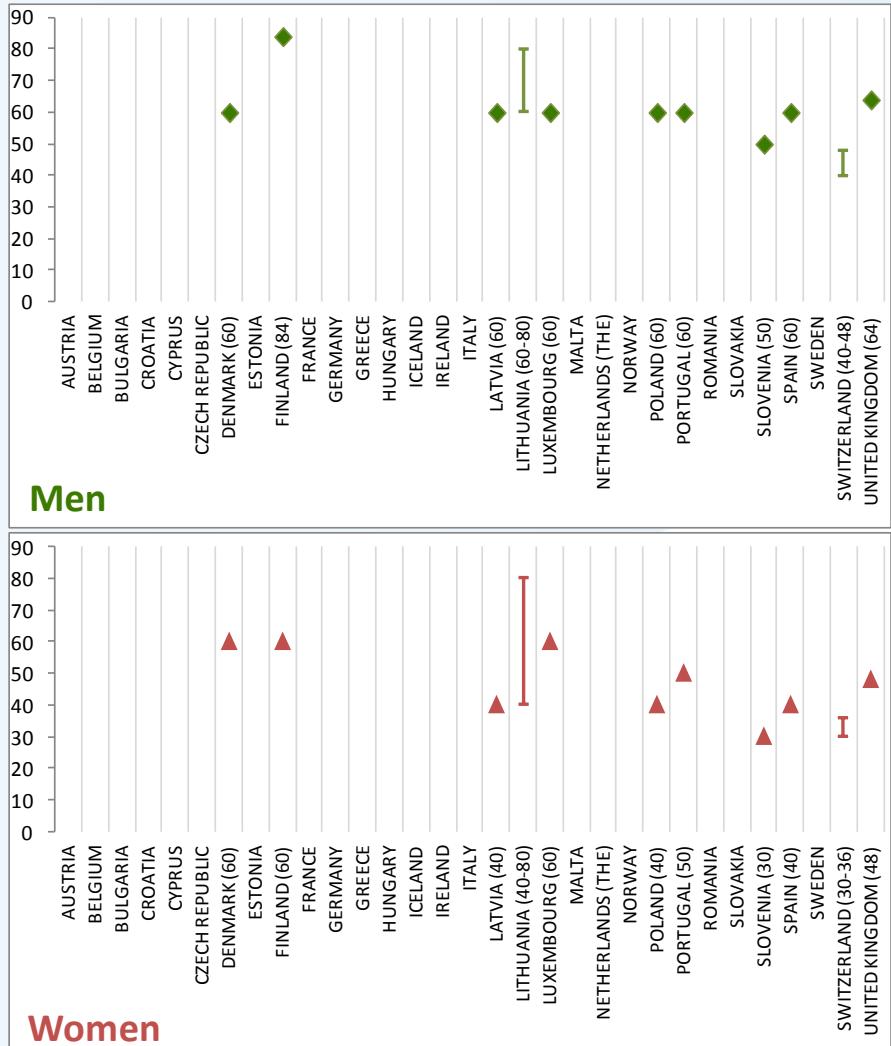
# RARHA availability of Guidelines/Recommendations for Binge Drinking



Low risk drinking guidelines in Europe: overview of RARHA survey results

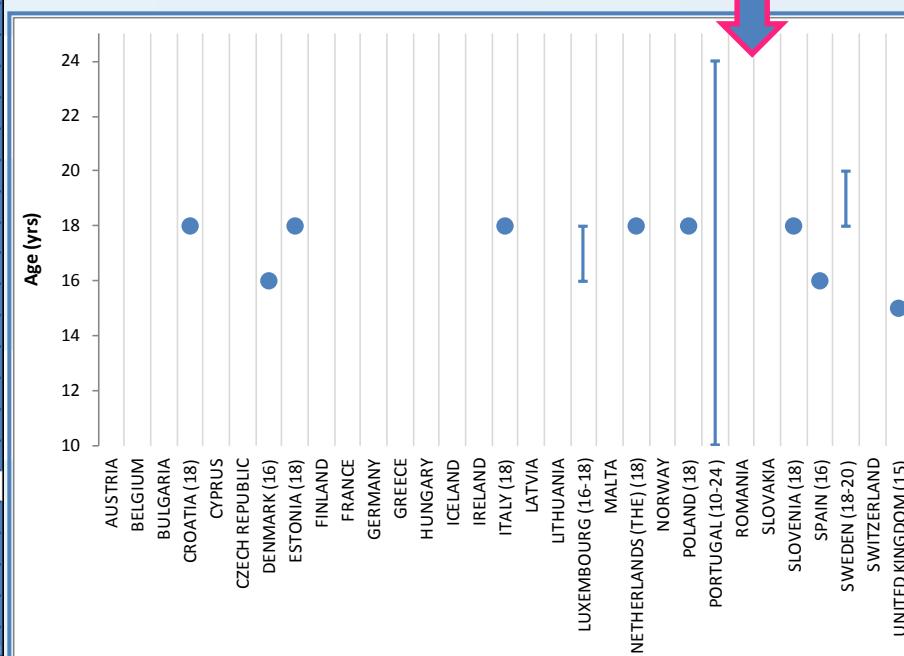
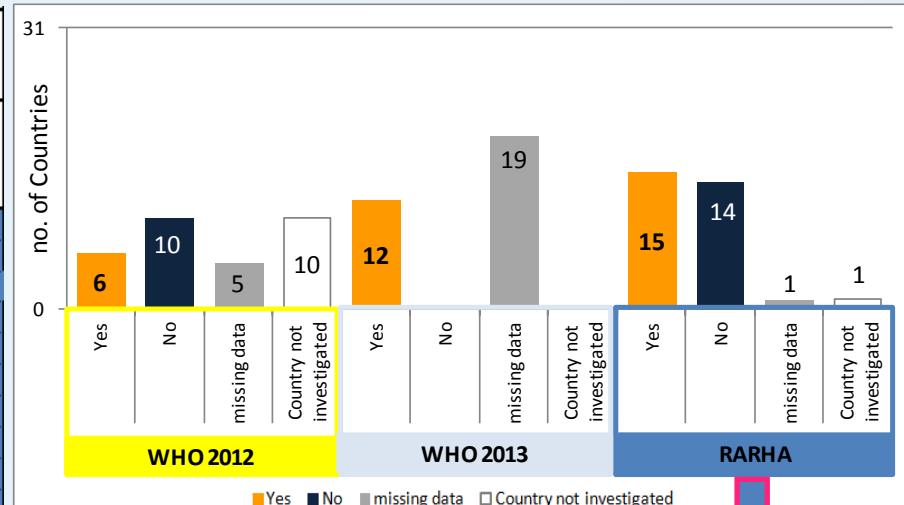
# RARHA Binge Drinking

## Maximum intake per drinking occasion (g pure alcohol)



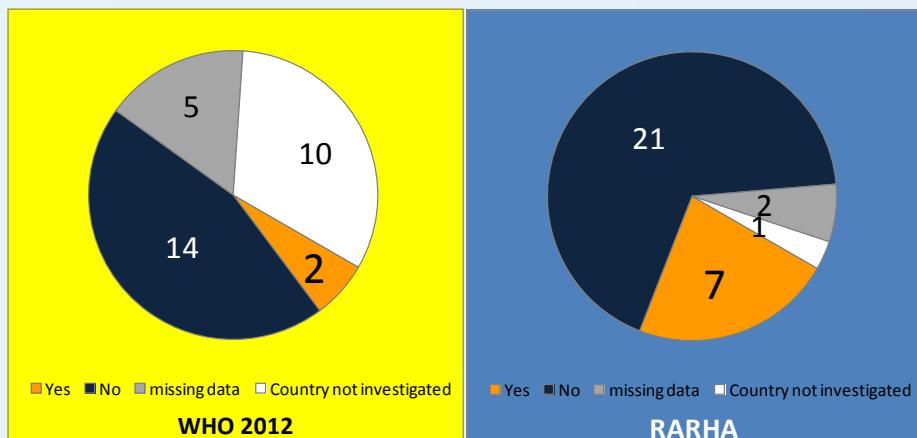
# Availability of Guidelines/Recommendations for Young People

Country	DATA SOURCE			Are there separate guidelines/recommendations for young people in your country?		For persons younger than	What are the guidelines?
	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	RARHA	1=Yes; 2=No	Age in yrs (YY)		
AUSTRIA	2	2		2	2		
BELGIUM				1	2		
BULGARIA	2			2			
CROATIA	1			1	18	18	Alcohol intake is illegal for minors, SAC for young
CYPRUS				2			Croatian Association for Treated Alcoholics: Some
CZECH REPUBLIC		2		2			young people should not drink alcohol stronger than
DENMARK		1		1	16		
ESTONIA	2			1	18	No drinking under 18	drinking under 18 is illegal
FINLAND	2			1			Children and young people should not drink at all
FRANCE		1		2			
GERMANY	1	1	2	16			No alcohol
GREECE				2			
HUNGARY				1	2		
ICELAND				2			
IRELAND	2	1	2				
ITALY	2	1	1		18		No alcohol
LATVIA				2			
LITHUANIA				1			School rules, information material, rules included to
LUXEMBOURG				1	1	16-18	12g once a week
MALTA	2			2			
NETHERLANDS (THE)				1	18		No alcohol
NORWAY							
POLAND	1	1	1	18	18		
PORTUGAL	2	1	1		10-24		Defined procedures concerning heavy episodic
ROMANIA	2			2			
SLOVAKIA							
SLOVENIA	1		1	18	18		According to the Act the sale and provision of alcohol
SPAIN				1	1	16	According to the Act restricting the use of Alcohol
SWEDEN	1			1	18	18-20	Prevention is alcohol consumption in minors
SWITZERLAND							Legislative text, e.g. Alcoholic beverages may
UNITED KINGDOM	1	1	1	18	15		be more guidance in the form of information material
							In 2008, The Chief Medical Officer for England published



# Availability of Guidelines/Recommendations for Older People

Country	DATA SOURCE			Are there separate guidelines/recommendations for older people in your country?  No guidelines but RECOMMENDATION for older people 1=Yes; 2=No	For persons older than:	What are the guidelines?
	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	RARHA			
AUSTRIA	2		2	2	65	Older people should be
BELGIUM				2		
BULGARIA	2		2			
CROATIA	2		1	65	Older people should be	
CYPRUS				2		
CZECH REPUBLIC	2		2			
DENMARK			1			
ESTONIA	2		2			
FINLAND	1		1	65	Older people should not drink more than	
FRANCE			2			
GERMANY	2		2			
GREECE			2			
HUNGARY			2			
ICELAND			2			
IRELAND	2		2			
ITALY	2	1	1	65	not more than 1 std/day	
LATVIA				2		
LITHUANIA			2			
LUXEMBOURG			2			
MALTA	2		2	N/A		
NETHERLANDS (THE)				65		
NORWAY						
POLAND	2		2			
PORTUGAL	2		1	65	over 65 years old 20g/30	
ROMANIA	2		2			
SLOVAKIA						
SLOVENIA	1		1	65	equal as for women	
SPAIN				65	250g/W/W and 250g/W/M	
SWEDEN	2		2	65		
SWITZERLAND						
UNITED KINGDOM	2		2			

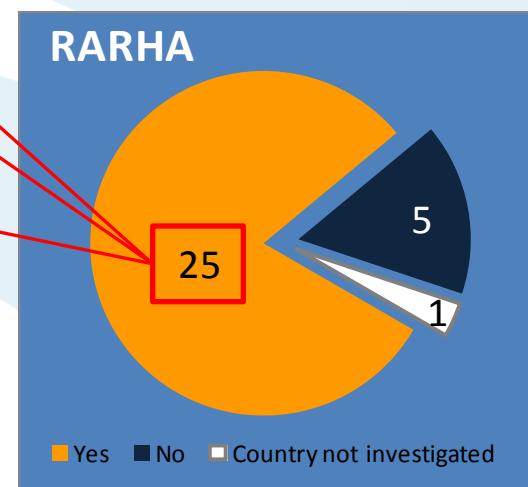
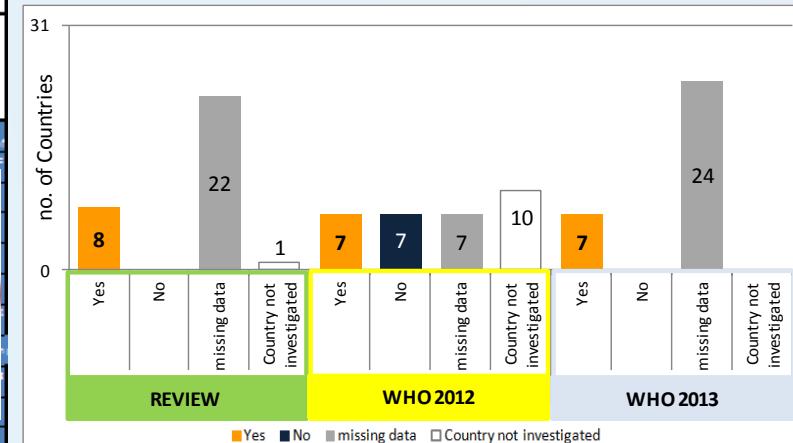


**OVER 65 YRS OF AGE**



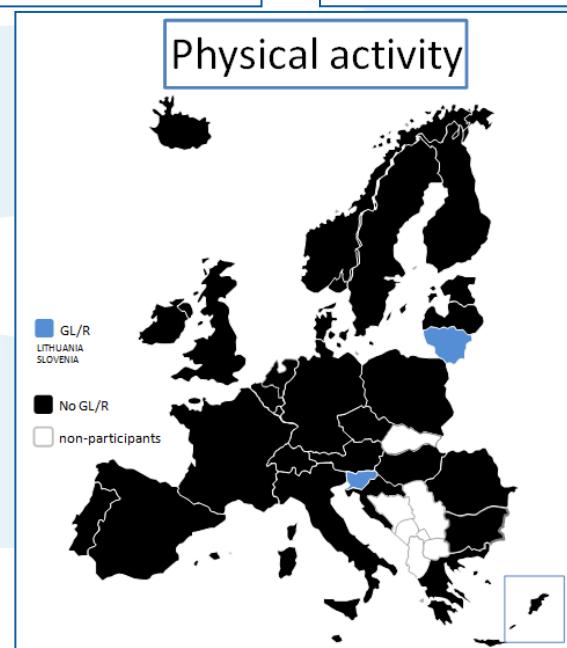
# Availability of Guidelines/Recommendations for Pregnancy/Breastfeeding

Country	DATA SOURCE				No guidelines but RECOMMENDATIONS for pregnancy/breastfeeding	What are the guidelines? (text)
	Review	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	RARHA		
AUSTRIA	2	1				
BELGIUM		1	1			
BULGARIA			2			
CROATIA		1		1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
CYPRUS		1		1		
CZECH REPUBLIC		2		2		
DENMARK			1			
ESTONIA		2		1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
FINLAND		1		1		
FRANCE	1		1	1		
GERMANY		2	1	1		
GREECE						
HUNGARY						
ICELAND				1		
IRELAND		1	1	1		
ITALY		1	2	1		
LATVIA				2		
LITHUANIA				1	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
LUXEMBOURG				1		
MALTA		2		1		
NETHERLANDS (THE)				1		
NORWAY				1		
POLAND		2	1	1		
PORTUGAL			2	1		
ROMANIA			1	1		
SLOVAKIA						
SLOVENIA		1		1		
SPAIN	1			1		
SWEDEN		1	1	1		
SWITZERLAND	1		1	1		
UNITED KINGDOM	1	1		1		



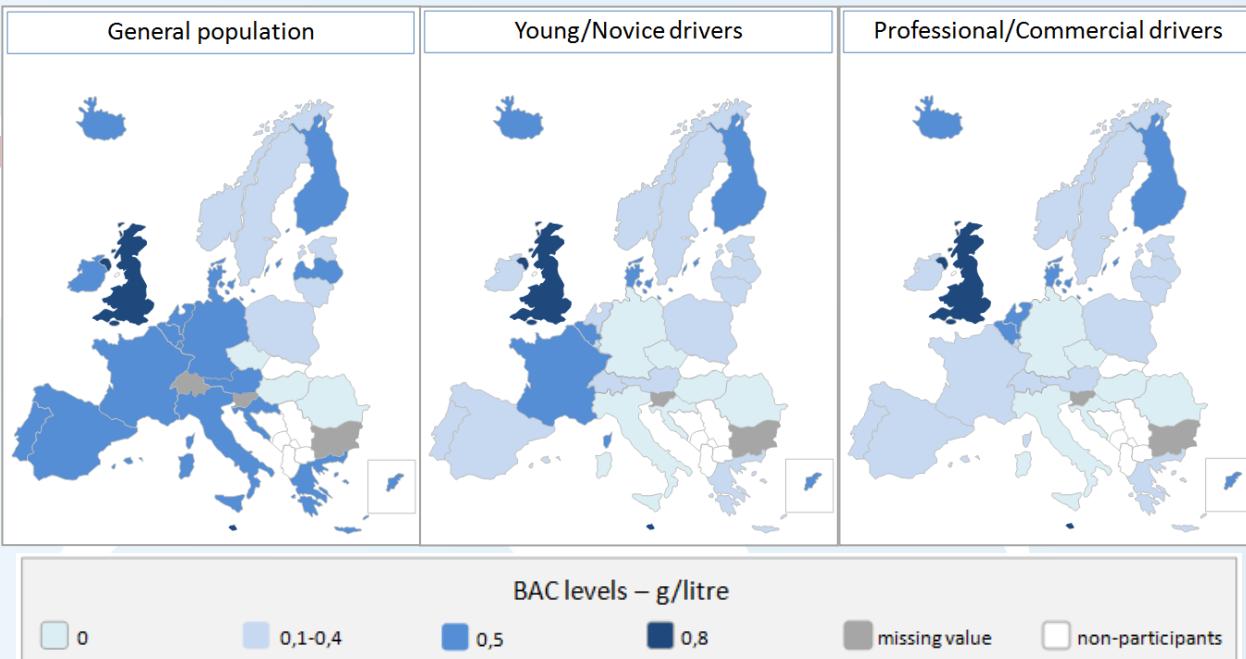
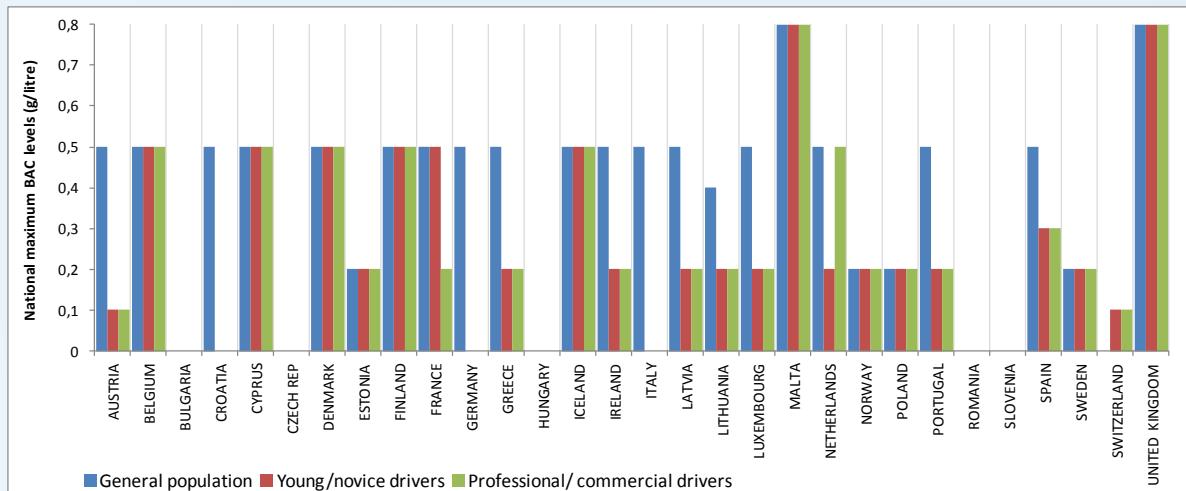
# Alcohol in other guidelines

Country	DATA SOURCE			Alcohol in guidelines for		Separate guidelines for workplace
	WHO 2012	WHO 2013	RARHA	Nutrition	Physical activity	
AUSTRIA	■			■	■	■
BELGIUM				■	■	■
BULGARIA	■			■	■	■
CROATIA				■	■	■
CYPRUS	■			■	■	■
CZECH REPUBLIC				■		
DENMARK				■	■	■
ESTONIA	■			■	■	■
FINLAND				■	■	■
FRANCE	■			■	■	■
GERMANY	■			■		
GREECE						
HUNGARY	■			■		■
ICELAND						
IRELAND	■			■	■	■
ITALY	■			■	■	■
LATVIA				■	■	■
LITHUANIA	■			■	■	■
LUXEMBOURG						
MALTA	■			■	■	
NETHERLANDS (THE)				■		
NORWAY						
POLAND	■			■	■	
PORTUGAL				■	■	■
ROMANIA	■					■
SLOVAKIA						
SLOVENIA	■			■	■	■
SPAIN						
SWEDEN	■			■	■	
SWITZERLAND				■	■	
UNITED KINGDOM	■			■	■	



# Drink driving limits in EU countries

Country	Source		National maximum BAC levels (g/litre)		
	WHO 2013	RARHA	General population	Young/novice drivers	Professional/commercial drivers
AUSTRIA			0,5	0,5	0,1
BELGIUM			0,5	0,5	0,5
BULGARIA			0,5	0,5	0,5
CROATIA			0,5	0,5	0,0
CYPRUS			0,5	0,5	0,5
CZECH REPUBLIC			0,0	0,0	0,0
DENMARK			0,5	0,5	0,5
ESTONIA			0,2	0,2	0,2
FINLAND			0,5	0,5	0,5
FRANCE			0,5	0,5	0,5 [0,2 pub transp]
GERMANY			0,5	0,5	0,0
GREECE			0,5	0,5	0,2
HUNGARY			0,0	0,0	0,0
ICELAND			0,5	0,5	0,5
IRELAND			0,5	0,2	0,2
ITALY			0,5	0,0	0,0
LATVIA			0,5	0,5	0,2
LITHUANIA			0,4	0,4	0,2
LUXEMBOURG			0,5	0,5	0,2
MALTA			0,8	0,8	0,8
NETHERLANDS (THE)			0,5	0,5	0,2
NORWAY			0,2	0,2	0,2
POLAND			0,2	0,2	0,2
PORTUGAL			0,5	0,5	0,2
ROMANIA			0,0	0,0	0,0
SLOVAKIA			0,0	0,0	0,0
SLOVENIA			0,5	0,0	0,0
SPAIN			0,5	0,5	0,3
SWEDEN			0,2	0,2	0,2
SWITZERLAND			0,5	0,5	0,1
UNITED KINGDOM			0,8	0,8	0,8



## Standard Drink (SD):

- SD limits expressed in cl or ml seem to be not used (or at least not reported)
- Grams of pure alcohol is the prevalent measure adopted by countries
- Relevant variability in values among countries (Mode=10) but convergence towards an average of 11 grams (Mean=Median=11)

## Low Risk Guidelines or Recommendations:

- Prevalent use of daily low risk GL/R (in g) instead of weekly
- Low Risk GL/R are usually gender oriented

## Binge drinking Guidelines or Recommendations:

- Binge drinking GL/R are usually not gender oriented
- Relevant variability in values among countries

## Target groups:

- Young people: 15/31 countries have GL/R addressed to subjects aged 16-18
- Old people: only 7/31 countries have GL/R addressed to subjects aged 65+
- Pregnant women/Breastfeeding: 25/31 countries have GL/R on this issue, which is the most considered all over EU (number of countries increased from previous available sources).



## Other guidelines:

- Alcohol in GL/R for Physical activity: only in Lithuania and Slovenia
- Alcohol in GL/R for Nutrition: the number of countries (17/31) has more than doubled in comparison with previous available sources.
- Separate GL/R for alcohol and Workplace: the number of countries (14/31) increased in comparison with previous available sources.

## Drink driving:

According to WHO 2013, all investigated countries have specific limits

- General population: mode=0.5 [0.0-0.8]; no changes over time
- Young/novice drivers: mode=0.2 [0.0-0.8]; reduction for Portugal and Switzerland
- Professional/ commercial drivers: mode=0.2 [0.0-0.8]; reduction for France, Latvia, Portugal and Switzerland and consequent reduction in modal value (from 0.5 to 0.2)

# Low risk drinking guidelines in Europe: overview of RARHA survey results

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