

Survey Analysis

Hull Citysafe

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Survey analysis

Title: “Mine’s a Lambrini®”?

A report examining alcohol consumption among young people in Hull

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Executive Summary

This report is based primarily on the results of the World Health Organisation's AUDIT (alcohol use disorders identification test) which was incorporated into a clipboard survey aimed at young people living in or visiting Hull and undertaken over the period May 2007 to February 2008. The bulk of the results are based on responses from about 480 young people aged 25 and under.

The main findings from the survey are as follows:

- 79% of teenagers under 18 drink alcohol
- Young girls tend to start drinking alcohol earlier than boys
- Teenage boys consume alcohol more regularly than girls
- 95% of young people may be consuming alcohol at a level regarded as harmful
- Over a fifth of young people may have a serious alcohol dependent addiction
- Teenage boys are more likely to have an alcohol dependence problem than girls
- 80% of young people may already be experiencing alcohol related harm as a result of their drinking
- 70% of young people could be classified as drinking alcohol at risky or hazardous levels according to the World Health Organisation AUDIT scoring system
- 14% of young people could be categorised as both high risk and highly dependent drinkers
- Boys and young men are more likely to have a 'high risk' drinking habit than girls
- 78% of under 18s say their parents know they drink alcohol
- Two-thirds of under 18s say their parents don't know how much alcohol they are drinking
- Young people drink alcohol because they enjoy it

The results from this survey indicate that Hull's young drinkers are not exceptional when compared nationally and face a similar set of documented problems in relation to their alcohol consumption habits.

It seems that young girls start drinking earlier than boys, probably as a result of more advanced physical and mental maturity, but once boys begin drinking, they are more likely to consume alcohol in greater quantities and more regularly than girls of the same age. This behaviour could also contribute to the inference that young men are more likely to develop a risky dependence on alcohol in the longer term.

Physical harm from drinking alcohol, (likely to be more pronounced among maturing young people than adults, possibly even more so among young females whose bodies are less capable of managing alcohol than males in any case), could be exacerbated by a lack of knowledge and understanding by young people of the damage they may be causing themselves.

The results also imply that whilst young people are not particularly secretive about drinking alcohol, when it comes to frequency and quantities, they would rather their parents or carers were not fully aware of their alcohol consumption habit which in itself infers a sense of guilt and responsibility.

Recommendations

- An audit of current alcohol education across the city to be conducted to assess any gaps in provision and to learn from examples of best practice.
- To lobby for national guidance on alcohol education within the PHSE curriculum to ensure a consistent approach.
- Alcohol education needs to be more gender specific and to be successful should be delivered to girls earlier than boys e.g. girls at age 10-11 and for boys at the early stages of secondary school education.
- To deliver an awareness raising programme for parents and carers highlighting the dangers and risks of possible physical harm associated with drinking alcohol in adolescence.
- To investigate ways of reducing proxy sales e.g. developing a code of conduct for shopkeepers and members of the public to be displayed in off license premises.
- Improving effectiveness of current enforcement activity with a focus on alcohol confiscation and proxy sales.
- Greater use of the powers given to police and local authorities in the Licensing Act 2003 e.g. revocation of licenses.
- Training A&E and hospital staff to use AUDIT and/or other brief interventions when treating young people under the age of 18 for alcohol related injuries, to include signposting to the appropriate agencies.

Introduction

In the last 30 years or so there has been a great deal of research undertaken and literature published both nationally and globally, about alcohol consumption in relation to young people. According to Alcohol Concern¹ the proportion of 11 to 15 years olds who drink has varied over the last 5 years between 54 - 60% and the average weekly consumption has doubled since the early 1990s from 5 units to 10 units in 2004. The alcohol beverages of choice for young people are still beer, cider and lager; alcopops remain popular but favour and consumption reduces with age. By the age of 13 the proportion of those who drink alcohol exceeds the proportion of teenagers who don't. Alcohol Concern's research also suggests that whilst young people drink for a number of reasons, such as to show maturity and have fun, fortunately most will not go on to develop a serious problem with alcohol. However, the research also shows a relationship between young people drinking alcohol, their prevalence to commit crime and disorder, and accidents occurring as a result of intoxication. Other risk factors for young people consuming alcohol include²:

- their bodies are not yet fully developed and alcohol may disrupt the process
- lower levels of alcohol may have a greater effect on more immature physical structures
- more extreme physiological response to intoxication
- fewer life skills to cope with handling effects of large amounts of alcohol

During 2007, the Hull Royal Infirmary accident and emergency unit, received 346 young people (aged 25 and under) through its doors for treatments in relation to acute alcohol excess, acute alcohol intoxication, alcohol withdrawal and alcoholism. Just fewer than half (48%) of these young people were under 18 years of age, the youngest being 6; the most frequent of the initial diagnosis codes recorded being 'acute alcohol intoxication' (95%). Just over 80% of casualties were transported to the hospital by ambulance as a result of a 999 emergency call and although the majority left the A&E unit following treatment to return home, 22% of casualties were admitted to hospital wards.

The most recent JSIA (Joint Strategic Intelligence Assessment) published by Citysafe in January 2008 provided some analysis around the characteristics of alcohol related crime and disorder in Hull. The results indicated that despite numerous projects undertaken by the partnership over recent years, alcohol fuelled violence continues to increase. The evidence showed quite clearly, that city centre licensed premises more popular with younger people, also experienced the greatest intensity of violent crime and general disorder. A small needs assessment study of young offenders in custody also highlighted alcohol misuse among 85% of those surveyed.

However, according to research undertaken and published in 2005 by the Social Issues Research Centre in Oxford, there is no direct causal relationship between alcohol and violence. The research states that "the probability of aggression is increased when the effects of alcohol-induced cognitive impairment are amplified or exacerbated by both the characteristics of the immediate situation and cultural expectations that drinking causes aggression. Where the immediate social context is non-aggressive and where cultural benefits and norms inhibit aggression, drinkers are highly unlikely to become aggressive."³ To what extent this research statement can be related to teenagers whose physical and mental development is still in stages of maturity, could be open to interpretation.

The recent changes in the licensing laws (Licensing Act 2003) also recognised certain inadequacies in the law which may not have protected children from risk of harm such as previously allowing consumption of alcohol by minors in non 'bar area' of licensed premises. The following offences are of particular significance under the new Act relating to children⁴:

- It is an offence for certain persons to allow children under 16 on relevant premises (which means premises to which a premises licence or a club premises certificate has been granted; or a permitted temporary event notice has been given) that are used exclusively or primarily for the supply of alcohol, or premises open for such supply under the authorisation of a temporary event notice, if they are not accompanied by an adult and those premises are open for the supply of alcohol for consumption there
- It is an offence for any person to allow an unaccompanied child under 16 to be on relevant premises (see above) between the hours of midnight and 5 a.m. when the premises are open for the supply of alcohol for consumption there
- It is an offence for any person to supply alcohol to children anywhere, not just on licensed premises

¹ www.alcoholconcern.org.uk

² Wright 1999

³ www.sirc.org/publik/alcohol_and_violence_1.html

⁴ <http://www.culture.gov.uk/>

- It is an offence for a child to buy or attempt to buy alcohol; and
- It is an offence for a child knowingly to consume alcohol on relevant premises (see above)

In 1989 the World Health Organisation introduced the AUDIT (alcohol use disorders identification test) as a means to identify people showing hazardous or harmful patterns of alcohol consumption. The AUDIT was developed as an effective and simple screening method which could be used to help in quickly identifying excessive drinking and provide a framework for applying suitable interventions, especially within environments such as accident & emergency units. For the purposes of this survey however, the AUDIT questions have been incorporated into an on-street design questionnaire, primarily aimed at young people living in or visiting Hull.

Identification of risk is based on the total score out of a possible maximum of 40 (a higher score is indicative of increased risk of harm). The cut off point for a score of hazardous or harmful drinking habits in the adult population is generally accepted as 7/8 for adult males and 7 for women. In terms of young people and realisation of the increased risk of harm that alcohol may place on maturing teenagers, the cut off point in truth, is probably lower. However, as there does not appear to be a great deal of published research available to definitively justify this assumption, this report has interpreted the results based on the WHO recommendations for adults.

The survey used in this case, which includes the AUDIT questions, was designed to help understand the scope and level of alcohol consumption among the younger population of those living and spending time in Hull, to identify some of the characteristics of Hull's young people who drink and to compare the findings against other research undertaken around this subject. In turn, the aim is to identify suitable ways to educate, help and provide interventions (where appropriate) around the subject of alcohol misuse for young people in Hull.

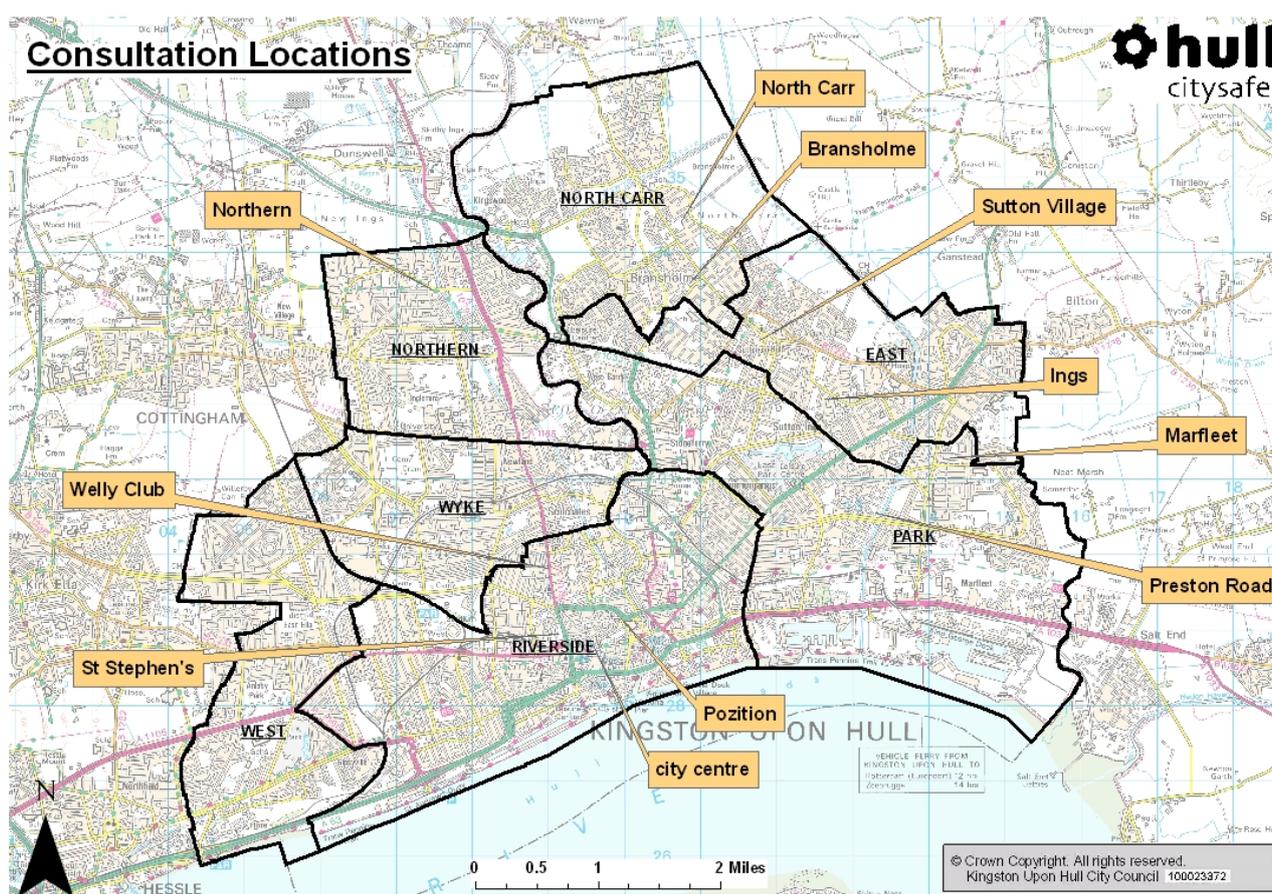
Methodology

Consultation was undertaken over the period May 2007 to February 2008 at a variety of events and venues, such as 'action weeks' taking place across the city, and under 18s nights at some of Hull's nightclubs. All questionnaires contained the AUDIT questions, but some surveys were longer and asked for more detail about where, how and why young people in particular consumed alcohol. Interviewers also provided respondents with a variety of handouts and information about the dangers and effects of drinking including alcohol unit calculators, drink testers and drink spiking stoppers, together with leaflets detailing useful contact numbers if needed, for agencies such as the alcohol and drugs service. All the young people surveyed were given information about how alcohol units were measured prior to undertaking the interview as follows:

Single measure of spirit – 1 unit
Alcopop or can of lager – 1.5
Standard glass of wine (175ml) – 2 units
Pint of regular beer, lager or cider – 2 units
Bottle of wine – 9 units

Calculating units of alcohol is based on volume (e.g. 568ml) multiplied by the alcohol by volume content (e.g. 8%), divided by 1000 = 4.5 units of alcohol for a strong pint of lager. The recommended weekly intake limit for adult women is 14 units and for men, it is 21 units of alcohol.

The following map indicates the locations across the city where clipboard interviews were conducted using the on-street questionnaires (appendices A and B).



In total, 630 questionnaires were completed from a population sample of young people aged 25 and under, representing 95% confidence that if repeated, the results from the survey would be between $\pm 3.9\%$. A further 50 questionnaires were completed by respondents who stated their ages as over 25. For a normally distributed sample size of 485 (the approximate number of respondents aged 25 and under who said they drank alcohol and completed the AUDIT questions), the 95% confidence interval is reduced to $\pm 4.5\%$.

A significant number (175) of young people surveyed were questioned at Hull nightclubs' under 16s events, so although it is assumed these teenagers were being candid and truthful with their responses, in the presence of

cohorts and friends it cannot be reasonably ruled out that there may be a degree of exaggeration or misled bravado in some of their answers.

The completed questionnaires were inputted into Snap survey software and analysed using both Snap and Microsoft Excel.

Analysis

Month	Count	%
May-07	76	12%
Jun-07	102	17%
Jul-07	102	17%
Oct-07	24	4%
Nov-07	128	21%
Dec-07	131	22%
Feb-08	46	8%
Total	609	100%

The table on the left shows the number and proportion of questionnaires completed by month over the period of data collection May 2007 to February 2008, where the date was recorded. Although the question relating to time of completion was only completed on approximately half of all questionnaires, the results indicate that the random sample of respondents were selected over an extended period of time throughout the day from about 0800 hours until just before midnight.

The table on the right shows the breakdown of respondents by age and indicates the most frequent age group of respondents as young people aged 15, accounting for just over a quarter of the total. The 5% of responses where the age group was not recorded indicated through a number of answers to other questions on the survey, such as providing the name of the school attended, that the questionnaire referred to a respondent who could be classified as a young person and so for the purposes of this report, the views and scores of these respondents have been included in the overall analysis where possible and appropriate. The average age of respondents undertaking the survey was 17; the youngest was aged 10 and the oldest was aged 60.

Age	Count	%
12 and under	8	1%
13	38	6%
14	115	17%
15	177	26%
16	109	16%
17	39	6%
18	31	5%
19	29	4%
20	18	3%
21	8	1%
22 to 25	27	4%
over 25	50	7%
Blank	31	5%
Total	680	100%

The table below showing the breakdown of respondents aged 25 and under by gender, indicates that the survey is biased in favour of female respondents. The young persons (under 25) to gender ratio in Hull, according to the latest 2006 estimates available from the Office for National Statistics, is currently around 51% males to 49% females. Analyses of the AUDIT questions have therefore been weighted in terms of gender to account for any bias.

Gender	Count	%
Male	229	40%
Female	347	60%
Total	576	100%

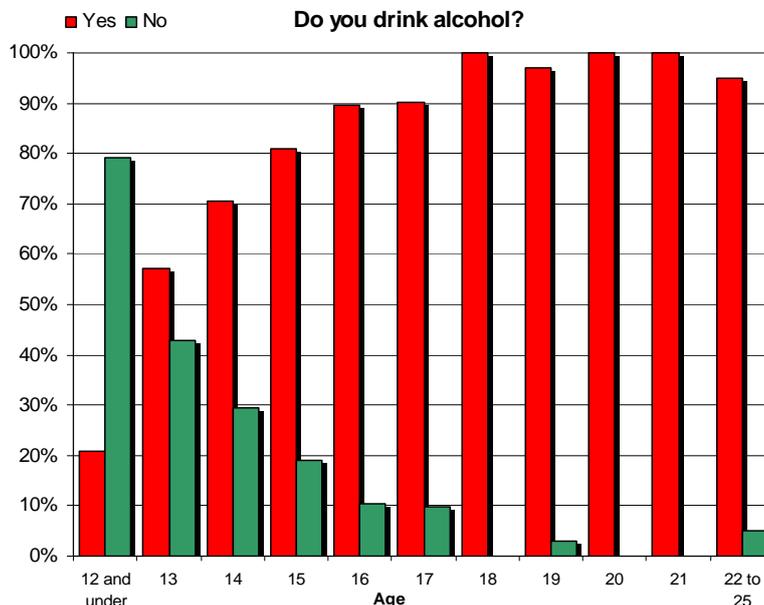
The first question on the survey asked whether the respondent drank alcohol. Those who answered positively were invited to complete the remainder of the questionnaire and those who said they didn't drink alcohol were thanked for their time and the interview with them was concluded.

In total, 83% of young people aged 25 and under said 'yes' they do drink alcohol, illustrated by the table on the following page which shows the breakdown of this question by age group. The table also indicates comparable results to other research projects in so far as the likelihood for drinking alcohol increases dramatically between the ages of 12 and 13, then gradually increases year on year until the age of 18 when buying alcohol becomes legal. However, in terms of the trend in Hull compared to elsewhere, the proportion of young people aged 13 and under who seem to be more likely to drink alcohol here, is more in line with the high side of average for a

similar age group nationally, although in fairness, numbers of respondents interviewed in this age group was small.

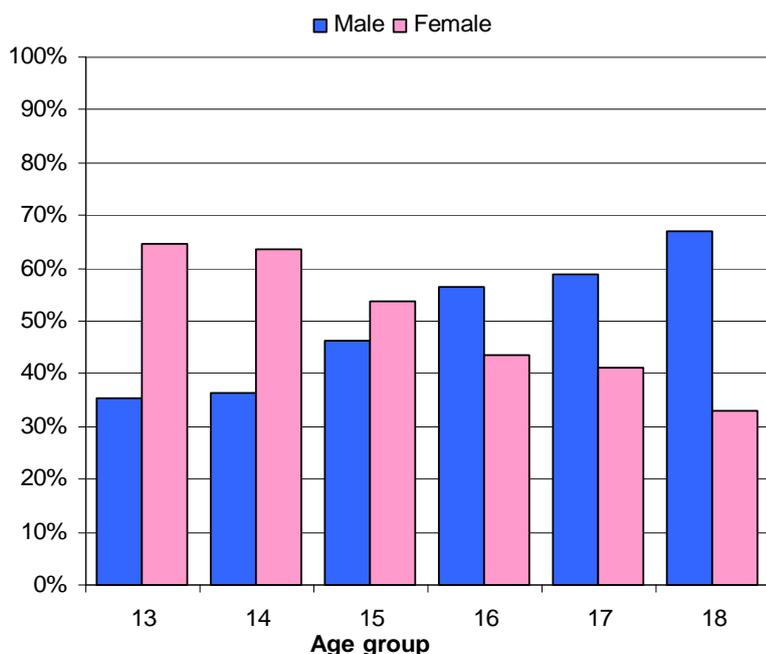
A closer look at the age groups reveals around 79% of under 18s say they drink alcohol. This proportion increases slightly to 82% for the 14 to 17 year old age group.

Do you drink alcohol?			
Age	Yes	No	Total
12 and under	2	6	8
	25.00%	75.00%	
13	22	15	37
	59.50%	40.50%	
14	78	35	113
	69.00%	31.00%	
15	146	30	176
	83.00%	17.00%	
16	93	14	107
	86.90%	13.10%	
17	35	3	38
	92.10%	7.90%	
18	30	1	31
	96.80%	3.20%	
19	28	1	29
	96.60%	3.40%	
20	18	-	18
	100.00%	-	
21	8	-	8
	100.00%	-	
22 to 25	26	1	27
	96.30%	3.70%	
Unknown	72	9	81
	88.90%	11.10%	
Total	558	115	673
%	83%	17%	100%



When including the gender variable, where the actual responses have been *weighted* to represent the proportion of young people in Hull, the differences in alcohol consumption habits between the sexes become more apparent.

The graph below left compares by gender, the proportion of young people who drink alcohol within age groups 13 to 18 (e.g. each set of bars per age group will add up to 100%).



What this chart clearly shows is that at the ages of 13 or 14 the proportion of girls drinking alcohol is almost double that of boys of the same age. As teenagers grow up, this trend begins to change and at around age 15 or 16 the proportion of young people drinking of either gender is more or less equal. By the time these adolescents reach ages 17 or 18 their habits have changed and the proportion has completely reversed signifying a more likely trend for boys to consume alcohol than girls. This could reinforce the general belief that girls mature ahead of boys, or at the very least prefer to mimic adult behaviour at an earlier age, also preferring to spend time with boys older than themselves who are also more likely to be consuming alcohol in any case.

This anomaly between the sexes around the age at which they are more likely to

start consuming alcohol also raises a question about how and when targeting education and interventions would be most effective. What would work for a 10 or 11 year old girl would not necessarily have the same impact for a 13 or 14 year old boy.

AUDIT questions

According to guidelines for use of the AUDIT published by the WHO (World Health Organisation), this method of quickly and effectively identifying those with an alcohol problem, has been successfully evaluated over the last two decades by a number of different organisations and found to provide an accurate and reliable measure of risk across gender age and culture, especially when used within a surgery environment. The AUDIT is divided into 3 sections; 3 questions on alcohol consumption (maximum score 12), 3 questions on drinking behaviour and dependence (maximum score 12) and 4 questions around the problems or consequences related to drinking alcohol (maximum score 16). Identification of risk is therefore based on the total score out of a possible maximum of 40 (a higher score is indicative of increased risk of harm). The cut off point for a score of hazardous or harmful drinking habits in the adult population is generally accepted at about 7 or 8 for adult males and 7 for women. In terms of young people, bearing in mind the likely increased risk of harm that alcohol has on maturing teenagers, the cut off point is probably lower. However, as there is no known evaluation research available which can definitively justify this hypothesis the results are based on the accepted levels for adults.

Scoring the AUDIT has in itself been the subject of numerous global evaluations. It is not however, the remit of this report to appraise the method of the scoring system in any way, but by utilising existing sources of information relating to the AUDIT and adapting where appropriate for the particular target audience in question i.e. young people, it is hoped fairly reasonable inferences can be drawn about their harmful or hazardous drinking habits

Consumption Score

The consumption score is derived from a choice of 5 responses, from each of 3 questions with a maximum score of 12 in total and aims to indicate the level of hazardous alcohol usage. The first question asked ‘**how often do you drink?**’ and the following frequency table indicates responses from those questioned aged 25 and under by age group based on 483 responses (the scores are shown in brackets):

	Base	Monthly or less (1)	Up to 2 to 4 times a month (2)	Up to 2 to 3 times a week (3)	Up to 4 or more times a week (4)
Base	483	110 22.80%	189 39.10%	147 30.40%	37 7.70%
Age					
12 and under	2	1 50.00%	1 50.00%	- -	- -
13	22	8 36.40%	10 45.50%	2 9.10%	2 9.10%
14	75	25 33.30%	32 42.70%	18 24.00%	- -
15	146	32 21.90%	66 45.20%	42 28.80%	6 4.10%
16	93	23 24.70%	36 38.70%	25 26.90%	9 9.70%
17	35	10 28.60%	6 17.10%	15 42.90%	4 11.40%
18	30	2 6.70%	11 36.70%	12 40.00%	5 16.70%
19	28	1 3.60%	10 35.70%	13 46.40%	4 14.30%
20	18	1 5.60%	8 44.40%	8 44.40%	1 5.60%
21	8	1 12.50%	3 37.50%	3 37.50%	1 12.50%
22 to 25	26	6 23.10%	6 23.10%	9 34.60%	5 19.20%

Overall, approximately 60% of young people stated they drink alcohol less than 4 times a month and only 8% admitted a drinking habit of more than 3 times a week.

The data suggests a strong relationship between age and frequency of alcohol consumption showing that levels of consumption probably increases with age. There is also an association between gender and frequency of drinking, where young males consume alcohol more regularly than females, but the connection is not to the same extent as to age.

Question number 2 asked ‘**how many drinks containing alcohol do you have on a typical day when you are drinking?**’ This frequency table examines responses from all young people aged 25 and under by age group based on 485 responses (the scores are again shown in brackets).

	Base	1 or 2 (0)	3 or 4 (1)	5 or 6 (2)	7, 8 or 9 (3)	10 or more (4)
Base	485	31 6.40%	105 21.60%	156 32.20%	120 24.70%	73 15.10%
Age						
12 and under	2	-	-	2 100.00%	-	-
13	22	2 9.10%	7 31.80%	7 31.80%	4 18.20%	2 9.10%
14	77	10 13.00%	23 29.90%	26 33.80%	12 15.60%	6 0.078
15	146	7 4.80%	31 21.20%	47 32.20%	40 27.40%	21 14.40%
16	93	4 4.30%	20 21.50%	30 32.30%	28 30.10%	11 11.80%
17	35	4 11.40%	6 17.10%	10 28.60%	6 17.10%	9 25.70%
18	30	2 6.70%	6 20.00%	7 23.30%	10 33.30%	5 16.70%
19	28	-	4 14.30%	9 32.10%	7 25.00%	8 28.60%
20	18	1 5.60%	2 11.10%	7 38.90%	6 33.30%	2 11.10%
21	8	-	1 12.50%	5 62.50%	1 12.50%	1 12.50%
22 to 25	26	1 3.80%	5 19.20%	6 23.10%	6 23.10%	8 30.80%

The table shows that overall when young people are drinking, approximately 70% of them are likely to consume from 5 or 6 units of alcohol in a single day. Furthermore almost 40% of these young respondents indicate they consume even greater amounts, of 7 or more alcoholic drinks in a typical day when they are drinking. Seven alcoholic drinks equates to between 7 and 14 units depending on the type of drink consumed i.e. 1 bottle of wine = 9 units.

At age 15, almost three-quarters of respondents suggest they may consume more than 5 alcoholic drinks in a single session, an average of about 8 units of alcohol.

In general terms, the amount of alcohol consumed increases with age and continues to increase until the maximum age on which this study is based. The data does not indicate any particular relationship between the amount consumed and gender.

The final question relating to the consumption score (question 3) asked ‘**how often do you have 6 or more drinks on one occasion?**’ The following frequency table shows responses from young people aged 25 and under, again by age group based on 484 responses:

	Base	never (0)	less than monthly (1)	monthly (2)	weekly (3)	daily or almost daily (4)
Base	484	68 14.00%	105 21.70%	134 27.70%	166 34.30%	11 2.30%
Age						
12 and under	2	-	1 50.00%	1 50.00%	-	-
13	22	8 36.40%	3 13.60%	4 18.20%	5 22.70%	2 9.10%
14	77	21 27.30%	19 24.70%	19 24.70%	18 23.40%	-
15	145	14 9.70%	40 27.60%	46 31.70%	41 28.30%	4 2.80%
16	93	17 18.30%	17 18.30%	24 25.80%	32 34.40%	3 3.20%
17	35	2 5.70%	9 25.70%	7 20.00%	17 48.60%	-
18	30	1 3.30%	5 16.70%	10 33.30%	13 43.30%	1 3.30%
19	28	-	4 14.30%	8 28.60%	16 57.10%	-
20	18	2 11.10%	2 11.10%	5 27.80%	9 50.00%	-
21	8	1 12.50%	-	3 37.50%	4 50.00%	-
22 to 25	26	2 7.70%	5 19.20%	7 26.90%	11 42.30%	1 3.80%

This table shows that overall more than a third of respondents suggest they consume 6 or more alcoholic drinks on any one occasion; 22% of those questioned would expect to consume this volume on less than a monthly basis; and only 14% of respondents overall would never consume this amount (significantly higher in the under 14 age group). Very few respondents of any age group suggest they consume this amount on a daily or almost daily basis, although the survey suggests that a worrying number of teenagers have implied this is the case.

The following table illustrates the individual consumption score counts and percentages by age group of those questioned who stated they were aged 25 and under:

		SCORE													
	Base	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
Base	485	2	11	30	48	48	43	70	47	54	79	37	9	7	
		0.40%	2.30%	6.20%	9.90%	9.90%	8.90%	14.40%	9.70%	11.10%	16.30%	7.60%	1.90%	1.40%	
Age															
12 and under	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		-	-	-	-	50.00%	-	50.00%	-	-	-	-	-	-	
13	22	-	1	4	4	1	2	2	3	2	1	-	-	2	
		-	4.50%	18.20%	18.20%	4.50%	9.10%	9.10%	13.60%	9.10%	4.50%	-	-	9.10%	
14	77	2	4	10	12	9	4	10	6	10	9	1	-	-	
		2.60%	5.20%	13.00%	15.60%	11.70%	5.20%	13.00%	7.80%	13.00%	11.70%	1.30%	-	-	
15	146	-	2	7	13	18	15	25	15	15	26	7	2	1	
		-	1.40%	4.80%	8.90%	12.30%	10.30%	17.10%	10.30%	10.30%	17.80%	4.80%	1.40%	0.70%	
16	93	-	2	6	10	10	8	12	9	10	14	9	1	2	
		-	2.20%	6.50%	10.80%	10.80%	8.60%	12.90%	9.70%	10.80%	15.10%	9.70%	1.10%	2.20%	
17	35	-	1	1	3	3	5	3	2	3	6	6	2	-	
		-	2.90%	2.90%	8.60%	8.60%	14.30%	8.60%	5.70%	8.60%	17.10%	17.10%	5.70%	-	
18	30	-	-	-	3	1	3	6	2	4	6	2	2	1	
		-	-	-	10.00%	3.30%	10.00%	20.00%	6.70%	13.30%	20.00%	6.70%	6.70%	3.30%	
19	28	-	-	-	-	1	3	4	5	2	6	6	1	-	
		-	-	-	-	3.60%	10.70%	14.30%	17.90%	7.10%	21.40%	21.40%	3.60%	-	
20	18	-	-	1	1	1	1	5	-	1	6	2	-	-	
		-	-	5.60%	5.60%	5.60%	5.60%	27.80%	-	5.60%	33.30%	11.10%	-	-	
21	8	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	4	1	-	-	-	
		-	-	12.50%	-	-	-	12.50%	12.50%	50.00%	12.50%	-	-	-	
22 to 25	26	-	1	-	2	3	2	1	4	3	4	4	1	1	
		-	3.80%	-	7.70%	11.50%	7.70%	3.80%	15.40%	11.50%	15.40%	15.40%	3.80%	3.80%	

The median average consumption score for young people up to age 25 was 6 and the most frequent score was 9. In terms of young people under the age of 18, the average score was again 6 and the most frequent score was also 6. In terms of gender, the median average score for males was 7 and for females it was 6.

Out of the 485 respondents analysed in this table 62% of young people scored 6 or more on the hazardous consumption section alone. Severity of risk in terms of the consumption score is not only based on the total, but some individual questions are more of an indicator than others to indicate consumption at a hazardous level. i.e. a score of 1 or more on questions 2 or 3. This infers that the 95% of young respondents who scored at least 1 on either of these questions could be consuming alcohol at a harmful level.

Dependence Score

The dependence score is derived from a choice of responses, again from each of 3 questions; with a maximum score of 12 (a higher score denotes a greater dependence on alcohol). In addition to the total AUDIT score, a secondary 'dependence' score of 4 or more as a sub total of these questions in itself suggests the possibility of an alcohol dependent habit. According to the WHO guidance, any points scored above 0 on the following questions 4 to 6 (especially weekly or daily symptoms) imply the presence or beginnings of alcohol dependence.

The fourth question asked '**how often during the last year have you found that you were unable to stop drinking once you had started?**' The frequency table on the following page indicates responses from those questioned aged 25 and under by age group based on 485 responses (the scores are shown in brackets).

The table shows that although in total almost 60% of young people have **never** been unable to stop drinking once started, just over 40% of respondents aged 25 or under scored 1 or more on this question. About 16% scored higher at 3 or above, which implies that stopping drinking once started has become a problem on a weekly or daily basis in the last year for some. A closer look at respondents aged 15 to 17 reveals an even higher percentage of almost 20% who say they feel the urge to continue drinking once started on a weekly or daily basis. The table also shows in answer to this particular question, that young people aged 20 and over seem to exert more control over this type of drinking habit. The data indicates the likelihood of this type of dependence to increase from age 16 up to 19 years, at which time the tendency begins to decline.

	Base	never (0)	less than monthly (1)	monthly (2)	weekly (3)	daily or almost daily (4)
Base	485	280 57.70%	67 13.80%	59 12.20%	76 15.70%	3 0.60%
Age						
12 and under	2	2 100.00%	-	-	-	-
13	22	14 63.60%	2 9.10%	3 13.60%	3 13.60%	-
14	77	51 66.20%	7 9.10%	12 15.60%	7 9.10%	-
15	146	89 61.00%	17 11.60%	15 10.30%	24 16.40%	1 0.70%
16	93	45 48.40%	20 21.50%	8 8.60%	20 21.50%	-
17	35	20 57.10%	5 14.30%	3 8.60%	7 20.00%	-
18	30	18 60.00%	2 6.70%	3 10.00%	6 20.00%	1 3.30%
19	28	14 50.00%	3 10.70%	7 25.00%	3 10.70%	1 3.60%
20	18	7 38.90%	4 22.20%	3 16.70%	4 22.20%	-
21	8	4 50.00%	1 12.50%	3 37.50%	-	-
22 to 25	26	16 61.50%	6 23.10%	2 7.70%	2 7.70%	-

Gender also plays a part in the probability of scoring higher on this question. Young males are more likely to convey a lack of control over when to stop drinking alcohol than females of the same age.

The fifth question relating to 'dependence' (question 5) asks 'how often during the last year have you failed to do what is expected from you because of drinking?'

Based on 483 replies from young people aged 25 and under, the following frequency table shows responses by age group (scores are in brackets):

	Base	never (0)	less than monthly (1)	monthly (2)	weekly (3)	daily or almost daily (4)
Base	483	278 57.60%	85 17.60%	62 12.80%	53 11.00%	5 1.00%
Age						
12 and under	2	1 50.00%	-	1 50.00%	-	-
13	22	15 68.20%	1 4.50%	1 4.50%	4 18.20%	1 4.50%
14	76	58 76.30%	10 13.20%	5 6.60%	3 3.90%	-
15	146	89 61.00%	20 13.70%	20 13.70%	16 11.00%	1 0.70%
16	93	47 50.50%	18 19.40%	14 15.10%	13 14.00%	1 1.10%
17	35	16 45.70%	11 31.40%	2 5.70%	5 14.30%	1 2.90%
18	29	14 48.30%	4 13.80%	7 24.10%	3 10.30%	1 3.40%
19	28	12 42.90%	9 32.10%	4 14.30%	3 10.70%	-
20	18	7 38.90%	5 27.80%	3 16.70%	3 16.70%	-
21	8	2 25.00%	2 25.00%	3 37.50%	1 12.50%	-
22 to 25	26	17 65.40%	5 19.20%	2 7.70%	2 7.70%	-

The majority of young people said on no occasion in the last year have they failed to do what was expected of them because of drinking.

Approximately 42% of respondents however, indicated the opposite and 12% implied this type of situation occurs on a weekly basis at least.

The data also supports a statistical relationship in terms of gender and positive responses to this question, where young women or girls are more likely to state 'never' than males. This is even more noticeable in the 14 to 17 age bracket, where 66% of young girls compared to only 51% of young men stated they had never failed to do what was expected of them because of drinking.

The final question (question 6) in the dependence scoring section asks ‘**how often during the last year have you needed a first drink in the morning to get yourself going after a heavy drinking session?**’

This next frequency table is based on 481 responses from young people stating they drink alcohol aged 25 and under:

	Base	never (0)	less than monthly (1)	monthly (2)	weekly (3)	daily or almost daily (4)
Base	481	414 86.10%	37 7.70%	13 2.70%	11 2.30%	6 1.20%
Age						
12 and under	2	2 100.00%	-	-	-	-
13	21	21 100.00%	-	-	-	-
14	77	68 88.30%	4 5.20%	3 3.90%	2 2.60%	-
15	144	121 84.00%	8 5.60%	7 4.90%	5 3.50%	3 2.10%
16	93	79 84.90%	11 11.80%	1 1.10%	1 1.10%	1 1.10%
17	34	29 85.30%	4 11.80%	1 2.90%	-	-
18	30	25 83.30%	2 6.70%	-	1 3.30%	2 6.70%
19	28	24 85.70%	4 14.30%	-	-	-
20	18	15 83.30%	2 11.10%	1 5.60%	-	-
21	8	8 100.00%	-	-	-	-
22 to 25	26	22 84.60%	2 7.70%	-	2 7.70%	-

The overwhelming majority (86%) of respondents said they ‘never’ need a drink to start the day after a heavy alcohol session, although a significant proportion of 15 and 16 year olds **have** suggested they need a drink in the morning to get going on a fairly regular basis.

The data suggests that the general trend of ‘not needing a drink’ is not affected particularly by gender or age.

The following table illustrates the individual dependence score counts and percentages by age group of those questioned who stated they were aged 25 and under:

		DEPENDENCE SCORE												
	Base	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Base	484	216 44.60%	48 9.90%	64 13.20%	51 10.50%	39 8.10%	17 3.50%	27 5.60%	13 2.70%	6 1.20%	5 1.00%	2 0.40%	-	-
Age														
12 and under	2	1 50.00%	-	1 50.00%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
13	22	11 50.00%	3 13.60%	1 4.50%	2 9.10%	1 4.50%	2 9.10%	2 9.10%	-	-	-	-	-	-
14	77	48 62.30%	3 3.90%	9 11.70%	5 6.50%	7 9.10%	1 1.30%	2 2.60%	1 1.30%	-	1 1.30%	-	-	-
15	145	70 48.30%	12 8.30%	16 11.00%	13 9.00%	8 5.50%	5 3.40%	12 8.30%	3 2.10%	3 2.10%	3 2.10%	-	-	-
16	93	33 35.50%	10 10.80%	17 18.30%	14 15.10%	7 7.50%	3 3.20%	4 4.30%	5 5.40%	1 1.10%	-	1 1.10%	-	-
17	35	13 37.10%	5 14.30%	5 14.30%	4 11.40%	3 8.60%	-	3 8.60%	1 2.90%	1 2.90%	-	-	-	-
18	30	14 46.70%	2 6.70%	3 10.00%	3 10.00%	3 10.00%	2 6.70%	2 6.70%	2 6.70%	-	-	1 3.30%	-	-
19	28	9 32.10%	4 14.30%	3 10.70%	4 14.30%	4 14.30%	3 10.70%	-	1 3.60%	-	-	-	-	-
20	18	3 16.70%	5 27.80%	3 16.70%	1 5.60%	3 16.70%	-	2 11.10%	-	1 5.60%	-	-	-	-
21	8	2 25.00%	1 12.50%	-	3 37.50%	2 25.00%	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
22 to 25	26	12 46.20%	3 11.50%	6 23.10%	2 7.70%	1 3.80%	1 3.80%	-	-	-	1 3.80%	-	-	-

The median average score on the dependence matrix was 1 and the most frequent score was 0; the maximum total score was 10 out of a possible 12. In terms of gender, the median average score for males was 2 and for females, it was 1.

Overall, approximately 45% of young people scored zero on the dependence section of the AUDIT, but just over 22% scored 4 or above which suggests a more serious alcohol dependent addiction and most worryingly a significant proportion of these high scorers were aged 17 and under. To health practitioners a score of 4 or above also indicates a need for more serious intervention.

Again, overall and for teenagers less than 18 years of age, those scoring 4 or more were more likely to be male (60%) than female (40%).

Alcohol Related Problem Score

In this section the alcohol related problem score is derived from 4 questions (7 to 10); the first 2 questions (7 & 8) offer a choice of 5 responses (scores 0 to 4) and the final 2 questions (9 & 10) require a choice from 3 possible answers (scores 0, 2 and 4) with a maximum possible score of 16. Any score from these questions indicates that alcohol related harm is already being experienced.

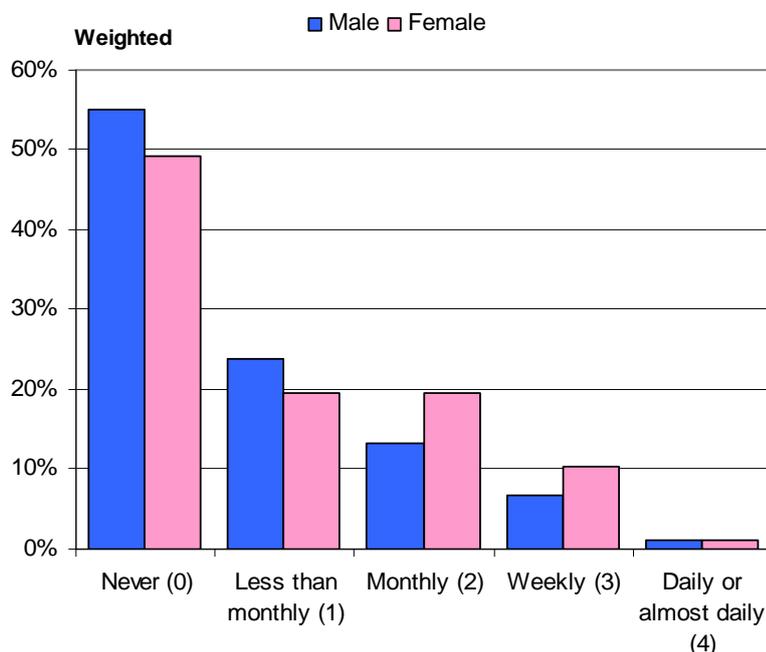
The seventh question asked ‘**how often during the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking?**’

This next frequency table is based on the responses from 484 young people aged 25 and under:

	Base	never (0)	less than monthly (1)	monthly (2)	weekly (3)	daily or almost daily (4)
Base	484	249 51.40%	105 21.70%	82 16.90%	43 8.90%	5 1.00%
Age						
12 and under	2	-	1 50.00%	1 50.00%	-	-
13	21	10 47.60%	2 9.50%	5 23.80%	3 14.30%	1 4.80%
14	77	48 62.30%	14 18.20%	11 14.30%	4 5.20%	-
15	146	66 45.20%	29 19.90%	31 21.20%	17 11.60%	3 2.10%
16	93	48 51.60%	21 22.60%	11 11.80%	12 12.90%	1 1.10%
17	35	20 57.10%	8 22.90%	6 17.10%	1 2.90%	-
18	30	19 63.30%	4 13.30%	4 13.30%	3 10.00%	-
19	28	13 46.40%	8 28.60%	6 21.40%	1 3.60%	-
20	18	6 33.30%	8 44.40%	2 11.10%	2 11.10%	-
21	8	1 12.50%	6 75.00%	1 12.50%	-	-
22 to 25	26	18 69.20%	4 15.40%	4 15.40%	-	-

Over half of young people responding to this question indicate they have not had any guilty feelings after drinking within the last year. However, 28% of teenagers aged between 14 and 17 inferred that on a monthly, weekly or daily basis, they **have** felt remorseful after consuming alcohol (score 2 or above). The data suggests that young people aged 18 or above have fewer feelings of guilt than young teenagers after drinking.

This question around guilt is not tied into a question of quantity. It is possible that young teenagers may feel more remorseful for any number of reasons about drinking than young people who are above the legal age limit to consume alcohol, in which case there needs to be a degree of caution in interpreting this variable.



In terms of gender the graph below left shows the proportion of males to females by response to this question about guilt. Although statistically there is no apparent relationship between gender and whether there are any feelings of guilt, the graph does indicate that young women or girls are likely to feel remorse more often than young males.

The next question (8) asked ‘**how often during the last year have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?**’ This question is indicative of binge drinking and consuming sufficient amounts of alcohol to cause memory loss. The frequency table below is based on 481 responses from young people aged 25 and under:

	Base	never (0)	less than monthly (1)	monthly (2)	weekly (3)	daily or almost daily (4)
Base	481	177 36.80%	117 24.30%	109 22.70%	68 14.10%	10 2.10%
Age						
12 and under	2	-	1 50.00%	1 50.00%	-	-
13	21	9 42.90%	3 14.30%	3 14.30%	4 19.00%	2 9.50%
14	77	39 50.60%	15 19.50%	18 23.40%	5 6.50%	-
15	144	53 36.80%	27 18.80%	31 21.50%	29 20.10%	4 2.80%
16	93	35 37.60%	28 30.10%	15 16.10%	13 14.00%	2 2.20%
17	34	8 23.50%	9 26.50%	11 32.40%	6 17.60%	-
18	30	7 23.30%	11 36.70%	8 26.70%	4 13.30%	-
19	28	8 28.60%	9 32.10%	6 21.40%	4 14.30%	1 3.60%
20	18	6 33.30%	7 38.90%	4 22.20%	1 5.60%	-
21	8	2 25.00%	3 37.50%	3 37.50%	-	-
22 to 25	26	10 38.50%	4 15.40%	9 34.60%	2 7.70%	1 3.80%

Fewer young people scored 0 on this question than the last but 37% of respondents reporting that during the last year there had never been any occasions where they had been unable to recall events of the night before because of drinking.

Although very few 12 and 13 year olds took part in the survey, of those who did, almost two-thirds suggest they have been so drunk they’ve lost their memory. This situation is more or less mirrored in the proportion of teenagers aged 15 to 17 which suggest a similar scenario, but for young people above the legal age to consume alcohol, this figure increases to 70%.

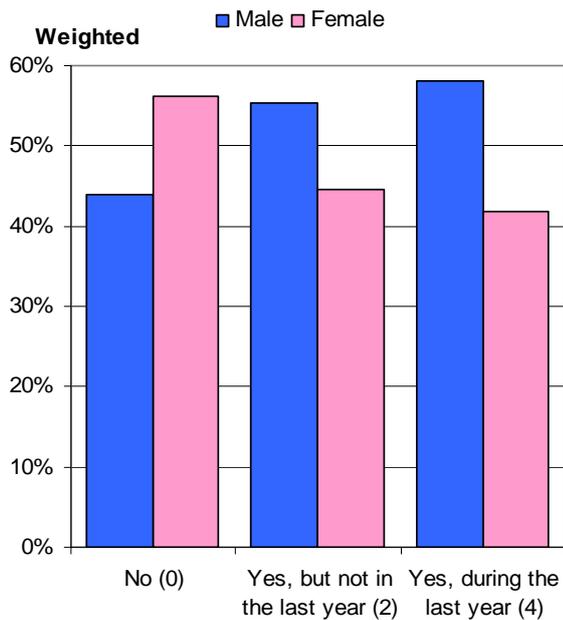
The data does not suggest any significant differences around this question in relation to gender.

The responses to this question alone are sufficient to justify current concerns about young people and binge drinking.

The penultimate question (9) offered 3 possible responses and asked ‘**have you or someone else been injured as a result of your drinking?**’ This next frequency table shows responses from 482 young people aged 25 and under:

	Base	No (0)	Yes, but not in the last year (2)	Yes, during the last year (4)
Base	482	260 53.90%	49 10.20%	173 35.90%
Age				
12 and under	2	-	-	2 100.00%
13	22	14 63.60%	1 4.50%	7 31.80%
14	76	47 61.80%	7 9.20%	22 28.90%
15	146	72 49.30%	13 8.90%	61 41.80%
16	93	52 55.90%	11 11.80%	30 32.30%
17	35	14 40.00%	7 20.00%	14 40.00%
18	29	17 58.60%	1 3.40%	11 37.90%
19	27	11 40.70%	3 11.10%	13 48.10%
20	18	8 44.40%	4 22.20%	6 33.30%
21	8	6 75.00%	-	2 25.00%
22 to 25	26	19 73.10%	2 7.70%	5 19.20%

Almost half of young people questioned indicated that they or someone else had been injured as a result of their drinking, and over a third suggested this had happened within the last year. This particular trend is more or less reflected across the age groups from 15 to 20, at which point the tendency seems to decline.



The graph on the left illustrates the statistical relationship between gender and response, where young males are more likely to be at risk of injury to them or to those around them than young women or girls, regardless of age.

The final question (10) asked ‘has a relative or friend or a doctor or another health worker been concerned about your drinking or suggested you cut down?’ with a choice of one out of 3 responses (scores are shown in brackets). The following frequency table is based on 478 replies from young people aged 25 and under:

	Base	No (0)	Yes, but not in the last year (2)	Yes, during the last year (4)
Base	478	341 71.30%	32 6.70%	105 22.00%
Age				
12 and under	2	-	-	2 100.00%
13	22	16 72.70%	1 4.50%	5 22.70%
14	74	59 79.70%	4 5.40%	11 14.90%
15	145	100 69.00%	11 7.60%	34 23.40%
16	91	55 60.40%	6 6.60%	30 33.00%
17	35	29 82.90%	2 5.70%	4 11.40%
18	30	24 80.00%	2 6.70%	4 13.30%
19	28	16 57.10%	2 7.10%	10 35.70%
20	18	14 77.80%	3 16.70%	1 5.60%
21	8	7 87.50%	-	1 12.50%
22 to 25	25	21 84.00%	1 4.00%	3 12.00%

Just over 70% of young people have not had concern raised with them about their drinking habits.

However, a significant proportion of 15 and 16 year olds have suggested ‘yes’, someone has been uneasy about their drinking, especially during the last year.

To what extent the worry is related to age, is unfortunately beyond the scope of this question although respondents suggest there is by and large less concern once they have reached the legal age limit for alcohol consumption.

Increased anxiousness about drinking levels for youngsters by other people is statistically more in evidence among young males than females in general, but concern is greatest for boys aged 16 and young women aged 19.

The table on the next page shows the individual alcohol related problem score counts and percentages by age group of those questioned who stated they were aged 25 and under:

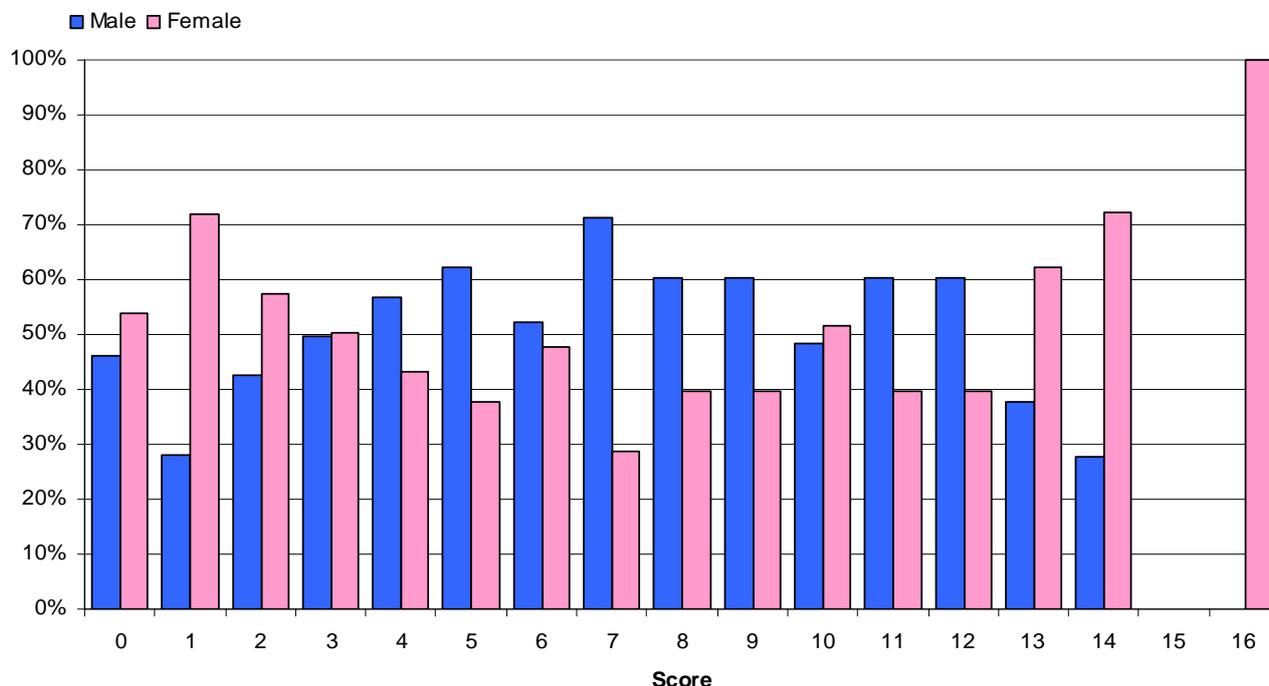
		ALCOHOL RELATED PROBLEM SCORE																	
	Base	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
Base	484	97	44	53	28	45	24	38	33	35	9	21	15	16	7	17	-	2	
		20.00%	9.10%	11.00%	5.80%	9.30%	5.00%	7.90%	6.80%	7.20%	1.90%	4.30%	3.10%	3.30%	1.40%	3.50%	-	0.40%	
Age																			
12 and under	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	
		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00%	-	50.00%	-	-	-	-	
13	22	6	1	3	1	3	-	2	1	-	-	-	1	2	-	1	-	1	
		27.30%	4.50%	13.60%	4.50%	13.60%	-	9.10%	4.50%	-	-	-	4.50%	9.10%	-	4.50%	-	4.50%	
14	77	25	7	7	4	9	3	4	4	7	-	2	-	1	-	4	-	-	
		32.50%	9.10%	9.10%	5.20%	11.70%	3.90%	5.20%	5.20%	9.10%	-	2.60%	-	1.30%	-	5.20%	-	-	
15	146	24	13	17	5	11	6	13	10	17	4	7	5	3	3	7	-	1	
		16.40%	8.90%	11.60%	3.40%	7.50%	4.10%	8.90%	6.80%	11.60%	2.70%	4.80%	3.40%	2.10%	2.10%	4.80%	-	0.70%	
16	93	21	9	8	4	5	5	7	8	5	1	6	5	5	1	3	-	-	
		22.60%	9.70%	8.60%	4.30%	5.40%	5.40%	7.50%	8.60%	5.40%	1.10%	6.50%	5.40%	5.40%	1.10%	3.20%	-	-	
17	35	4	1	4	5	6	1	4	3	4	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	
		11.40%	2.90%	11.40%	14.30%	17.10%	2.90%	11.40%	8.60%	11.40%	-	-	5.70%	-	2.90%	-	-	-	
18	29	4	6	1	2	5	1	4	1	1	1	-	1	-	-	2	-	-	
		13.80%	20.70%	3.40%	6.90%	17.20%	3.40%	13.80%	3.40%	3.40%	3.40%	-	3.40%	-	-	6.90%	-	-	
19	28	4	3	2	-	2	4	1	2	-	3	2	1	3	1	-	-	-	
		14.30%	10.70%	7.10%	-	7.10%	14.30%	3.60%	7.10%	-	10.70%	7.10%	3.60%	10.70%	3.60%	-	-	-	
20	18	1	3	4	-	2	2	2	2	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	
		5.60%	16.70%	22.20%	-	11.10%	11.10%	11.10%	11.10%	-	-	5.60%	-	-	5.60%	-	-	-	
21	8	1	-	2	3	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	
		12.50%	-	25.00%	37.50%	-	-	12.50%	-	-	-	12.50%	-	-	-	-	-	-	
22 to 25	26	7	1	5	4	2	2	-	2	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	
		26.90%	3.80%	19.20%	15.40%	7.70%	7.70%	-	7.70%	3.80%	-	3.80%	-	3.80%	-	-	-	-	

As mentioned at the beginning of this section any points scored on this element of the AUDIT implies that alcohol-related harm is probably already being experienced.

The median average score for the alcohol related problem matrix was 4 and the most frequent score was 0. In terms of gender, the median average score for males was 5 and for females, it was 3.

In total, only 20% of young people under 25 scored '0' on this matrix; 80% scored 1 or more; 25% scored 8 or above. Separating out data for under 18 year olds reveals comparable results and no significant differences to the analysis for young people aged 25 and under as a whole.

The following graph shows the percentage ratio of males/females for each individual alcohol problem score:



This graph appears to show that young women or girls were more likely to demonstrate extreme scores at both the upper and lower ends of the scale than compared to young males.

AUDIT Total Score

Interpretation of the total AUDIT score can be divided into 4 sections. Most commonly the cut-off score (as previously mentioned) is about 7 or 8 for adult males and 7 for females. In all likelihood, when applying interpretation of scores in terms of young people, the cut-off score indicating an alcohol problem should probably be lower, but for the purposes of this report the interpretation is based on an AUDIT questionnaire and scoring method published by the Australian government as follows:

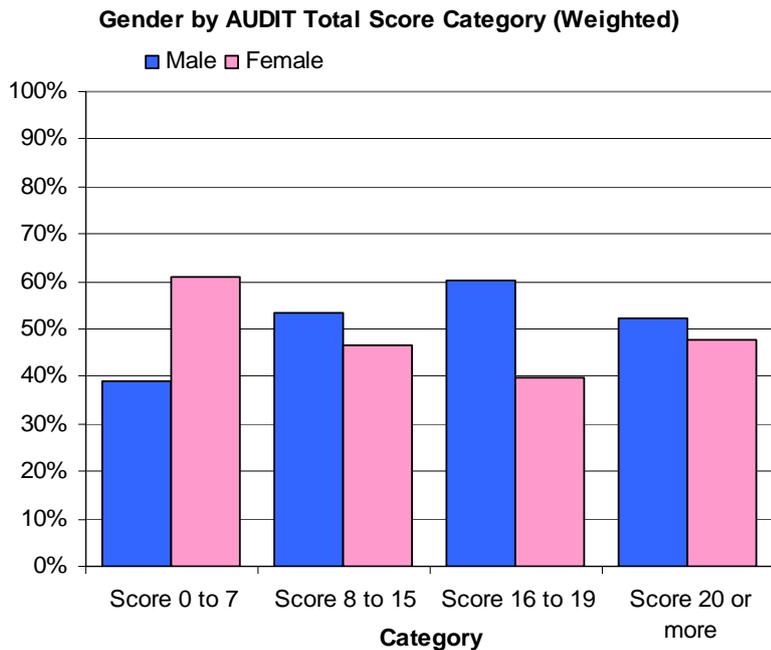
AUDIT total score	Dependence score	Risk level
0 - 7	below 4	Low risk
8 - 15	below 4	Risky or hazardous level. Moderate risk of harm. May include some people currently experiencing harm (especially those who have minimised their reported intake and problems)
	4 or more	Need assessment for dependency
16 -19	below 4	High risk or harmful level Drinking that will eventually result in harm, if not already doing so. May be dependent.
	4 or more	Need assessment for dependency
20 or more	below 4	High risk Definite harm, also likely to be alcohol dependent. Assessment for dependency needed.
	4 or more	Almost certainly dependent. Need assessment for dependency

The median average total score for the AUDIT was 13, equating to an alcohol consumption habit classified as 'risky or hazardous' and the most frequent total score was 15. The maximum score was 32 out of a possible 40. In terms of gender, the median average score for males was 14 and for females it was 11.

This final table shows the total AUDIT score counts and percentages by range and age group for those aged 25 and under:

	Base	Score 0 to 7	Score 8 to 15	Score 16 to 19	Score 20 or more
Base	485	139 28.70%	180 37.10%	69 14.20%	97 20.00%
Age					
12 and under	2	-	1 50.00%	-	1 0.5
13	22	10 45.50%	7 31.80%	-	5 22.70%
14	77	35 45.50%	25 32.50%	8 10.40%	9 0.117
15	146	38 26.00%	52 35.60%	28 19.20%	28 19.20%
16	93	27 29.00%	32 34.40%	11 11.80%	23 24.70%
17	35	5 14.30%	18 51.40%	5 14.30%	7 20.00%
18	30	9 30.00%	9 30.00%	6 20.00%	6 20.00%
19	28	3 10.70%	11 39.30%	4 14.30%	10 35.70%
20	18	3 16.70%	9 50.00%	1 5.60%	5 27.80%
21	8	1 12.50%	5 62.50%	1 12.50%	1 12.50%
22 to 25	26	8 30.80%	11 42.30%	5 19.20%	2 7.70%

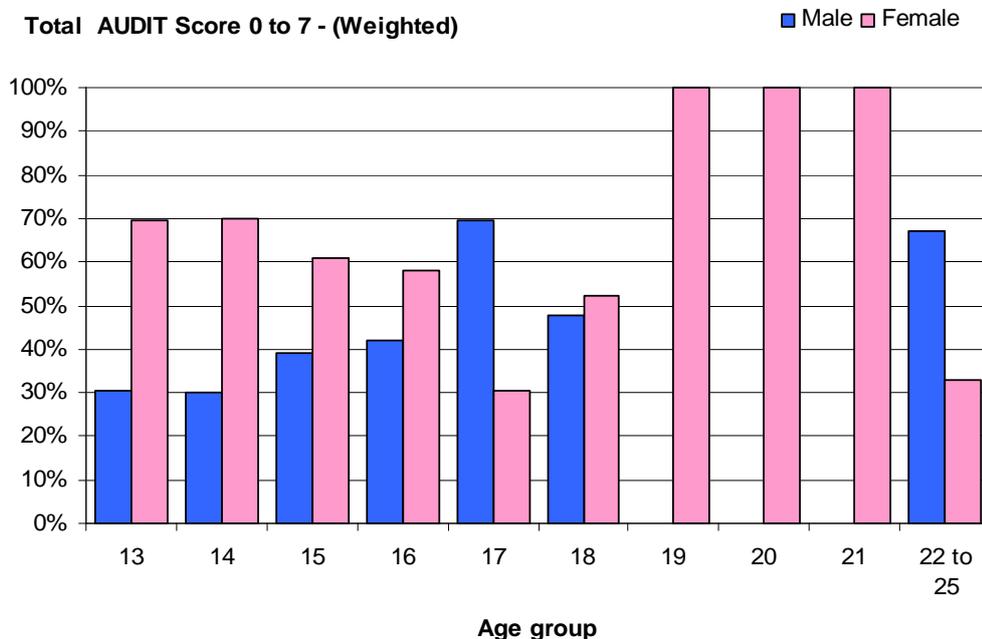
The table shows that just over 70% of young people questioned may have an alcohol consumption habit which at the very least, could be classified as risky or hazardous; and of this 70% or so, about a third scored 4 or above on the 'dependence' matrix.



The male to female ratio by category is shown in the graph on the left which illustrates proportionately, an increased likelihood for young men and boys to score higher than girls or young women.

The proportion of children aged under 18 scoring above 7 (possibly a cut-off set too high for adolescents) was also 70% and of these almost a third had scored 4 or above on the alcohol dependency scale.

Of those in the low risk group scoring between 0 and 7 (139 respondents) and accounting for 29% of the total, just over 60% were young women or girls and slightly fewer than 40% were male. This ratio differs slightly for those aged 14 and under, when girls are even more likely than boys to have scored between 0 and 7. See the graph below for full details of gender ratio by age group for low risk drinkers:

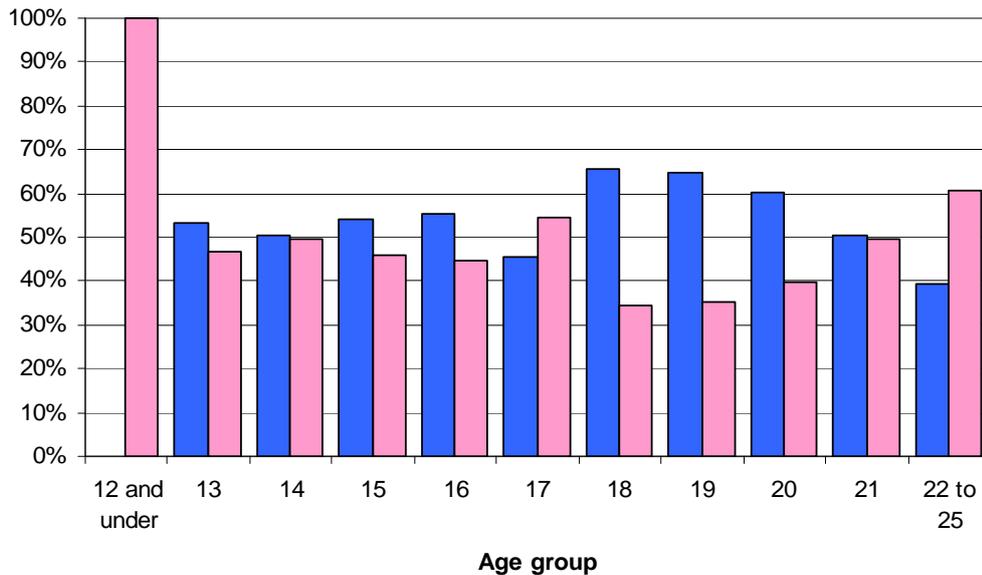


The graph shows that as 100% of respondents aged 19 to 21 scoring between 0 and 7 were female, all males from this age group scored higher at 8 or above. None of the 2 respondents aged 12 fell into the low-risk category.

In the moderate risk group scoring between 8 and 15 in total (180 respondents) representing 37% of the total, the gender ratio is much more equal where about 53% were male and 47% were female. This is a trend reflected across the age groups until age 16 as shown by the following graph:

Total AUDIT Score 8 to 15 - (Weighted)

■ Male ■ Female

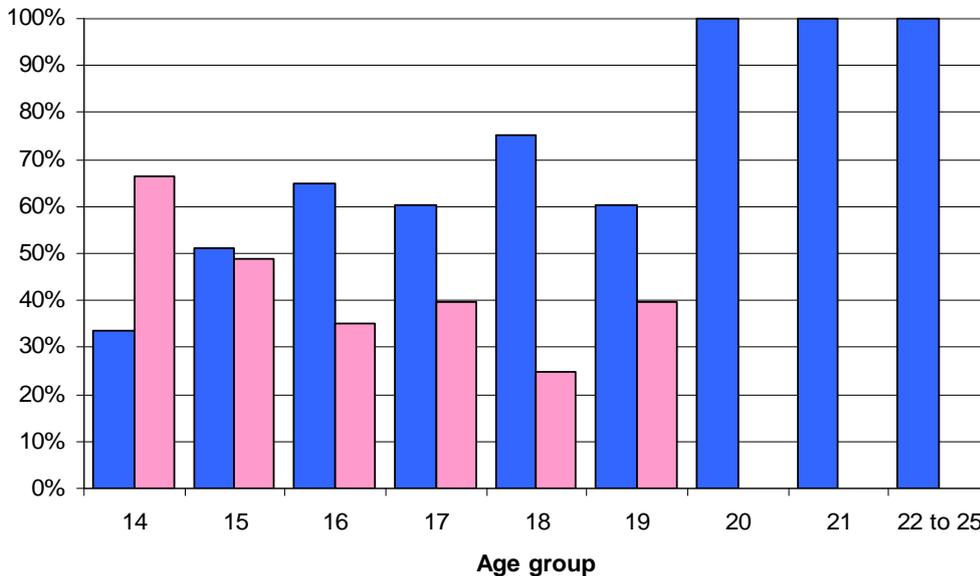


In terms of reliance on alcohol for those falling within this 'risky or hazardous' category, 4% of respondents had scored 4 or above on the dependency matrix (ratio divided equally between males and females).

The high-risk or harmful level of alcohol consumption indicator corresponding to scores of between 16 and 19 was made up from 14% of respondents aged 25 or under (69 young people). Of these the gender ratio was again more distinctive at 60% male to 40% female (weighted data). This is not a trend replicated across age ranges as shown in the graph below:

Total AUDIT Score 16 to 19 - (Weighted)

■ Male ■ Female

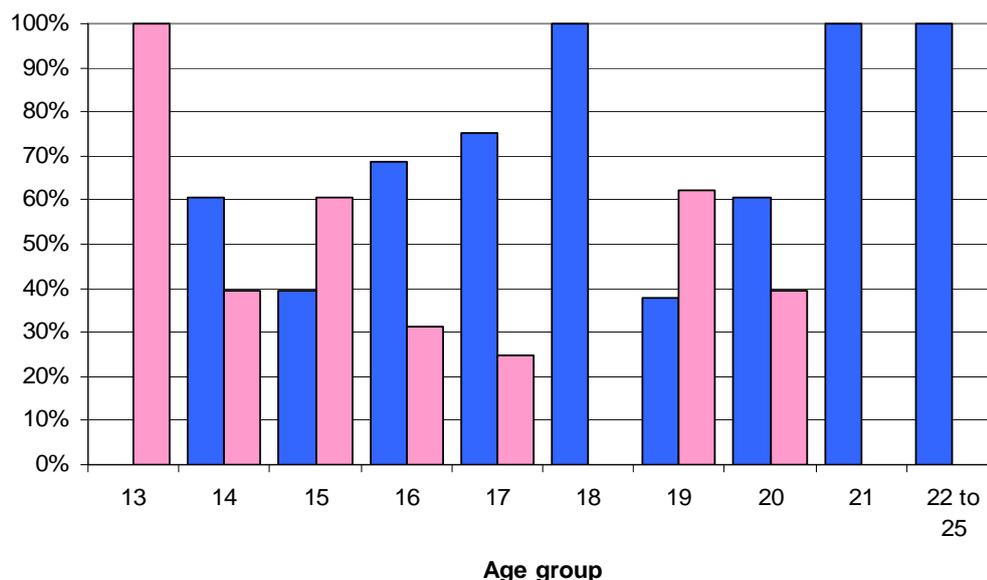


There were no female respondents aged 20 or above who fell into this high-risk or harmful level of drinking category. Out of the 69 respondents falling into this category, a not entirely unexpected increasing proportion of young people (29%) show signs of reliance, scoring 4 or more on the alcohol dependency matrix (also fairly evenly divided between genders).

Interviewees falling in the highest risk category corresponding to AUDIT scores of 20 or more, accounted for 20% or one fifth of the respondents analysed (97 young people aged 25 or under). Of these high risk respondents, 73% had scored 4 or more on the dependency scale. In terms of gender, the male to female ratio was 57% to 43% indicating once again a higher prevalence for males to fall into this greatest at risk of harm category. The graph below illustrates the gender ratio by age group within the AUDIT '20 or over' scoring category:

Total AUDIT Score 20 and over - (Weighted)

■ Male ■ Female



None of the respondents aged 12 years scored 20 or more points and neither did any boys aged 13. There were also no young women aged 18 or over 20 who were categorised in this highest 'at risk' group.

All the gender ratio graphs display proportionate data. Referring to the AUDIT frequency table at the beginning of this section provides cross reference data relating to actual numbers of respondents.

Other Questions...

The following sections of this report focus on a number of additional questions asked of some but not all of the young people who said they drank alcohol, and who completed the AUDIT consultation. In all this involved about 256 teenagers aged 19 or younger.

The first question in this section of the questionnaire asked **where do you drink?** This multiple choice question received 419 responses from 245 respondents as shown in the table below:

	Base	At home	Friend's houses	School/ college	In a park	In a pub
Base	245	122 49.80%	186 75.90%	2 0.80%	89 36.30%	20 8.20%
Age						
12 and under	2	1 50.00%	2 100.00%	-	-	-
13	15	10 66.70%	10 66.70%	-	7 46.70%	2 13.30%
14	64	30 46.90%	49 76.60%	1 1.60%	20 31.30%	2 0.031
15	101	50 49.50%	81 80.20%	1 1.00%	35 34.70%	5 5.00%
16	51	27 52.90%	39 76.50%	-	24 47.10%	8 15.70%
17	8	4 50.00%	4 50.00%	-	3 37.50%	-
18	2	-	-	-	-	2 100.00%
19	2	-	1 50.00%	-	-	1 50.00%

The majority of young people analysed in this question (76%) said they were most likely to drink alcohol when visiting their friend's houses and although the questionnaire doesn't ask, it is probably also likely this happens whilst parents or guardians are out. Half of those questioned consume alcohol at home and over a third said they drink in their local parks.

Only a minority of respondents aged under 18 have stated they drink in pubs. When asked if there was anywhere else they go to drink, a further 20 young people mentioned 'on the streets' and 7 said they drink 'at parties'.

In terms of gender, girls are slightly more likely than boys to drink at friend's houses and boys are more likely to drink in a pub.

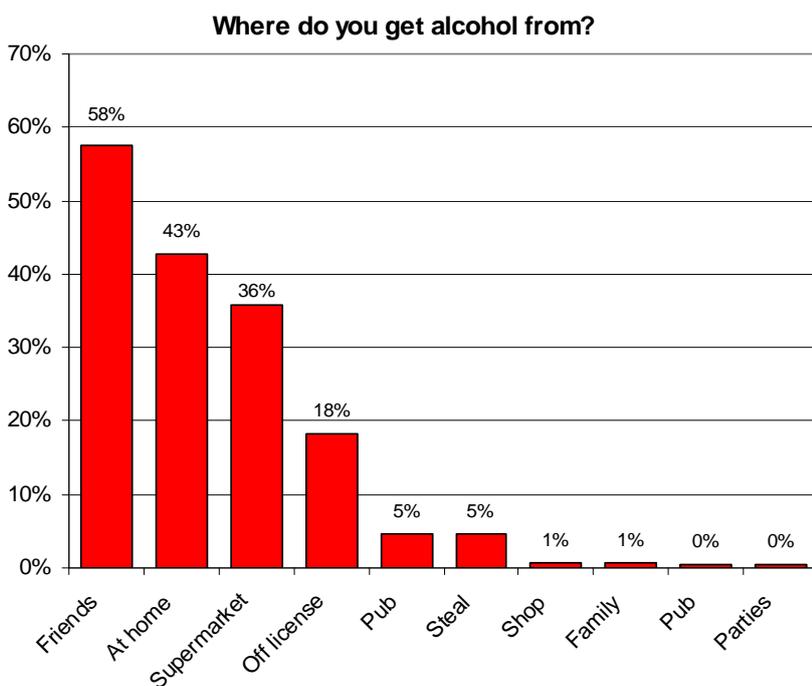
School/College	Students
Malet Lambert	54
Winifred Holtby	24
David Lister	16
Henry Cooper	15
Archbishop Thurston	13
Hull College	8
Newland	8
Beverley High	7
Isaac Newton	6
Wolfeaton	6
Cottingham Hlgh	5
Kingswood	4
Hessle High	3
Pickering	3
South Holderness	3
Kelvin Hall	2
Sydney Smith	2
Trinity	2
Wilberforce	2
Hymers	1
Longcroft	1
South Hunsley	1
St Mary's	1
St Mead's	1
Wyke College	1
Total	189

The second question asked whether respondents **attended a school or college**. Out of the 219 young people who answered this question, 94% said 'yes'. The table on the left shows the breakdown of schools and colleges where young people completing this survey were in education at the time.

The two schools at which the greatest numbers of respondents were attending at the time of survey were Malet Lambert School, a mixed secondary school taking pupils between the ages of 11 to 16 located in Holderness ward and Winifred Holtby, also a mixed secondary school for pupils aged 11 to 16 located in Sutton ward.

David Lister, also a mixed secondary school, is located within Southcoates West ward in the east of the city and Henry Cooper School (another Hull secondary) is geographically located just outside the Hull City Council boundary, north of Orchard Park & Greenwood ward.

Respondents were then asked **'where do you get your alcohol from?'** and given a range of multiple choice options to choose from. 251 young people answered this question as shown in the following graph:



The responses to this question follow a similar pattern to the previous question 'where do you drink?' It seems that teenagers are likely to get hold of alcohol and drink it in similar locations. Worryingly, although only a few, 5% (12) of young people admitted they obtain alcohol by illegal means and steal. In terms of age groups, younger teenagers are more likely to get their alcohol from home or friends' houses, but from age 15 or 16 upwards, they are more inclined to purchase from supermarkets and off licenses. The small number of respondents who admitted stealing were aged between 14 and 16 years.

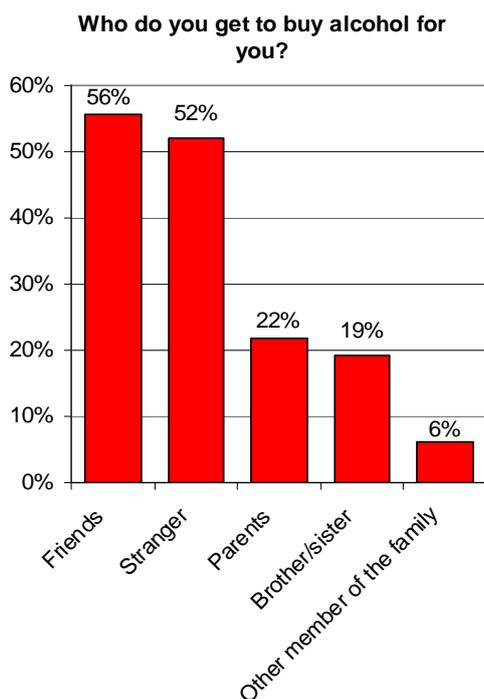
Girls were more likely to get alcohol from home or friends' houses and boys seem to gravitate more towards supermarkets and off licences.

The next couple of questions were about where and how easy it is to get served alcohol despite being under the legal age limit. In fact, there were very few places named by under age respondents in the survey where they could buy drink. Those who did implicate certain premises (listed below) were all aged 16 or under:

- Costcutter
- Farmfoods
- Frasers
- Jacksons
- Pees Newsagents

In answer to the question **'is it easy to get served?'**; 18% said yes and 82% responded 'no'. Of those who said 'yes', the majority were aged 15 or 16 years.

When asked **'do you get other people to buy alcohol for you?'** just over three-quarters of teenagers replying said 'yes' they did but there was little difference in the proportion of responses by age group or gender. To find out **'who?'** they ask to buy alcohol for them, respondents were given a range of choices and also asked **'is there anyone else who buys you alcohol that isn't on the list?'**



The graph on the left illustrates the responses from 207 teenagers to this question. Over half of them would not only ask friends to buy drink on their behalf, but would also have no qualms about asking complete strangers to purchase alcohol for them either.

Almost half of teenagers replying indicated they would ask a member of the family to buy them alcohol. Asking strangers to buy drink seems to be a tactic more likely to be used by 14 to 16 year olds and asking parents seems more probable among 17 years olds. In terms of gender, teenage boys seem more likely to approach strangers than girls to buy alcohol and girls are slightly more likely than boys to ask friends.

The next few questions asked teenagers to what extent parents or guardians were aware of their drinking habits as follows:

- Do your parents/guardians know you drink?**
- Do your parents/guardians know how much you drink?**
- Do your parents/guardians know you are drinking tonight?**

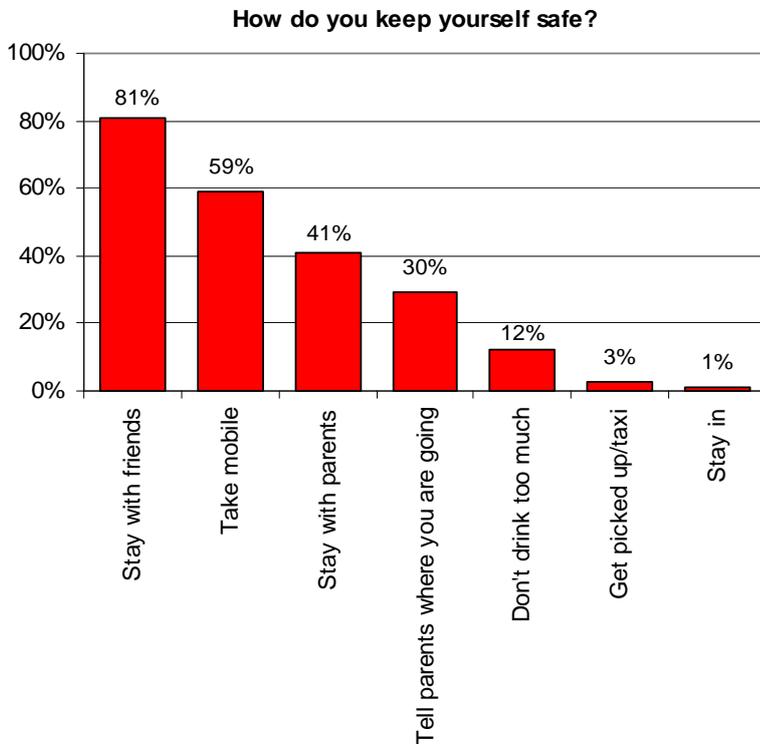
The first 2 of these questions were responded to by just over 240 teenagers. As not everyone questioned was drinking alcohol at the time of the interview, only 160 respondents replied to the last question in this section.

Overall, 78% of teenagers implied their parents or guardians were aware they were drinking alcohol and the data suggests this trend is not affected particularly by age or gender of respondent.

However, when it comes to knowing how much alcohol their teenagers are drinking, parents and guardians are more in the dark. Overall, two-thirds of respondents suggested their parents or guardians were unaware of the volume of alcohol they were consuming. This trend is reflected among all those questioned aged 16 and under but the reverse is indicated for those aged 17. There were also no significant differences in response by gender.

Just over 80% of teenagers responding to the final question in this section indicated their parents or guardians did not know they were out drinking alcohol at the time of the interview. Again, this trend was reflected amongst respondents aged 13 to 16, but not as notably among 17 year olds. However, when it comes to gender there seem to be significant statistical differences between the sexes, in so far as parents and guardians of teenage boys seemed more likely to be aware their children were out drinking alcohol than those of girls.

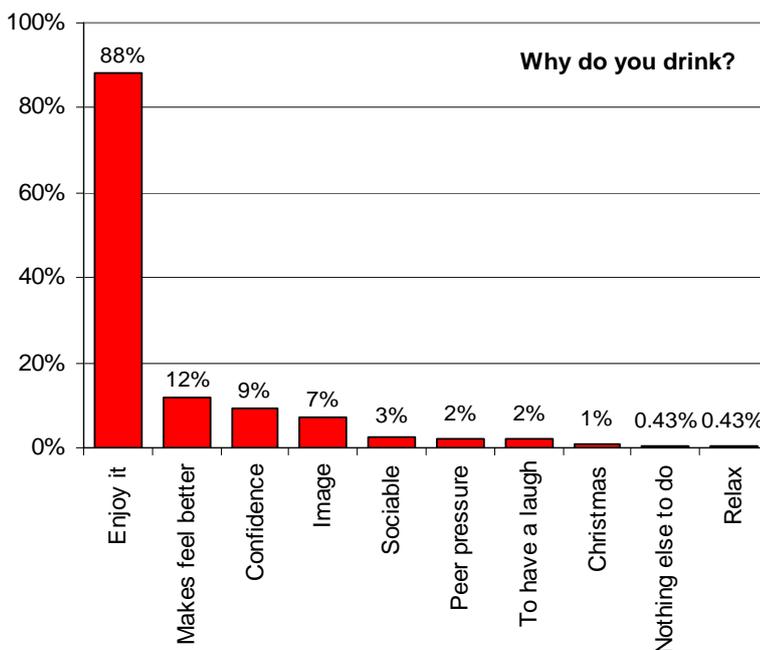
The next questions on the survey were about personal safety and the reasons for drinking alcohol. Firstly, teenagers were asked simply 'do you feel safe?' yes or no. Out of the 213 young people responding to this question, a majority of 87% were positive. Those who didn't feel safe were more likely to be female than male. When asked 'How do you keep yourself safe?' given a choice of responses or invited to offer their own, they responded as follows:



Most respondents think by staying with their friends and having a mobile phone with them will increase their chances of safety. Only a third seem to think that by letting their parents or guardians know of their whereabouts will help to keep them safe from harm, of whom the majority (65%) were much more likely to be girls.

Very few teenagers questioned (12%) seemed to associate the volume of alcohol consumed, with chances of coming to harm or getting into trouble. However, of those teenagers choosing this option as a way to stay safe, over two-thirds were female.

Respondents were then asked 'why do you drink?' and invited to choose any of the given reasons from a number of options or to give their own. The following frequency chart shows how 235 teenagers responded to this question:



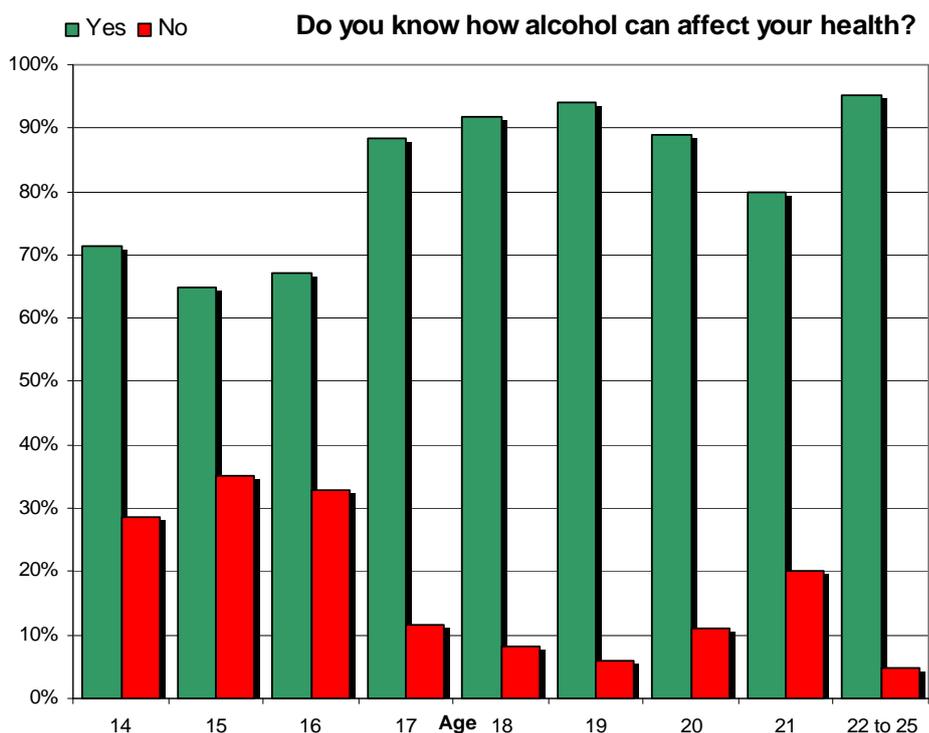
The reason teenagers are most likely to give for drinking alcohol is purely and simply that they enjoy it and it's a pleasurable activity. They are no different from adults in this perception and it seems they are rarely likely to cite any other more psychological motives for consuming alcohol. There are no particular patterns revealed among age groups in terms of grounds for drinking, nor is there any particular prevalence within the sexes.

And finally the survey posed some simple yes/no questions about the extent of knowledge in relation to alcohol and the affects of alcohol.

**Do you know how units are measured in alcohol?
Do you know how alcohol can affect your health?
Do you know how alcohol can affect your safety?**

The survey suggests from the 344 responses received, that roughly half of respondents are not aware how alcohol units are calculated, although young people aged less than 19 seem much more likely to share this view, whereas over 80% of respondents aged 22 to 25 implied the opposite. There were no significant differences either between the genders.

When it comes to knowing how alcohol can affect their health, just over three-quarters of the 344 young people responded positively. The data also suggests that knowledge of the affects of drink increases with age, as shown in the graph below:



The data suggests gender has no bearing on whether respondents are informed about the affects of alcohol on their health.

And although only a few respondents indicated in an earlier question that restricting the amount of alcohol consumed might help to keep them safe, in answer to this final question, just over 78% of young people aged 25 and under replied positively, indicating an awareness of the affects alcohol might have on their security. The age group least likely to understand the extent of risk to their personal safety by drinking alcohol were teenagers aged 15 and 16. In relation to gender, the data does not imply any significant differences.

Acknowledgements

Citysafe would like to extend thanks to everyone who participated in producing the survey, collecting the data and talking to young people across the city over the last year. Without your help and dedication, this most useful piece of research would not have been possible.

Questionnaire

Date: _____ Time: _____ Location: _____
 Age: _____ Sex: Male / Female

- Do you drink alcohol: Yes / No
- How often do you drink?

(0) Never	(1) Monthly or less	(2) 2 to 4 times a month	(3) 2 to 3 times per week	(4) 4 or more times per week	SCORE
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- How many drinks containing alcohol do you have on a typical day when you are drinking?

(0) 1 or 2	(1) 3 or 4	(2) 5 or 6	(3) 7, 8 or 9	(4) 10 or more	SCORE
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- How often do you have 6 or more drinks on one occasion?

(0) Never	(1) Less than monthly	(2) Monthly	(3) Weekly	(4) Daily or almost daily	SCORE
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Score _____

- How often during the last year have you found that you were not able to stop drinking once you had started?

(0) Never	(1) Less than monthly	(2) Monthly	(3) Weekly	(4) Daily or almost daily	SCORE
-----------	-----------------------	-------------	------------	---------------------------	-------

- How often during the last year have you failed to do what was normally expected from you because of drinking?

(0) Never	(1) Less than monthly	(2) Monthly	(3) Weekly	(4) Daily or almost daily	SCORE
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- How often during the last year have you needed a first drink in the morning to get yourself going after a heavy drinking session?

(0) Never	(1) Less than monthly	(2) Monthly	(3) Weekly	(4) Daily or almost daily	SCORE
-----------	-----------------------	-------------	------------	---------------------------	-------

Score _____

- How often during the last year have you had a feeling of guilt or remorse after drinking?

(0) Never	(1) Less than monthly	(2) Monthly	(3) Weekly	(4) Daily or almost daily	SCORE
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- How often during the last year have you been unable to remember what happened the night before because you had been drinking?

(0) Never	(1) Less than monthly	(2) Monthly	(3) Weekly	(4) Daily or almost daily	SCORE
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- Have you or someone else been injured as a result of your drinking?

(0) No	(2) Yes, but not in the last year	(4) Yes, during the last year	SCORE
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- Has a relative or friend or a doctor or another health worker been concerned about your drinking or suggested you cut down?

(0) No	(2) Yes, but not in the last year	(4) Yes, during the last year	SCORE
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Score _____

TOTAL SCORE: _____

Where do you drink?:

At home	Friend's House	School/College	In a Park	In a Pub	Other

Do you attend school/college?: Yes / No If yes please state: _____

Where do you get alcohol from?:

At home	Friends	Off License	Pub	Steal	Supermarket	Other

Where do you get served? _____

Is it easy to get served?: Yes / No

Do you get other people to buy alcohol for you? Yes / No

If so who?:

Parents	Friends	Brother/Sister	Other family	Stranger		Other

Do your parents know you drink? Yes / No

Do your parents know how much you drink? Yes / No

Do your parents know your drinking tonight? Yes / No

Do you feel safe? Yes / No

How do you keep yourself safe?

Stay with friends	Tell parents where you are going	Get picked up/taxi	Take Mobile	Don't drink too much	Other

Why do you drink?

Confidence	Image	Peer Pressure	Makes Feel Better	Enjoy it	Other

Do you know how units are measured in alcohol?: Yes / No

Do you know how alcohol can affect your health?: Yes / No

Do you know how alcohol can affect your safety?: Yes / No