

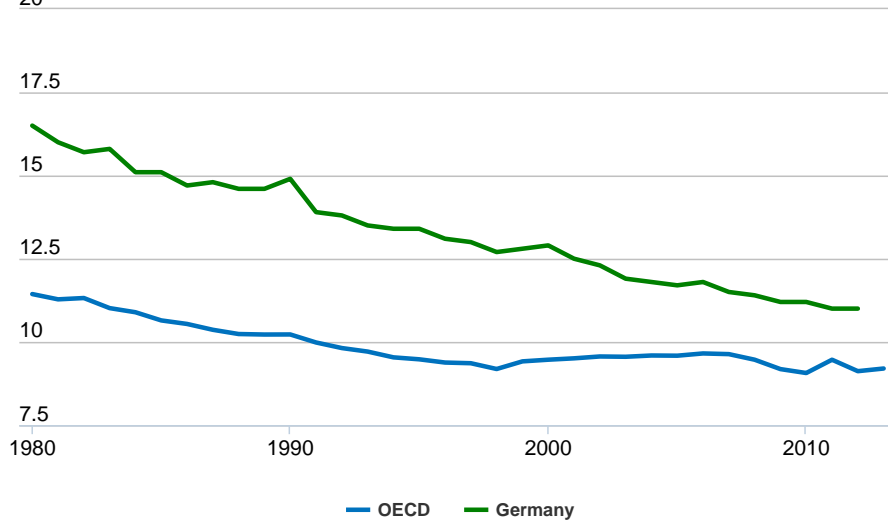
Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use

Country note - Germany

Consumption Trends

Levels of alcohol consumption in Germany are among the highest in the OECD, but have been declining in the past 30 years. In 2012, an average of 11 litres of pure alcohol per capita was consumed in Germany, compared with an estimate of 9.1 litres in the OECD.

Annual alcohol consumption per capita
liters of pure alcohol component, 15-year-olds and older



Drinking and Social Disparities

Large socio-economic disparities in hazardous drinking rates exist in both men and women. The probabilities of an average individual aged 40 to engage in hazardous drinking (i.e. having a weekly amount of pure alcohol of 140 grams or more for women, and 210 grams or more for men) are depicted below by level of education. In Germany, women with high education are more than two times more likely to be hazardous drinkers than less educated women. The social gradient for men goes in the same direction, but social disparities are smaller.

Share of hazardous drinkers by education level and gender

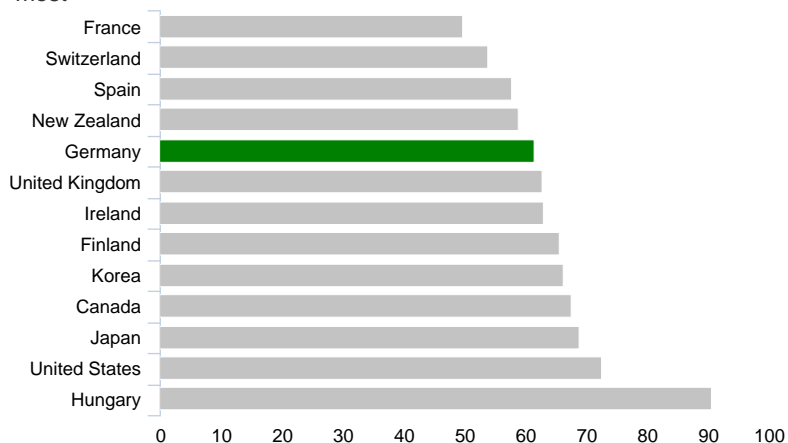
	Germany		Country 2	
	men	women	men	women
Low education	10.6	4.3		
Medium education	11.6	5.4		
High education	15.2	9.2		

Heavy Drinkers

The distribution of alcohol drinking is heavily concentrated. In Germany the heaviest-drinking 20% of the population drink more than 60% of all alcohol.

Concentration of alcohol consumption

Share of total alcohol consumed by the 20% of the population who drink the most



Taxes & Legal Framework

Compared with other countries in the OECD area, Germany has average levels of taxation of alcohol, but milder levels of taxation for beer. The blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for the general population is 0.05%, in line with most OECD countries (22 out of 40 OECD countries and Key Partners - i.e. Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation and South Africa- have the same limit). Germany enforces policies of regulation of advertisement and placement of alcohol products but other legally binding regulations (e.g. prohibition to sell beer and wine to people aged 16 to 18, and many policies to restrict on- and off-premise sales such as time and location of sales) are not put in place.

	Germany	[Country 2]
National legal minimum age for off-premise sales		
beer	16	
wine	16	
spirits	18	
National legal minimum age for on-premise sales		
beer	16	
wine	16	
spirits	18	
Restrictions for on-/off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages		
time (hours/day)	N/N	
location (place/density)	N/N	
specific events	N	
intoxicated persons	Y	
petrol stations	N	
National maximum legal blood alcohol concentration (%)		
all drivers	0.05	
young drivers	0	
professional drivers	0.05/0	
Legally binding regulations of		
advertisement	Y	
product placement	Y	
sponsorship	N	
sales promotion	Y	
health warnings (advert/containers)	N/N	

Related Publication

Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use

<http://www.oecd.org/health/tackling-harmful-alcohol-use-9789264181069-en.htm>



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