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school students' use of
alcohol in 2002*

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Australian secondary school students' use of alcohol in 2002

Report

Report prepared for:

**Drug Strategy Branch
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Executive summary

Background

This report describes the results of the seventh national survey on the use of alcohol by Australian secondary school students.

The survey was conducted in 2002 and involved the collaboration of State and Territory Health Departments, cancer organisations and, in Queensland, the Education Department.

In each State and Territory, a representative sample of secondary schools (including government, Catholic and independent) was selected for surveying, and from each school up to 80 students were surveyed. This report is based on data collected from 23,417 male and female students aged 12–17 years surveyed in 363 schools.

Prevalence of alcohol use in 2002

Experience with alcohol was high amongst secondary school students, with use becoming more common as age increased. By the age of 14, around 90% of students had tried alcohol; and by the age of 17, around 70% of students had consumed alcohol in the month prior to the survey.

The proportion of students drinking in the week prior to the survey (defined here as current drinkers) increased with age from 19% of 12-year-olds to reach a peak of 50% among 17-year-olds.

The National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) guidelines recommend against adults and adolescents drinking seven or more drinks in one day for males and five or more drinks in one day for females. Of current drinkers, 31% of 15-year-olds and 44% of 17-year-olds had consumed alcohol at these levels in the previous week.

Spirits (eg, vodka, scotch, rum), in either the premixed (or ‘ready to drink’) or un-premixed form, were the most common types of drinks among current drinkers of all ages. Excluding students who gave more than one response, un-premixed spirits were consumed by 33% of 12- to 15-year-olds and 36% of 16- to 17-year-olds while premixed spirits were consumed by 30% of 12- to 15-year-olds and 31% of 16- to 17-year-olds. While more females than males drank premixed spirits, more males than females drank un-premixed spirits.

Across all age groups, 11% of males and 8% of females bought their last alcoholic drink themselves.

Parents were the most common source of alcohol, with 38% of males and females indicating their parents gave them their last drink.

The three main places for students to drink were the family home, a friend’s home or a party.

While 46% of all students saw themselves as non-drinkers, 25% thought they were an occasional drinker and 22% said they were party drinkers. Older students were more likely to say they were party drinkers than were younger students.

Over all age groups, 17% of students had not received any lessons about alcohol use in the previous school year, while 44% had received more than one lesson about this topic.

Changes in the use of alcohol between 1999 and 2002

A similar study of the prevalence of alcohol use among Australian secondary school students was conducted in 1999, allowing changes in prevalence over the three-year period between 1999 and 2002 to be examined. The proportion of students aged between 12 and 15 drinking in the week before the survey had not changed between 1999 and 2002. The proportion of 16- and 17-year-olds drinking in the week before the survey had also not changed significantly between 1999 and 2002. In 2002, 29% of 12- to 15-year-old students were current drinkers, a level similar to the 28% found in 1999. Among 16- and 17-year-olds, 48% were current drinkers in 2002 compared to 51% in 1999.

Among both male and female drinkers, the proportion of current drinkers drinking beer decreased between 1999 and 2002, while the proportion of current drinkers drinking premixed drinks increased during this time period. While, among males, the proportion drinking un-premixed spirits also increased between 1999 and 2002, among females the proportions drinking these sorts of drinks decreased.

1. Background

Alcohol is widely used by Australians. Over three-quarters of Australian adults (80%) would use alcohol in a 12-month period, with 40% having an alcoholic drink at least weekly.¹ Eight per cent of the adult population drink alcohol on a daily basis. While the regular consumption of alcohol is inversely related to age, with weekly consumption being most common among 20- to 29-year-olds (47%), 30% of adults over the age of 60 consume alcohol at least weekly.¹ Reflecting these patterns of use, the majority of Australian adults think it is acceptable for adults to use alcohol regularly.¹

Alcohol is second only to tobacco as the most preventable cause of health-related harms and death in Australia.² The morbidity and mortality associated with alcohol costs the community over \$7,560.3 million a year, with alcohol causing over 4,000 deaths among the Australian population in 1998/99.³ Although the sale of alcohol is restricted to those over the age of 18 throughout Australia, the use of alcohol amongst adolescents is common, with 90% of adolescents over the age of 14 having some experience with alcohol and around half of those aged 16 and 17 consuming alcohol regularly.⁴ Excessive use of alcohol by adolescents has been associated with long-term ill health, as well as behaviours that can produce immediate harms such as driving under the influence of alcohol, accidental injuries, violent behaviours and risky sexual behaviour.⁵

The extent of harm associated with alcohol use among adolescents and young adults is reflected in recent health-related statistics showing that alcohol dependence, and its harmful effects, is a leading cause of disease and injury burden among people aged between 15 and 24 years of age.⁵ Because most young people have not built up a tolerance for alcohol they are at increased risk of experiencing some form of negative consequence from drinking.⁶ A large proportion of 15- to 17-year-olds have personally experienced some negative consequences of excessive drinking, including verbal or physical abuse and receiving unwanted sexual advances.⁷

In addition to the immediate harms adolescents may experience from drinking, several longitudinal studies have suggested that adolescents' use of alcohol is related to their use of alcohol as adults, and that drinking at a high level as an adolescent is associated with heavier use of alcohol as a young adult.^{8,9} This association suggests that adolescents who drink excessive amounts of alcohol are at an increased risk of being long-term heavy users of alcohol and therefore are at risk of suffering the health consequences of this behaviour. Preventing the abuse of alcohol among adolescents has been identified as one way of reducing the human and financial costs associated with alcohol abuse. Young people are therefore a major target group for policies and programs aimed at reducing excessive use of alcohol. Education programs to inform adolescents about the dangers of the excessive use of alcohol, and the negative consequences of getting drunk, have been conducted since the 1980s.

1.1 The 2002 Australian Secondary Students' Alcohol and Drug Survey

In 2002, the seventh in a series of secondary school based surveys monitoring the use of tobacco, alcohol and other substances among adolescents was conducted

throughout Australia.^{4, 10-13} The current survey in this series was developed from a triennial national survey of secondary school students' use of tobacco and alcohol conducted collaboratively by the cancer councils in each State of Australia, commencing in 1984. In 1996, the survey was expanded to include questions on the use of illicit substances and federal, state and territory health departments became collaborators with the cancer councils in the project. Because data on the use of alcohol has been collected nationally since 1984, long-term trends in student alcohol use can be ascertained. Previous studies have shown that, after some initial success in reducing alcohol use among young adolescents between 1984 and 1990, the prevalence of alcohol consumption increased during the 1990s.⁴

1.2 Aims of this report

In this report we focus on describing the prevalence of alcohol use among secondary school students in 2002. In the first section, we present data relating to past and current involvement with alcohol for male and female students in different age groups. We then examine access to alcohol, the type of alcohol students consumed, and where students are consuming alcohol. In the second section, we examine how students think of themselves in relation to their drinking and relate this to where they drink. The third section examines changes in students' involvement in alcohol, focusing on four key indicators of use: i) lifetime use of alcohol, ii) use of alcohol in the previous month, iii) use of alcohol in the week prior to the survey, and iv) consumption of alcohol at risky levels in the week preceding the survey. For these indicators we focus on comparing the prevalence of drinking alcohol in 2002 with that found in 1999. However, for drinking in the past week and for consumption of alcohol at risky levels, we present graphically the 2002 prevalence estimates against those from the preceding surveys.^{4, 10-13} These analyses are conducted for 12- to 15-year-olds and 16- and 17-year-olds. The final section of the report examines changes in the proportion of students purchasing their alcohol and changes in drink type preference. Again, analyses are conducted for 12- to 15-year-olds and 16- and 17-year-olds.

2. Method

2.1 Sample selection

The target population was all students in Years 7 to 12 across Australia. Population estimates were based on the most up-to-date figures available from state and federal education departments at the time. Schools with fewer than 100 students enrolled were not included in the study.

Within each State and Territory, schools were sampled using a random sampling methodology designed to represent students from the three main education sectors: government, Catholic, independent. The basic design of the sampling procedure was a stratified two-stage probability sample, with schools selected at the first stage of sampling and students selected within schools at the second stage of sampling. The schools were stratified by the three education sectors (government, Catholic and independent) and randomly selected from each sector. The sampling procedure of schools ensured that the distribution of schools in the three education sectors in each State or Territory was reflected in the sample. Two samples of schools were drawn to reflect the distinction between junior secondary (up to Year 10) and senior secondary (Years 11 and 12) campuses.

The study aimed to survey students from 379 schools across the country. To achieve this, 558 secondary schools were approached to take part in the study. Three hundred and sixty-three schools participated in the study, giving an overall response rate of 65%.

As in 1999, administrative complications in New South Wales meant fewer Year 12 students from this state were surveyed than was desired and 30% of schools from NSW were surveyed early in the 2003 school year (February and March). Consequently, NSW students in the 2002 study were slightly younger than NSW students participating in surveys prior to 1999 survey. This procedural variation means that prevalence estimates obtained from students surveyed in 2003 tended to be lower than those obtained from students surveyed in 2002, with significant differences found among 12-, 13-, 14- and 15-year-olds. To adjust for the over-sampling of younger students in NSW, data from NSW were weighted to bring the 2002 achieved sample into line with the age distribution of NSW students participating in the 1996 survey. The data presented here were based on these weighted data.

2.2 Procedure

Principals of selected schools were contacted and permission to conduct the survey at the school obtained. If a school refused, they were replaced by the school nearest to them within the same education sector. The aim was to survey 80 students from each participating school. To this end, a member of the research team randomly selected 20 students (and six replacements) from each of the four year-levels in each junior school participating; while for senior schools, 40 students (and six replacements) were sampled from each of Years 11 and 12. For each year level being surveyed, the school roll provided the sampling frame.

Following the protocol used in past surveys, members of the research team administered the pencil-and-paper questionnaire to groups of up to 20 students on the school premises. If a student from the sample list was not present at the time of the survey, a student from the equivalent year level on the replacement list was surveyed. Students from different year levels were surveyed together. Students answered the questionnaire anonymously. The presence of teachers during the survey was discouraged but, because of individual school policy, 42% of students completed the questionnaire in the presence of teachers.

2.3 Questionnaire

In 2002, a 24-page core questionnaire was completed by the students (see Appendix 1). The core questionnaire covered the use of tobacco, alcohol, pain relievers, sleeping tablets and illicit substances such as cannabis and hallucinogens, other substances, sun protection, and diet and physical activity. As the focus of this report is alcohol use, we discuss only those questions.

The alcohol-related questions contained in the questionnaire were identical to those used in the previous surveys. Questions assessed 'ever use' of alcohol, use of alcohol in the past 12 months, four weeks, and on each of the seven days preceding the survey. Students who had used alcohol were asked to indicate the usual type of alcohol consumed (eg, beer, wine, spirits, premixed), the source of their last alcoholic drink and where they consumed this drink. Students also indicated whether they saw themselves as a non-drinker, a party drinker, an occasional drinker, a light drinker or a heavy drinker.

To reduce order effects, two versions of the questionnaire were used. The first version had alcohol-related questions first; the second had smoking-related questions first. Questions regarding other drug use and drug-related attitudes always followed both the alcohol and tobacco sections.

2.4 Coding and editing of data

Questionnaires from all States except NSW were coded and entered by the Centre for Behavioural Research in Cancer at The Cancer Council Victoria. The market research firm contracted to conduct the survey in NSW processed the data for that State and sent the data file to Victoria for final cleaning and compilation with the national data. After data entry, the data were cleaned and prepared for data analysis. Students with a large amount of missing data or whose responses were wildly exaggerated were removed from the data set before analyses started.

During analysis, respondents were not included in the analysis for particular questions if they gave contradictory or multiple responses or did not answer the question. However, these respondents were included in the analysis of other questions if these had been validly completed.

Following procedures established for the earlier surveys in this series, cleaning of data relating to questions about the use of alcohol involved checking for inconsistencies in reported use of alcohol across time periods (lifetime, year, month and week). This cleaning procedure ensured maximum use of the data and operated on the

principle that the student's response about personal use in the most recent time period was accurate. Cleaning involved checking that responses to questions about use in the most recent time period were consistent with the response for subsequent time periods. If responses for later time periods were missing or inconsistent with responses for the most recent time period, these responses were coded to indicate use in these later time periods. For example, if students indicated they had drunk alcohol in the past week and in the past month but indicated that they had not consumed alcohol in the past year, or if the response to this question was missing, the response for the past year was recoded to indicate that alcohol had been consumed within this time period. This change was considered appropriate as drinking alcohol in the past week and month necessitates that alcohol was consumed in the past year. However, if respondents indicated that they did not drink in the past week but that they did have a drink in the past month, or this response was missing, the response to the question about use in the past month was not changed as it is possible for someone to have had a drink in the past month but to have not consumed alcohol in the week prior to the survey. The missing response was retained, as we could not determine if the student had consumed alcohol or not in the past month. If the student indicated that they had consumed alcohol in the past week, month or year, but indicated that they had not had a drink of alcohol in their lifetime, the response to this latter question was changed to 'invalid'. Regardless of the students' reported alcohol use, no change was made to their response indicating how they saw their own drinking behaviour as this question assessed self-perception only. The impact of these sorts of changes on the data set was minimal, with around 2–3% of data changed.

2.5 Data analyses

Analyses covered school students aged 12–17 years. To ensure that disproportionate sampling of any State, school type, age level and gender grouping did not bias the prevalence estimates, data were weighted to bring the achieved sample into line with the population distribution. The prevalence estimates in this report were based on these weighted data. Information about the enrolment details of male and female students in each age group at government, Catholic and independent schools was obtained from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.¹⁴ Using 95% confidence intervals, the prevalence estimates reported here are within 2.6% or better of the true population values.

Logistic regression analyses were used to examine whether the proportion of students who had used alcohol in the various recency periods and at different levels had changed between the 1999 and 2002 surveys. For these analyses students were grouped into two age groups: 12- to 15-year-olds and 16- to 17-year-olds; and the proportions of all students, and male and female students using alcohol in 1999 and 2002 were examined. In these analyses, the outcome variable was binary coded, with 1 indicating that the behaviour was engaged in and 0 indicating the behaviour did not occur. Age (within each of the two age groups), school type (government, Catholic and independent) and, where appropriate, gender were entered into the analyses first. Year of survey was entered as a categorical variable year, and a χ^2 value associated with the main effect of year was estimated.

Because this study used a two-stage sampling procedure, the sample was less efficient than a simple random sample of the same size. As students within the sample

were clustered by school, standard errors for prevalence estimates may have been underestimated. Procedures within the statistical package STATA accommodate complex sample designs within analytic procedures by adjusting for the clustering of observations. STATA was used for analyses comparing prevalence estimates across survey years, and standard errors robust to potential non-independence within subjects obtained.

Seventeen per cent of students surveyed were absent from school on the school day preceding the survey. Both younger (12- to 15-year-olds) and older (16- and 17-year-old) students who reported being away from school the day before the survey were more likely to have consumed alcohol in the previous week and month. Students aged between 12 and 15 years who were not at school the day before the survey were also more likely to have consumed alcohol in the previous year. This difference suggests that this report is likely to underestimate the true prevalence of alcohol drinking among secondary school students, and this would have been higher if those absent on the day of the survey had been included.

Given the large sample size and in accordance with previous practice, only those results associated with a *p* value of <0.01 were taken to be statistically significant.

2.6 Sample size

A total of 24,403 students in year levels 7 to 12 were surveyed from schools in Australia during the school year. Table 1 presents the number of students in each gender and age group between 12 and 17 years answering questions on the use of alcohol. A total of 23,417 students aged between 12 and 17 years of age across the country answered the questionnaire. Data from 986 students outside this age range were excluded from the analysis as the numbers in each age and gender group were too small to ensure reliable estimates.

Table 1: Number of students surveyed in 2002 in Australia by age and gender

Gender	Age						
	12	13	14	15	16	17	12-17
Male	1401	2317	2390	2375	1819	1344	11646
Female	1471	2287	2248	2197	1995	1573	11771
Total	2872	4604	4638	4572	3814	2917	23417

2.7 Definitions of frequency of alcohol use

Students were asked about their use of alcohol, which was defined as beer, wine, wine coolers, alcoholic sodas, spirits, liqueurs, alcoholic apple cider, sherry or port. Students were asked if they had consumed alcohol in their lifetime, in the past year and past month. They were then asked to indicate the number of alcoholic drinks they consumed on each of the seven days preceding the day of the survey. We report the prevalence of use within the time periods asked about (past week, past month, past year and lifetime) for all students, and males and females in each age group between 12 and 17 years.

The categories of use reported are:

Never:	Those who had not had even a sip of an alcoholic drink.
Ever:	Those who indicated they had had at least a sip of an alcoholic drink in their lifetime (ever use).
Year:	Those who had had an alcoholic drink within the past year.
Month:	Those who had had an alcoholic drink within the four weeks prior to completing the survey.
Current drinkers:	Those who had an alcoholic drink on any of the seven days prior to completing the survey.
Drinking at risk of short-term harm:	Those males who consumed seven or more drinks on at least one day of the preceding seven days and those females who consumed at least five drinks on at least one day of the preceding seven days (harmful drinking).

These categories are not mutually exclusive but rather overlap so that a student who reported having consumed alcohol in the past week was included in the estimates of use in all other time periods, that is in estimates for lifetime use, use in the past year and use in the past month.

3. Results

3.1 How many Australian secondary school students were involved with drinking alcohol in 2002?

Understanding the prevalence of alcohol consumption among Australian secondary school students in 2002 allows an assessment of the extent to which alcohol consumption has permeated the current adolescent culture. Importantly, understanding which adolescents drink can highlight groups of students that may need to be addressed by programs. In this section, we examine the association between different levels of alcohol involvement and age and gender.

Table 2 shows the proportion of students in each age and gender group who had used alcohol in periods of varying recency. This table also shows that experience of alcohol is high amongst secondary school students and that its use becomes more common with increasing age. By the age of 12, only one-fifth of students had not tried alcohol. The proportion of students who had tried alcohol increased with age to around 90% of 14-year-olds and 95% of 17-year-olds.

Table 2: Past and current alcohol drinking by secondary school students according to age and gender* (%)

	Age						Total
	12 %	13 %	14 %	15 %	16 %	17 %	
Never consumed alcohol							
Male	17	15	11	8	8	4	11
Female	28	18	10	7	6	6	13
Total	22	16	11	7	7	5	12
Consumed alcohol in past year							
Male	59	63	75	83	87	90	75
Female	43	58	74	84	87	88	72
Total	51	61	74	84	87	89	73
Consumed alcohol in past month							
Male	37	35	51	60	67	74	52
Female	20	31	46	60	63	69	47
Total	29	33	48	60	65	72	50
Consumed alcohol in past week (current drinker)							
Male	25	23	36	42	49	55	37
Female	13	18	29	41	44	46	31
Total	19	21	32	42	46	50	34
Drank on one occasion in past week							
Males: 7+ drinks							
Females: 5+ drinks							
Male	3	3	6	13	19	25	10
Female	2	3	7	13	19	19	10
Total	2	3	6	13	19	22	10
Total amount consumed in one week							
Males: 29+ drinks							
Females: 15+ drinks							
Male	0	0	1	1	2	3	1
Female	0	0	2	3	4	5	2
Total	0	0	1	2	3	4	2

* Prevalence estimates are within $\pm 3\%$ of the true population values.

Around 60% of students aged 13 had drunk alcohol in the year preceding the survey and this increased to around 90% of 17-year-olds. Around half of the 12- to 13-year-olds who had consumed alcohol in the year preceding the survey had drunk in the month prior to the survey. Of the 17-year-olds who had drunk in the past year, around 70% had consumed alcohol in the past month. Students who had drunk alcohol in the preceding week were called 'current drinkers'. Twenty-five per cent of males and 13% of females aged 12 were current drinkers. The proportion of current drinkers increased with age and peaked among 17-year-olds at 55% for males and 46% for females. In general, among students 14 years and under, males were significantly more likely than females to have had an alcoholic drink in the past year, month and week. Among students aged 15 and over, however, while there was no significant difference in the proportions drinking in the past year or month, more 16- and 17-year-old males than females drank in the week before the survey.

The National Health and Medical Research Council of Australia (NHMRC) guidelines¹⁵ provide recommendations for levels of alcohol consumption that aim to prevent either long-term or short-term harm among adults. Although the guidelines discourage the use of alcohol by adolescents, they do not provide a strong recommendation that adolescents should not drink alcohol. Rather, the guidelines recommend that young people up to the age of 18 years should not drink beyond the levels set for low-risk drinking by adults. For male adults, low-risk drinking entails having no more than four standard drinks a day *on average* and no more than six standard drinks *on any one day*. For adult women, low-risk drinking involves having no more than two standard drinks a day *on average* and no more than four standard drinks *on any one day*. The guidelines also indicate that, as with adults, adolescents should not consume more than 28 drinks a week for males and 14 drinks for females.

We examined the proportion of all students whose responses to the number of drinks consumed each day of the preceding seven days indicated that they were drinking above the daily or weekly limits recommended in the NHMRC guidelines on the use of alcohol, and this is shown at the bottom of Table 2. The proportion of all students who consumed alcohol at a risky level on at least one day of the preceding seven increased from 2% among 12-year-olds to 22% among 17-year-olds. The proportions of male and female students drinking at these risky levels were similar for all age groups except 17-year-olds, where a greater proportion of males (25%) than females (19%) drank at these levels. Among 16- and 17-year-old students, around two-thirds of those who drank at this level did so only once in the previous seven days. Excluding students who indicated they drank an excessive amount of alcohol on any one day (over 20 drinks), Table 2 shows that a negligible proportion of students exceeded the NHMRC's guidelines for the weekly consumption of alcohol. Three per cent of 17-year-old males consumed more than 28 alcoholic drinks in the week before the survey.

Table 3 provides details of the drinking behaviours of current drinkers. Students' responses to questions about the number of drinks they had consumed on each day of the previous week were summed and the average number of drinks current drinkers consumed in that week determined. Table 3 shows this data for males and females at each age. From the age of 13, males who drank consumed slightly more drinks per week than did female current drinkers. The average number of drinks

consumed per week was greater among male drinkers than female drinkers (males: 7; females: 5 ($F_{(1,6653)}=93.3, p < 0.001$)). There was a significant effect of age, indicating that the amount of alcohol students consumed per week increased as they aged (from three drinks among 12-year-olds to nine drinks among 17-year-olds ($F_{(5,361)}=77.6, p < 0.001$)). However, this increase was not consistent across gender (interaction $F_{(6,361)}=22.8, p < 0.001$). While the number of drinks consumed per week increased between the ages of 14 and 17 for both males and females, this increase was more dramatic among males.

Table 3: Alcohol consumption among current drinkers in 2002 according to age and gender

	Age						Total
	12	13	14	15	16	17	
Average number of drinks consumed per week:							
Male	3	4	6	7	10	11	7
(se)	(.4)	(.3)	(.3)	(.4)	(.4)	(.5)	(.3)
Female	3	3	5	6	6	7	5
(se)	(.4)	(.3)	(.2)	(.3)	(.3)	(.3)	(.1)
Total	3	4	5	7	8	9	6
(se)	(.3)	(.2)	(.2)	(.2)	(.3)	(.3)	(.2)
Consumed on one occasion: 7+ drinks for males; 5+ drinks for females							
Male (%)	7	9	15	29	37	47	26
Female (%)	7	11	20	33	42	41	30
Total (%)	7	10	17	31	40	44	28
Consumed over a week: 29+ drinks for males; 15+ drinks for females							
Male (%)	1	1	3	3	5	5	3
Female (%)	5	3	6	8	9	10	7
Total (%)	2	2	4	6	7	7	5

The proportion of current drinkers who drank on at least one day of the preceding seven, at a level greater than the NHMRC-recommended daily limits, are shown in Table 3 for males and females at all ages. Around 10% of 13-year-olds who were current drinkers consumed alcohol at levels exceeding the recommended daily limits. Exceeding the daily limits became more common with age, peaking at 44% among 17-year-olds. Although, from the age of 13, the proportion of females drinking at a risky level exceeds that for males, these differences were not statistically significant.

The proportion of current drinkers who consumed more than the recommended weekly limits for males and females is shown at the bottom of Table 3. Overall, the proportion exceeding these weekly limits was negligible. However, we note that 10% of 17-year-old females who were current drinkers and 5% of males aged 16 and 17 were in this group.

3.2 Type of alcohol consumed

Current drinkers were asked to indicate the type of alcohol they consumed. The drink types most commonly consumed are shown in Table 4 for males and females in the two broader age groups 12–15 years, 16–17 years and in total. Students who indicated more than one drink were excluded from these analyses. Some type of spirit (eg, vodka, scotch, rum) was the most common type of drink consumed by drinkers of all ages. Across all age groups, 30% of students indicated they drank premixed spirits and another 34% indicated they consumed spirits that were not in premixed bottles. There was a gender difference in the consumption of premixed spirits and un-premixed spirits. The consumption of premixed spirits was significantly more common among females than males in both age groups ($p < .01$). In contrast, both younger and older males were more likely than females to consume spirits that were not in a premixed form ($p < .01$). Beer was also more likely to be consumed by males than females ($p < .01$). Across all age groups and across genders, the next most commonly consumed alcoholic drink was beer (18% ordinary beer), followed by wine (6%). Among females in both age groups there was little difference in the proportions drinking beer and wine.

Table 4: Drink types most commonly consumed by those who drank alcohol in the past week*†# (Australia, 2002) (%)

	Age								
	12–15			16–17			Total		
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Beer (ordinary)	25	6	16	36	6	22	30	6	18
Wine	6	8	7	3	4	3	5	6	6
Alcoholic soda	1	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
Premixed spirits	17	44	30	14	50	31	16	46	30
Spirits	37	27	33	39	32	36	38	29	34

* Percentages of total in each age category.

† Percentages exclude responses from students who gave more than one type of drink.

Percentages do not add to 100 as only the most frequent responses are listed.

3.3 Access to alcohol

Students who had ever drunk alcohol were asked how they had obtained their last alcoholic drink. Students indicated whether they bought or did not buy their last alcoholic drink themselves and were asked to indicate specific sources under these two headings. Across all age groups, 11% of males and 8% of females bought their last alcoholic drink themselves. Buying alcohol was related to age and increased from 5% of 12- to 15-year-old males to 22% of 16- to 17-year-olds. The responses of current drinkers are the focus of this section. Table 5 shows the proportion of current drinkers obtaining their last alcoholic drink from various sources. Parents were the most common source of alcohol, with 38% of males and females indicating their parents gave them their last drink. The proportion of students

indicating that parents were their source of alcohol was significantly greater among the younger students (42%) than the older students (32%) ($p < .01$). Among younger students, 19% indicated that they obtained their last alcoholic drink from friends, while 16% indicated that someone else bought it for them. Among the older students, obtaining alcohol from someone else (23%) was more common than obtaining it from friends (15%). If students bought their last alcoholic drink themselves they were most likely to do so from a bottle shop or licensed store.

Table 5: Most common sources of alcohol for those who drank alcohol in the past week*# (Australia, 2002) (%)

	Age								
	12–15			16–17			Total		
	Male %	Female %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %	Male %	Female %	Total %
Did not buy, supplied by:									
Parents	43	40	42	30	34	32	38	38	38
Siblings	8	8	8	7	5	6	8	7	7
Took from home	5	5	5	1	1	1	4	3	3
Friends	18	20	19	17	17	15	16	19	17
Someone else bought	16	17	16	23	24	23	18	21	19
Bought from:									
Liquor store/supermarket	1	1	1	5	3	4	3	2	2
Bottle shop	1	0	0	4	2	3	2	1	1
Drive-in bottle shop	1	0	1	5	4	4	3	2	3
Bar/Pub/RSL	1	1	1	5	3	4	2	1	2

* Percentages of total in each age and gender category.

Additional sources of alcohol were included in the survey. As only the most common sources are shown, percentages do not add to 100%.

3.4 Places where students drink

Current drinkers were asked to indicate where they consumed their last alcoholic drink. The most common responses to this question are shown in Table 6 for males, females and all students in each age group between 12 and 17 years. There were three main places for students to drink: the family home, a friend's home or a party. About 80% of students who were drinkers indicated they drank their last alcoholic drink in one of these three places. Four per cent of current drinkers indicated drinking at a public space like a beach or park, and less than 3% of students indicated drinking alcohol in other place. The proportion of students drinking at home decreased with age among both males and females, from around 62% of 12-year-olds to around 26% of 17-year-olds. In contrast, the proportion of students drinking at a party increased with age from 15% of 12-year-olds to about 35% of students 15 years and over.

Table 6: Most usual places for drinking by students who had consumed alcohol in the previous week (%)

	Age						Total %
	12 %	13 %	14 %	15 %	16 %	17 %	
Home							
Male	67	47	41	32	31	25	36
Female	53	46	40	30	28	27	34
Total	62	47	41	31	29	26	36
Party							
Male	11	25	28	33	32	37	29
Female	22	27	28	36	36	33	32
Total	15	26	28	34	35	35	31
Friend's home							
Male	6	11	13	16	18	17	14
Female	9	10	15	17	14	18	15
Total	7	11	14	16	16	17	15
Public space (beach/park)							
Male	3	4	6	4	4	3	4
Female	4	3	4	4	6	3	4
Total	4	3	5	4	5	3	4

3.5 Relationship between source of alcohol, place alcohol is consumed and drinking behaviours

Research has indicated that adolescents drink more when they drink outside the family home and when they are in the presence of peers.^{16,17} In addition, there has been some debate on the issue of parents supplying adolescents with alcohol and the implications of this for subsequent alcohol use. In this section we explore the relationship between the amount of alcohol consumed in the week prior to the survey, how adolescents accessed their alcohol and where their last alcoholic drink was consumed. As 75% of current drinkers obtained their alcohol from three sources (parents, friends and someone else buying), these formed the focus of the following analyses. In addition, as 80% of current drinkers consumed their last drink either at home, at a friend's house or at a party, analyses focus on consumption in these settings.

Table 7 shows, for younger and older students, the average number of drinks consumed per week by the three main sources of alcohol and place of consumption.

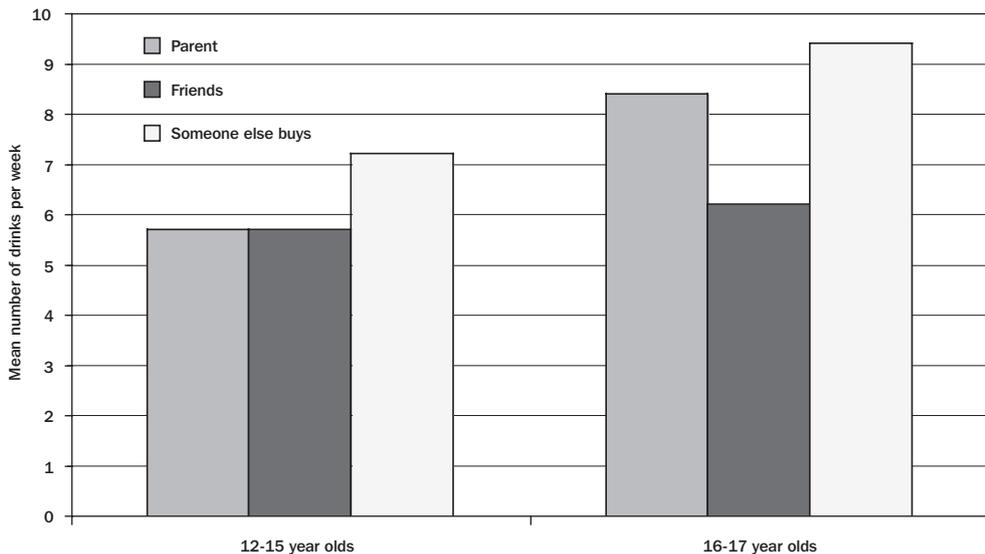
Table 7: Average number of drinks consumed per week among younger (12- to 15-year-olds), older (16- to 17-year-olds) and all current drinkers by source of alcohol and where alcohol was consumed (Australia 2002)

Average number of drinks per week	Age		
	12-15	16-17	12-17
Alcohol obtained from:			
Parents	3.6	6.0	4.4
Friends	4.9	6.8	5.6
Someone else bought it for me	7.6	9.4	8.5
Where alcohol was consumed:			
Home	3.4	6.3	4.3
Friend's place	6.4	8.9	7.5
Party	6.3	9.1	7.5

Both younger and older students drank less alcohol per week if they obtained their alcohol from their parents than if they obtained it by having someone else buy it for them ($p < .01$). Among younger students, weekly consumption of alcohol was also significantly lower if obtained from parents than if obtained from friends ($p < .01$). This relationship was not seen among 16- and 17-year-olds. Younger students drank significantly less alcohol a week if they consumed it at home (mean=3.4) than if they drank at their friend's place (mean=6.4, $p < .01$) or at a party (mean=6.3, $p < .01$). There was no significant difference in the number of drinks consumed by 12- to 15-year-old current drinkers drinking at a party or at their friend's place. A similar pattern was seen among older students. Current drinkers aged 16 and 17 years consumed significantly fewer drinks per week if they drank at home (mean =6.3) than if they drank at a friend's house (mean=8.9, $p < .01$) or if they drank at a party (mean=9.1, $p < .01$).

There was a relationship between where alcohol was consumed and the source of alcohol. Among current drinkers who drank at home, 85% obtained their alcohol from their parents. In contrast, among students who drank at their friends' homes, only 19% obtained their alcohol from their parents while 47% obtained it from friends and 33% had someone else buy it for them. Among party drinkers, the proportion of students obtaining alcohol from their parents (30%) was the same as that obtaining it from their friends (31%), with 40% getting someone else to buy their alcohol for them. We examined the amount of alcohol consumed per week by alcohol source for those students who drank at a party. The average number of drinks per week for younger and older students drinking at a party by source of alcohol is shown in Figure 1.

Figure 1: The average number of drinks per week for 12- to 15-year-old current drinkers (left) and 16- to 17-year-old current drinkers (right) who drank their last drink at a party, according to source of alcohol



Among the 12- to 15-year-olds, current drinkers consumed significantly fewer drinks per week when parents or friends supplied the alcohol consumed at a party than those current drinkers who obtained their alcohol for the party by getting someone else to buy it for them ($p < .01$). While a similar pattern was found among 16- and 17-year-olds, this difference was not significant. However, among both younger and older students, current drinkers who drank alcohol supplied by someone else at a party also consumed more alcohol per week than did those current drinkers who consumed alcohol supplied by their friends (all $p < .01$).

3.5.1 How do students see themselves in relation to drinking alcohol?

It has been suggested that how individuals refer to themselves in relation to drinking is an important psychological predictor in the adoption of regular drinking.¹⁸ That is, if the label individuals use to describe themselves connotes a drinking role, they will be more likely to become regular users of alcohol in the future. Following this, students in the 2002 survey were asked to choose the label that described their drinking behaviours from the following: non-drinker, occasional drinker, light drinker, party drinker, and heavy drinker. The labels chosen by males and females in each age group are shown in Table 8. While the majority of students 13 years and under saw themselves as non-drinkers, this was not the case for students aged 14 and over, where an increasing proportion described themselves as some sort of drinker. From the age of 14, there was little difference in the proportion of males and females referring to themselves as a non-drinker. Overall, 25% saw themselves as an occasional drinker and only 7% of males and 6% of females saw themselves as a light drinker. Use of the term 'party drinker' did not differ for males and females and increased with age for both males and females, from around 9% of 13-year-olds to 46% of males and 41% of females aged 17. A negligible number of students thought they were heavy drinkers.

Table 8: Self-description of drinking behaviour by age and gender for all Australian secondary school students (%)

	Age						Total %
	12 %	13 %	14 %	15 %	16 %	17 %	
Non-drinker							
Male	69	63	44	33	27	19	44
Female	80	68	48	32	27	22	48
Total	74	65	46	33	27	20	46
Occasional drinker							
Male	20	22	28	30	25	23	25
Female	13	20	27	30	29	29	24
Total	17	21	27	30	27	26	25
Light drinker							
Male	5	5	7	6	9	9	7
Female	4	4	6	6	7	7	6
Total	4	5	6	6	8	8	6
Party drinker							
Male	5	9	18	28	37	46	22
Female	4	8	19	31	37	41	22
Total	5	9	19	29	37	44	22
Heavy drinker							
Male	1	1	3	3	3	4	2
Female	–	–	1	1	1	2	1
Total	1	1	1	1	2	3	1

Table 9 shows the relationship between the place where students consumed their last drink, where they obtained this last drink and the three most common labels for drinking: non-drinker, occasional drinker and party drinker. For these analyses we focus on the three main places students drank and the three main ways students obtained their alcohol.

Table 9: Where current drinkers using the label ‘non-drinker’, ‘occasional drinker’ and ‘party drinker’ consume alcohol and how they obtain it

Age	Non-drinker		Occasional drinker		Party drinker	
	12–15 %	16–17 %	12–15 %	16–17 %	12–15 %	16–17 %
Alcohol obtained from:						
Parents	64	54	45	40	25	25
Friends	11	12	18	16	20	15
Someone else bought it for me	1	11	10	20	27	24
Where alcohol was consumed:						
Party	12	19	20	28	46	45
Home	67	43	53	41	23	20
Friend’s place	5	14	13	15	17	18

Non-drinkers and occasional drinkers mainly obtained their alcohol from their parents, and non-drinkers and 12- to 15-year-old occasional drinkers mainly consumed it at their home. While 41% of older occasional drinkers consumed their last drink at home, nearly one in three older occasional drinkers consumed their last drink at a party. Younger and older party drinkers were about equally likely to get their drink from their parents or through someone else buying it for them. Appropriately, just fewer than 50% of party drinkers consumed their last drink at a party.

3.6 Lessons about alcohol use in the previous school year

Students were asked to indicate if they could recall receiving any lessons on the use of alcohol in the previous school year. The proportion of students who did not recall receiving any lessons, who recalled receiving part of a lesson or one or more lessons in the previous school year is shown in Table 10. Over all age groups, 17% of students indicated that they had not received any lessons about alcohol use in the previous school year, while 44% indicated that they had received more than one lesson about this topic. The highest proportion of students not receiving a lesson about alcohol use was found among the 17-year-olds (29%). Students aged 14, 15, and 16 were most likely to report receiving more than one lesson about the topic in the previous school year. This finding suggests that schools were most likely to include lessons about the use of alcohol in the curriculum of Year 8, 9, and 10 students.

Table 10: Proportion of students indicating they had received no lesson, or part, one, or more than one lesson about alcohol in the previous school year

	Age						
	12 %	13 %	14 %	15 %	16 %	17 %	12–17 %
No lessons	22	18	13	10	15	29	17
Part of a lesson	25	19	15	14	19	25	19
One lesson	25	22	20	18	17	18	20
More than one lesson	30	39	52	59	48	29	44

3.7 Changes in the use of alcohol between 1999 and 2002

In this section we examine the changes in prevalence of drinking alcohol amongst two groups of students: those aged 12 to 15 years and those aged between 16 and 17 years. We have divided students into these two groups for several reasons. First, the legal age for leaving school has been 15 throughout the period of the survey. Since the survey series began, Year 12 retention rates have changed considerably: in 1984, 43% of students stayed in school until Year 12; while in 2002, 75% of students remained in school until Year 12.¹⁴ This suggests that the population of Year 11 and 12 students has changed over the years, with students who might have left school before Year 12 in the 1980s being more likely to stay on, had they been in school in the 1990s.

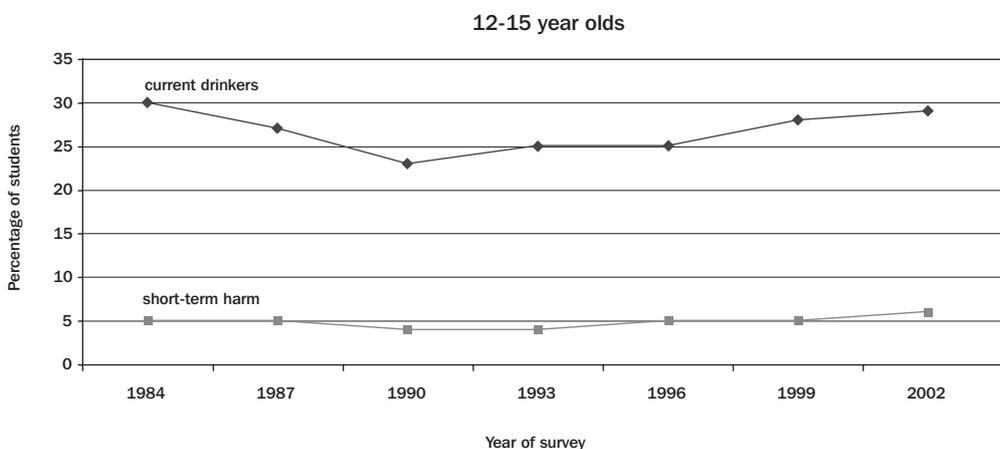
The key indicator of involvement with alcohol used in reports of this survey series has been drinking in the past week (current drinking) and drinking at levels that could result in short-term harm (short-term harm drinking). We used these measures as

they give an indication of the proportion of students actively engaged in drinking at two important levels: i) ongoing regular involvement, and ii) drinking at levels that could result in short-term harm to the individual.

Figure 2 shows the proportion of all 12- to 15-year-olds surveyed in each year who had had an alcoholic drink in the week prior to the survey, and also the proportion drinking at levels that could result in short-term harm on at least one day of the preceding seven. Figure 3 shows the results for 16- and 17-year-olds. The proportions shown in the figures are not adjusted for age.

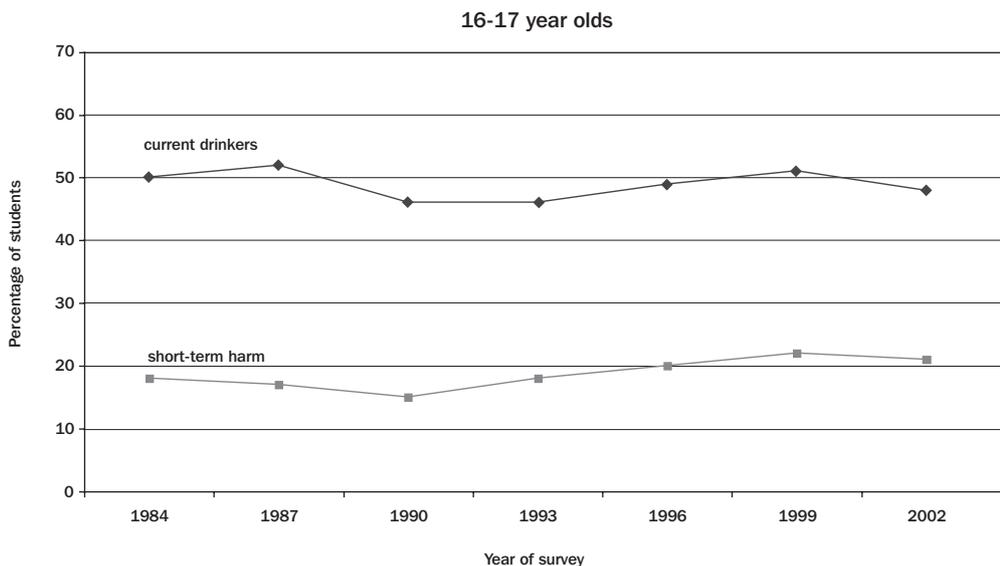
Among 12- to 15-year-olds, drinking prevalence declined during the 1980s, then increased in the 1990s. The proportion of 12- to 15-year-olds who were current drinkers in 1999 was higher than the proportions found in 1996, 1993 and 1990, but no different from the proportions found in 1987 and 1984.⁴ Figure 2 suggests that the prevalence of current drinking in 2002 was at a level similar to that found in 1999 and 1984. The proportion of students who had consumed alcohol at harmful levels on at least one day of the preceding week is shown in the lower part of the figure for each survey year. There was little change in the proportions drinking at these harmful levels among 12- to 15-year-olds over the survey period.

Figure 2: Proportion of 12–15-year-olds drinking in the week before the survey (current drinkers) and proportion drinking at levels that could lead to short-term harm (proportions not adjusted for age)



Among 16- and 17-year-olds, the proportion of current drinkers decreased in the late 1980s, was stable for the early 1990s and then increased in the mid to late 1990s (Figure 3). In 1999, there were as many 16- and 17-year-old students drinking in the previous week as there were in 1984. The prevalence of current drinking in 1999 was not different from that found in 1996 but was significantly greater than the 1993 and 1990 prevalence estimates.⁴ The proportion of 16- and 17-year-olds who were current drinkers in 2002 was slightly lower than that found in 1999, but still higher than prevalence estimates obtained in 1990 and 1993. Figure 3 shows that among 16- and 17-year-olds, there was an increase in harmful drinking between 1990 and 1993, and since then the proportions drinking at this level have been fairly stable.

Figure 3: Proportion of 16–17-year-olds drinking in the week before the survey (current drinkers) and proportion drinking at levels that could lead to short-term harm (proportions not adjusted for age)



Analyses compared the proportion of students who had ever used alcohol in 1999 and 2002 and the proportions that had used alcohol in the previous month and previous week. The proportion of all students who had drunk at harmful levels at least once in the preceding week in 2002 and 1999 was also compared. The significance of differences in the proportion of students using alcohol between the two survey years was tested using chi-square tests of association after controlling for the effects of age, school type and State or Territory and, for analyses of male and female data combined, gender. The potential non-independence of students within schools was adjusted for in analyses. Again, given the large sample size and the number of tests conducted, only those differences associated with a *p* value of <.01 were considered significant.

3.7.1 Changes in the prevalence of alcohol consumption between 1999 and 2002

Table 11 shows the proportion of all students, and those aged 12–15 and 16–17, who had consumed alcohol in their lifetime, in the past month and the past week in 1999 and 2002. Among all students and both 12- to 15-year-olds and 16- to 17-year-olds, there was no statistically significant change in the proportion of students who had ever had an alcoholic drink, had had a drink in the previous four weeks, had had a drink in the seven days preceding the survey or had consumed alcohol at harmful levels at least once in the preceding seven days.

Table 11: Proportion of students using alcohol in their lifetime, in the previous month, or in the previous week; proportion of all drinkers drinking at harmful levels; average number of drinks consumed per week in 2002 and 1999

Recency period	Gender	12–15-year-olds			16–17-year-olds			12–17-year-olds		
		1999 %	2002 %	Sig	1999 %	2002 %	Sig	1999 %	2002 %	Sig
Lifetime	Total	87	86	ns	94	94	ns	89	88	ns
	Male	88	88	ns	95	94	ns	90	90	ns
	Female	85	84	ns	94	94	ns	87	87	ns
Month	Total	43	43	ns	70	68	ns	49	49	ns
	Male	46	46	ns	70	70	ns	51	52	ns
	Female	39	40	ns	70	66	ns	47	47	ns
Week	Total	28	29	ns	51	48	ns	35	34	ns
	Male	31	32	ns	53	51	ns	36	37	ns
	Female	25	26	ns	50	45	ns	32	31	ns
Harmful among all students	Total	5	6	ns	22	21	ns	10	10	ns
	Male	6	6	ns	24	22	ns	10	10	ns
	Female	5	6	ns	21	19	ns	9	10	ns
Average number of drinks per week (mean)										
	Total	4.8	5.2	ns	8.2	8.5	ns	6.5	6.1	ns
	Male	5.2	5.7	ns	9.5	10.4	ns	7.5	6.8	ns
	Female	4.3	4.6	ns	6.9	6.5	ns	5.4	5.4	ns

ns = significance level $p > .01$.

The average number of drinks current drinkers had consumed in a week in 1999 and 2002 is shown at the bottom of Table 11. Among current drinkers aged 12–15 years, there was no statistically significant change in the average number of drinks consumed per week. Among all 16- to 17-year-old current drinkers, there was also no change in the average number of drinks consumed per week. In 2002, male current drinkers in this age group consumed, on average, about 10 alcoholic drinks per week while females consumed about seven drinks per week.

3.7.2 Changes in the type of alcohol consumed between 1999 and 2002

The type of drinks secondary school students consumed in 1999 differed from the type of alcohol consumed in 2002. Specifically, in 2002, fewer students were drinking beer (both males and females, and among both younger and older students), while more were drinking premixed drinks such as alcoholic sodas, and this increase was significant among females.⁴ In addition, while the proportion of older and younger males drinking spirits in an un-premixed form had not changed between 1999 and 2002, fewer older females consumed ie spirits of alcohol in 2002 than in 1999.

In this section we examine whether the proportion of current drinkers preferring beer, wine, premixed drinks or spirits changed between 1999 and 2002. Data from current drinkers who indicated that they consumed more than one type of drink are excluded. Table 12 shows the type of drinks preferred by current drinkers in 1999

and 2002. In the 2002 survey there were separate categories for premixed spirits and alcoholic sodas, while in the 1999 survey these types of drinks were grouped together. To enable a comparison across survey years we grouped premixed spirits and alcoholic sodas together in 2002. The type of alcoholic drink commonly consumed by older adolescent male drinkers changed between 1999 and 2002. While, in 1999, beer was the most common type of alcohol consumed by older male drinkers, in 2002 spirits were more commonly consumed. Between 1999 and 2002 there was a non-significant increase in the proportion of younger and older male current drinkers consuming spirits and a significant increase in the proportion drinking premixed drinks. Corresponding to these increases, the proportion of younger and older males indicating that they consumed beer decreased between 1999 and 2002. While the proportion of younger males drinking wine decreased between 1999 and 2002, there was no significant change in the proportion of older males drinking wine.

Among females, while the proportions of both younger and older females drinking spirits decreased between 1999 and 2002, the proportions drinking premixed drinks increased among both younger and older current drinkers. In 2002, adolescent females who drank were most likely to drink some type of premixed drink, while in 1999 they were most likely to drink spirits in their un-premixed form. Among younger females who were current drinkers, the proportion drinking beer had decreased from 11% in 1999 to 6% in 2002.

Similar patterns of change are seen when data are combined across the two age groups.

The data suggest that beer was losing its share of the market of male adolescent drinkers to spirits, in either their un-premixed or their premixed form, while among the adolescent female market premixed spirits were taking market share from un-premixed spirits.

Table 12: Percentage of male and female current drinkers aged 12–15 and 16–17 years drinking spirits, beer, premixed drinks, and wine in 1999 and 2002 (students who indicated more than one drink type excluded from analyses)

		Age								
		12–15-year-olds			16–17-year-olds			12–17-year-olds		
		1999	2002	Sig	1999	2002	Sig	1999	2002	Sig
		%	%		%	%		%	%	
Males:	Spirits	36	37	ns	37	39	ns	36	38	ns
	Beer	33	25	<.01	50	36	<.01	40	30	<.01
	Premixed	7	18	<.01	4	14	<.01	6	17	<.01
	Wine	9	6	<.01	2	3	ns	6	5	ns
Females:	Spirits	36	27	<.01	50	32	<.01	42	29	<.01
	Beer	11	6	<.01	7	6	ns	9	6	<.01
	Premixed	21	45	<.01	25	51	<.01	23	47	<.01
	Wine	10	8	ns	4	4	ns	7	6	ns

ns = significance level $p > .01$.

4. Conclusion

This 2002 national survey provides recent estimates on the prevalence of the use of alcohol among male and female students aged between 12 and 17 years. The large sample of students used in this study ensures estimates for these subgroups are reliable, enabling age and gender specific trends to be explored.

Before discussing the findings of this study, several limitations of the data need to be noted. Firstly, schools were used as the basis for surveying adolescents. This means that students who did not remain in school past the age of 15 were excluded from the study and that estimates for 16- to 17-year-olds are only generalisable to the population of students rather than to all adolescents aged 16–17 years. As adolescents who do not complete secondary school are more likely to use substances,¹⁹ this study is likely to underestimate the prevalence of alcohol use among the population of 16- to 17-year-olds. In addition, it was possible that students with good school attendance were more likely to participate in the survey than students with poor attendance records. This selection bias may also mean that the results of this study tend towards underestimating prevalence. However, countering this bias is the possibility that students, particularly younger students, may exaggerate their use of substances, leading to slightly inflated estimates. While it must be acknowledged that this may be the case for the responses of some students in this study, as noted in our earlier reports, previous work has indicated that the vast majority of students answer questionnaires of the type used in this study honestly.²⁰

Despite these limitations, the study provides valuable information on the use of alcohol among Australian secondary school students. Following patterns seen in earlier surveys, experience with alcohol becomes more common with increasing age. In 2002, drinking was generally still more common among males than females, and males generally consumed more alcohol per week than did females. In 2002, over 60% of students aged 15 and over had consumed alcohol in the month preceding the survey and over 40% of students in this age group had consumed alcohol in the week prior to the study. Of concern is the finding that around 20% of all 16- and 17-year-old students (and 40–45% of current drinkers in these age groups) consumed an amount of alcohol that exceeded the recommendations in the NHMRC guidelines¹⁵ on at least one occasion in the week prior to the survey. These students place themselves at increased risk of being either the perpetrators or recipients of verbal and/or physical abuse, unwanted sexual advances or drunk driving. While for most students, rather than being a regular behaviour, drinking was occasional or something they did at parties, our results suggest that on the occasions when students do drink many will drink at levels that increase their risk of experiencing short-term harms from alcohol.

Alcoholic sodas and premixed or ‘ready to drink’ spirits originated in Australia in the mid-1990s.²¹ These drinks have sweet fruity flavours that appeal to palates not yet accustomed to stronger alcohol tastes.^{22,23} Our 1999 study indicated that these ‘ready to drink’ alcoholic drinks were mainly consumed by adolescent females and this gender difference in the consumption of these drinks has continued in 2002. In 2002, 46% of females who consumed alcohol in the week prior to the survey drank some type of premixed spirit, compared to only 16% of male current drinkers. In contrast,

males tended to consume spirits that they mixed themselves with a soft drink or they drank beer. However, comparisons of preferred drinks for current drinkers in the 1999 survey and the 2002 survey suggested that the popularity of premixed drinks was increasing among both males and females at the expense of beer for males and un-premixed spirits for females.

Nearly 40% of students who had consumed alcohol in the week before the survey indicated that their parents had given them their last alcoholic drink. The two most common places for drinking were the family home and a party, with drinking at a party becoming more common as students progress through secondary school. We explored the relationship between the source of alcohol and the amount of alcohol consumed in the previous week. Our data showed that, compared with students who obtained alcohol by getting someone else to buy it for them, those who obtained alcohol from their parents consumed lower amounts of alcohol per week. These findings suggest that many parents sanction the use of alcohol by their adolescent children and, in general, access to alcohol by students from these homes is limited. These results may reflect that many parents find it acceptable to give their children alcohol so they can 'learn' how to drink alcohol, as well as to join in celebrations. This last suggestion is supported by our data for 12- to 15-year-olds where we found that younger adolescents who last consumed alcohol at a party drank less over a week if they obtained their alcohol from their parents than if someone else bought it for them. However, among older adolescents who go to parties, the data suggests that there is no statistical difference in the level of weekly drinking between those that get their last drink from their parents and those that get others to buy the alcohol for them. The data suggest that as adolescents age and begin to go to parties with their peers their parents have less influence over their drinking behaviours.

The purchase of alcohol by drinkers under the legal age increased as adolescents became closer to the age of 18. Around one in five 16- and 17-year-olds who drank in the week prior to the survey bought their last alcoholic drink, compared with only 5% among those aged under 15.

While the prevalence of drinking among younger students had not changed between 1999 and 2000, the proportion of current drinkers among older students in 2002 was lower than that found in 1999. This decrease among older students was mainly due to fewer females in 2002 than in 1999 indicating that they had consumed alcohol in the month and week before the survey. However, the proportion of older students drinking at levels higher than those recommended by the NHMRC guidelines for daily consumption had not changed between 1999 and 2002. The data suggest that just as many students were placing themselves at risk of experiencing some immediate harm from their consumption of alcohol in 2002 as in 1999. As teenage alcohol use is predictive of harmful usage levels at older ages, these findings suggest a need for access-reduction and educational programs to be increased.

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Appendix 1

Questionnaire - Victoria

SURVEY

- Please do not put your name on this paper.
- The information you give is private and will only be seen by the people putting all the answers together.
- Answer **every** question you can.
- If you can't answer a question or if you do not want to answer, leave it out and go on to the next one.
- For most questions, there is a choice of answers. Pick the one that's true for you and tick the box next to it.
- If you make a mistake or change your answer, cross out the mistake and tick the new response.
- Some questions ask you to write a short answer in the space provided.

Office use only

STATE	1	SCHOOL	ID	PCODE	LEVEL	CAMPUS
PATTERN		SCHSEX		STRATA	TEACH	DAY
ORDER	1	INITIALS		DATE	MONTH	CONSENT

1. (a) What suburb or town do you live in? _____
(b) What is the postcode of your address? _ _ _ _ _

2. What year level (or form) are you in?

- | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|--------|---|--------------------------|---------|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Year 7 | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Year 10 |
| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Year 8 | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Year 11 |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Year 9 | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Year 12 |

3. How old are you now?

- | | | | | | |
|----|--------------------------|----|----|--------------------------|-------------|
| 10 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 10 | 15 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 15 |
| 11 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 11 | 16 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 16 |
| 12 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 12 | 17 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 17 |
| 13 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 13 | 18 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 18 |
| 14 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 14 | 19 | <input type="checkbox"/> | 19 and over |

4. What sex are you?

- | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|------|---|--------------------------|--------|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Male | 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Female |
|---|--------------------------|------|---|--------------------------|--------|

5. What is your date of birth? _ _ / _ _ / 19 _ _

6. During a normal week, how much money do you have available to spend on yourself? (eg from pocket money, part-time job).

- | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|---|--------------------------|-------------|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | None | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$41 - \$60 |
| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Less than \$10 | 6 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$61 - \$80 |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$11 - \$20 | 7 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Over \$80 |
| 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | \$21 - \$40 | | | |

7. **At school work**, do you consider yourself:

- | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------|---|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> | A lot above average? | 4 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Below average? |
| 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Above average? | 5 | <input type="checkbox"/> | A lot below average? |
| 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Average? | | | |

8. (a) Were you at school on the last school day?

- 1 Yes **Go to QUESTION 9**
2 No **Go to QUESTION 8(b)**

(b) If No: Why were you away?

- 1 You were ill or had some other health problem
2 Study day or other school-related activities
3 Family reasons
4 Other (*specify*)

9. Are you of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent?

- 1 No
2 Yes - Aboriginal descent
3 Yes - Torres Strait Islander descent
4 Yes - both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander descent

10. What is the main language spoken at home? *Tick only **one** box.*

- 1 English
2 Another language only (*specify which language*)
3 English and another language
(*specify the other language*) _____

THE NEXT FEW QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT SMOKING CIGARETTES.

11. At the present time, do you consider yourself:

- 1 A heavy smoker? 4 An ex-smoker?
2 A light smoker? 5 A non-smoker?
3 An occasional smoker?

12. Have you ever smoked even part of a cigarette?

- 1 No 4 Yes, I have smoked more than 10 but
2 Yes, just a few puffs fewer than 100 cigarettes in my life
3 Yes, I have smoked fewer 5 Yes, I have smoked more than
than 10 cigarettes in my life 100 cigarettes in my life

13. Have you smoked cigarettes in the last **twelve months**?

1 Yes

2 No

14. Have you smoked cigarettes in the last **four weeks**?

1 Yes

2 No

15. This question is about the number of cigarettes you had during the last **seven days**, including yesterday.

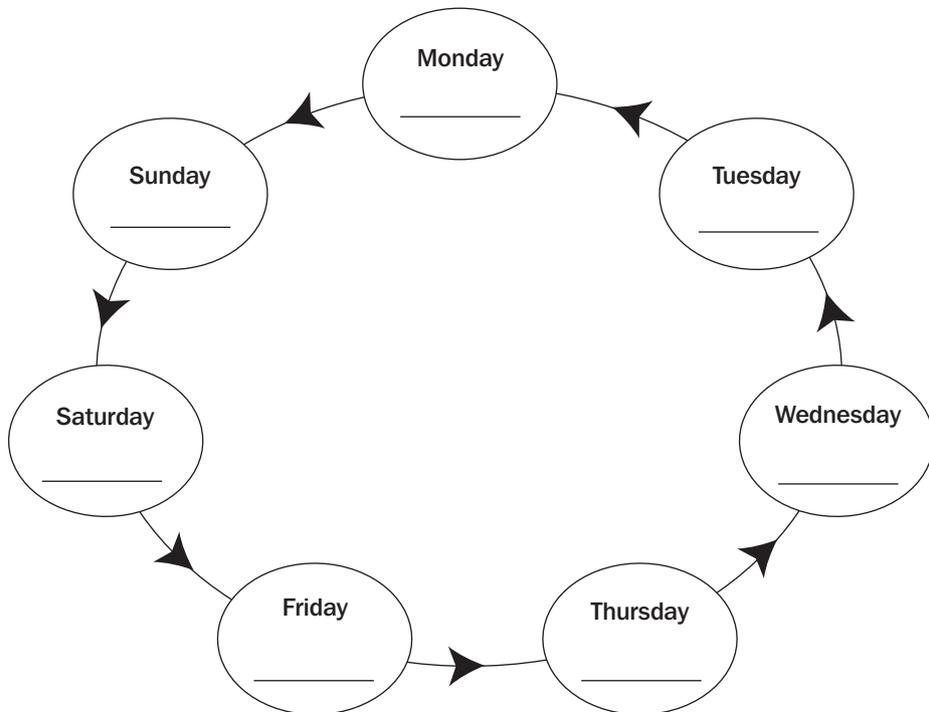
*Put a tick near **yesterday**. Then in the space provided, write the number of cigarettes you had yesterday. If you didn't smoke any cigarettes, put in '0'.*

Start filling in the spaces beginning with yesterday, and follow the arrows.

Answer for every day of the week.

Write the number of cigarettes you smoked each day in the circle.

Put '0' for each day you didn't smoke any cigarettes.



16. Do you think you will be smoking cigarettes this time next year?

- 1 Certain not to be smoking
- 2 Very unlikely to be smoking
- 3 Unlikely to be smoking
- 4 Can't decide how likely
- 5 Likely to be smoking
- 6 Very likely to be smoking
- 7 Certain to be smoking

17. Have you ever smoked even part of a cigar?

- 1 No
- 2 Yes, a few puffs but not as much as one cigar
- 3 Yes, I have smoked at least one cigar in my life

QUESTIONS 18, 19 AND 20 ARE ONLY FOR THOSE WHO HAVE SMOKED A CIGARETTE IN THE PAST WEEK.

IF YOU HAVE NOT SMOKED A CIGARETTE IN THE PAST WEEK, GO TO QUESTION 21.

18. (a) What brand of cigarettes do you usually smoke?

Tick the box near the brand you usually smoke. If that brand is not listed here, tick the box next to "Other" and write the name of the brand in the space provided.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 01 <input type="checkbox"/> | Alpine | 10 <input type="checkbox"/> | Peter Jackson |
| 02 <input type="checkbox"/> | Benson & Hedges | 11 <input type="checkbox"/> | Sterling |
| 03 <input type="checkbox"/> | Dunhill | 12 <input type="checkbox"/> | Stradbroke |
| 04 <input type="checkbox"/> | Escort | 13 <input type="checkbox"/> | Vogue |
| 05 <input type="checkbox"/> | Fortune | 14 <input type="checkbox"/> | Wills Super Mild |
| 06 <input type="checkbox"/> | Holiday | 15 <input type="checkbox"/> | Winfield |
| 07 <input type="checkbox"/> | Horizon | 16 <input type="checkbox"/> | Freedom |
| 08 <input type="checkbox"/> | Longbeach | ** <input type="checkbox"/> | Other (specify) _____ |
| 09 <input type="checkbox"/> | Marlboro | | |

*You should have ticked only **one** box.*

(b) Do the cigarettes you usually smoke come from packets of...?

- 1 20s?
2 25s?
3 30s?
4 35s?
5 40s?
6 50s?

*You should have ticked only **one** box.*

19. (a) Where, or from whom, **did you get** the **last** cigarette that you smoked?

Fill in the space beside "Other" if you can't find your answer.

*Tick only **one** box.*

- | | I didn't buy it | OR | I bought it |
|----|--|-----------|---|
| 01 | <input type="checkbox"/> My parent(s) gave it to me | 51 | <input type="checkbox"/> At a hotel, pub, bar, tavern, RSL Club |
| 02 | <input type="checkbox"/> My brother or sister gave it to me | 52 | <input type="checkbox"/> At a supermarket |
| 03 | <input type="checkbox"/> I took it from home without my parent(s) permission | 53 | <input type="checkbox"/> At a newsagency |
| 04 | <input type="checkbox"/> Friends gave it to me | 54 | <input type="checkbox"/> At a milk bar or delicatessen |
| 05 | <input type="checkbox"/> I got someone to buy it for me | 55 | <input type="checkbox"/> At a convenience store (eg Food Plus) |
| ** | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | 56 | <input type="checkbox"/> At a tobacconist/tobacco shop |
| | | 57 | <input type="checkbox"/> At a take-away food shop |
| | | 58 | <input type="checkbox"/> At a petrol station |
| | | ** | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

*You should have ticked only **one** box.*

(b) If you bought your last cigarette, was it from a coin-operated (vending) machine?

- 1 Yes
2 No

20. (a) Sometimes people break open a packet of cigarettes and sell single cigarettes. In the last **four weeks**, have you **bought** cigarettes that were **not in a full packet** (for example, buying one or more cigarette(s) at a time)?

1 Yes **Go to QUESTION 20(b)**

2 No **Go to QUESTION 21**

(b) Thinking of the last time you **bought** cigarettes that were **not in a full packet**, who did you buy the cigarette(s) from?

1 I bought the cigarette(s) at a shop

2 I bought the cigarette(s) from a friend or relative

3 I bought the cigarette(s) from someone else

THESE QUESTIONS ARE FOR EVERYONE AND ARE ABOUT DRINKING ALCOHOL - BEER, WINE, WINE COOLERS, ALCOHOLIC SODAS, SPIRITS, LIQUEURS, ALCOHOLIC APPLE CIDER, SHERRY OR PORT.

21. At the present time, do you consider yourself:

1 A non-drinker?

2 An occasional drinker?

3 A light drinker?

4 A party drinker?

5 A heavy drinker?

22. Have you **ever** had even part of an alcoholic drink?

1 No

2 Yes, just a few sips

3 Yes, I have had fewer than 10 alcoholic drinks in my life

4 Yes, I have had more than 10 alcoholic drinks in my life

23. Have you had an alcoholic drink in the last **twelve months**?

1 Yes

2 No

24. Have you had an alcoholic drink in the last **four weeks**?

1 Yes

2 No

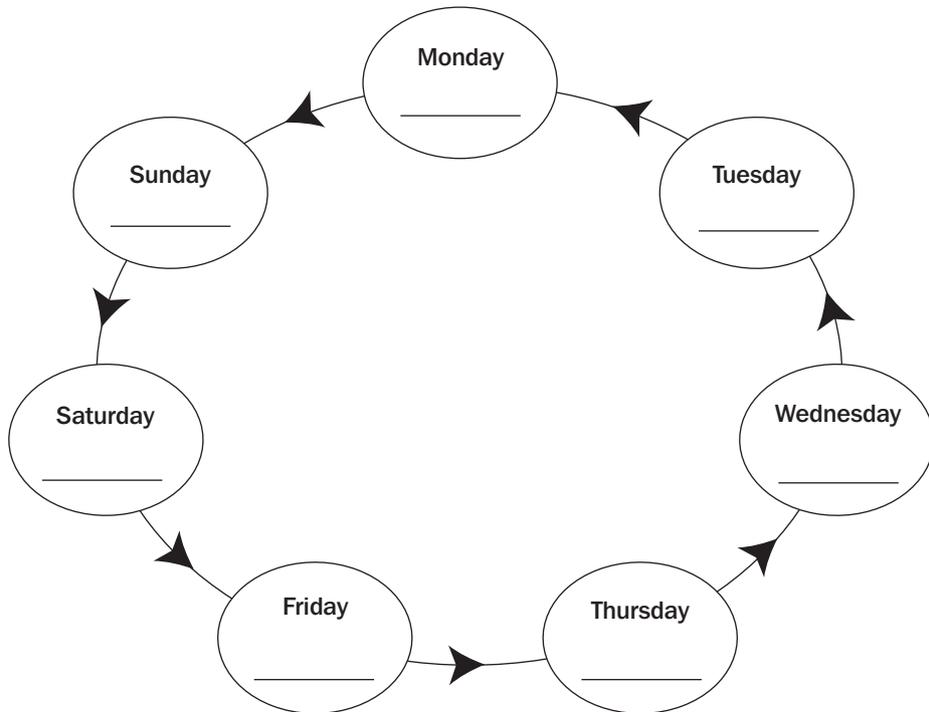
25. This question is about the number of alcoholic drinks you had during the last **seven days**, including yesterday.

*Put a tick near **yesterday**. Then in the space provided, write the number of alcoholic drinks you had yesterday. If you didn't have any alcoholic drinks, put in '0'. Start filling in the spaces beginning with yesterday, and follow the arrows.*

Answer for every day of the week.

Write the number of alcoholic drinks you had each day in the circle.

Put '0' for each day you didn't drink any alcoholic drinks.



QUESTIONS 26, 27, 28 AND 29 ARE FOR ANYONE WHO HAS HAD AN ALCOHOLIC DRINK.

IF YOU HAVE NEVER HAD AN ALCOHOLIC DRINK, GO TO QUESTION 30.

26. What alcoholic drink do you usually have?

*Tick the box near the drink you **usually** have. If that drink is not listed here, tick the box next to "Other" and write the name of the drink in the space provided.*

- 01 Ordinary beer
- 02 Low alcohol beer
- 03 Wine
- 04 Wine Cooler (eg West Coast Coolers)
- 05 Champagne or sparkling wine (eg Spumante, Passion Pop)
- 06 Alcoholic Apple Cider (eg Strongbow)
- 07 Alcoholic sodas (eg Two Dogs)
- 08 Premixed spirits (eg Bacardi Breezer, Lemon Ruski, UDL Drinks, Sub Zero)
- 09 Spirits (eg rum, brandy, whisky, gin, vodka)
- 10 Liqueurs (eg Tia Maria, Kahlua, Midori, etc)
- ** Other (*specify*)

*You should have ticked only **one** box.*

27. Where, or from whom, **did you get** your **last** alcoholic drink?

Fill in the space beside "Other" if you can't find your answer.

*Tick only **one** box.*

	I didn't buy it	OR	I bought it
01	<input type="checkbox"/> My parent(s) gave it to me		51 <input type="checkbox"/> At a hotel, pub, bar, tavern, RSL Club
02	<input type="checkbox"/> My brother or sister gave it to me		52 <input type="checkbox"/> At a licensed liquor store or supermarket
03	<input type="checkbox"/> I took it from home without my parent(s) permission		53 <input type="checkbox"/> At a walk in bottle-shop at a pub or hotel
04	<input type="checkbox"/> Friends gave it to me		54 <input type="checkbox"/> At a drive-in bottle-shop
05	<input type="checkbox"/> I got someone to buy it for me		55 <input type="checkbox"/> At a restaurant
**	<input type="checkbox"/> Other _____		56 <input type="checkbox"/> At a dance venue/dance party
			57 <input type="checkbox"/> At a nightclub
			58 <input type="checkbox"/> At a sporting event
			59 <input type="checkbox"/> At a sports club (eg Leagues, surfing, football)
			60 <input type="checkbox"/> Through the Internet
			61 <input type="checkbox"/> By phone, fax, mail order
			** <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____

*You should have ticked only **one** box.*

28. **Where** did you drink your **last** alcoholic drink?

Fill in the space beside "Other" if you can't find your answer.

Tick only **one** box.

I drank it

- 01 At a beach, park or recreation area
- 02 At a hotel, pub, bar, tavern or RSL club
- 03 At a dance venue/dance party
- 04 At a nightclub
- 05 At a party
- 06 At a restaurant
- 07 At a sporting event
- 08 At a sports club (eg Leagues, surfing, football)
- 09 On school grounds during school hours
- 10 On school grounds after hours
- 11 At my home
- 12 At my friend's home
- 13 In a car
- ** Other (*specify*)

You should have ticked only **one** box.

29. Think back over the last **two weeks**. How many times, if any, have you had the following number of alcoholic drinks on any one occasion when you have been drinking in the last two weeks?

	None	Once	Twice	3-6 times	7-9 times	10 or more times
(i) 11 or more drinks in a row	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) 7 or more drinks in a row	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) 5 or more drinks in a row	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>

THE NEXT QUESTIONS ARE FOR EVERYONE AND ARE ABOUT OTHER THINGS YOU MIGHT USE.

For **each** substance, tick the box which shows how many times you have used the substance during the specified time period. There should only be **one** tick for **each** line of boxes.

30. How many times, if ever, have you used or taken pain killers/analgesics such as Disprin, Panadol or Aspro, **for any reason**:

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

31. How many times, if ever, have you used or taken sleeping tablets, tranquillisers or sedatives, such as Valium, Serepax or Rohypnol (rohies, barbs) **other than for medical reasons**:

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

32. (a) How many times, if ever, have you smoked or used marijuana/cannabis (grass, hash, dope, weed, mull, yarndi, ganga, pot, a bong, a joint):

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have NOT used marijuana/cannabis in the last year, go to QUESTION 33.

(b) In the **last year**, did you use any other substance or substances **on the same occasion that you used** marijuana/cannabis?

Tick **all** that apply.

- 01 I did not use any other substance on the same occasion
- 02 Ecstasy (XTC, E, MDMA, ecci, X, bickies)
- 03 Amphetamines (eg speed, uppers, goey, MDA, dex, dexies, dexamphetamines, ox blood, methamphetamine, ice)
- 04 Hallucinogens (eg LSD, acid, trips, magic mushrooms)
- 05 Pain killers/analgesics
- 06 Sedatives/tranquillisers/sleeping tablets
- 07 Alcohol
- 08 Tobacco
- ** Other (*what substance?*)

You should have ticked **all** that apply.

(c) When you use cannabis (marijuana) do you usually:

Tick **only one** box

- 1 Smoke it as a joint (reefer, spliff)?
- 2 Smoke it from a bong or a pipe?
- 3 Eat it (eg in hash cookies)?
- 4 Other (*specify*)

You should have ticked **only one** box.

(d) Do you usually use cannabis (marijuana) by yourself or with others?

- 1 By myself
- 2 With others
- 3 By myself and with others about equally often

(e) **Where** did you last use cannabis?

Fill in the space beside "**Other**" if you can't find your answer

I used it....

- 01 At a hotel, pub, bar, tavern or RSL club
- 02 At a dance venue, dance party, rave
- 03 At a nightclub
- 04 At a party
- 05 At my home
- 06 At my friend's home
- 07 At a sports club (eg Leagues, surfing, football)
- 08 At the beach
- 09 In a park
- 10 In a car
- 11 On school grounds during school time
- 12 On school grounds after hours
- ** Other (*specify*)

You should have ticked only **one** box.

33. How many times, if ever, have you used or taken steroids, (muscle, roids, or gear) **without a doctor's prescription** in an attempt to make you better at sport, to increase muscle size or to improve your general appearance:

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

34. How many times, if ever, have you deliberately sniffed (inhaled) from spray cans or sniffed things like glue, paint, petrol or thinners in order to get high or for the way it makes you feel:

This does not include sniffing white-out, liquid paper, textas or pens.

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

35. (a) How many times, if ever, have you used or taken amphetamines (eg speed, uppers, MDA, goey, dex, dexies, dexamphetamine, ox blood, methamphetamine, ice) **other than for medical reasons**:

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have NOT used amphetamines in the last year, go to QUESTION 36(a).

- (b) In the **last year**, did you use any other substance or substances **on the same occasion that you used** amphetamines (eg speed, uppers, MDA, goey, dex, dexies, dexamphetamine, ox blood, methamphetamine, ice)?

*Tick **all** that apply.*

- 01 I did not use any other substance on the same occasion
- 02 Ecstasy (XTC, E, MDMA, ecci, X, bickies)
- 03 Marijuana/cannabis
- 04 Hallucinogens (eg LSD, acid, trips, magic mushrooms)
- 05 Pain killers/analgesics
- 06 Sedatives/tranquillisers/sleeping tablets
- 07 Alcohol
- 08 Tobacco
- ** Other (*what substance?*)

*You should have ticked **all** that apply*

36. (a) How many times, if ever, have you used or taken ecstasy or XTC (E, MDMA, ecci, X, bickies):

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have NOT used ecstasy in the last year, go to QUESTION 37.

(b) In the **last year**, did you use any other substance or substances **on the same occasion that you used** ecstasy (XTC, E, MDMA, ecci, X, bickies):

*Tick **all** that apply.*

- 01 I did not use any other substance on the same occasion
- 02 Marijuana/cannabis
- 03 Amphetamines (eg speed, uppers, goey, MDA, dex, dexies, dexamphetamines, ox blood, methamphetamine, ice)
- 04 Hallucinogens (eg LSD, acid, trips, magic mushrooms)
- 05 Pain killers/analgesics
- 06 Sedatives/tranquillisers/sleeping tablets
- 07 Alcohol
- 08 Tobacco
- ** Other (*what substance?*)

*You should have ticked **all** that apply.*

37. How many times, if ever, have you used or taken cocaine:

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

38. How many times, if ever, have you used or taken heroin (smack, horse, skag, hammer, H), or other opiates (narcotics) such as methadone, morphine or pethidine **other than for medical reasons**:

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

39. (a) How many times, if ever, have you used or taken hallucinogens (eg LSD, acid, trips, magic mushrooms, datura, angel's trumpet):

	None	Once or twice	3-5 times	6-9 times	10-19 times	20-39 times	40 or more times
(i) In the last week ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(ii) In the last four weeks ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iii) In the last year ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>
(iv) In your lifetime ?	1 <input type="checkbox"/>	2 <input type="checkbox"/>	3 <input type="checkbox"/>	4 <input type="checkbox"/>	5 <input type="checkbox"/>	6 <input type="checkbox"/>	7 <input type="checkbox"/>

If you have NOT used hallucinogens in the last year, go to QUESTION 40.

(b) In the **last year**, what forms of hallucinogens did you use?

Tick all that apply.

- 1 Tablets
- 2 Paper tabs
- 3 Liquids
- 4 Magic mushrooms
- 5 Datura / Angel's trumpet
- 6 Other (*please write in*)

- (c) In the **last year**, did you use any other substance or substances **on the same occasion that you used** hallucinogens (eg LSD, acid, trips, magic mushrooms, datura, angel's trumpet)?

Tick **all** that apply.

- 01 I did not use any other substance on the same occasion
- 02 Ecstasy (XTC, E, MDMA, ecci, X, bickies)
- 03 Amphetamines (eg speed, uppers, goey, MDA, dex, dexies, dexamphetamines, ox blood, methamphetamine, ice)
- 04 Marijuana/cannabis
- 05 Pain killers/analgesics
- 06 Sedatives/tranquillisers/sleeping tablets
- 07 Alcohol
- 08 Tobacco
- ** Other (*what substance?*)

You should have ticked **all** that apply.

THESE QUESTIONS ARE FOR EVERYONE.

40. **During 2001** (last year), did you have any lessons or parts of lessons at school that were about **smoking**?
- 1 No, not even part of a lesson
- 2 Yes, part of a lesson
- 3 Yes, one lesson
- 4 Yes, more than one lesson
41. **During 2001** (last year), did you have any lessons or parts of lessons at school that were about **drinking**?
- 1 No, not even part of a lesson
- 2 Yes, part of a lesson
- 3 Yes, one lesson
- 4 Yes, more than one lesson

42. **During 2001** (last year), did you have any lessons or parts of lessons at school that were about **illicit drugs** such as marijuana, ecstasy, heroin, amphetamines, hallucinogens, cocaine?

- 1 No, not even part of a lesson
- 2 Yes, part of a lesson
- 3 Yes, one lesson
- 4 Yes, more than one lesson

*Remember, **last** year was 2001.*

THE NEXT FEW QUESTIONS ARE ABOUT SOME OTHER TOPICS.

43. You only get skin cancer if you get burnt often.

- 1 True
- 2 False

44. Most skin cancer is caused by ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun.

- 1 True
- 2 False

45. **During 2001** (that is **last year**), did you have any lessons or parts of lessons at school that were about **skin cancer** or **protection from the sun**?

- 1 No, not even part of a lesson
- 2 Yes, part of a lesson
- 3 Yes, one lesson
- 4 Yes, more than one lesson

46. Over the **last** summer, did you get sunburn that was sore or tender the next day?

- 1 Yes, just once
- 2 Yes, 2 or 3 times
- 3 Yes, 4 or more times
- 4 No, not at all

47. (a) Have you **ever** had severe sunburn, which has blistered?
- 1 Yes **Go to QUESTION 47(b)**
- 2 No **Go to QUESTION 48**
- (b) **If yes**, how long ago was the last time you were severely sunburnt?
- 1 Last summer
- 2 1 to 2 years ago
- 3 More than 2 years ago
48. What type of hat do you most often wear on a sunny day in summer?
- 1 Wide brimmed hat
- 2 Narrow brimmed hat
- 3 Legionnaire hat
- 4 Cap
- 5 Sun-visor
- 6 Other (*what kind?*)
- 7 None
49. What is the SPF (Sun Protection Factor) of the sunscreen you usually use on a sunny day in summer?
- 1 I don't use sunscreen
- 2 SPF 12 or lower
- 3 SPF 15
- 4 SPF 30+
- 5 Can't remember / don't know
50. Suppose your skin was exposed to **strong** sunshine at the **beginning** of summer with no protection at all. If you stayed in the sun for 30 minutes, would your skin:
- 1 Just burn or go red
- 2 Burn or go red first, then tan afterwards
- 3 Just tan
- 4 Nothing would happen because I was born with dark skin

51. Do you like to get a suntan?

- 1 No
- 2 Yes, a light tan
- 3 Yes, a moderate tan
- 4 Yes, a dark tan
- 5 Yes, a very dark tan

52. **Thinking about sunny days in summer, when you are outside for an hour or more between 11 am and 3 pm, how often would you:**

- | | Never | Rarely | Sometimes | Usually | Always |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| (i) Wear a hat? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (ii) Wear clothes covering most of your body (including arms and legs)? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (iii) Deliberately wear less or briefer clothing so as to get some sun on your skin? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (iv) Wear maximum protection sunscreen (SPF 30+)? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (v) Wear sunglasses? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |
| (vi) Stay mainly in the shade? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |

Thinking about sunny days in summer between 11 am and 3 pm:

- | | Never | Rarely | Sometimes | Usually | Always |
|--|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| (vii) How often would you spend most of the time inside ? | 1 <input type="checkbox"/> | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> | 3 <input type="checkbox"/> | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> | 5 <input type="checkbox"/> |