

SMART survey questions on alcohol in Survey on tobacco, alcohol and other drugs 2011-2012: Slovenia

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Outline

- Data collection and methodology
- Questions on alcohol from SMART
 - Attitudes towards alcohol policy,
 - Risky Single Occasion Drinking,
 - Consequences of own alcohol use.

Data collection and methodology

- Based on EMCDDA [Handbook for Surveys on Drug Use among the General Population](#) (2002) and national references and practices NIPH prepared recommendations for implementation of the survey in Slovenia
- [2011 \(Oct-Nov\) and 2012 \(Apr-Jun\)](#): Survey on the use of drugs, tobacco and alcohol 2011-2012 - data collection
- [Target population](#): inhabitants of Slovenia aged 15–64, living in private households
- [Mixed mode of interview](#): web, telephone, face-to-face
[Target population](#): inhabitants of Slovenia aged 15–64 years, living in private households
- [Mixed mode of interview](#): web, telephone, face-to-face
- [Sample size](#): 7514 respondents
- [Response rate](#): 52,9 %

Drinking patterns of Slovenian adults

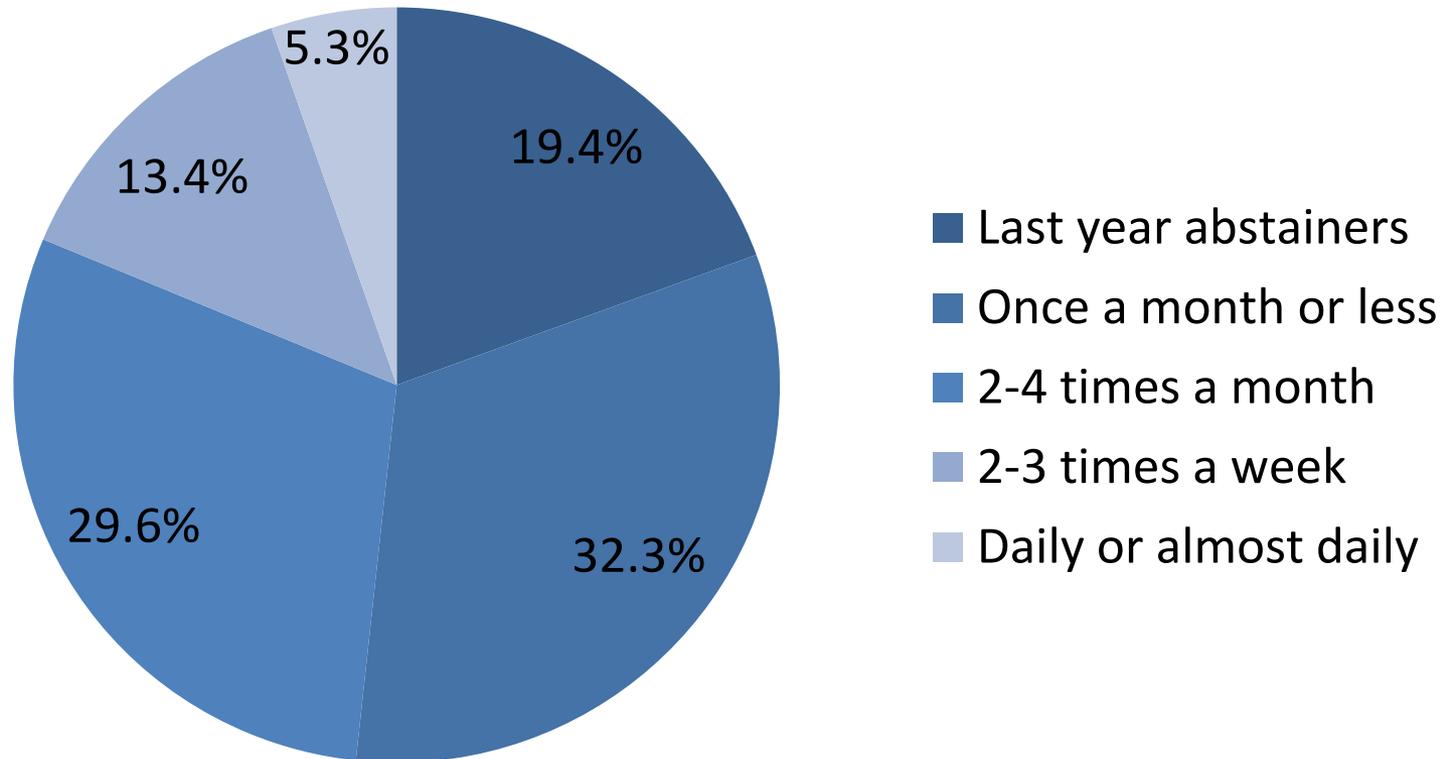


Figure 1: Shares (in %) of abstainers and persons who consumed alcohol in the last 12 months among the Slovenian population aged 15–64 by frequency of consumption

Attitudes to alcohol policy

- All statements included except AP_7 (*People are responsible enough to protect themselves from alcohol-related harm caused by their drinking.*);
- Statement AP_1 was slightly changed to ,Advertising of alcohol should be prohibited.' (not ... *restricted*);
- Statement AP_2 was slightly changed to 'The blood alcohol limit for drivers should be kept *at 0.*' (not ...*as low as possible*);
- Answer categories are in reverse order (in Slovenian surveys usually 1 is ,disagree' and 4 or 5 is ,agree').

Attitudes to alcohol policy

Breath testing of drivers should be widely enforced all year around.	83,9 %
The blood alcohol limit for drivers should be kept at 0.0.	70,0 %
Public authorities have the responsibility to act to keep people from being harmed by their own drinking.	63,1 %
Alcohol taxes should be increased if people drink too much.	62,1 %
Advertising of alcohol should be prohibited.	58.3 %
Number of alcohol outlets should be decreased if people drink too much.	49,3 %
Alcohol is commodity like any other and does not require any special restrictions.	29,6 %

Table 1: Shares (in %) of Slovenian population aged 15–64 who agree or strongly agree to different policy measures

Risky Single Occasion Drinking

- Only one question was used: question RSOD_1 was used as gender specific (men: 6 units, women: 4 units);
- Answer categories were put in reverse order and a bit modified with less categories:
 - Never,
 - Less than once a month,
 - 1 to 3 times a month,
 - 1 to 3 times a week,
 - Daily or almost daily.
- Abstainers are excluded (they did not answer the question).

Risky single occasion drinkers in the past 12 months

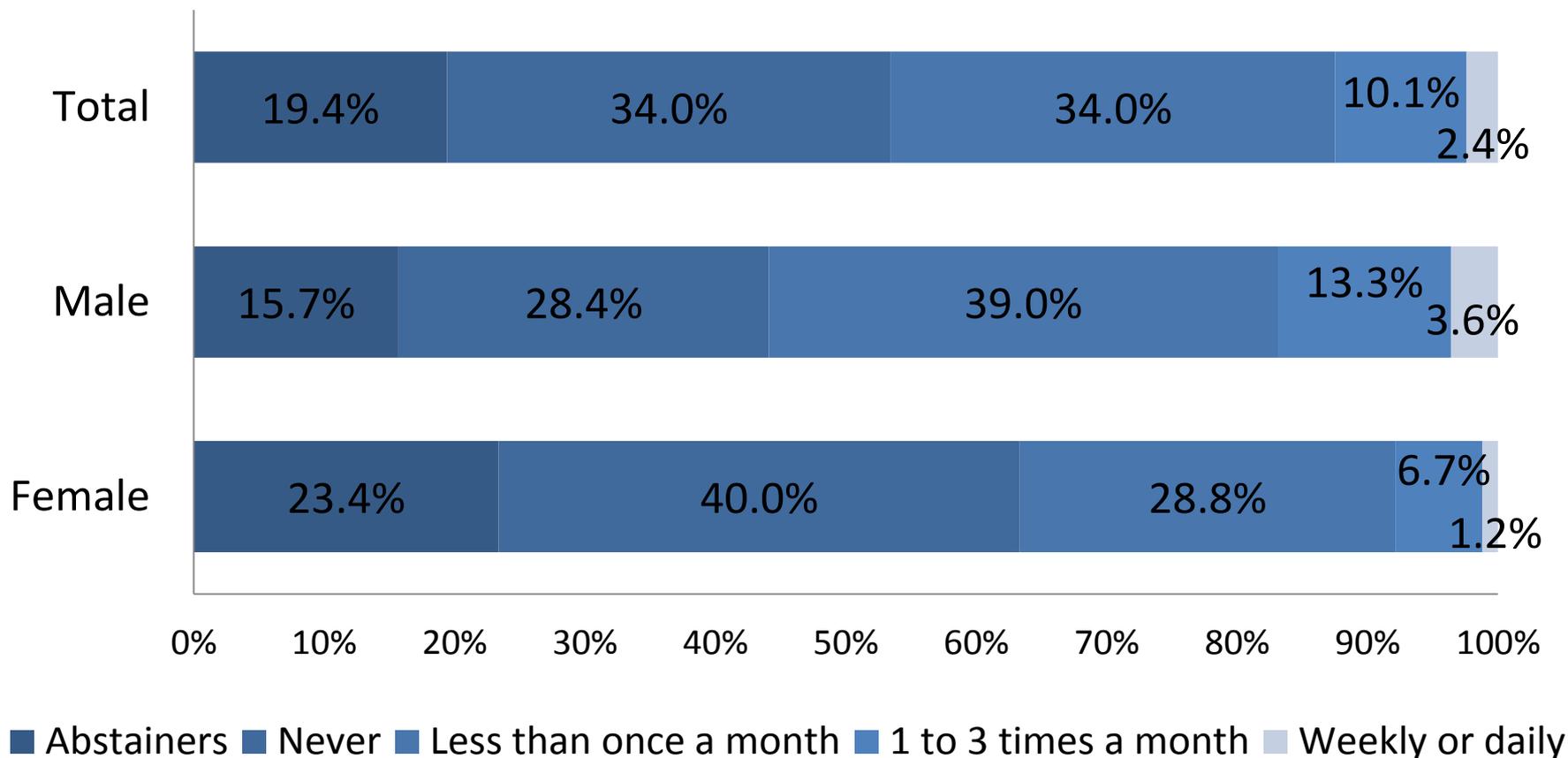


Figure 2: Shares (in %) of the Slovenian population aged 15–64 who do not consume alcohol and of those who engaged in episodic heavy drinking in the last 12 months, by gender

Consequences of own alcohol use

Q: Have you felt your drinking harmed your home life/friendship/health/work, studies/finances/...fight/...arrested because of drunk driving?

A: No, never/Yes, once/Yes, more than once.

- All questions (ASC_1 to ASC_7) were used;
- For ASC_6 and ASC_7 different answer categories were used (No/Yes, but not in the past 12 month/Yes, in the past 12 months) because they were a part of different block of questions.
- In analysis the presence of consequence was counted when answered: Yes, once/Yes, more than once/Yes, but not in the past 12 month/Yes, in the past 12 months.

Consequences of own alcohol use

... harmed your health?	11,8 %
... harmed your finances?	10,8 %
... harmed your home-life or marriage?	7,6 %
... been arrested or stopped by the police because of drunk driving or drunken behavior?	6,3 %
... harmed your work or studies?	4,6 %
... harmed your friendship or social life?	4,4 %
... got into a fight when you've been drinking or right after drinking?	3,9 %

At least one consequence was at least once experienced by 26 % of adults who have drunk alcohol in the past 12 months.

Other question sets used

- Some other questions from SMART methodology were used in the survey:
 - Frequency of drinking,
 - Beverage specific quantity frequency method,
 - Unrecorded purchasing,
 - Impact of others drinking.
- Minor modifications to SMART questions were applied (further explained in the Slovenian National abstract 2014).

Experience of using SMART methodology

- Many alcohol topics in one document.
- Many aspects of measurement covered:
Background + model questions + core variables + implementation instruction + data processing.
- Still missing:
 - How to handle missing data when calculating alcohol consumption.
- In Slovenia, SMART questions were implemented with (minor) changes.

JA RARHA, WP 4

Slovenia takes part in WP 4 of JA RARHA project:

- **Strand 1:**
 - Development of ,new‘ SMART questionnaire,
 - Pilot survey.
- **Strand 2:**
 - Data on alcohol from Survey on tobacco, alcohol and other drugs 2011-2012 will be provided to the common database.

Thank you for your attention!

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