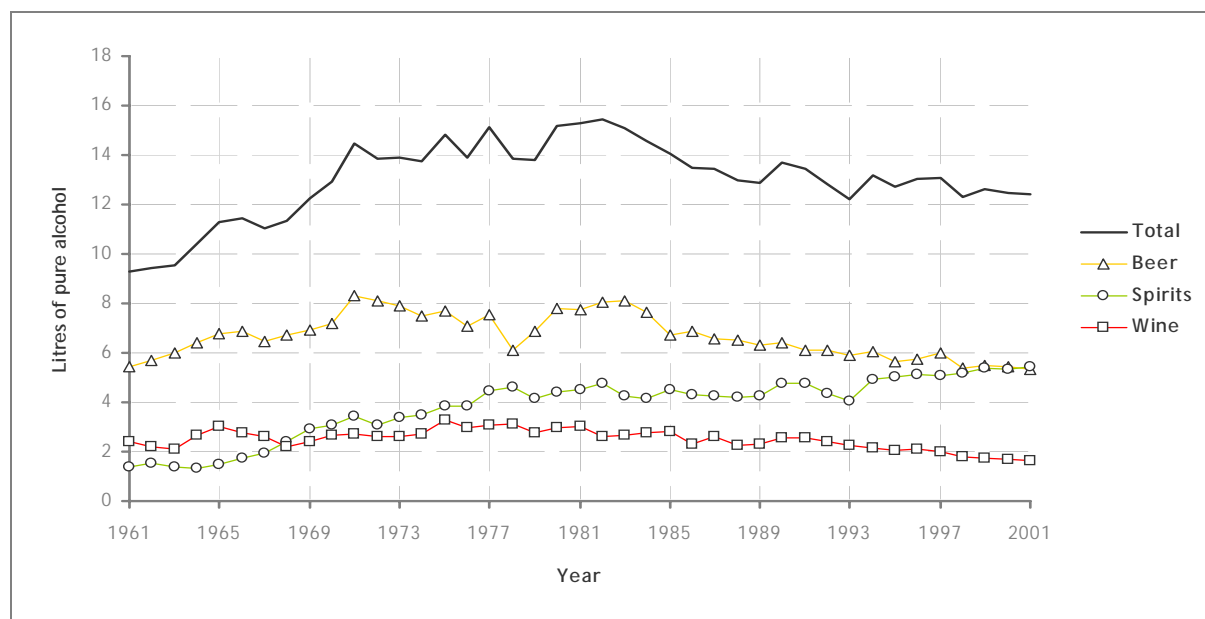


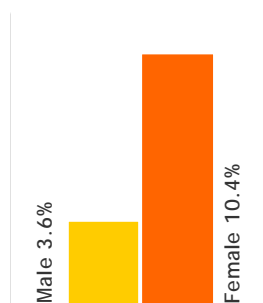
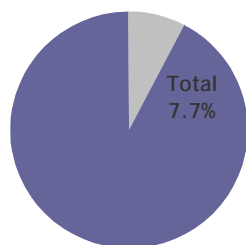
SLOVAKIA

Recorded adult per capita consumption (age 15+)



Sources: FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), World Drink Trends 2003

Last year abstainers

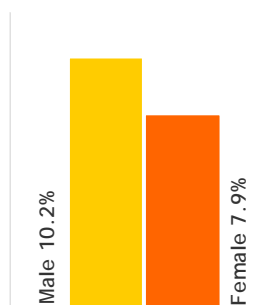
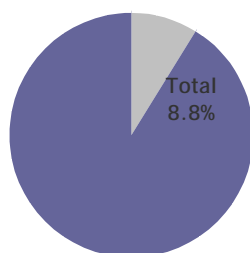


Data from the 2000–2001 Multi-Country Survey Study. Total sample size $n = 1086$; males $n = 489$ and females $n = 597$. Sample population aged 18 years and above.¹

According to the 2003 World Health Survey (total sample size $n = 1752$, males $n = 600$ and females $n = 1152$; population aged 18 years and over), the rate of lifetime abstainers was 7.7% (total), 5.2% (males) and 8.5% (females).²

Estimates from key alcohol experts show that the proportion of adult males and females who had been abstaining (last year before the survey) was 5% (males) and 22% (females). Data is for after year 1995.³

High risk drinkers

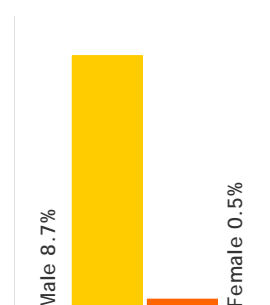
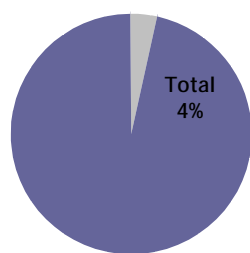


Data from the 2000–2001 Multi-Country Survey Study. Total sample size $n = 1086$; males $n = 489$ and females $n = 597$. Sample population aged 18 years and above. Definition used: average consumption of five or more standard drinks for males and three or more standard drinks for females on a typical drinking day.¹

According to the 2003 World Health Survey (total sample size $n = 1752$, males $n = 600$ and females $n = 1152$; population aged 18 years and over), the rate of heavy and hazardous drinking among the total population was 7% (total), 5.2% (males) and 7.9% (females). Heavy and hazardous drinking was defined as daily consumption of 40 g or more of pure alcohol for men and 20 g or more of pure alcohol for women.²

According to the 2003 World Health Survey (total sample size $n = 1334$; males $n = 505$ and females $n = 829$), the mean value (in grams) of pure alcohol consumed per day among drinkers was 10.2 (total), 14.0 (males) and 7.8 (females).²

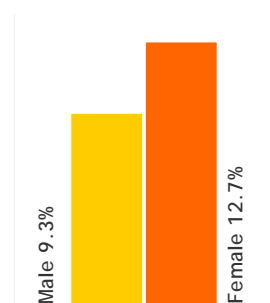
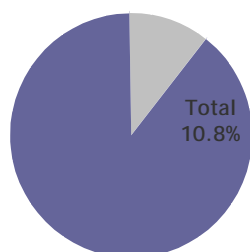
Heavy episodic drinkers



Data from the 2000–2001 Multi-Country Survey Study. Total sample size $n = 1086$; males $n = 489$ and females $n = 597$. Population aged 18 years and above. Definition used: at least once a week consumption of six or more standard drinks in one sitting.¹

According to the 2003 World Health Survey (total sample size $n = 1752$, males $n = 600$ and females $n = 1152$, population aged 18 years and over), the rate of heavy episodic drinking among the total population was 6.8% (total), 13.9% (males) and 2.8% (females). Heavy episodic drinking was defined as at least once a week consumption of five or more standard drinks in one sitting.²

Youth drinking (last year abstainers)



Data from the 2000–2001 Multi-Country Survey Study. Total sample size $n = 179$; males $n = 100$ and females $n = 79$. Sample population aged 18 to 24 years. For the age group 15 to 19 years (subsample $n = 48$), the rate of last year abstainers was 14.6% (total), 15.4% (males) and 13.6% (females).¹

According to the 2003 World Health Survey (total sample size $n = 449$, males $n = 203$ and females $n = 246$; sample population aged 18 to 24 years), the rate of lifetime abstainers was 7.1% (total), 7% (males) and 7.3% (females).²

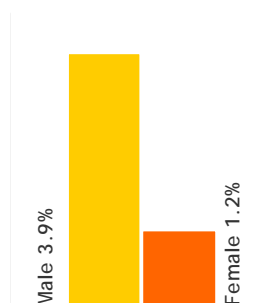
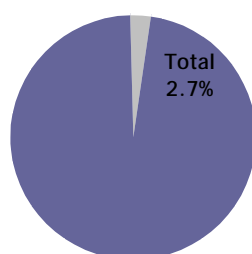
A 1998 survey of 2616 first grade students of 31 secondary schools located in Kosice (1370 males and 1246 females; mean age 14.86 years) found the rate of last month abstainers to be 32.7% (males) and 34.4% (females).⁴ In a follow-up of the same study conducted in 2002/2003 (total sample size $n = 844$; males $n = 361$ and females $n = 483$; mean age 19.6 years), the rate of last month abstainers was found to be 26.9% (males) and 44.4% (females).⁵

In a 2002 study conducted among 1010 first grade students of secondary schools from the Kosice region (441 males and 569 females; mean age 15.95 years), the rate of last month abstainers was found to be 47.7% (males) and 51.6% (females). In a 2002 study of 982 third grade students of secondary schools in Kosice (486 males and 496 females; mean age 17.79 years), the rate of last month abstainers was found to be 24.3% (males) and 42.7% (females).⁶

According to the 1999 ESPAD survey (total sample size $n = 2442$, males $n = 1149$ and females $n = 1293$; age group 15 to 16 years), the rate of alcohol consumers was 27% (total), 31% (males) and 23% (females). Alcohol consumer was defined as lifetime use of 40 times or more.⁷

According to the 1997/1998 HBSC survey (total sample size $n = 843$), 32% of 15-year-old boys and 16% of 15-year-old girls reported drinking beer, wine or spirits at least weekly.⁸

Youth drinking (heavy episodic drinkers)



Data from the 2000–2001 Multi-Country Survey Study. Total sample size $n = 179$; males $n = 100$ and females $n = 79$. Population aged 18 to 24 years old. Definition used: at least once a week consumption of six or more standard drinks in one sitting.¹

According to the 2003 World Health Survey (total sample size $n = 449$, males $n = 203$ and females $n = 246$; sample population aged 18 to 24 years), the rate of heavy episodic drinking among the total population was 17.8% (total), 28.4% (males) and 9% (females). Heavy episodic drinking was defined as at least once a week consumption of five or more standard drinks in one sitting.²

According to the 1999 ESPAD survey (total sample size $n = 2442$, males $n = 1149$ and females $n = 1293$; age group 15 to 16 years), the rate of binge drinking was 8% (total), 12% (males) and 7% (females). Binge drinking was defined as consuming five or more drinks in a row three times or more in the last 30 days.⁷

Youth drinking (drunkenness)

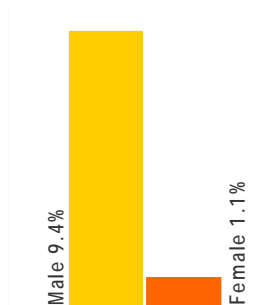
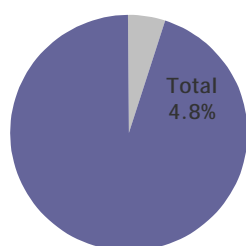
In a 2002 study of 844 students from grammar schools, secondary schools and apprentice schools in Kosice (361 males and 483 females; mean age 19.6 years), 22.4% of boys and 13.7% of girls reported having being drunk 1–2 times during the last four weeks. 8.9% of boys and 1.7% of girls reported having been drunk three times or more during the last four weeks preceding the survey.⁴

In a 2002 study conducted among 1010 first grade students of secondary schools from the Kosice region (441 males and 569 females; mean age 15.95 years), 21.3% of boys and 19.3% of girls reported having been drunk 1–2 times during the last four weeks. 7.0% of boys and 2.3% of girls reported having been drunk three times or more during the last four weeks preceding the survey.⁵

In a 2002 study of 982 third grade students of secondary schools in Kosice (486 males and 496 females; mean age 17.79 years), 29.8% of boys and 23.8% of girls reported having been drunk 1–2 times during the last four weeks. 13.0% of boys and 2.4% of girls reported having been drunk three times or more during the last four weeks preceding the survey.⁶

In the 1999 ESPAD study of subjects 15 to 16 years old (total sample size $n = 2442$; males $n = 1149$ and females $n = 1293$) the proportion of subjects who reported being drunk three times or more in the last 30 days was 9% (total), 10% (males) and 6% (females).⁷

Alcohol dependence (last year)



Data from the 2000–2001 Multi-Country Survey Study. Total sample size $n = 1182$. Population aged 15 years and above. Alcohol dependence was measured using ICD-10 criteria.¹

Note: These are preliminary, early-release, unpublished data from WHO's Multi-Country Survey Study and World Health Survey made available exclusively for this report. Some estimates may change in the final analyses of these data.

Traditional alcoholic beverages

Domáca (home-made) hard alcohol is traditionally made and drunk by Slovaks. In autumn home-producers of *domáca* turn the summer's plums, apples and cherries into fiery liquids with about 60% alcohol by volume. Types of *domáca* include *slivovica* (plum brandy), *hruškovica* (pear brandy), *jablkovica* (apple brandy), *čerešňovica* (cherry brandy) and *marhul'ovica* (apricot brandy).⁹

Unrecorded alcohol consumption

The unrecorded alcohol consumption in Slovakia is estimated to be 7.0 litres pure alcohol per capita for population older than 15 for the years after 1995 (estimated by a group of key alcohol experts).³

Morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use

In a retrospective analysis of alcohol consumption and mortality due to hepatic cirrhosis from 1973 to 1994, it was found that mortality caused by hepatic cirrhosis had increased during the past 40 years 10-fold in men and 4-fold in women.¹⁰

It is estimated that in Slovakia every fourth woman is abused because the problem of domestic violence is strongly connected to alcoholism. Even though alcohol is usually not the primary cause, it creates tension and aggression, and contributes to a higher frequency of cases.¹¹

In a 1998 study of 2616 Slovak adolescents (mean age 14.9 years), it was found that alcohol consumers had significantly more health complaints than non-alcohol consumers.⁴

The rate of alcoholic psychosis incidence per 100 000 population was 123.95 in 2001 and 136.89 in 2002.¹²

The SDR per 100 000 population for chronic liver disease and cirrhosis was 27.85 in 2000 and 26.73 in 2001.¹²

The number of alcohol-related road traffic accidents per 100 000 population was 21.31 in 2000 and 22.35 in 2001.¹²

Country background information

Total population 2003	5 402 000	Life expectancy at birth (2002)	Male	69.8
Adult (15+)	4 429 640		Female	78.3
% under 15	18	Probability of dying under age 5 per 1000 (2002)	Male	9
Population distribution 2001 (%)			Female	7
Urban	58	Gross National Income per capita 2002	US\$	3950
Rural	42			

Sources: Population and Statistics Division of the United Nations Secretariat, World Bank World Development Indicators database, The World Health Report 2004

References

1. Ustun TB et al. WHO Multi-Country Survey Study on Health and Health System Responsiveness 2000–2001. In: Murray CJL, Evans DB, eds. *Health Systems Performance Assessment: Debates, Methods and Empiricism*. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2003.
2. Ustun TB et al. The World Health Surveys. In: Murray CJL, Evans DB, eds. *Health Systems Performance Assessment: Debates, Methods and Empiricism*. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2003.
3. Alcohol per capita consumption, patterns of drinking and abstention worldwide after 1995. Appendix 2. *European Addiction Research*, 2001, 7(3):155–157.
4. Gecková AM et al. Influence of health risk behavior and socio-economic status on health on Slovak adolescents. *Croatian Medical Journal*, 2003, 44(1):41–49. Additional data obtained from personal communication with author.
5. Šléšková M et al. *Socio-ekonomické nerovnosti v zdraví u adolescentov a mladých dospelých longitudinálna štúdia. Správa z riešenia výskumnej úlohy [Socio-economic inequalities in health among adolescents and young adults - longitudinal study. Report]*. KISH UHV PF UPJS, Košice, 2004. In: Gecková AM. Personal communication. 3 August 2004.
6. Salonna F et al. *Socio-ekonomické nerovnosti v zdraví u adolescentov a mladých dospelých - prierezová štúdia. Správa z riešenia výskumnej úlohy [Socio-economic inequalities in health among adolescents and young adults - cross-sectional study. Report]*. KISH UHV PF UPJS, Košice, 2004. In: Gecková AM. Personal communication. 3 August 2004.
7. Hibell B et al. *The 1999 ESPAD Report. The European School Survey on Alcohol and Other Drugs: Alcohol and Other Drug Use Among Students in 30 European Countries*. Stockholm, Council of Europe, 2000.
8. *Health Behaviour in School-aged Children: a WHO Cross-National Study (HBSC) International Report*. Copenhagen, World Health Organization, 2000.
9. Pisárová M. Alcohol: Slovak national tradition claims ever new lives. *The Slovak Spectator*, 10 February 2000 (<http://www.slovakspectator.sk/clanok-1369.html>, accessed 15 April 2004).
10. Szantova M et al. Trends in alcohol consumption in relation to liver disease in Slovakia 1973–1994. *Bratislavské Lekárske Listy*, 1997, 98(1):12–16.
11. Petrášová, P. Violence behind closed doors: activists and lawmakers in Slovakia tackle widespread problem of domestic abuse. *Slovak Spectator* (http://www.piatazena.sk/eng/mon_slspect_200103.htm, accessed 9 February 2004).
12. European health for all database. World Health Organization, Regional Office for Europe (<http://hfadb.who.dk/hfa>, accessed 26 February 2004).