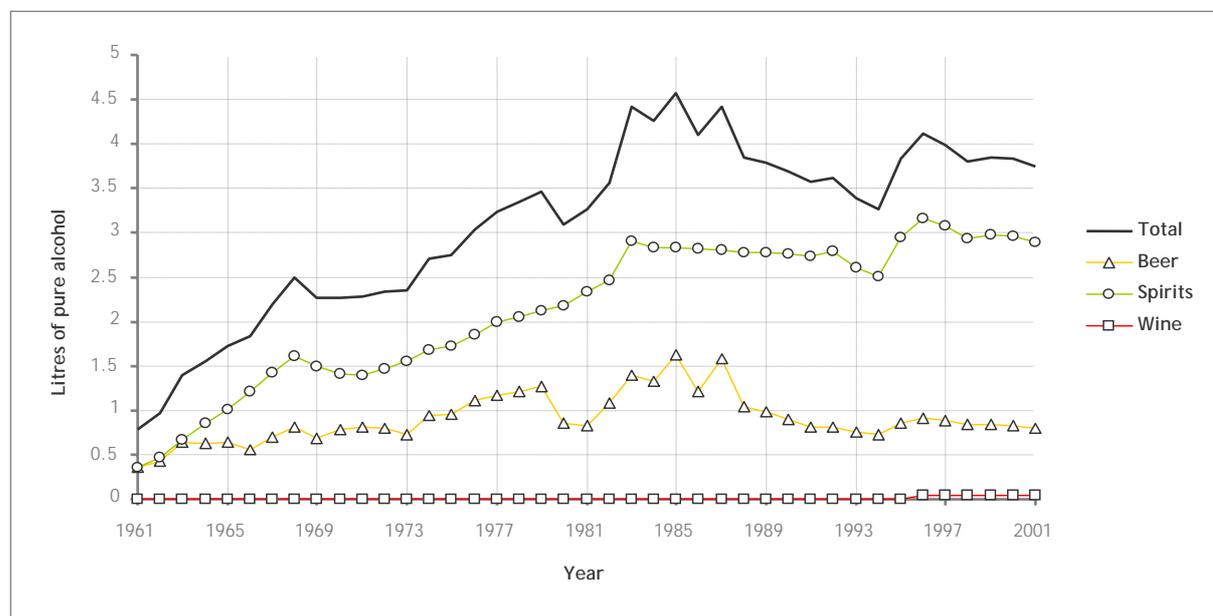


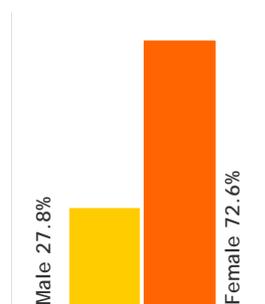
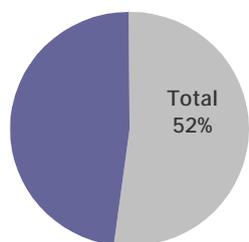
# PHILIPPINES (THE)

## Recorded adult per capita consumption (age 15+)



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

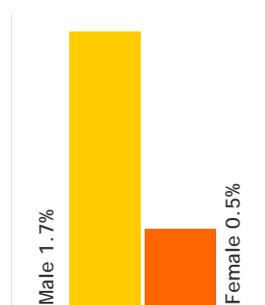
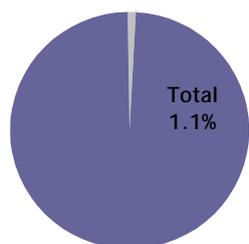
## Lifetime abstainers



Data from the 2003 World Health Survey. Total sample size  $n = 10\,034$ ; males  $n = 4639$  and females  $n = 5395$ . Sample population aged 18 years and above.<sup>1</sup>

Estimates from key alcohol experts show that the proportion of adult males and females who had been abstaining (last year before the survey) was 10% (males) and 70% (females). Data is for after year 1995.<sup>2</sup>

## Heavy and hazardous drinkers

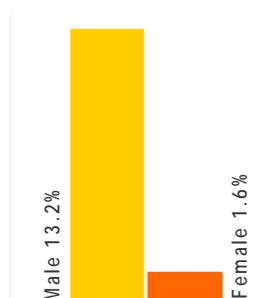
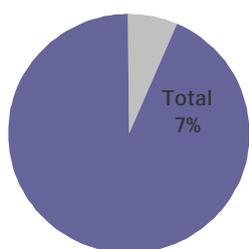


Data from the 2003 World Health Survey. Total sample size  $n = 10\,034$ ; males  $n = 4639$  and females  $n = 5395$ . Sample population aged 18 years and above. Definition used: average consumption of 40 g or more of pure alcohol a day for men and 20 g or more of pure alcohol a day for women.<sup>1</sup>

A 2001 survey of subjects aged between 15 and 74 years (total sample size  $n = 10\ 240$ ) found that the rate of regular drinking was 11.1% (total), 13% (males) and 5.9% (females). Regular drinking was defined as drinking on four days or more per week.<sup>3</sup>

According to the 2003 World Health Survey (total sample size  $n = 4951$ ; males  $n = 3430$  and females  $n = 1521$ ), the mean value (in grams) of pure alcohol consumed per day among drinkers was 4.8 (total), 6.1 (males) and 2.0 (females).<sup>1</sup>

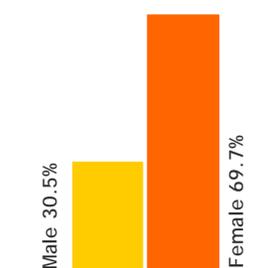
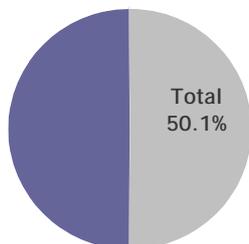
### Heavy episodic drinkers



Data from the 2003 World Health Survey. Total sample size  $n = 10\ 034$ ; males  $n = 4639$  and females  $n = 5395$ . Sample population aged 18 years and above. Definition used: at least once a week consumption of five or more standard drinks in one sitting.<sup>1</sup>

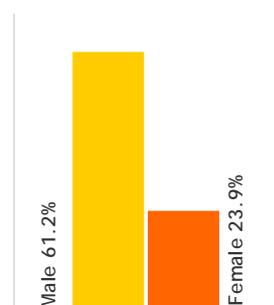
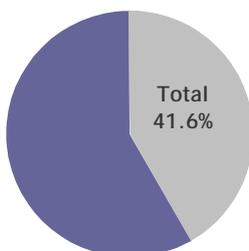
A 2001 survey (subsample size of drinkers  $n = 3529$ ; age group 15 to 74 years old) found that among drinkers 4.8% were heavy drinkers. 6.6% of male drinkers and 1.3% of female drinkers were heavy drinkers. Heavy drinking was defined as having more than 12 drinks on an average drinking day.<sup>4</sup>

### Youth drinking (lifetime abstainers)



Data from the 2003 World Health Survey. Total sample size  $n = 1692$ ; males  $n = 849$  and females  $n = 843$ . Sample population aged 18 to 24 years old.<sup>1</sup>

### Youth drinking (current drinkers)



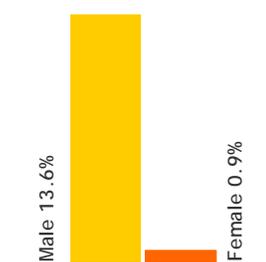
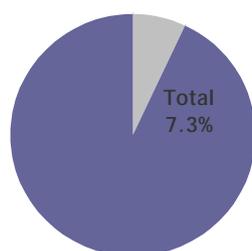
2002 national survey conducted among 20 000 Filipinos aged 15 to 27 years old. The same survey conducted in 1994 (sample size unknown) found that 37.4% of the total respondents, 60.5% of males and 16% of females were currently drinking alcohol at the time of the survey.<sup>5</sup>

A 2001 survey (total sample size  $n = 1105$ ; age group 15 to 19 years old) found that 24.3% of the total population sampled were current drinkers. 42.4% of males and 11.1% of females were reported to be currently drinking alcohol.<sup>6</sup>

Youth survey interviewed a national sample of 5266 men and 5612 women aged 15 to 24 in 1994. Data for age group 15 to 19 years old show that the rate of current drinkers among males was 47% and 12% among females.<sup>7</sup>

According to a cross-sectional, three-stage stratified cluster sampling representing 16 health regions of the country (total sample size  $n = 4198$ ; aged 15–29 years old), the prevalence of alcohol use among Filipino youth is 39%; males (66.5%) are twice more likely than females (33.5%) to drink alcohol. Seven out of ten youth drinkers are light drinkers (70%), three out of ten are moderate drinkers, and only 4% are heavy drinkers.<sup>6</sup>

### Youth drinking (heavy episodic drinkers)



Data from the 2003 World Health Survey. Total sample size  $n = 1692$ ; males  $n = 849$  and females  $n = 843$ . Sample population aged 18 to 24 years old. Definition used: at least once a week consumption of five or more standard drinks in one sitting.<sup>1</sup>

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

A 2001 survey (total sample size  $n = 1105$ ; age group 15 to 19 years old) found that 2.6% of the total population sampled were heavy drinkers. Heavy drinking was defined as having more than 12 drinks on an average drinking day.<sup>6</sup>

### Traditional alcoholic beverages

**Basi** (sugar-cane wine) is made in the Philippines. It is made by fermenting boiled, freshly extracted sugar-cane juice. A dried powdered starter is used to start the fermentation. The mixture is left for up to three months to ferment and up to one year to age. The final product is light brown in colour and has a sweet and sour flavour.<sup>8</sup>

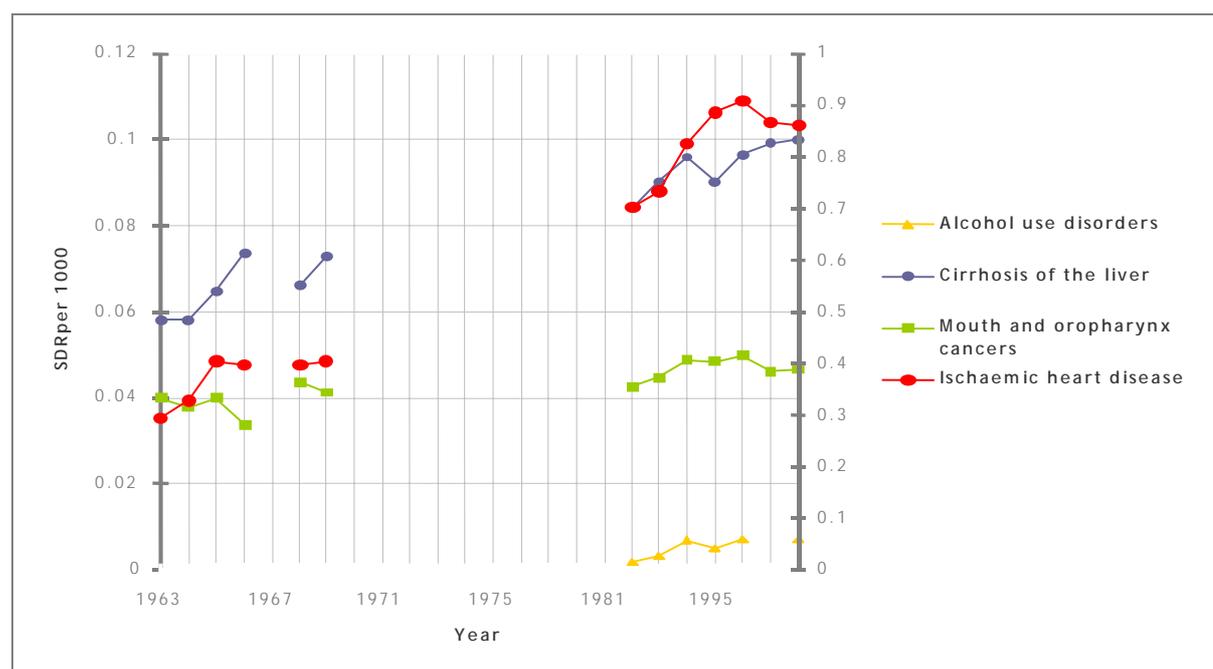
### Unrecorded alcohol consumption

The unrecorded alcohol consumption in the Philippines is estimated to be 3.0 litres pure alcohol per capita for population older than 15 for the years after 1995 (estimated by a group of key alcohol experts).<sup>2</sup>

### Mortality rates from selected death causes where alcohol is one of the underlying risk factors

The data represent all the deaths occurring in a country irrespective of whether alcohol was a direct or indirect contributor.

## Chronic mortality



Note: Chronic mortality time-series measured on two axes, ischaemic heart disease on right axis and the other causes on the left. Caution should be exercised when interpreting the results as death registration level is incomplete.

Source: WHO Mortality Database

## Morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use

There is little data available on the extent of alcoholism or alcohol abuse in the Philippines. However, while there may be no official statistics available, the consequences of alcoholism are very obvious in the community or inside homes. There are many undocumented cases of alcoholic persons who collapsed in the street because of drunkenness. Alcoholism is a growing concern in the culture and social life of this country. In recent years, only a few alcohol-related cases have been recorded by the Philippine General Hospital. This could be due to the fact that alcoholism is not considered a medical problem by most Filipinos. Most Filipinos with an alcohol problem do not submit to medical treatment even if their condition is chronic. Alcohol rehabilitation centres have low admission rates compared to similar institutions for illicit drug dependency. The Philippine General Hospital alcohol support group centre offers treatment and counselling for its indigent patients. For anonymity, patients from rich families go to private rehabilitation centres. There are also some non-governmental organizations which provide similar services and carry out advocacy work. However, more effort is still needed in the Philippines in order to address the problems of alcohol abuse.<sup>9</sup>

## Country background information

<b>Total population 2003</b>	79 999 000	<b>Life expectancy at birth (2002)</b>	Male	65.1
<b>Adult (15+)</b>	51 199 360		Female	71.7
<b>% under 15</b>	36	<b>Probability of dying under age 5 per 1000 (2002)</b>	Male	39
<b>Population distribution 2001 (%)</b>			Female	33
Urban	59	<b>Gross National Income per capita 2002</b>	US\$	1020
Rural	41			

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

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