

The Association Between Alcohol Beverage Types and Patterns of Consumption

A secondary analysis of the
2007 National Drug Strategy Household Survey (NDSHS) data

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1. Executive Summary

This report presents findings from a secondary analysis of the 2007 National Drug Strategy Household Survey (NDSHS) data. The National Centre for Education and Training on Addiction (NCETA) was commissioned by the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation (AERF) to examine the relationship between consumption of different types of alcohol beverages and patterns of drinking across population groups, with a specific focus on Ready-to-Drink beverages (RTDs).

Descriptive statistics are presented on consumption of different alcohol beverage types among Australians aged 14 years and older. Patterns of consumption of different alcohol beverages were examined by gender and age group in order to determine whether particular population groups consume specific beverage types at levels associated with risks for alcohol-related harm, particularly short-term harms, such as injuries, accidents, falls and assaults.

The NDSHS, which is undertaken every three years, is a large national dataset that uses a stratified sampling technique to obtain representativeness nationally. Data are weighted to provide an estimate of alcohol consumption in the Australian population. Of the 2007 NDSHS dataset, we analysed data from 22,887 Australians aged 14 years and older.

Drinkers' alcohol consumption patterns were categorised into two discrete levels of risk for short-term harm (low risk and risky) using the 2009 NHMRC guidelines for alcohol use (NHMRC, 2009). Drinkers were also sorted into categories according to the frequency of their drinking. Frequent drinkers were those who reported consuming alcohol at least weekly; and infrequent drinkers were those who drank at least monthly, but less than weekly.

Key findings

Approximately 83% of respondents aged 14 years and older reported drinking an alcohol beverage in the 12 months prior to the survey; and 17% of respondents were abstainers. Overall, most drinkers (85.5%) consumed alcohol beverages of all types at low levels of risk for short-term harm. Almost 15% of drinkers did so at levels that increased their risk for acute alcohol-related harm.

Of 10 different types of alcohol beverages, the largest proportions of drinkers reported consuming bottled wine, followed by regular strength beer, bottled spirits/liqueurs and/or RTDs. Beverage preferences differed between males and females, with most males drinking regular strength beer and most females drinking bottled wine. RTDs were also consumed by more females than males. Across most States and Territories, the largest proportions of respondents drank bottled wine, followed by bottled spirits.

An examination of respondents who reported drinking at least weekly showed that most frequent drinkers consumed alcohol at low risk levels. However, of those who drank frequently, 14.5% drank at risky levels (20.9% males; 7.8% females). Those who drank at risky levels usually drank regular strength beer, especially males. Females who drank at risky levels usually drank bottled wine and/or bottled spirits.

Respondents aged 18-24 years comprised the largest proportion of frequent drinkers who drank at risky levels compared to other age groups. The beverages of choice in this age group were RTDs and/or bottled spirits.

While 18-24 year-olds had the largest proportion of risky drinkers (of any beverage types) compared to other age groups, 14-17 year-olds had the largest proportions consuming RTDs and/or bottled spirits at risky levels. By comparison, 18-24 year-old risky drinkers consumed a wider range of alcohol beverages, including regular strength beer and bottled wine.

RTDs were consumed at risky levels by more females compared to males. However, almost twice as many male risky drinkers consumed RTDs in cans only, whereas female risky drinkers were more than four times more likely to consume RTDs in bottles compared to males. Among risky drinkers, across all ages, the largest proportions of frequent drinkers drank RTDs in both cans and bottles.

Consumption of RTDs decreased with age; and bottled wine was consumed by the largest proportions of drinkers in older age groups.

A similar pattern of consumption emerged for respondents who reported drinking at least monthly (infrequent drinkers), except the proportion of risky drinkers was larger among respondents who drank less frequently. Compared to frequent risky drinkers (14.5%), 32.2% of infrequent drinkers drank at risky levels for short-term harm (42.5% males; 21.5% females). Among the risky drinkers who drank at least monthly, the largest proportion was aged 18-24 years (56.9%), followed by 25-34 year-olds (41.6%) and 35-44 year-olds (33.6%).

Most infrequent risky drinkers consumed regular strength beer (55%) and/or bottled spirits (49.3%). Almost half of infrequent drinkers also consumed bottled wine at risky levels. The pattern of RTD consumption among infrequent drinkers was similar to that shown in frequent drinkers. That is, more females drank RTDs at risky levels compared to males and the largest proportions of risky drinkers who reported drinking RTDs were aged 14-24 years.

In summary, analysis of the 2007 NDSHS data showed:

1. Beverage types mostly associated with risky drinking in specific population groups:
 - Regular strength beer: across all age groups; for more males than females
 - RTDs: for younger age groups (aged 14-24 years); for both males and females
 - Bottled spirits: for younger age groups (aged 14-34 years); for both males and females
 - Bottled wine: for respondents aged 25-65+ years; for more females than males.
2. Characteristics of population groups who drank at risky levels for short-term harm:
 - More males compared to females drank at risky levels
 - Younger age groups (14-24 years): the largest proportions drank RTDs and/or bottled spirits
 - Mid age groups (25-44 years): the largest proportions drank regular strength beer
 - Older age groups (45-64 years): the largest proportions drank bottled wine and/or regular strength beer
 - Oldest age group (65+ years): the largest proportions drank regular strength beer and/or bottled wine
 - The proportions of respondents who drank any alcohol beverage type at risky levels decreased with age.
3. Consumption of RTDs at risky levels for short-term harm:

- Approximately 19% of frequent drinkers and 43.8% of infrequent drinkers consumed RTDs at risky levels
- More females compared to males drank RTDs at risky levels
- The largest proportions of risky drinkers who consumed RTDs were aged 14-24 years
- RTDs were consumed primarily in cans compared to bottles
- Risky drinkers drank RTDs in both cans and bottles
- More males compared to females drank RTDs in cans
- More females compared to males drank RTDs in bottles.

RTDs were one of the main beverages of choice for young people, especially for those who drank heavily and frequently. Bottled spirits and regular strength beer were also consumed by the largest proportions of risky drinkers across all age groups. Males of all ages who drank at risky levels usually drank regular strength beer. In contrast, female risky drinkers less than 25 years old usually drank RTDs and/or bottled spirits, and those over 25 years of age usually drank bottled wine.

While most Australians who drank alcohol beverages did so at low risk for acute alcohol-related harm, almost 15% of frequent drinkers and over 30% of infrequent drinkers drank at risky levels. Of those who drank at risky levels, the most commonly consumed beverage types were regular strength beer, bottled spirits, bottled wine and RTDs; and the age groups that most commonly consumed most beverage types at risky levels were those aged 14-24 years.

2. Introduction

Alcohol beverages are often a key ingredient at social occasions in Australia, from small private dinner parties to large public events. People drink for a variety of reasons, such as pleasure, relaxation and intoxication, to reduce inhibitions or escape/avoid everyday worries. Small amounts of alcohol can enhance relaxation and a sense of wellbeing. However, as intake increases, the pleasant effects may be replaced by unpleasant effects, including impairment in coordination, motor skills and reaction times, feelings of nausea and vomiting, and more serious life-threatening situations, such as loss of consciousness and stroke.

While the mean per capita alcohol consumption has changed little in the past decade (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2008a), the choice of available alcohol beverages has increased, particularly in the types of pre-mixed 'Ready-to-Drink' alcohol beverages (RTDs). In addition, the styles of drinking have diversified, including more informal drinking behaviour, such as drinking directly from the container (NHMRC, 2009). People's preferences for particular beverage types vary depending on a range of factors, including age and gender. Moreover, particular beverage types are more commonly associated with harmful consumption compared to others. For example, a recent study (Stockwell, Zhao, Chikritzhs & Greenfield, 2008) showed that bottled spirits, alcohol cider, pre-mixed spirits (RTDs) and regular strength beer were the top four alcohol beverages consumed by Australians on days when they drank at levels that put them at risk for alcohol-related harm. Among the 12-17 year-olds in this study, the highest market share (62.7%) was held by the spirit-based beverages, including bottled spirits and RTDs.

2.1. Ready-to-Drink beverages (RTDs)

Ready-to-Drink beverages (RTDs) are a range of spirit- or liqueur-based alcohol beverages that are pre-mixed with soft drinks or milk and packaged in cans or bottles. They are also known as 'alcopops'. The popularity of RTDs has grown substantially in the past decade.

Evidence suggests that RTDs have strong appeal to young people due to:

1. Sweet taste and familiar soft-drink flavours, which mask the alcohol taste (Copeland, Stevenson, Gates & Dillon, 2007; Metzner & Kraus, 2008)
2. Bright appealing colours and trendy packaging designs (Hughes et al., 1997)
3. Easy portability
4. High alcohol content for rapid intoxication (5-7% alcohol/volume)
5. Relatively low price and widespread availability.

There is also growing public concern that RTDs are being marketed to young 'starter drinkers' with the use of persuasive marketing strategies that engage young people with idealised images and lifestyles associated with an alcohol brand (Brain, 2000; Brain, Parker & Carnwath, 2000; Roche et al., 2008). Early initiation to drinking has been associated with a range of negative outcomes, including injuries, accidents and violence, as well as increased risk of lifetime alcohol-related problems (Chou & Pickering, 1992; Grant & Dawson, 1997; Hingson, Heeren & Winter, 2006; Livingston, 2008; Livingston & Room, 2009).

While there is a growing literature related to the consumption of RTDs, particularly with respect to adolescent drinking, little is known about the patterns of consumption associated with RTDs and other specific alcohol beverage types. That is, are some beverage types more commonly consumed at risky levels thereby potentially contributing more to alcohol-related harm compared to others? In addition, are some populations more likely to consume particular beverage types at risky levels compared to others?

3. Aims and Research Questions

The primary aim of this project was to investigate whether specific beverage types were associated with risky drinking behaviours. In particular, attention was directed to the issue of Ready-to-Drink beverages (RTDs) and their risk potential as a beverage of choice.

The research questions were:

1. Which beverage types are associated with risky drinking behaviours?
2. What are the characteristics of population groups in relation to beverage types and risky drinking?
3. What are the characteristics of population groups in relation to the consumption of RTDs and risky drinking? ¹

¹ Subsequent to the 2077 NDSHS however, RTDs were subjected to additional taxation. To determine the degree to which this tax has impacted on young peoples' RTD (and other alcohol) consumption patterns analysis of 2010 NDSHS data is required.

4. Method

4.1. The dataset

The National Drug Strategy Household Survey (NDSHS), which is conducted every three years, examines Australians' awareness, attitudes and behaviours associated with use of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

The current study entailed secondary analyses of data from the 2007 National Drug Strategy Household Survey (NDSHS) to examine the prevalence and patterns of use of different alcohol beverage types among the Australian population. Detailed findings of the 2007 NDSHS, including the questionnaire and methods of data collection have been published elsewhere (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2008a, 2008b). In brief, 23,356 Australians aged 12 and older responded to the 2007 survey. Data were collected from householders in all States and Territories using two methods: 1) Drop and collect (N=19,818; response rate=54%); and 2) Computer-assisted telephone interview (CATI, N=3,538, response rate=39%). The overall response rate was 49.3%.

A multi-stage stratified sampling technique was used and data were weighted by age, gender, and geographical location to represent the total Australian population.

4.2. Key variables for analysis

Analyses for this project were conducted on data pertaining to consumption of different types of alcohol beverages in the Australian population and in relation to different levels of risk for alcohol-related harm.

For the current report, the key measures of interest in the NDSHS survey were as follows.

4.2.1 Demographic measures

1. Gender (male, female)
2. Age (years) – a new categorical variable for age groups was created and included only those aged 14 years and older²:
 - i. 14-17 years
 - ii. 18-24 years
 - iii. 25-34 years
 - iv. 35-44 years
 - v. 45-54 years
 - vi. 55-64 years
 - vii. 65 years and older
3. State or Territory.

4.2.2. Alcohol consumption measures

The survey included a range of different questions related to drinking status and alcohol consumption patterns. The questions that were relevant to this report were:

- *Drinking status.* A drinker was defined as a person who had consumed a full serve of alcohol (of any type) in the 12 months prior to the survey. An abstainer was defined

² 12-13 year-olds were not included in the analyses for two main reasons: 1) they were asked a shorter version of the questionnaire; and 2) the numbers of respondents who reported drinking particular beverage types was too small for meaningful interpretation of analyses. This resulted in a sample of 22,887 respondents (drinkers = 19,027; abstainers = 3860) used for these analyses.

as a person who had never had a full serve of alcohol or, if they had consumed a full serve, had not had a drink in the 12 months prior to the survey

- *Risk of alcohol-related harm.* Different patterns of alcohol consumption are associated with different types of risk of harm:
 - **Short-term (acute) harm** results from a high level of consumption on a single occasion. As the level of consumption on any one day increases (i.e., quantity), so does the risk of acute harm (e.g., injury, accident, stroke, death, suicide, unprotected sex etc.).
 - **Long-term (chronic) harm** results from regular heavy consumption over a long period of time (or lifetime). As the level of regular consumption increases (i.e., quantity and frequency), so does the risk of chronic harm (e.g., heart disease, liver cirrhosis etc.).

This report only focuses on the short-term harm associated with consumption of different alcohol beverage types.

Guidelines for risk of harm associated with alcohol consumption have been developed by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC).

Previous NHMRC guidelines (2001) ^{1 2}	Current NHMRC guidelines (2009) ³
Short-term harm for males: Low risk = up to 6 drinks (on any single drinking occasion) Risky = 7-10 drinks High risk = 11 or more drinks	Lifetime risk of harm from alcohol-related disease and injury is reduced for healthy men and women by drinking <i>no more than 2 standard drinks on any day</i>
Short-term harm for females: Low risk = up to 4 drinks (on any single drinking occasion) Risky = 5-6 drinks High risk = 7 or more drinks	Risk of injury on a single occasion of drinking is reduced for healthy men and women by drinking <i>no more than 4 standard drinks on that single occasion</i>

¹ The 2001 NHMRC guidelines classified respondents into three risk levels, which were assessed using a graduated quantity frequency matrix in the survey questionnaire (E15) (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 2008b). Details are shown in Appendix Table 1.

² The long-term risk levels are not shown.

³ Details of the current guidelines (NHMRC, 2009), which were released in February 2009 are shown in Appendix Table 2.

Compared to the previous 2001 NHMRC guidelines, the 2009 guidelines provide less differentiation between different levels of risk within the short-term harm category. It is important to be mindful of this distinction with respect to acute harm, such as injuries, accidents and assaults that may be associated with heavy alcohol consumption in a single drinking episode. For example, the 2009 NHMRC guidelines do not distinguish between those who consume five standard drinks on one occasion and those who drink twice that amount. Since the 2009 guidelines are in current use, we have used the cut-off points in the current guidelines in statistical analyses.

Thus, respondents were sorted into two risk categories for short-term harm:

- **Low risk:** respondents who reported that they usually consumed no more than four standard drinks on a single drinking occasion
- **Risky:** respondents who reported that they usually consumed five or more standard drinks on a single drinking occasion.

- *Frequency of alcohol consumption.* Respondents were classified into groups according to the frequency of alcohol consumption at levels associated with risk of short-term harm³:
 - Frequent drinkers were those who consumed alcohol at least weekly
 - Infrequent drinkers were those who consumed alcohol at least monthly, but less than weekly.

- *Alcohol beverage type.* Respondents were given a selection of 12 options:
 - Cask wine (12-14% alcohol/volume)
 - Bottled wine (12-14% alcohol/volume)
 - Regular strength beer (>4% alcohol/volume)
 - Mid strength beer (3-3.9% alcohol/volume)
 - Low alcohol beer (1-2.9% alcohol/volume)
 - Home-brewed beer
 - RTDs in a can (5-10% alcohol/volume)
 - RTDs in a bottle (5-10% alcohol/volume)
 - Bottled spirits and liqueurs (>40% alcohol/volume)
 - Cider (3-9% alcohol/volume)
 - Fortified wine, port, vermouth, sherry (>17% alcohol/volume)
 - Other.

Respondents were allowed to make multiple responses to the question on alcohol beverage type (E8) and mark ALL beverage types that they usually consumed. Thus, beverage types were not discrete categories. For example, a respondent may usually drink cask wine, regular strength beer and bottled spirits. With respect to RTDs, some respondents indicated they consumed RTDs only in cans; some indicated they consumed RTDs only in bottles; and others indicated they consumed RTDs in both cans and bottles. To further examine the patterns of consumption of RTDs, we created the following variables for RTD drinkers:

1. RTD cans only. This category indicated respondents who reported drinking RTDs in cans only
2. RTD bottles only. This category indicated respondents who reported drinking RTDs in bottles only
3. RTDs both. This category indicated respondents who reported drinking RTDs in both cans and bottles
4. RTDs any. This category indicated all respondents who reported drinking RTDs in cans and/or bottles and is the sum of the other RTD categories.

We included 'RTDs any' in all analyses where consumption of RTDs was examined alongside other alcohol beverages (sections 5.1 to 5.3). 'RTDs any' was the variable used for RTD consumption, irrespective of container type. We included 'RTD cans only', 'RTD bottles only' and 'RTDs both' in additional analyses where RTDs alone were examined in more detail (section 5.4).

4.2.3. Statistical analyses

Data presented in this report were analysed using SPSS Statistics (Version 17.0). Descriptive analyses were used to calculate the proportion of 2007 NDSHS respondents in each category of interest. Households were surveyed using a random sampling technique within each geographic stratum. To account for imbalances due to this sampling design,

³ Occasional drinkers, who consumed alcohol at least yearly, but less than monthly, were not included in analyses associated with different levels of risk for short-term harm.

such as variations in geographic and demographic characteristics of the survey respondents and different response rates in subgroups, such as age groups, country/metropolitan, and method of data collection (drop and collect, CATI), estimated populations that are presented in tables in this report are based on weighted data.

A complex sampling technique was applied to account for stratification of geographical areas using clusters of population elements, or primary sampling units (PSUs). A clustering effect occurs when respondents in one sub-population (e.g., female abstainers) are over-represented in the survey population in relation to others. Those in the sub-population tend to be more similar to each other compared to others and the similarity in their responses may lead to skewed results. The key advantage of the complex sampling technique is that it provides a representative sample of the population.

The overall response rate for the 2007 NDSHS was 49.3%, with 43.7% male respondents (49.4% estimated population).

Caution should be used when extrapolating some results to the Australian population as sample sizes in some cells were small, resulting in very large confidence intervals. Where possible the unweighted counts have been included in tables to indicate the number of respondents within a cell.

In addition, it is likely that results underestimate total alcohol consumption due to a range of factors associated with the data collection methods. For example, it is possible that those who drink more heavily were less likely to complete the survey.

5. Prevalence and Patterns of Use of Different Alcohol Beverage Types

This chapter reports the prevalence and patterns of use of different alcohol beverage types among 2007 NDSHS respondents (aged 14 years and older).

Results are presented in the following sections:

5.1. Total alcohol beverage consumption (in past 12 months)

- 5.1.1. In total population
- 5.1.2. In males & females
- 5.1.3. In different age groups
- 5.1.4. In States and Territories

5.2. Frequent risky drinking (at least weekly)

- 5.2.1. In total population
- 5.2.2. In males & females
- 5.2.3. In different age groups

5.3. Infrequent risky drinking (at least monthly)

- 5.3.1. In total population
- 5.3.2. In males & females
- 5.3.3. In different age groups

5.4. RTD beverage consumption

- 5.4.1. In total population
- 5.4.2. In males & females
- 5.4.3. In different age groups
- 5.4.4. Frequent RTD consumption (weekly)
- 5.4.5. Frequent RTD consumption (weekly), by gender
- 5.4.6. Frequent RTD consumption (weekly), by age
- 5.4.7. Infrequent RTD consumption (monthly)
- 5.4.8. Infrequent RTD consumption (monthly), by gender
- 5.4.9. Infrequent RTD consumption (monthly), by age

5.1. Consumption of alcohol beverages in the Australian population

5.1.1. Total alcohol beverage consumption

Approximately 83% of respondents aged 14 years and older reported having consumed an alcohol beverage in the 12 months prior to the 2007 NDSHS (Table 1). Since survey respondents could mark any number of beverage types listed in the questionnaire, individuals may be represented across several beverage types and the total percentage exceeds 100%.

Table 1 and Figure 1 show the proportions of Australians who reported consuming different types of alcohol beverages in the past 12 months. The largest proportions of drinkers reported consuming bottled wine (54%), followed by bottled spirits and liqueurs (40.3%) and regular strength beer (32.3%). RTDs were consumed by approximately 30% of drinkers. Home-brewed beer and cider were least commonly consumed (2.6% and 3.6%, respectively).

Table 1. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents consuming alcohol in the past 12 months, by beverage type

Alcohol beverage types	% ¹	[95% CI] ²	N	Estimated population ³
Cask wine	13.5	[12.8, 14.2]	2804	1,881,660
Bottled wine	54.0	[52.4, 55.6]	10595	7,534,530
Regular strength beer	32.3	[31.2, 34.4]	5419	4,509,239
Mid strength beer	14.1	[13.2, 15.0]	2530	1,971,976
Low alcohol beer	15.6	[14.8, 16.4]	3029	2,181,383
Home brew beer	2.6	[2.2, 3.1]	501	368,226
RTDs any	29.9	[29.1, 30.8]	5021	4,245,659
Bottled spirits, liqueurs	40.3	[39.0, 41.6]	7182	5,617,588
Cider	3.6	[3.0, 4.4]	699	506,373
Fortified wine, port, sherry etc.	12.0	[11.2, 12.9]	2332	1,675,147
Drinkers (any alcohol beverage)	82.8	[82.1, 83.5]	19027	14,211,013
Abstainers	17.1	[16.4, 17.8]	3860	2,935,316

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

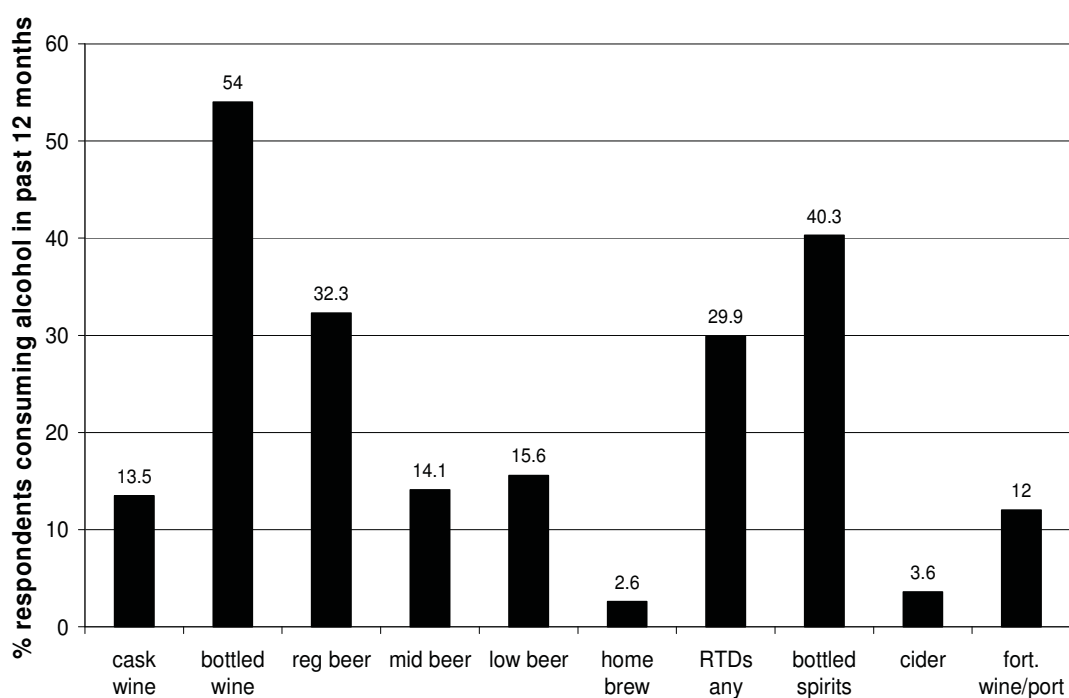


Figure 1. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking different alcohol beverage types in the past 12 months

5.1.2. Alcohol beverage consumption, by gender

Of respondents aged 14 years and older who reported having consumed an alcohol beverage in the 12 months prior to the 2007 NDSHS, 51.2% were male and 48.8% were female.

The proportions of male and female respondents consuming different alcohol beverage types in the past 12 months are shown in Table 2. Among males, the largest proportions

reported drinking regular strength beer (49.5%), followed by bottled wine (44.8%) and bottled spirits (38.5%). Among females, the largest proportions reported drinking bottled wine (63.6%), followed by bottled spirits (42.1%). Overall, a larger proportion of females consumed RTDs (33.3%) compared to males (26.8%)⁴.

Table 2. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS drinkers consuming different alcohol beverage types in the past 12 months, by gender

	Males (%) ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est. population ³	Females (%) ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est. population ³
Cask wine	12.0 [11.1, 12.9]	1168 855,887	15.1 [14.2, 16.1]	1636 1,025,773
Bottled wine	44.8 [42.9, 46.8]	3965 3,211,935	63.6 [61.9, 65.3]	6630 4,322,975
Regular strength beer	49.5 [47.7, 51.2]	3993 3,542,789	14.2 [13.4, 15.1]	1426 966,449
Mid strength beer	21.3 [19.9, 22.8]	1879 1,526,954	6.5 [5.9, 7.2]	651 445,022
Low alcohol beer	22.1 [20.9, 23.4]	2068 1,583,504	8.8 [8.1, 9.5]	961 597,878
Home brew beer	4.0 [3.4, 4.8]	383 289,137	1.2 [0.9, 1.5]	118 79,089
RTDs any	26.8 [25.6, 28.0]	1938 1,942,382	33.3 [32.1, 34.5]	3083 2,303,277
Bottled spirits	38.5 [36.8, 40.2]	3116 2,754,733	42.1 [40.7, 43.5]	4066 2,862,855
Cider	3.2 [2.5, 4.1]	270 229,546	4.1 [3.4, 4.8]	429 276,827
Fortified wine	12.6 [11.6, 13.7]	1138 902,710	11.4 [10.5, 12.3]	1194 772,437
Total	51.2 [50.3, 52.1]	8548 7,172,319	48.8 [47.9, 49.7]	10257 6,868,518

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

5.1.3. Alcohol beverage consumption, by age group

Table 3 shows the proportions of respondents in different age groups consuming different alcohol beverage types in the 12 months prior to the 2007 NDSHS.

In the youngest age group (14-17 years), the largest proportions of respondents usually drank RTDs (65.9%) and/or bottled spirits (48.3%). Similarly, 18-24 year-olds mainly consumed RTDs (63.4%), followed by bottled spirits (60.9%) and regular strength beer (45.9%). Bottled wine was consumed by the largest proportions of respondents in all age groups over 25 years, followed by bottled spirits. Low alcohol beer consumption increased with age, peaking in the oldest age group (65+ years) at 24.6%. Consumption of bottled spirits peaked in the 18-24 years age group (60.9%), then decreased with age thereafter. However, bottled spirits were consumed by the second largest percentage of respondents overall. Consumption of RTDs, which was highest in the youngest age group (65.9%), also decreased with age.

⁴ Further examination of RTDs with respect to differential consumption of cans and bottles is presented in section 5.4.

Table 3. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS drinkers consuming different beverage types in the past 12 months, by age group

Age group	Cask wine	Bottled wine	Regular strength beer	Mid strength beer	Low alcohol beer	Home brew	RTDs any	Bottled spirits	Cider	Fort. Wine, port etc.
14-17 yrs (%)¹	6.5	13.7	26.2	13.9	8.7	2.3	65.9	48.3	3.0	5.1
[95% CI]²	[4.7, 8.9]	[11.1, 16.8]	[22.4, 30.4]	[11.2, 17.15]	[6.4, 11.5]	[1.3, 4.1]	[61.5, 70.1]	[44.0, 52.6]	[1.9, 4.8]	[3.5, 7.4]
N	44	94	169	91	53	15	465	325	30	34
Est. pop³	43,498	91,951	175,837	92,955	58,045	15,668	462,833	323,858	20,185	34,345
18-24 yrs (%)¹	8.5	35.5	45.9	12.5	7.9	3.2	63.4	60.9	6.5	6.4
[95% CI]²	[6.9, 10.5]	[32.5, 38.6]	[43.1, 48.7]	[10.6, 14.6]	[6.4, 9.7]	[2.2, 4.7]	[60.7, 66.0]	[57.7, 63.9]	[5.0, 8.4]	[5.1, 8.1]
N	146	617	689	196	125	52	1046	974	117	103
Est. pop³	157,726	655,974	847,916	229,984	146,128	58,913	1,188,924	1,123,902	120,393	118,531
25-34 yrs (%)¹	8.2	55.7	44.8	16.4	10.0	3.0	42.6	48.3	4.3	9.7
[95% CI]²	[6.8, 9.8]	[53.3, 58.2]	[42.5, 47.1]	[14.5, 18.4]	[8.7, 11.5]	[2.2, 4.1]	[40.4, 44.8]	[45.9, 50.7]	[3.4, 5.4]	[8.5, 11.2]
N	250	1721	1242	444	309	86	1302	1428	145	299
Est. pop³	185,056	1,260,043	1,013,524	369,903	225,773	68,074	980,669	1,092,075	97,003	220,316
35-44 yrs (%)¹	10.0	57.3	36.6	15.4	13.9	1.9	30.1	38.3	3.6	11.1
[95% CI]²	[9.0, 11.1]	[54.8, 59.8]	[34.6, 38.6]	[13.8, 17.1]	[12.6, 15.3]	[1.4, 2.6]	[28.2, 32.0]	[36.3, 40.3]	[2.8, 4.6]	[9.8, 12.7]
N	390	2164	1257	524	500	71	1127	1410	139	385
Est. pop³	273,670	1,568,814	1,000,627	421,845	379,255	52,130	832,374	1,047,974	97,523	304,816
45-54 yrs (%)¹	13.8	63.0	28.0	14.1	18.8	2.2	20.4	34.9	3.2	14.3
[95% CI]²	[12.3, 15.3]	[60.5, 65.4]	[26.0, 30.0]	[12.6, 15.8]	[17.2, 20.6]	[1.7, 2.9]	[18.7, 22.1]	[32.6, 37.3]	[2.3, 4.5]	[12.6, 16.2]
N	453	2028	858	448	570	78	654	1120	112	443
Est. pop³	346,086	1,584,225	703,103	354,513	473,247	56,105	517,885	878,466	80,373	359,379
55-64 yrs (%)¹	18.7	64.9	21.8	12.7	21.4	2.7	10.0	31.1	2.9	16.2
[95% CI]²	[17.2, 20.3]	[62.4, 66.4]	[19.9, 23.7]	[11.4, 14.0]	[19.7, 23.2]	[2.0, 3.6]	[9.0, 11.2]	[29.2, 33.1]	[2.2, 3.8]	[14.6, 17.8]
N	638	2135	667	409	686	91	334	1030	103	510
Est. pop³	390,334	1,355,839	454,387	264,434	447,177	56,614	212,260	649,725	60,288	337,425
65+ yrs (%)¹	26.4	55.3	17.1	13.0	24.6	3.3	2.7	27.3	1.7	16.3
[95% CI]²	[24.7, 28.1]	[52.9, 57.7]	[15.5, 18.8]	[11.6, 14.4]	[22.9, 26.4]	[2.6, 4.1]	[2.2, 3.4]	[25.5, 29.2]	[1.0, 2.7]	[14.9, 17.9]
N	883	1836	537	418	786	108	98	895	53	558
Est. pop³	485,291	1,017,684	313,844	238,341	451,759	60,722	50,712	501,587	30,607	300,336

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

5.1.4. Alcohol beverage consumption, by State/Territory

Across beverage types, the largest proportions of respondents within each State who reported drinking particular beverage types are shown in Table 4. For example, South Australia had the largest proportions of respondents who reported drinking cask wine, bottled spirits and/or fortified wine; and the Northern Territory had the largest proportions of respondents who reported drinking RTDs and/or cider.

Table 4. State/Territory with the largest proportions of respondents drinking specific beverage types

Alcohol beverage type	Largest % (within State/Territory)	State or Territory
Cask wine	18.9	South Australia
Bottled wine	65.8	ACT
Regular strength beer	37.9 37.3 37.1	Tasmania South Australia New South Wales
Mid strength beer	25.6	Queensland
Low alcohol beer	18.2	ACT
Home brew beer	5.8	Tasmania
RTDs any	37.3	Northern Territory
Bottled spirits or liqueurs	46.3	South Australia
Cider	7.2 7.1	Northern Territory Tasmania
Fortified wine, port, sherry etc	15.1	South Australia

The proportions of respondents in each State or Territory who reported consuming specific beverage types are shown in Table 5.

In every State and Territory (except Northern Territory), bottled wine was consumed by the largest proportions of respondents (ranging from 48% in Tasmania to 65.8% in the ACT), followed by bottled spirits (ranging from 38.9% in New South Wales to 46.3% in South Australia). In the Northern Territory the order was reversed, with most respondents drinking bottled spirits (45.2%), followed by bottled wine (40.1%).

As the overall proportions of respondents who consumed home-brewed beer and cider were relatively low compared to other beverage types, these beverage types were omitted from further analyses.

Table 5. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents (within State) consuming different beverage types in the past 12 months, by State/Territory

State/Territory	Cask wine	Bottled wine	Regular strength beer	Mid strength beer	Low alcohol beer	Home brew	RTDs any	Bottled spirits	Cider	Fort. Wine, port etc.
NSW (%)¹	13.6	57.0	37.1	11.0	16.9	2.6	25.4	38.9	3.2	11.3
[95% CI]²	[12.0, 15.3]	[53.9, 60.1]	[35.2, 38.9]	[9.5, 12.7]	[15.7, 18.3]	[1.7, 3.8]	[23.7, 27.2]	[36.1, 41.7]	[2.0, 5.1]	[9.3, 13.7]
N	751	3046	1730	505	874	128	1170	1890	146	605
Est. pop³	593,137	2,492,814	1,620,430	479,291	739,710	111,890	1,154,692	1,699,360	140,782	494,506
VIC (%)¹	12.7	55.7	34.1	8.5	16.7	1.6	32.1	40.0	2.8	13.3
[95% CI]²	[11.4, 14.0]	[52.5, 58.9]	[31.9, 36.3]	[7.2, 10.0]	[14.9, 18.7]	[0.9, 2.7]	[30.1, 34.0]	[37.0, 43.1]	[1.8, 4.4]	[11.8, 14.9]
N	531	2229	1109	297	654	51	1098	1390	106	524
Est. pop³	428,732	1,884,542	1,152,330	286,570	564,362	52,460	1,132,647	1,352,314	94,594	448,104
QLD (%)¹	13.3	49.6	23.2	25.6	15.5	2.8	33.0	44.1	2.8	10.5
[95% CI]²	[12.1, 14.6]	[46.6, 52.6]	[21.2, 25.4]	[23.9, 27.3]	[13.8, 17.3]	[2.1, 3.7]	[30.9, 35.1]	[41.6, 46.6]	[2.0, 3.9]	[9.3, 11.9]
N	512	1772	676	805	543	90	996	1427	91	368
Est. pop³	367,105	1,370,311	644,768	705,980	427,826	76,344	941,094	1,217,377	77,143	290,602
WA (%)¹	13.7	58.6	31.3	20.9	11.3	2.9	31.1	39.7	5.7	13.5
[95% CI]²	[12.1, 15.5]	[54.4, 62.7]	[29.2, 33.4]	[18.6, 23.4]	[9.4, 13.5]	[2.0, 4.2]	[28.6, 33.6]	[37.1, 42.4]	[3.3, 9.7]	[11.3, 16.1]
N	315	1197	536	406	228	56	543	729	98	262
Est. pop³	194,762	835,024	445,331	297,921	160,992	41,751	459,849	565,659	81,414	192,969
SA (%)¹	18.9	55.3	37.3	10.6	15.8	4.8	30.7	46.3	6.0	15.1
[95% CI]²	[17.0, 21.0]	[50.0, 60.5]	[34.7, 40.0]	[8.1, 13.7]	[13.5, 18.3]	[3.1, 7.3]	[28.0, 33.6]	[42.7, 49.9]	[4.5, 8.0]	[12.8, 17.6]
N	331	893	512	149	254	65	437	681	95	249
Est. pop³	201,604	587,359	396,393	112,242	167,810	50,947	337,711	491,539	63,870	160,670
TAS (%)¹	15.9	48.0	37.9	11.7	17.4	5.8	31.4	40.4	7.1	13.6
[95% CI]²	[13.5, 18.6]	[42.2, 54.0]	[34.2, 41.8]	[8.2, 16.5]	[15.1, 20.1]	[3.6, 9.0]	[28.4, 34.5]	[36.2, 44.8]	[4.6, 10.7]	[11.0, 16.8]
N	164	476	303	98	169	41	278	356	63	122
Est. pop³	53,192	159,876	126,165	39,000	58,023	19,207	108,883	134,544	23,570	45,411
ACT (%)¹	13.8	65.8	36.9	9.4	18.2	4.3	25.2	42.2	6.7	13.2
[95% CI]²	[11.2, 16.9]	[62.1, 69.4]	[33.1, 40.7]	[7.2, 12.1]	[15.9, 20.9]	[3.1, 5.8]	[21.4, 29.5]	[37.9, 46.6]	[4.9, 9.1]	[11.0, 15.7]
N	120	605	306	81	172	35	202	355	45	122
Est. pop³	31,930	151,785	85,134	21,582	41,946	9,857	60,296	97,241	15,562	30,357

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(Table 5 continued)

NT (%)¹	8.5	40.1	31.7	22.3	15.7	4.4	37.3	45.2	7.2	9.5
[95% CI]²	[6.1, 11.6]	[34.8, 45.7]	[28.0, 35.5]	[18.5, 26.6]	[12.2, 19.9]	[2.6, 7.3]	[32.8, 42.0]	[39.3, 51.3]	[5.0, 10.2]	[6.1, 14.6]
N	80	377	247	189	135	35	297	354	55	80
Est. pop³	11,198	52,819	41,688	29,389	20,715	5,769	50,487	59,554	9,437	12,528
TOTAL (N)	2808	10601	3424	2535	3034	501	5040	7195	700	2332
Est. pop³	1,885,923	7,539,479	4,515,578	1,976,260	2,185,556	368,226	4,268,324	5,633,507	506,896	1,675,147

¹Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (C) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (C) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

5.2. Frequent risky drinking (at least weekly)

Overall, 49.4% of Australians aged 14 years and over reported drinking alcohol beverages frequently (at least weekly). Of these, 85.5% reported drinking at low risk⁵ and 14.5% drank at risky⁶ levels for short-term harm (Table 6). Approximately 20.9% of males and 7.8% of females who drank frequently reported drinking at risky levels.

Table 6. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking frequently (at least weekly), by gender

	Low risk		Risky		Total drinkers (weekly)	
	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²
Males	79.1 [78.1, 80.2]	6856 5,763,705	20.9 [19.8, 21.9]	1821 1,519,303	51.2 [50.3, 52.1]	8677 7,283,008
Females	92.2 [91.5, 92.9]	9612 6,405,828	7.8 [7.1, 8.5]	763 539,994	48.8 [47.9, 49.7]	10375 6,945,822
Total (in risk group)	85.5 [84.9, 86.2]	16468 12,169,533	14.5 [13.8, 15.1]	2584 2,059,297	100	19052 14,228,830

¹ 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

² Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Across age groups, 18-24 year-olds reported the largest proportion (26.1%) drinking at risky levels for short-term harm (Table 7).

Table 7. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking frequently (at least weekly), by age

	Low risk		Risky		Total drinkers (weekly)	
	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²
14-17 years	89.9 [87.1, 92.2]	617 636,394	10.1 [7.8, 12.9]	67 71,322	5.0 [4.6, 5.4]	684 707,716
18-24 years	73.9 [71.3, 76.3]	1245 1,387,858	26.1 [23.7, 28.7]	397 490,458	13.2 [12.5, 13.9]	1642 1,878,316
25-34 years	84.6 [82.9, 86.2]	2578 1,952,031	15.4 [13.8, 17.1]	443 355,766	16.2 [15.5, 16.9]	3021 2,307,798
35-44 years	84.9 [83.4, 86.3]	3125 2,354,124	15.1 [13.7, 16.6]	551 419,149	19.5 [18.8, 20.2]	3676 2,773,273
45-54 years	86.4 [84.9, 87.8]	2800 2,197,634	13.6 [12.2, 15.1]	475 345,469	17.9 [17.2, 18.6]	3275 2,543,102
55-64 years	88.6 [87.2, 89.9]	2940 1,883,057	11.4 [10.1, 12.8]	405 241,602	14.9 [14.4, 15.5]	3345 2,124,660
65+ years	92.8 [91.8, 93.8]	3163 1,758,434	7.2 [6.2, 8.2]	246 135,531	13.3 [12.7, 14.0]	3409 1,893,964
Total population	85.5 [84.9, 86.2]	16468 12,169,532	14.5 [13.8, 15.1]	2584 2,059,279	100	19052 14,228,829

¹ 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

² Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

⁵ For healthy men and women, drinking no more than 4 standard drinks on a single occasion reduces the risk of alcohol-related injury arising from that occasion. Therefore, short-term low risk = no more than 4 standard drinks on a single occasion.

⁶ Short-term risky = 5 or more standard drinks on a single occasion.

5.2.1. Frequent drinking (at least weekly), by beverage type

In the following sections, data are presented in two ways and indicated as A and B categories. Figures A show, for each beverage type, the proportions of drinkers who reported drinking at low or risky levels for short-term harm, while figures B show, for each risk level, the proportions of low risk and risky drinkers who reported drinking particular beverage types. As more than one beverage type could be selected, the proportions in B figures do not sum to 100%.

The proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents aged 14 years and older who reported drinking alcohol beverages at least weekly are illustrated in Figures 2A and 2B. Figure 2A shows the proportions of respondents within each beverage type⁷ who consumed at low risk or risky levels. For example, 89.1% of bottled wine drinkers drank at low risk for short-term harm, whereas 10.9% drank at risky levels. For each beverage type, most respondents reported drinking at low risk levels for short-term harm (more than 72% across all beverage types) (Figure 2A). However, over 27.2% of regular strength beer drinkers and 18.6% of RTD drinkers drank frequently at risky levels for short-term harm.

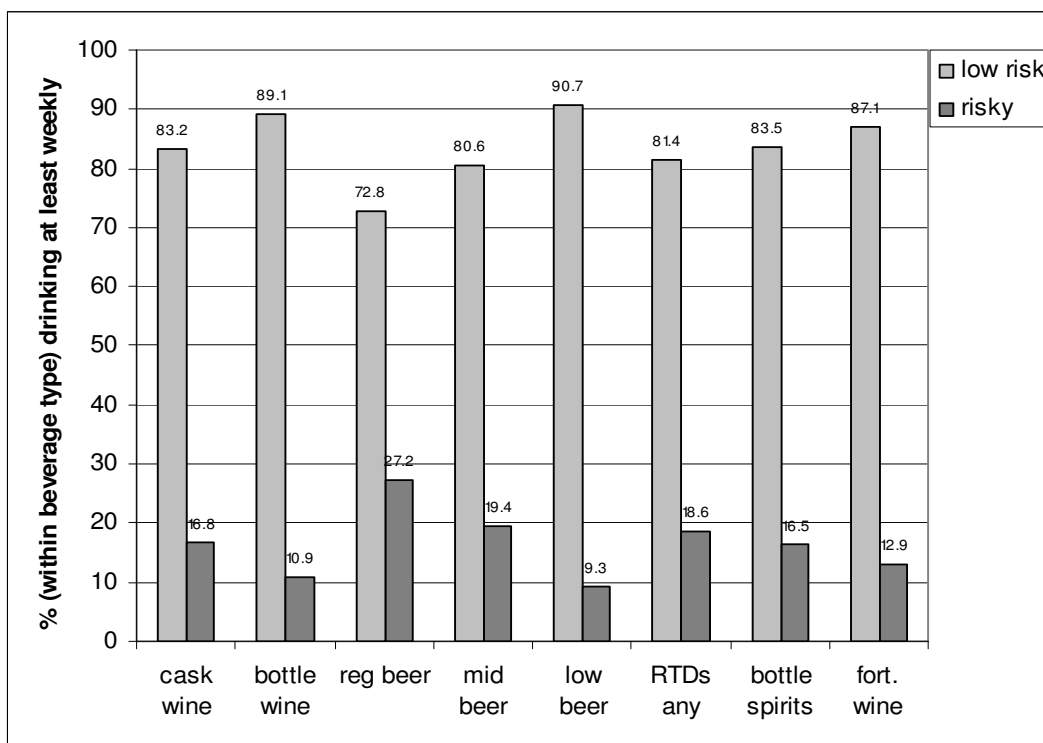


Figure 2A. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

⁷ Within beverage type: proportions indicate respondents who drank a particular beverage type at low risk or risky levels.

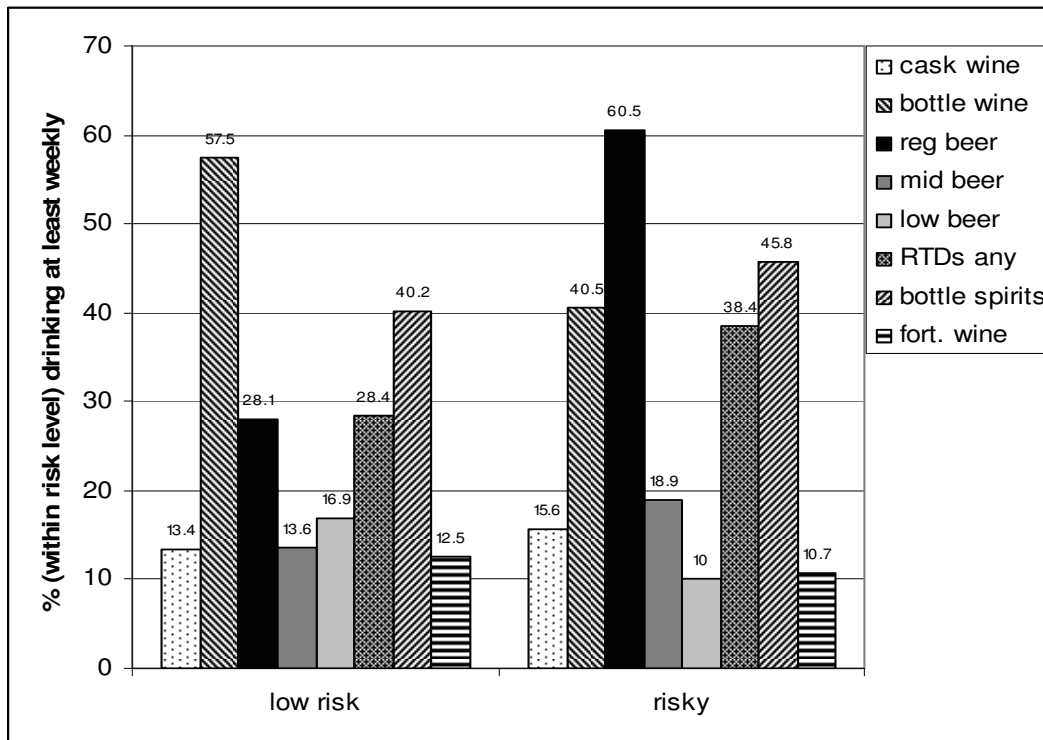


Figure 2B. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

Figure 2B outlines the proportions of respondents drinking different beverage types within the two risk levels⁸. Among those who drank at low risk for short-term harm, the largest proportion consumed bottled wine (57.5%). In contrast, of those who drank at risky levels for short-term harm, the largest proportion drank regular strength beer (60.5%), followed by bottled spirits (45.8%). The proportions of respondents who drank regular strength beer, RTDs and/or bottled spirits increased at the higher risk level (e.g., 28.4% of low risk drinkers drank RTDs and 38.4% of risky drinkers drank RTDs). In contrast, other beverage types (e.g., low alcohol beer) had similar or lower levels of consumption in the higher risk level. Low alcohol beer was consumed by the smallest proportion of risky drinkers (10%).

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 3.

5.2.2. Frequent drinking (at least weekly), by beverage type and gender

The proportions of male and female respondents aged 14 years and older who reported drinking at least weekly are shown in Figures 3A and 3B (males) and Figures 4A and 4B (females).

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 4.

⁸ Within risk level: proportions indicate respondents within a risk level who reported drinking particular beverage types.

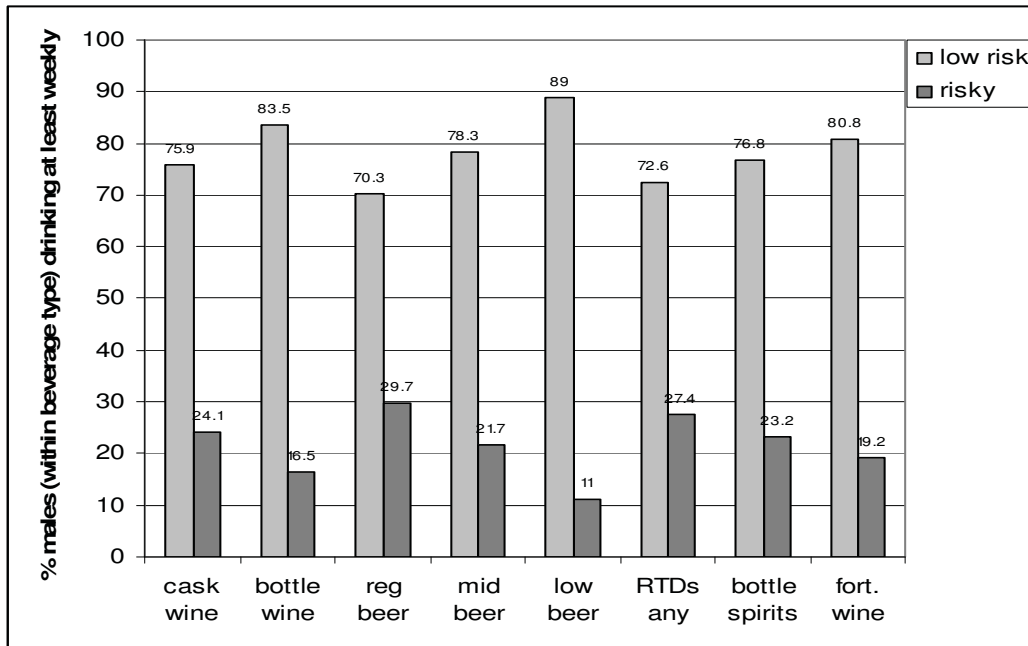


Figure 3A. Proportions of male respondents drinking different alcohol beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

Across all beverage types, most males (>70%) who drank frequently (at least weekly) did so at low risk levels (Figure 3A). However, over 27% of RTD drinkers and 29% of regular strength beer drinkers drank at risky levels. Within the population of male drinkers who drank at risky levels, the largest proportion drank regular strength beer (70.3%) (Figure 3B). Among male risky drinkers, 42.7% also consumed bottled spirits and 35.4% consumed bottled wine (Figure 3B).

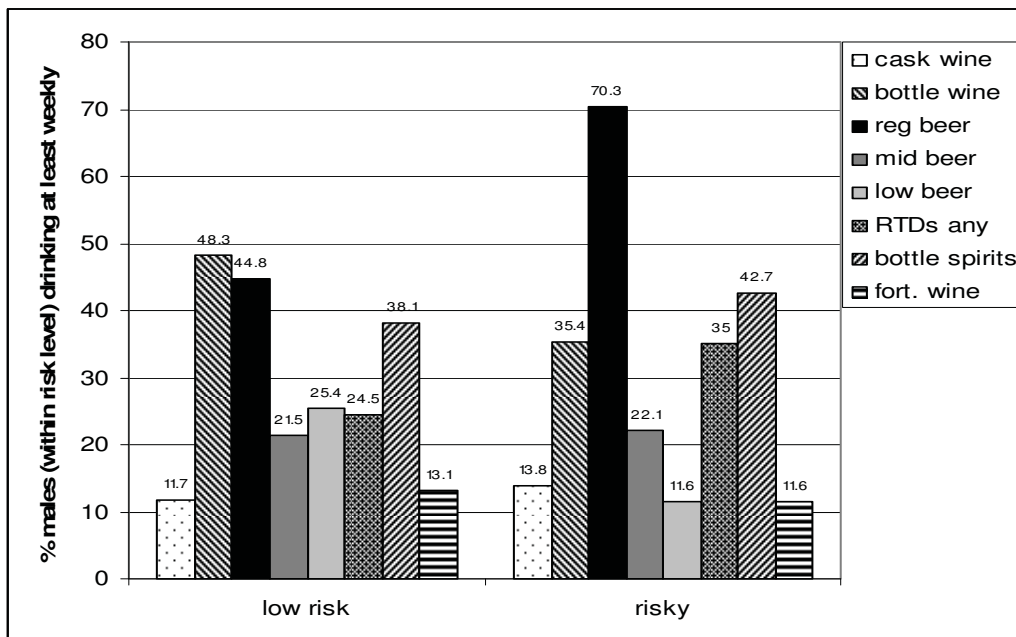


Figure 3B. Proportions of male respondents drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

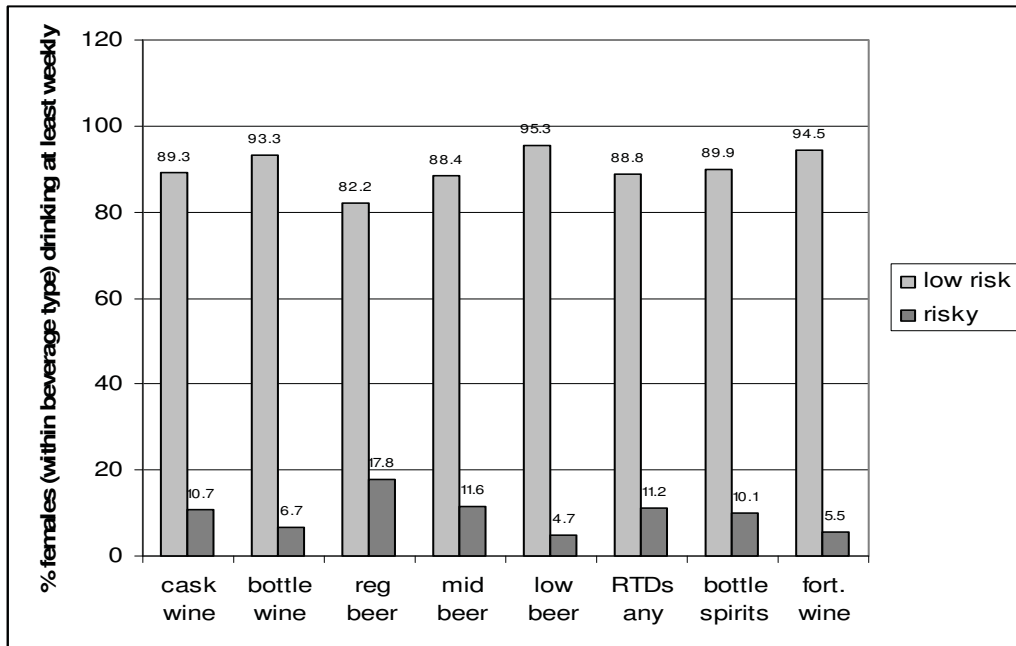


Figure 4A. Proportions of female respondents drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

Across all beverage types, most female frequent drinkers (>82%) drank at low risk levels (Figure 4A). However, almost 18% of regular strength beer drinkers drank at risky levels. Among the female risky drinkers, the largest proportions drank bottled wine (54.9%) and/or bottled spirits (54.8%) (Figure 4B). Compared to other beverage types, the proportions of males and females who reported consuming bottled spirits, regular beer and/or RTDs increased at the higher risk level (Figure 3B and Figure 4B).

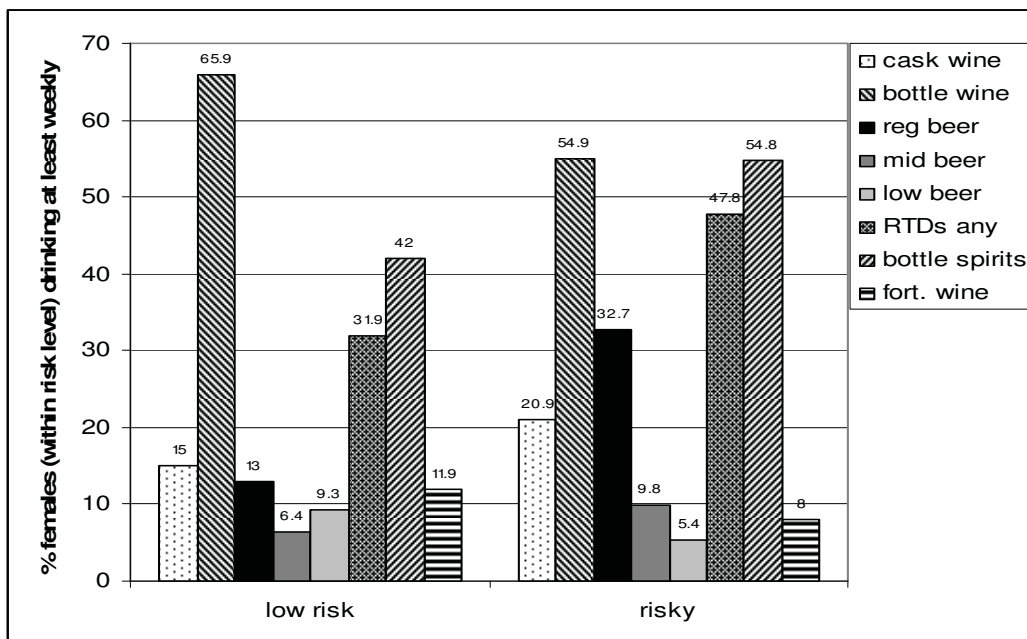


Figure 4B. Proportions of female respondents drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

5.2.3. Frequent drinking (at least weekly), by beverage type and age

The proportions of respondents in different age groups who reported drinking different alcohol beverages at least weekly are shown in Figures 5A and 5B to 11A and 11B. More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 5.

Across all beverage types and age groups, most respondents who drank frequently did so at low risk for short-term harm (Figures 5A to 11A). However, for some beverage types relatively large proportions of respondents, especially in younger age groups, drank at risky levels. For example, more than 27% of cask wine drinkers aged 14-24 years drank at risky levels. Among 18-24 year-olds, more than 25% of those who consumed regular beer, RTDs and/or bottled spirits drank at risky levels. Fortified wine was also consumed at risky levels by approximately 17% of respondents aged 14-34 years.

For some beverage types, particularly in the youngest and oldest age groups, data should be interpreted with caution as the numbers of respondents were relatively small. For example, although it would appear that more than twice as many respondents aged 14-17 years frequently consumed cask wine and/or fortified wine at risky levels compared to the total population (see Figure 2A), there were fewer than 15 respondents in the risky drinking group for these beverage types.

Across age groups, the largest proportions of respondents who drank frequently at risky levels were:

- 14-17 years: 85.7% drank RTDs, followed by bottled spirits (72.9%) (Figure 5B)
- 18-24 years: 68.5% consumed RTDs and/or bottled spirits (67.5%) (Figure 6B)
- 25-34 years: 71.9% consumed regular strength beer followed by bottled spirits (52.3%) and/or RTDs (48.9%) (Figure 7B)
- 35-44 years: 64.9% consumed regular strength beer followed by bottled wine (45.5%) (Figure 8B)
- 45-54 years: 56% drank regular strength beer followed by bottled wine (48.4%) (Figure 9B)
- 55-64 years: 49.5% consumed bottled wine and/or regular strength beer (48.5%) (Figure 10B)
- 65 years or older: 45.1% consumed bottled wine followed by regular strength beer (43.2%) (Figure 11B).

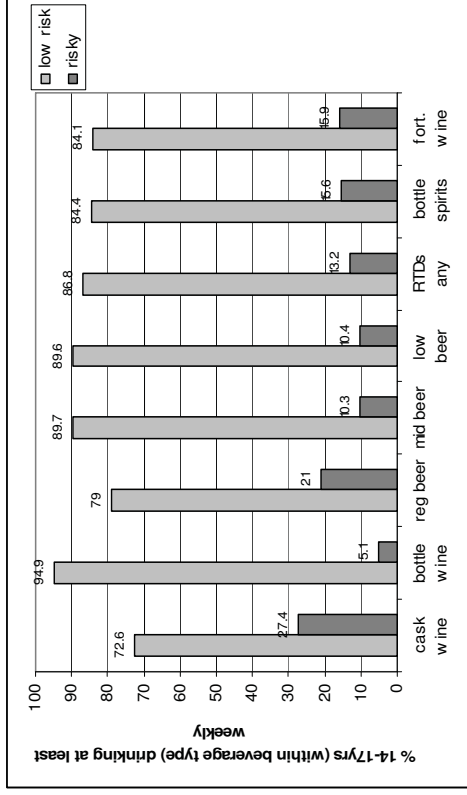


Figure 5A. Proportions of 14-17 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

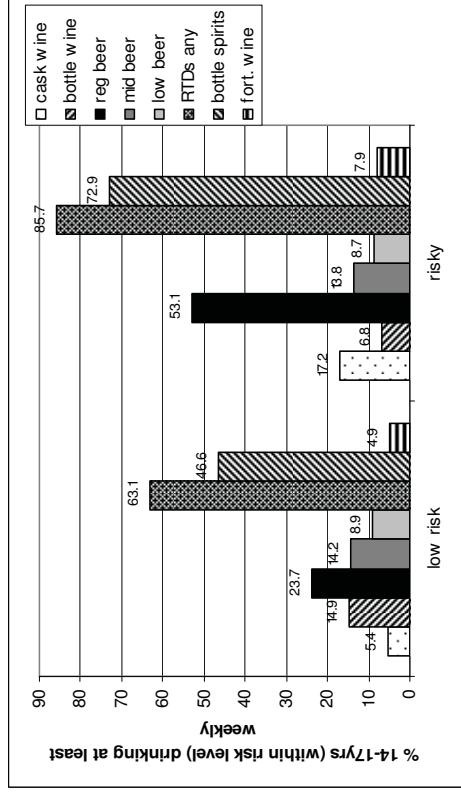


Figure 5B. Proportions of 14-17 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

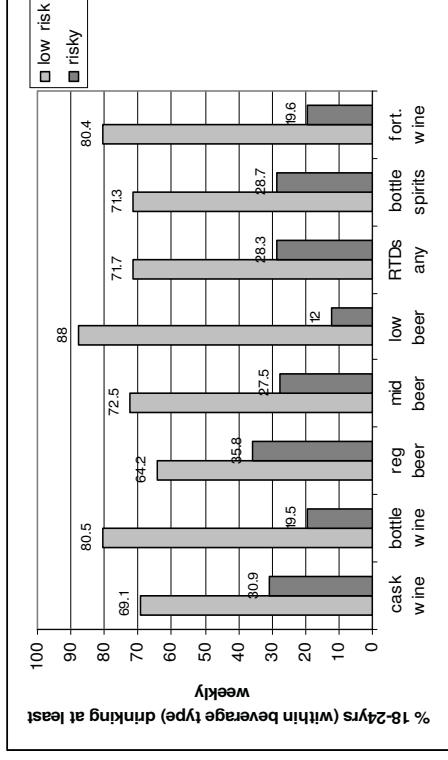


Figure 6A. Proportions of 18-24 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

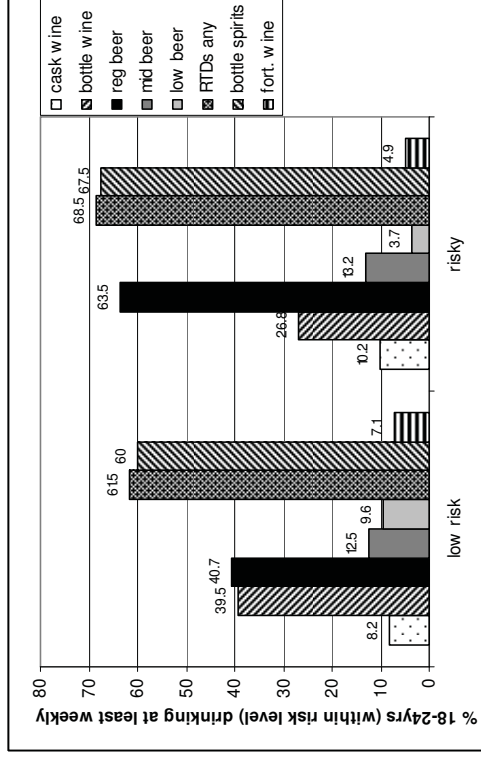


Figure 6B. Proportions of 18-24 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

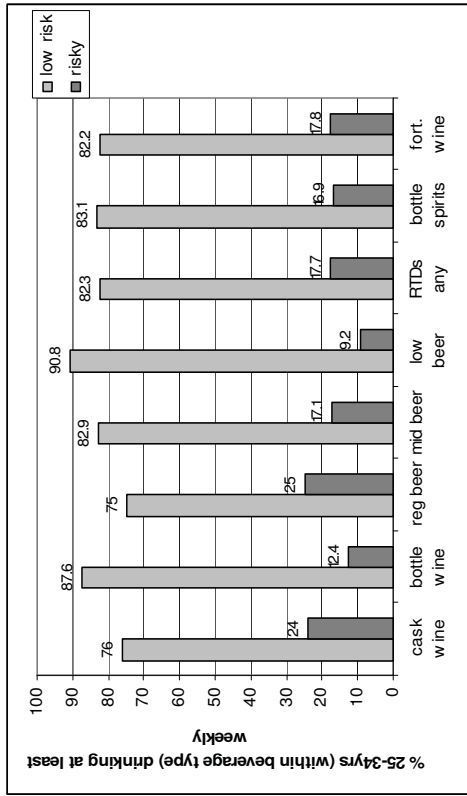


Figure 7A. Proportions of 25-34 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

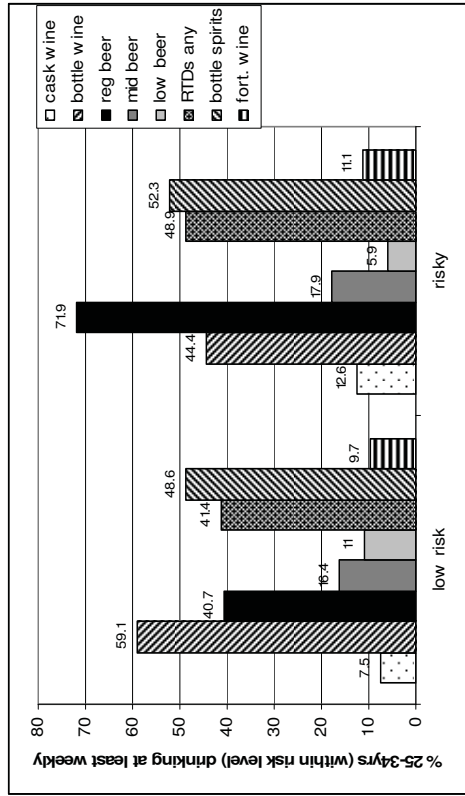


Figure 7B. Proportions of 25-34 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

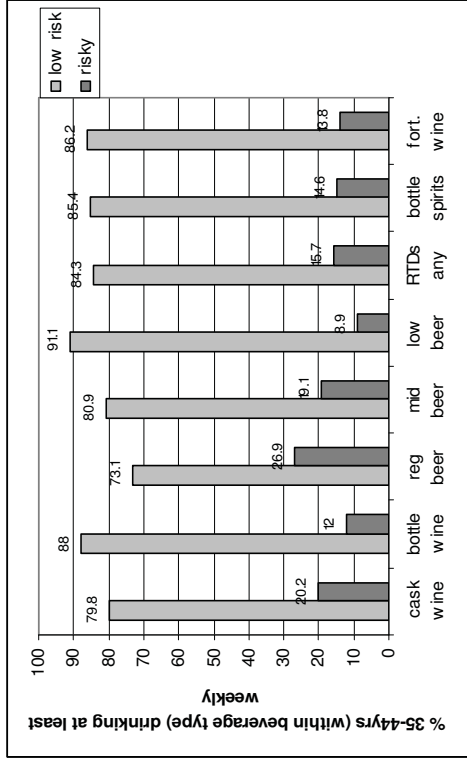


Figure 8A. Proportions of 35-44 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

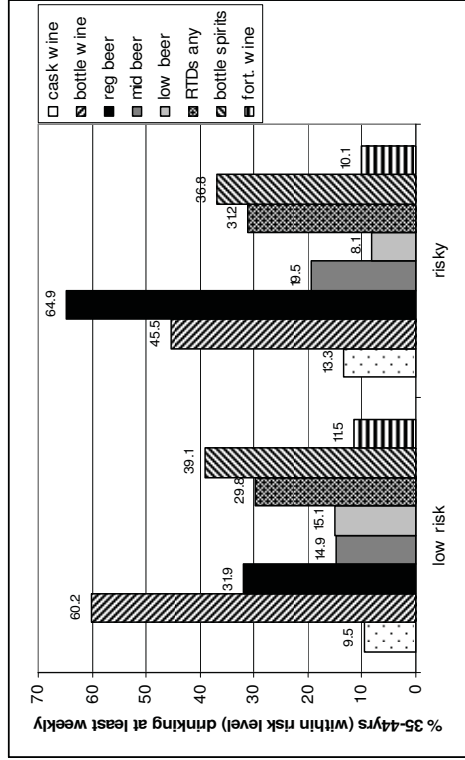


Figure 8B. Proportions of 35-44 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

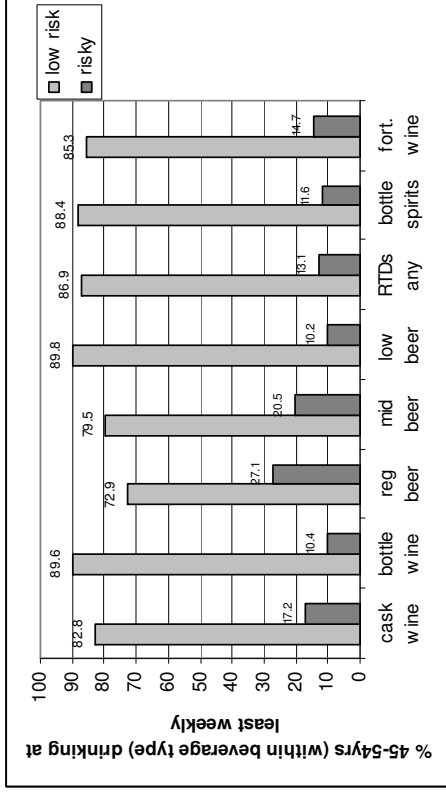


Figure 9A. Proportions of 45-54 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

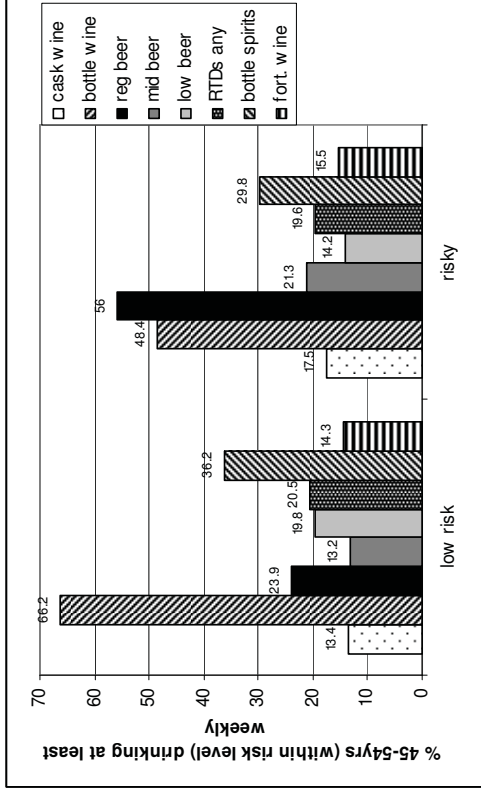


Figure 9B. Proportions of 45-54 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

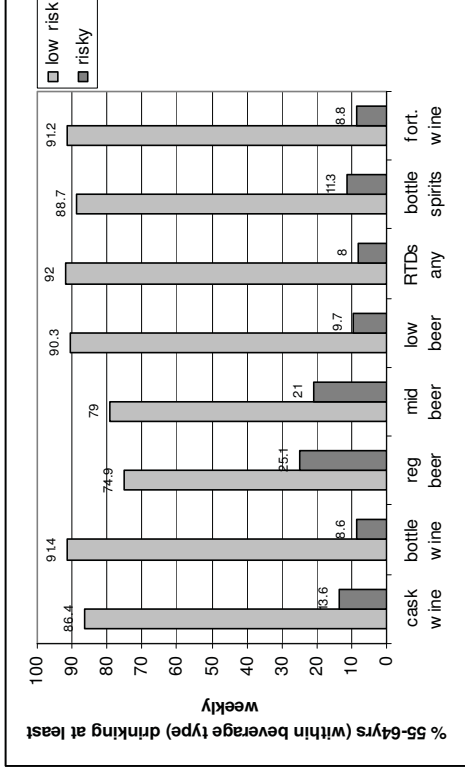


Figure 10A. Proportions of 55-64 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

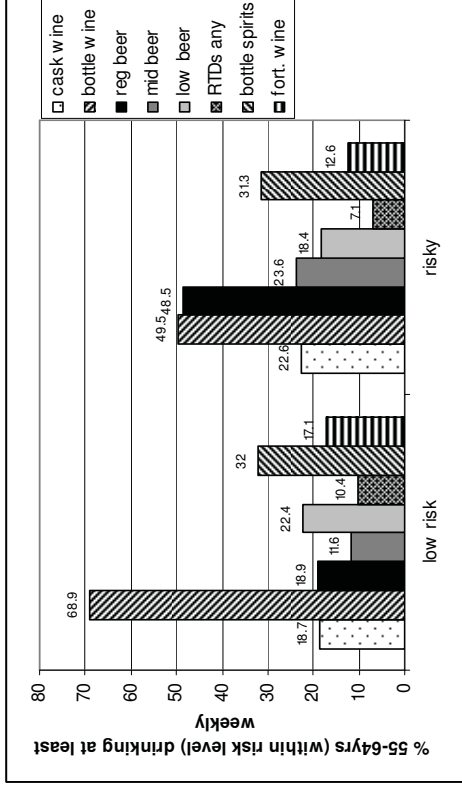


Figure 10B. Proportions of 55-64 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

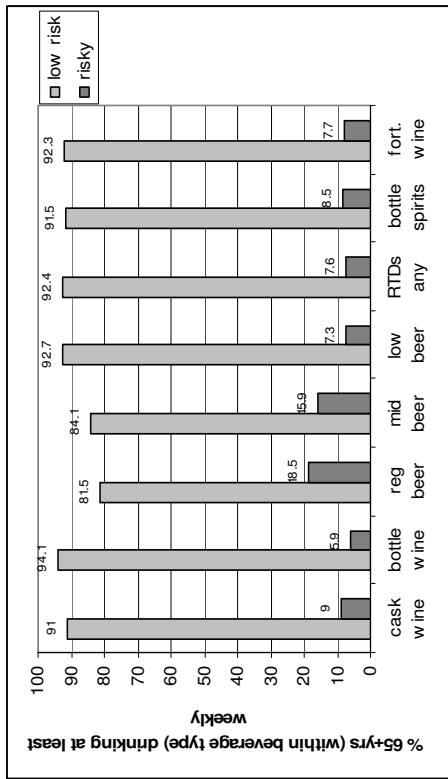


Figure 11A. Proportions of 65+ year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

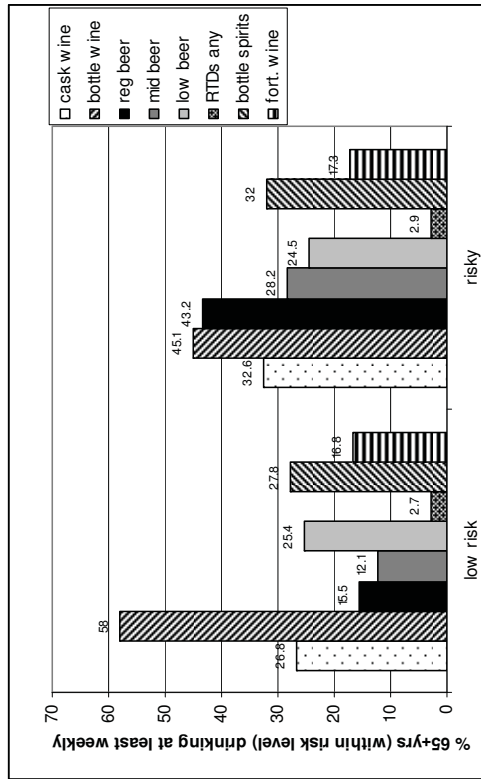


Figure 11B. Proportions of 65+ year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least weekly) by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

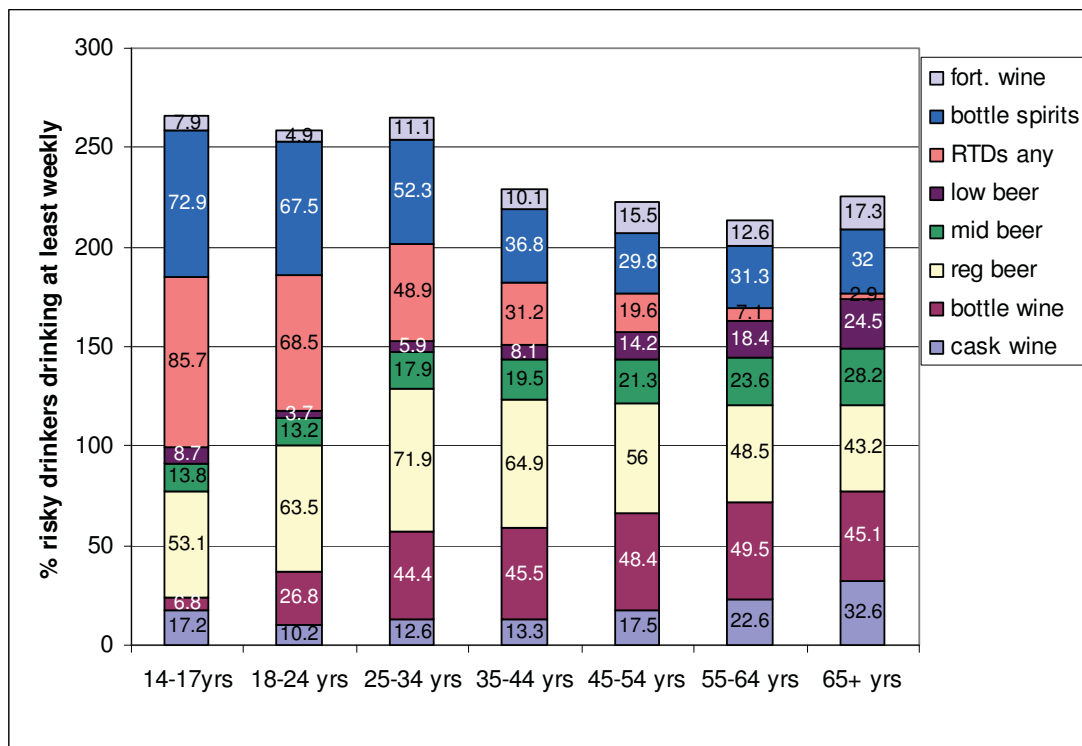


Figure 12. Proportions of risky drinkers consuming different beverage types (at least weekly), by age

Figure 12 combines data from Figures 5B to 11B to illustrate the proportions of risky drinkers consuming different beverage types in each age group. This figure shows how consumption of different beverages differed across age groups. The largest proportions of risky drinkers who consumed RTDs were aged 14-24 years and RTD consumption decreased steadily with age to less than 6% of those aged 65+ years. Similarly, the largest proportions of risky drinkers who consumed bottled spirits were aged 14-24 years. However, while the proportions decreased with age to some extent, approximately 30% of older risky drinkers (45-65+ years) reported consuming bottled spirits. Regular strength beer was consumed largely by risky drinkers aged 18-44 years.

In contrast, the proportions of risky drinkers consuming bottled wine increased with age and peaked in the mid age groups (35-64 years). Low alcohol beer was also consumed primarily by the older risky drinkers (45-65+ years). It is possible that those who drink beer at risky levels when they are young continue to drink the same number of beers as they get older, but some may switch from regular strength beer to low alcohol beer.

5.3. Infrequent (at least monthly) drinking

Overall, 68.7% of Australians aged 14 years and over reported drinking alcohol beverages at least monthly (infrequently). Of these, 32.2% reported drinking at risky levels for short-term harm (Table 8). 42.5% of males and 21.4% of female respondents reported drinking at risky levels at least monthly.

Table 8. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking infrequently (at least monthly), by gender

	Low risk		Risky		Total drinkers (monthly)	
	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²
Males	57.5 [56.2, 58.8]	5129 4,187,295	42.5 [41.2, 43.8]	3548 3,095,712	51.2 [50.3, 52.1]	8677 7,283,008
Females	78.6 [77.6, 79.5]	8278 5,456,293	21.4 [20.5, 22.4]	2097 1,489,529	48.8 [47.9, 49.7]	10375 6,945,822
Total pop	67.8 [66.9, 68.6]	13407 9,643,588	32.2 [31.4, 33.1]	5645 4,585,241	100	19052 14,228,830

¹95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

²Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Across age groups, 18-24 year-olds reported the highest proportion of risky drinkers (56.9%) (Table 9).

Table 9. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking infrequently (at least monthly), by age

	Low risk		Risky		Total drinkers (monthly)	
	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²	% [95% CI] ¹	N Est. pop ²
14-17 years	68.3 [64.6, 71.9]	450 483,687	31.7 [28.1, 35.4]	234 224,029	5.0 [4.6, 5.4]	684 707,716
18-24 years	43.1 [40.3, 45.8]	714 808,895	56.9 [54.2, 59.7]	928 1,069,421	13.2 [12.5, 13.9]	1642 1,878,316
25-34 years	58.4 [56.2, 60.6]	1800 1,347,735	41.6 [39.4, 43.8]	1221 960,063	16.2 [15.5, 16.9]	3021 2,307,798
35-44 years	66.4 [64.6, 68.2]	2460 1,842,119	33.6 [31.8, 35.4]	1216 931,154	19.5 [18.8, 20.2]	3676 2,773,273
45-54 years	71.5 [69.6, 73.4]	2348 1,818,995	28.5 [26.6, 30.4]	927 724,108	17.9 [17.2, 18.6]	3275 2,543,103
55-64 years	78.6 [76.9, 80.2]	2623 1,670,613	21.4 [19.8, 23.1]	722 454,047	14.9 [14.4, 15.5]	3345 2,124,660
65+ years	88.3 [87.0, 89.4]	3012 1,671,544	11.7 [10.6, 13.0]	397 222,420	13.3 [12.7, 14.0]	3409 1,893,964
Total pop	67.8 [66.9, 68.6]	13407 9,643,588	32.2 [31.4, 33.1]	5645 4,585,242	100	19052 14,228,830

¹95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

²Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

5.3.1. Infrequent drinking (at least monthly), by beverage type

The proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents aged 14 years and older who reported drinking alcohol beverages at least monthly are illustrated in Figures 13A and 13B. More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 6.

Across all beverage types, 67.8% of respondents who drank at least monthly drank at low risk for short-term harm (Table 8 and Figure 13A). More infrequent drinkers drank at risky levels compared to frequent drinkers (32.2% infrequent drinkers vs. 14.5% frequent drinkers, Table 6). Within beverage types, over 55% of regular beer drinkers, 43.8% of RTD drinkers and almost 40% of bottled spirits drinkers drank at risky levels.

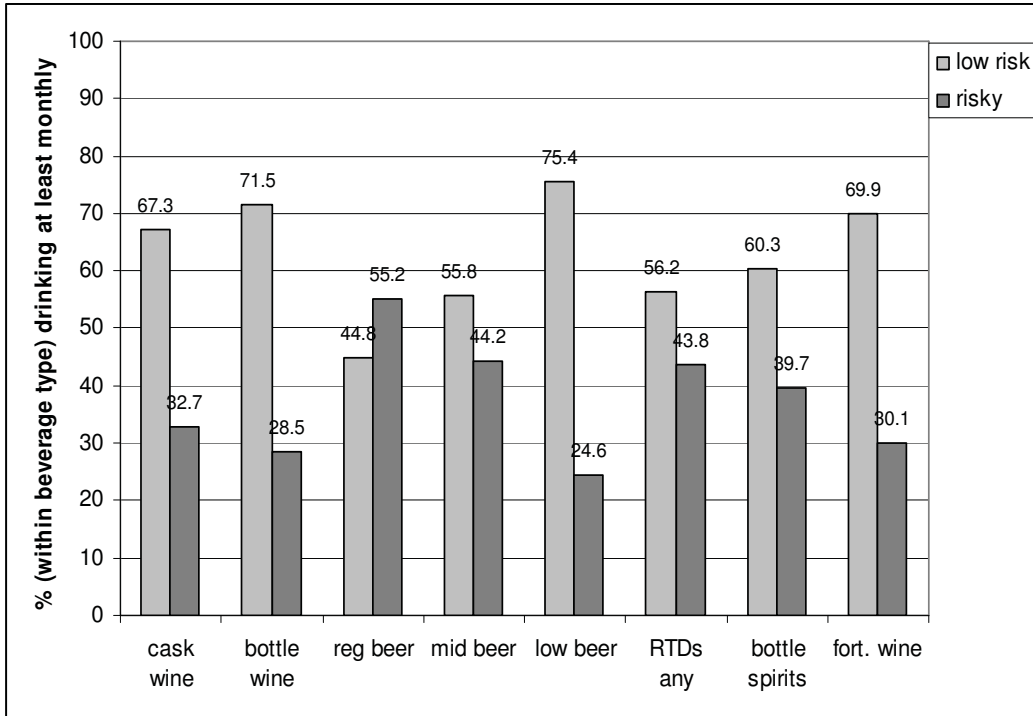


Figure 13A. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

Among those who drank infrequently at risky levels, the largest proportions consumed regular strength beer (55%) followed by bottled spirits (49.3%) (Figure 13B). The proportions of respondents who drank regular strength beer, mid strength beer, RTDs and/or bottled spirits increased at the higher risk level. For example, RTDs were consumed by 24.8% of low risk drinkers compared to 40.5% of risky drinkers. In contrast, other beverage types were consumed at similar levels (i.e., cask wine and fortified wine) or lower levels (i.e., bottled wine and low alcohol beer) by the different risk categories. Fortified wine was consumed by the smallest proportion of risky drinkers (11.2%).

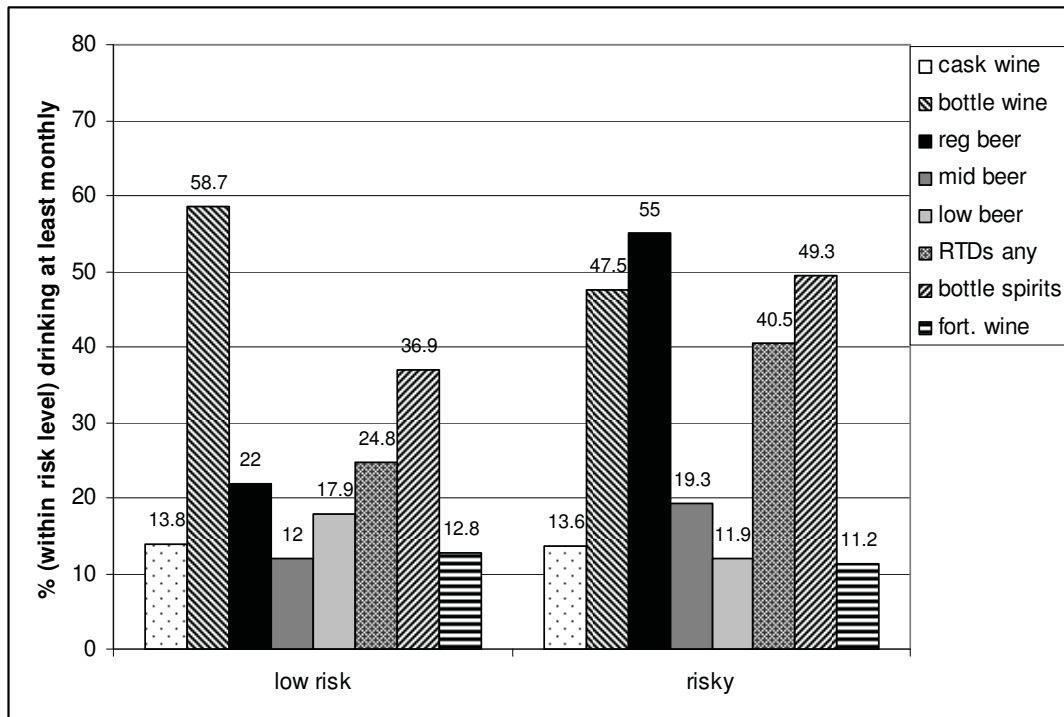


Figure 13B. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

5.3.2. Infrequent drinking (at least monthly), by beverage type and gender

The proportions of male and female respondents aged 14 years and older who reported drinking at least monthly are shown in Figures 14A and 14B (males) and Figures 15A and 15B (females).

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 7.

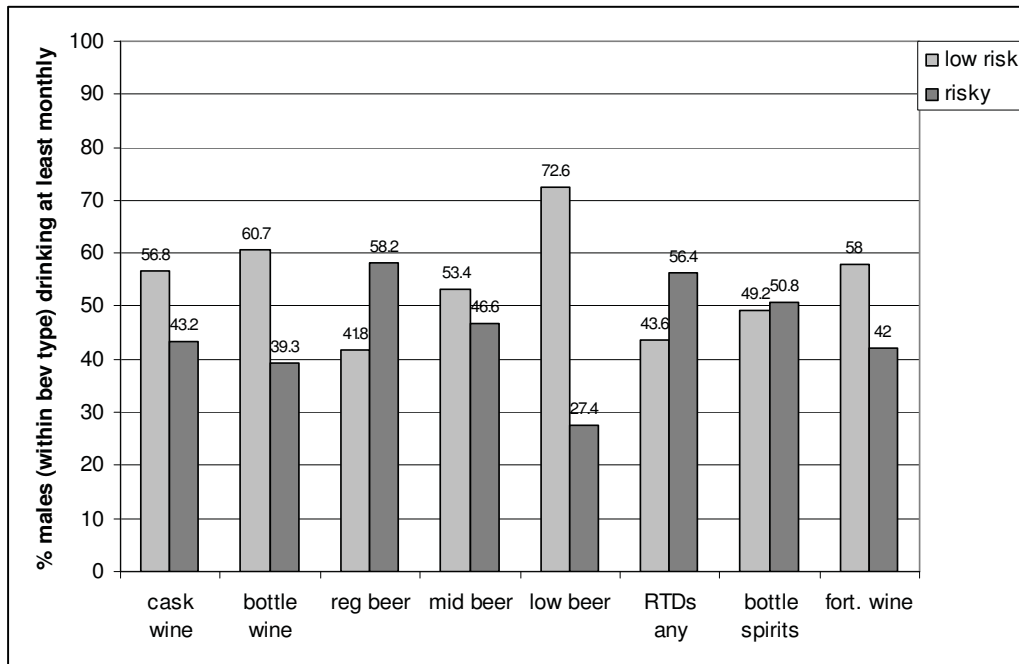


Figure 14A. Proportions of male respondents drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

Across all beverage types, most males who drank infrequently, did so at low risk levels (Figure 14A). However, 58.2% of regular strength beer drinkers, 56.4% of RTD drinkers and 50.8% of bottled spirits drinkers consumed at risky levels.

Among male risky drinkers who drink infrequently, the largest proportion (67.4%) drank regular strength beer (Figure 14B). In addition, more than 40% of male risky drinkers drank bottled spirits and/or bottled wine at risky levels.

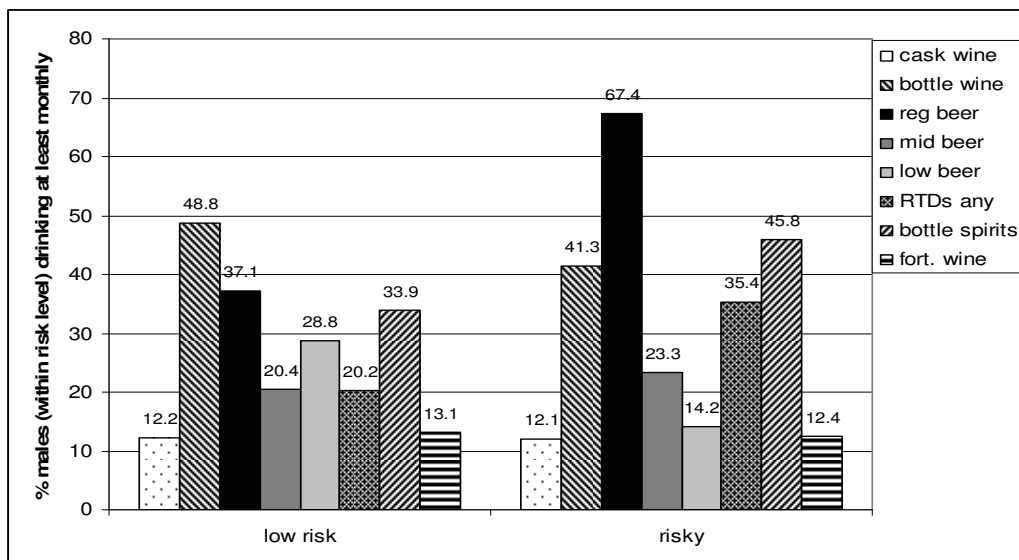


Figure 14B. Proportions of male respondents drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

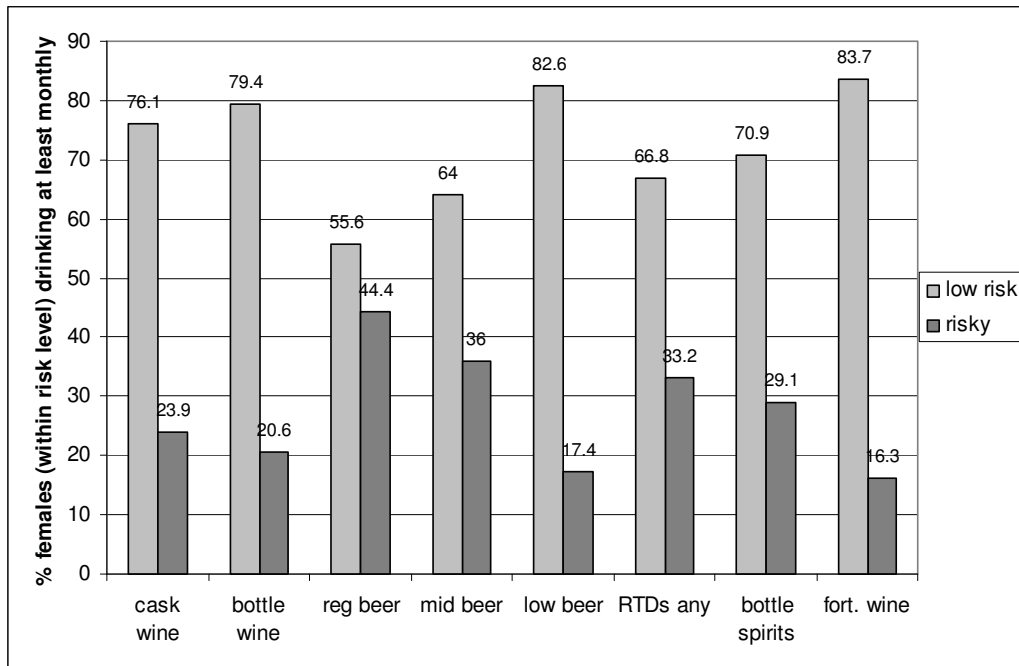


Figure 15A. Proportions of female respondents drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type).

Across all beverage types, most females who drank infrequently, did so at low risk levels (Figure 15A). However, among females, 44.4% of regular strength beer drinkers, 36% of mid strength beer drinkers and 33.2% of RTD drinkers consumed at risky levels.

Among female risky drinkers who drank infrequently the largest proportions consumed bottled wine (65%) followed by bottled spirits (56.7%) and/or RTDs (51.3%) (Figure 15B).

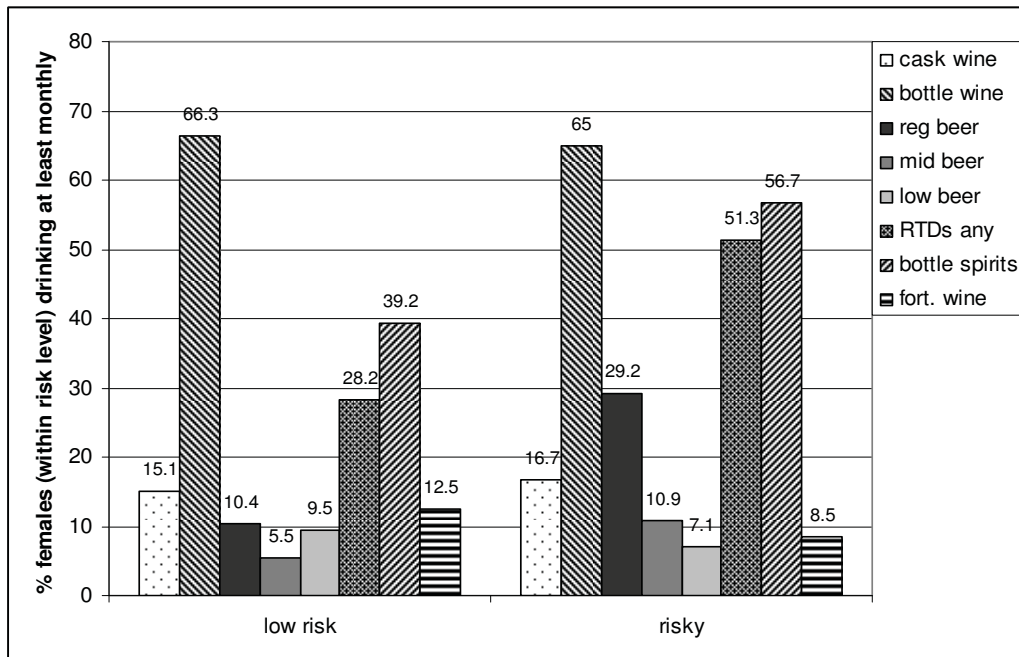


Figure 15B. Proportions of female respondents drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

5.3.3. Infrequent drinking (at least monthly), by beverage type and age

The proportions of respondents in different age groups who reported drinking infrequently (at least monthly) are shown in Figures 16A and 16B to Figures 22A and 22B. More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 8.

Across most beverage types and age groups, the majority of respondents who drank infrequently did so at low risk levels (Figures 16A to 22A). However, in some age groups, and within some beverage types relatively large proportions of infrequent drinkers drank at risky levels:

- 14-17 year-olds: more than 40% of those who drank regular strength beer, bottled spirits, cask wine, RTDs, and/or fortified wine consumed them at risky levels (Figure 16A). More than 57% of cask wine drinkers in this age group also consumed it at risky levels of harm, which is twice the proportion seen in the total respondents (see Figure 13A)
- 18-24 year-olds: the proportions of 18-24 year-olds who drank at risky levels were larger than those who drank at low risk for most beverage types (excluding low alcohol beer) (Figure 17A). For example, among infrequent cask wine drinkers, 71.4% of 18-24 year-olds drank at risky levels compared to 28.6% who drank at low risk. Other beverage types that were consumed at least monthly at risky levels by large proportions of 18-24 year-olds were regular strength beer (57.4%); bottled spirits (64.6%); RTDs (61.1%) and fortified wine (61.6%)
- 25-34 year-olds: approximately 40-60% within most beverage types (excluding low alcohol beer) consumed them at risky levels (Figure 18A)
- 35-44 year-olds: approximately 30-51% within most beverage types consumed them at risky levels (Figure 19A)
- 45-54 year-olds: almost 52% of regular strength beer drinkers consumed at risky levels (Figure 20A)
- 55-64 year-olds: more than 45% of regular strength beer drinkers consumed at risky levels (Figure 21A)
- 65+ years: almost 29% of regular strength beer drinkers consumed at risky levels (Figure 22A).

Within each risk level for the age groups, the largest proportions of respondents who drank infrequently at risky levels were:

- 14-17 years: 82.1% consumed RTDs followed by bottled spirits (65%) (Figure 16B)
- 18-24 years: 69.1% drank bottled spirits and/or RTDs (67.9%) (Figure 17B)
- 25-34 years: 64.7% consumed regular strength beer (Figure 18B)
- 35-44 years: 55.7 consumed regular strength beer and/or bottled wine (51.3%) (Figure 19B)
- 45-54 years: 54.4% consumed bottled wine followed by regular strength beer (51.1%) (Figure 20B)
- 55-64 years: 59.6% consumed bottled wine (Figure 21B)
- 65 years and older: 51.7% consumed bottled wine (Figure 22B).

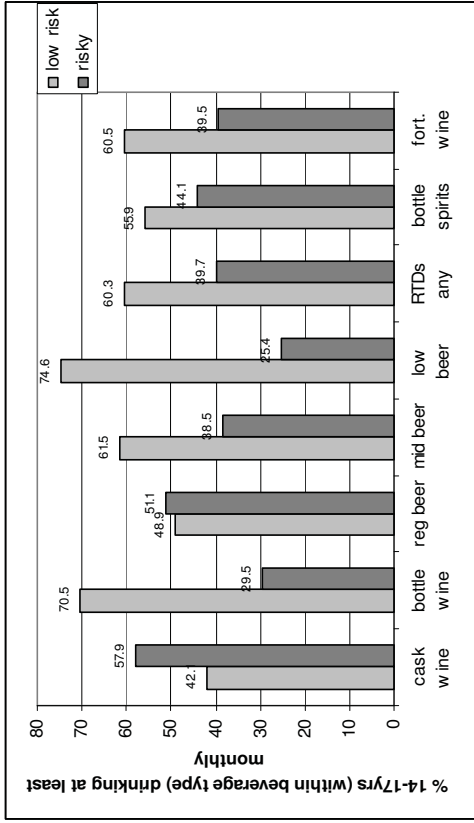


Figure 16A. Proportions of 14-17 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

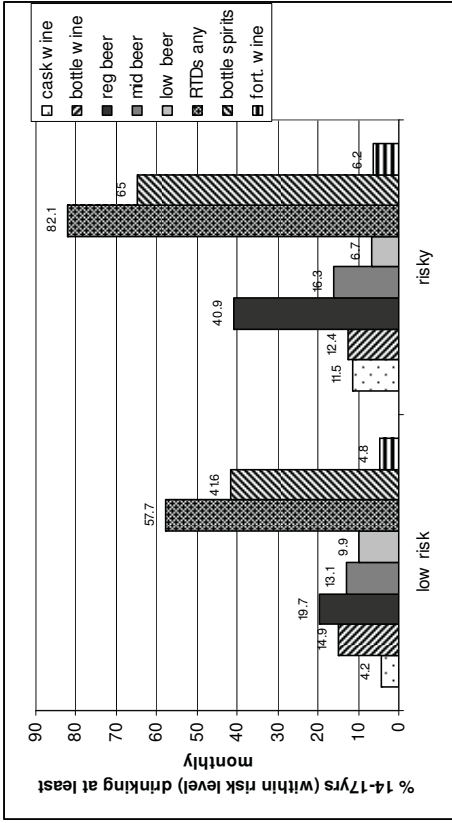


Figure 16B. Proportions of 14-17 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

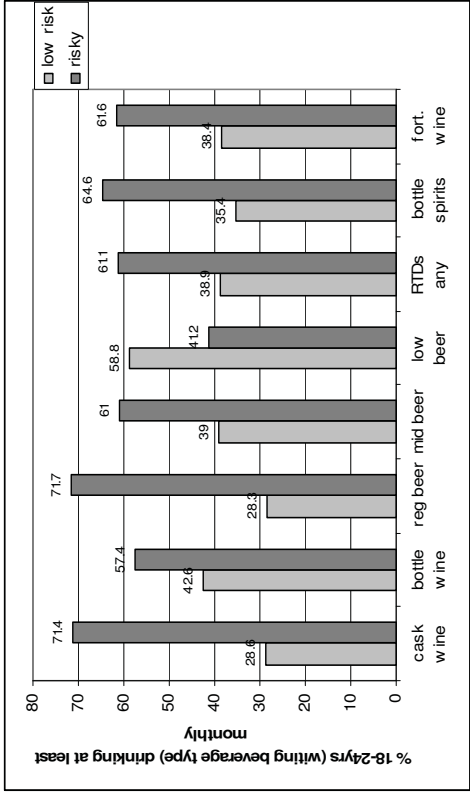


Figure 17A. Proportions of 18-24 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

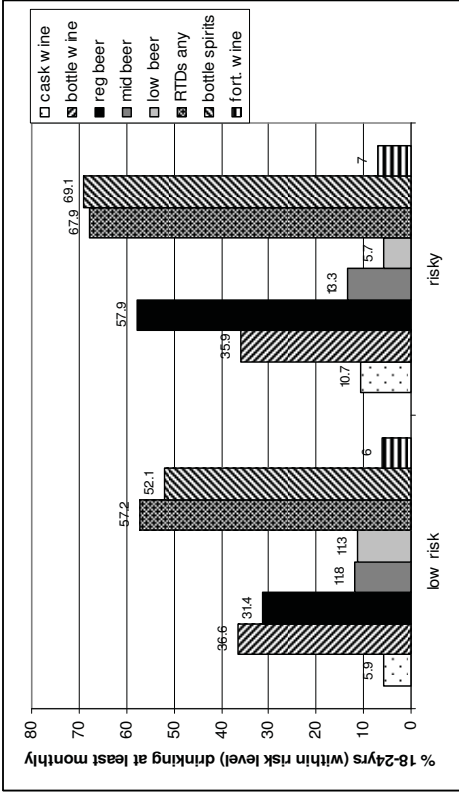


Figure 17B. Proportions of 18-24 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

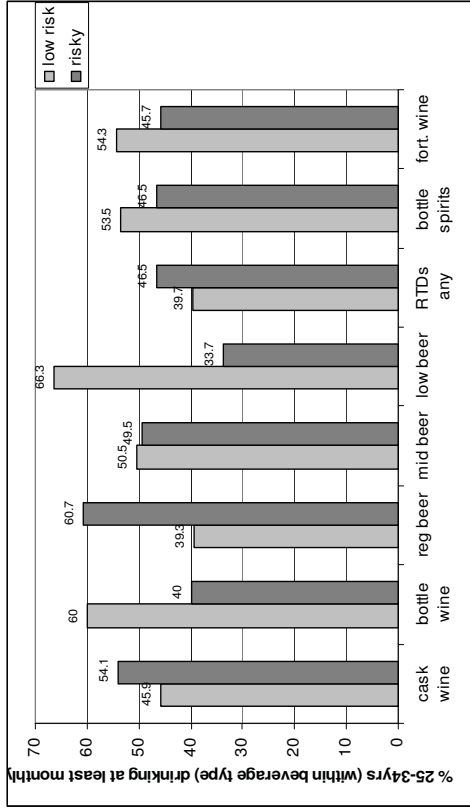


Figure 18A. Proportions of 25-34 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

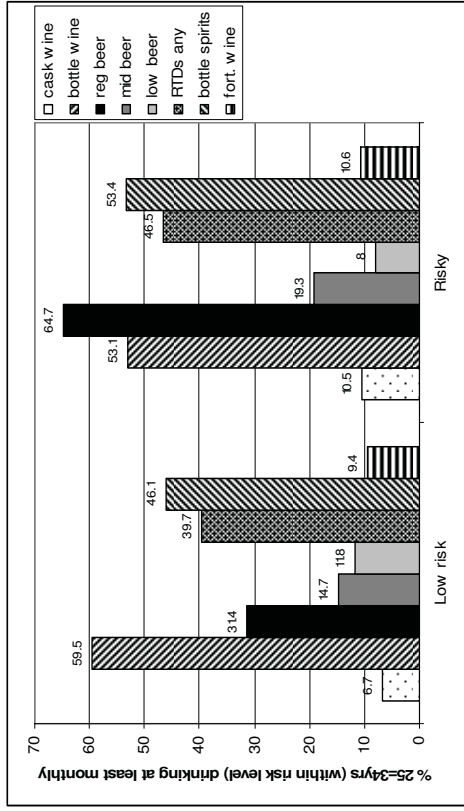


Figure 18B. Proportions of 25-34 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

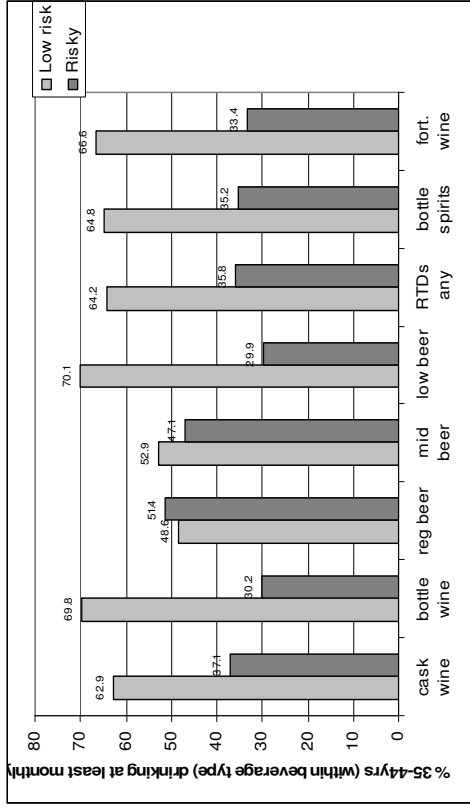


Figure 19A. Proportions of 35-44 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

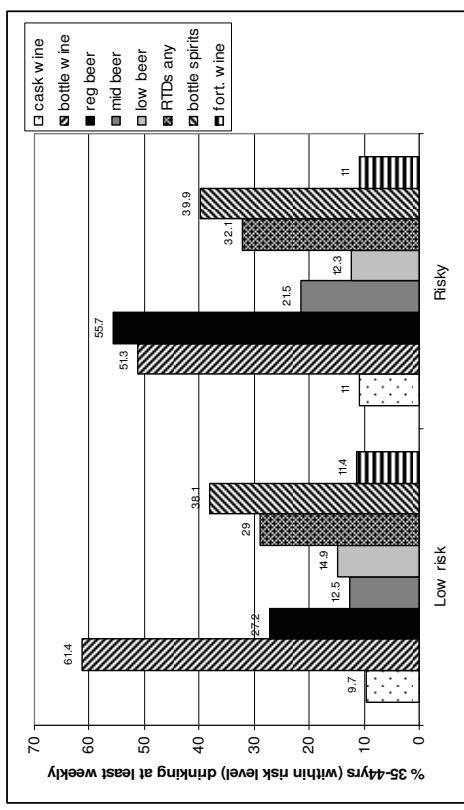


Figure 19B. Proportions of 35-44 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

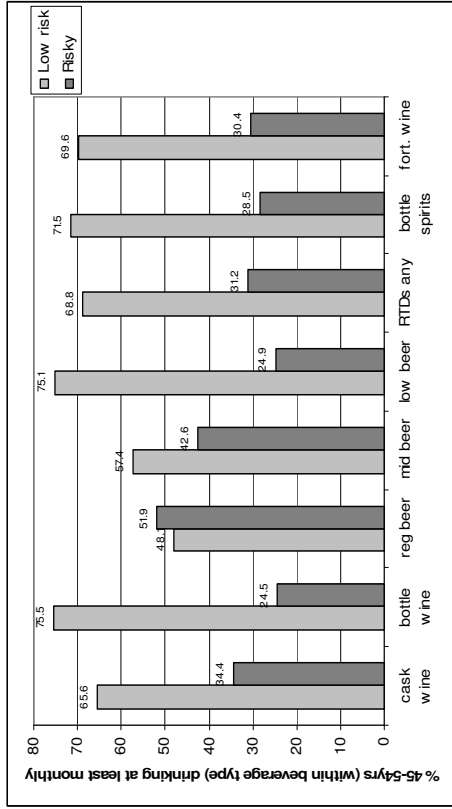


Figure 20A. Proportions of 45-54 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

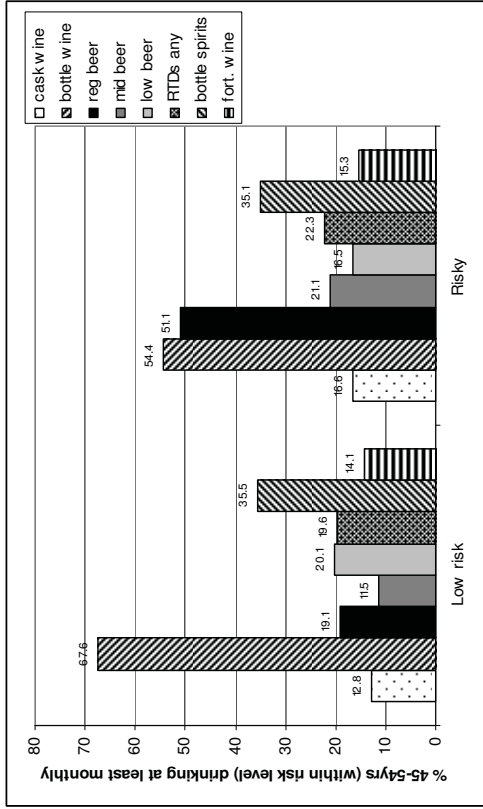


Figure 20B. Proportions of 45-54 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

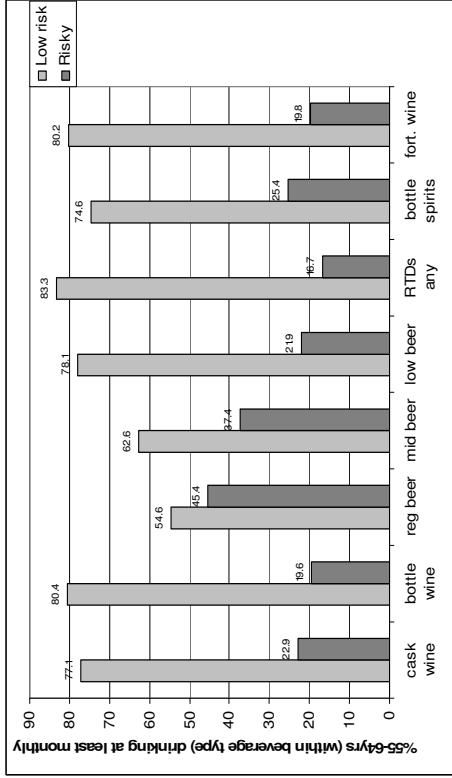


Figure 21A. Proportions of 55-64 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

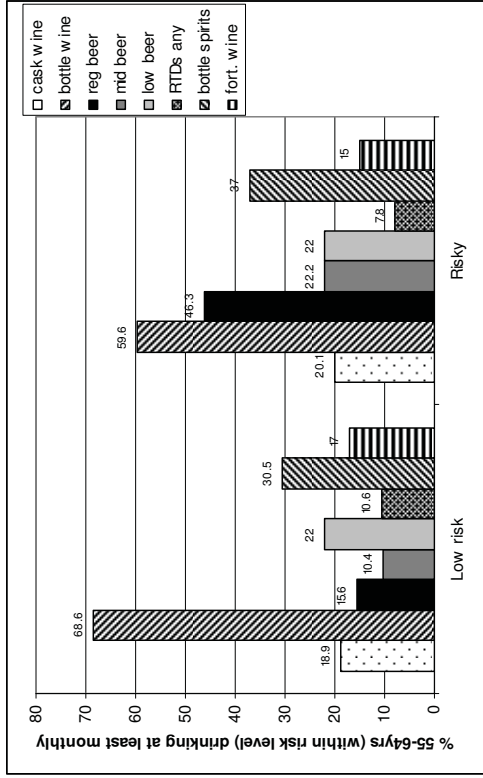


Figure 21B. Proportions of 55-64 year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

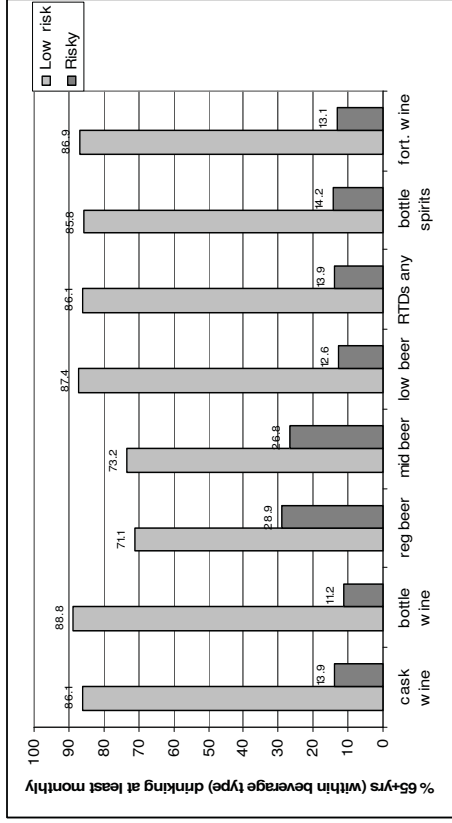


Figure 22A. Proportions of 65+ year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within beverage type)

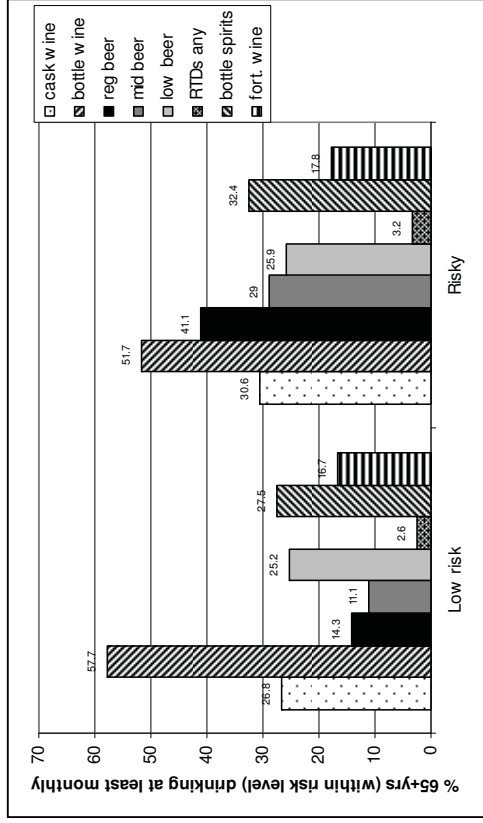


Figure 22B. Proportions of 65+ year-olds drinking different beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm (within level of risk for short-term harm)

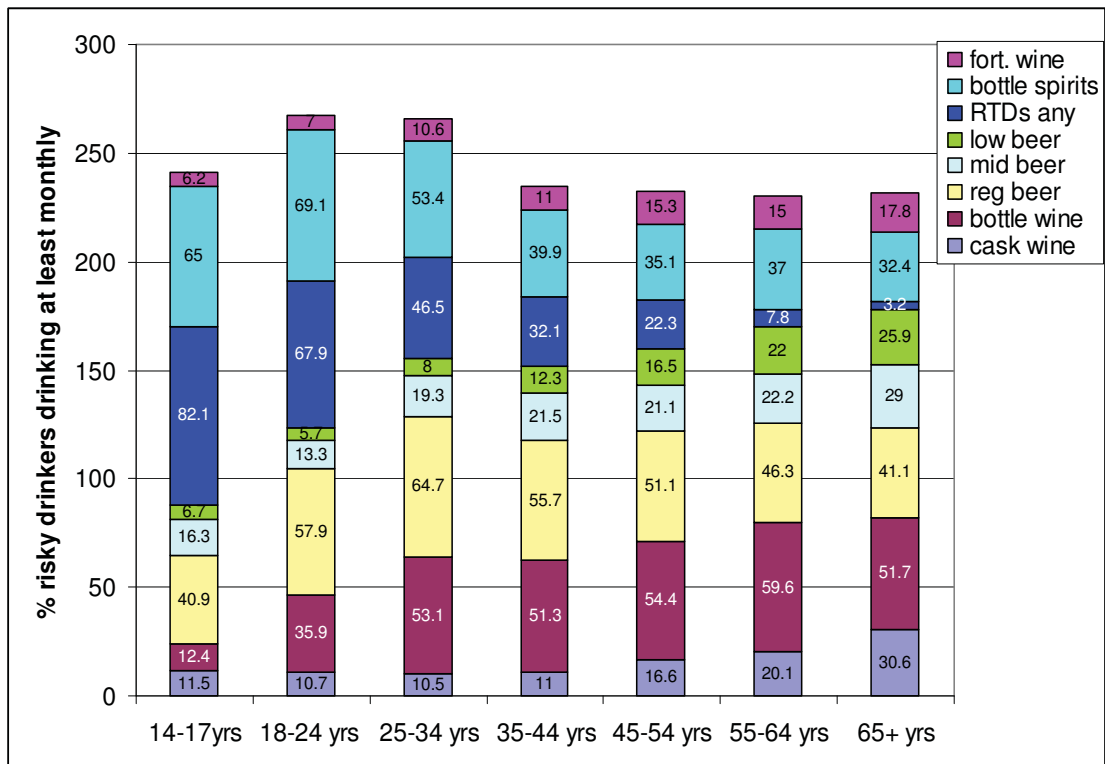


Figure 23. Proportions of risky drinkers consuming different beverage types (at least monthly), by age

Figure 23 combines data from Figures 16B to 22B to illustrate the proportions of risky drinkers consuming different beverage types (at least monthly) in each age group. The pattern of consumption for infrequent risky drinkers is similar to that shown for frequent risky drinkers as seen in Figure 12. Infrequent risky consumption of different beverages differed across age groups. The largest proportions of risky drinkers who consumed RTDs were aged 14-24 years and RTD consumption decreased steadily with age to less than 5% of those aged 65+ years. Similarly, the largest proportions of risky drinkers who consumed bottled spirits were aged 14-24 years. However, while the proportions decreased with age to some extent, more than 30% of older risky drinkers (45-65+ years) reported consuming bottled spirits. Regular strength beer was consumed largely by risky drinkers aged 25-34 years (64.7%).

In contrast, the proportions of risky drinkers consuming bottled wine increased with age and peaked in the 55-64 year-olds. Low alcohol beer and cask wine were also consumed primarily by the older risky drinkers (55-65+ years).

5.4. Ready-to-Drink beverage (RTDs) consumption

This section of the report specifically examines the consumption patterns of the beverage group characterised as 'Ready-to-Drink' beverages or RTDs.

The 2007 NDSHS questionnaire gave respondents the option to give multiple responses to indicate which beverage types they usually consumed. There were two categories for RTDs in the questionnaire: "RTDs in a can" and "RTDs in a bottle". This meant that some respondents indicated that they consumed RTDs in cans only, some indicated that they consumed RTDs in bottles only and others checked both categories, indicating that they drank RTDs in both cans and bottles. However, simple addition of the two questionnaire categories ("RTDs in a can" plus "RTDs in a bottle") would result in substantial overlap and potential overestimation of the prevalence of RTD consumption overall. In addition, preliminary analyses showed differences in consumption between cans and bottles using the categories listed in the questionnaire. Therefore, we created four distinct variables for RTDs:

1. RTD cans only
2. RTD bottles only
3. RTDs both (cans and bottles)
4. RTDs any (cans and/or bottles).

Results for the variable 'RTDs any' are included in analyses in sections 5.1 to 5.3 of this report. To further examine different patterns of consumption of RTDs according to the type of container, the remainder of the report presents data on the consumption of RTDs in the other three categories: 'RTD cans only', 'RTD bottles only', and 'RTDs both' (RTD cans and bottles). Although these are discrete categories for RTDs by container type, respondents may have also indicated that they consumed other alcohol beverage types.

5.4.1. RTD consumption

Overall, approximately 30% of drinkers aged 14 years and older consumed RTDs in cans and/or bottles in the 12 months prior to the 2007 NDSHS (see Table 1 for comparison with other beverage types). Over 12% of drinkers consumed RTDs in cans; 7.7% consumed RTDs in bottles; and 10.2% of respondents drank RTDs in both cans and bottles (Table 10).

Table 10. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs in past 12 months

RTD container type	% ¹	[95% CI] ²	N	Estimated population ³
RTD cans only	12.1	[11.4, 12.8]	2034	1,718,956
RTD bottles only	7.7	[7.2, 8.1]	1368	1,084,988
RTDs both	10.2	[9.5, 10.9]	1619	1,441,714
RTDs any	29.9*	[29.1, 30.8]	5021	4,245,659

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

* The percentage for 'RTDs any' was extracted from Table 1 and differs from the sum of the other RTD categories due to rounding differences.

5.4.2. RTD consumption, by gender

The proportions of male and female respondents who consumed RTDs in cans, bottles, or both cans and bottles in the past 12 months are shown in Table 11 and Figure 24.

Overall, a larger proportion of female respondents reported consuming RTDs (33.2%) compared to males (26.7%). Males were more likely to drink RTDs in cans only (15.5%

males vs 8.6% females), whereas females were more likely to drink RTDs in bottles only (12.6% females vs 3% males). A larger proportion of females reported drinking both cans and bottles (12.1% compared to males 8.3%). That is, while females demonstrated a stronger preference for RTDs in bottles over cans, they were more flexible than their male counterparts who seldom drank RTDs in bottles. The latter was largely the choice of females.

Table 11. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs in the past 12 months, by gender

	Males (%) ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est. population ³	Females (%) ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est. population ³
RTD cans only	15.5 [14.5, 16.5]	1170 1,124,294	8.6 [7.8, 9.4]	864 594,663
RTD bottles only	3.0 [2.5, 3.5]	218 216,199	12.6 [11.7, 13.4]	1150 868,790
RTDs both	8.3 [7.4, 9.2]	550 601,890	12.1 [11.2, 12.9]	1069 839,825
RTDs any	26.8 [25.6, 28.0]	1938 1,942,382	33.3 [32.1, 34.5]	3083 2,303,277

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

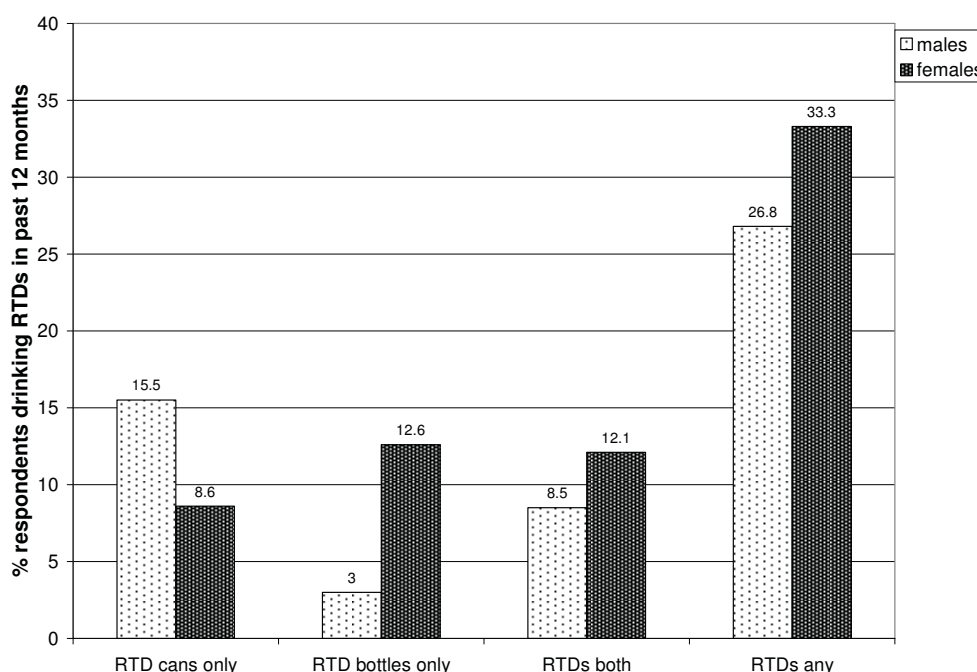


Figure 24. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs in cans and/or bottles, by gender

5.4.3. RTD consumption, by age

The proportions of respondents consuming RTDs across different age groups are shown in Figure 25. Almost 66% of 14-24 year-old drinkers reported drinking RTDs, irrespective of container type and proportions of respondents who drank RTDs (in any container type)

decreased with age. Among 14-24 year-olds, approximately 30% drank both cans and bottles. The largest proportions of drinkers who consumed RTDs in cans only were the 14-17 year-olds (22.2%), followed by those aged 18-24 years (20%). Overall, larger proportions of respondents in each age group consumed RTDs in cans (i.e., the RTD beverage type preferred by males) compared to bottles.

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 9.

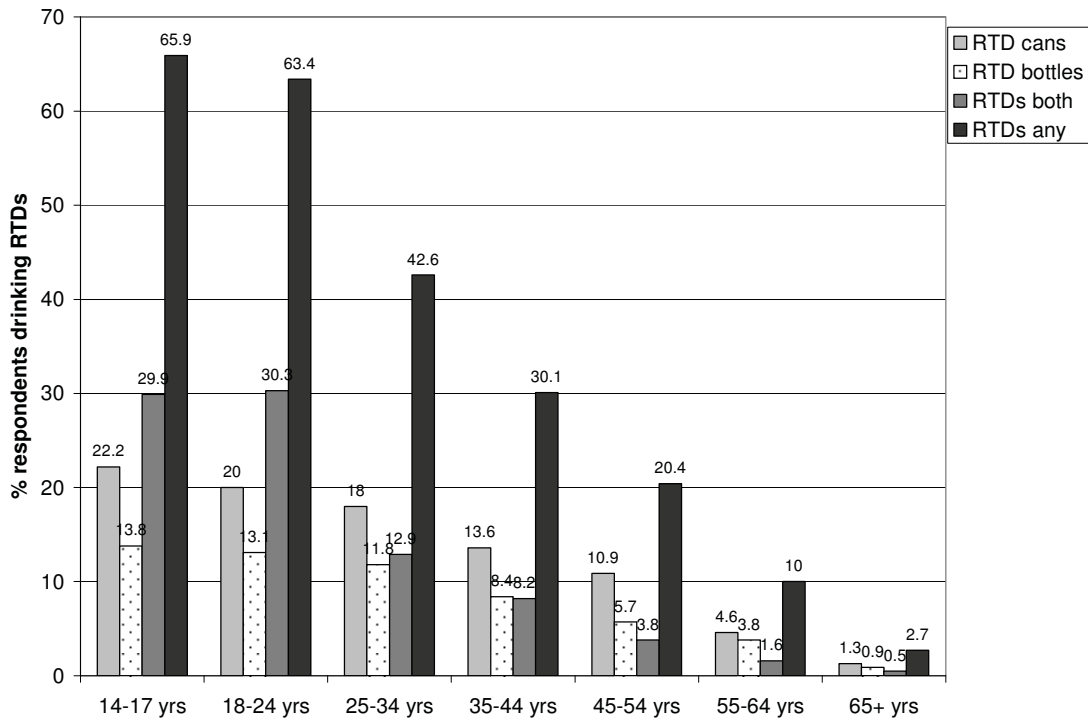


Figure 25. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs in cans and/or bottles, by age

5.4.4. Frequent RTD consumption (at least weekly)

The proportions of low risk and risky drinkers who consumed RTDs at least weekly are shown in Figure 26A and 26B. Figure 26A shows the proportions of RTD drinkers (within each container type) who drank at low risk or risky levels, whereas Figure 26B shows the proportions of low risk and risky drinkers who reported drinking RTDs in particular container types. 81.4% of respondents who drank RTDs in any container type drank at low risk levels (Figure 26A). Almost 93% of those who drank RTDs in bottles only drank this beverage type at levels for low risk of short-term harm. However, among those who drank RTDs in both cans and bottles, 23.4% drank at risky levels; and of those who drank cans only 21.9% drank at risky levels. In contrast, a smaller proportion respondents who drank RTDs in bottles only drank at risky levels (7.1%, Figure 26A).

More details on these data are shown in Appendix Table 10.

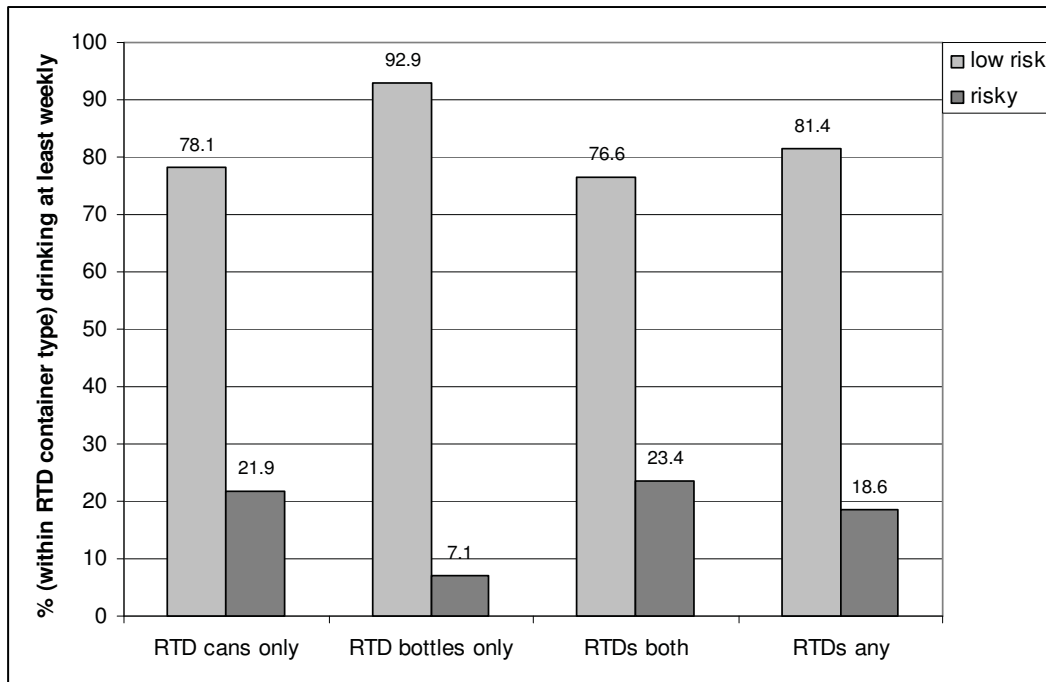


Figure 26A. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents (within RTD container type) drinking RTDs at least weekly

Overall, almost 39% of those who reported drinking at least weekly drank RTDs at risky levels (Figure 26B). The largest proportions of risky drinkers who reported drinking frequently drank RTDs in cans only (18.2%), followed by those who drank RTD in both cans and bottles (16.4%) (Figure 26B).

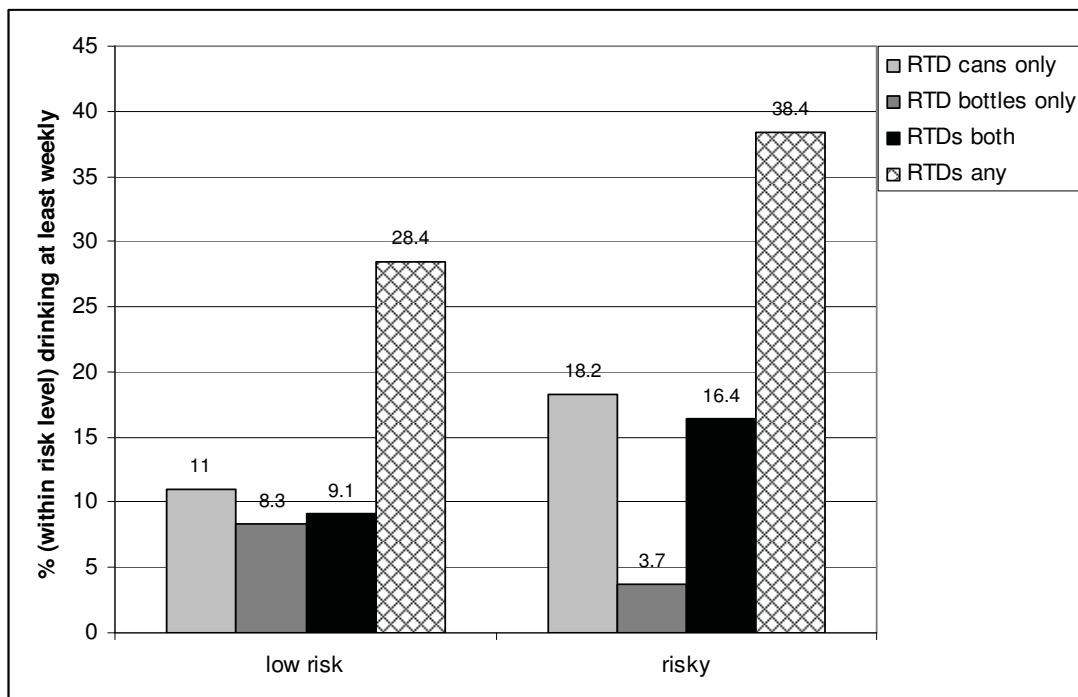


Figure 26B. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents (within risk levels) drinking RTDs at least weekly

5.4.5. Frequent RTD consumption (at least weekly), by gender

The proportions of male and female frequent drinkers who drink RTDs are shown in Figure 27. Overall, larger proportions of risky drinkers drank RTDs (35% males; 47.8% females) compared to low risk drinkers (24.5% males; 32% females). Male frequent drinkers who drank at risky levels for short-term harm mostly drank RTD cans or both cans and bottles, whereas fewer than 2% of male risky drinkers consumed RTD bottles only. Female risky drinkers were also more likely to drink both cans and bottles at (26.5%). However, in contrast to males, who primarily drank RTDs in cans, a larger proportion of females, who drank frequently at risky levels consumed RTDs in bottles (9.1% vs 1.8% males).

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 11.

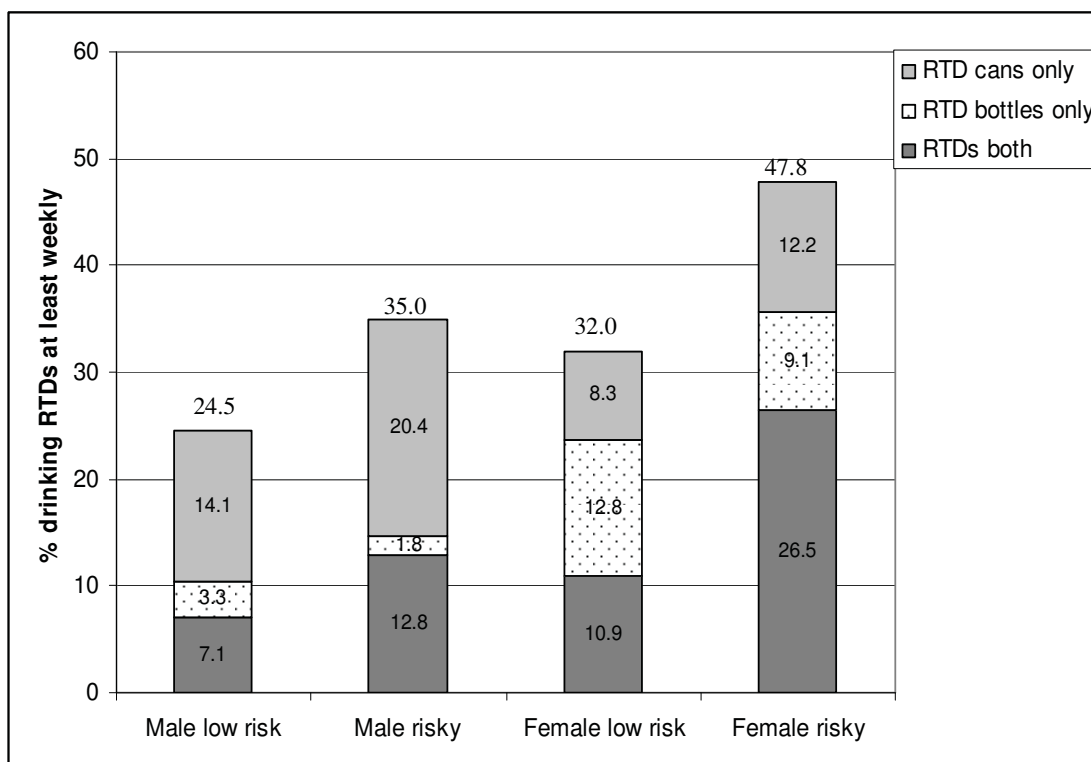


Figure 27. Proportions of male and female respondents drinking RTDs at least weekly

5.4.6. Frequent RTD consumption (at least weekly), by age

Figure 28 shows the proportions of frequent drinkers (within each risk level) in different age groups who reported drinking RTDs.

RTD consumption among risky drinkers differed across age groups, with larger proportions of risky drinkers consuming RTDs (any container type) compared to low risk drinkers. In descending order, the largest proportions of frequent risky drinkers were:

- 14-17 years: more than 85% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. The largest proportion drank both cans and bottles (56.6%); more than 27% drank cans only. Those who drank RTDs in bottles most typically consumed them at low risk levels
- 28 -24 years: over 68% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. The largest proportion drank both cans and bottles (36.6%) and more than three times as many respondents drank cans only at risky levels compared to bottles only

- 25-34 years: approximately 49% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. Over 27% drank RTDs in cans only
- 35-44 years: over 30% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. More than 20% drank RTDs in cans only
- 45-54 years: almost 20% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. Most consumed RTDs in cans only (12.3%)
- 55-64 years: approximately 7% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. Most drank RTDs in cans only (3.8%)
- 65+ years: approximately 3% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. Almost all RTDs in this age group were consumed in cans only.

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 12.

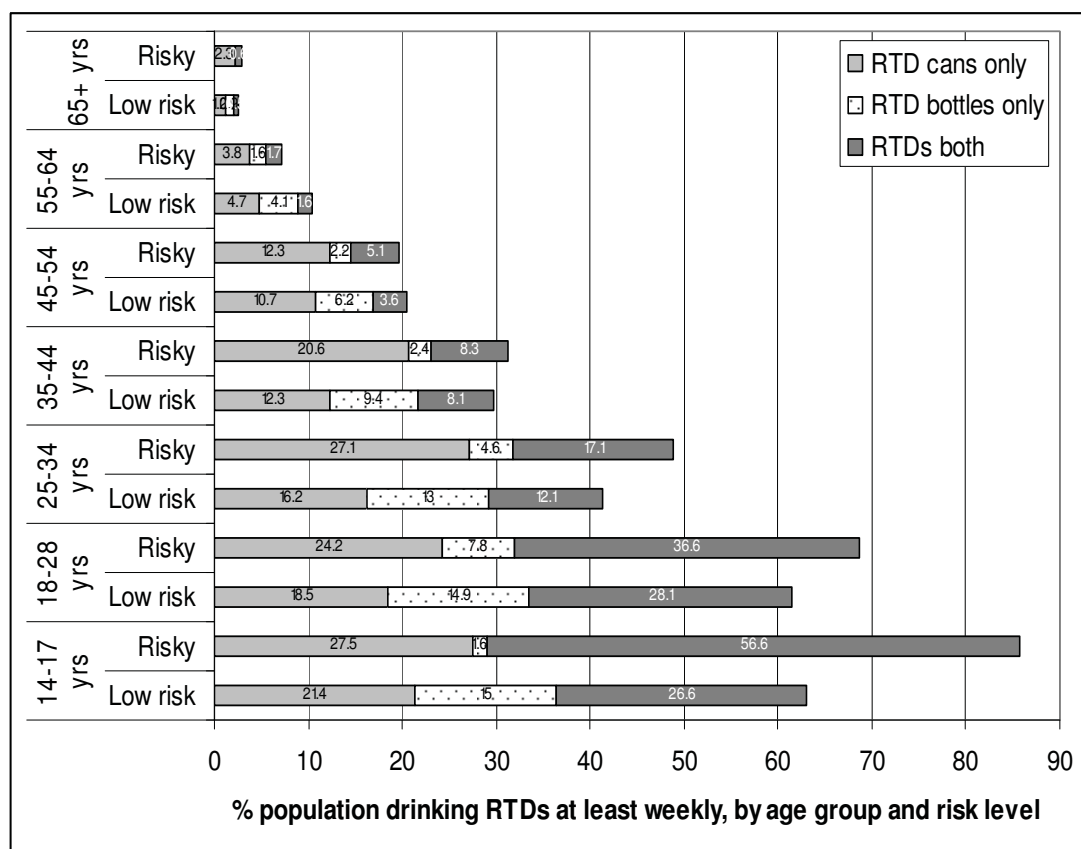


Figure 28. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs at least weekly, by age and risk level

5.4.7. Infrequent RTD consumption (at least monthly)

Approximately 30% of respondents consumed RTDs in either cans, bottles or both at least monthly (see Appendix Table 13). While most RTDs were consumed by infrequent drinkers at low risk for short-term harm (56.2%), over 43% were consumed at risky levels (Figure 29A). Of the different container types, 55.6% of respondents who drank both cans and bottles consumed them at risky levels, followed by those who drank RTDs in cans only (47.3%). In contrast, a smaller proportion of respondents who drank RTDs in bottles only drank them at risky levels for short-term harm (22.6%).

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 13.

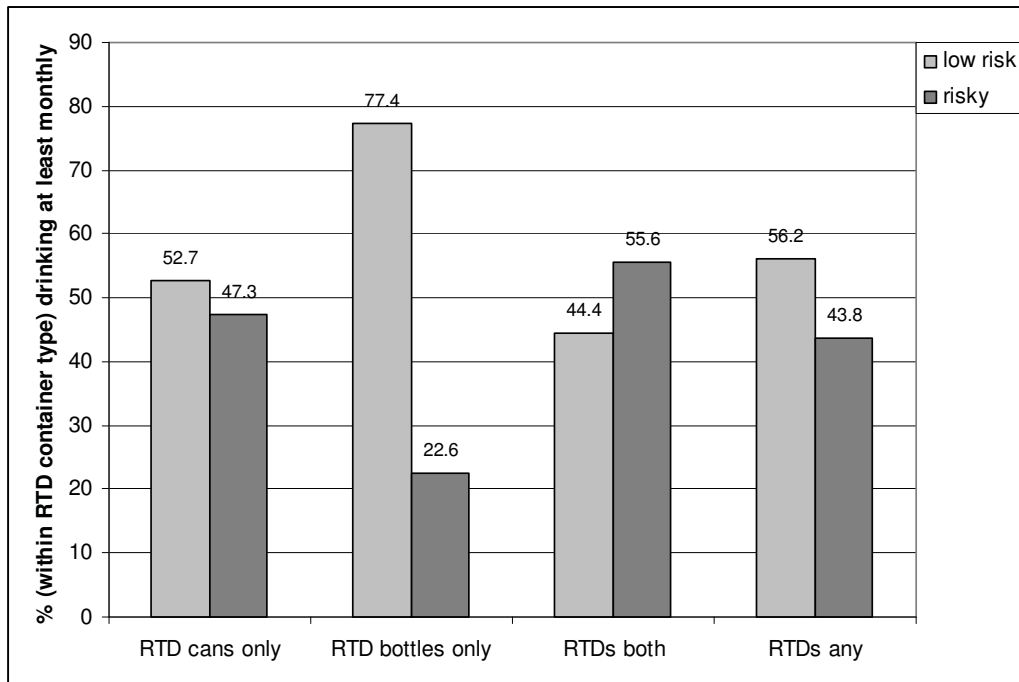


Figure 29A. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents (within RTD container type) drinking RTDs at least monthly, by risk level

Over 40% of risky drinkers who drank at least monthly consumed RTDs (Figure 29B). In addition, 17.5% of infrequent risky drinkers reported drinking RTDs in both cans and bottles and 17.7% drank cans only, whereas 5.3% in the risky category drank bottles only (Figure 29B).

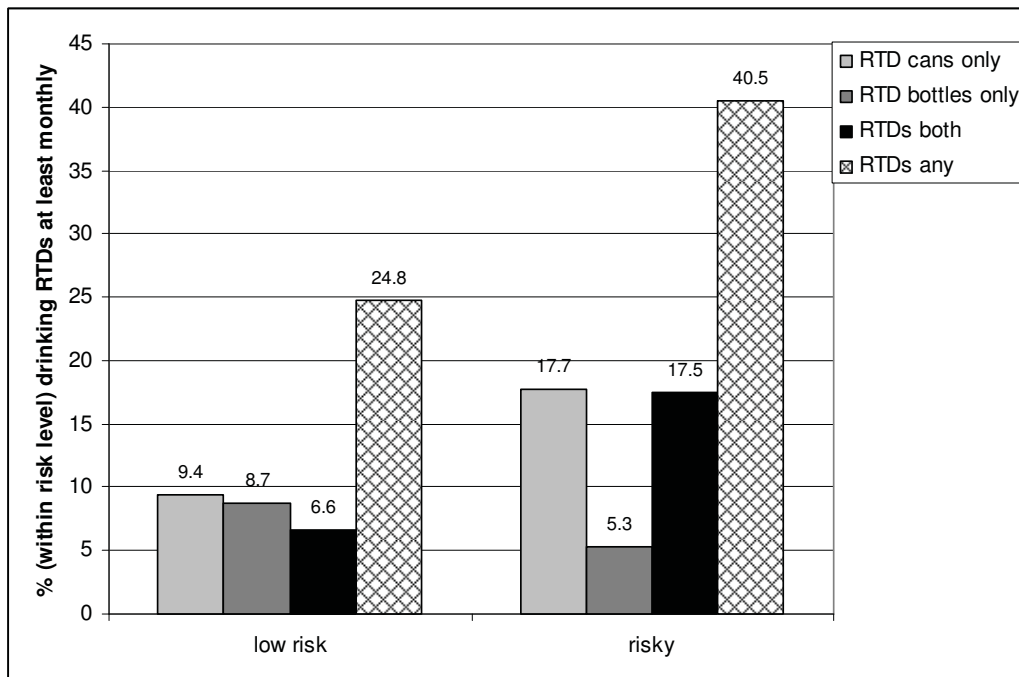


Figure 29B. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents (within risk level) drinking RTDs at least monthly

5.4.8. Infrequent RTD consumption (at least monthly), by gender

The proportions of males compared to females who reported drinking at least monthly are shown in Figure 30. Over 51% of female risky drinkers who drank at least monthly, consumed RTDs compared to 35.4% of male risky drinkers. Of those who drank infrequently at risky levels for short-term harm, the largest proportion of males drank RTD cans only (20.1%), whereas most females drank both cans and bottles (27%). Approximately 3% of males drank bottles only (across both risk levels) compared to approximately 12% among females.

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 14.

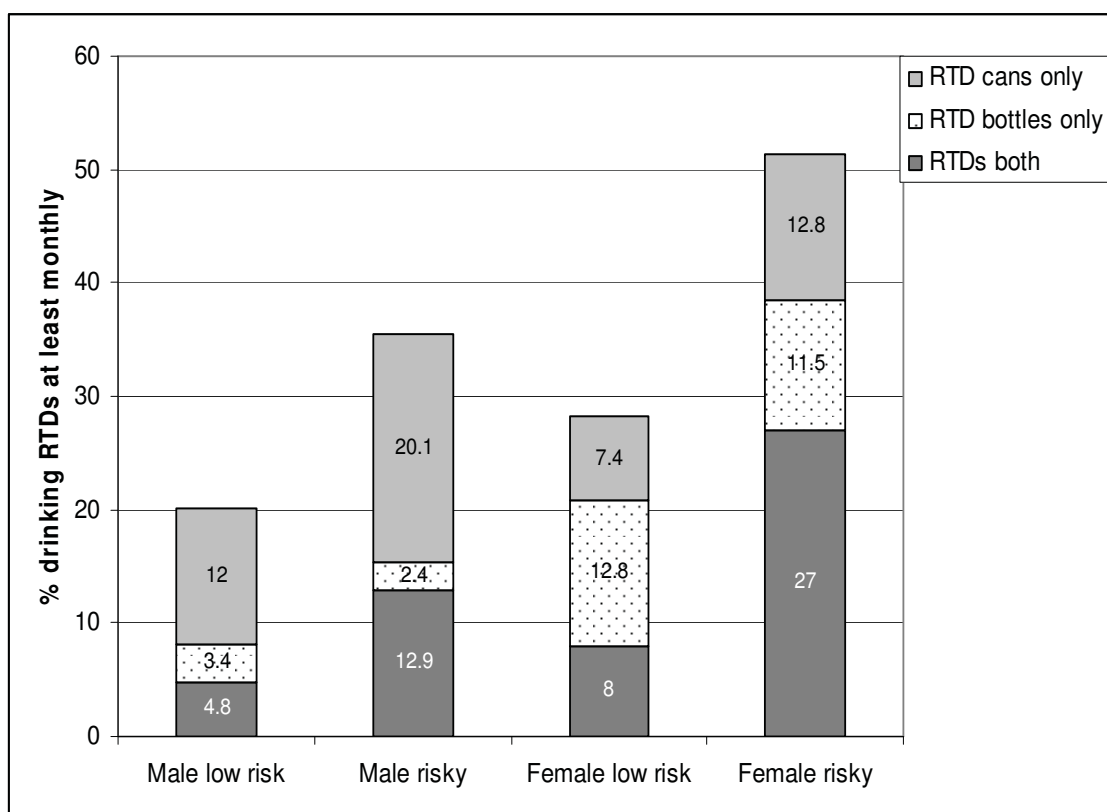


Figure 30. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs at least monthly, by risk level and gender

5.4.9. Infrequent RTD consumption (at least monthly), by age

The proportions of infrequent drinkers (within each risk level in different age groups) who reported drinking RTDs are shown in Figure 31.

RTD consumption among infrequent risky drinkers differed across age groups, with larger proportions of risky drinkers consuming RTDs (any container type) compared to low risk drinkers. In descending order, the largest proportions of infrequent risky drinkers were:

- 14-17 years: 82% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. The largest proportion drank both cans and bottles (50.1%); 22.9% drank cans only
- 18-24 years: approximately 68% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. The largest proportion drank both cans and bottles (35.4%)

- 25-34 years: 46.5% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. Over 22% drank RTDs in cans only
- 35-44 years: approximately 32% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. Almost 19% drank RTDs in cans only
- 45-54 years: over 22% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs. Most consumed RTDs in cans only (14.3%)
- 55-64 years: less than 10% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs
- 65+ years: less than 5% of risky drinkers consumed RTDs.

More details on these data are provided in Appendix Table 15.

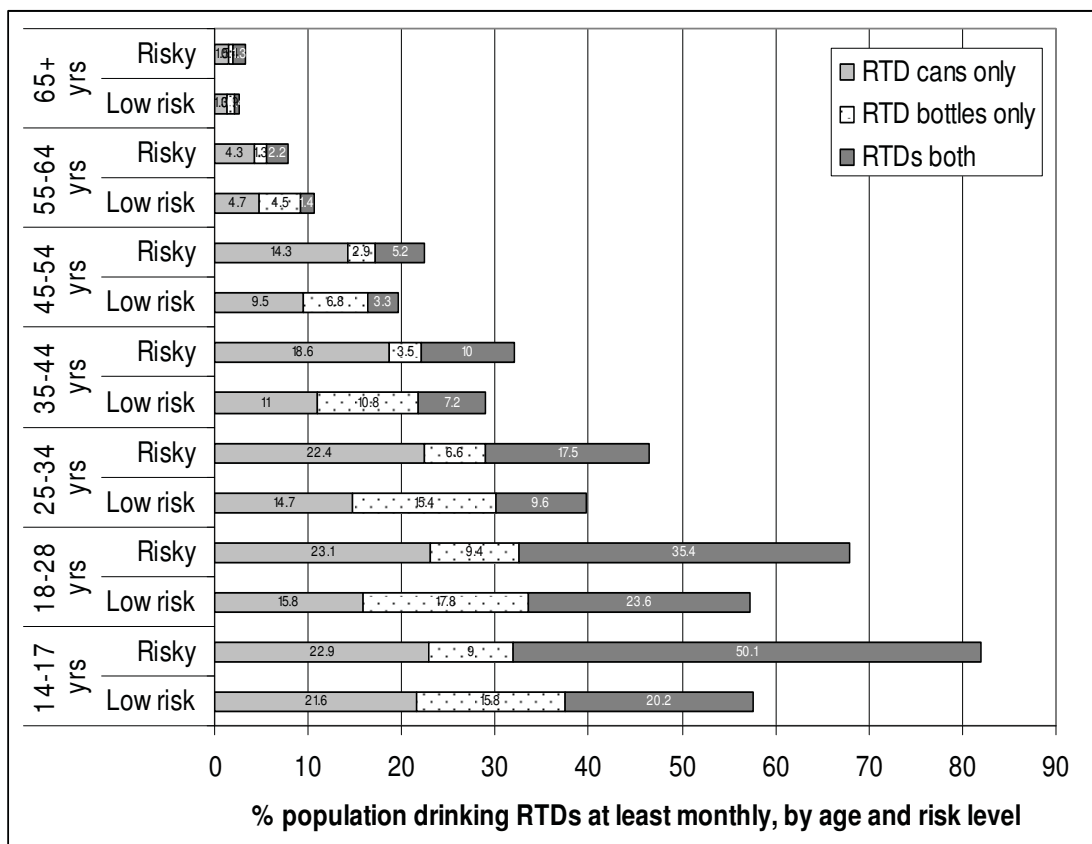


Figure 31. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs at least monthly, by age and risk level

6. Summary and Discussion

NCETA conducted a secondary analysis of the 2007 NDSHS data to explore the relationships between alcohol beverage type and patterns of consumption in the Australian population (aged 14 years and older).

6.1. Alcohol beverage consumption in total population

Of all alcohol beverages, bottled wine was consumed by the largest proportion of the 2007 NDSHS respondents (54%), followed by bottled spirits (40.3%) and regular strength beer (32.3%). Approximately 30% of respondents usually consumed RTDs. Beverage types were not discrete categories as respondents could select more than one beverage type. Thus individual respondents may be represented across several beverage types and the total percentage may exceed 100%.

Beverage consumption differed between males and females, with most males (49.5%) drinking regular strength beer and most females (63.6%) drinking bottled wine. A larger proportion of females reported consuming RTDs (33.3%) compared to males (26.7%).

Beverage consumption also differed between age groups. The highest prevalence of consumption was in 18-24 year-olds (96.3% drank in past 12 months), followed closely by 14-17 year-olds (95.9%). RTDs were consumed by the largest proportions of young people aged 14-17 years (65.9%) and 18-24 years (63.4%). Bottled wine was usually consumed by the largest proportions of respondents in all other age groups (55-65%). Across all age groups, bottled spirits were consumed by the second largest proportions of drinkers, ranging from 27.3% in the oldest respondents (65+ years) to 60.9% in 18-24 year olds.

By States and Territories, bottled wine and bottled spirits were consumed by the largest proportions of respondents. By comparison to other States and Territories, Northern Territory had the largest proportion of RTD drinkers.

6.2. Frequent drinking (at least weekly)

Overall 49.4% of respondents aged 14 years and older reported drinking at least weekly. While 85.5% of drinkers consumed alcohol at low risk for short-term harm, 14.5% drank at risky levels (20.9% males; 7.8% females). Within the beverage types, approximately 27% of regular beer drinkers and 19% of RTD drinkers drank frequently at risky levels. Among risky drinkers, the largest proportions drank regular strength beer (60.5%), followed by bottled spirits (45.8%) and/or bottled wine (40.5%).

As the risk level increased, so did the proportions of people drinking regular strength beer, RTDs and bottled spirits. In contrast, other beverage types, such as low alcohol beer and bottled wine were consumed by fewer risky drinkers.

Males and females who drank frequently at risky levels differed in the type of alcohol beverage they usually consumed. Most males who drank frequently at risky levels consumed regular strength beer (>70%). Among male risky drinkers, more than 42% consumed bottled spirits and 35.2% consumed RTDs. In contrast, females in both risk levels primarily drank bottled wine. Females who drank frequently at risky levels also reported drinking bottled spirits (54.8%) and/or RTDs (47.8%). Among females, more risky drinkers reported consuming regular strength beer (32.7%) compared to low risk drinkers (13%).

Frequent drinking of different beverage types also differed by age. RTDs were consumed by the largest proportions of young people aged 14-24 years. Of those who reported drinking RTDs, the largest proportion of respondents who drank frequently at risky levels were aged 18-24 years (68.6%). However, among risky drinkers, almost 86% aged 14-17 years drank RTDs compared with 68.5% of those aged 18-24 years. That is, although more of the younger age group drank RTDs at low risk (compared to 18-24 year-olds), when they drank at risky levels, they primarily drank RTDs, whereas the 18-24 year-old risky drinkers drank a wider range of beverage types. The proportions of risky drinkers who drank RTDs decreased with age.

Among those aged 25-44 years who drank frequently at risky levels, most reported consuming regular strength beer (64.9%-71.9%). Bottled wine was consumed by more than 45% of respondents in the older age groups (55-65+ years) who drank frequently at risky levels. The largest proportion of risky drinkers (within a particular age group) who drank bottled spirits were aged 14-17 years (72.9%). Regular strength beer was consumed by the largest proportions of respondents aged 18-44 years. Bottled wine was the beverage of choice for respondents over 55 years of age.

While cask wine was typically consumed by less than 20% of risky drinkers aged 14-54 years, 22.6%-32.6% of those aged 55-65+ years reported drinking cask wine at risky levels.

6.3. Infrequent drinking (at least monthly)

Overall 68.7% of respondents aged 14 years and older reported drinking at least monthly. While most infrequent drinkers drank at low risk for short-term harm (67.8%), over 32% drank at risky levels (42.5% males; 21.4% females). The largest proportions of infrequent risky drinkers were aged 18-24 years (56.9%), followed by 25-34 year-olds (41.6%) and 35-44 year-olds (33.6%). Within the beverage types, over 55% of regular beer drinkers, 43.8% of RTD drinkers and almost 40% of bottled spirits drinkers drank at risky levels.

Among risky drinkers who drank infrequently, the largest proportions of respondents consumed regular strength beer (55%), followed closely by bottled spirits (49.3%). Relatively large proportions of risky drinkers also consumed bottled wine (47.5%) and/or RTDs (40.5%).

Infrequent alcohol beverage consumption differed between males and females. Of those who reported drinking RTDs, 35.4% of males drank them at risky levels compared to 51.3% of females. Among infrequent risky drinkers, more than twice as many males drank regular strength beer (67.4%) compared to females (29.2%). In contrast, larger proportions of female risky drinkers (compared to male risky drinkers) drank bottled spirits (56.7% females; 45.8% males) and/or bottled wine (65% females; 41.3% males) at least monthly.

Infrequent drinking also differed between age groups, with a similar pattern emerging as for respondents who drank frequently (at least weekly). Overall, respondents generally drank at low risk levels across most beverage types. However, with the exception of low alcohol beer, which was consumed at low risk by 58.8% of 18-24 year-olds, approximately 50% or fewer in this age group were low risk drinkers. In general, the proportions of low risk infrequent drinkers increased with age across all beverage types. Moreover, within each beverage type, the proportions of drinkers consuming alcohol at risky levels were larger in infrequent drinkers compared with frequent drinkers in the same age group. For example, of infrequent regular beer drinkers aged 18-24 years, 71.7% drank at risky levels compared to 35.8% of frequent beer drinkers in the same age group. Similarly, of infrequent RTD drinkers aged 14-

17 years, 39.7% drank at risky levels compared to 13.2% of frequent RTD drinkers in the same age group.

Among the younger respondents, the largest proportions of infrequent risky drinkers reported consuming RTDs (82.1% of 14-17 year-olds; 67.9% of 18-24 year-olds) and bottled spirits (65% of 14-17 year-olds; 69.1% 18-24 year-olds). Infrequent risky drinkers aged 25-54 years mostly drank regular strength beer; and older respondents (55- 65+ years) mostly drank bottled wine. Compared to other age groups, cask wine featured more prominently among the oldest respondents with 30.6% consuming cask wine at risky levels compared to 13.6% of the total respondents (all ages).

6.4. RTD consumption

Closer examination of RTDs revealed differential patterns of consumption by gender, age and type of container. Overall, approximately 30% of respondents reported drinking RTDs in cans and/or bottles in the 12 months prior to the survey.

While RTDs were consumed at low risk levels by 81.4% of respondents, 18.6% of frequent drinkers consumed RTDs at risky levels (27.4% males; 11.2% females) and 43.8% of infrequent drinkers consumed RTDs at risky levels (56.4% males; 33.2% females). RTD consumption also differed between age groups. The largest overall consumption of RTDs was in 14-17 year-olds (65.9%), followed closely by 18-24 year-olds (63.4%).

RTDs were most commonly consumed in cans, with 12.1% drinking RTDs in cans only; 7.7% drinking RTDs in bottles only; and 10.2% drinking both cans and bottles. Container type was differentiated predominantly by gender, with males mostly drinking RTDs in cans only and females mostly drinking RTDs in bottles only (or both cans and bottles). Overall, a larger proportion of females drank RTDs (33.3% females vs 26.7% males).

Among frequent risky drinkers, the largest proportion drank RTDs in both cans and bottles (16.4%). Among males who drank frequently at risky levels, 20.4% drank RTDs in cans only and very few drank bottles only (1.8%); whereas most females who drank frequently at risky levels drank both cans and bottles (26.5%) and more than 9% drank bottles only.

Across age groups, the largest proportion of risky drinkers who consumed RTDs frequently were aged 14-17 years (85.7%), followed by 18-24 year-olds (68.6%). The proportions of respondents drinking RTDs decreased with age. Across all age groups, those who drank frequently at risky levels drank both cans and bottles, or cans only.

The pattern of consumption of RTDs for those who drank infrequently (at least monthly) was similar to those who drank frequently (at least weekly) between males and females and across age groups.

A number of other factors, which could not be determined from these data, may also impact on the pattern of consumption of different beverage types, including:

- Availability and price: drinkers' preferences for particular beverage types may change depending on what is available and which beverages are good 'value for money'
- 'Starter' drinks: Some beverage types may be more likely to be the entry point to drinking for 'starter drinkers' compared to others

- Types of RTDs. RTDs vary substantially in flavour, packaging, price and alcohol content. For example, it is possible that males prefer the 'dark' RTDs (e.g., Bourbon & Coke), while females prefer 'light' RTDs (e.g. Vodka & lime).

Further research is needed to examine these questions to understand the range of factors that influence patterns of consumption associated with alcohol beverage types. In addition, RTDs were subjected to additional taxation after the 2007 NDSHS was conducted. To determine the degree to which this tax has impacted on young peoples' RTD (and other alcohol) consumption patterns analysis of 2010 NDSHS data is required.

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8. Appendices

8.1. Alcohol Guidelines

Appendix Table 1. 2001 NHMRC Guidelines

Risk of short-term (acute) harm	Low Risk	Risky	High Risk
	No. of standard drinks	No. of standard drinks	No. of standard drinks
Males	Up to 6 (on any one day, no more than 3 days per week)	7 to 10 (on any one day)	11 or more (on any one day)
Females	Up to 4 (on any one day, no more than 3 days per week)	5 to 6 (on any one day)	7 or more (on any one day)
Risk of long-term (chronic) harm	Low Risk	Risky	High Risk
	No. of standard drinks	No. of standard drinks	No. of standard drinks
Males (on average day) (overall weekly level)	Up to 4 (per day) Up to 28 (per week)	5 to 6 (per day) 29 to 42 (per week)	7 or more (per day) 43 or more (per week)
Females (on average day) (overall weekly level)	Up to 2 (per day) Up to 14 (per week)	3 to 4 (per day) 15 to 28 (per week)	5 or more (per day) 29 or more (per week)

Appendix Table 2. 2009 NHMRC Guidelines

The new alcohol guidelines released by NHMRC in February 2009 (NHMRC, 2009) comprise the following four guidelines:

1. Reducing the risk of alcohol-related harm over a lifetime
For healthy men and women, drinking no more than 2 standard drinks on any day reduces the lifetime risk of harm from alcohol-related disease or injury
2. Reducing the risk of injury on a single occasion of drinking
For healthy men and women, drinking no more than 4 standard drinks on a single occasion reduces the risk of alcohol-related injury arising from that occasion
3. Children and young people under 18 years of age
For children and young people under 18 years of age, not drinking is the safest option. Parents and carers should be advised that children under 15 years of age are at the greatest risk of harm from drinking and that for this age group, not drinking is especially important. For young people aged 15-17 years, the safest option is to delay the initiation of drinking for as long as possible.
4. Pregnancy and breastfeeding
Maternal alcohol consumption can harm the developing foetus or breastfeeding baby. For women who are pregnant or planning a pregnancy, not drinking is the safest option. For women who are breastfeeding, not drinking is the safest option.

8.2. Frequent (at least weekly) drinking

Appendix Table 3. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking specific beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm

% of population drinking particular beverage types (at least weekly), by risk levels						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
Within beverage type						
Cask wine	83.2 [81.3, 84.9]	2350 1,565,594	16.8 [15.1, 18.7]	455 316,817	100	2805 1,882,411
Bottled wine	89.1 [88.3, 89.9]	9488 6,715,125	10.9 [10.1, 11.7]	1108 819,785	100	10596 7,534,910
Regular beer	72.8 [71.3, 74.3]	3975 3,283,022	27.2 [25.7, 28.7]	1444 1,226,216	100	5419 4,509,238
Mid beer	80.6 [78.7, 82.4]	2033 1,589,355	19.4 [17.6, 21.3]	497 382,620	100	2530 1,971,976
Low beer	90.7 [89.5, 91.8]	2735 1,978,538	9.3 [8.2, 10.5]	294 202,845	100	3029 2,181,383
RTDs any	81.4 [80.0, 82.7]	4178 3,456,157	18.6 [17.3, 20.0]	845 790,592	100	5023 4,246,749
Bottled spirits	83.5 [82.4, 84.5]	6116 4,690,736	16.5 [15.5, 17.6]	1068 928,314	100	7184 5,619,050
Fort. wine	87.1 [85.1, 88.9]	2050 1,459,363	12.9 [11.1, 14.9]	282 215,784	100	2332 1,675,147
Within risk group						
Cask wine	13.4 [12.7, 14.2]	2350 1,565,594	15.6 [14.0, 17.4]	455 316,817	13.7 [13.0, 14.5]	2805 1,882,411
Bottled wine	57.5 [55.8, 59.2]	9488 6,715,125	40.5 [38.1, 42.9]	1108 819,785	55.0 [53.4, 56.6]	10596 7,534,910
Regular beer	28.1 [27.0, 29.3]	3975 3,283,022	60.5 [58.2, 62.9]	1444 1,226,216	32.9 [31.8, 34.0]	5419 4,509,238
Mid beer	13.6 [12.8, 14.5]	2033 1,589,355	18.9 [17.0, 20.9]	497 382,620	14.4 [13.6, 15.3]	2530 1,971,976
Low beer	16.9 [16.1, 17.8]	2735 1,978,538	10.0 [8.7, 11.5]	294 202,845	15.9 [15.1, 16.7]	3029 2,181,383
RTDs any	28.4 [27.5, 29.3]	4178 3,456,157	38.4 [36.0, 40.9]	845 790,592	29.8 [29.0, 30.7]	5023 4,246,749
Bottled spirits	40.2 [38.9, 41.5]	6116 4,690,736	45.8 [43.1, 48.6]	1068 928,314	41.0 [39.7, 42.3]	7184 5,619,050
Fort. wine	12.5 [11.6, 13.4]	2050 1,459,363	10.7 [9.0, 12.6]	282 215,784	12.2 [11.4, 13.1]	2332 1,675,147

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Appendix Table 4. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking specific beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm & gender

% of population (within beverage type) drinking particular beverage types (at least weekly), by risk level & gender						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
MALES						
Cask wine	75.9 [72.7, 78.7]	883 649,221	24.1 [21.3, 27.3]	285 206,666	100	1168 855,887
Bottled wine	83.5 [82.1, 84.8]	3286 2,681,513	16.5 [15.2, 17.9]	679 530,422	100	3965 3,211,935
Regular beer	70.3 [68.4, 72.0]	2793 2,488,875	29.7 [28.0, 31.6]	1200 1,053,914	100	3993 3,542,789
Mid beer	78.3 [76.1, 80.4]	1454 1,196,014	21.7 [19.6, 23.9]	425 330,940	100	1879 1,526,954
Low beer	89.0 [87.4, 90.4]	1818 1,409,028	11.0 [9.6, 12.6]	250 174,476	100	2068 1,583,504
RTDs any	72.6 [70.1, 74.9]	1413 1,410,084	27.4 [25.1, 29.9]	525 532,298	100	1938 1,942,382
Bottled spirits	76.8 [74.9, 78.5]	2415 2,116,008	23.2 [21.5, 25.1]	702 639,664	100	3117 2,755,672
Fort. wine	80.8 [77.9, 83.4]	916 729,179	19.2 [16.6, 22.1]	222 173,531	100	1138 902,710
FEMALES						
Cask wine	89.3 [87.1, 91.1]	1467 916,372	10.7 [8.9, 12.9]	170 110,151	100	1637 1,026,523
Bottled wine	93.3 [92.5, 94.1]	6202 4,033,612	6.7 [5.9, 7.5]	429 289,363	100	6631 4,322,975
Regular beer	82.2 [79.6, 84.5]	1182 794,147	17.8 [15.5, 20.4]	244 172,302	100	1426 966,449
Mid beer	88.4 [84.8, 91.2]	579 393,342	11.6 [8.8, 15.2]	72 51,680	100	651 445,022
Low beer	95.3 [93.4, 96.6]	917 569,510	4.7 [3.4, 6.6]	44 28,369	100	961 597,878
RTDs any	88.8 [87.4, 90.1]	2765 2,046,073	11.2 [9.9, 12.6]	320 258,293	100	3085 2,304,367
Bottled spirits	89.9 [88.7, 91.0]	3701 2,574,728	10.1 [9.0, 11.3]	366 288,650	100	4067 2,863,378
Fort. wine	94.5 [92.1, 96.2]	1134 730,184	5.5 [3.8, 7.9]	60 42,253	100	1194 772,437

(continued next page)

Appendix Table 4 (continued)

% of population (within risk group) drinking particular beverage types (at least weekly), by risk level & gender						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
MALES						
Cask wine	11.7 [10.7, 12.7]	883 649,221	13.8 [12.0, 15.9]	285 206,666	12.1 [11.0, 12.8]	1168 855,887
Bottled wine	48.3 [46.2, 50.4]	3286 2,681,513	35.4 [32.7, 38.2]	679 530,422	45.6 [43.7, 47.5]	3965 3,211,935
Regular beer	44.8 [42.9, 46.8]	2793 2,488,875	70.3 [67.8, 72.8]	1200 1,053,914	50.3 [48.5, 50.2]	3993 3,542,789
Mid beer	21.5 [20.0, 23.2]	1454 1,196,014	22.1 [19.8, 24.6]	425 330,940	21.7 [20.3, 23.1]	1879 1,526,954
Low beer	25.4 [24.0, 26.8]	1818 1,409,128	11.6 [10.0, 13.6]	250 174,476	22.5 [21.3, 23.7]	2068 1,583,504
RTDs any	24.5 [23.2, 25.8]	1413 1,604,094	35.0 [32.1, 38.0]	525 532,298	26.7 [25.5, 27.9]	1938 1,942,382
Bottled spirits	38.1 [36.5, 39.8]	2415 2,116,008	42.7 [39.4, 46.0]	702 639,664	39.1 [37.4, 40.8]	3117 2,755,672
Fort. wine	13.1 [12.0, 14.3]	916 729,179	11.6 [9.8, 13.7]	222 173,531	12.8 [11.8, 13.9]	1138 902,710
FEMALES						
Cask wine	15.0 [14.0, 16.0]	1467 916,372	20.9 [17.7, 24.5]	170 110,151	15.4 [14.5, 16.4]	1637 1,026,523
Bottled wine	65.9 [64.1, 67.6]	6202 4,033,612	54.9 [50.4, 59.4]	429 289,363	65.0 [63.3, 66.6]	6631 4,322,975
Regular beer	13.0 [12.1, 13.8]	1182 794,147	32.7 [28.7, 37.0]	244 172,302	14.5 [13.7, 15.4]	1426 966,449
Mid beer	6.4 [5.8, 7.1]	579 393,342	9.8 [7.5, 12.8]	72 51,680	6.7 [6.1, 7.4]	651 445,022
Low beer	9.3 [8.6, 10.1]	917 569,510	5.4 [3.9, 7.5]	44 28,369	9.0 [8.3, 9.7]	961 597,878
RTDs any	31.9 [30.8, 33.1]	2765 2,046,073	47.8 [43.7, 52.0]	320 258,293	33.2 [32.0, 34.3]	3085 2,304,367
Bottled spirits	42.0 [40.6, 43.5]	3701 2,574,728	54.8 [50.7, 58.8]	366 288,650	43.1 [41.6, 44.5]	4067 2,863,378
Fort. wine	11.9 [11.0, 12.9]	1134 730,184	8.0 [5.6, 11.4]	60 42,253	11.6 [10.7, 12.6]	1194 772,437

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Appendix Table 5. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking specific beverage types (at least weekly), by level of risk for short-term harm & age

% of population (within risk group) drinking particular beverage types (at least weekly), by risk level & age						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
14-17 year-olds						
Cask wine	5.4 [3.7, 7.8]	32 31,588	17.2 [9.1, 30.1]	12 11,910	6.6 [1.1, 4.8]	44 43,498
Bottled wine	14.9 [12.0, 18.3]	89 87,222	6.8 [2.3, 18.8]	5 4,728	14.0 [11.4, 17.2]	94 91,951
Regular beer	23.7 [19.7, 28.2]	139 138,948	53.1 [39.1, 66.7]	30 36,889	26.8 [23.0, 31.1]	169 175,837
Mid beer	14.2 [11.4, 17.6]	82 83,384	13.8 [6.6, 26.5]	9 9,571	14.2 [11.4, 17.5]	91 92,955
Low beer	8.9 [6.5, 12.0]	49 52,007	8.7 [3.1, 22.1]	4 6,037	8.9 [6.6, 11.8]	53 58,045
RTDs any	63.1 [58.4, 67.6]	410 401,729	85.7 [75.0, 92.3]	55 61,104	65.4 [61.0, 69.5]	465 462,833
Bottled spirits	46.6 [42.2, 51.1]	277 273,268	72.9 [58.3, 83.7]	48 50,590	49.4 [45.1, 53.8]	325 323,858
Fort. wine	4.9 [3.3, 7.2]	29 28,868	7.9 [2.4, 22.8]	5 5,476	5.2 [3.6, 7.6]	34 34,345
18-24 year-olds						
Cask wine	8.2 [6.3, 10.5]	101 108,963	10.2 [7.4, 14.0]	45 48,763	8.7 [7.0, 10.7]	146 157,726
Bottled wine	39.5 [36.0, 43.1]	505 528,205	26.8 [22.0, 32.1]	112 127,769	36.2 [33.1, 39.3]	617 655,974
Regular beer	40.7 [37.4, 44.1]	456 544,500	63.5 [58.0, 68.7]	233 303,416	46.7 [43.9, 49.6]	689 847,916
Mid beer	12.5 [10.4, 14.9]	148 166,843	13.2 [9.7, 17.7]	48 63,141	12.7 [10.8, 14.9]	196 229,984
Low beer	9.6 [7.8, 11.7]	110 128,544	3.7 [2.1, 6.5]	15 17,584	8.1 [6.6, 9.9]	125 146,128
RTDs any	61.5 [58.3, 64.5]	772 852,968	68.5 [62.9, 73.6]	274 335,957	63.3 [60.6, 65.9]	1,046 1,188,925
Bottled spirits	60.0 [56.4, 63.4]	722 801,686	67.5 [61.5, 72.9]	252 322,216	61.9 [58.8, 65.0]	974 1,123,902
Fort. wine	7.1 [5.5, 9.2]	84 95,322	4.9 [2.8, 8.4]	19 23,209	6.5 [5.2, 8.2]	103 118,531

(continued next page)

Appendix Table 5 (continued)

25-34 year-olds						
Cask wine	7.5 [6.2, 9.1]	200 140,704	12.6 [8.7, 17.8]	50 44,352	8.3 [7.0, 10.0]	250 185,056
Bottled wine	59.1 [56.5, 61.7]	1523 1,103,261	44.4 [38.9, 50.1]	198 156,782	56.8 [54.3, 59.2]	1721 1,260,043
Regular beer	40.7 [38.2, 43.2]	941 759,722	71.9 [66.8, 76.5]	301 253,802	45.7 [43.4, 48.0]	1242 1,013,524
Mid beer	16.4 [14.5, 18.5]	370 306,769	17.9 [13.8, 22.9]	74 63,134	16.7 [14.8, 18.7]	444 369,903
Low beer	11.0 [9.5, 12.6]	279 204,902	5.9 [3.8, 9.1]	30 20,871	10.2 [8.8, 11.7]	309 225,773
RTDs any	41.4 [39.1, 43.6]	1088 807,342	48.9 [43.3, 54.5]	215 173,850	42.5 [40.3, 44.7]	1303 981,192
Bottled spirits	48.6 [46.1, 51.1]	1202 908,013	52.3 [46.3, 58.2]	227 184,586	49.2 [46.8, 51.6]	1429 1,092,598
Fort. wine	9.7 [8.4, 11.2]	256 181,013	11.1 [7.7, 15.8]	43 39,303	9.9 [8.6, 11.4]	299 220,316
35-44 year-olds						
Cask wine	9.5 [8.5, 10.7]	309 218,391	13.3 [10.5, 16.8]	81 55,279	10.1 [9.1, 11.2]	390 273,670
Bottled wine	60.2 [57.5, 62.9]	1898 1,380,621	45.5 [40.4, 50.6]	267 188,573	58.0 [55.5, 60.4]	2165 1,569,194
Regular beer	31.9 [29.9, 34.0]	915 731,569	64.9 [59.5, 69.9]	342 269,058	37.0 [35.0, 39.0]	1257 1,000,627
Mid beer	14.9 [13.2, 16.8]	415 341,105	19.5 [15.6, 24.0]	109 80,740	15.6 [14.0, 17.3]	524 421,845
Low beer	15.1 [13.6, 16.7]	452 345,600	8.1 [5.7, 11.4]	48 33,654	14.0 [12.7, 15.4]	500 379,254
RTDs any	29.8 [27.9, 31.9]	951 701,974	31.2 [26.6, 36.3]	177 130,967	30.0 [28.2, 32.0]	1128 832,941
Bottled spirits	39.1 [36.9, 41.3]	1197 895,331	36.8 [31.8, 42.1]	213 152,643	38.7 [36.7, 40.8]	1410 1,047,974
Fort. wine	11.5 [10.0, 13.1]	327 262,884	10.1 [7.4, 13.6]	58 41,932	11.3 [9.9, 12.8]	385 304,816
45-54 year-olds						
Cask wine	13.4 [11.9, 15.0]	359 286,520	17.5 [13.9, 21.7]	94 59,565	13.9 [12.5, 15.5]	453 346,086
Bottled wine	66.2 [63.6, 68.7]	1807 1,419,347	48.4 [42.9, 53.9]	221 164,879	63.8 [61.4, 66.1]	2028 1,584,225
Regular beer	23.9 [21.9, 26.0]	602 512,277	56.0 [50.6, 61.3]	256 190,827	28.3 [26.3, 30.4]	858 703,104
Mid beer	13.2 [11.5, 15.0]	340 281,954	21.3 [17.4, 25.8]	108 72,558	14.3 [12.7, 15.9]	448 354,512
Low beer	19.8 [18.0, 21.8]	505 424,946	14.2 [10.8, 18.5]	65 48,301	19.1 [17.4, 20.8]	570 473,246
RTDs any	20.5 [18.7, 22.4]	567 450,104	19.6 [15.7, 24.2]	87 67,781	20.4 [18.7, 22.1]	654 517,885
Bottled spirits	36.2 [33.8, 38.8]	977 776,816	29.8 [25.0, 35.2]	143 101,651	35.4 [33.1, 37.7]	1120 878,466
Fort. wine	14.3 [12.6, 16.2]	376 306,440	15.5 [11.5, 20.6]	67 52,939	14.5 [12.8, 16.3]	443 359,379

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Appendix Table 5 (continued)

55-64 year-olds						
Cask wine	18.7 [17.1, 20.5]	545 337,177	22.6 [18.1, 27.8]	93 53,157	19.2 [17.7, 20.8]	638 390,334
Bottled wine	68.9 [66.2, 71.4]	1940 1,239,275	49.5 [43.4, 59.5]	195 116,564	66.6 [64.1, 69.1]	2135 1,355,839
Regular beer	18.9 [17.0, 21.0]	486 340,114	48.5 [42.4, 54.6]	181 114,272	22.3 [20.4, 24.3]	667 454,387
Mid beer	11.6 [10.3, 13.0]	326 208,841	23.6 [19.1, 28.8]	83 55,594	13.0 [11.7, 14.4]	409 264,436
Low beer	22.4 [20.5, 24.5]	613 403,691	18.4 [14.3, 23.4]	73 43,486	22.0 [20.2, 23.8]	686 447,177
RTDs any	10.4 [9.2, 11.6]	305 195,191	7.1 [4.3, 11.4]	29 17,070	10.0 [8.9, 11.2]	334 212,260
Bottled spirits	32.0 [30.0, 34.1]	918 575,990	31.3 [25.2, 38.1]	112 73,735	31.9 [30.0, 33.9]	1030 649,725
Fort. wine	17.1 [15.3, 19.0]	459 307,689	12.6 [9.3, 17.0]	51 29,736	16.6 [15.0, 18.3]	510 337,425
65+ year-olds						
Cask wine	26.8 [25.1, 28.6]	804 442,250	32.6 [26.3, 39.7]	80 43,791	27.2 [25.5, 29.0]	884 486,041
Bottled wine	58.0 [55.5, 60.4]	1726 957,194	45.1 [38.4, 51.9]	110 60,490	57.0 [54.6, 59.3]	1836 1,017,684
Regular beer	15.5 [13.8, 17.3]	436 255,892	43.2 [36.4, 50.2]	101 57,952	17.6 [16.0, 19.3]	537 313,844
Mid beer	12.1 [10.8, 13.7]	352 200,458	28.2 [22.4, 34.9]	66 37,882	13.3 [12.0, 14.8]	418 238,341
Low beer	25.4 [23.6, 27.3]	727 418,848	24.5 [18.8, 31.4]	59 32,911	25.3 [23.6, 27.1]	786 451,759
RTDs any	2.7 [2.1, 3.4]	85 46,849	2.9 [1.4, 5.9]	8 3,863	2.7 [2.1, 3.4]	93 50,712
Bottled spirits	27.8 [25.9, 29.8]	823 459,632	32.0 [25.7, 38.9]	73 42,894	28.1 [26.3, 30.1]	896 502,526
Fort. wine	16.8 [15.3, 18.4]	519 277,146	17.3 [12.3, 23.7]	39 23,190	16.8 [15.4, 18.4]	558 300,336

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

8.3. Infrequent (at least monthly) drinking

Appendix Table 6. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking specific beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm

% of population (within beverage type) drinking particular beverage types, by risk levels						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
Total – Within beverage type						
Cask wine	67.3 [65.0, 69.6]	1965 1,267,175	32.7 [30.4, 35.0]	840 615,235	100	2805 1,882,411
Bottled wine	71.5 [70.3, 72.6]	7782 5,385,009	28.5 [27.4, 29.7]	2814 2,149,900	100	10596 7,534,910
Regular beer	44.8 [43.1, 46.5]	2520 2,020,266	55.2 [53.5, 56.9]	2899 2,488,972	100	5419 4,509,238
Mid beer	55.8 [53.4, 51.8]	1437 1,100,372	44.2 [41.9, 46.6]	1093 871,604	100	2530 1,971,976
Low beer	75.4 [73.4, 77.2]	2303 1,643,756	24.6 [22.8, 26.6]	726 537,627	100	3029 2,181,383
RTDs any	56.2 [54.6, 57.9]	2969 2,387,467	43.8 [42.1, 45.4]	2054 1,859,282	100	5023 4,246,749
Bottled spirits	60.3 [58.9, 61.6]	4599 3,386,922	39.7 [38.4, 41.1]	2585 2,232,128	100	7184 5,619,050
Fort. wine	69.9 [67.5, 72.1]	1696 1,170,583	30.1 [27.9, 32.5]	636 504,564	100	2332 1,675,147
% of population (within risk group) drinking particular beverage types, by risk levels						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
Total – Within risk group						
Cask wine	13.8 [13.0, 14.7]	1965 1,267,175	13.6 [12.5, 14.7]	840 615,235	13.7 [13.0, 14.5]	2805 1,882,411
Bottled wine	58.7 [56.8, 60.5]	7782 5,385,009	47.5 [45.7, 49.3]	2814 2,149,900	55.0 [53.4, 56.6]	10596 7,534,910
Regular beer	22.0 [20.9, 23.2]	2520 2,020,266	55.0 [53.2, 56.8]	2899 2,488,972	32.9 [31.8, 34.0]	5419 4,509,238
Mid beer	12.0 [11.2, 12.9]	1437 1,100,372	19.3 [17.8, 20.8]	1093 871,604	14.4 [13.6, 15.3]	2530 1,971,976
Low beer	17.9 [17.0, 18.8]	2303 1,643,756	11.9 [10.8, 13.1]	726 537,627	15.9 [15.1, 16.7]	3029 2,181,383
RTDs any	24.8 [23.8, 25.7]	2969 2,387,467	40.5 [38.9, 42.2]	2054 1,859,282	29.8 [29.0, 30.7]	5023 4,246,749
Bottled spirits	36.9 [35.5, 38.3]	4599 3,386,922	49.3 [47.4, 51.2]	2585 2,232,128	41.0 [39.7, 42.3]	7184 5,619,050
Fort. wine	12.8 [11.8, 13.7]	1696 1,170,583	11.2 [10.0, 12.4]	636 504,564	12.2 [11.4, 13.1]	2332 1,675,147

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Appendix Table 7. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking specific beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm & gender

% of population (within risk group) drinking particular beverage types, by risk levels and gender						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
MALES						
Cask wine	12.2 [11.1, 13.4]	696 486,489	12.1 [10.9, 13.4]	472 369,398	12.1 [11.3, 13.1]	1168 855,887
Bottled wine	48.8 [46.5, 51.2]	2449 1,951,044	41.3 [39.1, 43.5]	1516 1,260,891	45.6 [43.7, 47.5]	3965 3,211,935
Regular beer	37.1 [35.1, 39.2]	1717 1,482,491	67.4 [65.3, 69.5]	2276 2,060,298	50.3 [48.5, 52.0]	3993 3,542,789
Mid beer	20.4 [18.8, 22.1]	1015 815,711	23.3 [21.4, 25.2]	864 711,243	21.7 [20.3, 23.1]	1879 1,526,954
Low beer	28.8 [27.2, 30.4]	1493 1,149,847	14.2 [12.8, 15.7]	575 433,658	22.5 [21.3, 23.7]	2068 1,583,504
RTDs any	20.2 [18.8, 21.7]	863 847,498	35.4 [33.4, 37.4]	1075 1,094,884	26.7 [25.5, 27.9]	1938 1,942,382
Bottled spirits	33.9 [32.1, 35.9]	1620 1,356,154	45.8 [43.5, 48.2]	1497 1,399,518	39.1 [37.4, 40.8]	3117 2,755,672
Fort. wine	13.1 [11.8, 14.5]	686 523,672	12.4 [11.1, 13.8]	452 379,038	12.8 [11.8, 13.9]	1138 902,710
FEMALES						
Cask wine	15.1 [14.0, 16.2]	1269 780,686	16.7 [15.0, 18.6]	368 245,837	15.4 [14.5, 16.4]	1637 1,026,523
Bottled wine	66.3 [64.4, 68.1]	5333 3,433,965	60.5 [57.7, 63.2]	1298 889,010	65.0 [63.3, 66.6]	6631 4,322,975
Regular beer	10.4 [9.6, 11.2]	803 537,775	29.2 [26.9, 31.5]	623 428,674	14.5 [13.7, 15.4]	1426 966,449
Mid beer	5.5 [4.9, 6.2]	422 284,660	10.9 [9.3, 12.7]	229 160,361	6.7 [6.1, 7.4]	651 445,022
Low beer	9.5 [8.7, 10.4]	810 493,909	7.1 [5.9, 8.5]	151 103,969	9.0 [8.3, 9.7]	961 597,878
RTDs any	28.2 [27.0, 29.5]	2106 1,539,969	51.3 [48.8, 53.8]	979 764,398	33.2 [32.0, 34.3]	3085 2,304,367
Bottled spirits	39.2 [37.6, 40.8]	2979 2,030,768	56.7 [54.1, 59.2]	1088 832,610	43.1 [41.6, 44.5]	4067 2,863,378
Fort. wine	12.5 [11.5, 13.5]	1010 646,911	8.5 [7.1, 10.3]	184 125,525	11.6 [10.7, 12.6]	1194 772,437

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Appendix Table 8. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents within risk group drinking specific beverage types (at least monthly), by level of risk for short-term harm & age

% of population (within risk group) drinking particular beverage types, by risk level & age (short term monthly)						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
14-17 year-olds						
Cask wine	4.2 [2.5, 6.9]	18 18,296	11.5 [7.5, 17.3]	26 25,202	6.6 [4.8, 9.1]	44 43,498
Bottled wine	14.9 [11.6, 18.8]	67 64,807	12.4 [8.1, 18.4]	27 27,144	14.0 [11.4, 17.2]	94 91,951
Regular beer	19.7 [15.4, 24.9]	77 86,058	40.9 [34.1, 48.0]	92 89,779	26.8 [23.0, 31.1]	169 175,837
Mid beer	13.1 [9.8, 17.3]	54 57,139	16.3 [11.7, 22.3]	37 35,816	14.2 [11.4, 17.5]	91 92,955
Low beer	9.9 [7.0, 14.0]	41 43,315	6.7 [3.7, 11.7]	12 14,730	8.9 [6.6, 11.8]	53 58,045
RTDs any	57.7 [52.4, 62.8]	274 278,912	82.1 [76.0, 86.9]	191 183,921	65.4 [61.0, 69.5]	465 462,833
Bottled spirits	41.6 [36.4, 46.9]	175 181,197	65.0 [57.7, 71.6]	150 142,661	49.4 [45.1, 53.8]	325 323,858
Fort. wine	4.8 [3.0, 7.4]	21 20,769	6.2 [3.2, 11.6]	13 13,576	5.2 [3.6, 7.6]	34 34,345
18-24 year-olds						
Cask wine	5.9 [3.8, 9.0]	39 45,051	10.7 [8.7, 13.1]	107 112,675	8.7 [7.1, 10.7]	146 157,726
Bottled wine	36.6 [32.1, 41.3]	268 279,268	35.9 [32.2, 39.7]	349 376,706	36.2 [33.1, 39.3]	617 655,974
Regular beer	31.4 [27.1, 36.2]	191 240,088	57.9 [54.2, 61.5]	498 607,828	46.7 [43.9, 49.6]	689 847,916
Mid beer	11.8 [9.2, 14.9]	76 89,748	13.3 [10.9, 16.2]	120 140,236	12.7 [10.8, 14.9]	196 229,984
Low beer	11.3 [8.8, 14.3]	71 85,952	5.7 [4.1, 7.9]	54 60,176	8.1 [6.6, 9.9]	125 146,128
RTDs any	57.2 [52.6, 61.7]	422 462,407	67.9 [64.4, 71.3]	624 726,518	63.3 [60.6, 65.9]	1046 1,188,925
Bottled spirits	52.1 [47.4, 56.8]	359 397,861	69.1 [65.2, 72.8]	615 726,041	61.9 [58.8, 65.0]	974 1,123,902
Fort. wine	6.0 [4.0, 8.7]	42 45,472	7.0 [5.3, 9.1]	61 73,059	6.5 [5.2, 8.2]	103 118,531

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Appendix Table 8 (continued)

25-34 year-olds						
Cask wine	6.7 [5.2, 8.6]	131 84,914	10.5 [8.3, 13.2]	119 100,142	8.3 [7.0, 10.0]	250 185,056
Bottled wine	59.5 [56.5, 62.5]	1061 755,755	53.1 [49.6, 56.5]	660 504,288	56.8 [54.3, 59.2]	1721 1,260,043
Regular beer	31.4 [28.7, 34.3]	497 398,730	64.7 [61.4, 67.9]	745 614,793	45.7 [43.4, 48.0]	1242 1,013,524
Mid beer	14.7 [12.5, 17.2]	219 186,702	19.3 [16.5, 22.4]	225 183,201	16.7 [14.8, 18.7]	444 369,903
Low beer	11.8 [10.1, 13.8]	205 149,664	8.0 [6.3, 10.2]	104 76,109	10.2 [8.8, 11.7]	309 225,773
RTDs any	39.7 [37.1, 42.4]	735 535,157	46.5 [42.9, 50.1]	568 446,035	42.5 [40.3, 44.7]	1303 981,192
Bottled spirits	46.1 [43.2, 49.0]	789 585,070	53.4 [49.8, 57.0]	640 507,528	49.2 [46.8, 51.6]	1429 1,092,598
Fort. wine	9.4 [8.0, 11.1]	175 119,642	10.6 [8.6, 13.0]	124 100,674	9.9 [8.6, 11.4]	299 220,316
35-44 year-olds						
Cask wine	9.7 [8.5, 11.0]	236 172,202	11.0 [9.3, 12.9]	154 101,468	10.1 [9.1, 11.2]	390 273,670
Bottled wine	61.4 [58.5, 64.2]	1508 1,095,455	51.3 [47.8, 54.8]	657 473,738	58.0 [55.5, 60.4]	2165 1,569,194
Regular beer	27.2 [25.2, 29.4]	607 485,884	55.7 [52.0, 59.4]	650 514,743	37.0 [35.0, 39.0]	1257 1,000,627
Mid beer	12.5 [10.8, 14.4]	271 223,268	21.5 [18.6, 24.8]	253 198,577	15.6 [14.0, 17.3]	524 421,845
Low beer	14.9 [13.2, 16.8]	353 265,764	12.3 [10.3, 14.7]	147 113,490	14.0 [12.7, 15.4]	500 379,254
RTDs any	29.0 [26.9, 31.2]	720 534,397	32.1 [28.8, 35.5]	408 298,545	30.0 [28.2, 32.0]	1128 832,941
Bottled spirits	38.1 [35.7, 40.5]	916 679,192	39.9 [36.6, 43.3]	494 368,782	38.7 [36.7, 40.8]	1410 1,047,974
Fort. wine	11.4 [9.7, 13.3]	249 202,862	11.0 [9.1, 13.3]	136 101,954	11.3 [9.9, 12.8]	385 304,816
45-54 year-olds						
Cask wine	12.8 [11.3, 14.6]	295 227,151	16.6 [13.8, 19.9]	158 119,935	13.9 [12.5, 15.5]	453 346,086
Bottled wine	67.6 [64.7, 70.3]	1523 1,195,706	54.4 [50.4, 58.3]	505 388,519	63.8 [61.4, 66.1]	2028 1,584,225
Regular beer	19.1 [17.1, 21.3]	408 338,062	51.1 [47.1, 55.1]	450 365,042	28.3 [26.3, 30.4]	858 703,104
Mid beer	11.5 [9.9, 13.4]	249 203,480	21.1 [18.1, 24.6]	199 151,032	14.3 [12.7, 15.9]	448 354,512
Low beer	20.1 [18.0, 22.3]	416 355,190	16.5 [13.8, 19.6]	154 118,056	19.1 [17.4, 20.8]	570 473,246
RTDs any	19.6 [17.7, 21.6]	460 356,079	22.3 [19.3, 25.7]	194 161,806	20.4 [18.7, 22.1]	654 517,885
Bottled spirits	35.5 [32.7, 38.3]	801 627,899	35.1 [31.3, 39.0]	319 250,568	35.4 [33.1, 37.7]	1120 878,466
Fort. wine	14.1 [12.4, 16.1]	316 250,279	15.3 [12.3, 18.7]	127 109,099	14.5 [12.8, 16.3]	443 359,379

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Appendix Table 8 (continued)

55-64 year-olds						
Cask wine	18.9 [17.2, 20.8]	486 300,888	20.1 [17.1, 23.4]	152 89,446	19.2 [17.7, 20.8]	638 390,334
Bottled wine	68.6 [65.8, 71.3]	1723 1,090,280	59.6 [55.3, 63.7]	412 265,559	66.6 [64.1, 69.1]	2135 1,355,839
Regular beer	15.6 [13.9, 17.5]	356 248,172	46.3 [41.3, 51.3]	311 206,214	22.3 [20.4, 24.3]	667 454,387
Mid beer	10.4 [9.2, 11.8]	256 165,601	22.2 [18.9, 25.9]	153 98,835	13.0 [11.7, 14.4]	409 264,436
Low beer	22.0 [19.9, 24.2]	529 349,216	22.0 [18.5, 25.9]	157 97,961	22.0 [20.2, 23.8]	686 447,177
RTDs any	10.6 [9.3, 12.0]	278 176,858	7.8 [5.5, 10.9]	56 35,402	10.0 [8.9, 11.2]	334 212,260
Bottled spirits	30.5 [28.4, 32.7]	787 484,670	37.0 [32.6, 41.7]	243 165,055	31.9 [30.0, 33.9]	1030 649,725
Fort. wine	17.0 [15.2, 19.0]	406 270,447	15.0 [12.2, 18.3]	104 66,978	16.6 [15.0, 18.3]	510 337,425
65+ year-olds						
Cask wine	26.8 [25.0, 28.6]	760 418,674	30.6 [25.5, 36.1]	124 67,368	27.2 [25.5, 29.0]	884 486,041
Bottled wine	57.7 [55.3, 60.2]	1632 903,737	51.7 [46.1, 57.3]	204 113,947	57.0 [54.6, 59.3]	1836 1,017,684
Regular beer	14.3 [12.8, 15.9]	384 223,271	41.1 [35.7, 46.7]	153 90,574	17.6 [16.0, 19.3]	537 313,844
Mid beer	11.1 [9.8, 12.7]	312 174,474	29.0 [24.3, 34.2]	106 63,907	13.3 [12.0, 14.8]	418 238,341
Low beer	25.2 [23.4, 27.1]	688 394,656	25.9 [21.5, 30.8]	98 57,103	25.3 [23.6, 27.1]	786 451,759
RTDs any	2.6 [2.0, 3.4]	80 43,657	3.2 [1.8, 5.7]	13 7,056	2.7 [2.1, 3.4]	93 50,712
Bottled spirits	27.5 [25.7, 29.5]	772 431,033	32.4 [27.1, 38.2]	124 71,493	28.1 [26.3, 30.1]	896 502,526
Fort. wine	16.7 [15.1, 18.3]	487 261,113	17.8 [13.9, 22.5]	71 39,223	16.8 [15.4, 18.4]	558 300,336

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. Thus, total percentage may exceed 100%.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

8.4. RTD consumption

Appendix Table 9. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents within age groups drinking RTDs in the past 12 months

Age group	RTD cans only ¹	RTD bottles only ¹	RTDs both ¹	RTDs any ¹
14-17 yrs				
(%)	22.2	13.8	29.9	65.9
[95% CI] ²	[18.7, 26.2]	[11.2, 16.9]	[26.0, 34.1]	[61.5, 70.1]
N	150	92	223	465
Est. pop ³	156,067	96,843	209,923	462,833
18-24 yrs				
(%)	20.0	13.1	30.3	63.4
[95% CI] ²	[17.9, 22.3]	[11.4, 14.9]	[27.6, 33.1]	[60.7, 66.0]
N	326	229	491	1046
Est. pop ³	374,935	244,897	569,093	1,188,924
25-34 yrs				
(%)	18.0	11.8	12.9	42.6
[95% CI] ²	[16.0, 20.1]	[10.4, 13.3]	[11.2, 14.8]	[40.4, 44.8]
N	512	387	404	1302
Est. pop ³	413,141	270,483	297,568	980,669
35-44 yrs				
(%)	13.6	8.4	8.1	30.1
[95% CI] ²	[12.1, 15.2]	[7.3, 9.5]	[7.1, 9.3]	[28.2, 32.0]
N	506	323	299	1127
Est. pop ³	374,947	231,845	226,150	832,374
45-54 yrs				
(%)	10.9	5.7	3.8	20.4
[95% CI] ²	[9.6, 12.3]	[4.7, 6.8]	[3.1, 4.7]	[18.7, 22.1]
N	334	187	133	654
Est. pop ³	276,997	143,848	97,040	517,885
55-64 yrs				
(%)	4.6	3.8	1.6	10.0
[95% CI] ²	[3.8, 5.5]	[3.1, 4.6]	[1.2, 2.2]	[9.0, 11.2]
N	157	124	53	334
Est. pop ³	97,903	80,450	33,907	212,260
65+ yrs				
(%)	1.3	0.9	0.5	2.7
[95% CI] ²	[1.0, 1.8]	[0.6, 1.3]	[0.3, 0.8]	[2.2, 3.4]
N	49	26	18	93
Est. pop ³	24,967	16,623	9,122	50,712

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

8.5. Frequent consumption of RTDs (at least weekly)

Appendix Table 10. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs (at least weekly)

	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est. pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est. pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est. pop ³
Within beverage container type						
RTD cans only	78.1 [75.8, 80.3]	1606 1,343,204	21.9 [19.7, 24.2]	428 375,752	100	2034 1,718,956
RTD bottles only	92.9 [90.9, 94.5]	1285 1,007,970	7.1 [5.5, 9.1]	83 77,018	100	1368 1,084,988
RTDs both	76.6 [74.0, 79.0]	1287 1,104,983	23.4 [21.0, 26.0]	334 337,821	100	1621 1,442,804
RTDs any	81.4 [80.0, 82.7]	4178 3,456,157	18.6 [17.3, 20.0]	845 790,592	100	5023 4,246,749
Within risk group						
RTD cans only	11.0 [10.3, 11.8]	1606 1,343,204	18.2 [16.4, 20.3]	428 375,752	100	2034 1,718,956
RTD bottles only	8.3 [7.8, 8.8]	1285 1,007,970	3.7 [2.9, 4.9]	83 77,018	100	1368 1,084,988
RTDs both	9.1 [8.4, 9.8]	1287 1,104,983	16.4 [14.6, 18.4]	334 337,821	100	1621 1,442,804
RTDs any	28.4 [27.5, 29.3]	4178 3,456,157	38.4 [36.0, 40.9]	845 790,592	100	5023 4,246,749

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Appendix Table 11. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs at least weekly, by risk level and gender

% of population drinking RTDs at least weekly, by risk level & gender						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
MALES						
RTD cans only	14.1 [13.0, 15.3]	844 814,229	20.4 [18.1, 23.0]	326 310,064	15.4 [14.4, 16.5]	1170 1,124,294
RTD bottles only	3.3 [2.8, 3.8]	195 188,480	1.8 [1.1, 3.1]	23 27,719	3.0 [2.5, 3.5]	218 216,199
RTDs both	7.1 [6.2, 8.1]	374 407,375	12.8 [10.8, 15.1]	176 194,515	8.3 [7.4, 9.2]	550 601,890
RTDs any	24.5 [23.2, 25.8]	1413 1,410,084	35.0 [32.1, 38.0]	525 532,298	26.7 [25.5, 27.9]	1938 1,942,382
FEMALES						
RTD cans only	8.3 [7.5, 9.1]	762 528,975	12.2 [9.8, 15.0]	102 65,688	6.8 [6.2, 7.5]	864 594,663
RTD bottles only	12.8 [11.9, 13.7]	1090 819,490	9.1 [6.7, 12.3]	60 49,300	10.0 [9.3, 10.7]	1150 868,790
RTDs both	10.9 [10.1, 11.7]	913 697,608	26.5 [22.7, 30.8]	158 143,306	9.7 [9.0, 10.4]	1071 840,914
RTDs any	31.9 [30.8, 33.1]	2765 2,046,073	47.8 [43.7, 52.0]	320 258,293	33.2 [32.1, 34.4]	3085 2,304,367

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Appendix Table 12. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs at least weekly, by risk level and age

% of population drinking RTDs at least weekly, by risk level & gender						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
14-17 year-olds						
RTD cans only	21.4 [17.9, 25.5]	131 136,461	27.5 [17.1, 41.1]	19 19,606	22.1 [18.5, 26.0]	150 156,067
RTD bottles only	15.0 [12.2, 18.4]	91 95,680	1.6 [0.2, 10.8]	1 1,163	13.7 [11.1, 16.8]	92 96,843
RTDs both	26.6 [22.9, 30.8]	188 169,589	56.6 [42.3, 69.8]	35 40,334	29.7 [25.8, 33.8]	223 209,923
RTDs any	63.1 [58.4, 67.6]	410 401,729	85.7 [75.0, 92.3]	55 61,104	65.4 [61.0, 69.5]	465 462,833
18-24 year-olds						
RTD cans only	18.5 [16.1, 21.1]	221 256,358	24.2 [19.7, 29.4]	105 118,577	20.0 [17.9, 22.2]	326 374,935
RTD bottles only	14.9 [12.9, 17.1]	201 206,869	7.8 [5.2, 11.4]	28 38,028	13.0 [11.4, 14.9]	229 244,897
RTDs both	28.1 [25.1, 31.2]	350 389,741	36.6 [31.2, 42.3]	141 179,352	30.3 [27.6, 33.1]	491 569,093
RTDs any	61.5 [58.3, 64.5]	772 852,968	68.5 [62.9, 73.6]	724 335,957	63.3 [60.6, 65.9]	1046 1,188,925
25-34 year-olds						
RTD cans only	16.2 [14.3, 18.4]	393 316,590	27.1 [22.3, 32.6]	119 96,551	17.9 [15.9, 20.1]	512 413,141
RTD bottles only	13.0 [11.6, 14.6]	367 254,193	4.6 [2.5, 8.2]	20 16,290	11.7 [10.3, 13.3]	387 270,483
RTDs both	12.1 [10.5, 14.0]	328 236,559	17.1 [13.1, 22.2]	76 61,009	12.9 [11.2, 14.8]	404 297,568
RTDs any	41.4 [39.1, 43.6]	1088 807,342	48.9 [43.3, 54.5]	215 173,850	42.5 [40.3, 44.7]	1303 981,192
35-44 year-olds						
RTD cans only	12.3 [10.8, 13.8]	398 288,592	20.6 [16.6, 25.3]	108 86,355	13.5 [12.0, 15.1]	506 374,947
RTD bottles only	9.4 [8.3, 10.7]	305 221,923	2.4 [1.3, 4.1]	18 9,922	8.4 [7.3, 9.5]	323 231,845
RTDs both	8.1 [7.1, 9.4]	248 191,459	8.3 [5.9, 11.5]	51 34,690	8.2 [7.1, 9.3]	299 226,149
RTDs any	29.8 [27.9, 31.9]	951 701,974	31.2 [26.6, 36.3]	177 130,976	30.0 [28.2, 32.0]	1128 832,941

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Appendix Table 12 (continued)

45-54 year-olds						
RTD cans only	10.7 [9.3, 12.2]	282 234,560	12.3 [9.0, 16.5]	52 42,437	10.9 [9.6, 12.3]	334 276,997
RTD bottles only	6.2 [5.1, 4.7]	177 136,143	2.2 [1.1, 4.4]	10 7,705	5.7 [4.7, 6.8]	187 143,848
RTDs both	3.6 [2.9, 4.5]	108 79,401	5.1 [3.1, 8.3]	25 17,639	3.8 [3.1, 4.7]	133 97,040
RTDs any	20.5 [18.7, 22.4]	567 450,104	19.6 [15.7, 24.2]	87 67,781	20.4 [18.7, 22.1]	654 517,885
55-64 year-olds						
RTD cans only	4.7 [3.9, 5.7]	138 88,754	3.8 [1.8, 7.9]	19 9,149	4.6 [3.8, 5.5]	157 97,903
RTD bottles only	4.1 [3.3, 5.0]	118 76,539	1.6 [0.7, 3.7]	6 3,910	3.8 [3.1, 4.6]	124 80,450
RTDs both	1.6 [1.2, 2.2]	49 29,898	1.7 [0.5, 5.1]	4 4,010	1.6 [1.2, 2.2]	53 33,908
RTDs any	10.4 [9.2, 11.6]	305 195,191	7.1 [4.3, 11.4]	29 17,070	10.0 [8.9, 11.2]	334 212,260
65+ year-olds						
RTD cans only	1.2 [0.9, 1.7]	43 21,890	2.3 [1.0, 5.1]	6 3,077	1.3 [1.0, 1.8]	49 24,967
RTD bottles only	0.9 [0.6, 1.4]	26 16,623	0	0	0.9 [0.6, 1.3]	26 16,623
RTDs both	0.5 [0.3, 0.8]	16 8,336	0.6 [0.1, 2.8]	2 787	0.5 [0.2, 0.6]	18 9,122
RTDs any	2.7 [2.1, 3.4]	85 46,849	2.9 [1.4, 5.9]	8 3,863	2.7 [2.1, 3.4]	93 50,712

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

8.6. Infrequent consumption of RTDs (at least monthly)

Appendix Table 13. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs at least monthly, by risk level

% of population drinking RTDs at least monthly, by risk levels						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
Within beverage container type						
RTD cans only	52.7 [50.1, 55.4]	1108 906,546	47.3 [44.6, 49.9]	926 812,410	100	2034 1,718,956
RTD bottles only	77.4 [74.4, 80.2]	1080 840,182	22.6 [19.8, 25.6]	288 244,806	100	1368 1,084,988
RTDs both	44.4 [41.2, 47.6]	781 640,738	55.6 [52.4, 58.8]	840 802,066	100	1621 1,442,804
RTDs any	56.2 [54.6, 57.9]	2969 2,387,467	43.8 [42.1, 45.4]	2054 1,859,282	100	5023 4,246,749
Within risk group						
RTD cans only	9.4 [8.7, 10.2]	1108 906,546	17.7 [16.5, 19.1]	926 812,410	12.1 [11.4, 12.8]	2034 1,718,956
RTD bottles only	8.7 [8.2, 9.3]	1080 840,182	5.3 [4.6, 6.2]	288 244,806	7.6 [7.2, 8.1]	1368 1,084,988
RTDs both	6.6 [6.0, 7.4]	781 640,738	17.5 [16.2, 18.9]	840 802,066	10.1 [9.5, 10.8]	1621 1,442,804
RTDs any	24.8 [23.8, 25.7]	2969 2,387,467	40.5 [38.9, 42.2]	2054 1,859,282	29.8 [29.0, 30.7]	5023 4,246,749

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Appendix Table 14. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs at least monthly, by risk level and gender

% of population drinking RTDs at least monthly, by risk level & gender						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
MALES						
RTD cans only	12.0 [10.8, 13.3]	528 502,925	20.1 [18.5, 21.8]	642 621,369	15.4 [14.4, 16.5]	1170 1,124,294
RTD bottles only	3.4 [2.8, 4.1]	150 142,856	2.4 [1.7, 3.2]	68 73,343	3.0 [2.5, 3.5]	218 216,199
RTDs both	4.8 [3.9, 5.9]	185 201,718	12.9 [11.5, 14.5]	365 400,172	8.3 [7.4, 9.2]	550 601,890
RTDs any	20.2 [18.8, 21.7]	863 847,498	35.4 [33.4, 37.4]	1075 1,094,884	26.7 [25.5, 27.9]	1938 1,942,382
FEMALES						
RTD cans only	7.4 [6.7, 8.2]	580 403,622	12.8 [11.3, 14.5]	284 191,041	8.6 [7.8, 9.4]	864 594,663
RTD bottles only	12.8 [11.9, 13.7]	930 697,327	11.5 [9.9, 13.4]	220 171,463	12.5 [11.7, 13.4]	1150 868,790
RTDs both	8.0 [7.3, 8.9]	596 439,020	27.0 [24.6, 29.5]	475 401,894	12.1 [11.3, 13.0]	1071 840,914
RTDs any	28.3 [27.1, 29.5]	2106 1,539,969	51.3 [48.8, 53.8]	979 764,398	33.2 [32.1, 34.4]	3085 2,304,367

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.

Appendix Table 15. Proportions of 2007 NDSHS respondents drinking RTDs at least monthly, by risk level and age

% of population drinking RTDs at least monthly, by risk level & gender						
	Low risk		Risky		Total	
	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³	% ¹ [95% CI] ²	N Est pop ³
14-17 year-olds						
RTD cans only	21.6 [17.4, 26.6]	97 104,687	22.9 [14.5, 29.4]	53 51,380	22.1 [18.5, 26.0]	150 156,067
RTD bottles only	15.8 [12.5, 19.9]	72 76,642	9.0 [5.8, 13.7]	20 20,201	13.7 [11.1, 16.8]	92 96,843
RTDs both	20.2 [16.1, 24.9]	105 97,583	50.1 [43.1, 57.2]	118 103,924	29.7 [25.8, 33.8]	223 209,923
RTDs any	57.7 [52.4, 62.8]	274 278,912	82.1 [76.0, 86.9]	191 183,921	65.4 [61.0, 69.5]	465 462,833
18-24 year-olds						
RTD cans only	15.8 [12.8, 19.3]	112 127,817	23.1 [20.1, 26.4]	214 247,118	20.0 [17.9, 22.2]	326 374,935
RTD bottles only	17.8 [15.0, 21.0]	138 143,955	9.4 [7.5, 11.8]	91 100,941	13.0 [11.4, 14.9]	229 244,897
RTDs both	23.6 [19.7, 27.9]	172 190,634	35.4 [31.7, 39.2]	319 378,459	30.3 [27.6, 33.1]	491 569,093
RTDs any	57.2 [52.6, 61.7]	422 462,407	67.9 [64.4, 71.3]	624 726,518	63.3 [60.6, 65.9]	1046 1,188,925
25-34 year-olds						
RTD cans only	14.7 [12.6, 17.1]	243 198,340	22.4 [19.3, 25.8]	269 214,801	17.9 [15.9, 20.1]	512 413,141
RTD bottles only	15.4 [13.6, 17.3]	303 207,240	6.6 [4.8, 8.9]	84 63,243	11.7 [10.3, 13.3]	387 270,483
RTDs both	9.6 [8.0, 11.6]	189 129,576	17.5 [14.8, 20.6]	215 167,992	12.9 [11.2, 14.8]	404 297,568
RTDs any	39.7 [37.1, 42.4]	735 535,157	46.5 [42.9, 50.1]	568 446,035	42.5 [40.3, 44.7]	1303 981,192
35-44 year-olds						
RTD cans only	11.0 [9.6, 12.6]	277 202,167	18.6 [15.7, 21.8]	229 172,780	13.5 [12.0, 15.1]	506 374,947
RTD bottles only	10.8 [9.5, 12.3]	270 199,221	3.5 [2.5, 4.9]	53 32,624	8.4 [7.3, 9.5]	323 231,845
RTDs both	7.2 [6.1, 8.6]	173 133,009	10.0 [8.1, 12.2]	126 93,140	8.2 [7.1, 9.3]	299 226,149
RTDs any	29.0 [26.9, 31.2]	720 534,397	32.1 [28.8, 35.5]	408 298,545	30.0 [28.2, 32.0]	1128 832,941

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Appendix Table 15 (continued)

45-54 year-olds						
RTD cans only	9.5 [8.1, 11.2]	217 173,577	14.3 [11.7, 17.3]	117 103,420	10.9 [9.6, 12.3]	334 276,997
RTD bottles only	6.8 [5.5, 8.2]	157 122,906	2.9 [1.9, 4.3]	30 20,942	5.7 [4.7, 6.8]	187 143,848
RTDs both	3.3 [2.5, 4.2]	86 59,595	5.2 [3.7, 7.2]	47 37,444	3.8 [3.1, 4.7]	133 97,040
RTDs any	19.6 [17.7, 21.6]	460 256,079	22.3 [19.3, 25.7]	194 161,806	20.4 [18.7, 22.1]	654 517,885
55-64 year-olds						
RTD cans only	4.7 [3.9, 5.7]	120 78,399	4.3 [2.7, 6.8]	37 19,504	4.6 [3.8, 5.5]	157 97,903
RTD bottles only	4.5 [3.6, 5.5]	115 74,378	1.3 [0.7, 2.7]	9 6,071	3.8 [3.1, 4.6]	124 80,450
RTDs both	1.4 [1.1, 2.0]	43 24,081	2.2 [1.1, 4.3]	10 9,827	1.6 [1.2, 2.2]	53 33,908
RTDs any	10.6 [9.3, 12.0]	278 176,858	7.8 [5.5, 10.9]	56 35,402	10.0 [8.9, 11.2]	334 212,260
65+ year-olds						
RTD cans only	1.3 [0.9, 1.8]	42 21,558	1.5 [0.7, 3.3]	7 3,409	1.3 [1.0, 1.8]	49 24,967
RTD bottles only	0.9 [0.6, 1.4]	25 15,839	0.4 [0.1, 2.3]	1 784	0.9 [0.6, 1.3]	26 16,623
RTDs both	0.4 [0.2, 0.7]	13 6,259	1.3 [0.5, 3.4]	5 2,863	0.5 [0.3, 0.8]	18 9,122
RTDs any	2.6 [2.0, 3.4]	80 43,656	3.2 [1.8, 5.7]	13 7,056	2.7 [2.1, 3.4]	93 50,712

¹ Note that respondents could report drinking multiple beverage types. While RTDs (cans, bottles and both) in these analyses are discrete categories, respondents may have also reported consuming other alcohol beverage types.

² 95% confidence intervals (CI) are reported around estimated percentages. A 95% CI means that 95 times out of 100, the estimate will fall between the range (CI) indicated. Wide confidence intervals (CI) mean the percentages are imprecise and should be interpreted with caution.

³ Estimated populations are based on weighted data.