

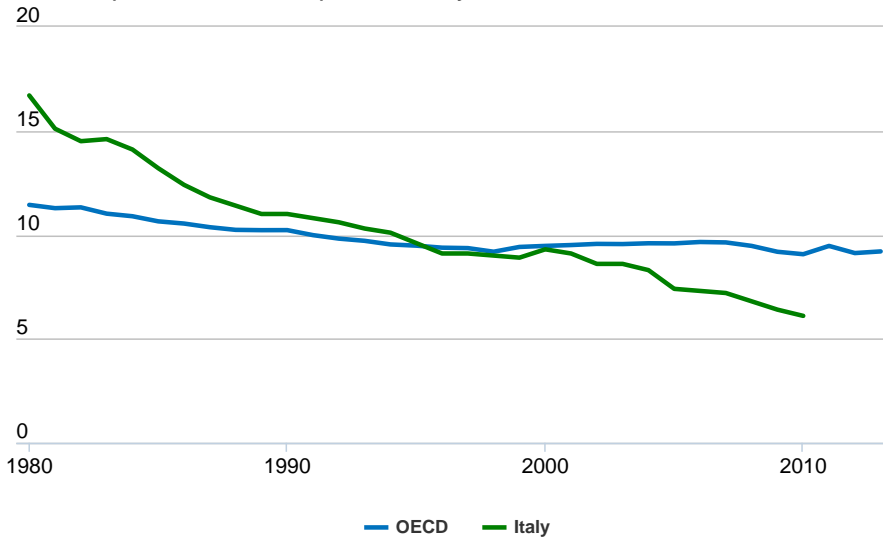
Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use

Country note - Italy

Consumption Trends

Levels of alcohol consumption in Italy are among the lowest in the OECD, and have been declining steadily in the past 30 years. In 2010, an average of 6.1 litres of pure alcohol per capita was consumed in Italy, compared with an estimate of 9 litres in the OECD.

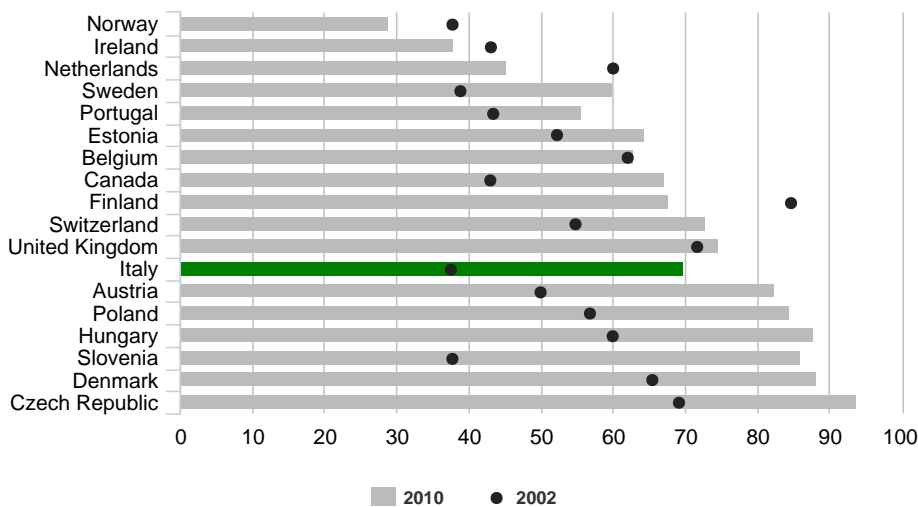
Annual alcohol consumption per capita
liters of pure alcohol component, 15-year-olds and older



Youth Drinking

Initiation into alcohol drinking happens at increasingly early ages. In Italy, the proportion of 15 year olds who have experienced alcohol increased from 37% in 2002 to 70% in 2010.

Share of 15-year-olds who have drunk alcohol
boys and girls, 2002 vs 2010



Taxes & Legal Framework

Compared with other countries in the OECD area, Italy has somewhat milder levels of taxation of alcohol, particularly for wine and spirits. The blood alcohol concentration (BAC) limit for the general population is 0.05%, in line with most OECD countries (22 out of 40 OECD countries and Key Partners - i.e. Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, Russian Federation and South Africa - have the same limit). Italy has adopted policies to restrict on- and off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages to intoxicated persons and in petrol station, as well as policies to regulate advertisement, but other legally binding policies (e.g. product placement, display of health warnings on alcohol containers and time/place restrictions for sales) are not applied.

	Italy	[Country 2]
National legal minimum age for off-premise sales		
beer	18	
wine	18	
spirits	18	
National legal minimum age for on-premise sales		
beer	18	
wine	18	
spirits	18	
Restrictions for on-/off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages		
time (hours/day)	Y/N	
location (place/density)	Y/N	
specific events	Y	
intoxicated persons	Y	
petrol stations	Y	
National maximum legal blood alcohol concentration (%)		
all drivers	0.05	
young drivers	0	
professional drivers	0	
Legally binding regulations of		
advertisement	Y	
product placement	N	
sponsorship	Y	
sales promotion	Y	
health warnings (advert/containers)	N/N	

Related Publication

Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use

<http://www.oecd.org/health/tackling-harmful-alcohol-use-9789264181069-en.htm>



Contacts at OECD Health Division

Annalisa Belloni – Health Policy Analyst: +33-1-4524 1354 - annalisa.belloni@oecd.org

Michele Cecchini – Health Policy Analyst: +33-1-4524 7857 - michele.cecchini@oecd.org

Marion Devaux – Statistician/Junior Policy Analyst: +33-1-4524 8261 - marion.devaux@oecd.org

Franco Sassi – Senior Health Economist: +33-1-4524 9239 - franco.sassi@oecd.org