

Finland Country Report – Alcohol Policy Profile

Infrastructure	
Written national policy on alcohol	Yes, written national policy
Coordinating centre for implementation of national policy on alcohol	Yes, Ministry of Health
Regular comprehensive report on alcohol situation	Yes
Role played by NGOs in prevention of underage drinking / targeted support for harmful and hazardous drinkers / prevention of drink-driving / public policy development to reduce alcohol-related harm	Medium / medium / high / medium importance
Role played by alcohol retailers and HORECA businesses in prevention of underage drinking / targeted support for harmful and hazardous drinkers / prevention of drink-driving / public policy development to reduce alcohol-related harm	Low importance / low importance / no involvement / no involvement
Role played by academia and research organisations in prevention of underage drinking / targeted support for harmful and hazardous drinkers / prevention of drink-driving / public policy development to reduce alcohol-related harm	Low / medium / low / medium importance
Laws and regulations	
1. Nation-wide awareness raising activities	Yes, in the following areas: young people's drinking, drink-driving, alcohol's impact on health, social harms, alcohol and pregnancy, alcohol at work
Health warning labels legally required on alcohol advertisements / bottles and containers of alcoholic beverages	No
School-based education	Yes, educational programmes and legal obligation for alcohol prevention as part of school curriculum, and national guidelines for prevention and reduction of alcohol-related harm in school settings
2. Primary Health care response	

Brief intervention introduced as method of health promotion and disease prevention	Yes
Clinical guidelines for brief intervention approved or endorsed by at least one health care professional body	Yes
Regular training in screening and brief interventions introduced	Yes
Counselling to children in families with alcohol problems/ to pregnant women with alcohol use disorders or alcohol problems	Yes
3. Community action, including work places	
Community-based interventions/projects involving stakeholders	Yes, involving NGOs, economic operators, and local governmental bodies
National guidelines for implementing effective community-based interventions	Yes
Interventions/projects actively involving young people and civil society	Yes
Prevention or counselling programmes at workplace	Yes
National guidelines for prevention and counselling at workplace	Yes
4. Drink-driving policies and countermeasures	
Maximum legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) when driving a vehicle for general population / young and novice drivers / professional and commercial drivers (in mg %)	0,05
Check points and breath testing	Random breath testing by special mobile patrol units, breath and blood testing at accidents
Mandatory driver education / treatment programme for repeated/habitual offenders	Yes
Alcohol locks	Yes, in combination with rehabilitation as alternative for punishment for drink-driving, and voluntary use by commercial transport companies
5. Addressing the availability of alcohol	
Retail monopolies (National control for production and sale of alcohol)	Yes, monopoly for off-premise sales for strong beer, wine, spirits
License system (National control for production and sale of alcohol)	Yes, licencing for production, on- and off-premise sales of beer, wine, and spirits
Minimum legal drinking age	Yes at national level, 18 years
Legal age limits for on-premise sales for beer / wine / spirits	18 years

Legal age limits for off-premise sales for beer / wine / spirits	18 / 18 / 20 years
Hours and places of sales are restricted for on- and off-premise sales of beer / wine / spirits	Yes
Days of sales and density of outlets are restricted for on-premise sales of beer / wine / spirits	No
Days of sales and density of outlets are restricted for off-premise sales of beer / wine / spirits	No / Yes / Yes
Alcohol-free public environments	Total ban for health care establishments, educational buildings, government office, public transport, workplaces and religious places Partial statutory restriction for parks, streets etc., sporting events, and leisure events
6. Addressing marketing of alcohol beverages	
Legally binding regulations on alcohol advertising	Yes, at the national level: - total ban for spirits - partial statutory restrictions for beer / wine on national and private TV, national and local radio, printed newspapers/magazines, billboards, points of sale, cinema, internet
Legally binding regulations on alcohol product placement	Yes, at the national level: - total ban for spirits - partial statutory restrictions for beer / wine on national and private TV
Regulations on alcohol sponsorship and sales promotion	Yes, at the national level: - total ban for spirits and partial statutory restrictions for beer / wine on industry sponsorships of sports and youth events; and on sales promotions from producer and from retailers - total ban on sales promotions from owners of pubs/ bars for beer / wine / spirits
7. Pricing policies	
Excise duty tax on beer / wine / spirits	Yes
Price measures other than taxation	Yes, ban on volume discounts and other price measures to discourage underage-drinking or high-volume drinking
8. Drinking environments	

Regular server training courses	Yes, organised on a voluntary basis by businesses and trade organisations, by trade/technical/vocational schools, because required by national licencing systems
9. Reducing the public health impact of illegally and informally produced alcohol	
Rules to prevent illegal production and sales of home- or informally produced alcoholic beverages	Yes, enforcement by criminal law, penalties: prison & fines and enforcement by other administrative measures
10. Monitoring and evaluation	
Regular comprehensive report on alcohol situation	Yes

Reference: WHO European Survey on Alcohol and Health, 2011