



Switzerland 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	High / high / medium / high 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 / no involvement/ 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	High / low / low / low 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 at work
Health warning labels legally required on alcohol advertisements / bottles and containers of alcoholic beverages	No
School-based education	No
2. Primary Health care response	
Brief intervention introduced as method of health promotion and disease prevention	No
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	No
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	No
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 / 0,05 / 0,05
Check points and breath testing	Random breath testing at roadside checkpoints and by special mobile patrol units
Mandatory driver education / treatment programme for repeated/habitual offenders	Yes
Alcohol locks	No
5. Addressing the availability of alcohol	
Retail monopolies (National control for production and sale of alcohol)	No
License system (National control for production and sale of alcohol)	Yes
Minimum legal drinking age	No
Legal age limits for on- and off-premise sales for beer / wine / spirits	16 / 16 / 18 years
Hours, days, places of sales and density of outlets are restricted for on-premise sales of beer / wine / spirits	No
Hours, days of sales and density of outlets are restricted for off-premise sales of beer / wine / spirits	No
Places of sales are restricted for off-premise sales of beer / wine	No
Places of sales are restricted for off-premise sales of spirits	Yes



Alcohol-free public environments	Voluntary/self-regulation for educational buildings, sporting events, leisure events, workplaces and religious places No restrictions for health care establishments, government office, public transport, parks, streets etc.
6. Addressing marketing of alcohol beverages	
Legally binding regulations on alcohol advertising	Yes, at the national level: - no restrictions for beer / wine and total ban for spirits on national and private TV, national and local radio - no restrictions for beer / wine / spirits for printed newspapers/magazines, billboards, points of sale, cinema, internet
Legally binding regulations on alcohol product placement	No restrictions
Regulations on alcohol sponsorship and sales promotion	Yes, at the national level: No restrictions for beer / wine and total ban for spirits - on industry sponsorships of sports and youth events - on sales promotions from producer and from retailers, from owners of pubs/bar
7. Pricing policies	
Excise duty tax on beer / wine / spirits	Yes / No / Yes
Price measures other than taxation	Yes, additional levy on specific products, requirement to offer non-alcoholic beverages at lower price, 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
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



10. Monitoring and evaluation	
Regular comprehensive report on alcohol situation	Yes

Reference: WHO European Survey on Alcohol and Health, 2011