

## Healthy People 2010 Operational Definition

---

### **26-13. Reduce the proportion of adults who exceed guidelines for low-risk drinking.**

#### **26-13a. Females.**

<b>National Data Source</b>	National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC), NIH, NIAAA.
<b>State Data Source</b>	Not identified.
<b>Healthy People 2000 Objective</b>	Not applicable.
<b>Changes since the 2000 Publication</b>	Revised data source (see Comments).
<b>Measure</b>	Percent.
<b>Baseline (Year)</b>	72 (1992)
<b>Target</b>	50
<b>Target-Setting Method</b>	Better than the best racial/ethnic subgroup.  For a discussion of target-setting methods, see Part A, section 4.
<b>Numerator</b>	Number of females aged 21 years and older who reported drinking more than seven drinks per week or more than three drinks on any day in the past 12 months.
<b>Denominator</b>	Number of females aged 21 years and older.
<b>Population Targeted</b>	U.S. civilian, noninstitutionalized population.
<b>Questions Used To Obtain the National Baseline Data</b>	From the 1992 National Longitudinal Alcohol Epidemiologic Survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ <i>Over the past 12 months, did you have at least 12 drinks of any kind of alcohol?</i></li><li>➤ <i>During the last 12 months, did you drink any beer?</i> [If yes:]<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>During the last 12 months, about how often did you drink any beer?</i></li><li>○ <i>Now I'd like to know the size of the can, bottle, or</i></li></ul></li></ul>

*glass of beer that you USUALLY drank. What was the size of the TYPICAL can, bottle, or glass of beer that you drank during the last 12 months?*

- *On the days when you drank beer in the last 12 months, about how many (cans/bottles/glasses) of beer did you USUALLY drink in a single day?*
  - *During the last 12 months, what was the LARGEST number of (cans/bottles/glasses) of beer that you drank in a single day?*
  - *About how often did you drink (largest number) (cans/bottles/glasses) of beer in a single day?*
- *During the last 12 months, did you drink any wine, wine coolers, champagne, or sparkling wine?*

*[If yes:]*

- *During the last 12 months, about how often did you drink any wine, wine coolers, champagne, or sparkling wine?*
  - *Now I'd like to know the size of the glass or bottle of wine or wine cooler that you USUALLY drank. What was the size of the TYPICAL bottle or glass of wine that you drank during the last 12 months?*
  - *On the days when you drank wine in the last 12 months, about how many (glasses/bottles/carafes) of wine did you USUALLY drink in a single day?*
  - *During the last 12 months, what was the LARGEST number of (glasses/bottles/carafes) of wine that you drank in a single day?*
  - *About how often did you drink (largest number) (glasses/bottles/carafes) of wine in a single day?*
- *During the last 12 months, did you drink any liquor, including mixed drinks and liqueurs?*

*[If yes:]*

- *During the last 12 months, about how often did you drink any liquor?*
- *Now I'd like to know how much liquor was in a TYPICAL drink that you had. How many ounces or shots of liquor did you USUALLY have in a drink? Please do not include the amount of any soda, water, ice, cola, or juice that may have been added to your drink.*
- *On the days when you drank liquor in the last 12 months, about how many drinks of liquor did you USUALLY drink in a single day?*
- *During the last 12 months, what was the LARGEST number of drinks of liquor that you drank in a single day?*
- *About how often did you drink (largest number) drinks of liquor in a single day?*

- *During the last 12 months, about how often did you have five or more drinks of any type of alcohol in a single day?*

**Expected Periodicity**

Periodic.

**Comments**

Current drinkers were defined as those who answered "yes" to the question asking whether they drank 12 or more drinks in the last year.

The number of drinks consumed per week was calculated as follows:

- (1) The responses to all frequency questions ("About how often...") were converted to days per year, using the midpoints of the categorical response options (for example, 1 to 2 days a week was converted to  $1.5 \times 52 = 78$  days per year).
- (2) For each type of beverage (beer, wine, and liquor), the annual volume of intake was calculated as [(total frequency minus frequency of drinking largest amount) x (usual quantity of drinks) x (size of drink in ounces) x (ethanol content by volume)] + [(frequency of drinking largest amount) x (largest quantity of drinks) x (size of drink in ounces) x (ethanol content by volume)], where the ethanol content by volume was estimated at 0.045 for beer, 0.121 for wine and 0.409 for liquor.
- (3) The three beverage-specific volumes were summed to yield the overall annual volume of intake in ounces, which was divided by 52 to yield the average weekly ethanol intake in ounces.
- (4) The average weekly ethanol intake was converted to a number of standard drinks by dividing by 0.54 ounces, the amount of ethanol assumed to be contained in a standard drink. A value of greater than 14 was excessive for men, and a value of greater than 7 was excessive for women.

In assessing the number of standard drinks consumed on any day, the usual and largest quantities of beer, wine, and liquor were each converted to standard drinks as follows: [(quantity of

drinks) x (drink size in ounces) x (ethanol content by volume)]/0.54. A value of greater than 4 for any of the usual or largest quantities was considered excessive for men, and a value of greater than 3 for any of the usual or largest quantities was considered excessive for women. In addition, any non-zero response to the question on frequency of drinking five or more drinks was considered excessive for men and women.

Missing values for the question that asked about drinking at least 12 drinks in the past year were imputed on the basis of whether the subsequent questions were filled in or left blank. If no more than three of the questions concerning beer, wine, and liquor were missing, they were imputed using modal responses to those items. Frequency of drinking five or more drinks was not imputed. After imputation, cases that still had missing data for any of the questions used in the calculations were removed from both the numerator and denominator of the percent.

A description of the 1992 NLAES has been published.<sup>1</sup>

In 2001-2002, the National Epidemiologic Survey on Alcohol and Related Conditions (NESARC) was conducted by NIAAA, NIH. Identical questions were used to provide updated information for this measure.

See Appendix A for focus area contact information.

## References

---

1. Dawson, D.A.; Grant, B.F.; Chou, S.P.; et al. Subgroup variation in U.S. drinking patterns: Results of the 1992 National Alcohol Epidemiologic Study. *Journal of Substance Abuse* 7:331-344, 1995.