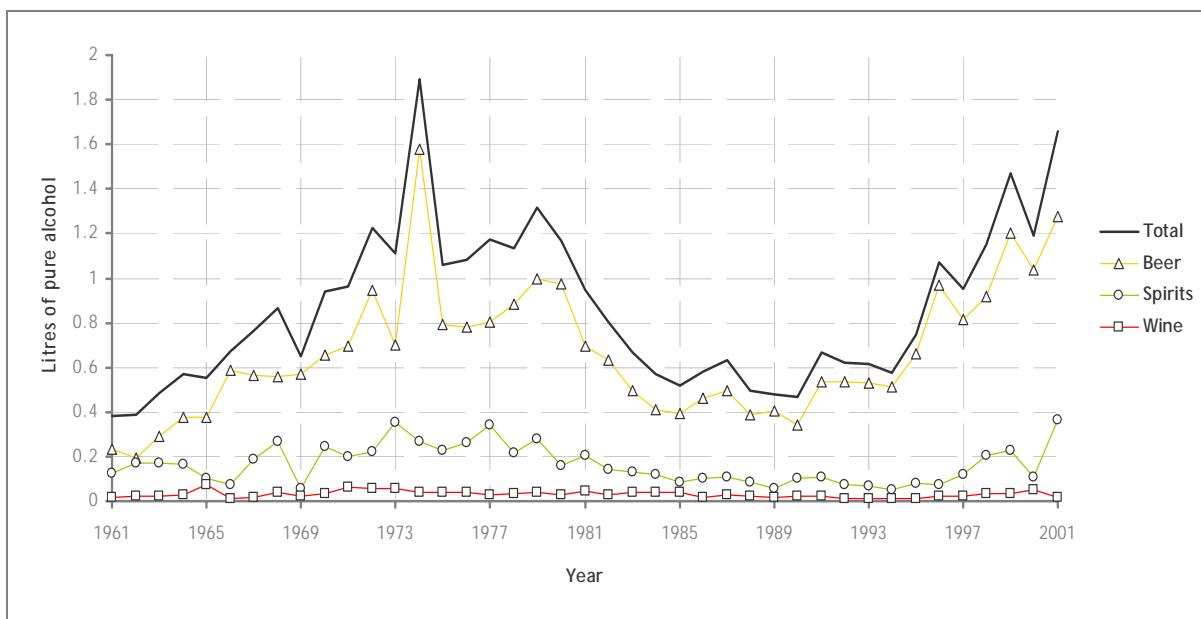


KIRIBATI

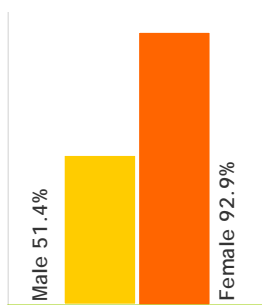
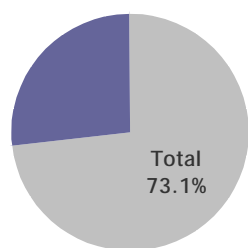
Recorded adult per capita consumption (age 15+)



Sources: FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations), World Drink Trends 2003

Data from the Customs Department show that in 1995 the total per capita consumption of absolute alcohol (for people aged 15 years and over) was approximately 1.0 litre. This included 0.9 litres of beer and 0.1 litres of spirits. The Customs Department report that nearly all imported alcohol (there is no local brewer) is consumed on Tarwara, the most populated group. Thus, the per capita calculations have been based on the Tarwara population only. Given that *toddy* (a home brew) is widely consumed in Kiribati, the calculations of per capita consumption given here are likely to be a large underestimate.¹

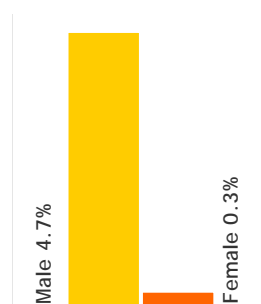
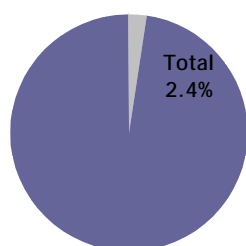
Abstainers



1981 survey of subjects 20 years and above (sample size males $n = 1328$ and females $n = 1460$).²

The most recent data on the prevalence of alcohol use in Kiribati comes from the report of the 2000 census of population. 38% of households indicated that a member of the household had consumed alcohol.³

Heavy drinkers



1981 survey of subjects 20 years and above (sample size males $n = 1328$ and females $n = 1460$). Heavy drinking was defined as consuming 80 g or more of alcohol per day.²

Traditional alcoholic beverages

Toddy, or fermented coconut milk, is regularly produced and widely consumed in Kiribati and sold at markets. Although the strength of this home brew is reported to be highly variable, an analysis of the Fijian equivalent indicates the strength to be around 14% by volume.¹

Morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use

In 1997 there were 36 hospital admissions attributable to alcohol – 8 were for noncommunicable diseases and 28 for other diseases. Alcohol was responsible for 2.6% of all noncommunicable diseases hospital admissions and 0.9% of total admissions.³

Economic and social costs

In 1997 it is estimated that the treatment costs for hospital admissions of all diseases attributable to alcohol amounted to AUD 60 184.³

Country background information

Total population 2003	98 549	Life expectancy at birth (2002)	Male	61.8
Adult (15+)	59 425		Female	66.7
% under 15	39.7	Probability of dying under age 5 per 1000 (2002)	Male	80
Population distribution 2001 (%)			Female	69
Urban	39	Gross National Income per capita 2002	US\$	810
Rural	61			

Sources: Population and Statistics Division of the United Nations Secretariat, World Bank World Development Indicators database, The World Health Report 2004

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1. McDonald D, Elvy G, Mielke J. Alcohol in the South Pacific: the mid-1990s. *Drug and Alcohol Review*, 1997, 16(4):383–390.
2. Hodge AM et al. Abnormal glucose tolerance and alcohol consumption in three populations at high risk of non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus. *American Journal of Epidemiology*, 1993, 137(2):178–189. In: *WHO Global NCD InfoBase*. Geneva, World Health Organization.
3. Doran C. *Economic impact assessment of noncommunicable diseases on hospital resources in Tonga, Vanuatu and Kiribati*. Pacific Action for Health Project: Secretariat of the Pacific Community, AusAID, 2003.