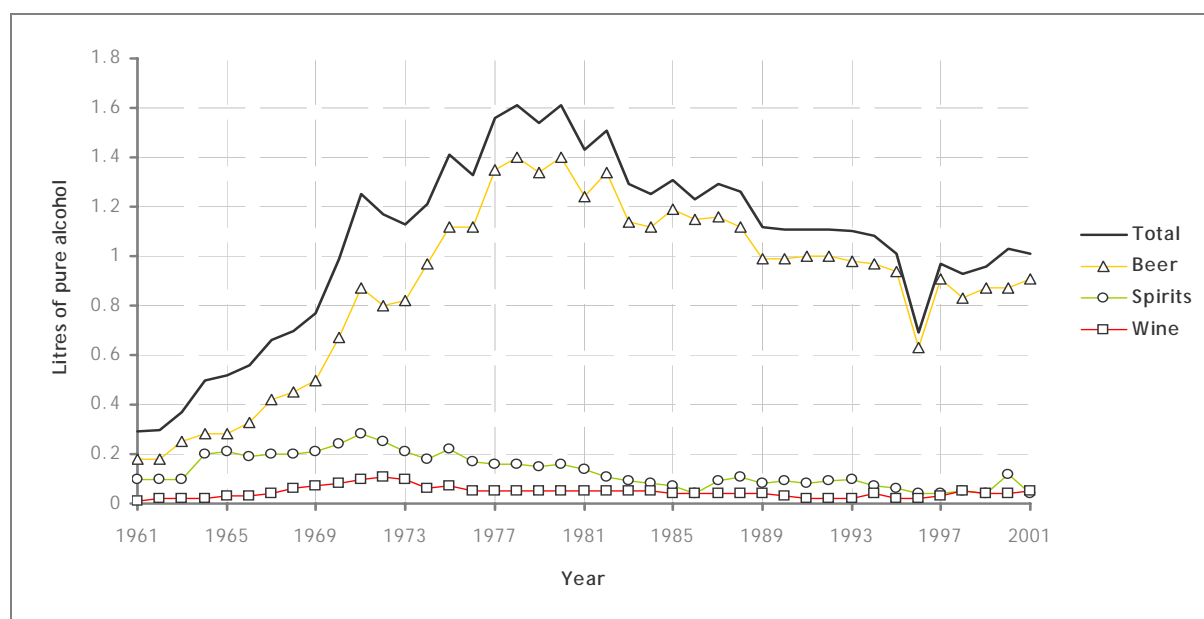


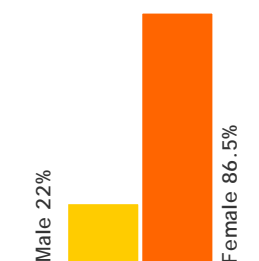
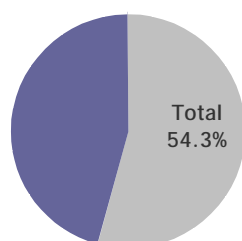
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Recorded adult per capita consumption (age 15+)



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

Last year abstainers



Estimates from key alcohol experts showing proportion of adult males and females who had been abstaining (last year before the survey). Data is for after year 1995.¹

Traditional alcoholic beverages

Jungle Juice is a home brew consumed in Papua New Guinea.²

Unrecorded alcohol consumption

The unrecorded alcohol consumption in Papua New Guinea is estimated to be 0.5 litres pure alcohol per capita for population older than 15 for the years after 1995 (estimated by a group of key alcohol experts).¹

Morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use

The number of fatal road accidents in Papua New Guinea has risen by more than 400% between 1968 and 1978. Post-mortem blood alcohol levels were above 80 mg% in 42% of the victims tested and very high levels were found in a third of the drivers.³ A study conducted in Port Moresby found that more alcohol-related accidents occurred at night and on weekends, particularly on pay weekends.⁴

A post-mortem examination of the dead drivers in a study showed that 53% had a blood alcohol level greater than 80 mg per 100 ml while 32% had detectable blood alcohol but at a level less than 80 mg per 100 ml.⁵

In 1991, 40% of hospital admissions were alcohol-related.⁶

A domestic violence study carried out by the Papua New Guinea Law Reform Commission found that 71% of the women interviewed considered alcohol abuse as a major cause of marital problems. Of those who had been beaten by their spouse, 26% related the incident to alcohol.⁷

It was recently reported that widespread abuse of Jungle Juice by Bougainville men is threatening the weapons disposal program. It was noted that alcohol abuse lay at the heart of many of the social ills that are currently plaguing Bougainville. Males under the influence of alcohol were reported to have damaged the property of aid agencies, stole their vehicles and placed the safety of innocent people in towns and villages in danger. The Women's Forum on Weapons Disposal stated that with a number of weapons still uncollected, this habit of drunken behaviour is worrying.⁸

A recent paper suggests that it is quite likely that some of the renewed tribal fighting since the 1970s is alcohol-related. For example, alcohol-related traffic crashes, especially those resulting in death or injury, often result in tribal fighting between the clan of the driver and the victim's clan.⁹

Country background information

Total population 2003	5 711 000	Life expectancy at birth (2002)	Male	58.4
Adult (15+)	3 369 490		Female	61.5
% under 15	41	Probability of dying under age 5 per 1000 (2002)	Male	98
Population distribution 2001 (%)			Female	92
Urban	18	Gross National Income per capita 2002	US\$	530
Rural	82			

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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