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# Eastern Mediterranean Region

## Afghanistan

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### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	16 063 000	15 045 000	20 141 000
Adult (15+)	9 160 000	8 468 000	11 935 000
% Urban	15.6	18.3	20.0
% Rural	84.3	81.8	80.0

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 43 (males), 44 (females)

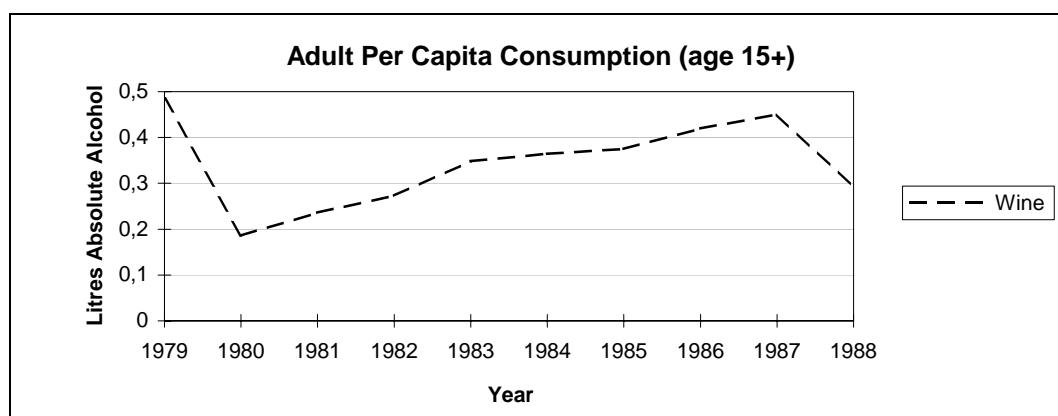
Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 163 per 1000 live births

### Socioeconomic situation

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 61%; industry 14%; services 25%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 32; male 47; female 15

### Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Afghanistan reports no beer production after 1970, no spirits production and very low levels of spirits imports. Its wine consumption is low, and has likely fallen lower with the increasing national observance of Islamic law in recent years.

# Bahrain

## Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	347 000	490 000	564 000
Adult (15+)	227 000	334 000	381 000
% Urban	80.5	87.5	90.3
% Rural	19.5	12.5	9.7

## Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 69.8 (males), 74.1 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 18 per 1000 live births

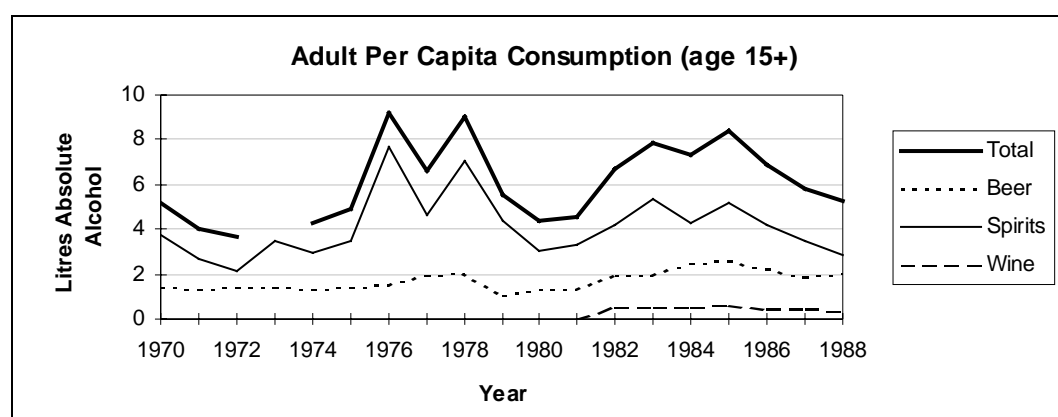
## Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995 : 7840, PPP estimate of GNP per capita (current int'l \$) : 13 400

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 3%; industry 14%; services 83%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 85; male 89; female 79

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



## Consumption

Spirits are the primary type of alcoholic beverage consumed in Bahrain. The country reports no domestic production of alcoholic beverages, and there is no data available after 1988.

## Alcohol policies

### *Alcohol data collection, research and treatment*

The Ministry of Health reports that the Drug Rehabilitation Unit at the Psychiatric Hospital is designated as the only treatment centre for alcohol-related problems on the island. The Ministry also reports that any other hospital, health centre or private practitioner is prohibited from treating patients for problems pertaining to alcohol or other drugs. The majority of cases are treated as inpatients. If no vacant beds are available, the patient can be treated on an outpatient basis. The average duration of inpatient treatment is two to four weeks.

# Cyprus

## Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	629 000	702 000	742 000
Adult (15+)	475 000	520 000	545 000
% Urban	46.0	51.4	54.1
% Rural	54.0	48.6	45.9

## Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 74.8 (males), 79.2 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 9 per 1000 live births

## Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1994: 11 576

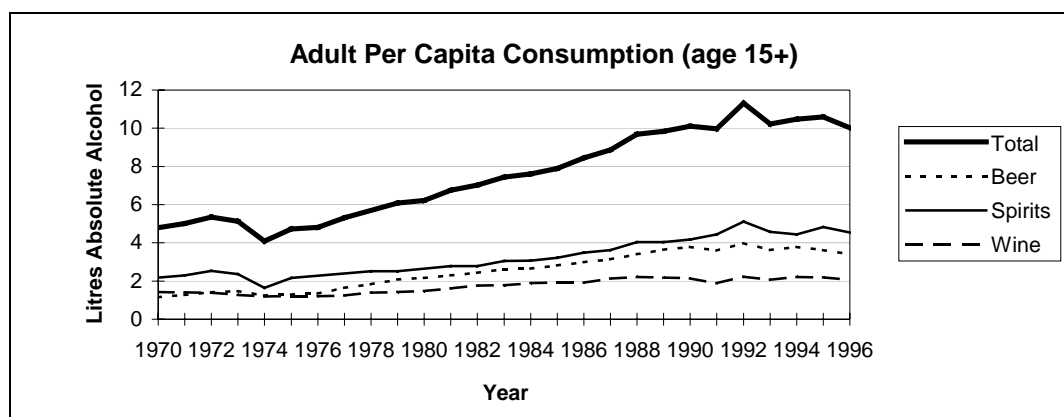
Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1995 : agriculture 11%; industry 25%; services 64%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1992: total 94; male 98 female 90

## Alcohol production, trade and industry

Cyprus is a significant exporter of both wine and spirits.

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

The above graph, drawn from figures provided by the Ministry of Finance, shows that Cypriot consumption of alcoholic beverages has increased at a steady pace in all three categories since 1974.

### Age patterns

A study of 632 adolescents between the ages of 15 to 16 was carried out in 1995. The response rate was 93 per cent. Eighty-five per cent of the respondents had drunk any alcoholic beverage in the last 12 months, and 27 per cent had been drunk in the last 12 months. Lifetime prevalence of alcohol use was 90 per cent (92 per cent for boys and 88 per cent for girls).

## Economic impact of alcohol

In 1991, the percentage of annual household expenditure devoted to alcoholic beverages (for those over the age of 15) was 0.6 per cent. In 1995, 0.4 per cent of the total labour force was employed by the alcohol beverage industry.

## Mortality, morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use

### *Social Problems*

The rate of convictions for driving under the influence of alcohol decreased from 2.6 to 2.2, per 100 000 population, between 1980 and 1990, then rose to 3.6 in 1994.

### Alcohol policies

#### *Alcohol data collection, research and treatment*

Mental Health Services, the Ministry of Health and the National Committee for Prevention of Alcohol and Drug Abuse all are involved with coordination, application, formulation, monitoring and evaluation of national alcohol policies. The Ministry of Health and Mental Health Services organizes regular workshops for professionals, as well as seminars and lectures on education relating to treatment and rehabilitation. Mental health services are available in Nicosia, Limassol and Larnaca.

## Djibouti

### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	281 000	517 000	577 000
Adult (15+)	158 000	294 000	335 000
% Urban	73.7	80.7	82.8
% Rural	26.3	19.3	17.2

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 46.7 (males), 50.0 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 115 per 1000 live births

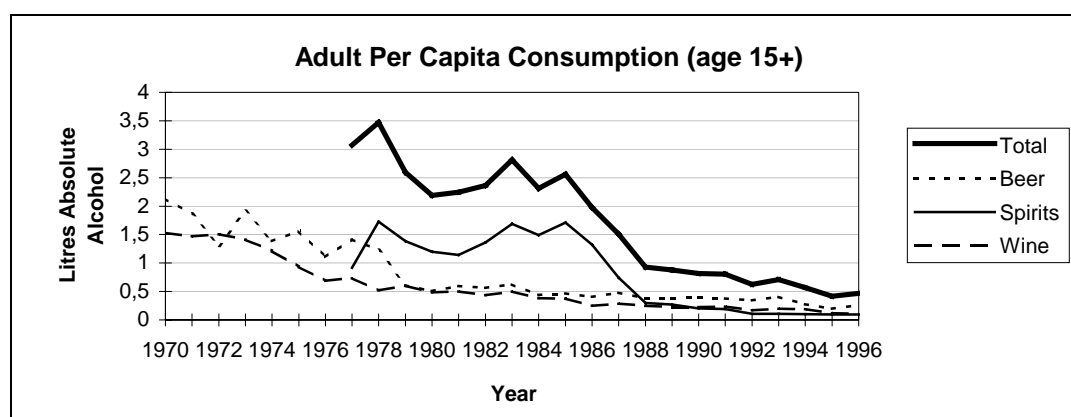
### Socioeconomic situation

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : Total 46

### Alcohol production, trade and industry

Djibouti produces no alcoholic beverages.

### Alcohol consumption and prevalence



**Consumption**

Since 1983, consumption of alcoholic beverages has fallen in all three categories, particularly spirits. There are no data available on the consumption of smuggled or informally- or home-produced alcoholic beverages.

# Egypt

**Sociodemographic characteristics**

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	43 749 000	56 312 000	62 931 000
Adult (15+)	26 459 000	33 934 000	39 007 000
% Urban	43.8	43.9	44.8
% Rural	56.2	56.1	55.2

**Health status**

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 62.4 (males), 64.8 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 67 per 1000 live births

**Socioeconomic situation**

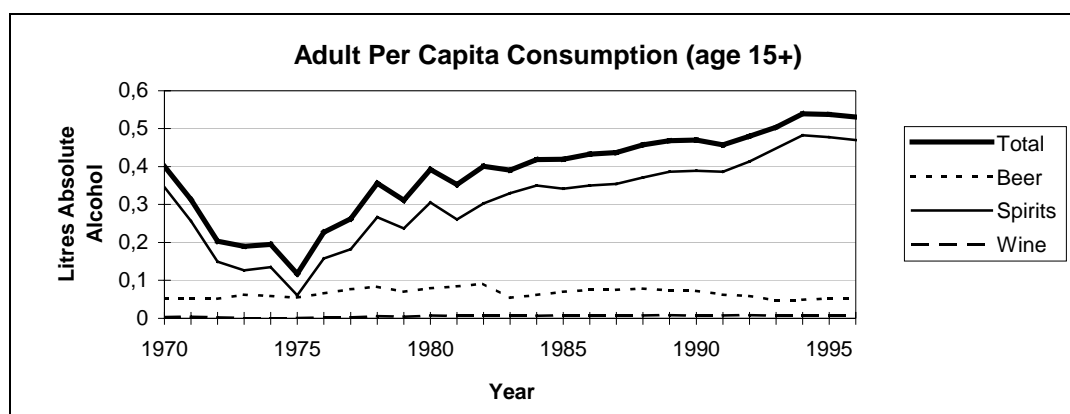
GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 790, PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 3 820

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 42%; industry 21%; services 37%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 51; male 64; female 39

**Alcohol production, trade and industry**

Egypt produces beer, distilled spirits, and wine.

**Alcohol consumption and prevalence****Consumption**

Distilled spirits is the alcoholic beverage of choice in Egypt and consumption has steadily increased since 1975. Beer consumption has remained steady since 1970 at a very low level (less than 0.1 litres of pure alcohol per adult).

**Prevalence**

A standardized questionnaire was administered to a representative sample of 3686 male technical school students in Greater Cairo. Results, published in 1982, showed that about 33 per cent had used alcohol at least once.

## Alcohol policies

### *Control of alcohol products*

The legal minimum drinking age is 21. Alcoholic beverages are not served in public places, with the exception of hotels and tourist establishments. No alcohol may be served before 11:00 hours or after midnight, although the hours can be adjusted by special decrees to suit the needs of travellers and hotel lodgers. Alcohol advertising was banned entirely in 1976.

## Iraq

### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	13 007 000	18 078 000	20 449 000
Adult (15+)	7 022 000	10 085 000	11 539 000
% Urban	65.5	71.8	74.6
% Rural	34.5	28.2	25.4

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 64.5 (males), 67.5 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 58 per 1000 live births

### Socioeconomic situation

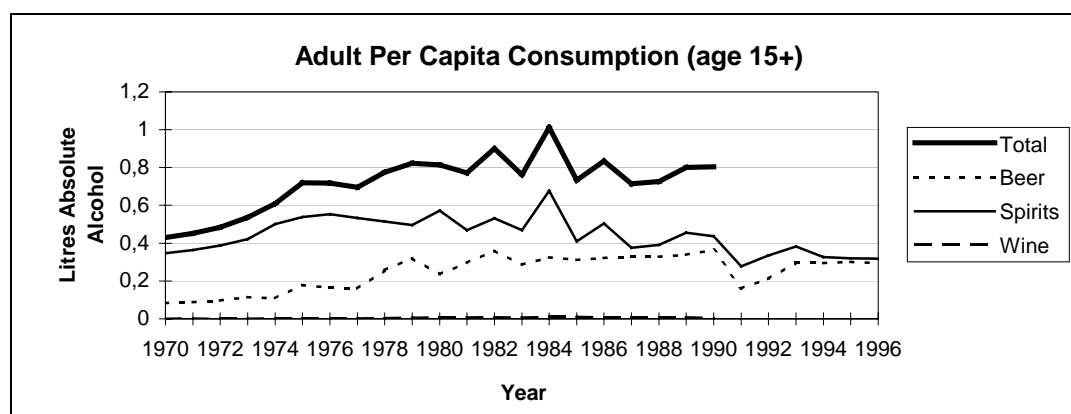
Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 14%; industry 19%; services 67%

Adult literacy rate (percent), 1992 : total 62; male 73; female 51

### Alcohol production, trade and industry

Iraq produces beer and distilled spirits.

### Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### *Consumption*

The alcoholic beverage of choice is distilled spirits. There is no information available on wine consumption in Iraq after 1990.

**Mortality, morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use*****Alcohol dependence and related disorders***

The number of cases of alcohol dependence syndrome decreased from 100 in 1989 to 42 in 1992. The number of alcoholic psychosis cases rose from 195 to 207 during the same period.

***Morbidity***

The total number of alcoholic cardiomyopathy cases declined from 71 to 65 between 1989 and 1992. The total number of alcoholic polyneuropathy cases declined from four to one during the same period.

**Alcohol policies*****Control of alcohol products***

In 1994, President Saddam Hussein ordered all discos and bars in Iraq to be closed, banned all sales of alcoholic beverages and prohibited any drinking of alcohol in public.

***Control of alcohol problems***

There is some general education about alcohol and alcohol problems conducted by the mass media, as well as school visits and meetings and university-based activities.

***Alcohol data collection, research and treatment***

The Iraqi National Committee for Prevention of Alcohol Dependence and Drug Abuse is responsible for national alcohol-related policies. Both this committee and the Department of Bio-Statistics in the Ministry of Health are involved in the collection of data about various alcohol-related health problems.

There is a centre for the treatment of alcohol dependence at Ibn-Rushd Teaching Hospital for Psychiatric Diseases in Baghdad. It deals with the treatment and rehabilitation of persons with alcohol problems, support for families of high risk drinkers, and education and research on treatment and rehabilitation measures. The Social Work Department at Ibn-Rushd Hospital and other psychiatric units in general hospitals provide services in coordination with other related offices. There is also a Centre for Treatment of Alcohol Dependence in Baghdad.

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**Jordan**

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**Sociodemographic characteristics**

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	2 923 000	4 259 000	5 439 000
Adult (15+)	1 478 000	2 370 000	3 084 000
% Urban	59.9	68.0	71.5
% Rural	40.1	32.0	28.5

**Health status**

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 66.2 (males), 69.8 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 36 per 1000 live births

**Socioeconomic situation**

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 1510 , PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 4060

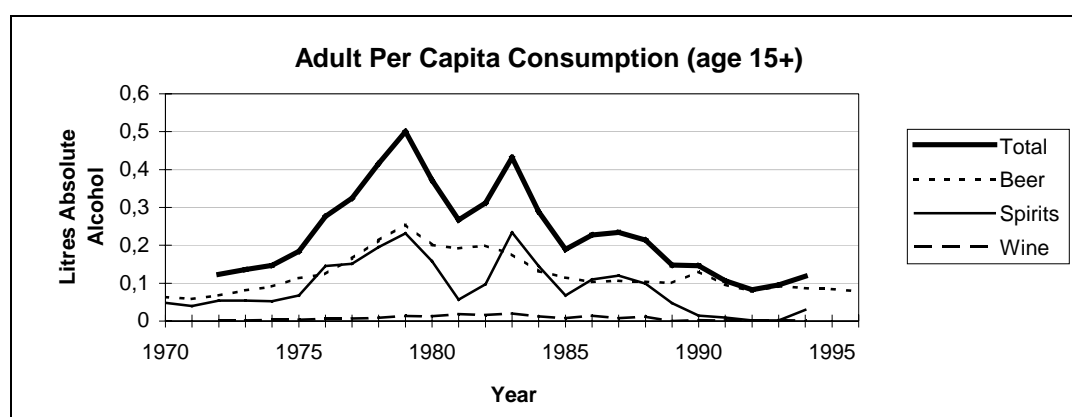
Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 10%; industry 26%; services 64%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1992 : total 82; male 91; female 72

**Alcohol production, trade and industry**

Jordan produces beer and, beginning in 1991, reported domestic production of distilled spirits, apparently primarily for export.

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Alcohol consumption in Jordan is quite low, and mostly consists of beer and distilled spirits consumption.

## Lebanon

### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	2 669 000	2 555 000	3 009 000
Adult (15+)	1 598 000	1 662 000	1 983 000
% Urban	73.4	83.8	87.2
% Rural	26.6	16.2	12.8

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 66.6 (males), 70.5 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 34 per 1000 live births

### Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 2660.

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 14%; industry 27%; services 59%

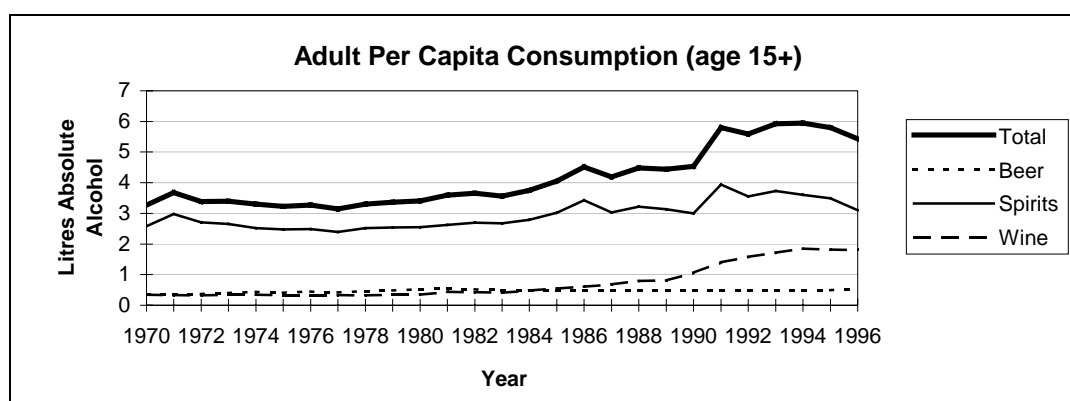
Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 92; male 95; female 90

### Alcohol production, trade and industry

Lebanon produces beer, distilled spirits and wine.



## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Consumption of wine and distilled spirits has been growing in Lebanon since the mid-1980s years. Domestic production of wine has tripled in the past decade, while spirits production has grown by 50 per cent.

## Morocco

### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	19 382 000	24 334 000	27 028 000
Adult (15+)	11 010 000	14 864 000	17 274 000
% Urban	41.0	46.1	48.4
% Rural	59.0	53.9	51.6

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 61.6 (males), 65.0 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 68 per 1000 live births

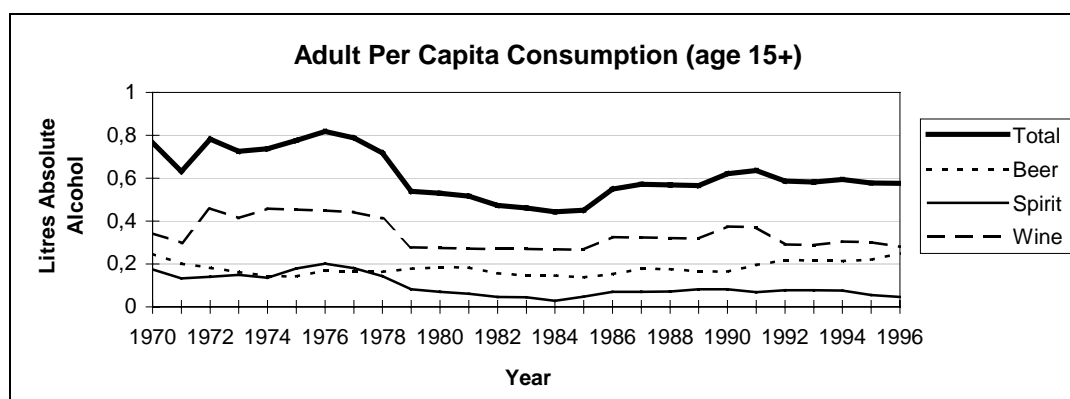
### Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 447, PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 3340

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 46%; industry 25%; services 29%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 44; male 57; female 37

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



**Consumption**

Wine is the alcoholic beverage of choice in Morocco, although recently beer has risen to almost the same level in recorded adult consumption.

**Prevalence**

In 1990 an open questionnaire was administered to 595 medical students, (64 per cent male, 36 per cent female) 79 per cent of whom were between the ages of 21 and 26. Approximately 25 per cent had tried alcohol, and 23 per cent were current users: 8 females and 125 males. The overall figures were less than in a similar 1985 study in which 27 per cent had reported using alcohol.

**Mortality, morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use****Morbidity**

Alcohol-related hospital admissions fell in the mid-1980s from 89 in 1983 to 60 in 1986, after which data are not available.

**Alcohol policies****Control of alcohol products**

It is illegal to offer or sell alcohol to those under 16 years of age. An Act passed in 1967 regulates the sale of alcoholic beverages stipulating that liquor outlets shall be far from religious buildings and military establishments.

**Control of alcohol problems**

The penal code of Morocco states that "drunkenness does not and should not diminish the civil responsibility. Drinking is not an excusable act, but can make things worse."

## Oman

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**Sociodemographic characteristics**

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	1 101 000	1 751 000	2 163 000
Adult (15+)	603 000	923 000	1 136 000
% Urban	7.6	11.0	13.2
% Rural	92.4	89.0	86.8

**Health status**

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 67.7 (males), 71.8 (females)

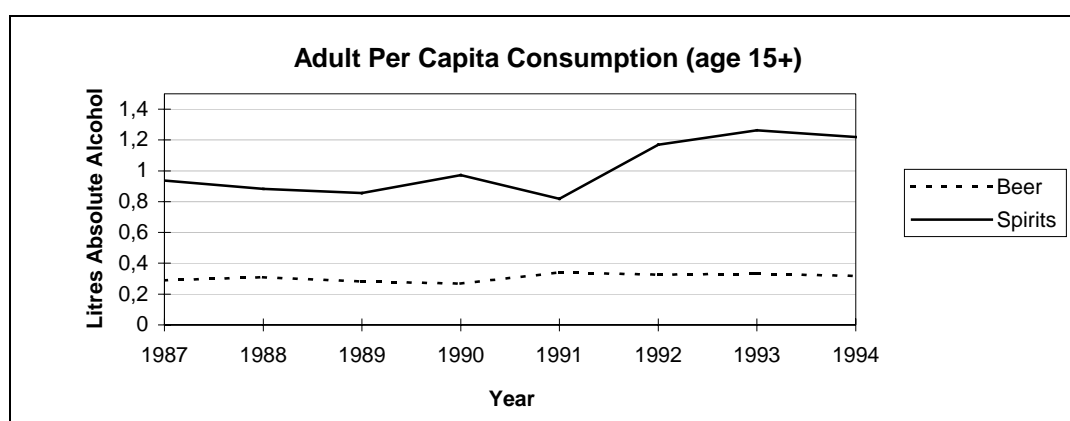
Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 30 per 1000 live births

**Socioeconomic situation**

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 4820 , PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 8820

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 49%; industry 22%; services 29%

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Oman only reported figures for domestic wine production for the years 1992 and 1993. Domestic production of wine is substantial, and so these two years give the most accurate picture of actual alcohol consumption, somewhere between 3.5 and 7.5 litres of absolute alcohol per adult.

## Pakistan

### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	85 299 000	121 933 000	140 497 000
Adult (15+)	47 451 000	68 130 000	78 275 000
% Urban	28.1	32.0	34.7
% Rural	71.9	68.0	65.3

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 60.6 (males), 62.6 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 91 per 1000 live births

### Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 460, PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 2230.

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 47%; industry 20%; services 33%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1992 : total 36; male 49; female 22

### Alcohol production, trade and industry

Since 1977, Pakistan has been operating under a Prohibition Order that forbids the purchase of alcohol by Muslims, who form 97 per cent of the population. The nation's largest brewer, Murree Brewery, reported net profits in 1993 of US\$ 770 000, up from US\$ 463 000 in 1992.

In a 1995 court case, Murree Brewery, which had a virtual monopoly over the market, was ordered to stop selling in Sindh province which opened up the market for the new Beach Brewery. Allegations of wrongdoing resulted in a Sindh High Court order preventing either company from selling in the province. This ban was later rescinded.

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence

### *Consumption*

The Finnish Foundation for Alcohol Studies reported Pakistani domestic consumption of spirits and imputed consumption at approximately 0.25 litres of absolute alcohol per adult in the early 1970s. However, there has been no reported domestic spirits production since 1971. Although 97 per cent of the population is forbidden to drink, alcohol industry sources report that alcohol consumption has been increasing steadily, and enforcement of the law has been erratic.

## Alcohol policies

### *Control of alcohol products*

Alcohol and alcohol advertising are officially banned, in deference to Islamic law. Only non-Muslims with a liquor permit may purchase liquor legally.

### *Alcohol data collection, research and treatment*

It is reported that there are no specific legislative provisions pertaining to treatment and rehabilitation, although a draft mental health law is under active consideration. In addition, it is proposed to establish adequately equipped detoxification centres at the Federal and district headquarters hospitals.

# Qatar

## Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	229 000	485 000	551 000
Adult (15+)	156 000	352 000	399 000
% Urban	85.6	89.9	91.4
% Rural	14.4	10.1	8.6

## Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 68.8 (males), 74.2 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 20 per 1000 live births

## Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 11 600 , PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 17 690

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 3%; industry 28%; services 69%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 79; male 79; female 80

## Alcohol production, trade and industry

Qatar does not produce any alcoholic beverages.

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence

### *Consumption*

An Islamic nation with a large population of migrant workers from neighbouring nations, Qatar relies on imports for its supply of alcoholic beverages. From the figures available, per capita consumption is approximately one litre of absolute alcohol per adult per year, resulting primarily from consumption of imported spirits. There is no data on wine imports or consumption.

# Saudi Arabia

## Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	9 604 000	16 048 000	17 880 000
Adult (15+)	5 348 000	9 343 000	10 393 000
% Urban	66.8	77.3	80.2
% Rural	33.2	22.7	19.8

## Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 68.4 (males), 71.4 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 29 per 1000 live births

## Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 7 040.

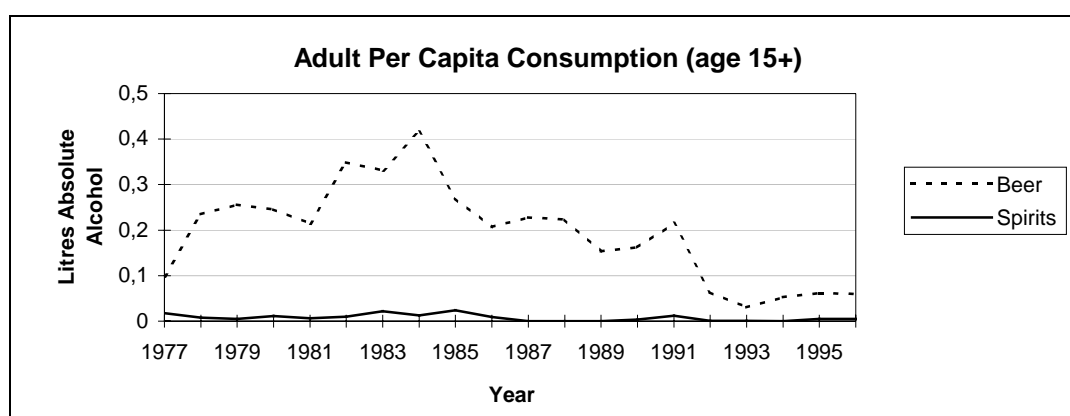
Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 48%; industry 14%; services 37%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 63; male 72; female 50

## Alcohol production, trade and industry

Saudi Arabia does not produce alcoholic beverages.

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Based on import figures, Saudi Arabia records a low per capita consumption of alcohol, resulting primarily from beer consumption. There are no data available on wine use after 1975.

### Alcohol use among population subgroups

Researchers surveyed 116 consecutive patients admitted to Al-Amal Hospital in the Dammam area, a specialized drug abuse centre in Eastern Saudi Arabia. Alcohol was the second most commonly abused substance (after heroin), with 11.2 per cent abusing it alone, and an additional 20 per cent abusing it in combination with other drugs. This finding (published in 1995) was comparable to other studies in Saudi Arabia, which have found as many as 71 per cent of other substance users also using alcohol.

## Mortality, morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use

### *Social problems*

In 1977, 12 per cent of the total number of prisoners in Saudi Arabia were incarcerated for violations of laws against alcohol use or trade, and 65 per cent of these were foreign nationals.

### **Alcohol policies**

#### *Control of alcohol products*

Alcohol use or smuggling is a crime in Saudi Arabia.

#### *Control of alcohol problems*

Physical punishment (whipping) is legislated as a penalty for intake of alcoholic beverages.

## Sudan (the)

### **Sociodemographic characteristics**

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	18 681 000	24 585 000	28 098 000
Adult (15+)	10 298 000	13 560 000	15 789 000
% Urban	20.0	22.5	24.6
% Rural	80.0	77.4	75.4

### **Health status**

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 51.6 (males), 54.4 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 78 per 1000 live births

### **Socioeconomic situation**

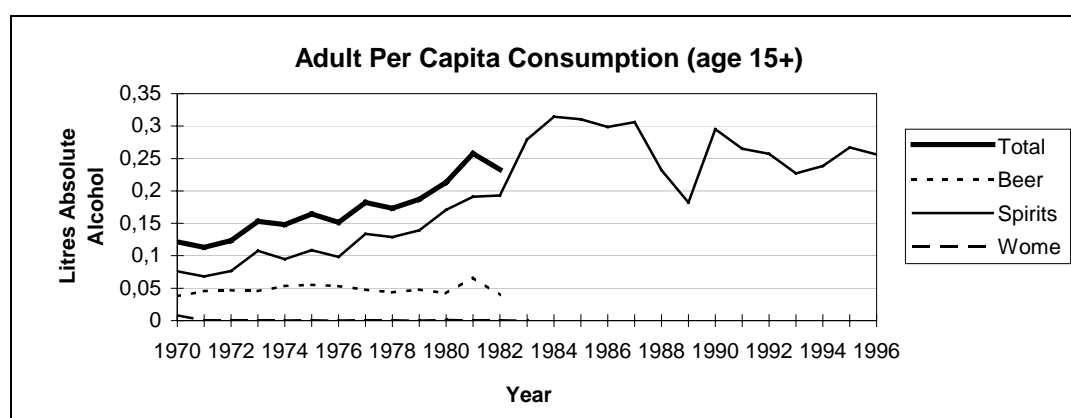
Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 72%; industry 5%; services 23%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 46; male 58; female 35

### **Alcohol production, trade and industry**

The Sudan produces distilled spirits, and reported production of beer until 1981.

### **Alcohol consumption and prevalence**



### **Consumption**

Recorded alcohol consumption in the Sudan is very low. There are no data available on beer or wine consumption after 1982.

***Prevalence***

Anecdotal reports mention “European influence” as the reason for the increase in problem drinking among young males whereas consumption among women is still very rare.

**Mortality, morbidity, health and social problems from alcohol use*****Social problems***

Drinking, violence and marital strife are reported to be frequent among the Bari people of southern Sudan. Resolution of conflicts arising from alcohol abuse are considered the responsibility of old men as lineage heads, who bring the offending drinker closer to controlling social networks.

**Alcohol policies*****Control of alcohol problems***

In 1972, a new provision was introduced into the Sudan Penal Code stating that individuals acting in a state of intoxication are assumed to have the same knowledge as they would have had if they had not been intoxicated. This means that intoxication is not a defence against a criminal charge.

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**Syrian Arab Republic (the)**

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**Sociodemographic characteristics**

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	8 704 000	12 348 000	14 661 000
Adult (15+)	4 480 000	6 399 000	7 724 000
% Urban	46.7	50.2	52.4
% Rural	53.3	49.8	47.6

**Health status**

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 65.2 (males), 69.2 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 39 per 1000 live births

**Socioeconomic situation**

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 1120, PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 5320

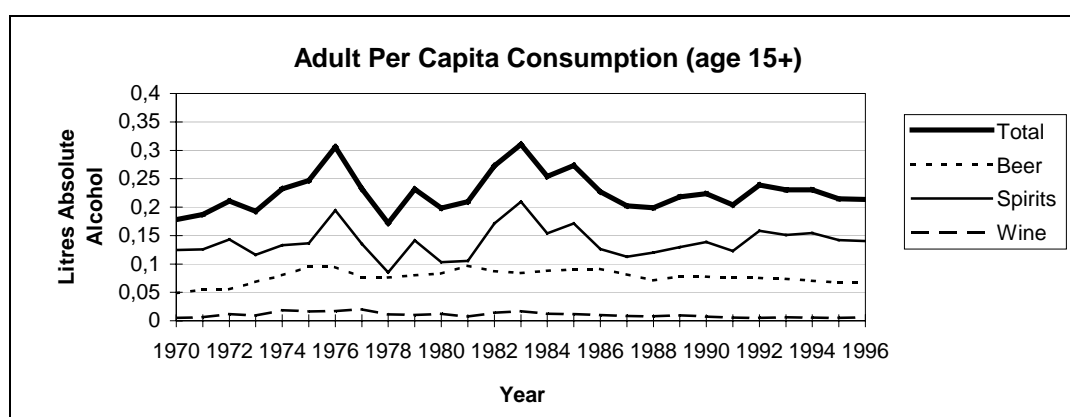
Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 23%; industry 29%; services 48%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 71; male 86; female 56

**Alcohol production, trade and industry**

The Syrian Arab Republic produces beer, wine and distilled spirits.

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Alcohol consumption in the Syrian Arab Republic comes primarily from distilled spirits.

## Tunisia

### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	6 384 000	8 080 000	8 896 000
Adult (15+)	3 725 000	5 038 000	5 790 000
% Urban	51.4	54.9	57.2
% Rural	48.6	45.1	42.8

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 66.9 (males), 68.7 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 43 per 1000 live births

### Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 1500, PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 4690.

Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992: agriculture 26%; industry 34%; services 40%

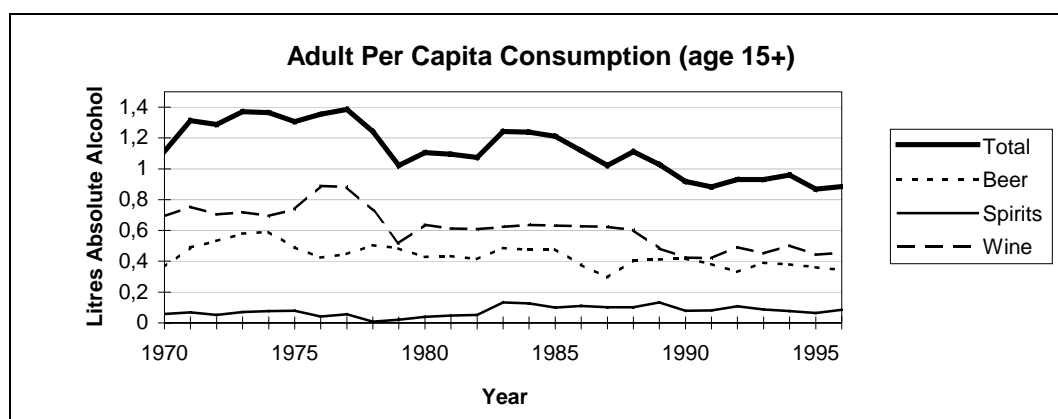
Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 67; male 79; female 55

### Alcohol production, trade and industry

Tunisia produces beer, wine and spirits. There is no information available on the production of spirits after 1981. However, export figures indicate that spirits were still being produced through 1994. Much of the country's wine production is exported.



## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Wine is the alcoholic beverage of choice of Tunisians, and the major determinant of the country's per capita alcohol consumption. Since 1977 there has been a decrease in overall wine consumption in the country, parallel to a decrease in production and maintenance of substantial exports.

## United Arab Emirates (the)

### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	1 015 000	1 671 000	1 904 000
Adult (15+)	725 000	1 156 000	1 310 000
% Urban	71.5	81.0	84.0
% Rural	28.5	19.0	16.0

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 73.0 (males), 75.3 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 19 per 1000 live births

### Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 17 400 , PPP estimates of GNP per capita (current int'l \$), 1995: 16 470

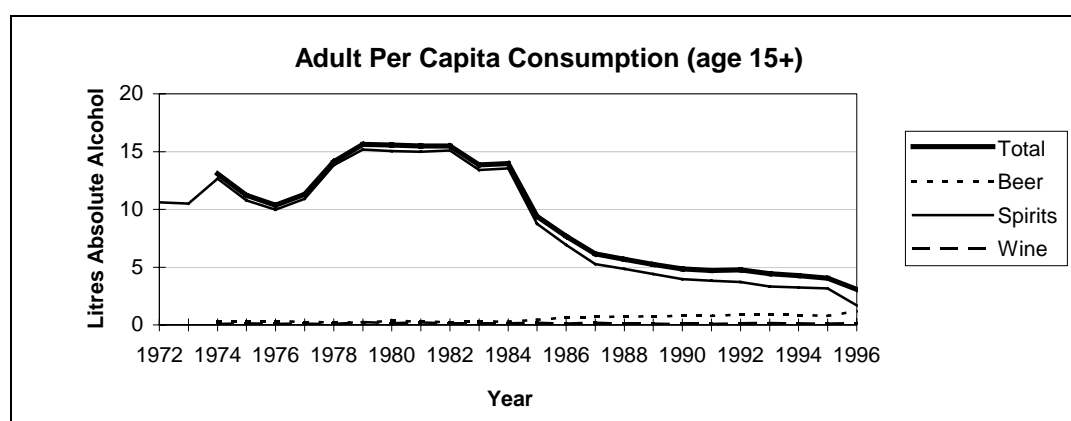
Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 5%; industry 38%; services 57%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1995 : total 79; male 79; female 80

### Alcohol production, trade and industry

The United Arab Emirates do not produce alcoholic beverages.

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Alcohol consumption has fallen steadily since 1982, following a decrease in consumption of imported spirits, the most commonly used alcoholic beverage.

### Alcohol policies

#### Control of alcohol products

Under Islamic law, alcohol is forbidden at all times, but alcoholic beverages are still available in Dubai's bars and restaurants. In 1997, for the first time, alcohol was available throughout the day during Ramadan. Previously, it was illegal to serve alcohol before sundown.

## Yemen

### Sociodemographic characteristics

POPULATION	1980	1990	1995
Total	8 219 000	11 311 000	14 501 000
Adult (15+)	4 089 000	5 854 000	7 730 000
% Urban	20.2	28.9	33.6
% Rural	79.8	71.1	66.4

### Health status

Life expectancy at birth, 1990-1995 : 49.9 (males), 50.4 (females)

Infant mortality rate in 1990-1995 : 120 per 1000 live births

### Socioeconomic situation

GNP per capita (US\$), 1995: 260.

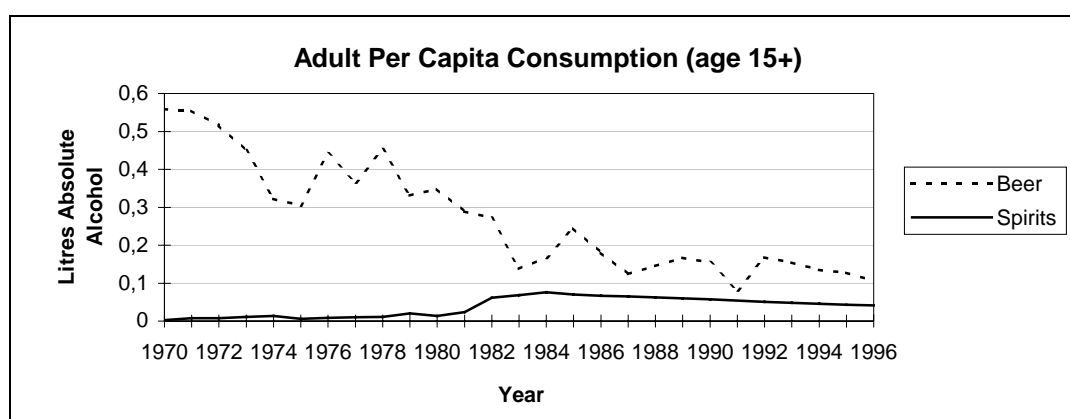
Average distribution of labour force by sector, 1990-1992 : agriculture 63%; industry 11%; services 26%

Adult literacy rate (per cent), 1992 : total 41; male 56; female 28

### Alcohol production, trade and industry

Yemen produces beer, and imports beer and distilled spirits.

## Alcohol consumption and prevalence



### Consumption

Recorded consumption comes primarily from beer produced locally. There are no data available regarding consumption of smuggled or informally- or home-produced alcoholic beverages.