

Risk of alcohol-related disease or injury over a lifetime: percentage of the population aged 14 years and over, by age, South Australia and Australia, 2019

Age group (years)	Lifetime risk (%)		
	Abstainer ^(a)	Low risk ^(b)	Risky ^(c)
SOUTH AUSTRALIA			
14-19**	49.3	42.3	8.4
20-29	16.2	64.7	19.0
30-39	21.3	58.8	19.9
40-49	14.2	61.9	23.9
50-59	13.3	64.2	22.6
60+	23.8	61.6	14.7
14+	21.1	60.6	18.3
AUSTRALIA			
14-19	55.5	38.4	6.0
20-29	22.2 [#]	58.8 [#]	19.0
30-39	21.8 [#]	62.4 [#]	15.8
40-49	17.8	61.6	20.6
50-59	16.5	62.5	21.1
60+	23.6	61.6	14.8
14+	23.8	59.5	16.8

(a) Have not consumed alcohol in the last 12 months.

(b) Lifetime risk is based on average consumption per day. This is calculated by adding the number of standard drinks a person has had over the last 12 months and dividing it by 365. All those whose average is 2 or less drinks per day are not considered to be lifetime 'risky' drinkers.

(c) For males and females, all those whose average is 3 or more drinks per day are considered lifetime 'risky' drinkers.

*Estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

**NH&MRC Guidelines state that for persons under 18 years, not drinking alcohol is the safest option. However, for comparability with other age groups, the NDSHS includes a low-risk category for those aged 14-17 years.

[#]Statistically significant change between 2016 and 2019. Significance testing for South Australia was only carried out among those who were at risk of alcohol-related disease or injury over a lifetime.

Data for South Australia (all age groups), and for Australia (60+ years) in the abstainer and low risk categories are not published elsewhere. Note that 115 respondents in the 2019 NDSHS dataset were potentially identifiable and were removed from the Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURF). Respondents from remote Indigenous communities were also removed from the 2019 CURF. Data presented here may therefore not match AIHW published data (resulting in a discrepancy of between 0.1 to 0.3 percentage points).

Data sourced from: <https://www.aihw.gov.au/about-our-data/our-data-collections/ndshs/2019-ndshs>