

Additional File 1

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Table S1. Sociodemographic profile of adults, risky drinkers, and possible dependent drinkers in England (Oct 2020–Oct 2025)

	Column % [95% CI] ^a		
	Adults	Risky drinkers	Possible dependent drinkers
Unweighted <i>n</i>	95,831	30,440	1,469
Age, years			
Mean (SD)	48.5 (18.4)	46.0 (17.0)	49.3 (16.6)
18–24	11.7 [11.5–12.0]	13.6 [13.1–14.0]	11.0 [9.3–12.9]
25–34	17.2 [17.0–17.5]	17.7 [17.2–18.2]	12.3 [10.5–14.4]
35–44	16.2 [15.9–16.4]	16.7 [16.2–17.2]	14.5 [12.6–16.7]
45–54	16.6 [16.3–16.8]	19.0 [18.5–19.5]	20.7 [18.5–23.1]
55–64	15.4 [15.2–15.7]	16.7 [16.2–17.1]	20.5 [18.4–22.8]
≥65	22.9 [22.6–23.1]	16.4 [16.0–16.9]	21.0 [19.0–23.2]
Gender			
Men	48.6 [48.2–48.9]	62.0 [61.4–62.6]	77.2 [74.7–79.4]
Women	50.6 [50.3–51.0]	37.1 [36.5–37.7]	19.0 [16.8–21.3]
Other	0.8 [0.7–0.8]	0.9 [0.8–1.0]	3.9 [3.0–5.0]
Social grade			
AB (most advantaged)	27.2 [26.9–27.5]	31.3 [30.8–31.9]	25.2 [22.9–27.6]
C1	29.3 [29.0–29.5]	30.4 [29.9–30.9]	25.6 [23.5–27.7]
C2	20.5 [20.2–20.8]	21.4 [20.8–21.9]	23.5 [21.1–26.1]
D	13.3 [13.1–13.6]	11.2 [10.7–11.6]	13.3 [11.1–15.8]
E (least advantaged)	9.7 [9.5–9.9]	5.8 [5.5–6.0]	12.5 [10.8–14.4]
Children in the household			
No	71.3 [71.0–71.6]	72.0 [71.5–72.6]	78.9 [76.4–81.1]
Yes	28.7 [28.4–29.0]	28.0 [27.4–28.5]	21.1 [18.9–23.6]
Region in England			
North East	4.8 [4.7–5.0]	5.5 [5.2–5.8]	6.9 [5.6–8.4]
North West	13.0 [12.8–13.2]	14.4 [14.0–14.9]	14.7 [12.8–16.9]
Yorkshire and the Humber	9.7 [9.5–9.9]	10.3 [9.9–10.7]	12.1 [10.4–14.0]
East Midlands	8.7 [8.5–8.9]	8.3 [8.0–8.7]	9.4 [7.9–11.1]
West Midlands	10.5 [10.2–10.7]	9.6 [9.2–9.9]	10.5 [8.9–12.3]
East of England	11.2 [11.0–11.4]	10.4 [10.1–10.8]	9.4 [7.9–11.1]
London	15.7 [15.4–15.9]	14.7 [14.3–15.1]	10.0 [8.5–11.8]
South East	16.2 [16.0–16.5]	16.3 [15.9–16.8]	15.7 [13.8–17.8]
South West	10.2 [10.0–10.4]	10.3 [10.0–10.7]	11.2 [9.5–13.2]

Data are weighted to match the population in England.

^a Unless otherwise specified. Percentages may not sum exactly to 100% due to rounding.

Table S2. Sociodemographic profile of adults, risky drinkers, and possible dependent drinkers in Wales (Oct 2020–Oct 2025)

	Column % [95% CI] ^a		
	Adults	Risky drinkers	Possible dependent drinkers
Unweighted <i>n</i>	14,117	4,187	201
Age, years			
Mean (SD)	50.2 (19.0)	45.6 (17.6)	47.6 (17.7)
18–24	11.0 [10.0–12.0]	16.0 [14.1–18.1]	16.0 [8.2–28.8]
25–34	16.0 [15.0–17.0]	17.4 [15.6–19.4]	11.9 [7.2–19.0]
35–44	14.5 [13.6–15.4]	15.6 [14.1–17.2]	14.4 [9.1–21.8]
45–54	16.3 [15.5–17.1]	18.1 [16.7–19.7]	19.0 [12.5–27.7]
55–64	16.6 [15.9–17.3]	17.0 [15.7–18.3]	21.1 [14.6–29.4]
≥65	25.6 [24.8–26.4]	15.9 [14.8–17.0]	17.7 [13.0–23.7]
Gender			
Men	48.0 [46.8–49.2]	60.7 [58.5–62.8]	70.6 [59.8–79.5]
Women	51.6 [50.4–52.7]	38.7 [36.6–40.9]	27.0 [18.2–37.9]
Other	0.4 [0.3–0.6]	0.6 [0.4–0.9]	2.4 [1.0–5.9]
Social grade			
AB (most advantaged)	23.2 [22.4–24.1]	24.4 [22.8–26.1]	19.8 [14.2–27.0]
C1	30.2 [29.2–31.2]	32.3 [30.5–34.3]	27.5 [19.9–36.7]
C2	20.4 [19.4–21.3]	23.0 [21.1–25.1]	20.7 [14.1–29.3]
D	14.3 [13.3–15.3]	13.3 [11.6–15.2]	15.8 [8.4–27.7]
E (least advantaged)	11.8 [11.2–12.5]	6.9 [6.0–8.0]	16.2 [10.7–23.9]
Children in the household			
No	74.3 [73.2–75.4]	72.1 [70.1–74.1]	87.1 [80.7–91.6]
Yes	25.7 [24.6–26.8]	27.9 [25.9–29.9]	12.9 [8.4–19.3]

Data are weighted to match the population in Wales.

^a Unless otherwise specified. Percentages may not sum exactly to 100% due to rounding.

Table S3. Sociodemographic profile of adults, risky drinkers, and possible dependent drinkers in Scotland (Oct 2020–Oct 2025)

	Column % [95% CI] ^a		
	Adults	Risky drinkers	Possible dependent drinkers
Unweighted <i>n</i>	25,347	8,607	290
Age, years			
Mean (SD)	49.3 (18.4)	45.2 (17.0)	48.6 (16.6)
18–24	11.0 [10.3–11.6]	14.6 [13.4–15.8]	13.5 [9.0–19.9]
25–34	17.1 [16.4–17.9]	19.5 [18.3–20.8]	9.6 [5.6–15.8]
35–44	15.2 [14.6–15.8]	16.6 [15.6–17.7]	19.0 [13.3–26.5]
45–54	16.5 [15.9–17.0]	17.9 [17.0–18.9]	20.7 [15.6–26.9]
55–64	16.7 [16.2–17.3]	16.8 [15.9–17.6]	18.3 [13.9–23.8]
≥65	23.5 [23.0–24.1]	14.6 [13.9–15.4]	18.8 [14.6–23.8]
Gender			
Men	47.7 [46.9–48.6]	60.5 [59.2–61.9]	73.4 [66.3–79.5]
Women	51.8 [51.0–52.6]	38.9 [37.5–40.2]	23.6 [17.7–30.7]
Other	0.5 [0.4–0.6]	0.6 [0.5–0.8]	3.0 [1.6–5.8]
Social grade			
AB (most advantaged)	25.2 [24.5–25.8]	27.5 [26.4–28.6]	17.8 [13.1–23.8]
C1	29.4 [28.7–30.1]	30.0 [28.9–31.2]	25.2 [20.2–30.8]
C2	20.4 [19.7–21.1]	22.9 [21.7–24.2]	22.9 [17.0–30.2]
D	14.8 [14.0–15.5]	13.3 [12.1–14.5]	17.9 [12.2–25.5]
E (least advantaged)	10.3 [9.8–10.7]	6.3 [5.6–7.0]	16.1 [11.9–21.6]
Children in the household			
No	74.8 [74.0–75.5]	73.3 [72.1–74.6]	85.4 [79.8–89.6]
Yes	25.2 [24.5–26.0]	26.7 [25.4–27.9]	14.6 [10.4–20.2]

Data are weighted to match the population in Scotland.

^a Unless otherwise specified. Percentages may not sum exactly to 100% due to rounding.

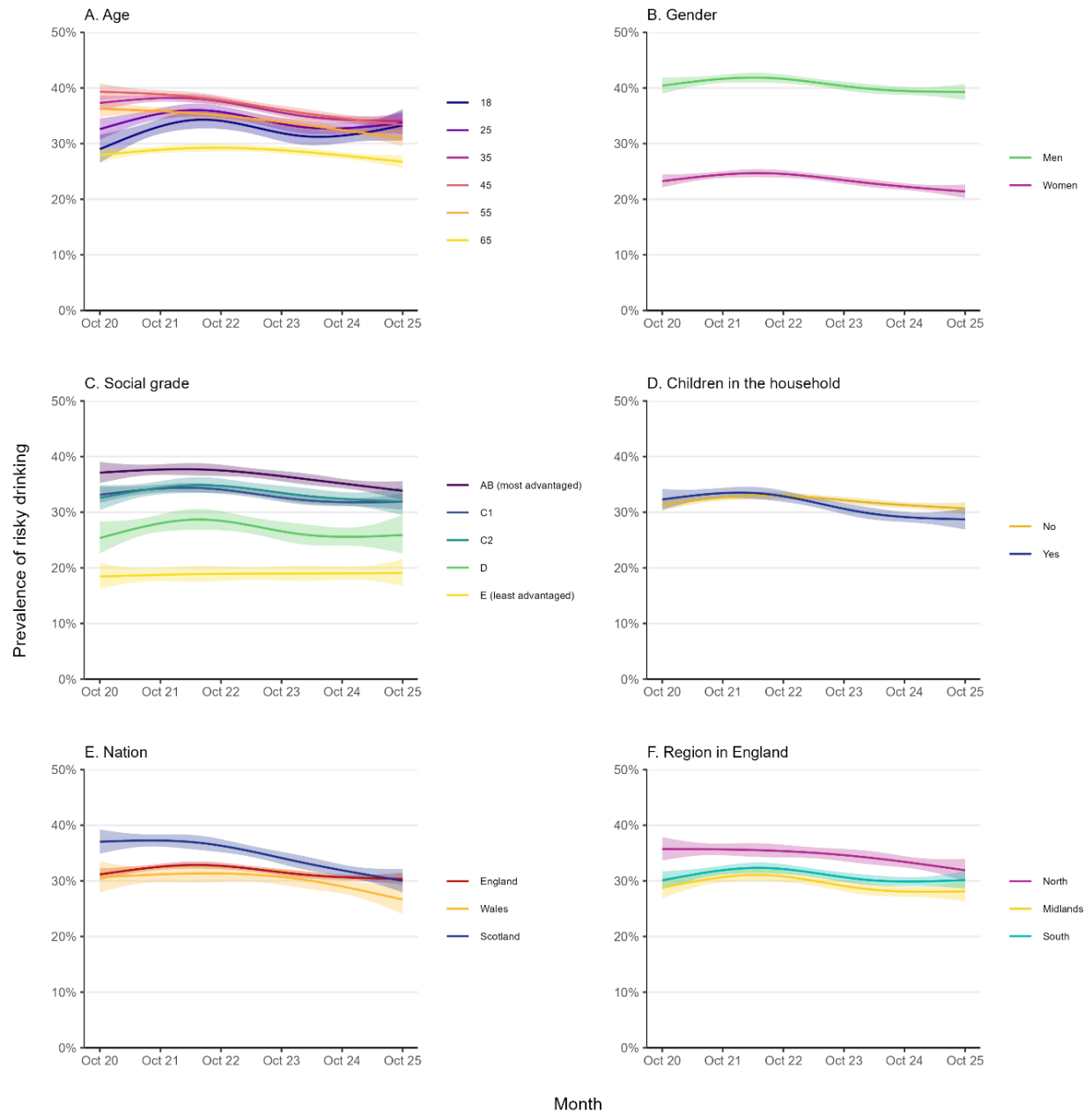


Figure S1. Subgroup differences in model-based predicted prevalence of risky drinking in Great Britain, 2020–2025

Lines represent mean monthly prevalence of risky drinking (AUDIT-C ≥ 5) among adults aged ≥ 18 years in Great Britain, modelled using weighted logistic regression with restricted cubic splines with four knots. Shaded bands represent 95% confidence intervals around modelled estimates.

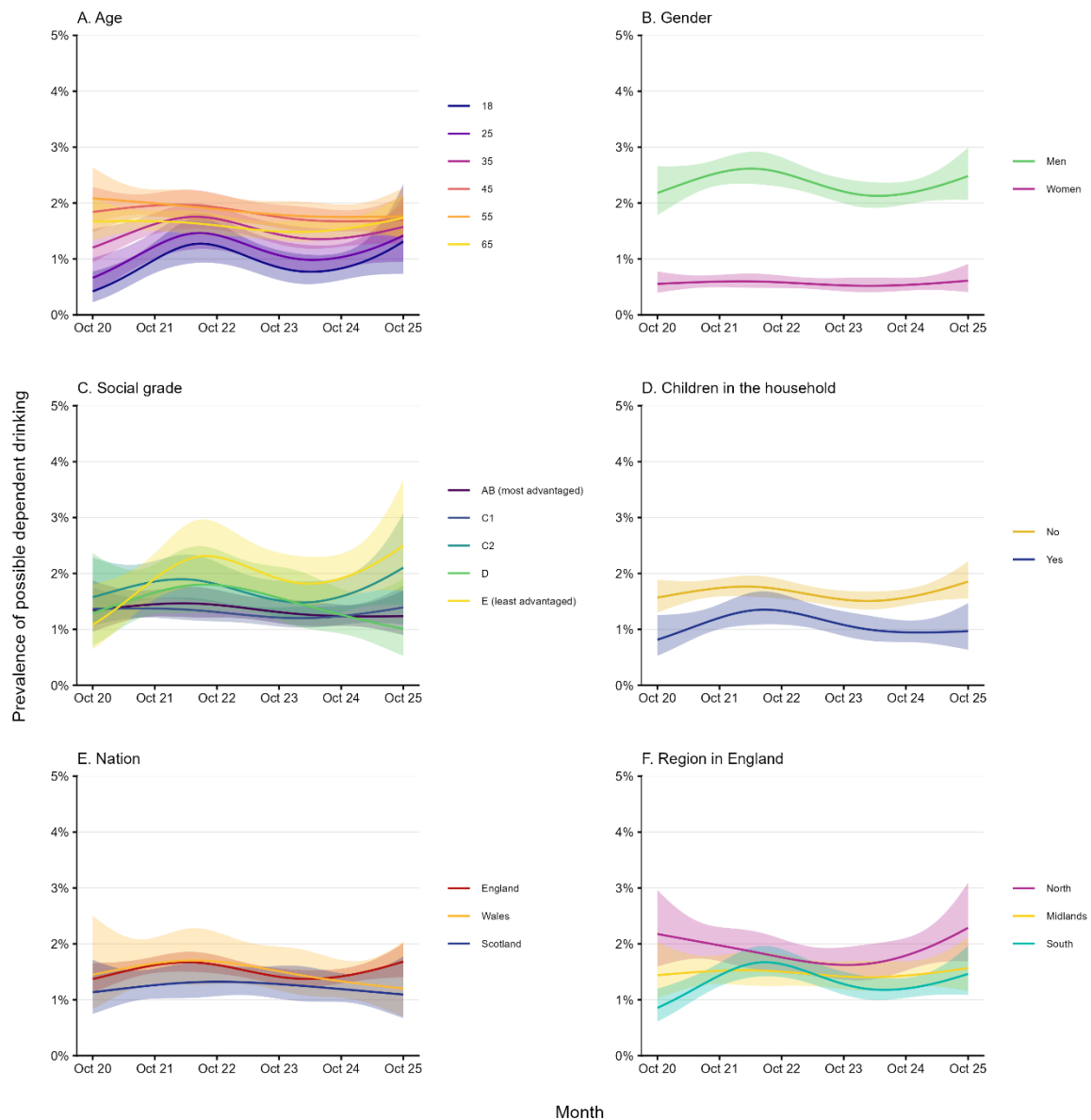


Figure S2. Subgroup differences in model-based predicted prevalence of possible dependent drinking in Great Britain, 2020–2025

Lines represent mean monthly prevalence of possible dependent drinking (AUDIT-C ≥ 11) among adults aged ≥ 18 years in Great Britain, modelled using weighted logistic regression with restricted cubic splines with four knots. Shaded bands represent 95% confidence intervals around modelled estimates.

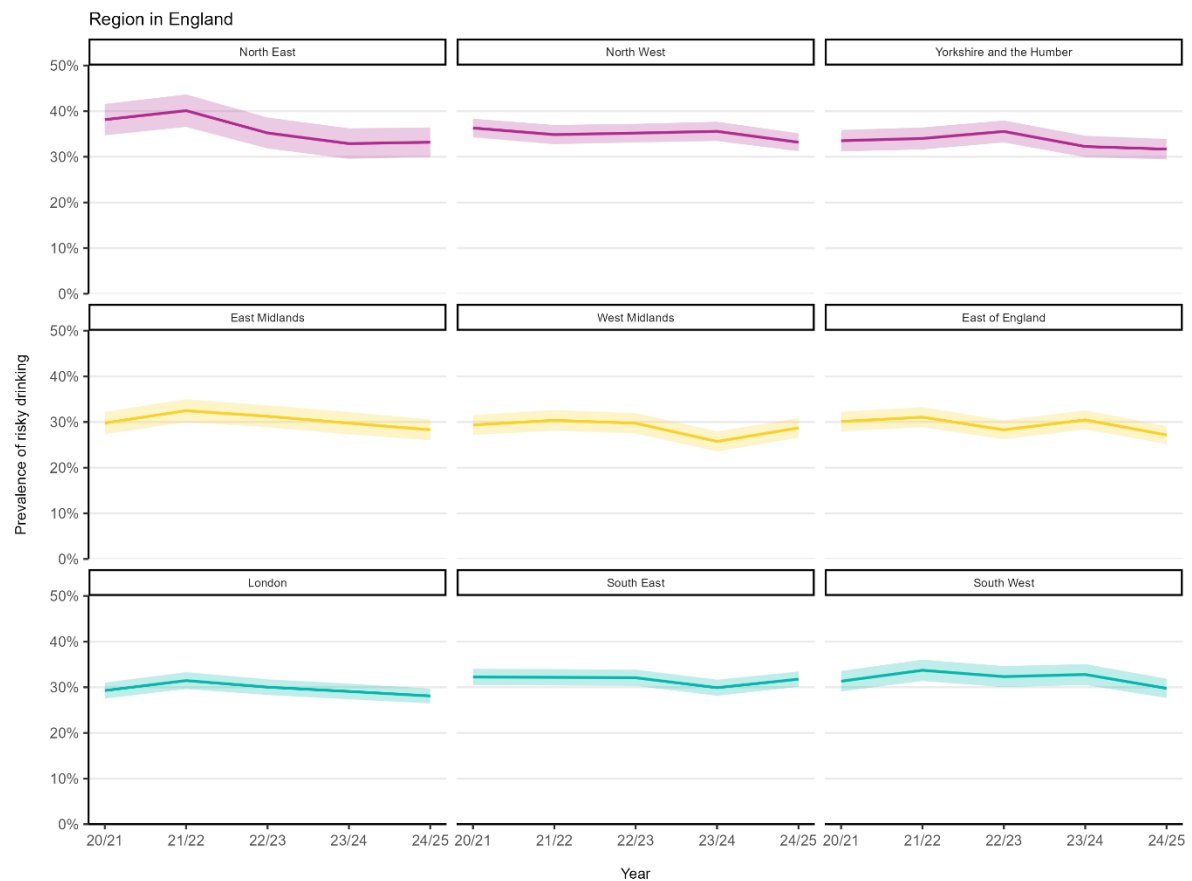


Figure S3. Regional prevalence of risky drinking in England, 2020/21–2024/25

Lines represent observed weighted annual prevalence of risky drinking (AUDIT-C ≥ 5) among adults aged ≥ 18 years in England. Shaded bands represent 95% confidence intervals. Each annual estimate includes data from October to the following September, with the exception of 2024/25 which includes data from October 24 to October 25.



Figure S4. Regional differences in prevalence of possible dependent drinking in England, 2020/21–2024/25

Lines represent observed weighted annual prevalence of possible dependent drinking (AUDIT-C ≥ 5) among adults aged ≥ 18 years in England. Shaded bands represent 95% confidence intervals. Each annual estimate includes data from October to the following September, with the exception of 2024/25 which includes data from October 24 to October 25.

Table S4. Observed weighted prevalence of risky drinking by year

	Annual prevalence of risky drinking, % [95% CI]				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
All adults in Great Britain	32.2 [31.6-32.8]	33.3 [32.6-33.9]	32.2 [31.6-32.8]	31.3 [30.7-32.0]	30.4 [29.8-31.0]
Age					
18-24	35.5 [33.4-37.6]	37.4 [35.2-39.5]	37.4 [35.3-39.6]	37.9 [35.7-40.1]	37.9 [35.8-40.0]
25-34	35.3 [33.6-37.0]	34.4 [32.7-36.1]	32.8 [31.2-34.5]	31.7 [30.0-33.5]	30.2 [28.7-31.8]
35-44	34.5 [32.8-36.3]	38.1 [36.3-39.9]	32.7 [31.1-34.4]	31.7 [30.0-33.4]	29.5 [27.9-31.1]
45-54	38.2 [36.7-39.8]	38.2 [36.6-39.8]	36.8 [35.2-38.4]	35.3 [33.6-36.9]	34.0 [32.5-35.6]
55-64	34.8 [33.3-36.4]	34.7 [33.1-36.3]	34.3 [32.7-35.8]	34.1 [32.6-35.6]	33.5 [32.1-35.0]
≥65	20.6 [19.6-21.6]	22.5 [21.4-23.6]	24.0 [22.9-25.1]	22.7 [21.7-23.8]	22.3 [21.3-23.2]
Gender					
Men	40.7 [39.7-41.7]	42.5 [41.5-43.5]	40.4 [39.4-41.4]	40.1 [39.2-41.1]	39.4 [38.4-40.3]
Women	24.0 [23.3-24.8]	24.3 [23.5-25.2]	24.2 [23.4-25.1]	22.9 [22.0-23.7]	21.8 [21.0-22.5]
Other	40.9 [32.5-49.3]	37.7 [30.7-44.7]	41.6 [34.3-49.0]	38.1 [31.5-44.7]	31.6 [25.7-37.4]
Social grade					
AB (most advantaged)	37.2 [35.9-38.5]	38.1 [36.8-39.4]	37.0 [35.8-38.2]	36.0 [34.8-37.2]	34.4 [33.3-35.5]
C1	34.1 [33.2-35.1]	33.8 [32.8-34.7]	33.3 [32.4-34.3]	32.6 [31.6-33.5]	31.7 [30.7-32.6]
C2	32.9 [31.4-34.4]	35.3 [33.7-37.0]	34.2 [32.6-35.8]	32.9 [31.3-34.5]	32.2 [30.6-33.8]
D	26.4 [24.4-28.3]	29.8 [27.6-32.0]	26.0 [23.9-28.1]	26.8 [24.6-29.0]	25.4 [23.2-27.6]
E (least advantaged)	18.9 [17.4-20.5]	18.1 [16.5-19.7]	19.8 [18.1-21.5]	17.8 [16.2-19.3]	19.6 [18.0-21.1]
Children in the household					
No	31.9 [31.1-32.6]	33.1 [32.3-33.9]	32.5 [31.7-33.2]	31.8 [31.1-32.6]	31.0 [30.3-31.7]
Yes	33.0 [31.8-34.3]	33.7 [32.4-34.9]	31.5 [30.3-32.7]	30.0 [28.8-31.3]	28.7 [27.5-29.9]
Nation					
England	31.8 [31.1-32.5]	32.9 [32.1-33.6]	32.1 [31.4-32.8]	31.1 [30.4-31.9]	30.5 [29.8-31.1]
Wales	30.7 [28.8-32.6]	31.8 [29.8-33.7]	30.8 [28.9-32.6]	30.1 [28.3-31.9]	27.9 [26.2-29.7]
Scotland	37.0 [35.6-38.5]	37.7 [36.2-39.2]	34.1 [32.7-35.5]	34.0 [32.6-35.4]	30.8 [29.5-32.2]
Region in England					
North	35.7 [34.2-37.1]	35.5 [34.1-36.9]	35.3 [33.9-36.7]	33.9 [32.5-35.4]	32.7 [31.3-34.0]
North East	38.1 [34.7-41.6]	40.1 [36.6-43.7]	35.2 [31.8-38.6]	32.9 [29.6-36.2]	33.2 [30.0-36.4]
North West	36.3 [34.3-38.3]	34.9 [32.8-37.0]	35.2 [33.2-37.2]	35.6 [33.5-37.7]	33.2 [31.2-35.1]
Yorkshire and the Humber	33.5 [31.2-35.9]	34.0 [31.6-36.4]	35.6 [33.1-38.0]	32.3 [29.9-34.6]	31.7 [29.5-33.9]
Midlands	29.8 [28.5-31.0]	31.2 [29.9-32.6]	29.6 [28.4-30.9]	28.6 [27.4-29.9]	28.0 [26.8-29.2]
East Midlands	29.8 [27.4-32.2]	32.5 [30.0-35.0]	31.3 [28.9-33.7]	29.8 [27.3-32.2]	28.3 [26.0-30.6]
West Midlands	29.4 [27.2-31.5]	30.4 [28.1-32.6]	29.7 [27.5-31.9]	25.8 [23.6-27.9]	28.7 [26.6-30.8]
East of England	30.1 [28.0-32.3]	31.1 [28.9-33.2]	28.3 [26.2-30.3]	30.5 [28.4-32.6]	27.2 [25.2-29.1]
South	30.9 [29.8-32.0]	32.3 [31.2-33.4]	31.4 [30.3-32.5]	30.3 [29.2-31.4]	29.9 [28.9-30.9]
London	29.3 [27.5-31.0]	31.5 [29.6-33.3]	30.0 [28.3-31.7]	29.1 [27.4-30.8]	28.1 [26.5-29.7]
South East	32.3 [30.5-34.0]	32.2 [30.4-34.0]	32.1 [30.3-33.9]	29.9 [28.1-31.7]	31.8 [30.1-33.4]
South West	31.3 [29.1-33.6]	33.7 [31.4-36.0]	32.3 [30.0-34.6]	32.8 [30.5-35.1]	29.8 [27.7-31.9]

Table S5. Observed weighted prevalence of possible dependent drinking by year

	Annual prevalence of possible dependent drinking, % [95% CI]				
	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
All adults in Great Britain	1.52 [1.35-1.69]	1.51 [1.33-1.68]	1.67 [1.49-1.85]	1.24 [1.09-1.40]	1.52 [1.35-1.68]
Age					
18-24	1.13 [0.71-1.55]	1.65 [1.12-2.19]	1.87 [1.27-2.48]	1.01 [0.57-1.45]	1.53 [1.03-2.03]
25-34	0.99 [0.61-1.37]	1.11 [0.72-1.50]	1.08 [0.69-1.47]	1.09 [0.69-1.49]	1.07 [0.70-1.44]
35-44	1.31 [0.89-1.72]	1.65 [1.17-2.14]	1.68 [1.20-2.16]	1.17 [0.75-1.59]	1.20 [0.84-1.56]
45-54	2.01 [1.54-2.47]	1.78 [1.33-2.24]	2.11 [1.60-2.62]	1.50 [1.08-1.93]	1.87 [1.38-2.35]
55-64	2.24 [1.74-2.75]	1.96 [1.44-2.48]	1.96 [1.52-2.41]	1.57 [1.18-1.97]	2.05 [1.61-2.50]
≥65	1.41 [1.09-1.72]	1.13 [0.87-1.39]	1.47 [1.16-1.77]	1.11 [0.86-1.35]	1.45 [1.17-1.74]
Gender					
Men	2.47 [2.16-2.78]	2.33 [2.02-2.65]	2.73 [2.39-3.06]	1.87 [1.61-2.14]	2.37 [2.08-2.66]
Women	0.57 [0.44-0.71]	0.61 [0.46-0.77]	0.54 [0.40-0.68]	0.52 [0.37-0.68]	0.57 [0.42-0.72]
Other	6.06 [1.99-10.1]	8.20 [4.22-12.2]	8.09 [4.03-12.2]	7.14 [3.66-10.6]	7.38 [4.10-10.7]
Social grade					
AB (most advantaged)	1.43 [1.10-1.75]	1.35 [1.04-1.66]	1.51 [1.21-1.81]	1.20 [0.94-1.45]	1.26 [1.00-1.51]
C1	1.44 [1.20-1.68]	1.33 [1.10-1.56]	1.27 [1.04-1.50]	1.11 [0.89-1.32]	1.35 [1.13-1.57]
C2	1.77 [1.33-2.20]	1.63 [1.20-2.06]	2.11 [1.62-2.60]	1.26 [0.89-1.64]	1.79 [1.33-2.24]
D	1.43 [0.89-1.97]	1.75 [1.11-2.39]	1.76 [1.13-2.38]	1.42 [0.83-2.01]	1.15 [0.65-1.65]
E (least advantaged)	1.66 [1.16-2.16]	1.91 [1.33-2.49]	2.29 [1.63-2.94]	1.48 [1.01-1.95]	2.34 [1.74-2.94]
Children in the household					
No	1.71 [1.50-1.92]	1.62 [1.41-1.83]	1.80 [1.58-2.02]	1.39 [1.20-1.58]	1.72 [1.52-1.92]
Yes	1.03 [0.76-1.31]	1.23 [0.92-1.53]	1.33 [1.02-1.65]	0.87 [0.61-1.12]	1.00 [0.73-1.28]
Nation					
England	1.57 [1.38-1.76]	1.50 [1.31-1.70]	1.72 [1.51-1.92]	1.23 [1.05-1.40]	1.57 [1.38-1.75]
Wales	1.43 [0.91-1.96]	1.72 [1.16-2.27]	1.70 [1.14-2.25]	1.30 [0.85-1.76]	1.38 [0.92-1.84]
Scotland	1.14 [0.81-1.47]	1.45 [1.06-1.84]	1.16 [0.83-1.49]	1.35 [0.98-1.72]	1.10 [0.77-1.43]
Region in England					
North	2.15 [1.73-2.58]	1.77 [1.37-2.17]	1.93 [1.53-2.33]	1.38 [1.01-1.74]	2.09 [1.68-2.50]
North East	2.74 [1.66-3.82]	2.47 [1.27-3.66]	1.68 [0.74-2.62]	1.98 [0.94-3.02]	2.01 [1.17-2.85]
North West	1.81 [1.21-2.41]	1.41 [0.91-1.90]	1.93 [1.37-2.50]	1.57 [0.98-2.16]	1.92 [1.33-2.51]
Yorkshire and the Humber	2.32 [1.59-3.04]	1.91 [1.22-2.60]	2.06 [1.37-2.76]	0.81 [0.41-1.21]	2.35 [1.59-3.11]
Midlands	1.56 [1.21-1.91]	1.41 [1.06-1.76]	1.58 [1.22-1.93]	1.30 [0.98-1.62]	1.52 [1.21-1.83]
East Midlands	1.83 [1.15-2.51]	1.57 [0.90-2.24]	1.93 [1.22-2.64]	1.12 [0.61-1.64]	1.83 [1.17-2.49]
West Midlands	1.27 [0.75-1.79]	1.73 [1.05-2.41]	1.73 [1.09-2.36]	1.32 [0.80-1.84]	1.59 [1.03-2.15]
East of England	1.63 [1.01-2.25]	0.99 [0.53-1.44]	1.16 [0.66-1.66]	1.42 [0.82-2.01]	1.21 [0.80-1.63]
South	1.20 [0.95-1.45]	1.39 [1.10-1.68]	1.70 [1.38-2.01]	1.10 [0.87-1.34]	1.32 [1.06-1.58]
London	0.77 [0.43-1.12]	1.19 [0.76-1.63]	1.23 [0.80-1.65]	0.79 [0.47-1.11]	0.91 [0.58-1.24]
South East	1.59 [1.13-2.04]	1.38 [0.95-1.81]	1.88 [1.36-2.40]	1.06 [0.69-1.42]	1.48 [1.03-1.94]
South West	1.23 [0.69-1.77]	1.70 [1.02-2.37]	2.12 [1.36-2.88]	1.66 [1.06-2.27]	1.70 [1.09-2.30]