

Alcohol consumption and the crisis – an overview of alcohol use and misuse in Iceland before and during the crisis.

Nordisk Folkesundhedskonference

Rafn M Jonsson

Stefan Hrafn Jonsson

Jon Oskar Gudlaugsson

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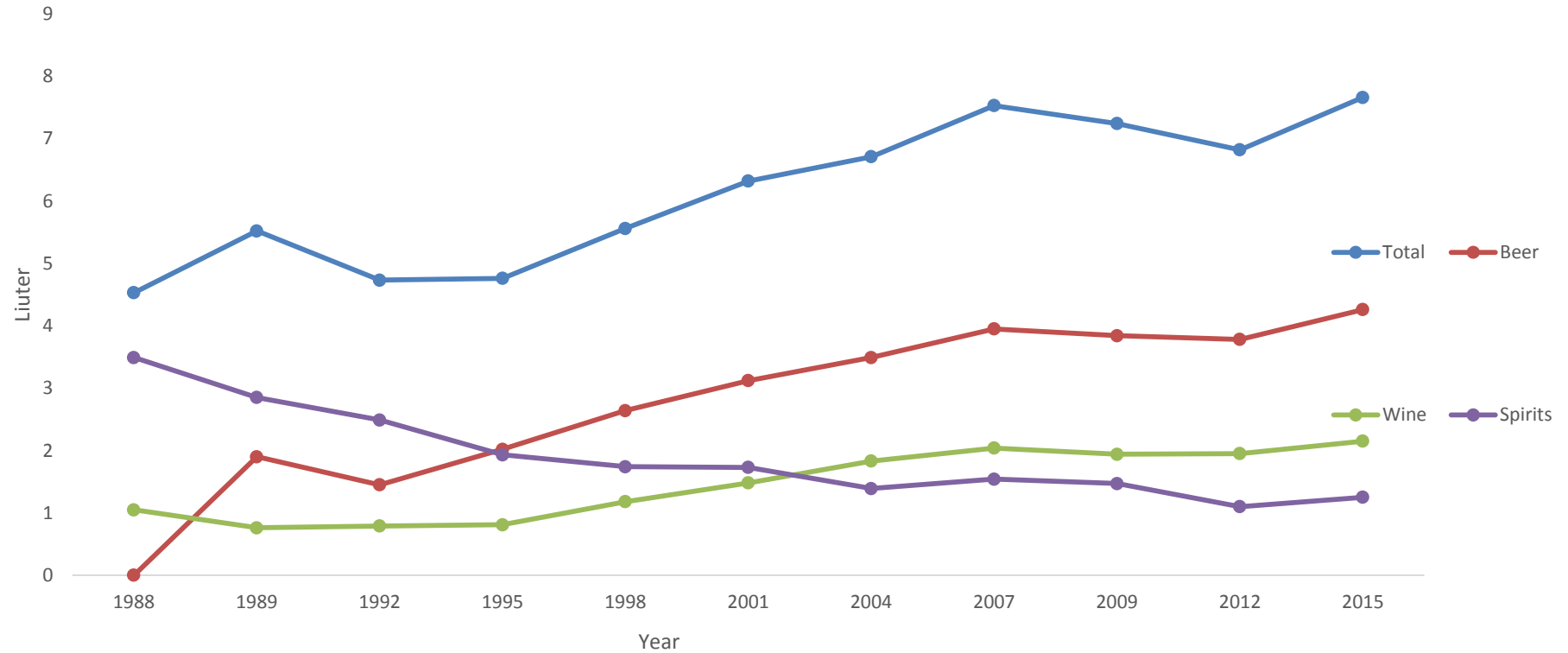
Coverage

- Alcohol use before 2008
- Alcohol use after 2007
- Alcohol related problems
- Social status and alcohol use



Development

Total sale pure alcohol per habita over 15 years of age





Why the increase?

changes in price and purchasing power		
1996-2003		Up
Price of spirit		26%
Price of wine		15%
Price of beer		15%
Disposable income		71%
General Price index		28%
Minimum income for the retired		52%



Research question

- Did alcohol use increase or decrease following the economic crisis?
- Do alcohol related problems increase in bad times?
- Is the social gradient in health mediated by alcohol use and alcohol related harm in bad times?



Two separate processes

- More unemployment
 - Some may use alcohol to react to economic and employment related problems
 - Use and misuse may increase as a reaction to stress
- Reduced purchasing power
 - reduced alcohol consumption



Survey data from 2007 & 2009





Sample size and attrition

	N	%	Af 2007 úrtaki
Sample 2007	9807		
Responses 2007	5918	60,3	
Agree to follow up study	5411	91,4	55,2
Present 2009	5303	98,0	54,1
Responses in 2009	4098	77,3	41,8

Survey conducted in October 2007 and October 2009

**18-79 year old in 2007
same people in 2009, 20-81 year old.**



Do people drink less?

How often in the last 12 months did drink at least one glass of drink that contains alcohol. (%)

	2007	2009
Daily or almost daily	1,9	1,3
3-4 times a week	5,7	6,5
1-2 times a week	23,0	21,3
1-3 times a month	29,4	26,3
7-11 times in the last 12 months	11,3	12,6
3-6 times in the last 12 months	10,6	12,5
1-2 times in the last 12 months	6,9	7,2
Never the last 12 months	6,4	7,4
Have never consumed alcohol	4,9	4,9

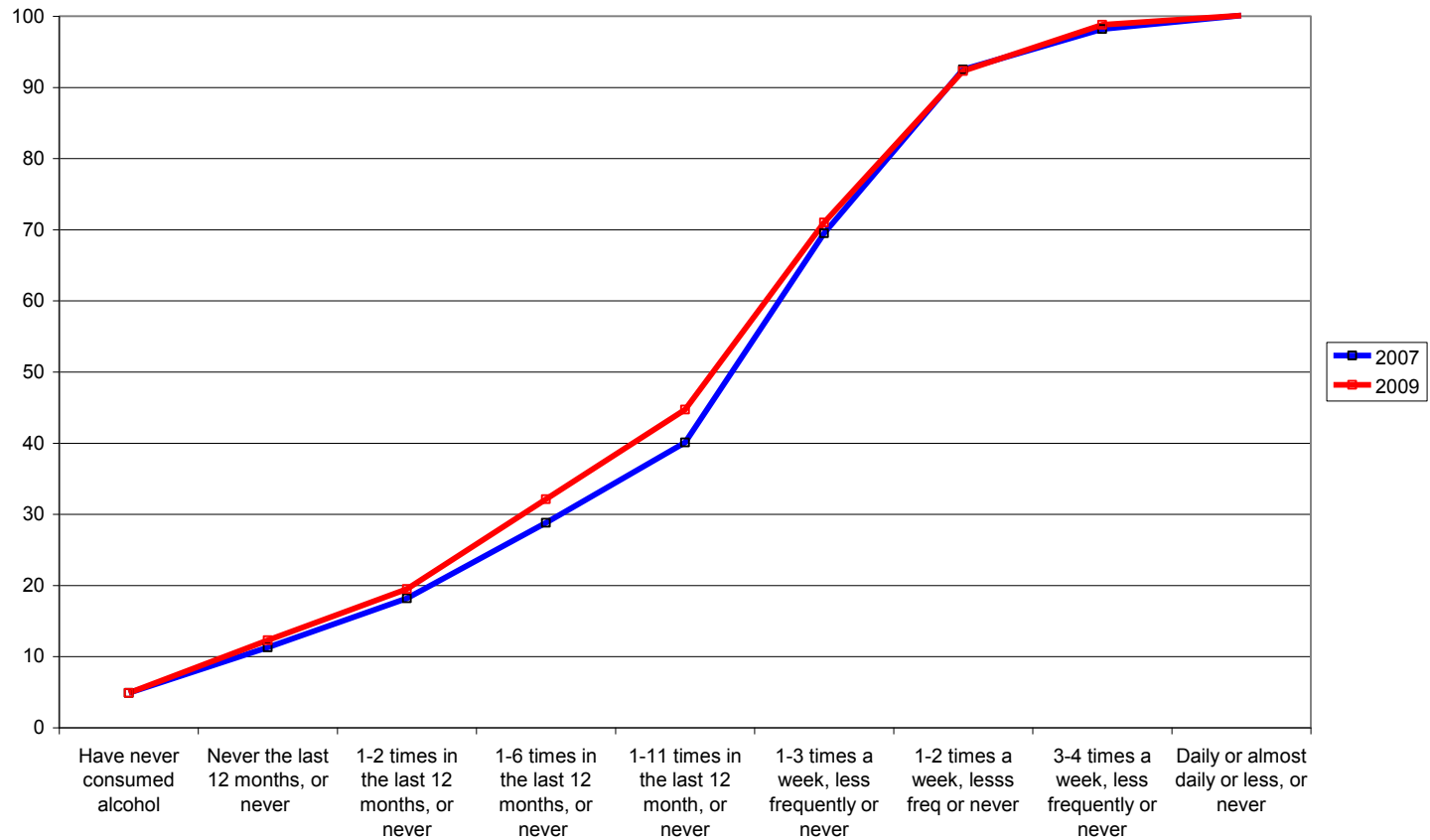


How often in the last 12 months have you consumed on the same day at least 5 alcoholic drinks?

	2007	2009
Daily or almost daily	,1	,3
3-4 times a week	,8	,7
1-2 times a week	6,4	5,4
1-3 times a week	15,7	14,3
7-11 times in the last 12 months	10,5	9,5
3-6 times in the last 12 months	13,2	14,4
1-2 times in the last 12 months	18,0	17,1
Never the last 12 months	30,3	33,3
Have never consumed alcohol	4,9	4,9

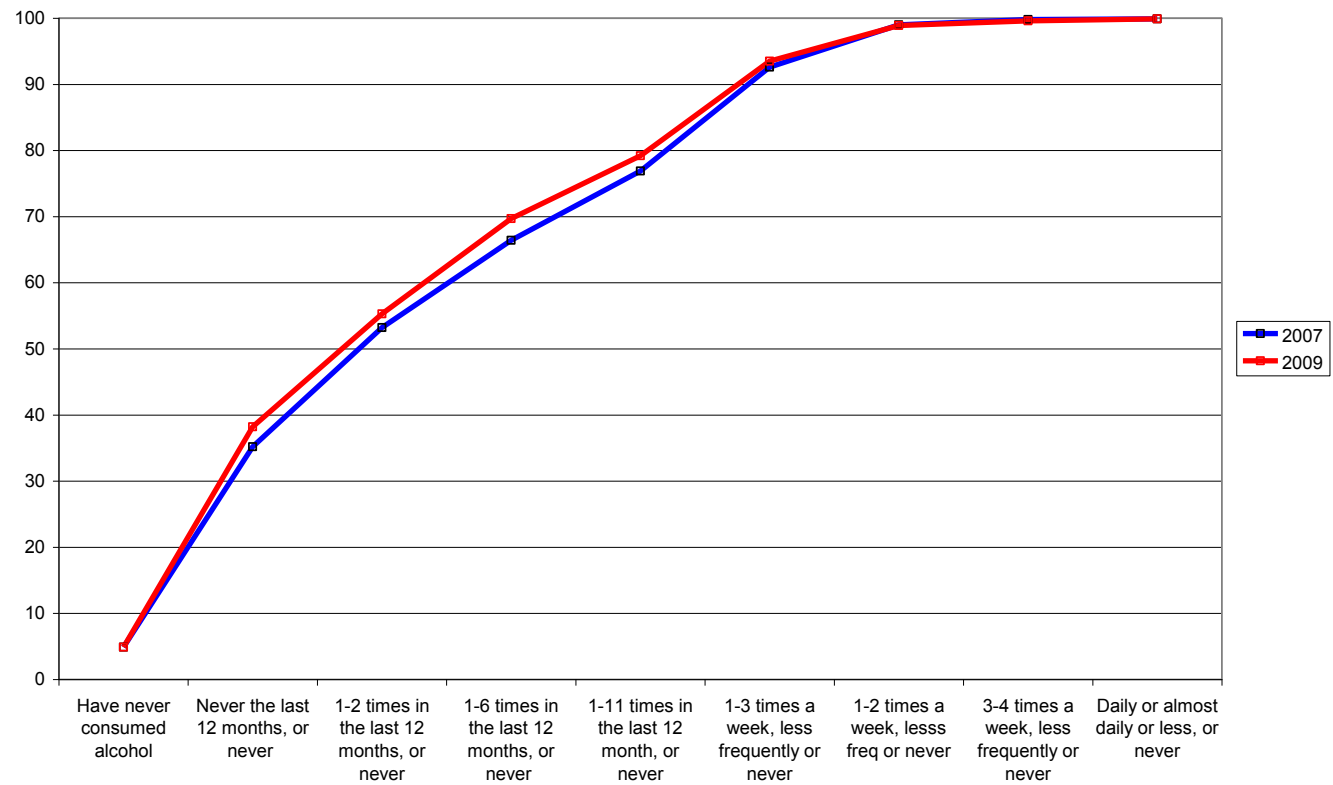


Cumulative proportions





Cumulative proportions. Reduced binge drinking from 2007 to 2009



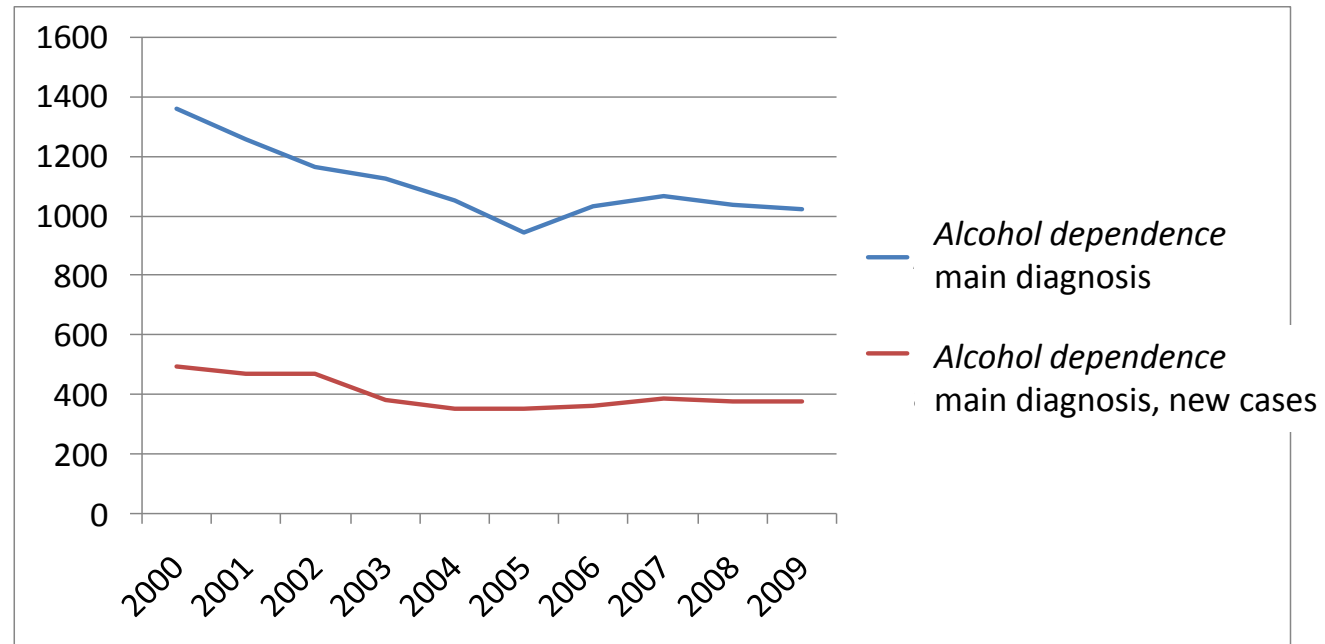


Alcohol problems, data from

- National Center of Addiction Medicine
- The mail survey



Alcohol dependence at the SÁÁ -National Center of Addiction Medicine



Source: SAA popwer point presentation,



Had drink the day after to feel better

How often the last 12 months have you.....

		2007	2009
Never consumed (the last 12m)	i	11,4	12,4
Never		82,6	82,0
Monthly or less		4,7	4,3
1-3 times a month		,8	1,1
Weekly		,4	,1
Daily or almost daily		,1	,1



Had remorse after drinking

How often the last 12 months have you.....

	2007	2009
Never consumed (the last 12m)	11,4	12,5
Never	65,1	66,0
Monthly or less	20,0	19,1
1-3 times a month	2,2	1,6
Weekly	,8	,4
Daily or almost daily	,4	,4





Started to drink, could not stop

How often in the last 12 months have you.....

		2007	2009
Never consumed (the last 12m)	ðí	11,4	12,5
Never		80,1	80,7
Monthly or less		6,5	5,2
1-3 times a month		1,3	1,0
Weekly		,5	,3
Daily or almost daily		,2	,2



Had blackout

How often in the last 12 months have you.....

	2007	2009
Never consumed (the last 12m)	11,4	12,5
Never	68,8	69,3
Monthly or less	17,9	16,6
1-3 times a month	1,4	1,4
Weekly	,3	,2
Daily or almost daily	,3	,1



Unable to tend your duties due to alcohol use

How often in the last 12 months have you.....

Hversu oft á síðustu 12 mánuðum hefur þú ekki getað gert það sem venjulega er ætlast til af þér vegna drykkju?		2007	2009
1	Never consumed (the last 12m)	11,4	12,5
1	Never	78,2	79,1
2	Monthly or less	9,3	7,7
3	1-3 times a month	1,0	,4
4	Weekly	,1	,1
5	Daily or almost daily	,1	,2

Scale to measure alcohol related problems

Scale 2007 og 2009

Highest possible mean = 5

Lowest possible value = 1

Average over 5 items





Research questions

- Is alcohol use possibly increasing social gradient in health?
- Is alcohol problem increasing in specified subgroups of the population?



Mean alcohol problem by status

	2007	2009	Staðalfrávik 07	Staðalfrávik 09
Was laid off after the collapse	1,178	1,157	0,321	0,336
\ Others	1,172	1,148	0,353	0,309

	2007	2009	Staðalfrávik 07	Staðalfrávik 09
Unemployed 2009	1,289	1,232	0,483	0,462
Others	1,176	1,146	0,346	0,281



Multiple regression model (OLS)

	B	Std. Error	Beta	t	Sig.
(Constant)	,600	,040		14,825	,000
Female	-,027	,009	-,046	-2,983	,003
Age	-,001	,000	-,058	-3,665	,000
Unemployed 2007	,000	,028	,000	,002	,999
voluntary work	-,001	,003	-,003	-,231	,817
Social support friends	-,013	,005	-,043	-2,563	,010
Social support spouse	-,007	,004	-,022	-1,511	,131
Social support coworker	,009	,005	,030	1,818	,069
Inter personal trust	,004	,005	,013	,832	,405
Trust in institutions	,000	,001	-,004	-,272	,785
University education	-,018	,011	-,029	-1,652	,099
Secondary education	-,006	,010	-,010	-,569	,570



Summary

- Alcohol use increased with increased disposable income and reduced cost of alcohol
- Reduced alcohol use and alcohol related problems during the economic crisis
- Results from the survey does not suggest that reduced legal alcohol sale is compensated by illegal alcohol
- Economic hardship reduces alcohol related problems
- But signs that unemployment may increase alcohol related problems



Thank you

rafn@landlaeknir.is