Data collections

- Data collections in 1995, 1999, 2003, 2007 (and 2008)
- Students that will become 16 years old during the year of the data collection
- Nationally representative samples of classes
- 26 countries in 1995
- 30 countries in 1999
- 35 countries in 2003
- 35 countries in 2007 (plus 5 in 2008)

Countries in the ESPAD project

ESPAD

Supported by

- The Swedish Government
- The Swedish National Institute of Public Health
- The Pompidou Group at the Council of Europe
- The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA)

Target population

- Students that will become 16 years old (born in 1991)
- About 2.400 participating students in each country
- Variation: 393 (Monaco) – 9.981 (Italy)
- About 105.000 European students

Purpose (1)

- Have access to comparable data on drug use among students
- Include as many European countries as possible
- Monitor trends in
  - single countries
  - Europe
- Serve as an incitement for alcohol and drug prevention among youth

Purpose (2)

- Provide data that can be used as a part of the evaluation of
  - EU action plans on drugs
  - WHO Europe framework of alcohol policy

Strategy: standardisation

- Target age group
- Random sampling of classes
- Master questionnaire
- Survey leader protocol
- Data collection procedure
- Anonymity
- Time of data collection
- Common database

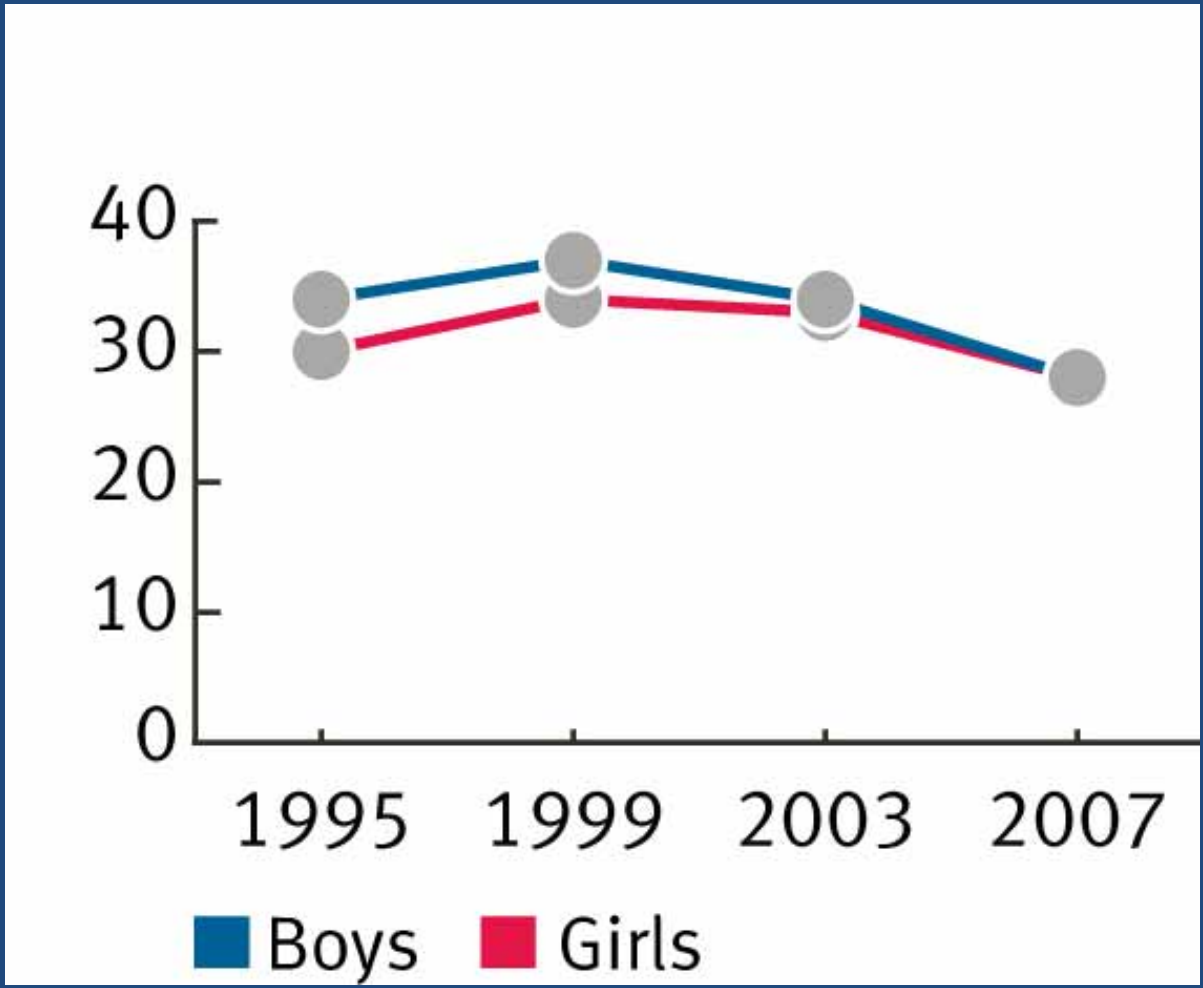
ESPAD 07
Methodological considerations

- Taken together, the methodological problems are limited
- Drug use figures are probably somewhat underestimated
- Underreporting probably differ somewhat between countries
- However, unlikely that underreporting differs so much that it effects the main results with clear differences between groups of countries
- Small discrepancies between countries should be considered carefully

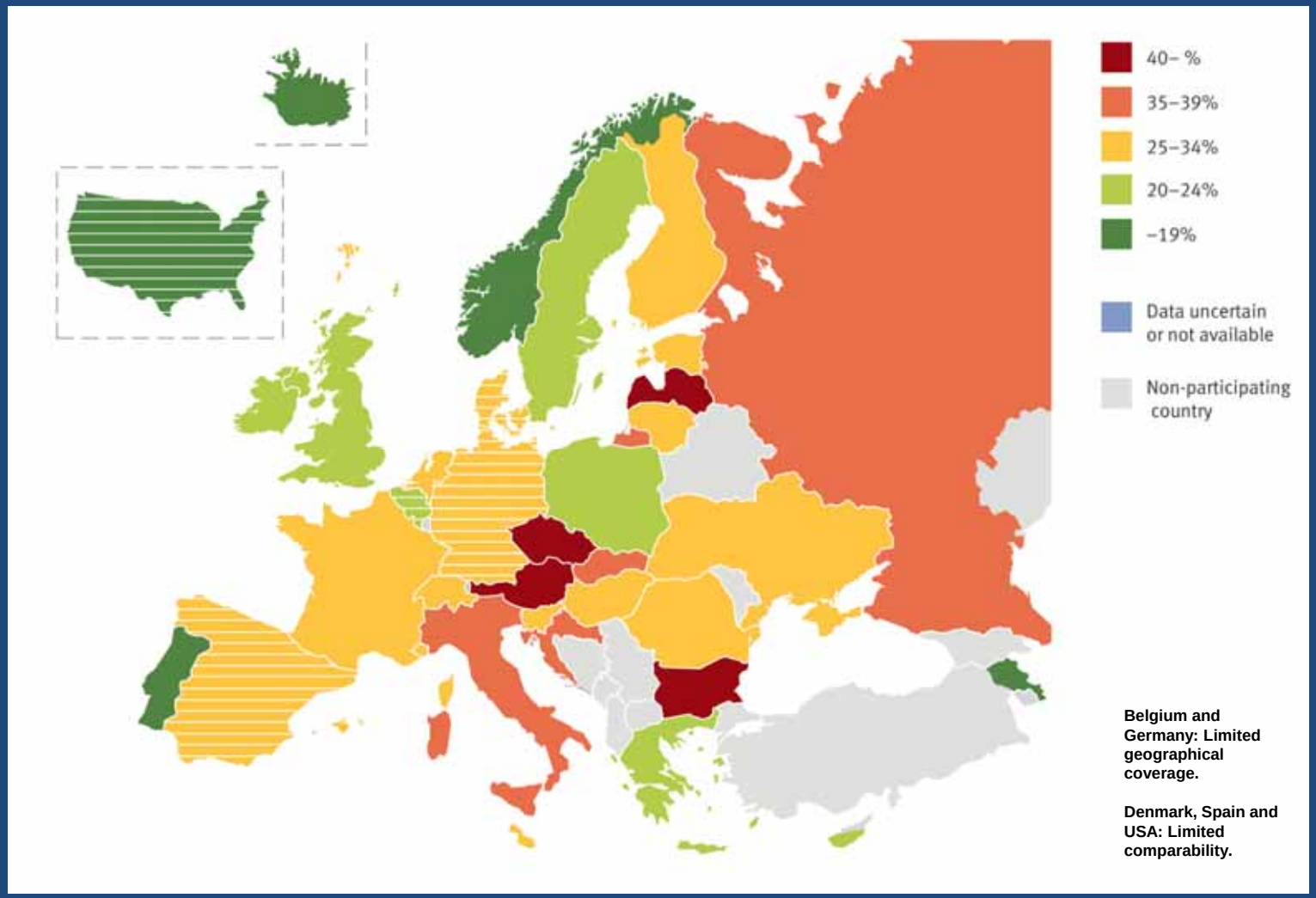
Focus on the main European trends.

Only some few comments about the British Isles.

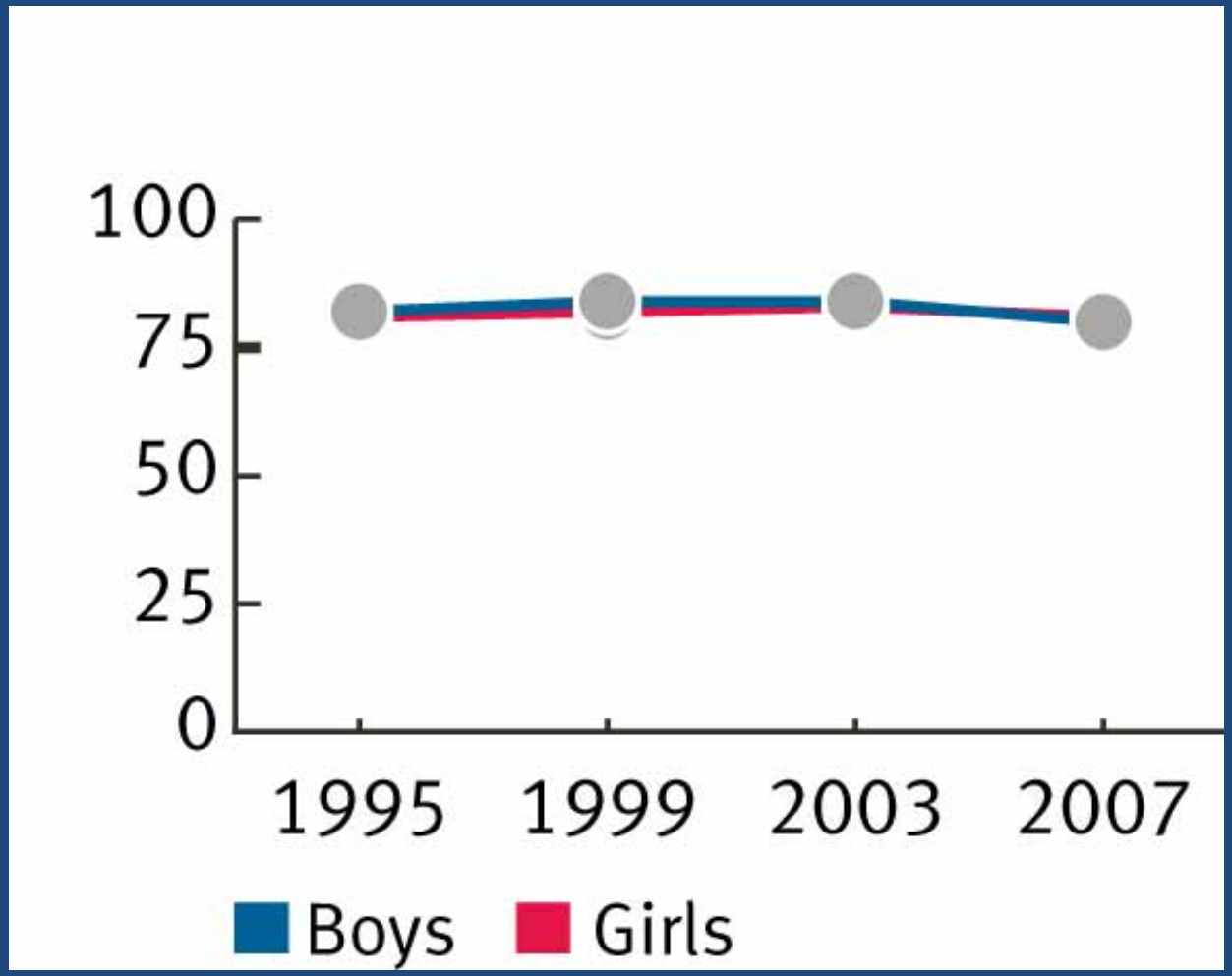
Cigarette use during the last 30 days by gender. 1995–2007. Percentages. Averages for 20 countries.



Cigarette use during the last 30 days. All students. 2007. Percentages.



Use of any alcoholic beverage during the last 12 months by gender. 1995–2007. Percentages. Averages for 19 countries.



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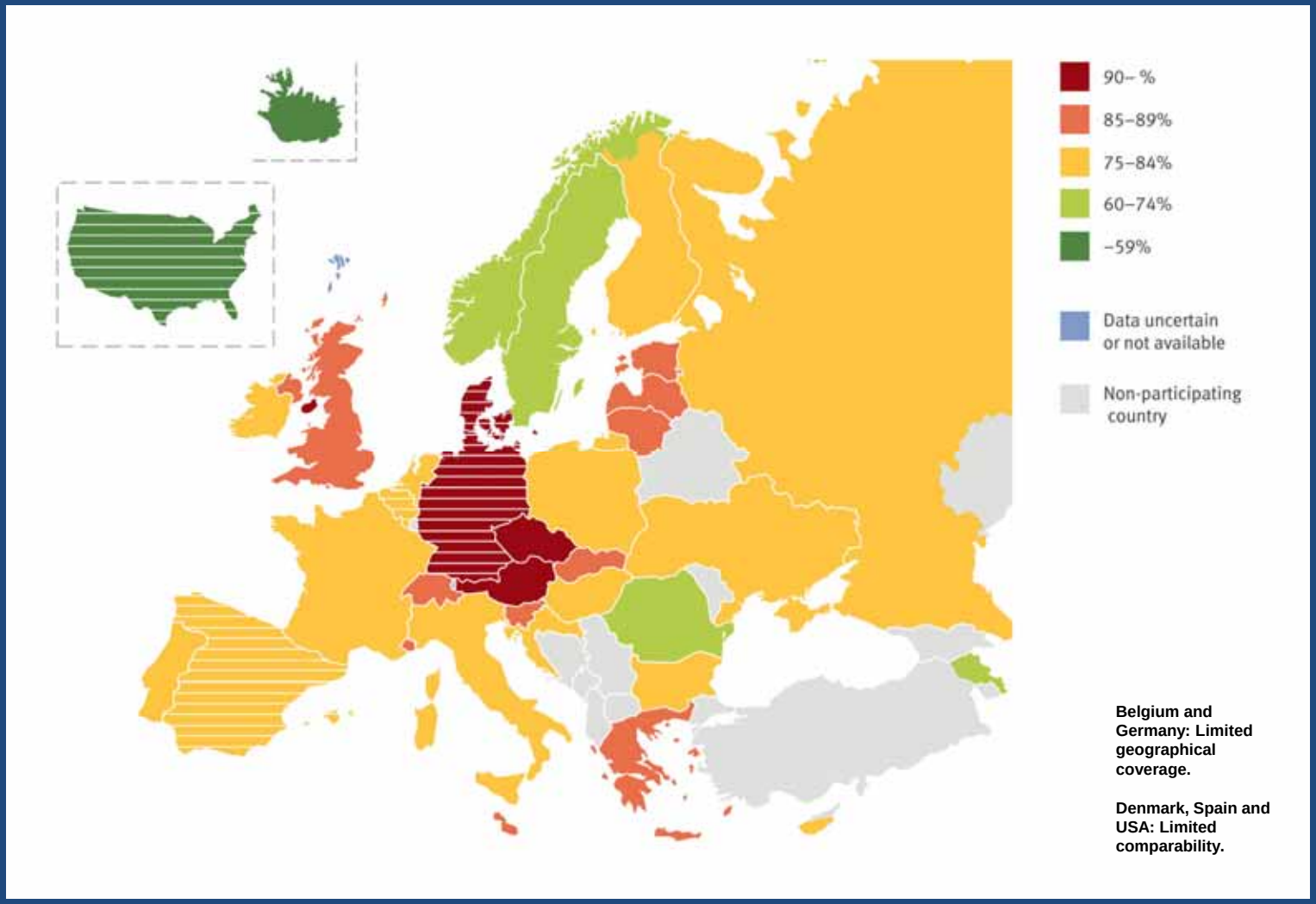
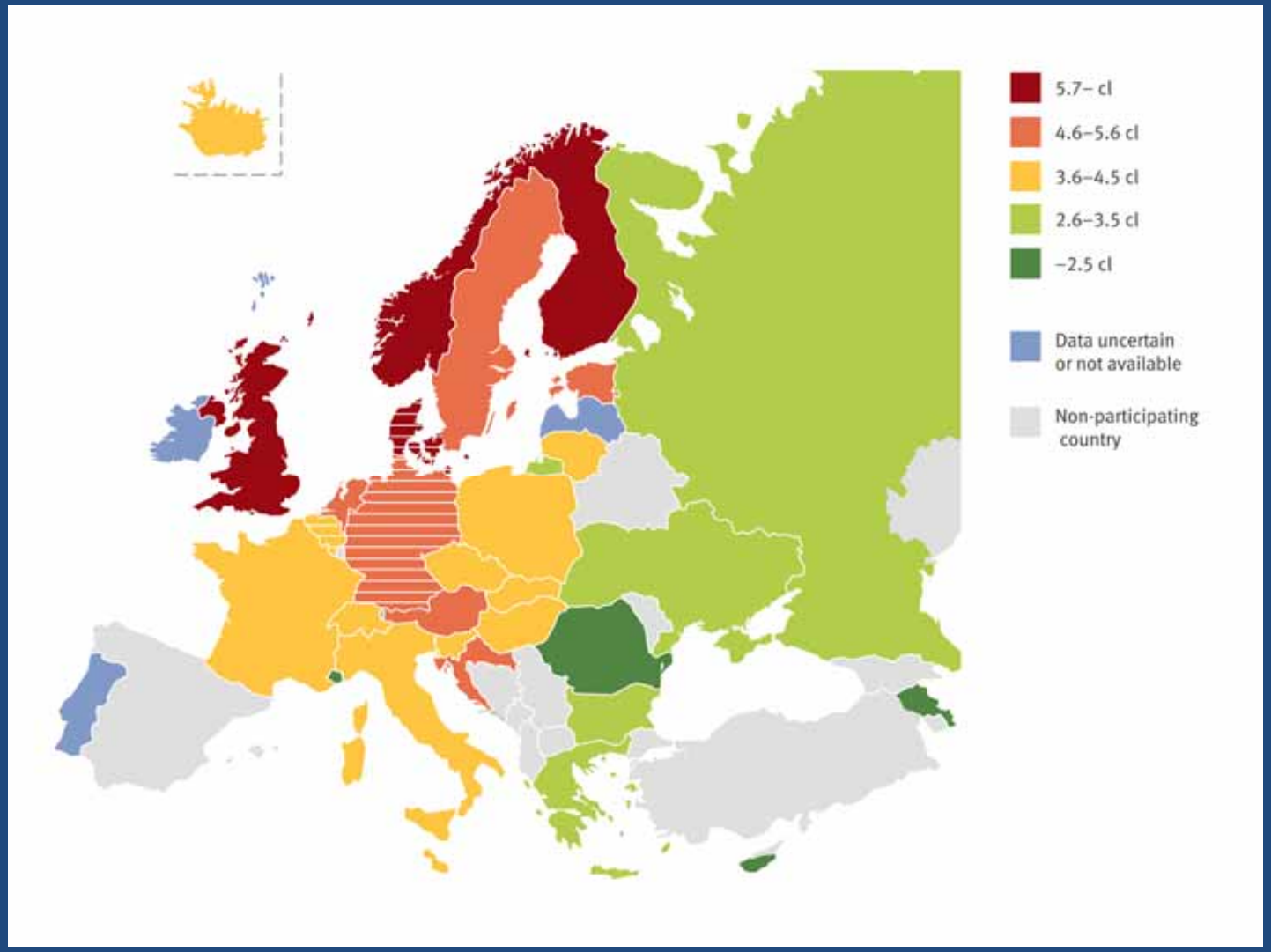
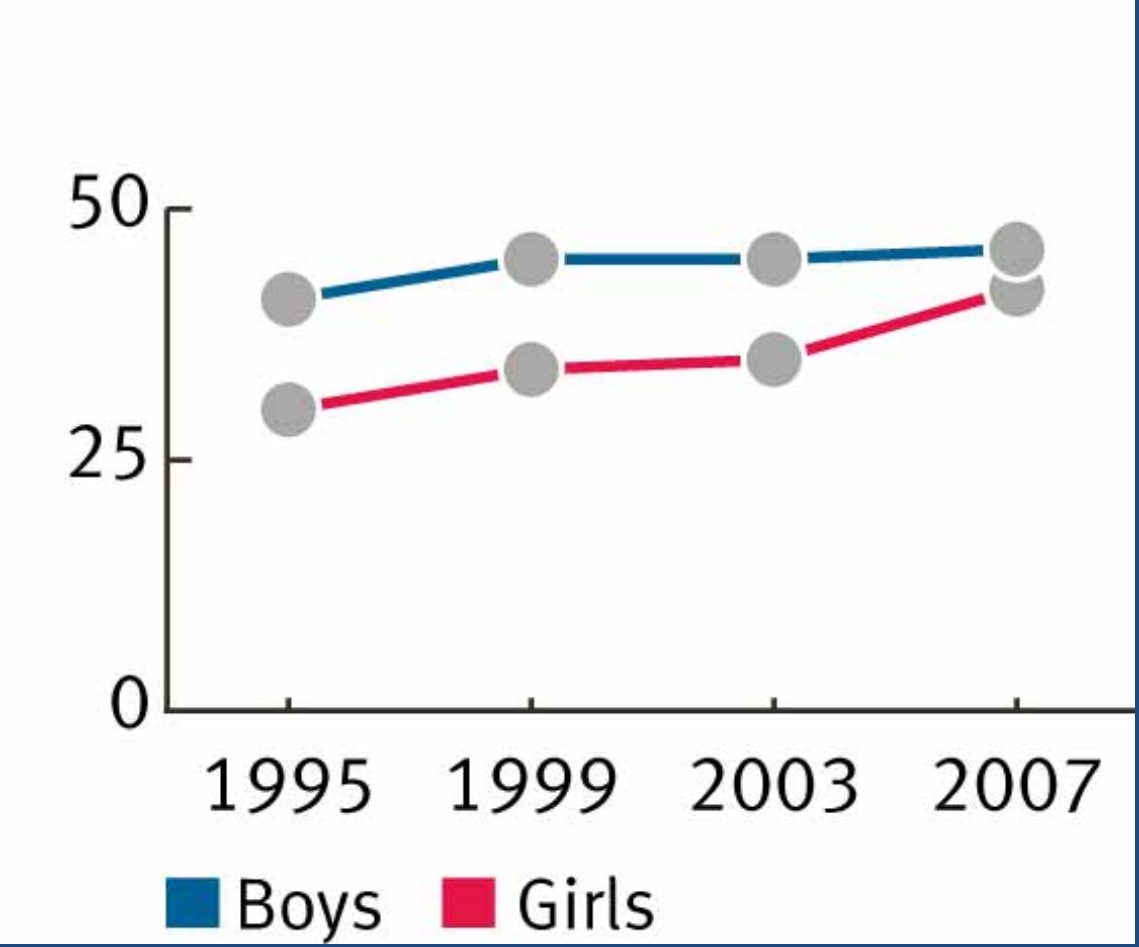


Estimated average alcohol consumption during the latest alcohol drinking day. All students. 2007. Centilitres of 100% alcohol.



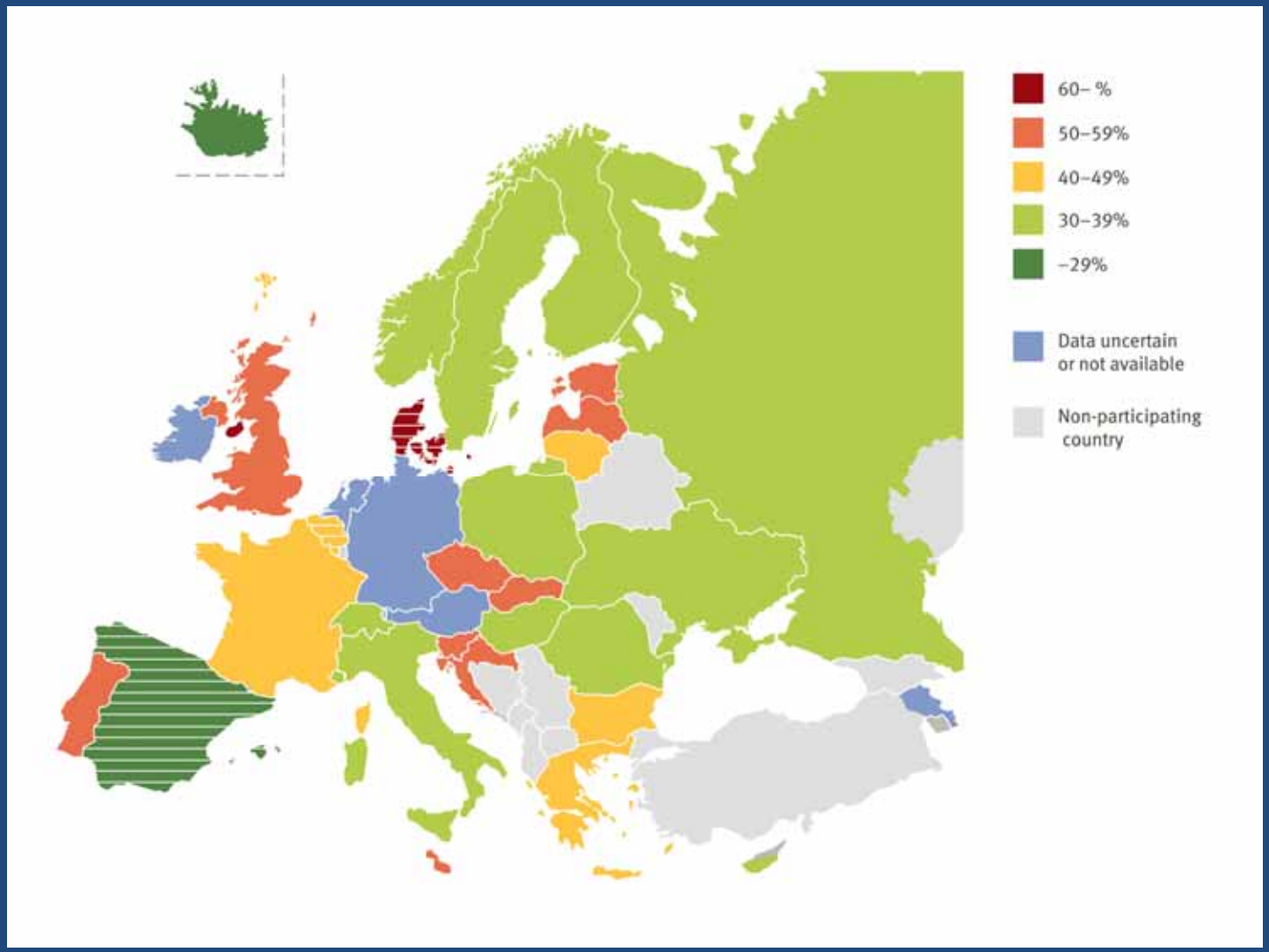
Proportion reporting having had five or more drinks [a)] on one occasion during the last 30 days, by gender. 1995–2007. [b)] Percentages. Averages for 17 countries.



[a)] "A 'drink' is a glass/bottle/can of beer (ca 50 cl), a glass/bottle/ can of cider (ca 50 cl), 2 glasses/bottles of alcopops (ca 50 cl), a glass of wine (ca 15 cl), a glass of spirits (ca 5 cl) or a mixed drink)."

[b)] The question referred to "five or more drinks in a row" 1995–2003 and nor cider or alcopops were included among the examples. However, a questionnaire test in eight countries 2006 found no significant differences between the two versions.

Proportion reporting having had five or more drinks [a)] on one occasion during the last 30 days. All students. 2007. Percentages.



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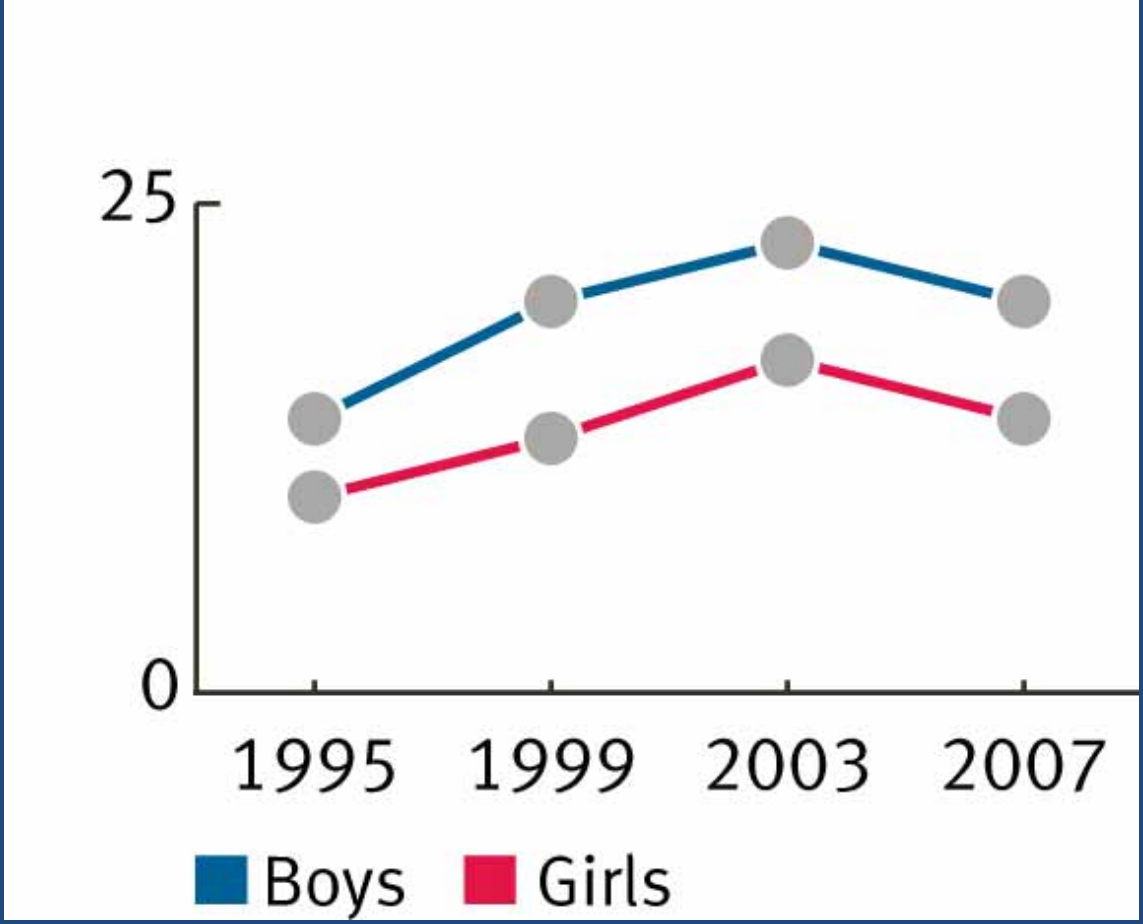
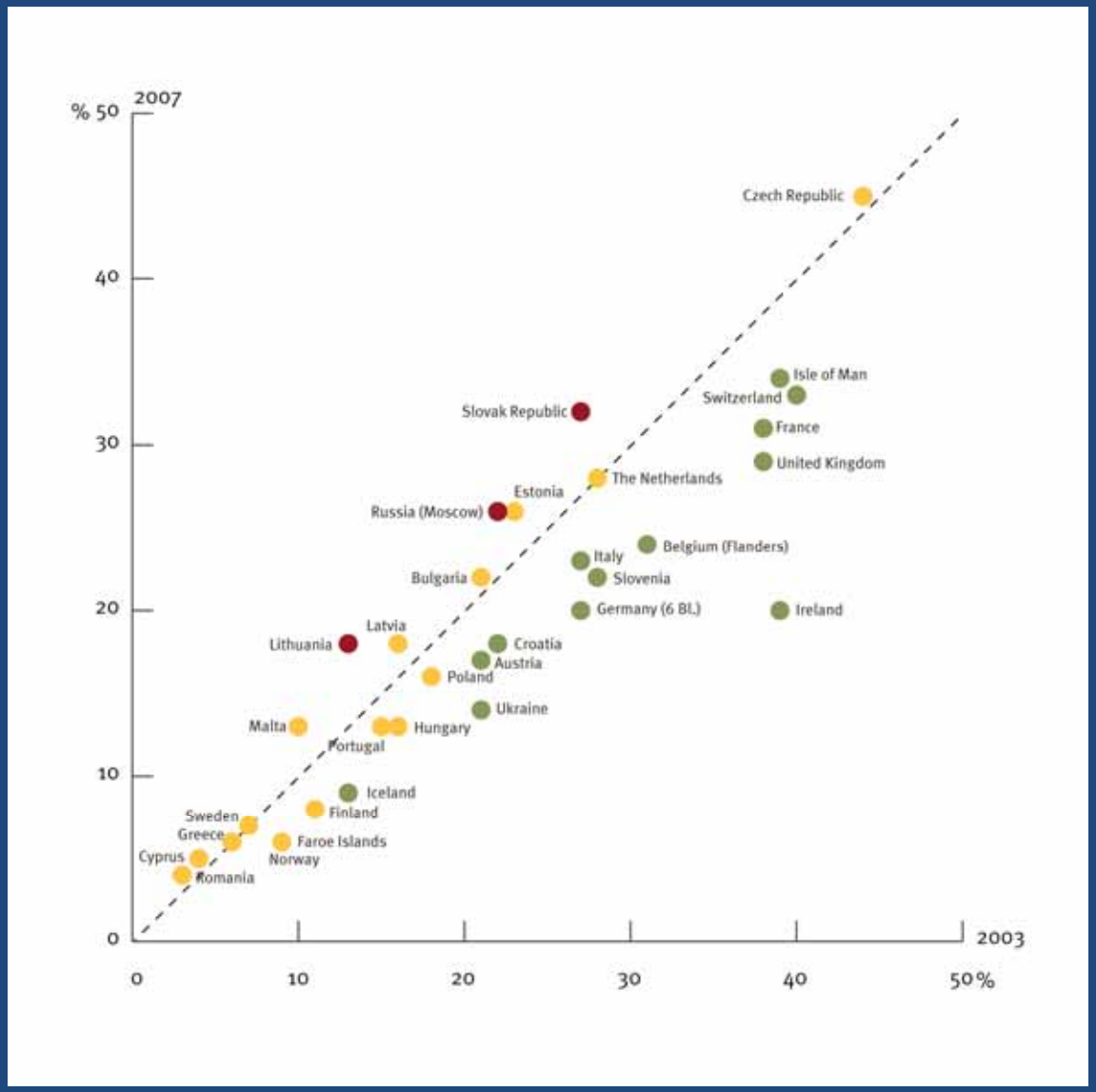
Lifetime use of marijuana or hashish by gender. 1995–2007. Percentages. Averages for 20 countries.



Changes between 2003 and 2007 in lifetime use of marijuana or hashish. All students. Percentages.



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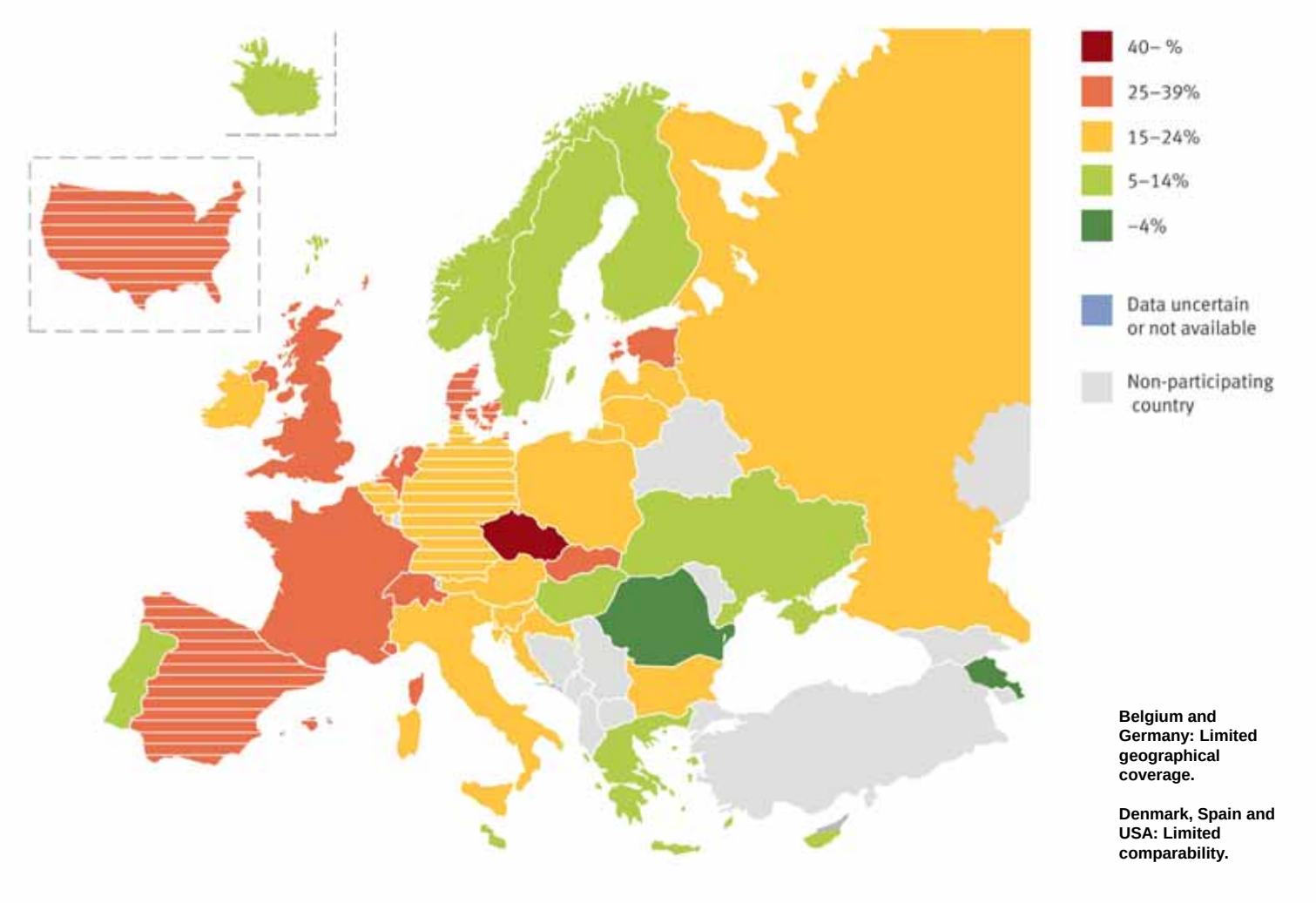
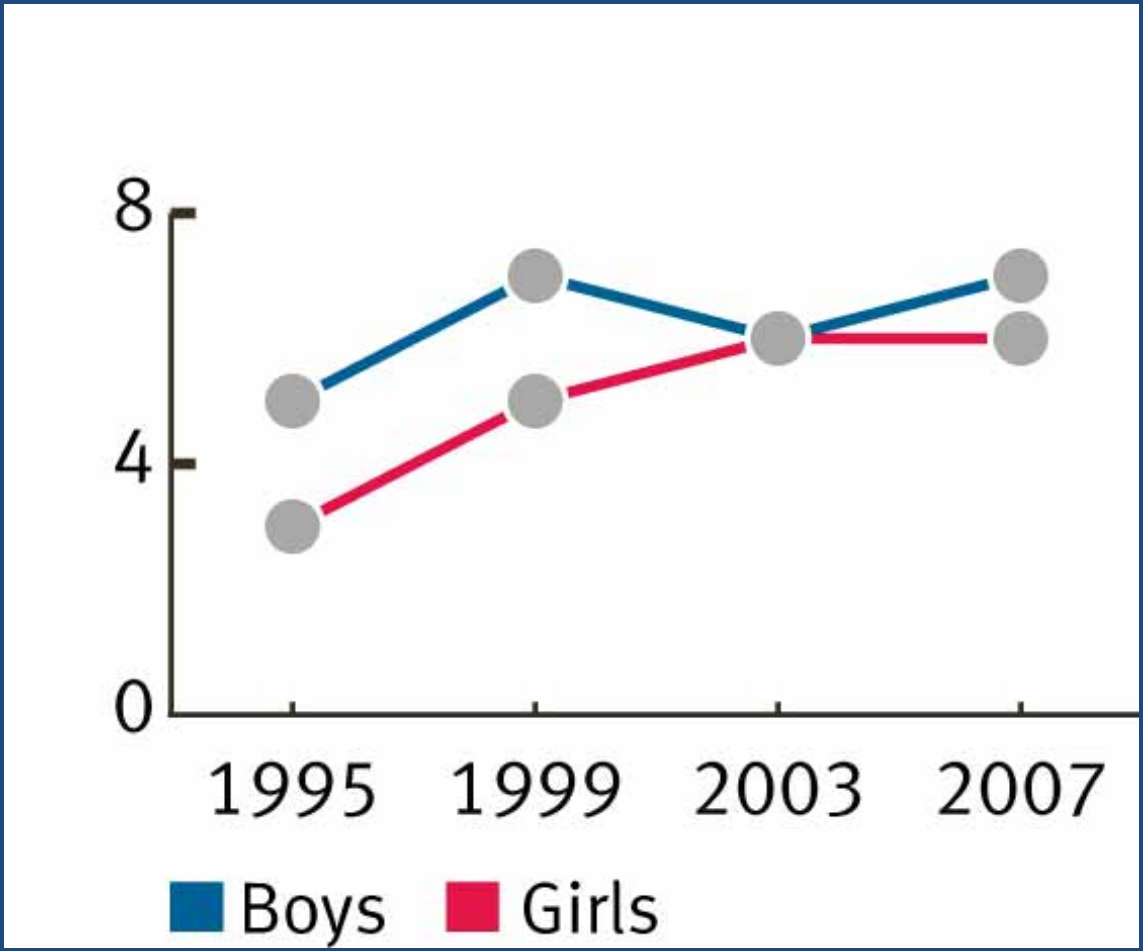
Lifetime use of marijuana or hashish. All students. 2007. Percentages.

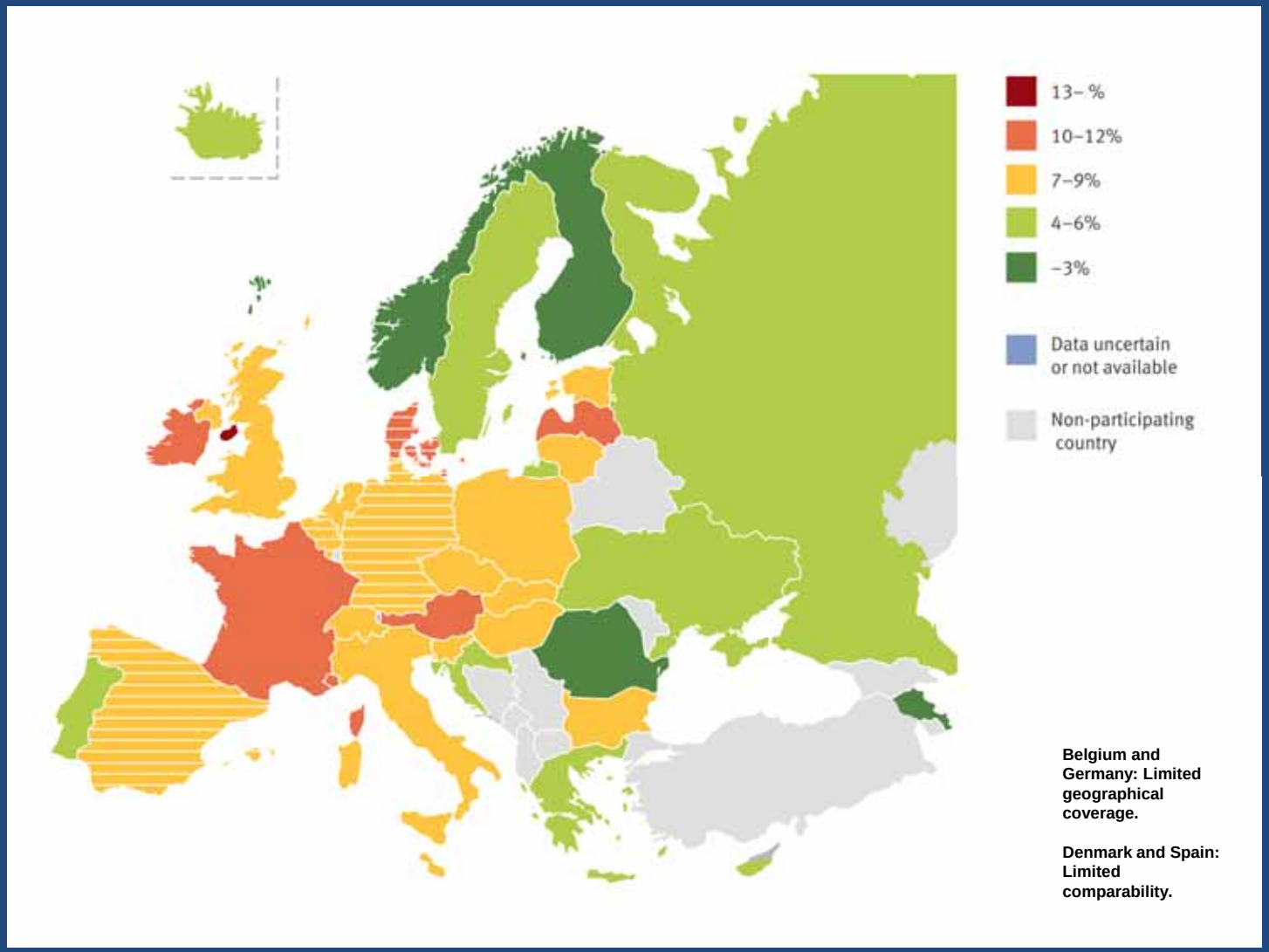


Lifetime use of any illicit drug other than marijuana or hashish [a)] by gender. 1995–2007. Percentages. Averages for 20 countries.



[a)] Any illicit drug but cannabis includes ecstasy, amphetamines, LSD or other hallucinogens, crack, cocaine and heroin.

Lifetime use of illicit drugs other than marijuana or hashish [a]. All students. 2007. Percentages.



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Illicit drugs 2007

• Cannabis: 19 %	Czech Republic: 45 %
• Ecstasy: 3 %	Isle of Man, Latvia: 7 %
• Cocaine: 3 %	Austria: 8 %
• Amphetamines: 3 %	Isle of Man: 10 %

Summary (1)

- Smoking has descreased since 1999
- Alcohol consumption frequency unchanged
- Alchol consumption most frequent in some countries in the south and north west of Europe
- Alcohol quantities highest in north west and north of Europe
- Heavy episode drinking has increased, especially among girls between 2003 - 2007

Summary (2)

- Cannabis experiences increased from 1995 to 2003 but are lower in 2007
- Illicit drug use is high in the west of Europe , but...
- ... increases mainly in previous Eastern Europe
- Strong relationships on the aggregate (country) level

Summary (3)

Students in the British Isles are

- low on cigarette smoking
- high on alcohol quantities, drunkenness and heavy episodic drinking
- high on alcohol related problems
- high on illicit drugs (not Ireland)

Summary (4)

Students in the British Isles show

- decreased smoking
- decreased use of cannabis

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The report
Graph engine
Contact details for all countries

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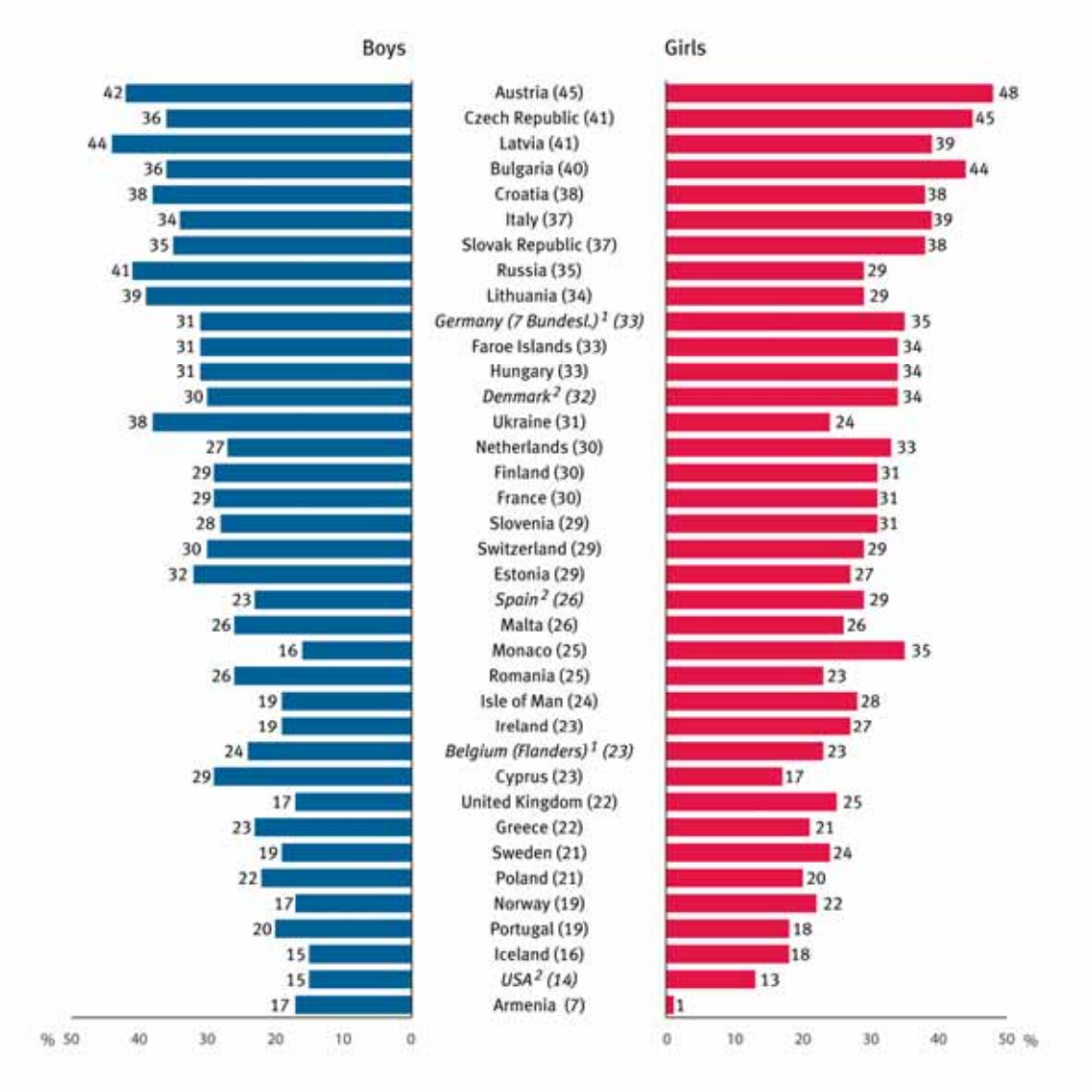
Cigarette use during the last 30 days by gender. 2007. Percentages.



1) Belgium and Germany: Limited geographical coverage.
2) Denmark, Spain and USA: Limited comparability.

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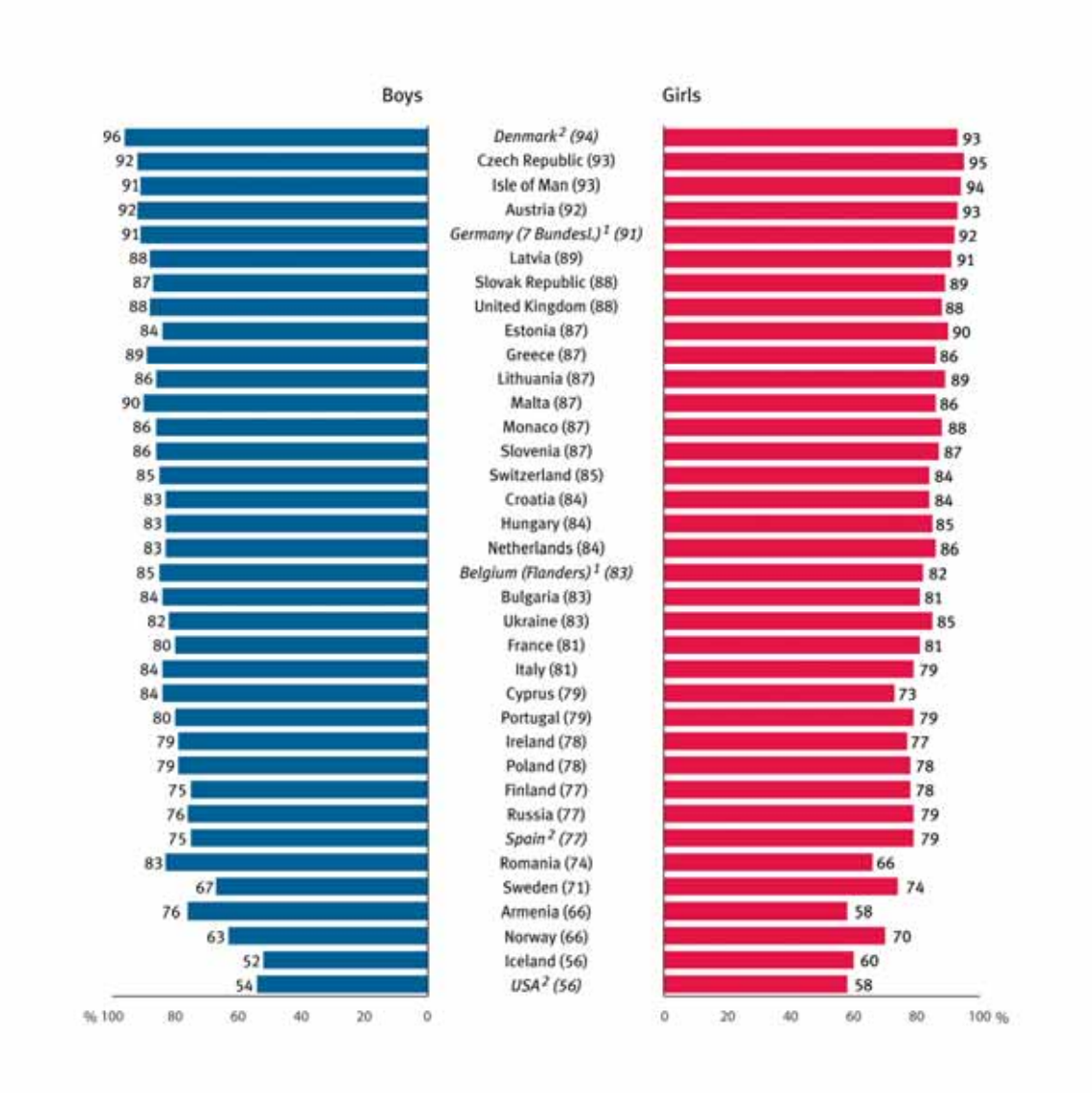
Alcohol use during the last 12 months. All students. 2007. Percentages.



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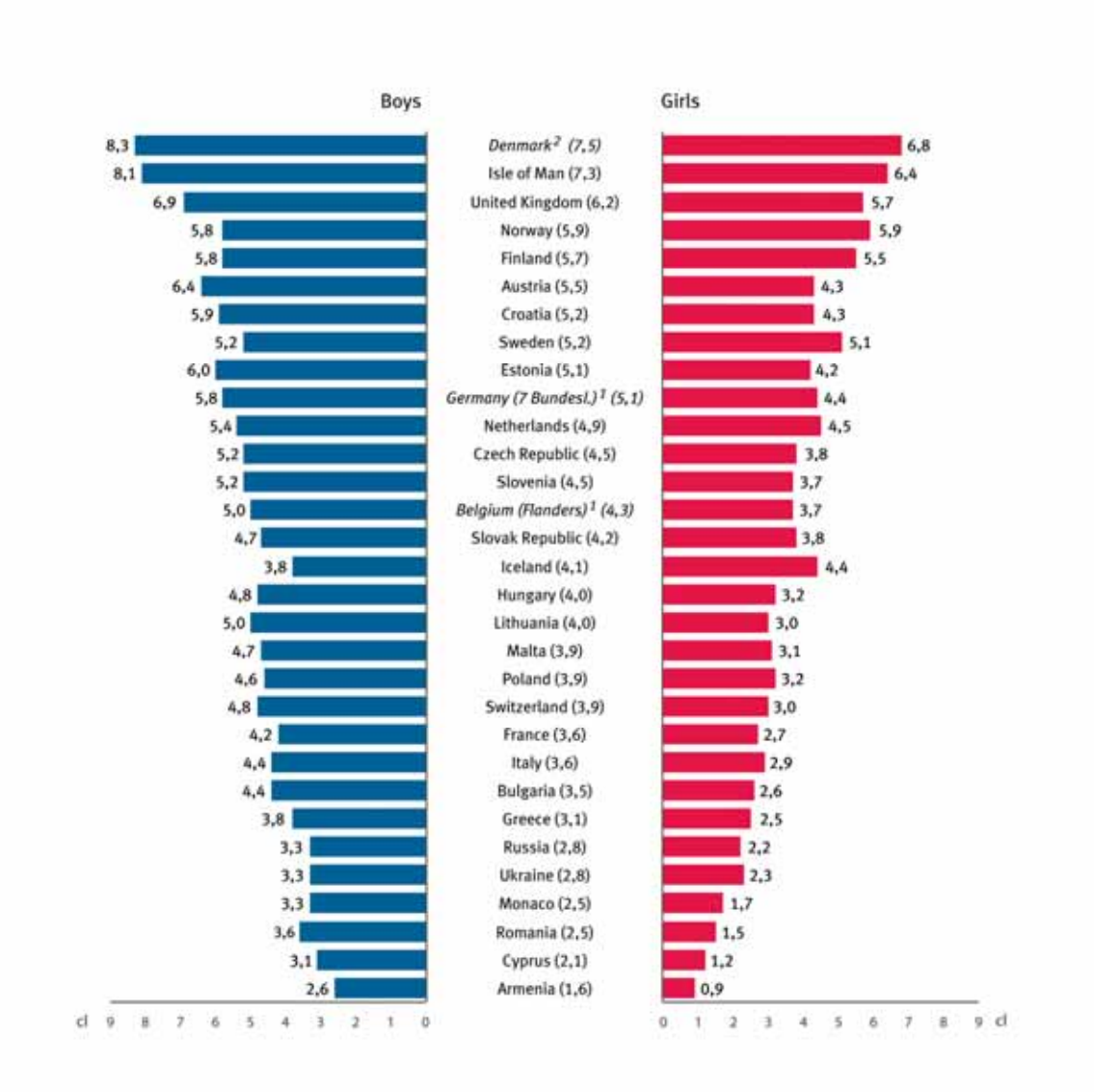
Estimated average alcohol consumption during the latest alcohol-drinking day by gender. 2007. Centilitres of 100% alcohol.



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