Patterns of adolescent substance use in island communities

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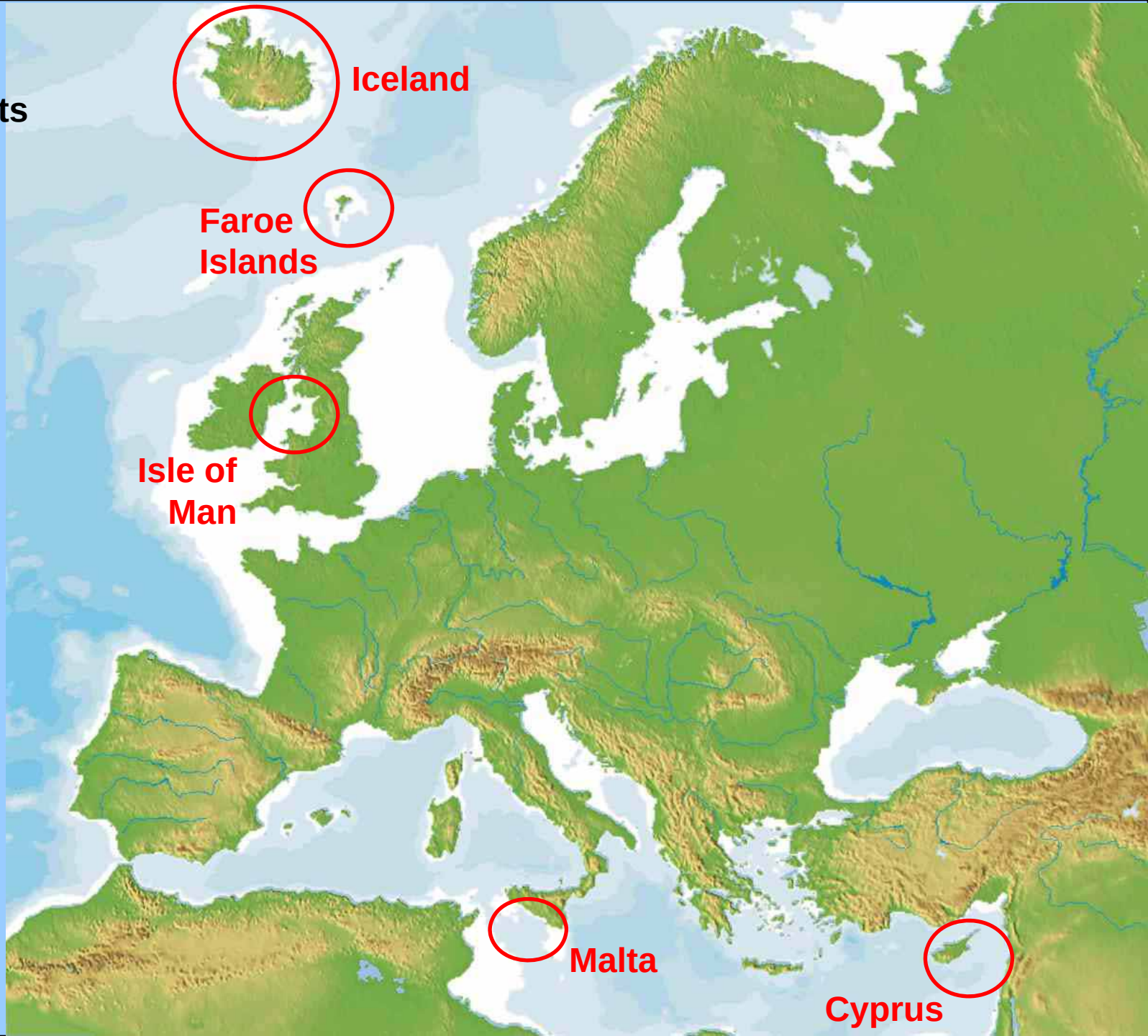
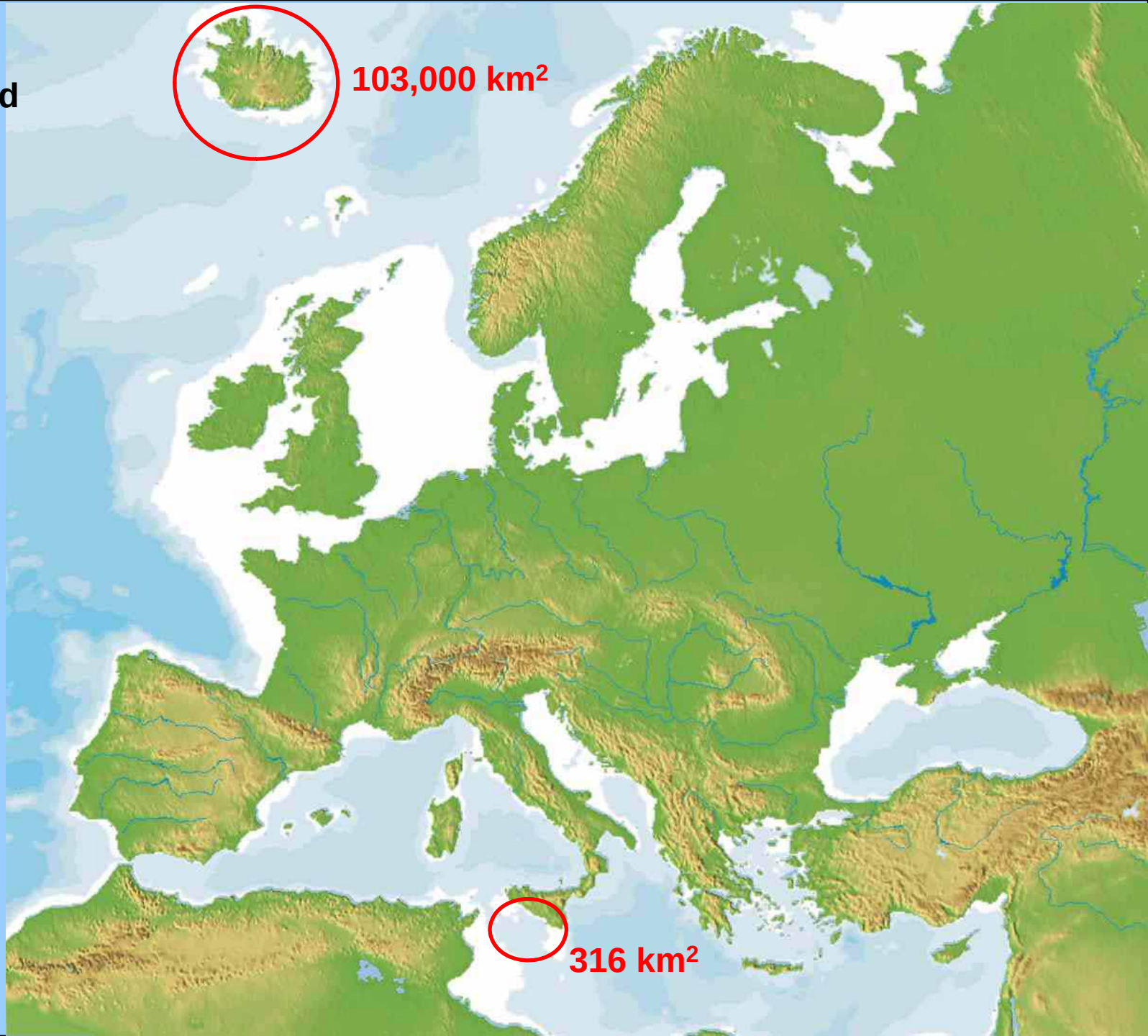
INTERNATIONAL
CRIMINAL JUSTICE
CONFERENCE
Integrating community justice, innovation and future developments
Tuesday 31st March to Thursday 2nd April 2009
The Villa Marina Conference Centre, Douglas, Isle of Man

Geographic, cultural and demographic overview of participating countries

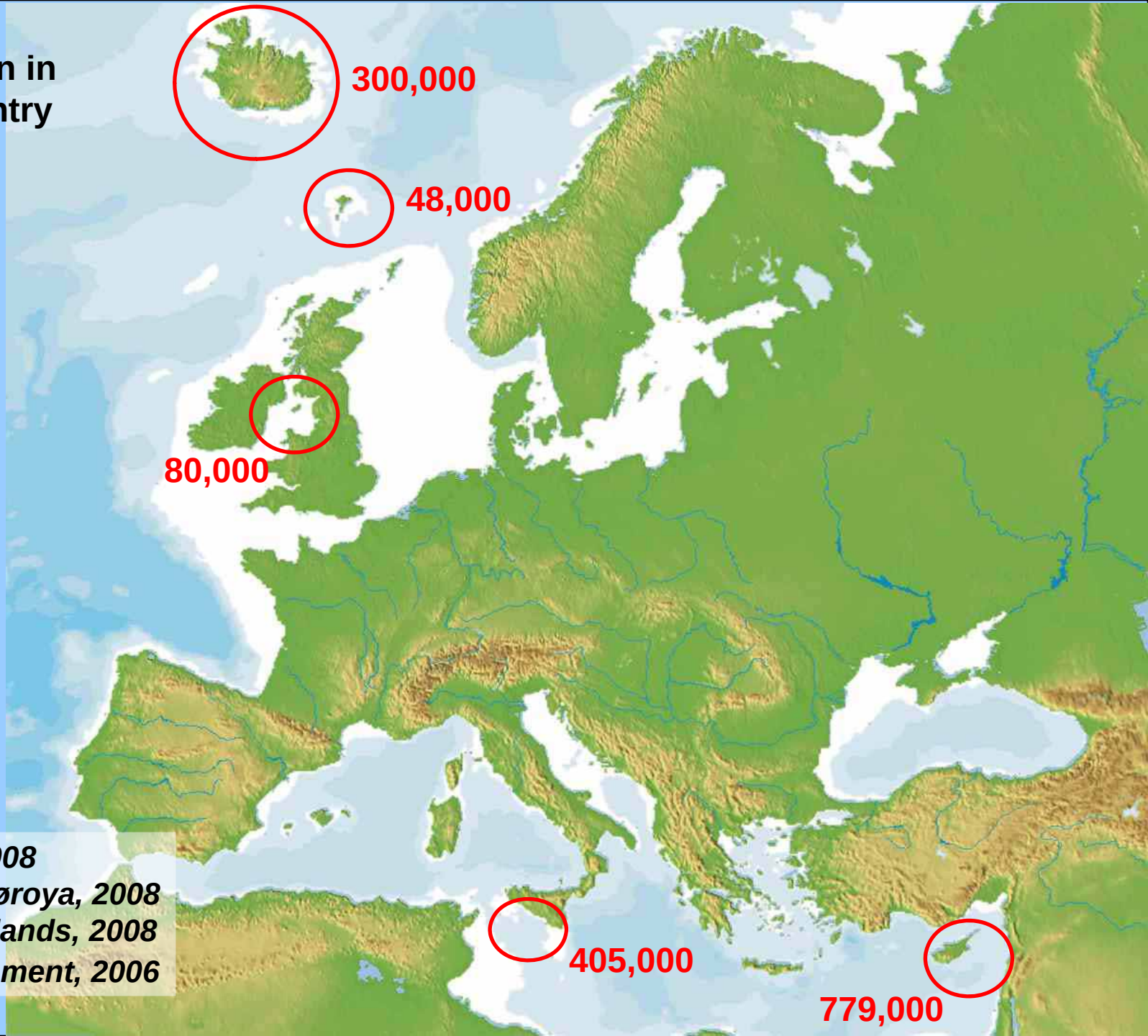
Island participants in ESPAD 2007



Largest and smallest landmass



Population in each country in 2007



Eurostat, 2008
Hagstova Føroya, 2008
Hagstofa Íslands, 2008
IOM Government, 2006

Dominant religion in each country

Most important ties with other countries?

Adolescent substance use in participating island countries compared to other European countries

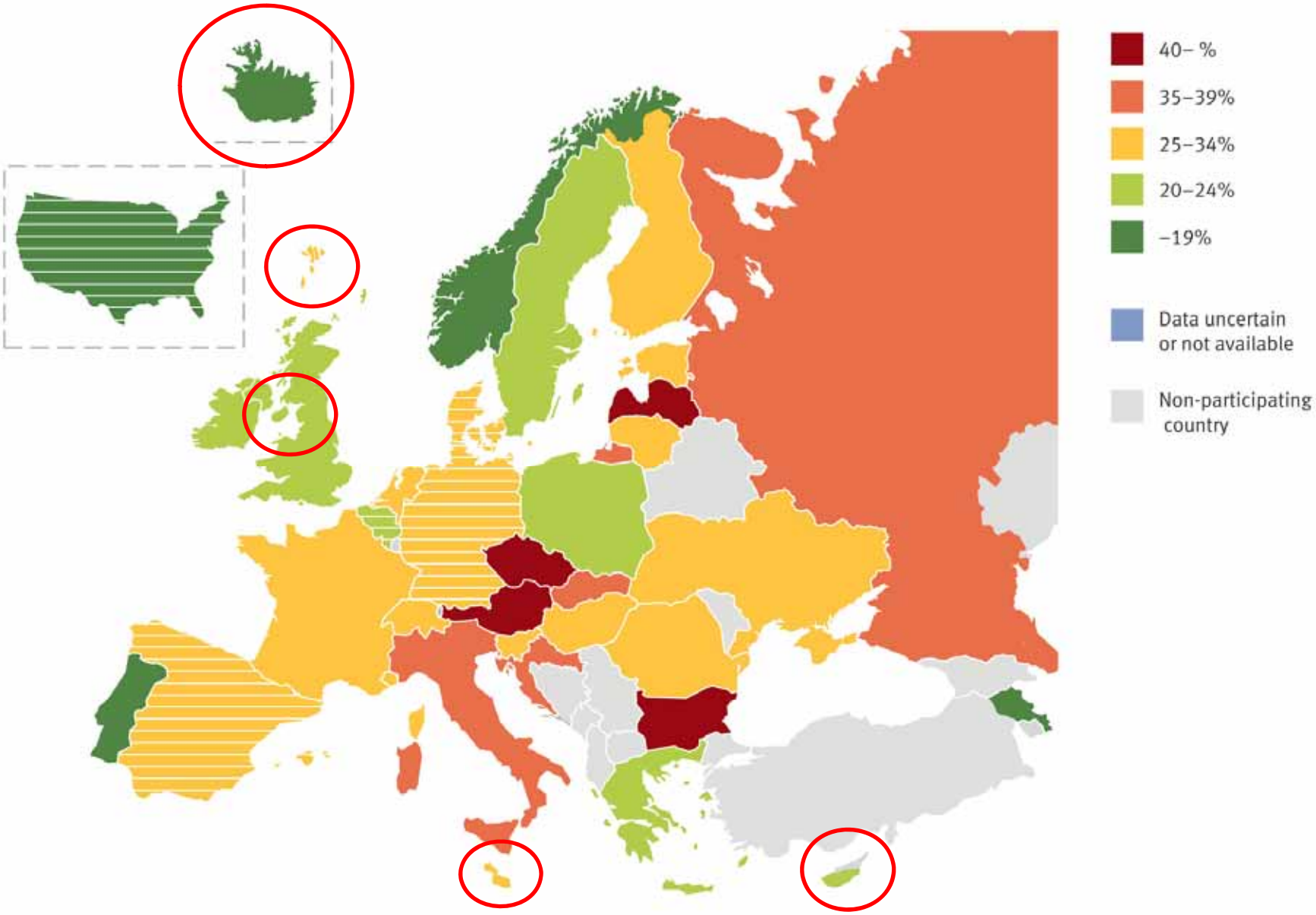


Figure 1
Percentage of 15–16 year old students who had smoked cigarettes in past 30 days, ESPAD 2007

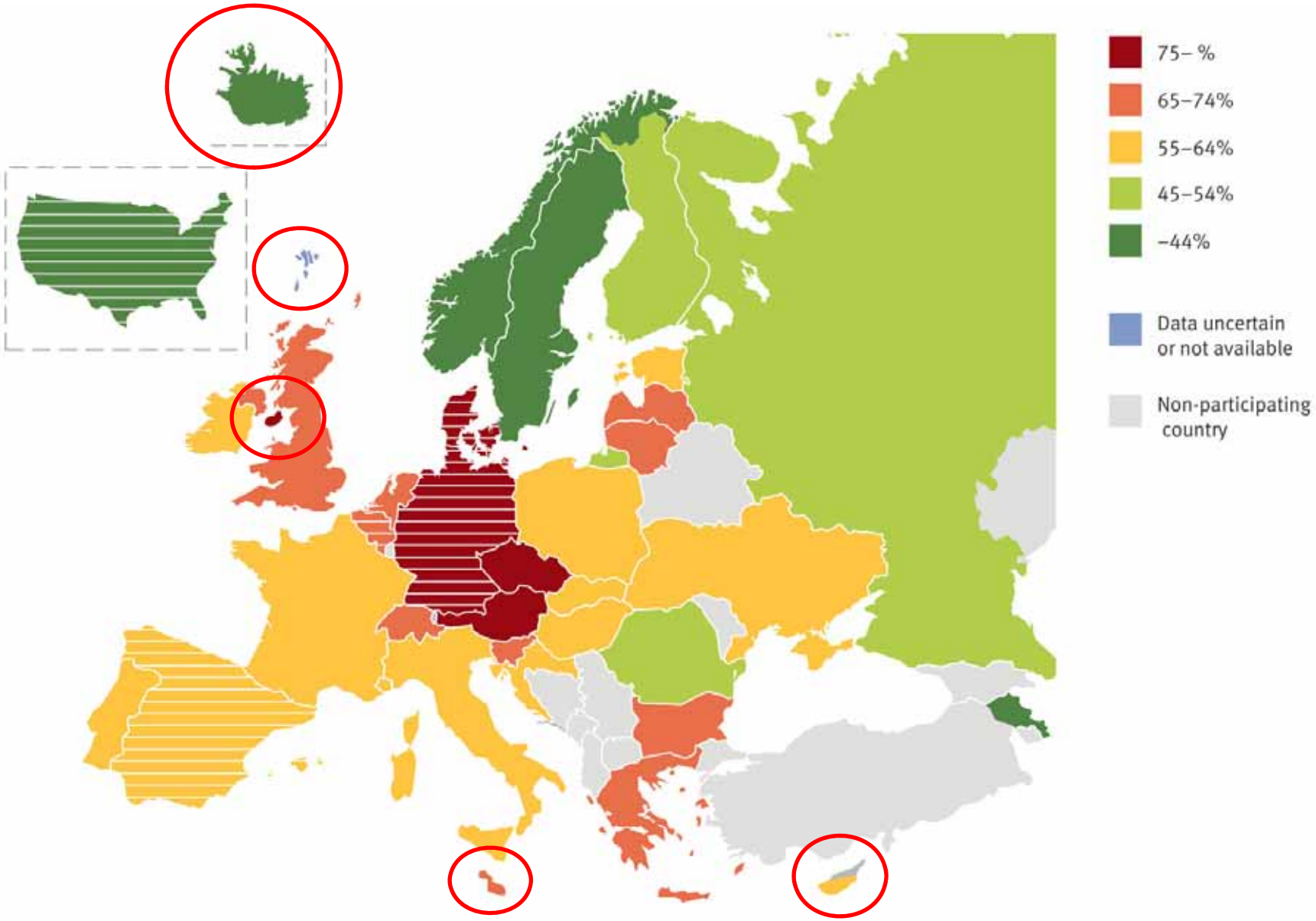


Figure 2
Percentage of 15–16 year old students who had consumed alcohol in past 30 days, ESPAD 2007

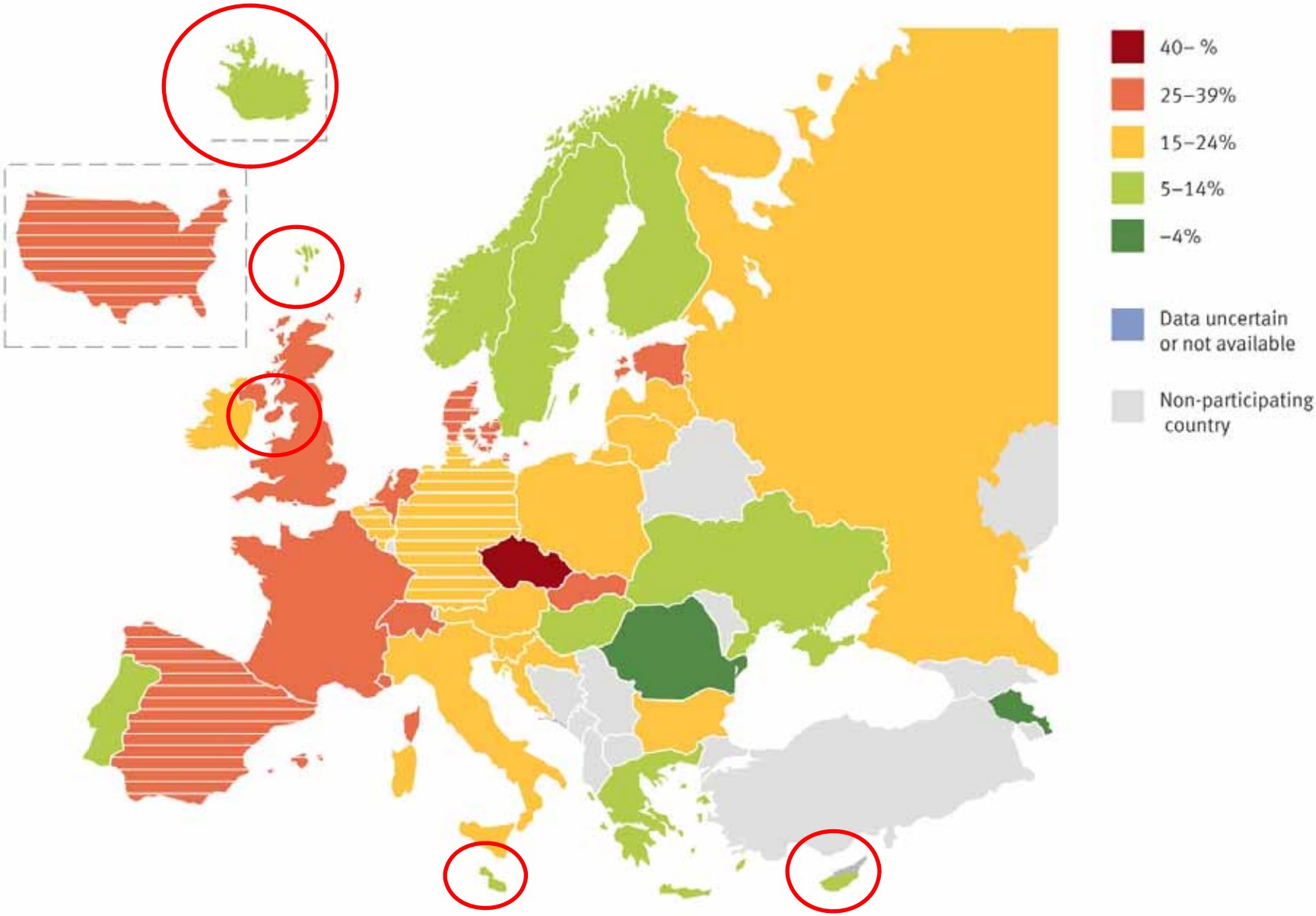


Figure 3
Percentage of 15–16 year old students who had used marijuana or hashish in lifetime, ESPAD 2007

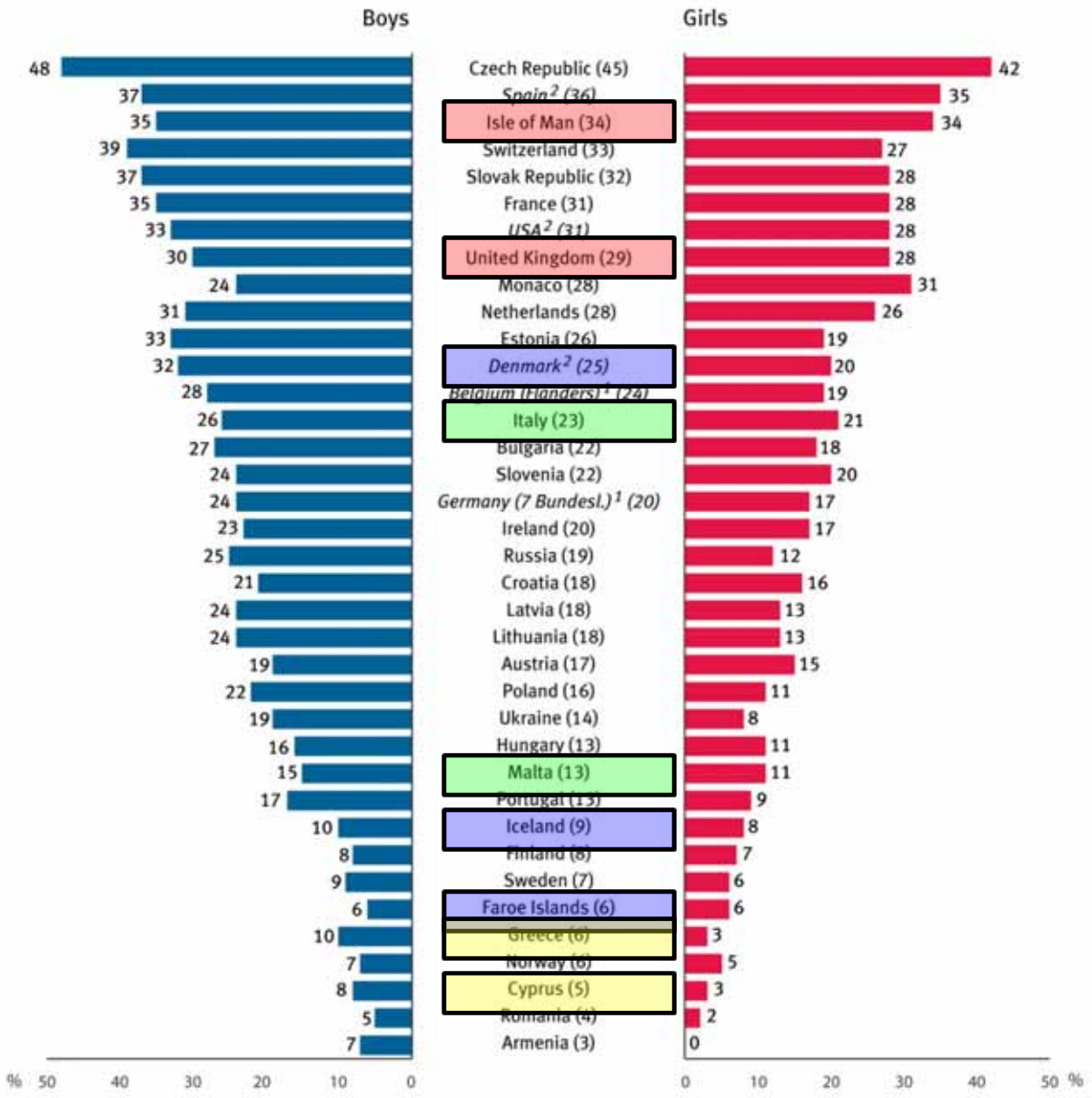


Figure 4

Percentage of 15–16 year old boys and girls who had used marijuana or hashish in lifetime, ESPAD 2007

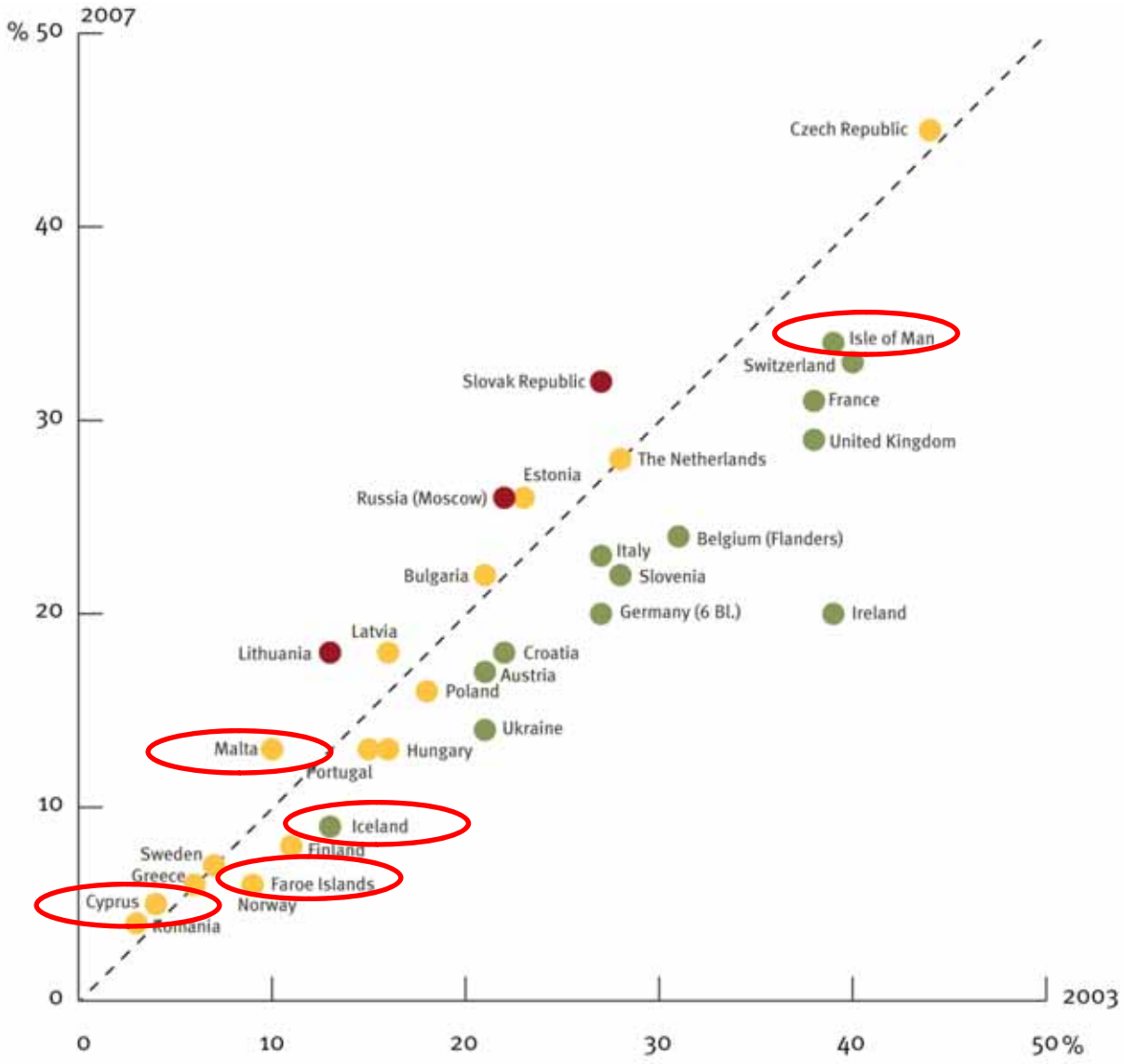


Figure 5

Changes in the percentage of 15–16 year old students who had used marijuana or hashish in lifetime, ESPAD 2003 - 2007

Predictors of adolescent substance use in participating island countries

Usual and unusual suspects

- Gender
- Socio-economic situation
- Parental monitoring
- Parental support

- Lived abroad
- Foreign origin
- National pride

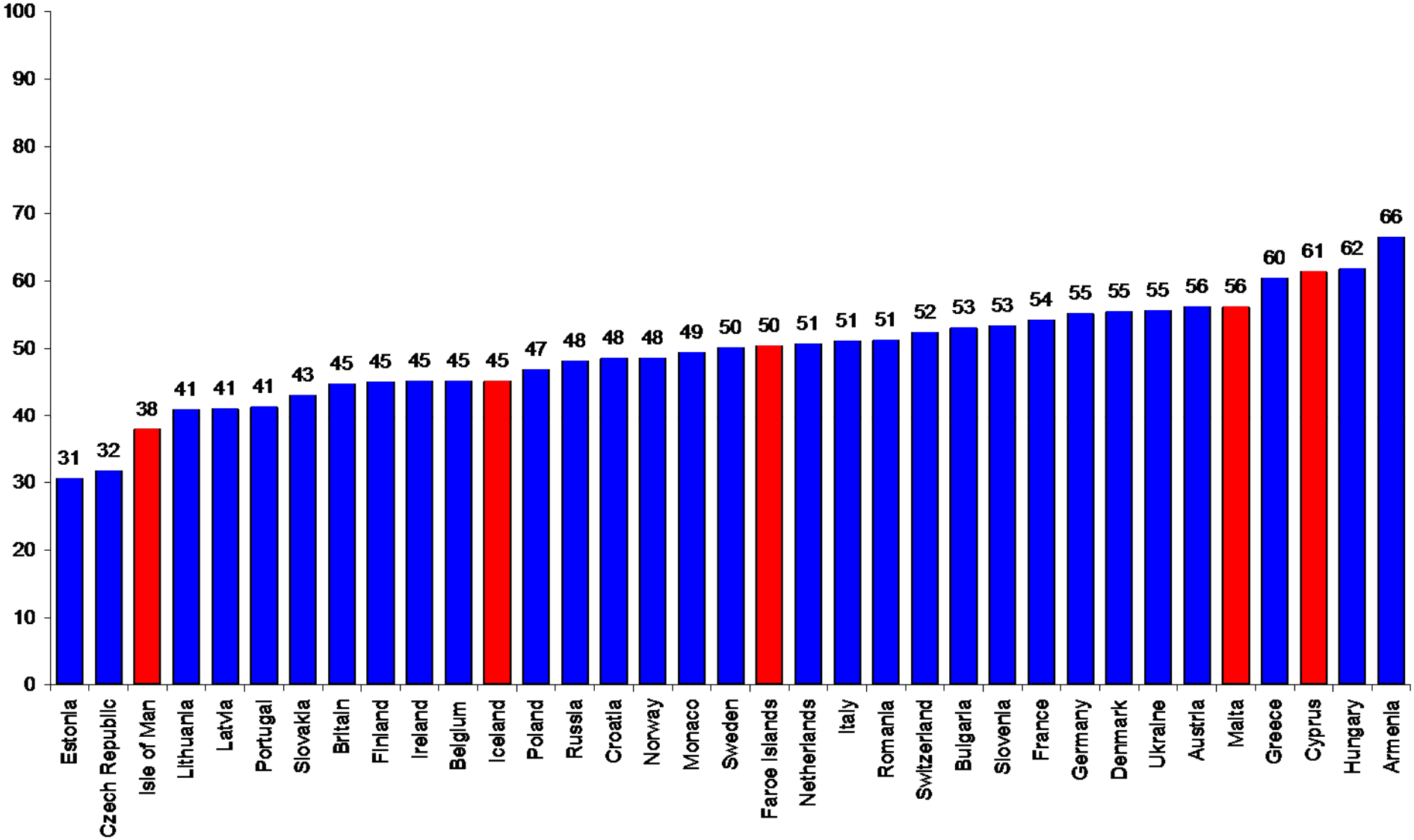


Figure 6

Percentage of European students who think their parent(s) almost always know who they are with in the evenings, ESPAD 2007

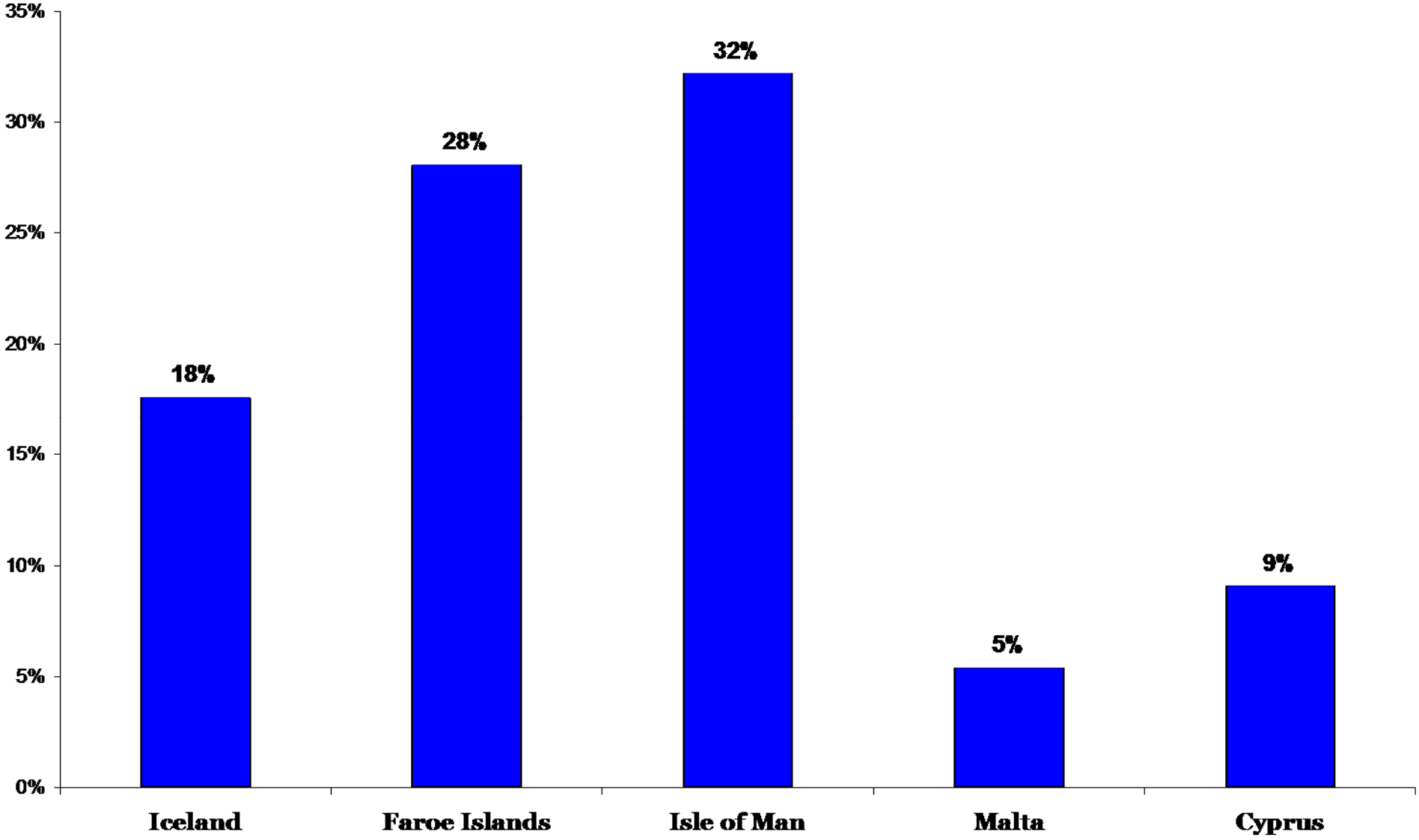


Figure 7
Percentage of students in island countries who have lived abroad for at least one year, ESPAD 2007

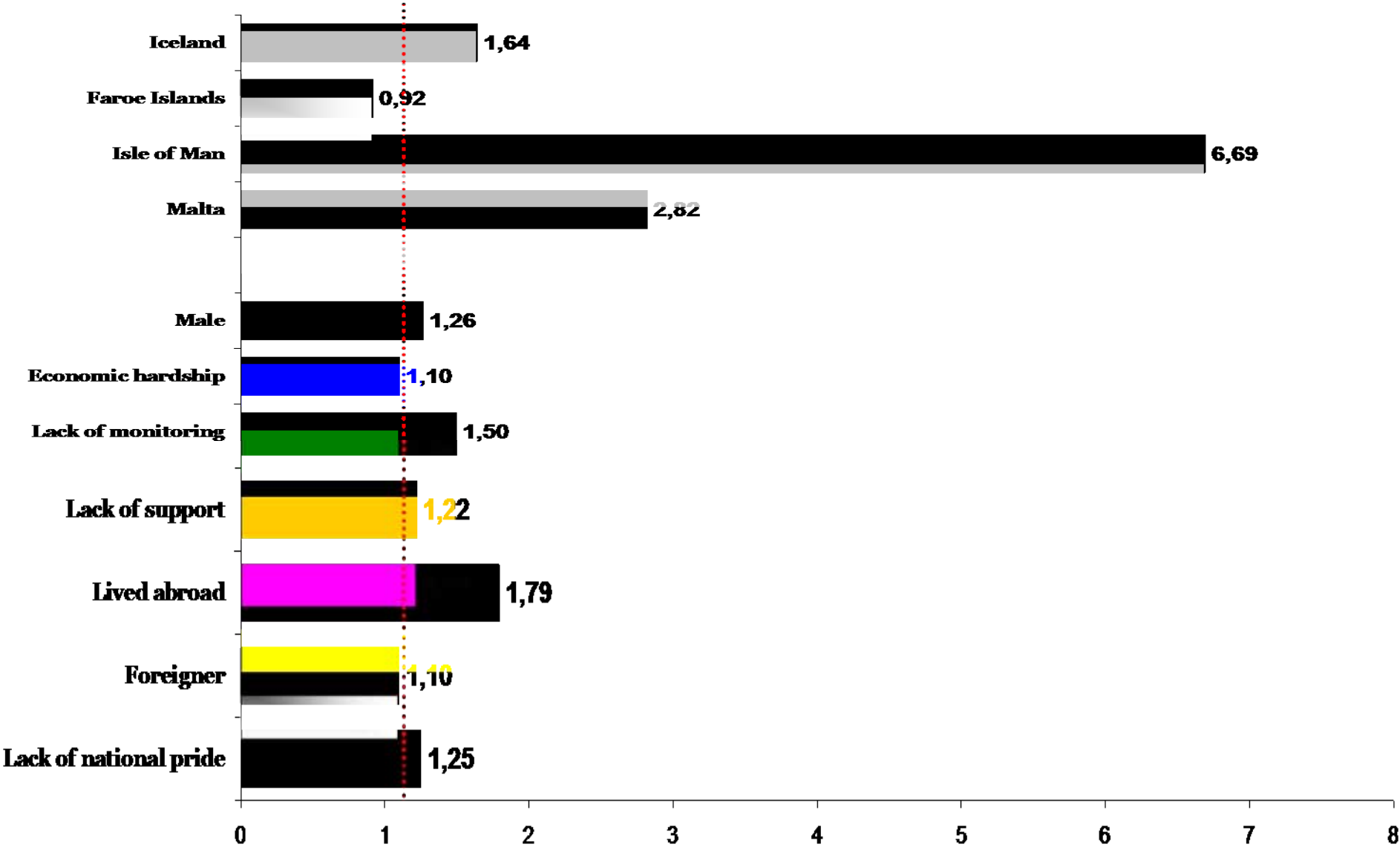


Figure 8
Odds ratios of lifetime cannabis use in island countries, ESPAD 2007

Model fit (Nagelkerke R^2)

Overall:	**.17**
Iceland:	.19
Faroe Islands:	.14
Isle of Man:	.14
Malta:	.08
Cyprus:	.15

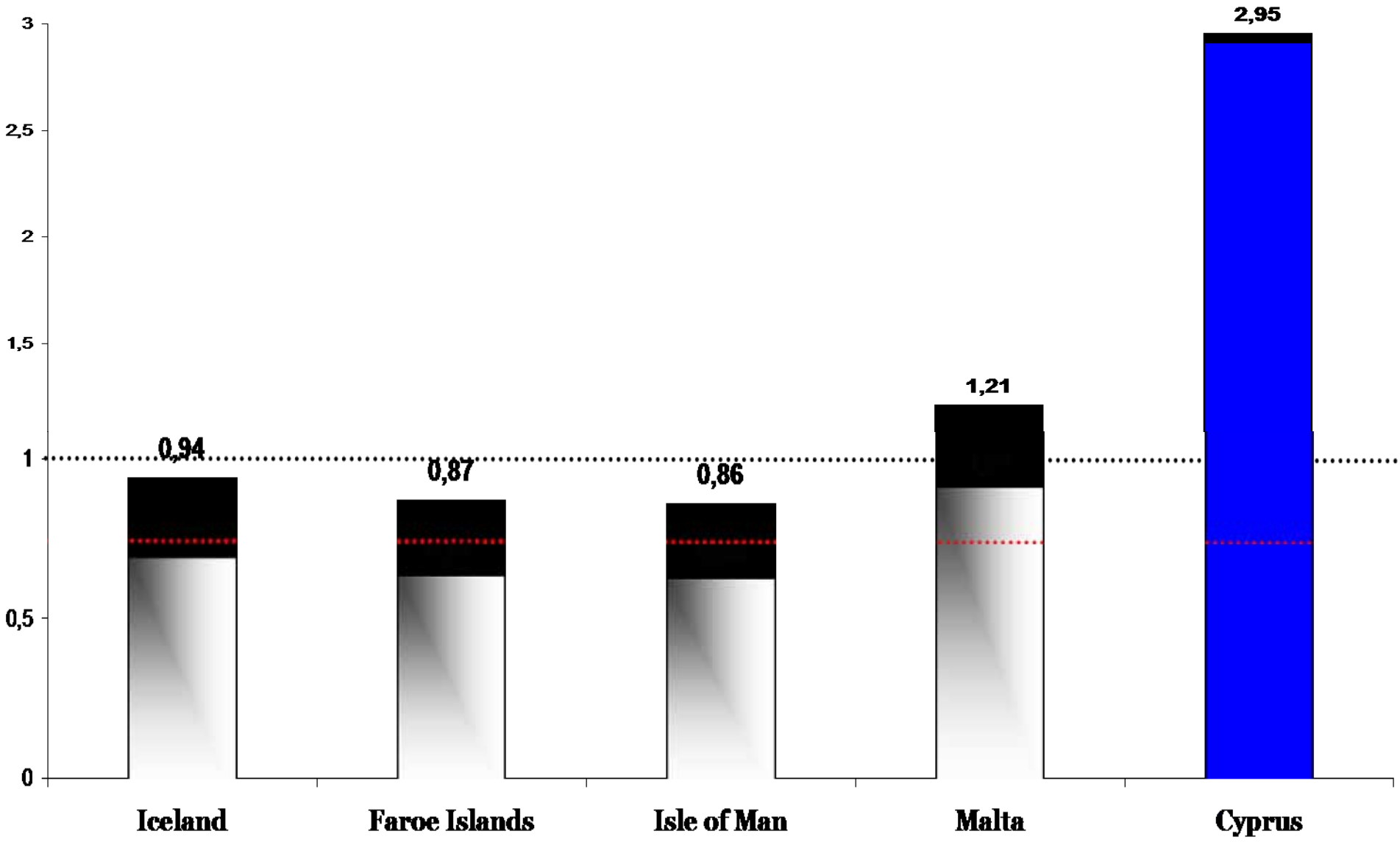


Figure 9
Odds ratio of cannabis use by gender (males)

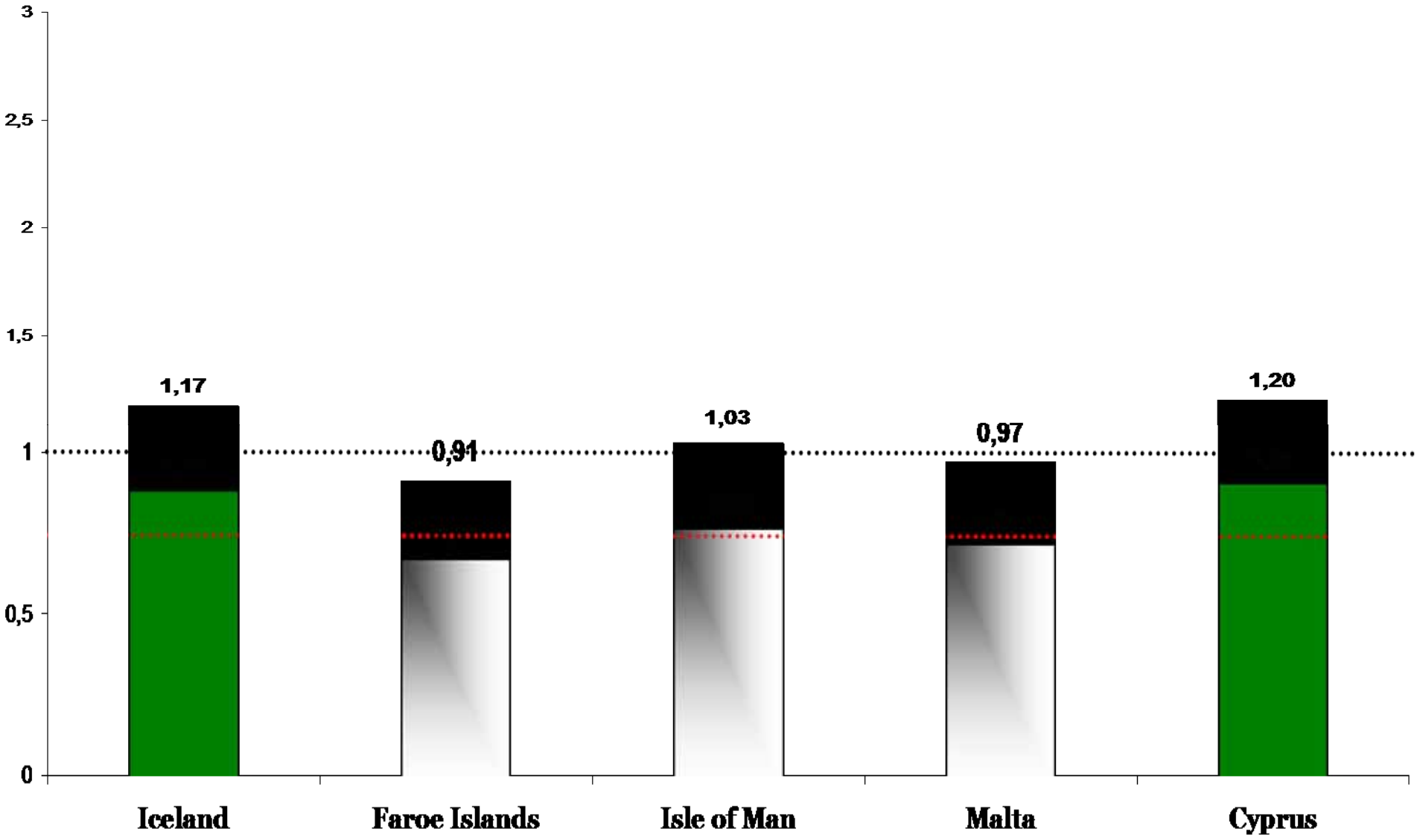


Figure 10
Odds ratio of cannabis use by family economic hardship (st. dev.)

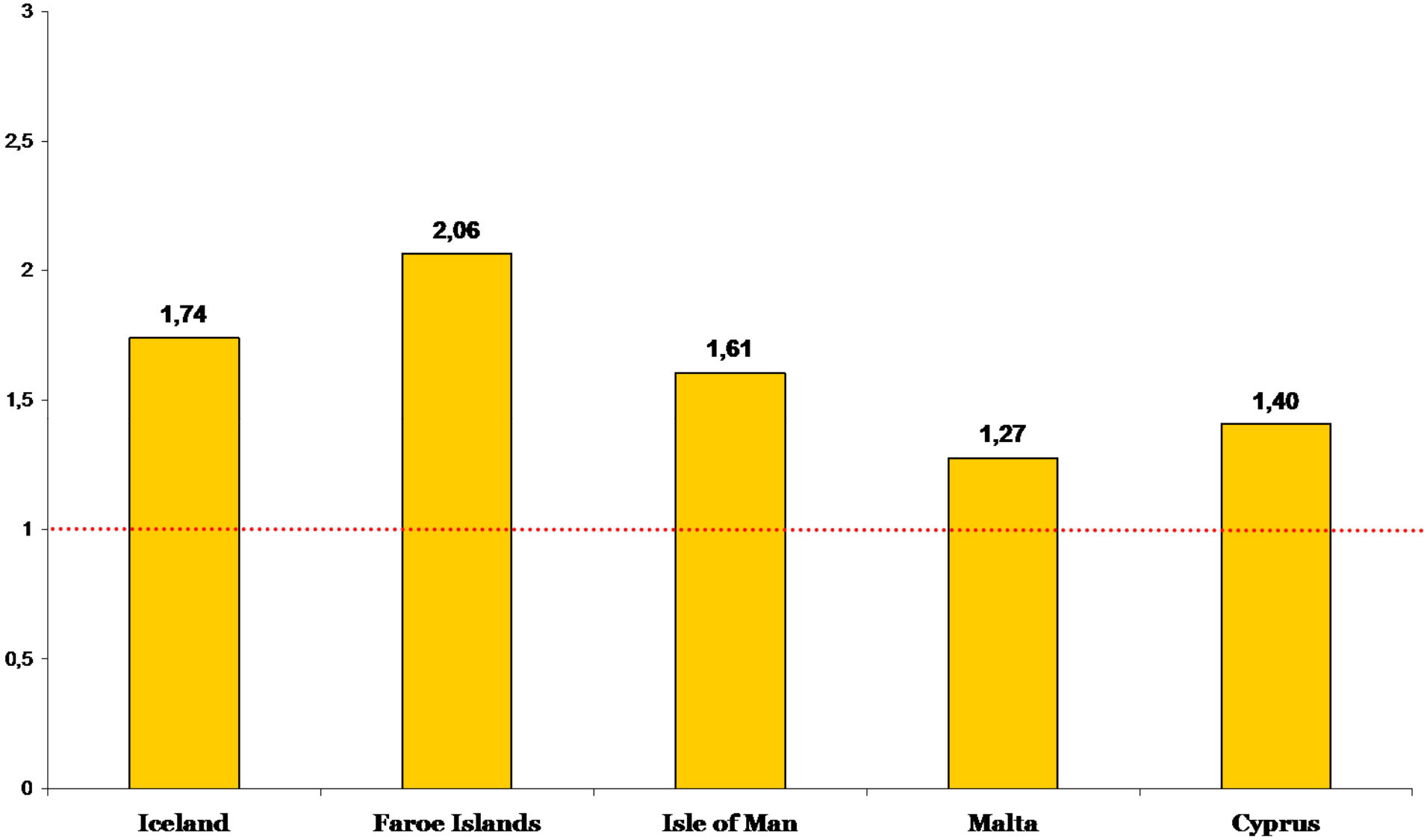


Figure 11
Odds ratio of cannabis use by lack of parental monitoring (st. dev.)

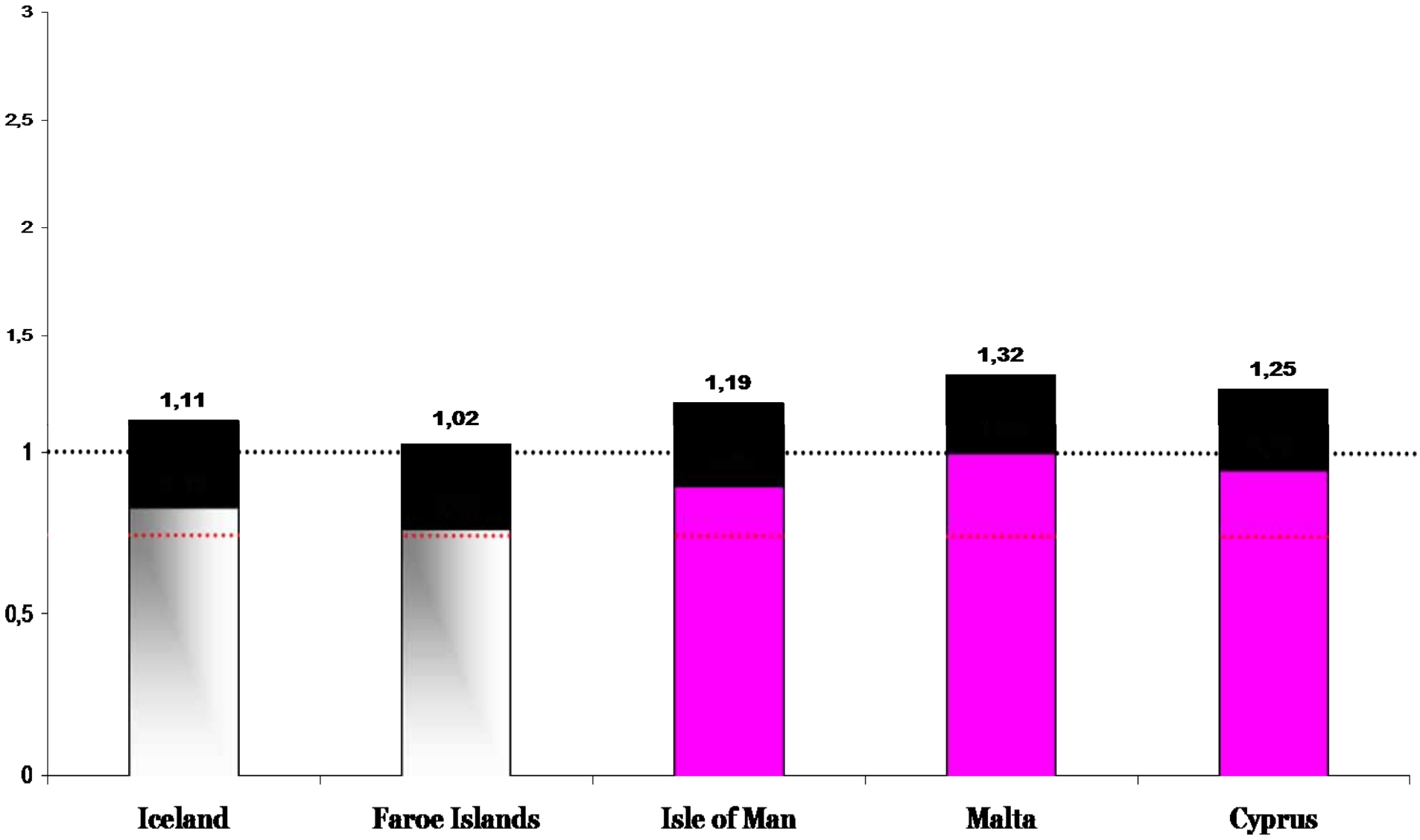


Figure 12
Odds ratio of cannabis use by lack of parental support (st. dev.)

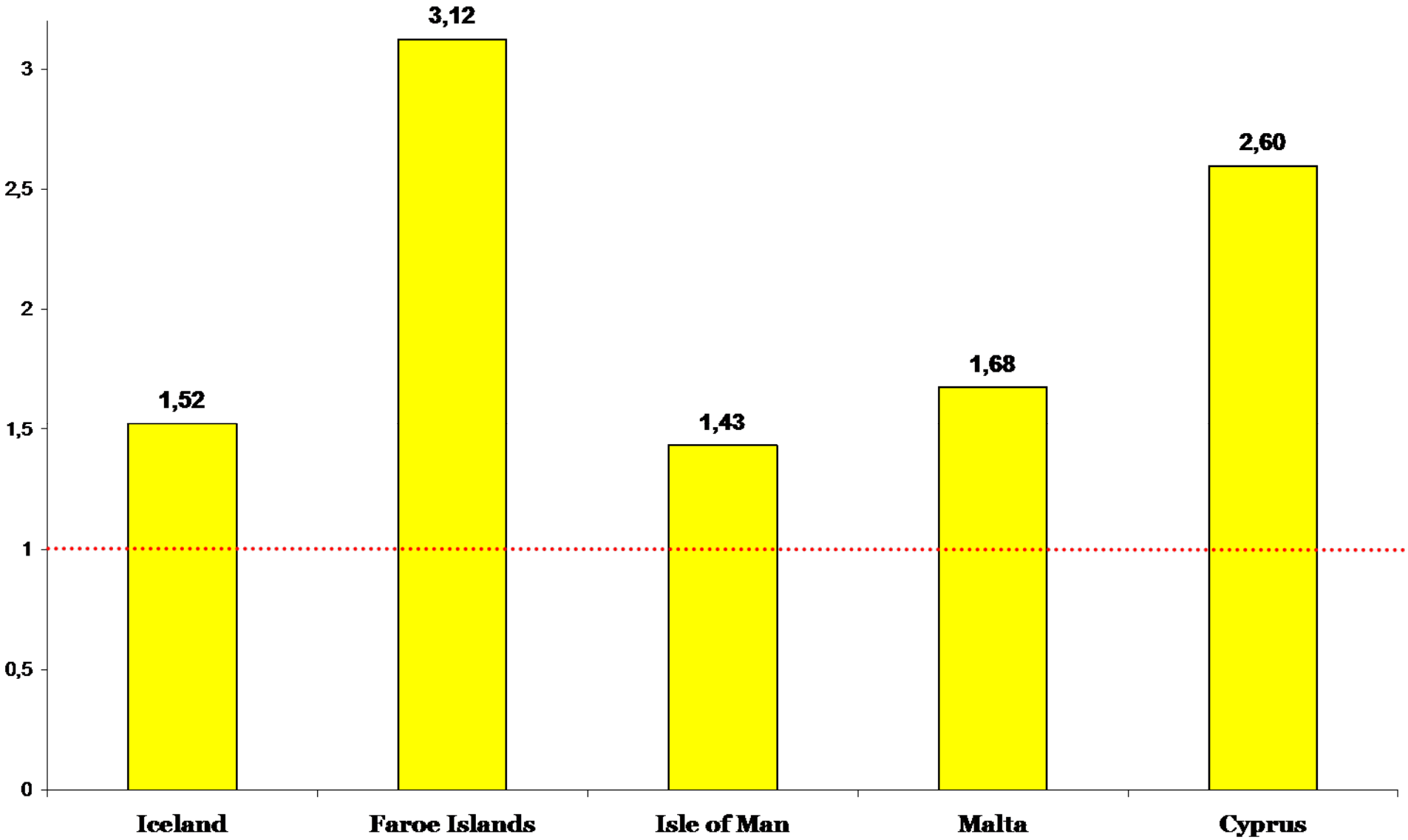


Figure 13
Odds ratio of cannabis use by having lived abroad for at least one year

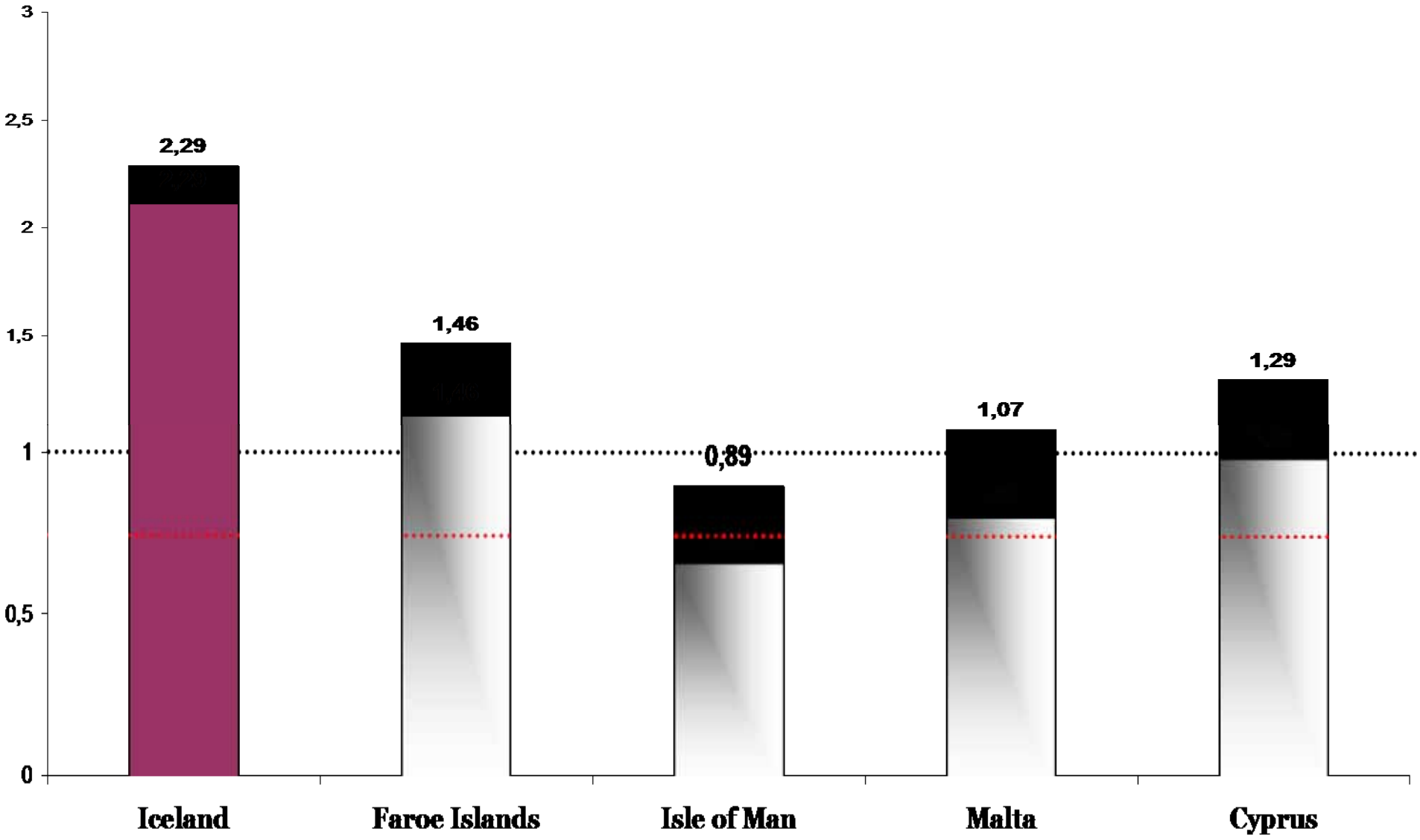


Figure 14
Odds ratio of cannabis use by foreign nationality

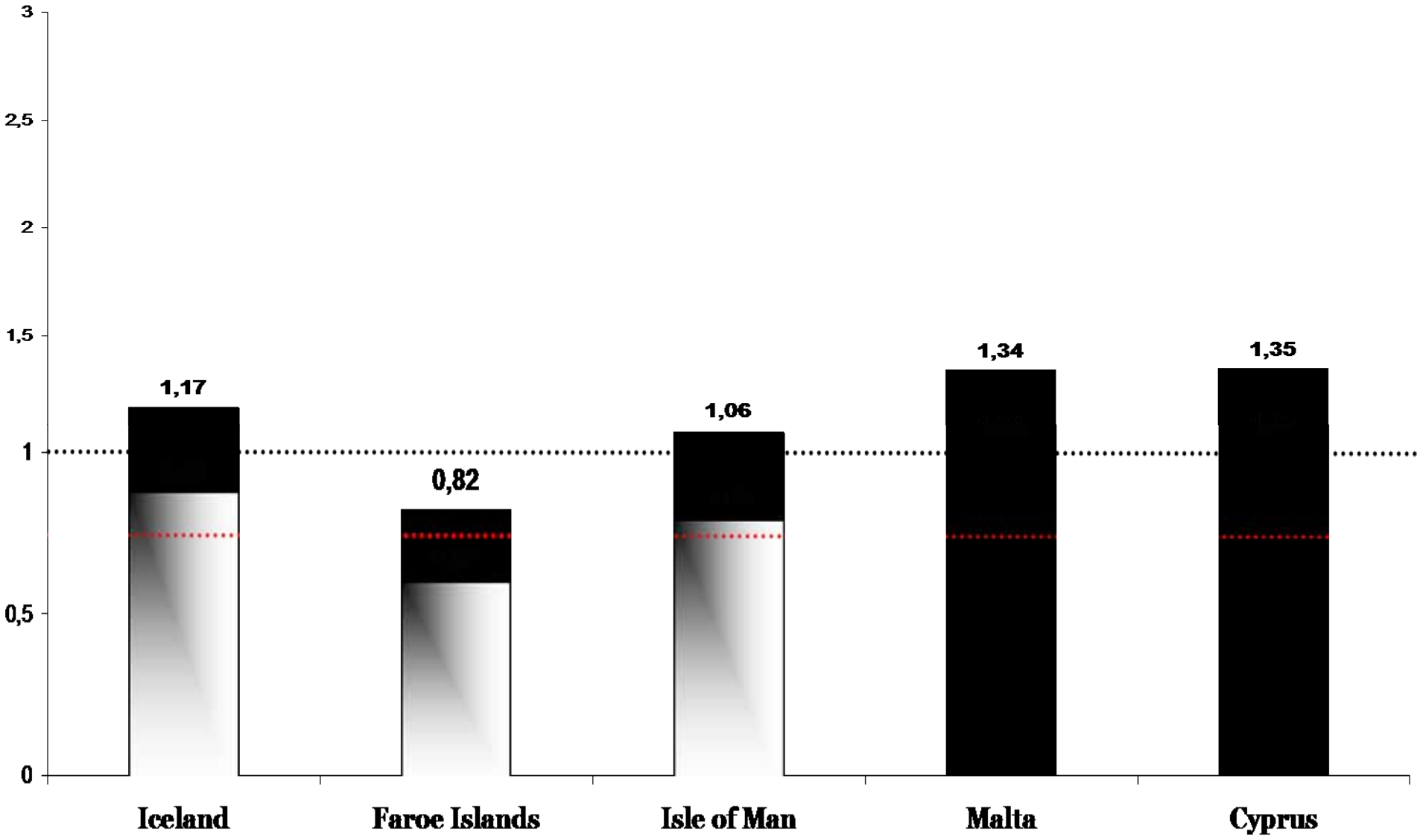


Figure 15
Odds ratio of cannabis use by lack of national pride (st. dev.)

General conclusions

- In contrast to most European countries gender is only significant in Cyprus
- Economic hardship only plays a trivial role
- Parental monitoring is significant in all five island countries
- Parental support is significant in Isle of Man and Mediterranian islands but not in the two Northern Atlantic islands

Island- specific conclusions

- Having lived abroad significantly affects cannabis use on all five islands, but in particular in Faroe Islands and Cyprus
- Foreigners are only more likely to use cannabis in Iceland
- National pride is only associated with less cannabis use in Mediterranian islands

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