

Background & Aim

Alcohols are banned on dry campuses for any age groups. Nevertheless, some alcohol drinks are still consumed on these campuses. The aim of this study is to find out what factors contribute to the alcohol drinking on a dry campus and whether males consume more drinks than females.

Key findings

- The estimated probability that a first year student does not drink is 0.63.
- Average number of drinks for males is 2.76 times the number for females.
- Average number of drinks for drinkers living off-campus is 1.52 times the numbers of those living on-campus.
- Interquartile range (IQR) represents the range from the bottom 25% to top 75% of the drinks consumed by students. Table 1 shows this range is larger for non-first year students, which means non-first year students generally consume more alcohol drinks than first year students.
- Among all dorms, Ytterboe dorm has the largest IQR for males students as shown from Figure 1.
- Overall, figure 1 shows IQR is larger for males among non-first years students than females, and IQR is larger for females among first years students than males.

Limitations

- The definition of alcohol drinking is vague.
- Sample data only contains 77 observations, which is too small to be used in this study.
- There is an issue related to confidentiality of respondents such that their responses might not be accurate.

Table 1. Characteristics of students overall and based on whether they are a first-year or not.

		<i>First-year student?</i>	
Characteristic	Overall, <i>N</i> = 77	Yes, <i>n</i> = 18 ^a	No, <i>n</i> = 59 ^a
Residence			
Dorm	70 (91%)	18 (100%)	52 (88%)
Off campus	7 (9.1%)	0 (0%)	7 (12%)
Sex			
Female	56 (73%)	16 (89%)	40 (68%)
Male	21 (27%)	2 (11%)	19 (32%)
Drinks last weekend	1 (0, 3)	0 (0, 1)	1 (0, 4)

^an (%); Median (IQR)

Median separates the highest 50% of values from lowest 50% of values when values are arranged from lowest to highest (i.e. at least half of first year students had no alcoholic drinks the prior weekend).

IQR is interquartile range, representing the range of values from the bottom 25% to top 75% of values (i.e. 25% of first year students had at least 1 alcoholic drink the prior weekend).

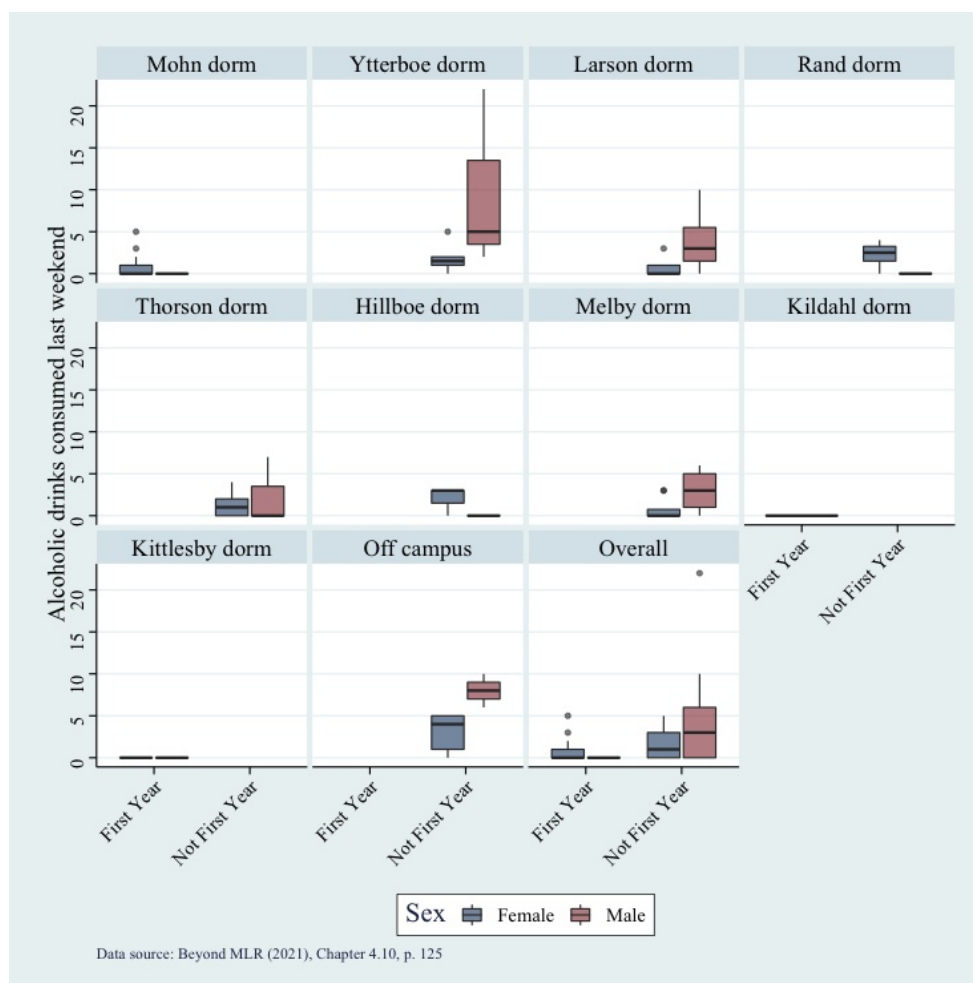


Figure 1. Distribution of drinking habits across 9 dorms, off campus residences, and overall, by sex and first year status of student. The horizontal *median* line in the middle of the boxes represents the point separating the highest 50% number of alcoholic drinks from the lowest 50% (the middle value). The top of the box represents 75% and the bottom of the box 25% of number of alcoholic drinks. The lines and dots extending beyond the box give the full range of values, with more extreme values further away from the box.