

Prevention of alcohol use among minors

Good practices for Local Authorities

1 Regulation of alcohol availability and access

- Ensure enforcement of the law prohibiting sales, and facilitate reporting and inspections.
- Ban advertising and promotions aimed at underage individuals.
- Require age verification, train staff, and prevent indirect sales.
- Restrict sales and consumption in public spaces and regulate operating hours through local ordinances.
- Strengthen monitoring in convenience stores with extended hours.

2 Conflict-of-interest-free prevention policies

- Promote healthy environments and alcohol-free recreational activities.
- Avoid any partnership or funding from the alcohol industry or related entities.
- Integrate prevention into local health, education and youth strategies.
- Include preventive clauses in municipal contracts to limit alcohol availability at events.

3 Comprehensive and intersectorial actions

- Coordinate efforts across sectors: health, education, youth services, law enforcement, leisure, commerce, community organizations, etc.
- Engage the community in implementing evidence-based prevention and treatment programs.
- Promote institutional agreements to prevent underage alcohol consumption.

4 Evaluation and adaptation of interventions

- Identify and monitor high-risk times and locations (festivities, local events).
- Collect data on consumption patterns, times and settings.
- Oversee events to prevent alcohol use by minors.
- Conduct studies on alcohol sales and distribution to minors to assess compliance with the law and identify barriers.

Relevant Data

Perceived ease of access to alcohol

52%

Ages 12-13

93%

Ages 14-18

Places where alcohol is obtained

Ages 12-13

- 1º Convenience stores, corner shops, liquor stores
- 2º Other people's homes
- 3º Their own home

Ages 14-18

- 1º Bars/pubs
- 2º Supermarkets
- 3º Convenience stores, corner shops, liquor stores

Key Messages

It is preventable and a shared societal responsibility

It is not just an individual choice. Social and commercial factors play a significant role

Avoid stigmatizing language and the term "responsible drinking."

