



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction



**The European School Survey Project on Alcohol
and Other Drugs**

ESPAD Report 2015

Results from the European School Survey
Project on Alcohol and Other Drugs

ESPAD Group

Lisbon, 20 September 2016

ESPAD data collections

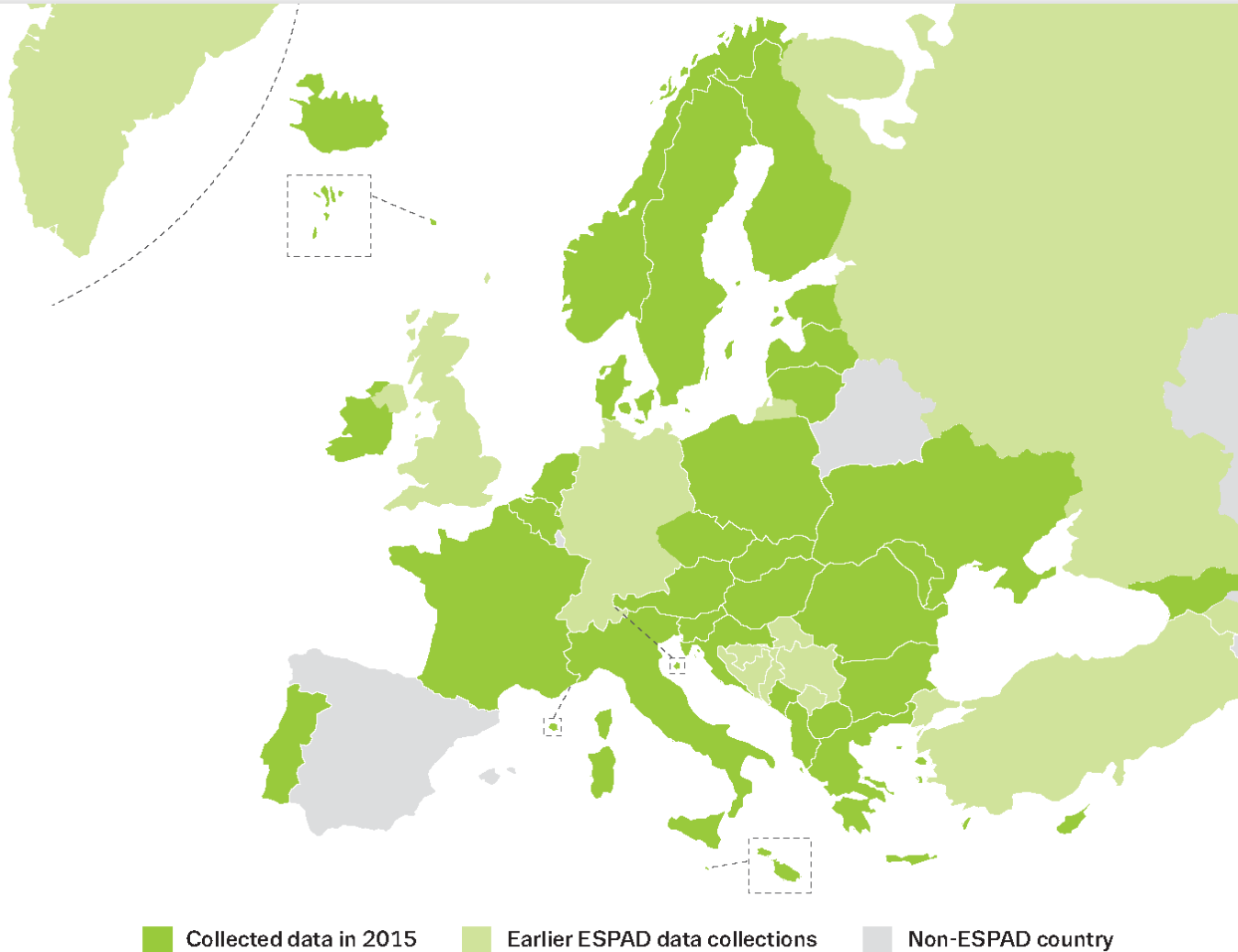
Europe's largest harmonised data collection on substance use

- **26 countries in 1995**
- **30 countries in 1999**
- **35 countries in 2003**
- **35 countries in 2007 (plus 5 in 2008)**
- **39 countries in 2011**
- **35 countries in 2015**

- **46 European countries have participated**

Countries in the ESPAD project

(Countries that have participated in at least one wave of ESPAD)



■ Collected data in 2015 ■ Earlier ESPAD data collections ■ Non-ESPAD country

ESPAD 2015

- **35 European countries**
- **96 043 students (15-16 years old)**
- **In the 6 waves of data collection (1995, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2011 and 2015) about 600 000 students have participated**

Countries dropping out and joining in 2015

Dropping out in 2015

- Bosnia and Herzegovina (FBiH and RS)
- Isle of Man
- Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244)
- Russian Federation (Moscow)
- Serbia
- Germany (only participation of some Bundesländer in previous surveys) → worrying
- United Kingdom (non-participating schools) → worrying

Joining (or re-joining) in 2015

- Austria
- Georgia
- Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Ongoing developments in ESPAD

- **In 2013, the Swedish government announced discontinuation of support for the coordination after 2015.**
- **Increasing collaboration and support from the EMCDDA, including production of 2015 Report.**
- **The EMCDDA has committed to support the coordination for next cycle of ESPAD (2017-2020).**



ESPAD

ESPAD 2015 results



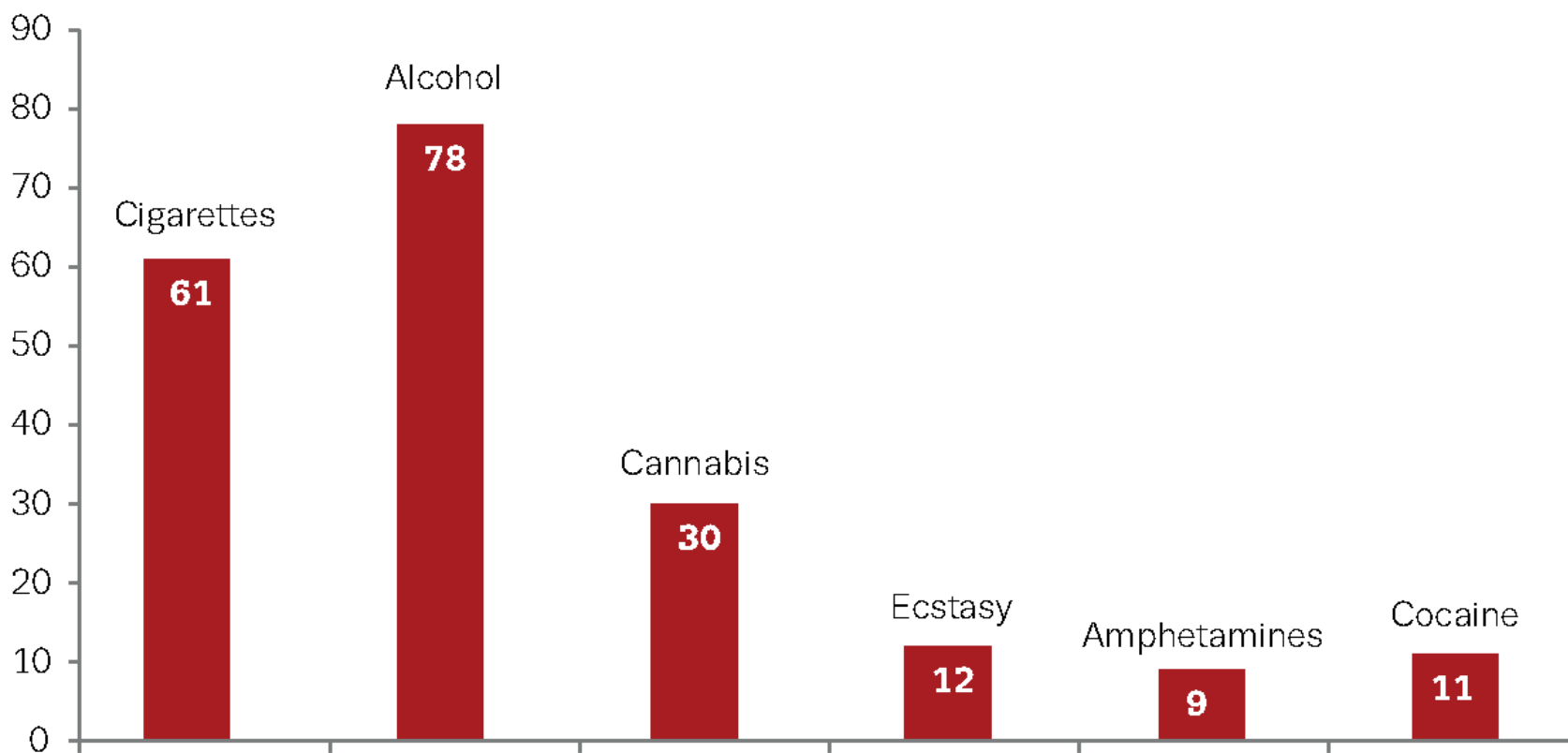
Perceived availability

Perceived availability of substances

Students responding that it is 'fairly easy' or 'very easy' to obtain substances (percentage)

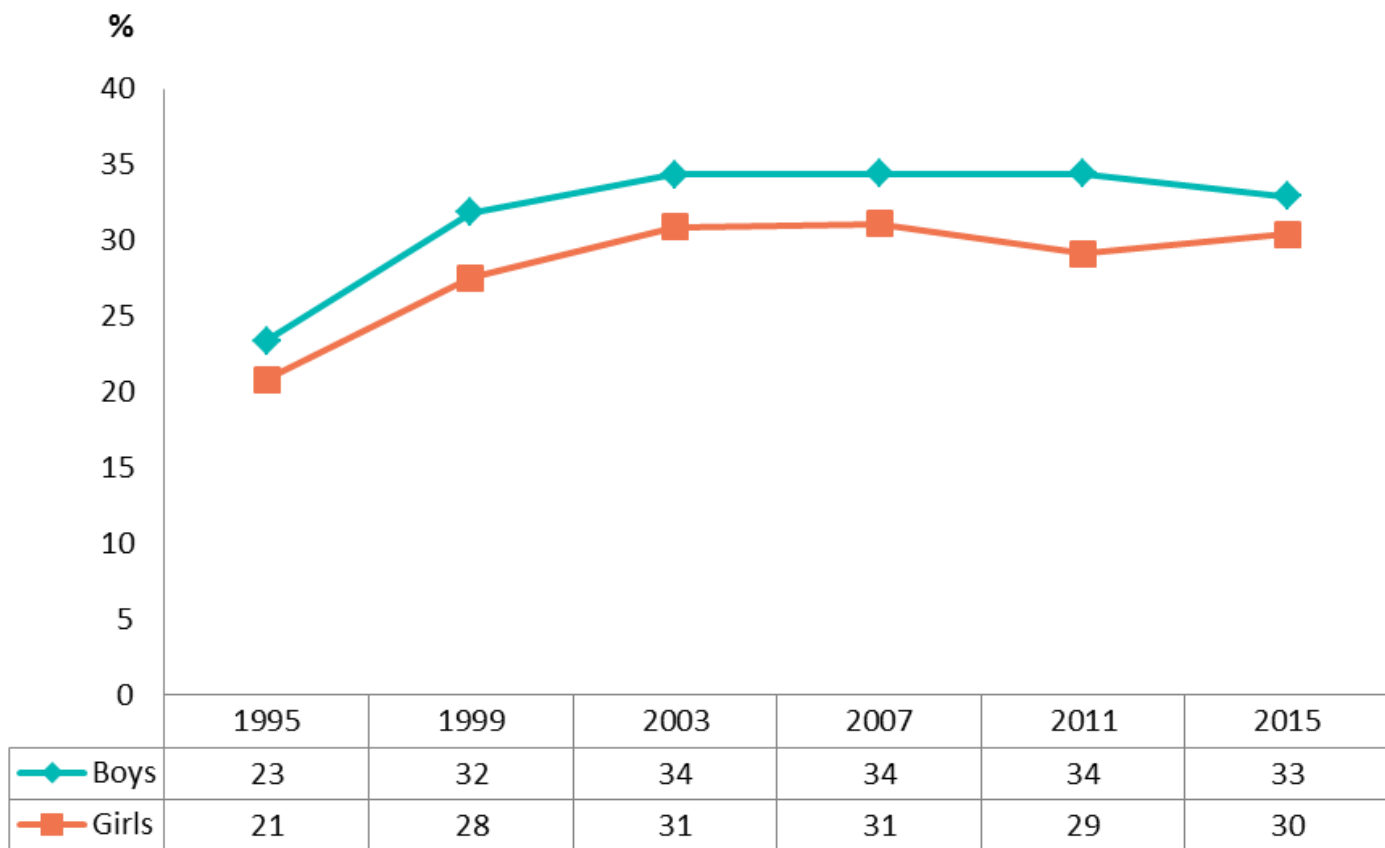
European average
(34 countries)

Percent



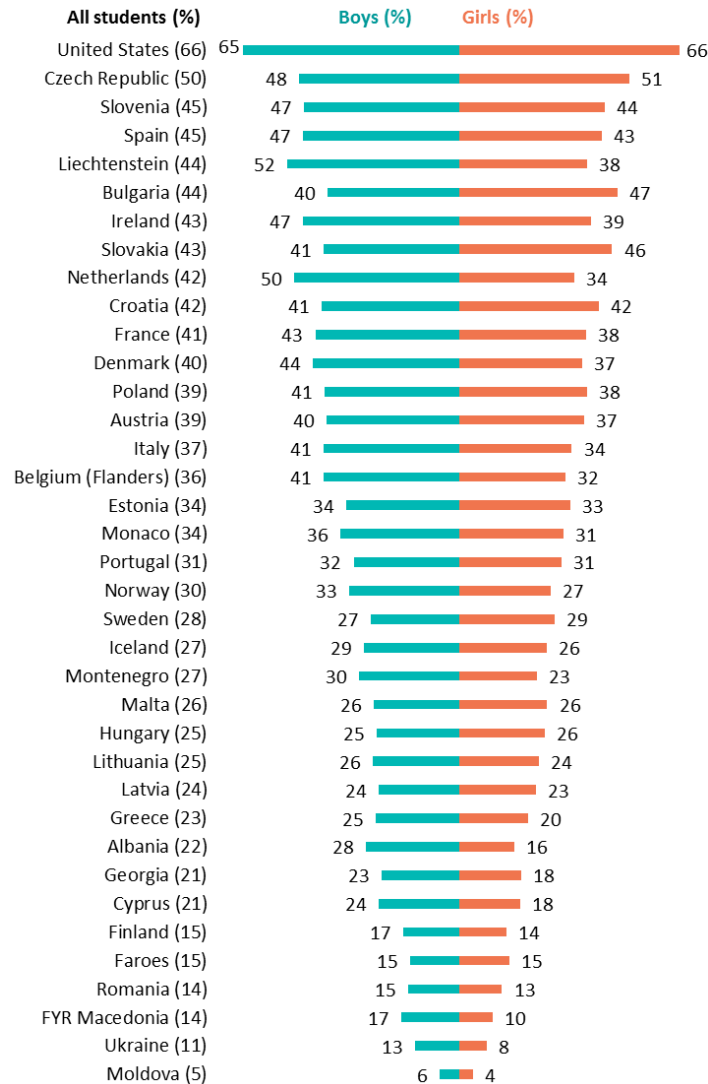
Perceived availability of cannabis use, by gender

Students responding that it is 'fairly easy' or 'very easy' to obtain cannabis —
25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



Perceived availability of cannabis

Students responding that it is 'fairly easy' or 'very easy' to obtain cannabis, by gender (percentage)

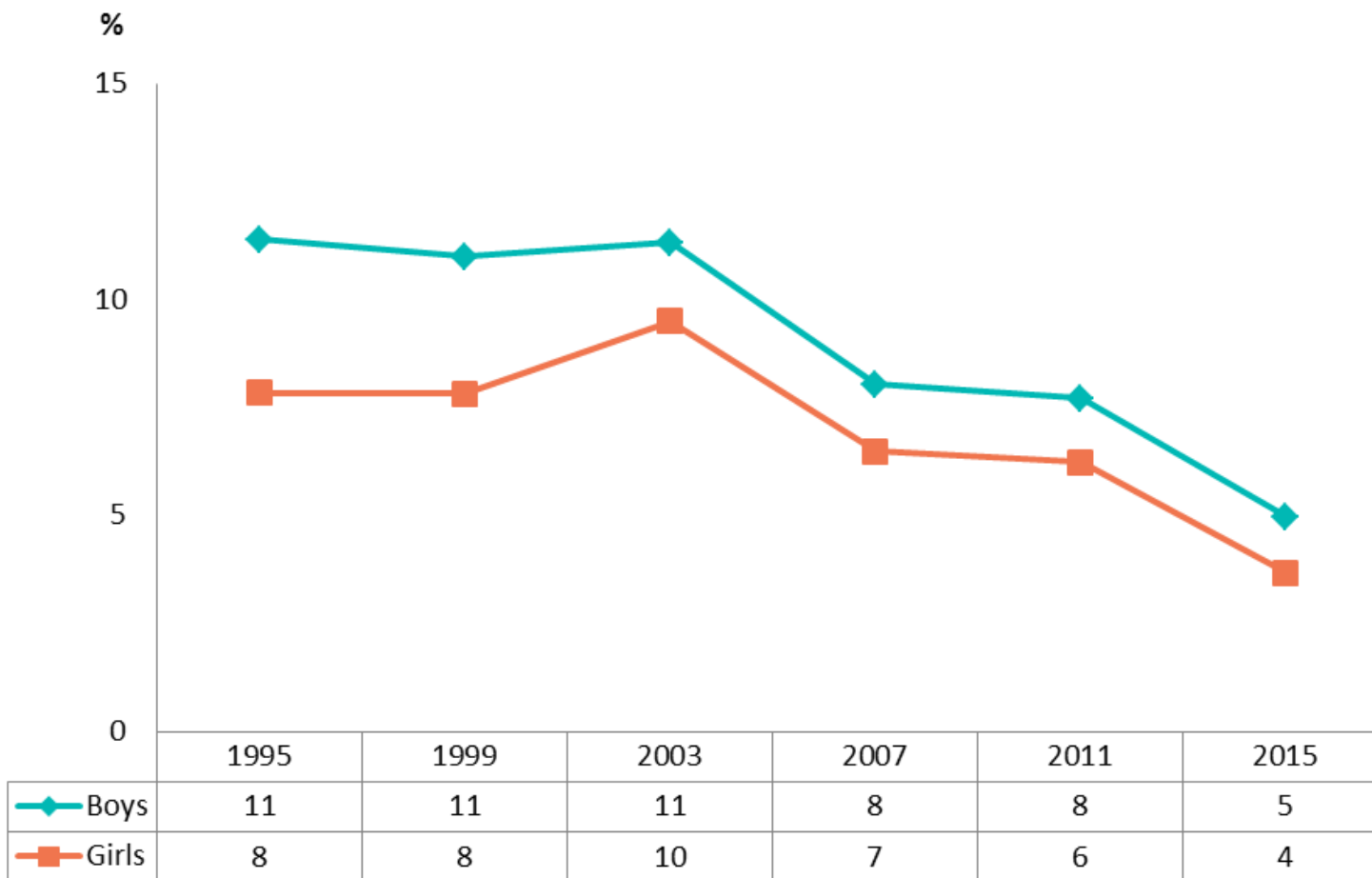




Early onset of use of selected substances

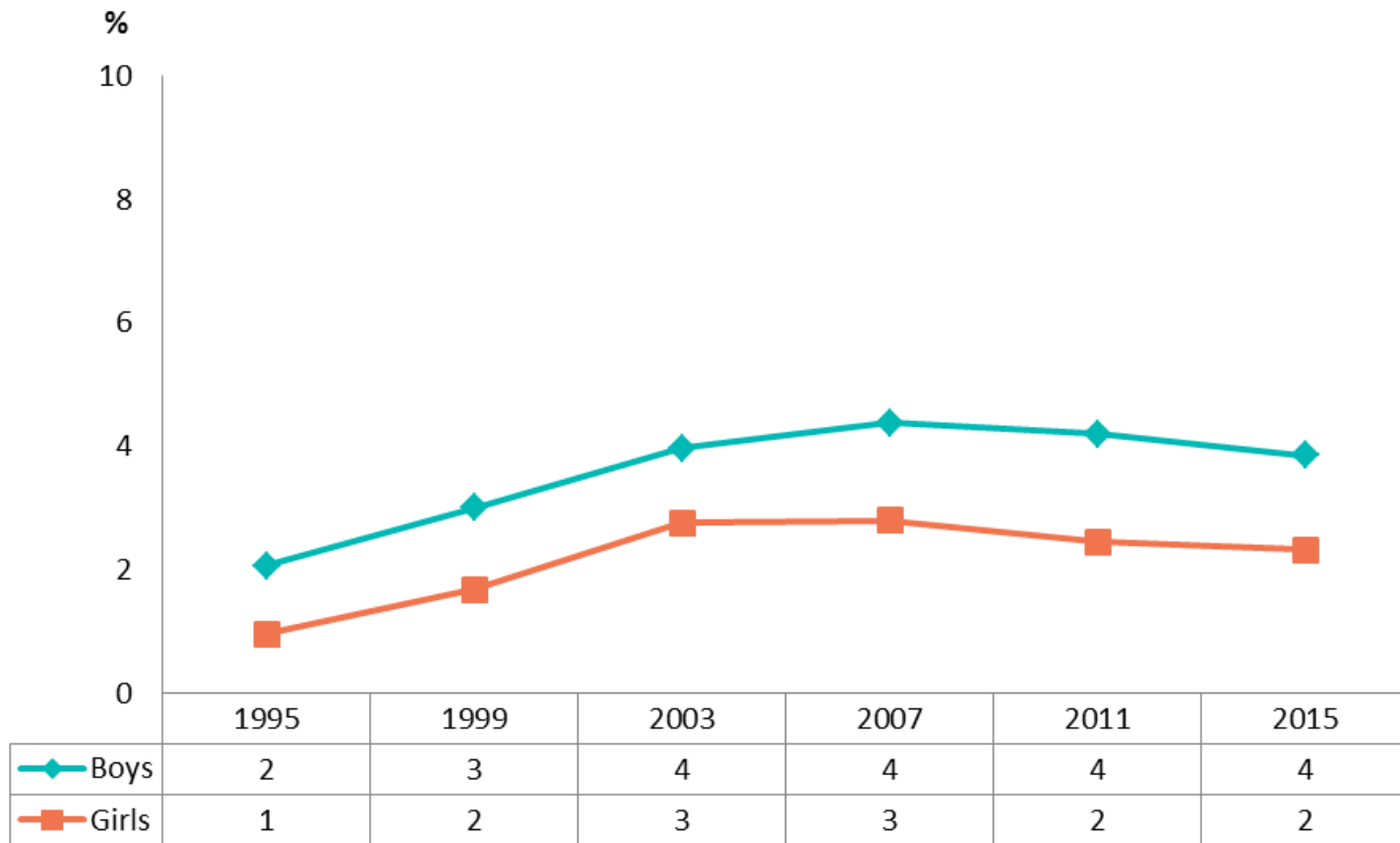
Daily cigarette use at the age of 13 or younger, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



Cannabis use at the age of 13 or younger, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)





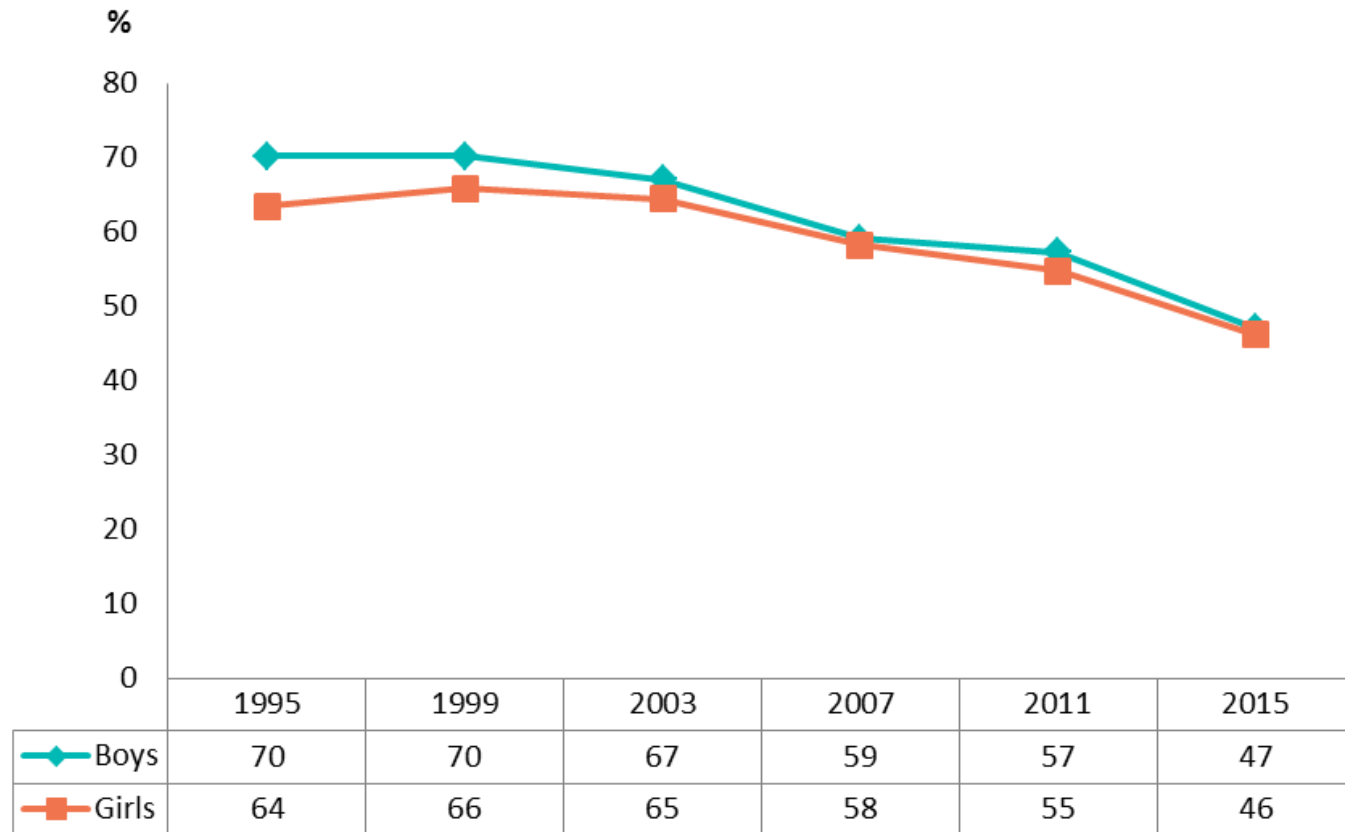
ESPAD

Cigarettes



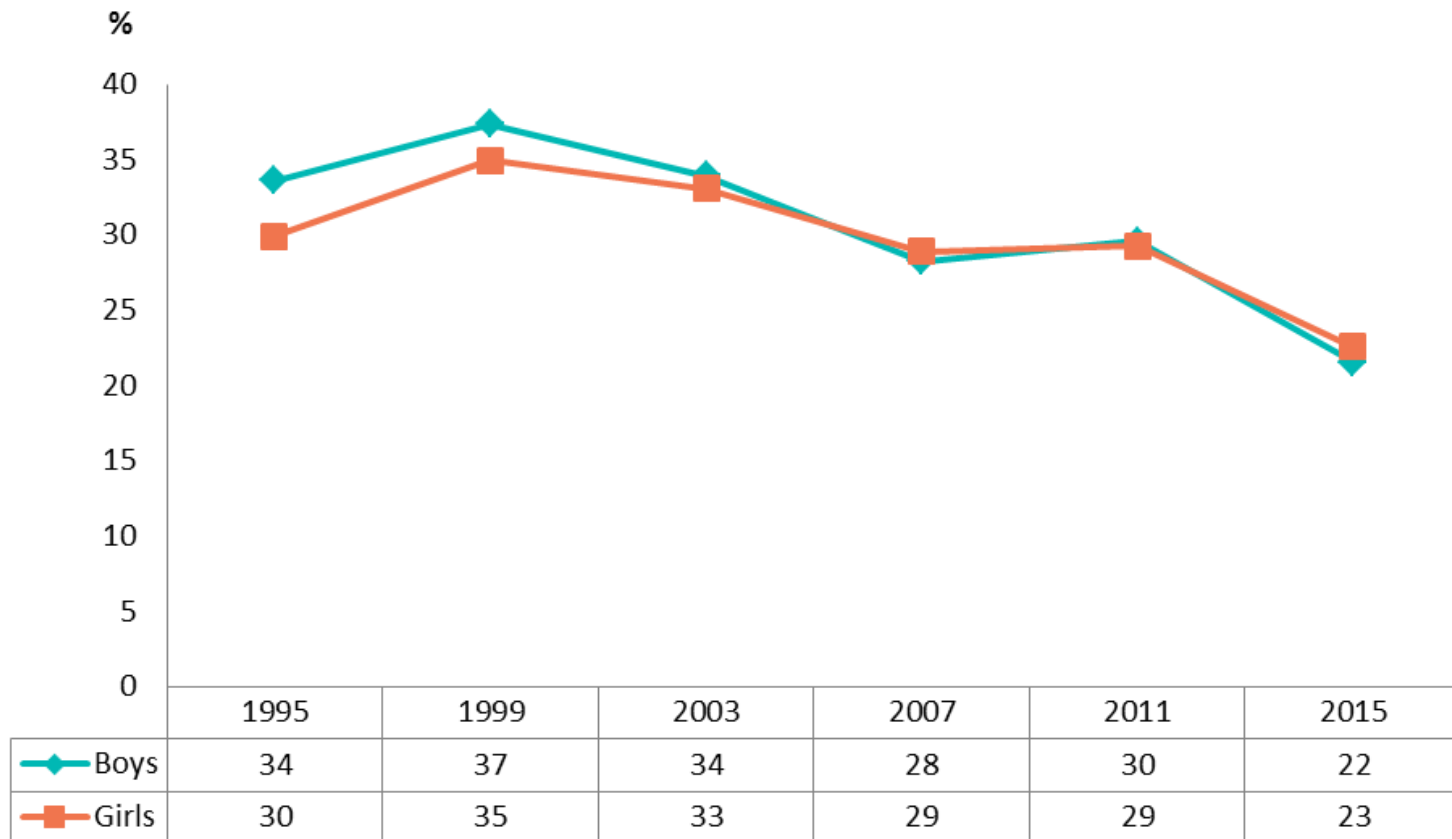
Lifetime use of cigarettes, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



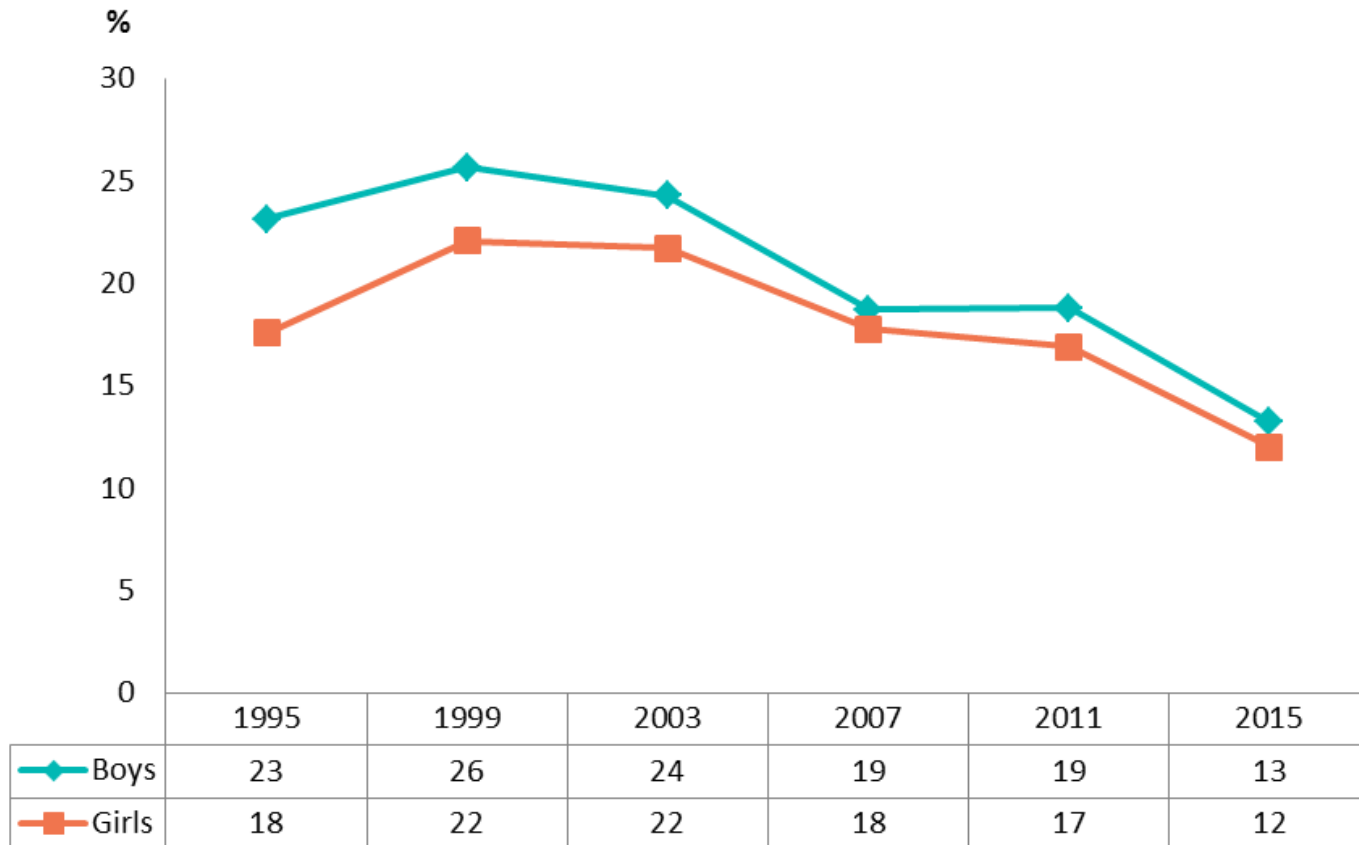
Cigarette use in the last 30 days, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



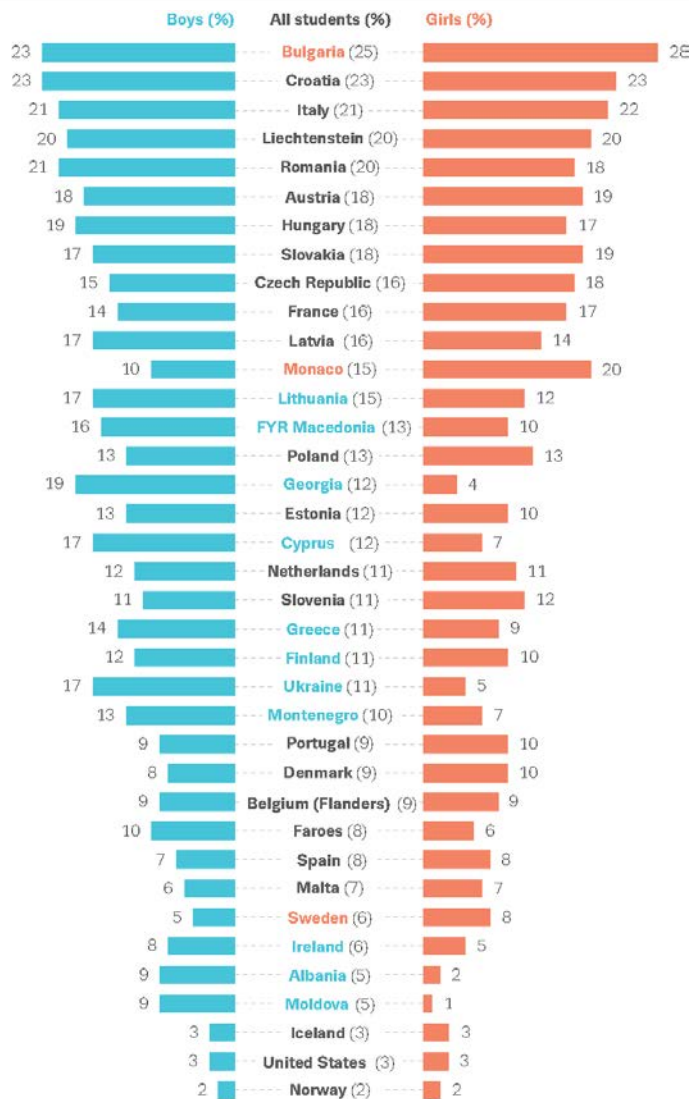
Daily cigarette use in the last 30 days, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



Daily cigarette use

Prevalence in the last 30 days, by gender (percentage)





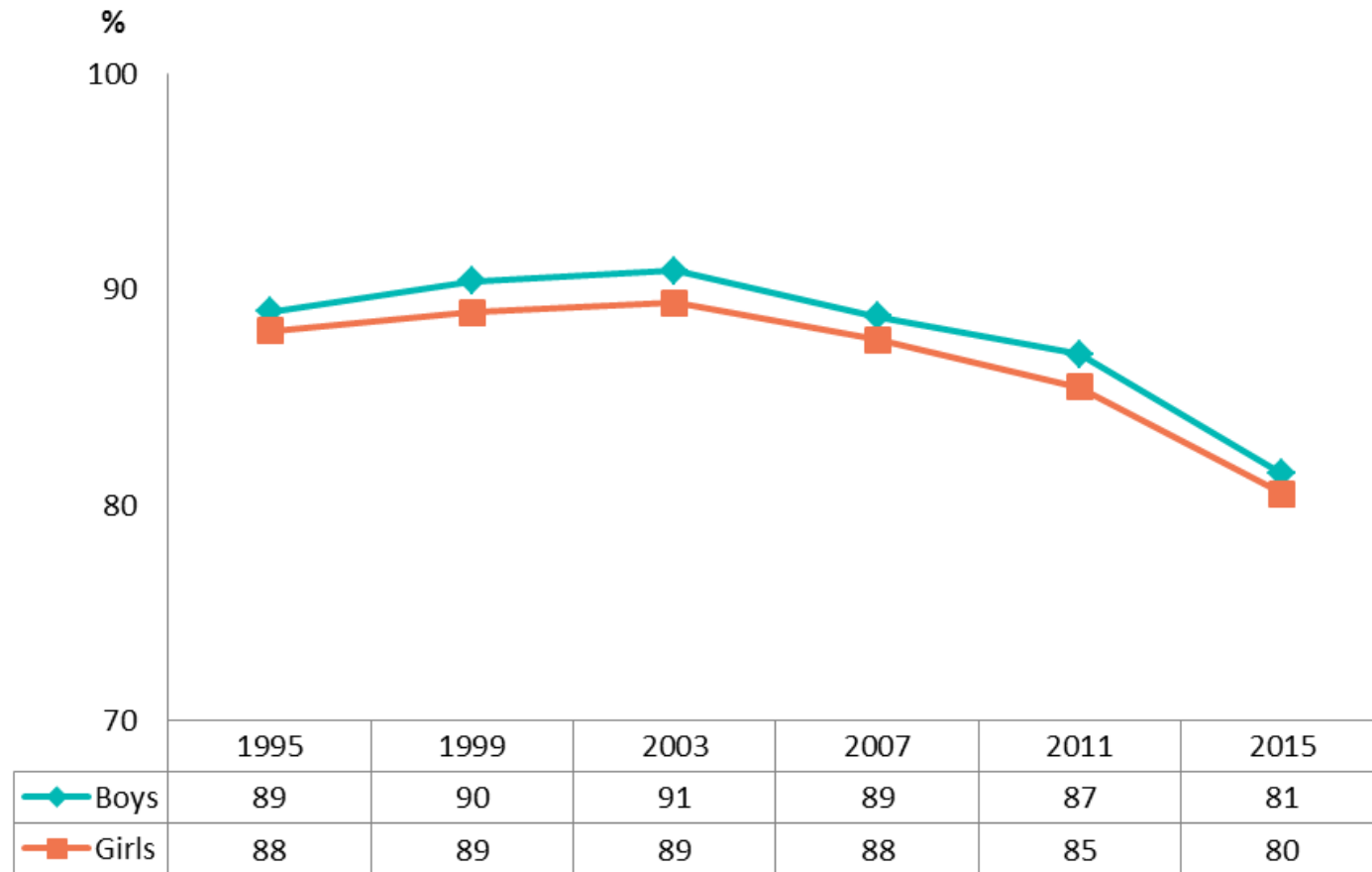
ESPAD

Alcohol



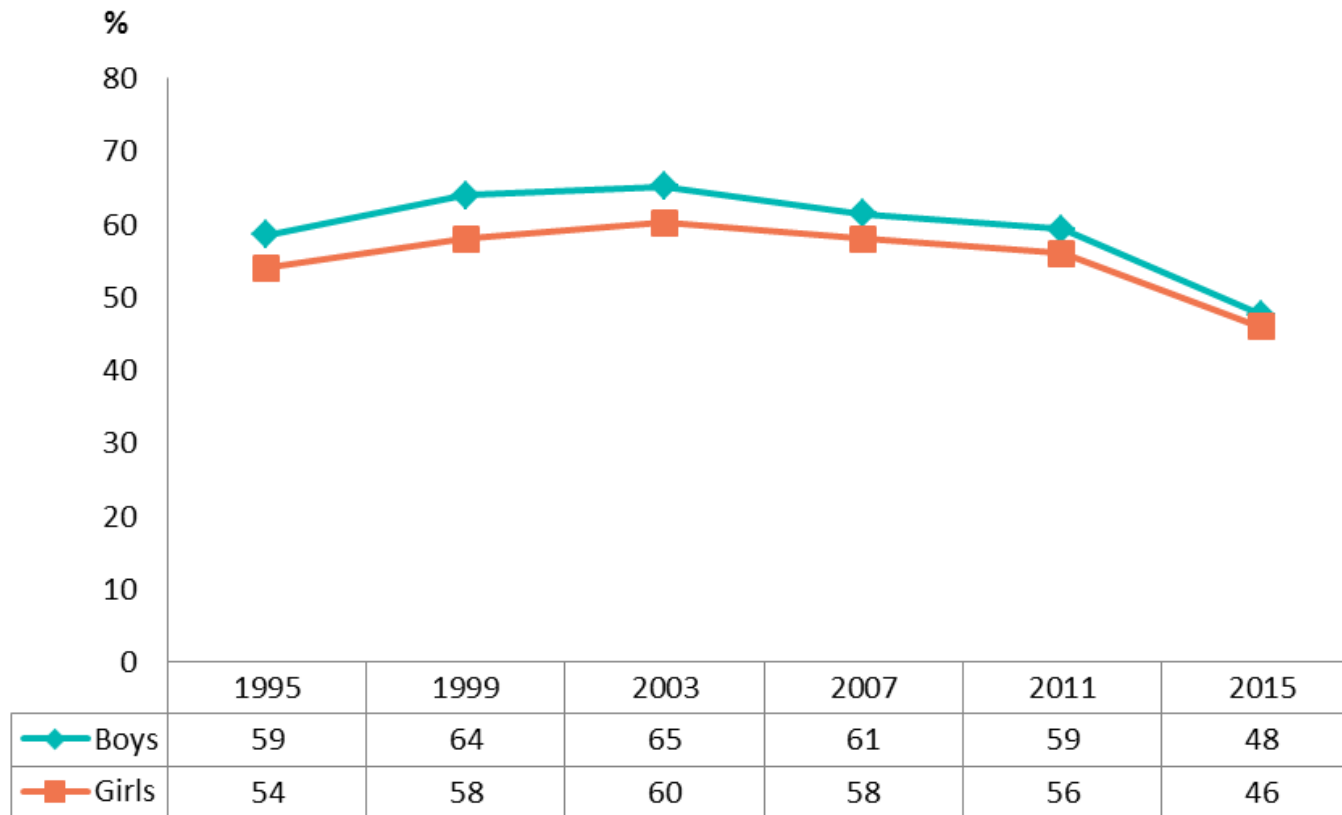
Lifetime alcohol use, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



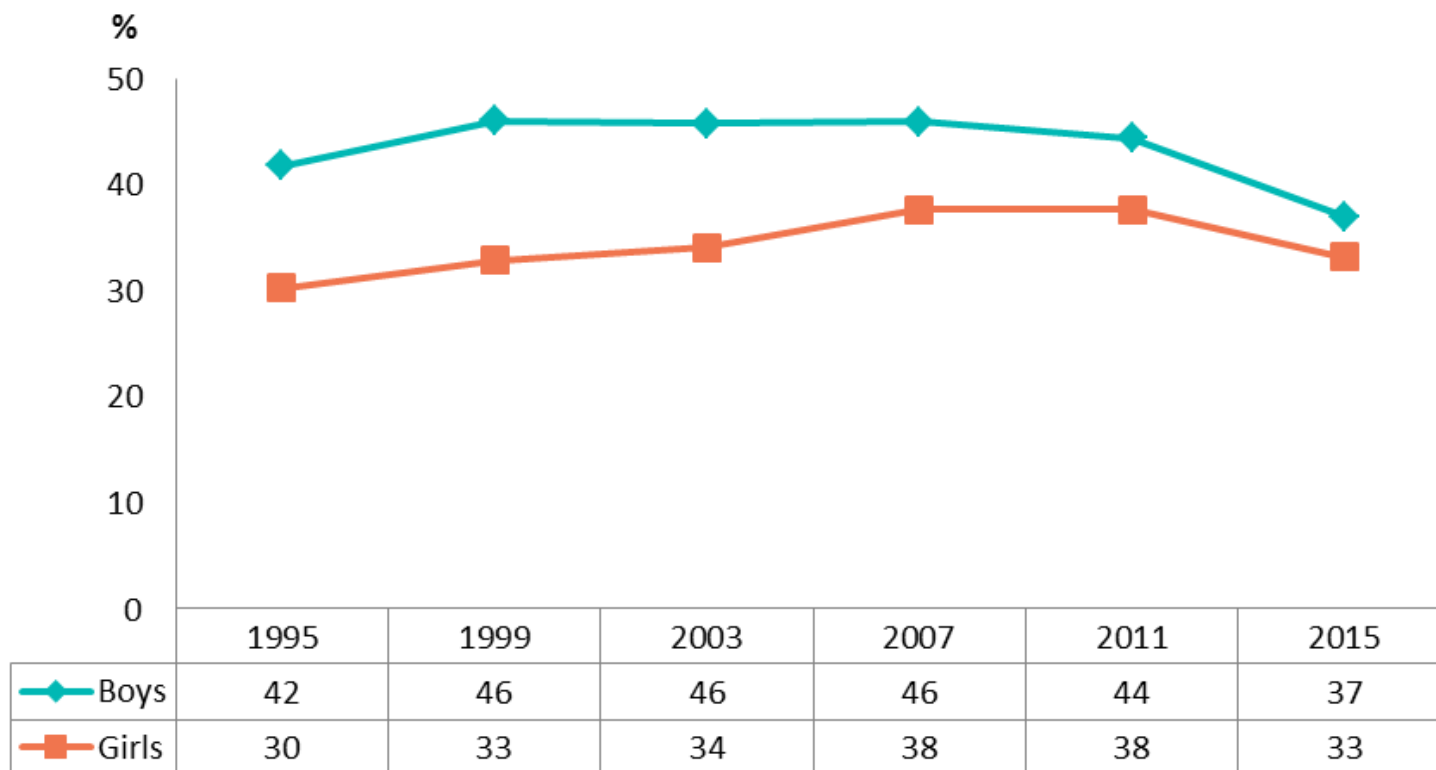
Alcohol use in the last 30 days, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)

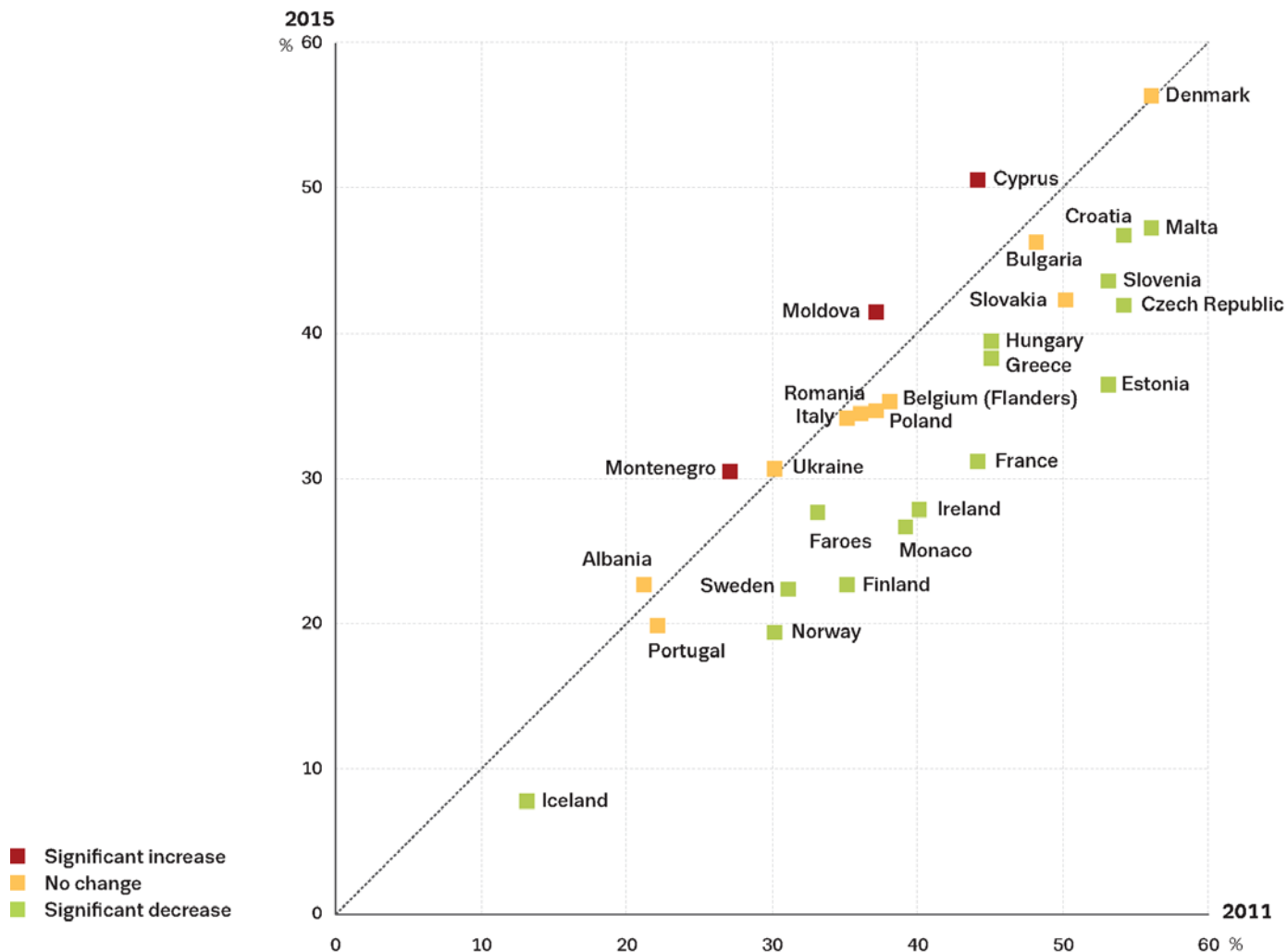


Heavy episodic drinking during the last 30 days, by gender

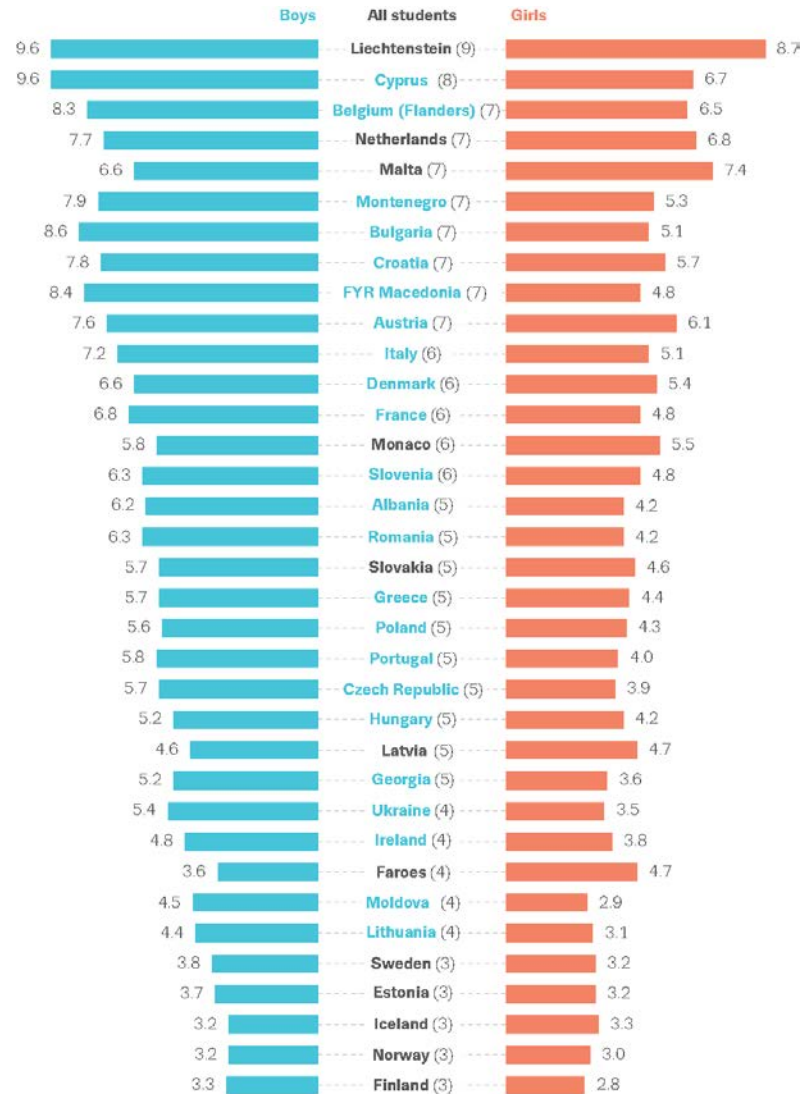
Five or more drinks on one occasion. 25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



Changes between 2011 and 2015 in the proportion reporting having had five or more drinks on one occasion during the past 30 days (percentage)



Average frequency of alcohol intake in the last 30 days, by gender (mean number of occasions among users)





ESPAD

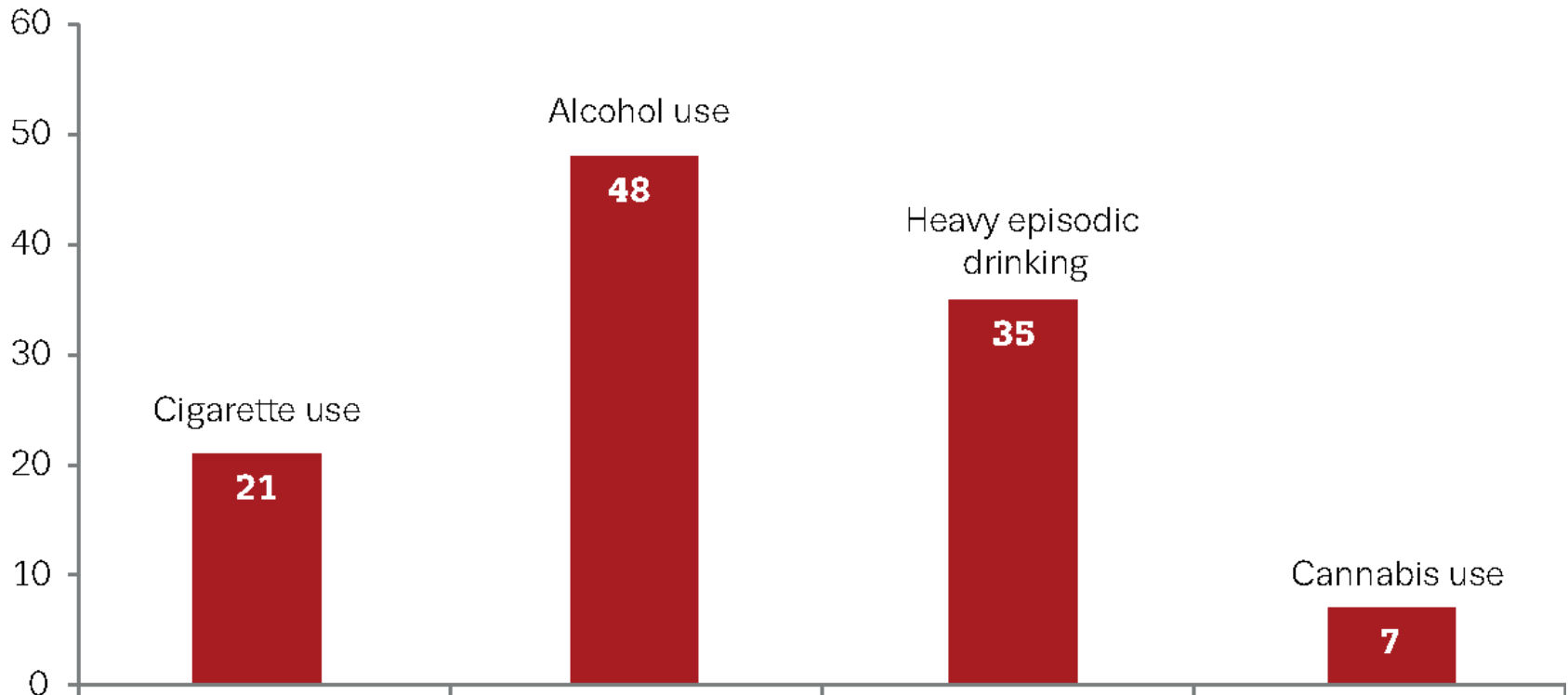
Illicit drugs



Last 30 days use for selected substances or patterns of use (percentage)

European average
(34 countries)

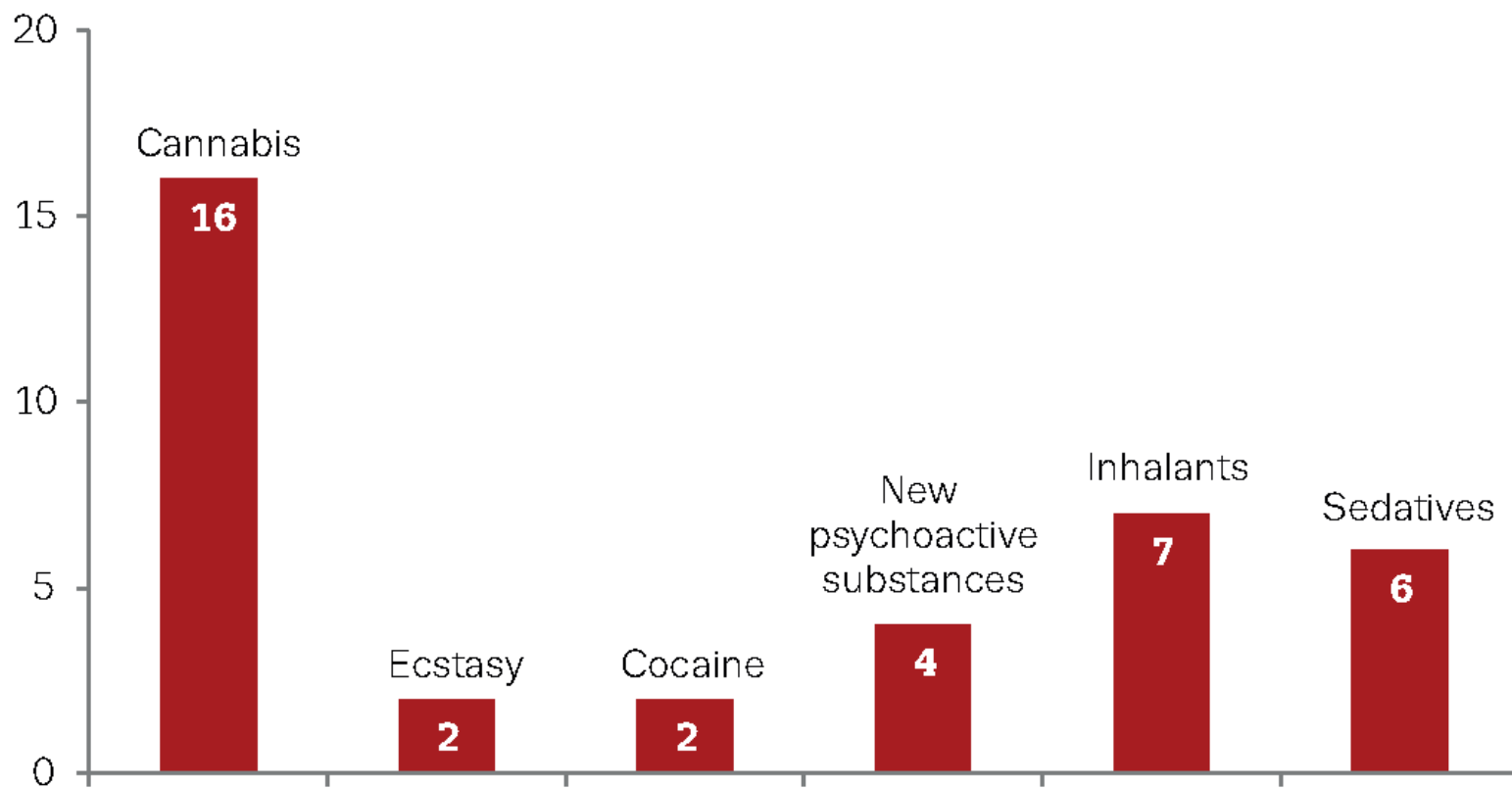
Percent



Lifetime prevalence of use of selected substances (percentage)

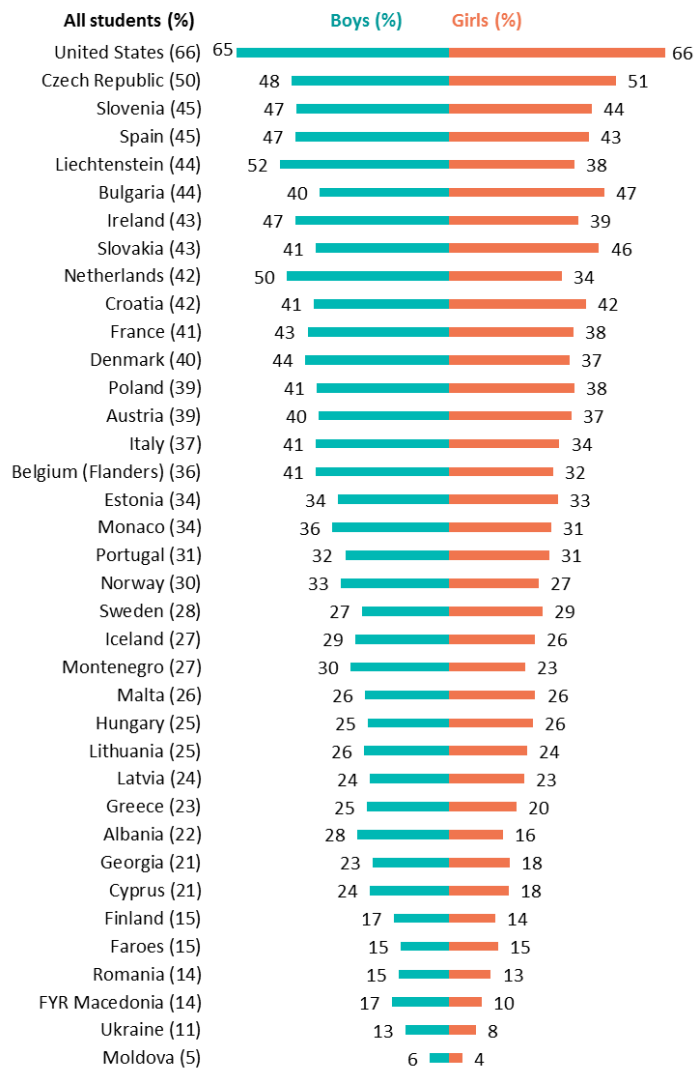
European average
(34 countries)

Percent

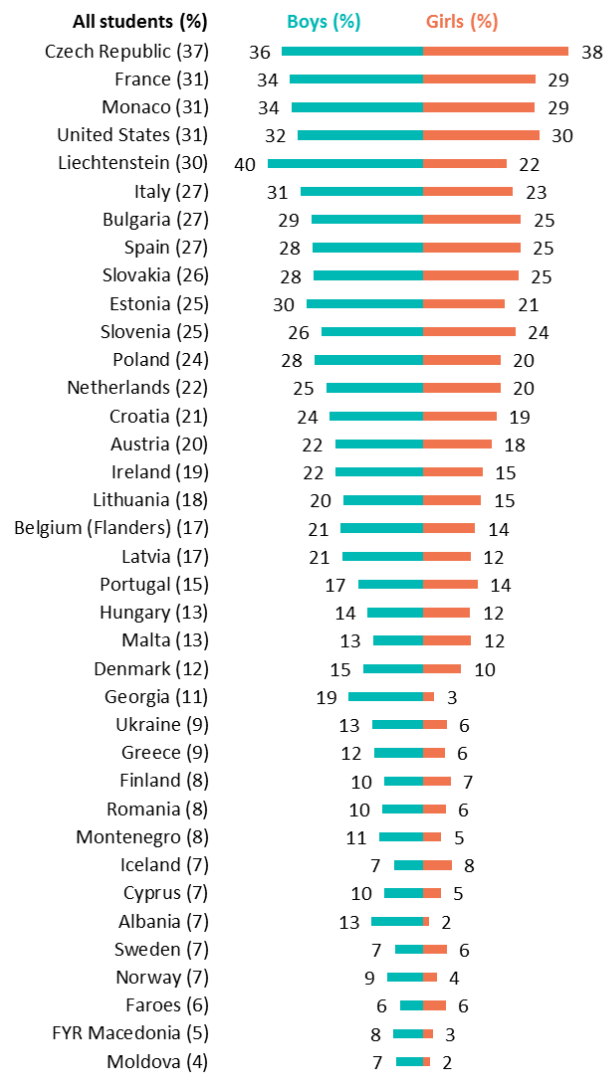


Slide double: Perceived availability of cannabis

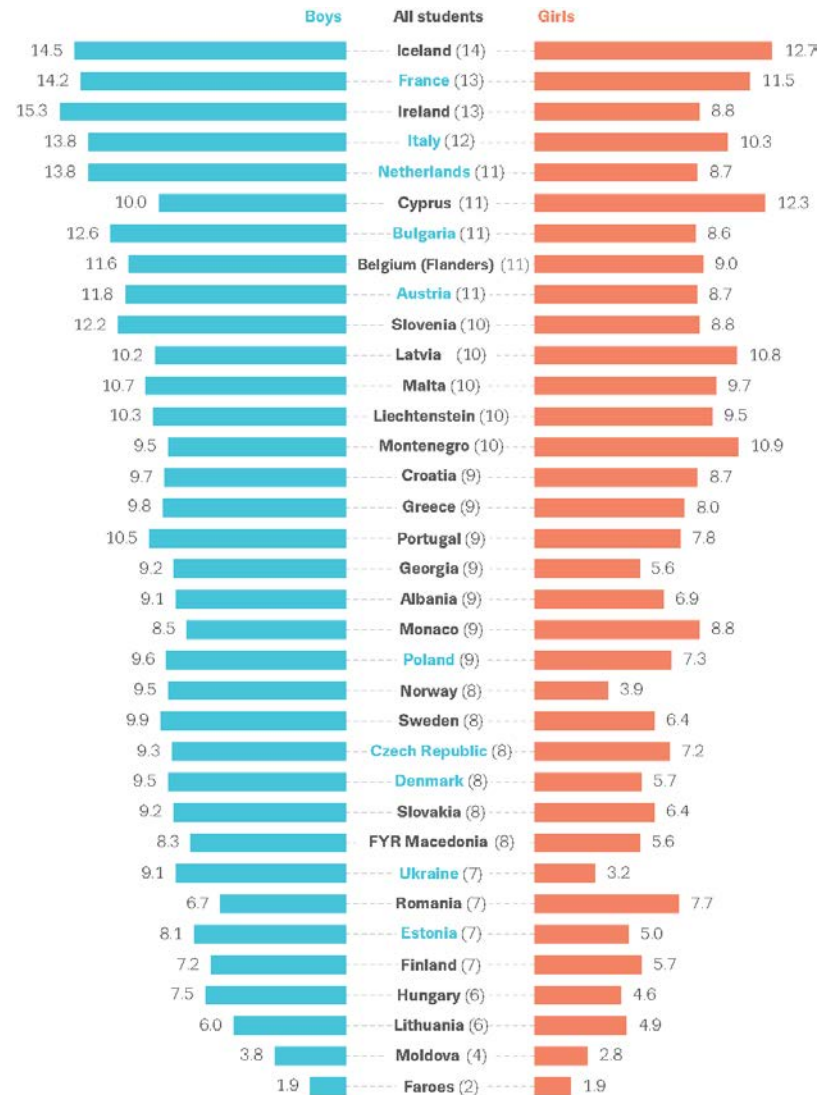
Students responding that it is 'fairly easy' or 'very easy' to obtain cannabis, by gender (percentage)



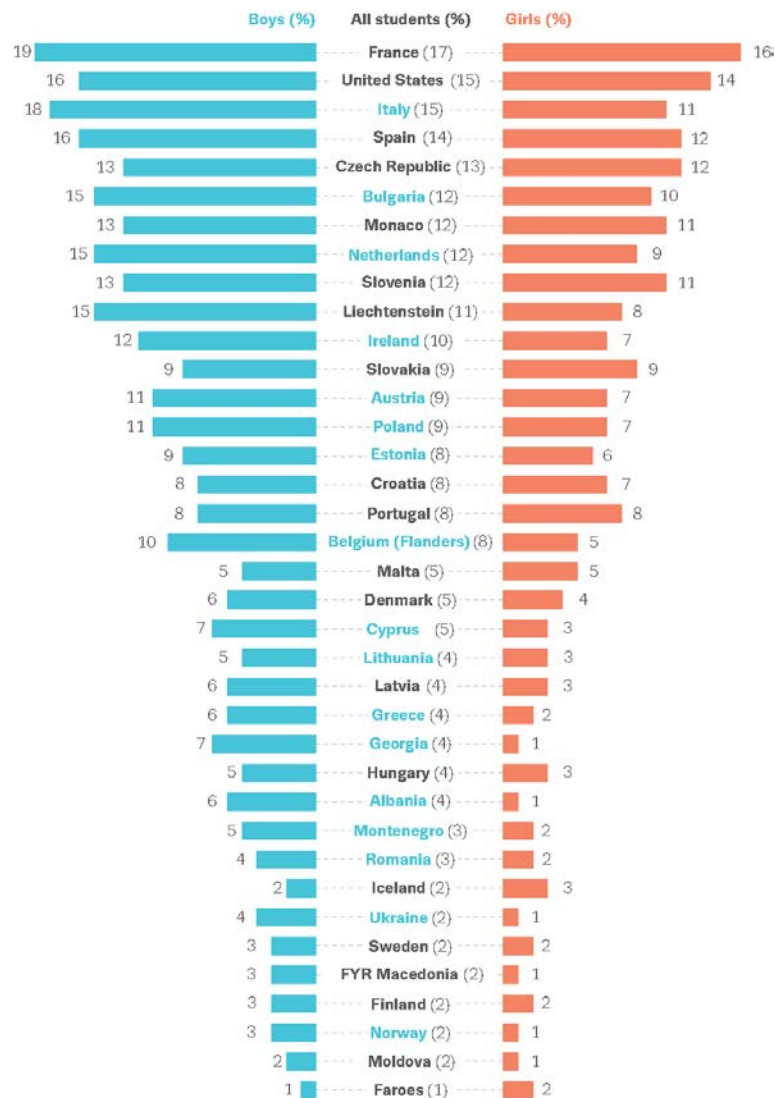
Lifetime prevalence of cannabis use, by gender (percentage)



Average frequency of cannabis use in the last 12 months, by gender (mean number of occasions among users)

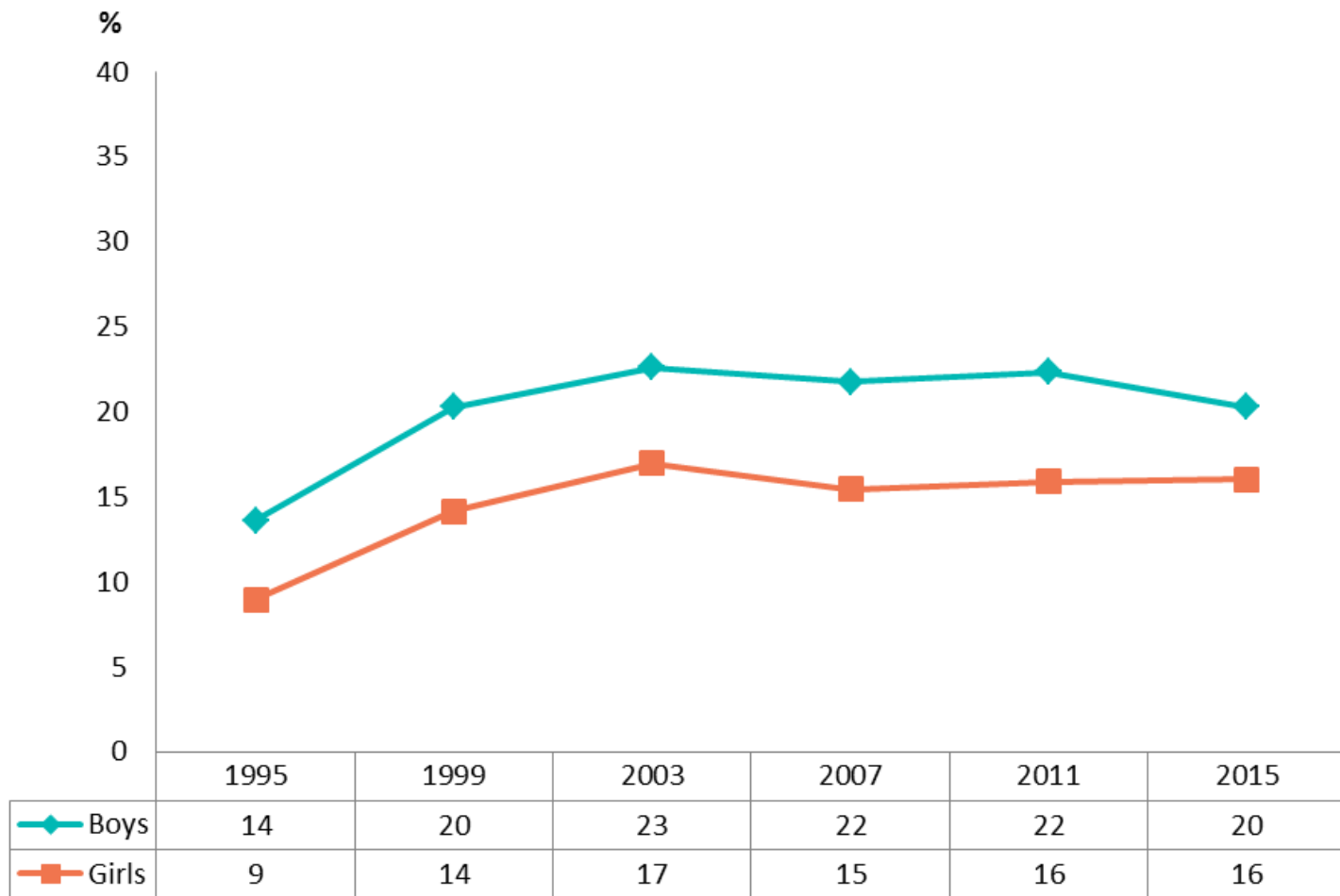


Prevalence of cannabis use in the last 30 days, by gender (percentage)



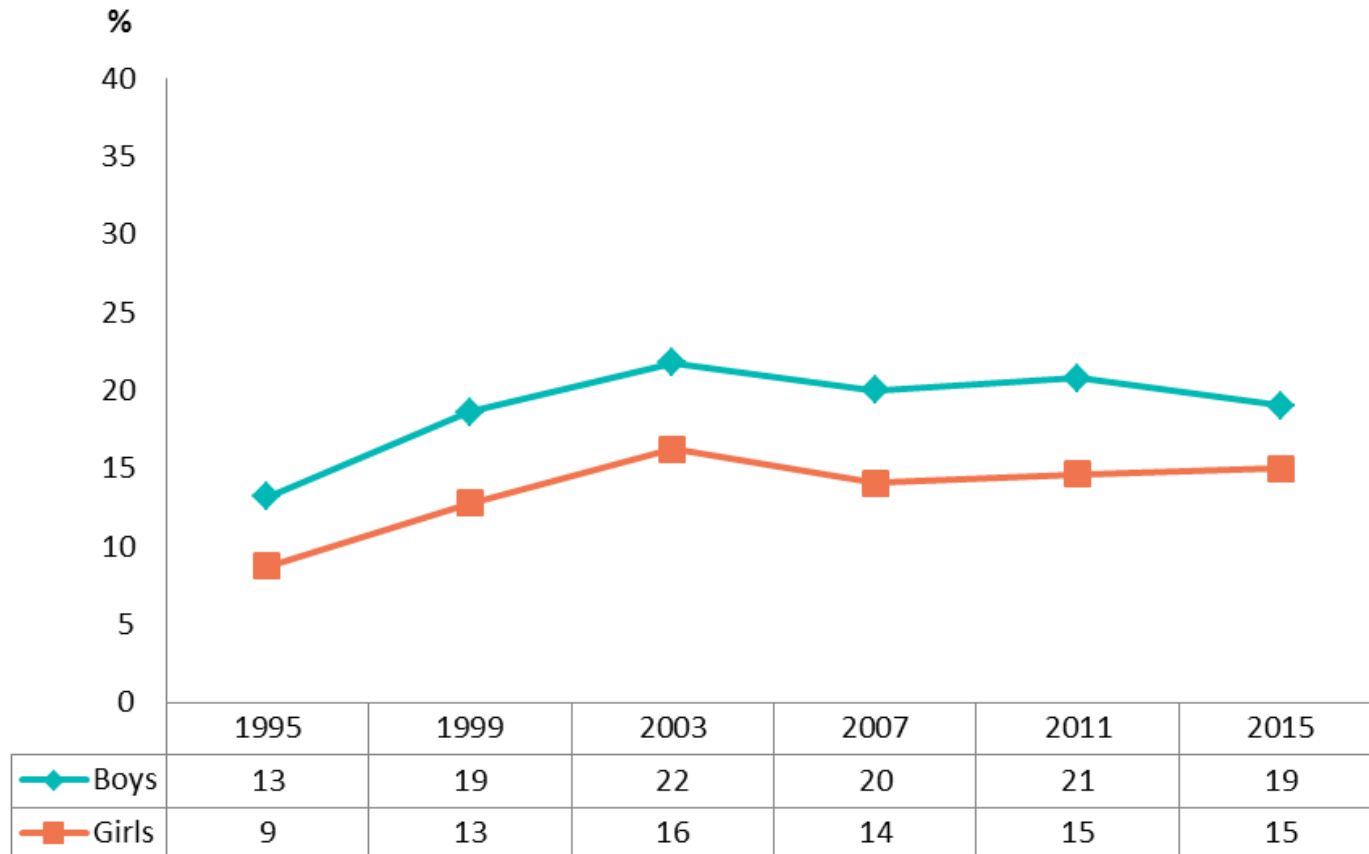
Lifetime use of illicit drugs, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



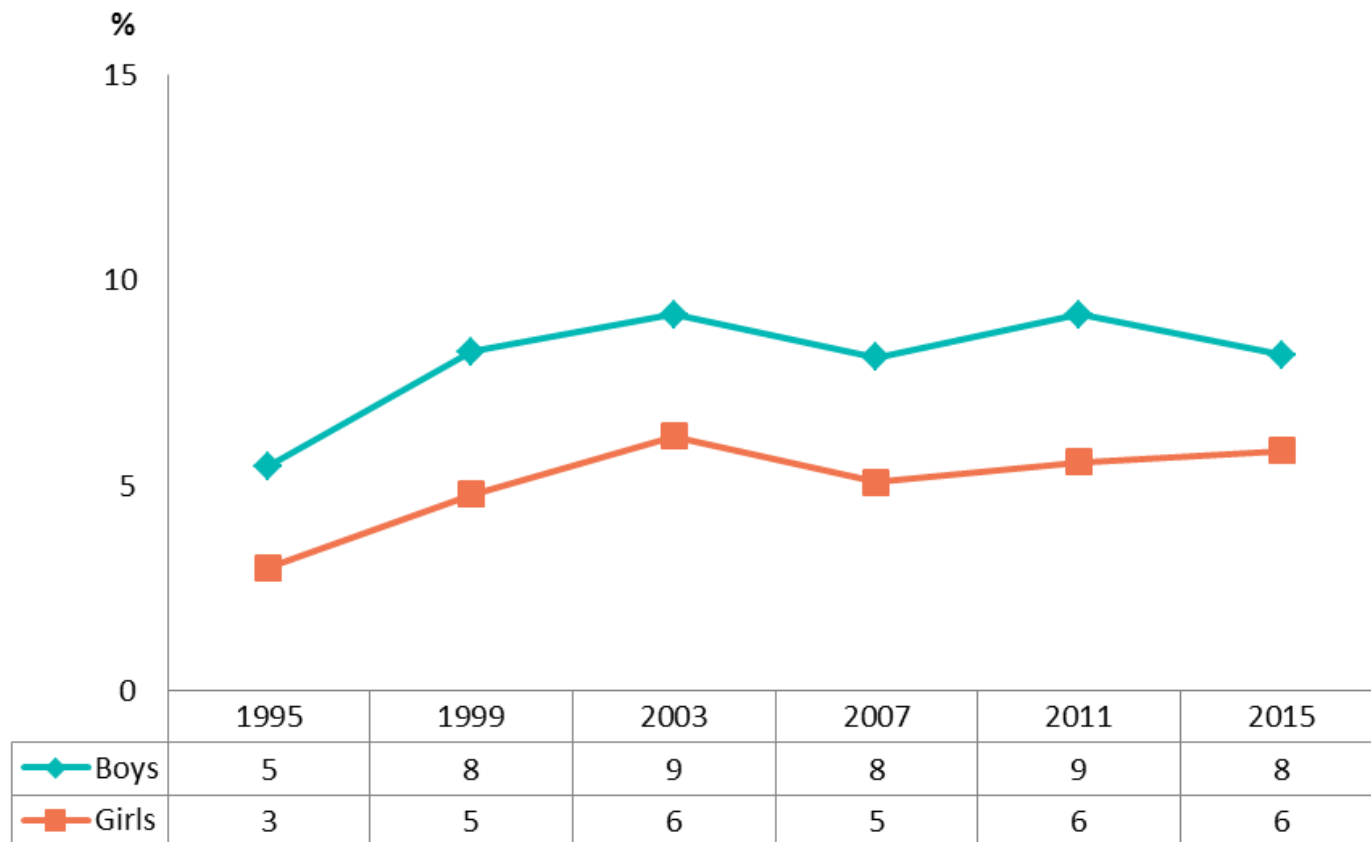
Lifetime use of cannabis, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



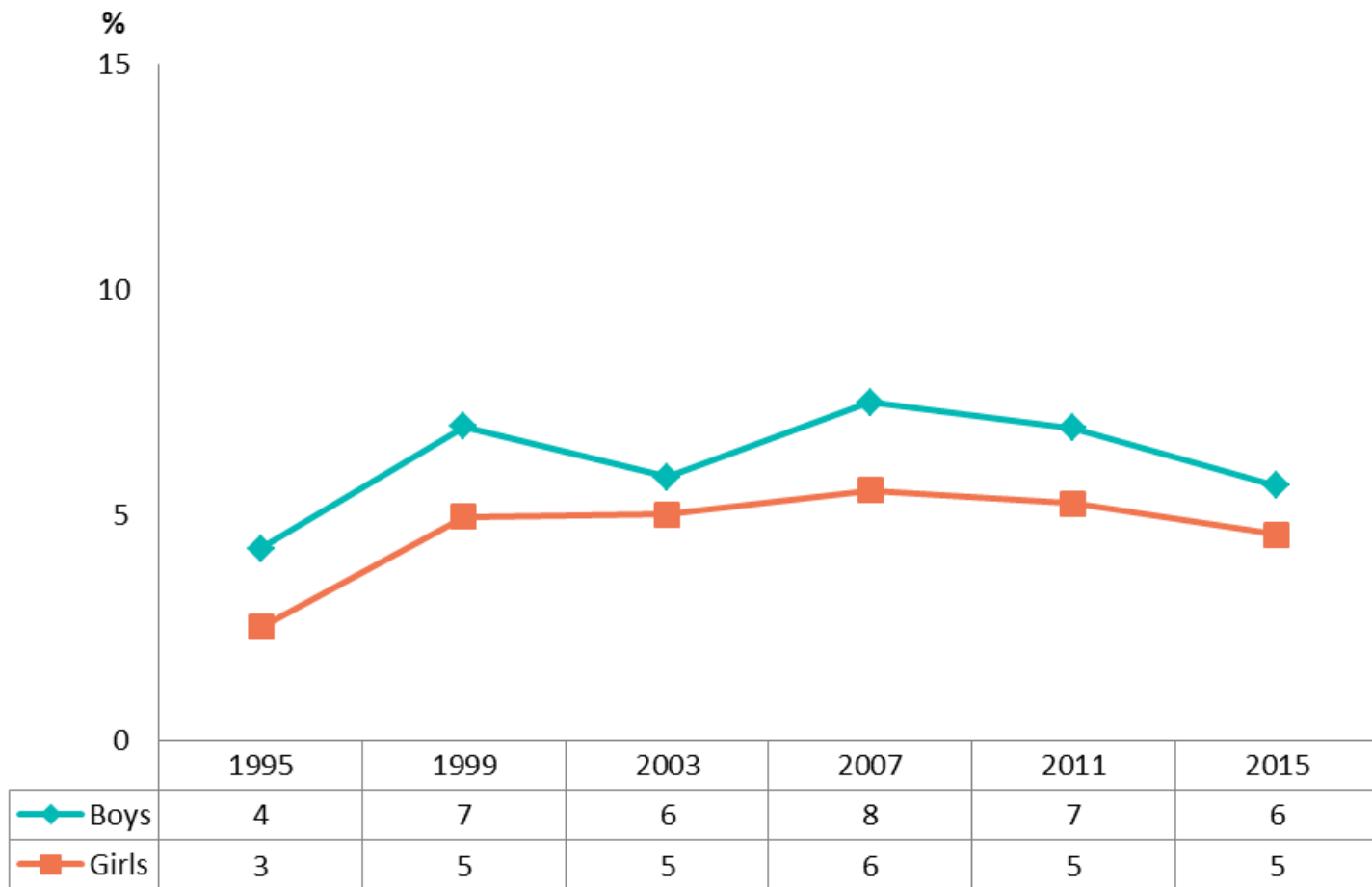
Cannabis use in the last 30 days, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



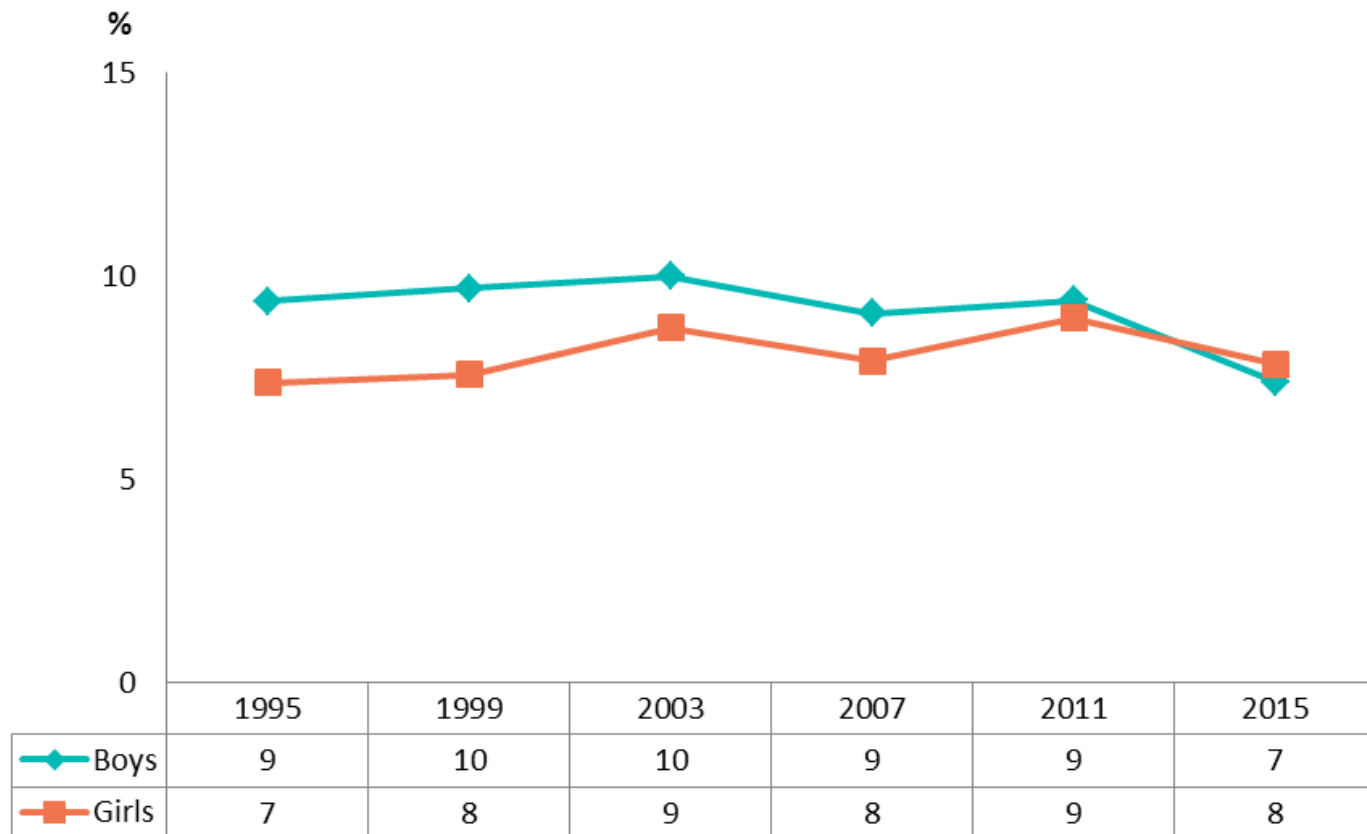
Lifetime use of illicit drugs other than cannabis, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



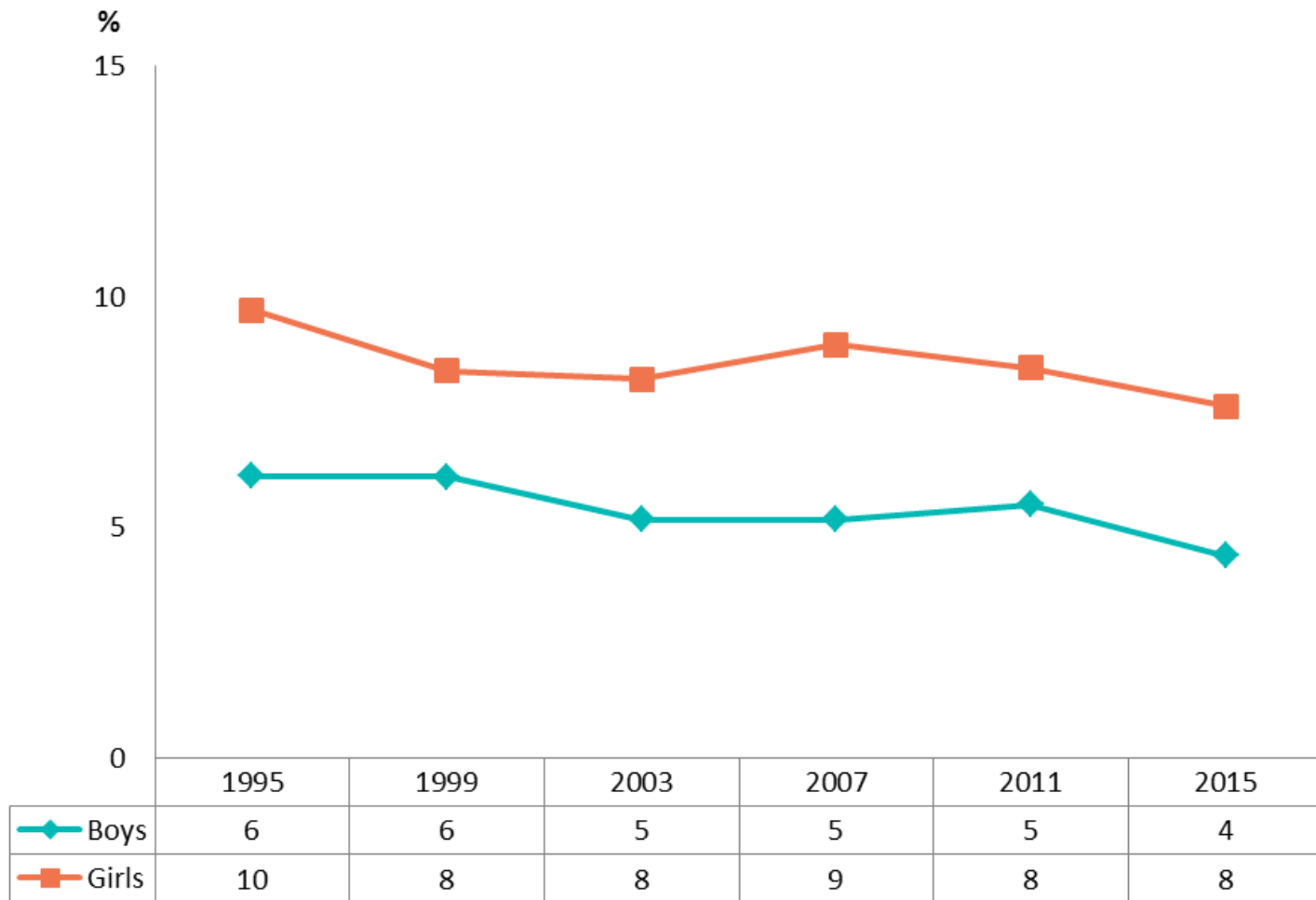
Lifetime use of inhalants, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)



Lifetime use of tranquillisers or sedatives without a doctor's prescription, by gender

25-country trend 1995-2015 (percentage)





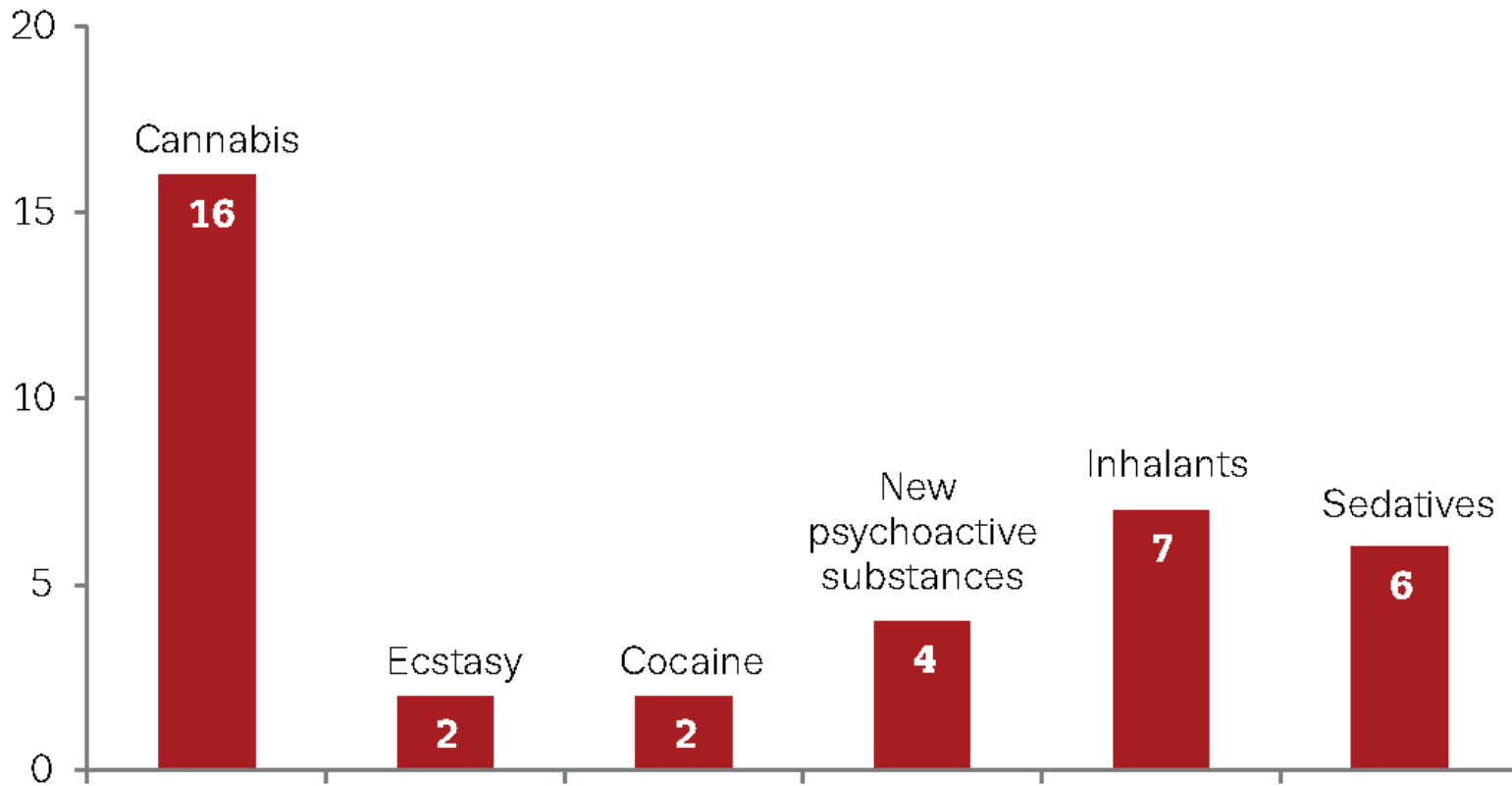
New psychoactive substances



Lifetime use of selected substances (percentage)

European average
(34 countries)

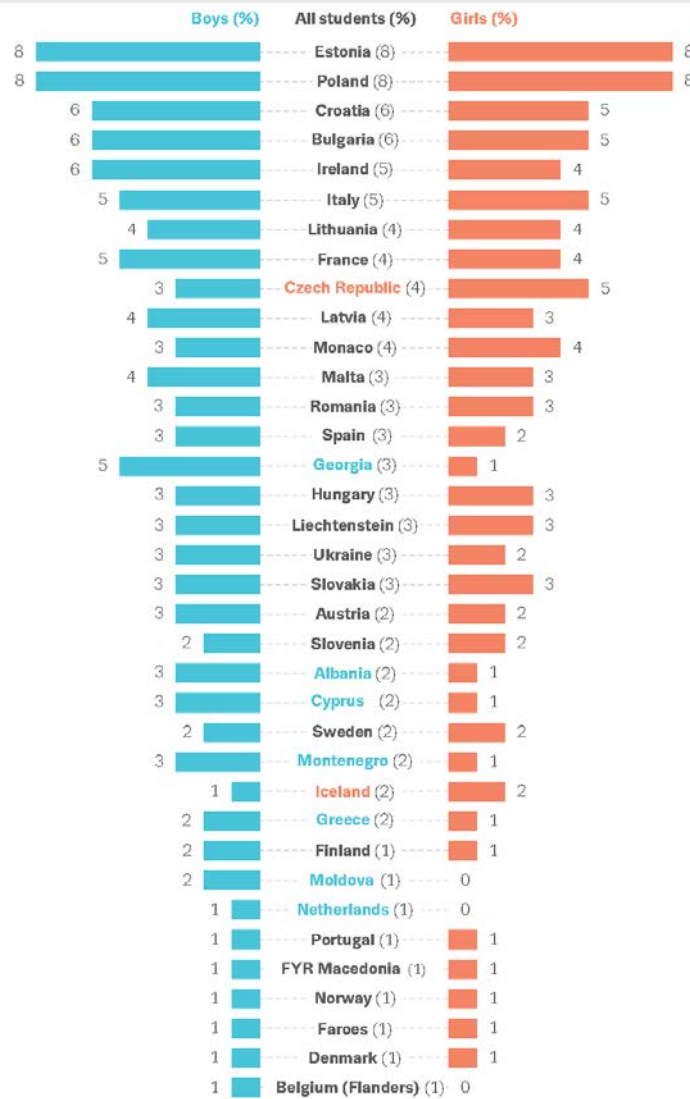
Percent



Wording of the NPS question

‘New substances that imitate the effects of illicit drugs (such as cannabis or ecstasy) may now be sometimes available. They are sometimes called ‘legal highs’, ‘ethno botanicals’, ‘research chemicals’ and can come in different forms, for example herbal mixtures, powders, crystals or tablets.’

Prevalence of new psychoactive substance use in the last 12 months, by gender (percentage)





ESPAD

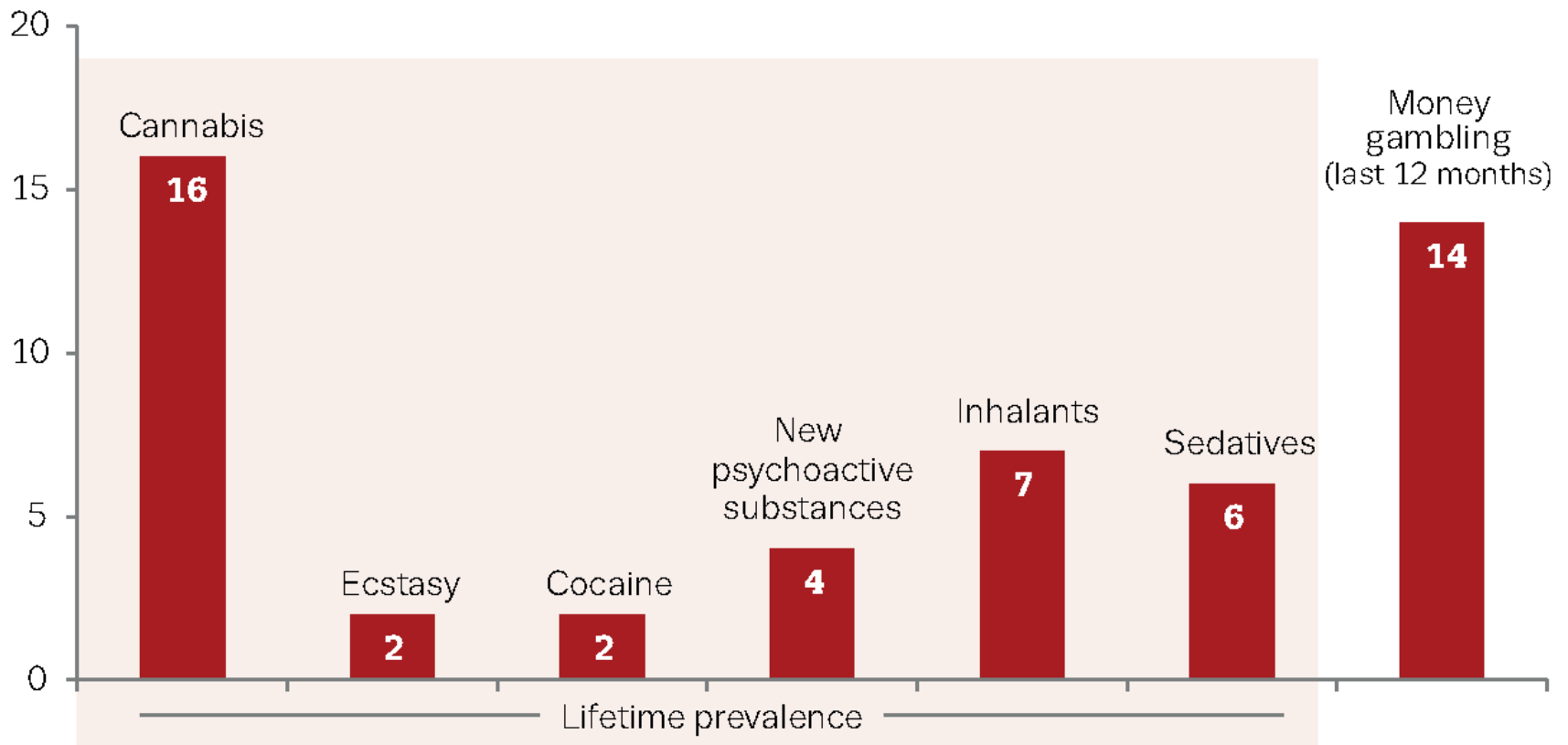
Internet, gaming, gambling



Lifetime prevalence of use of selected substances and gambling for money in the last 12 months (percentage)

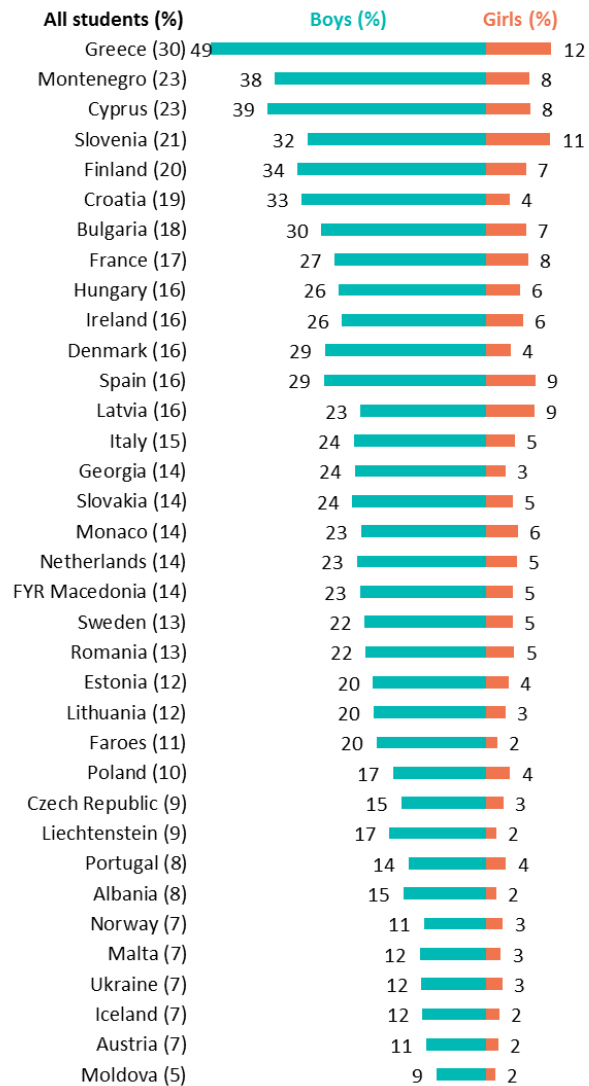
European average
(34 countries)

Percent



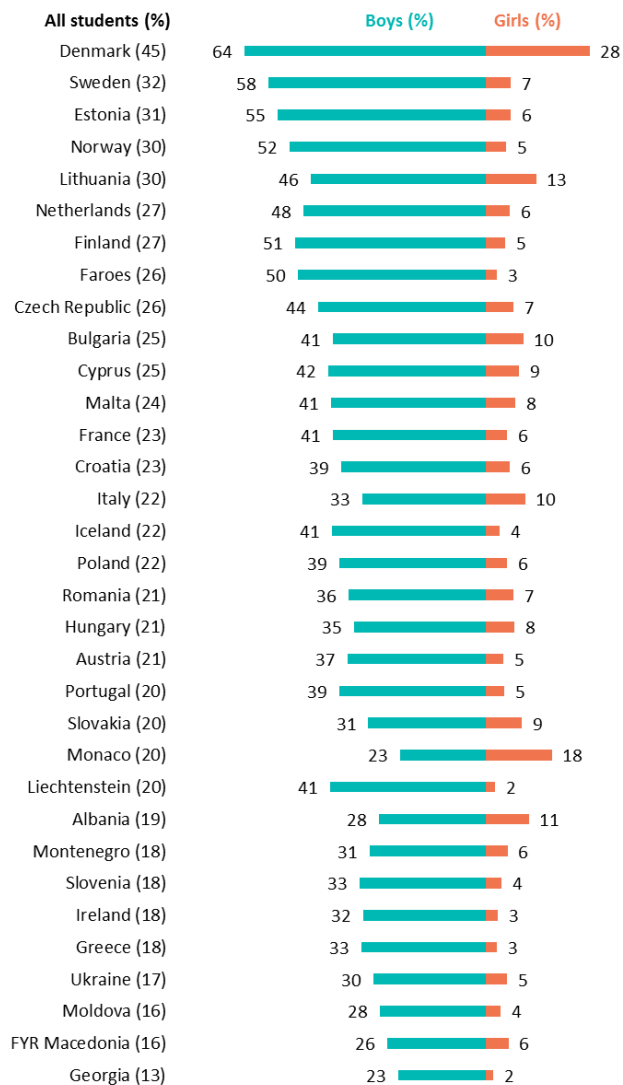
Gambling for money

Prevalence in the last 12 months, by gender (percentage)



Prevalence of gaming on the internet

On 4 or more days in the last 7 days, by gender (percentage)

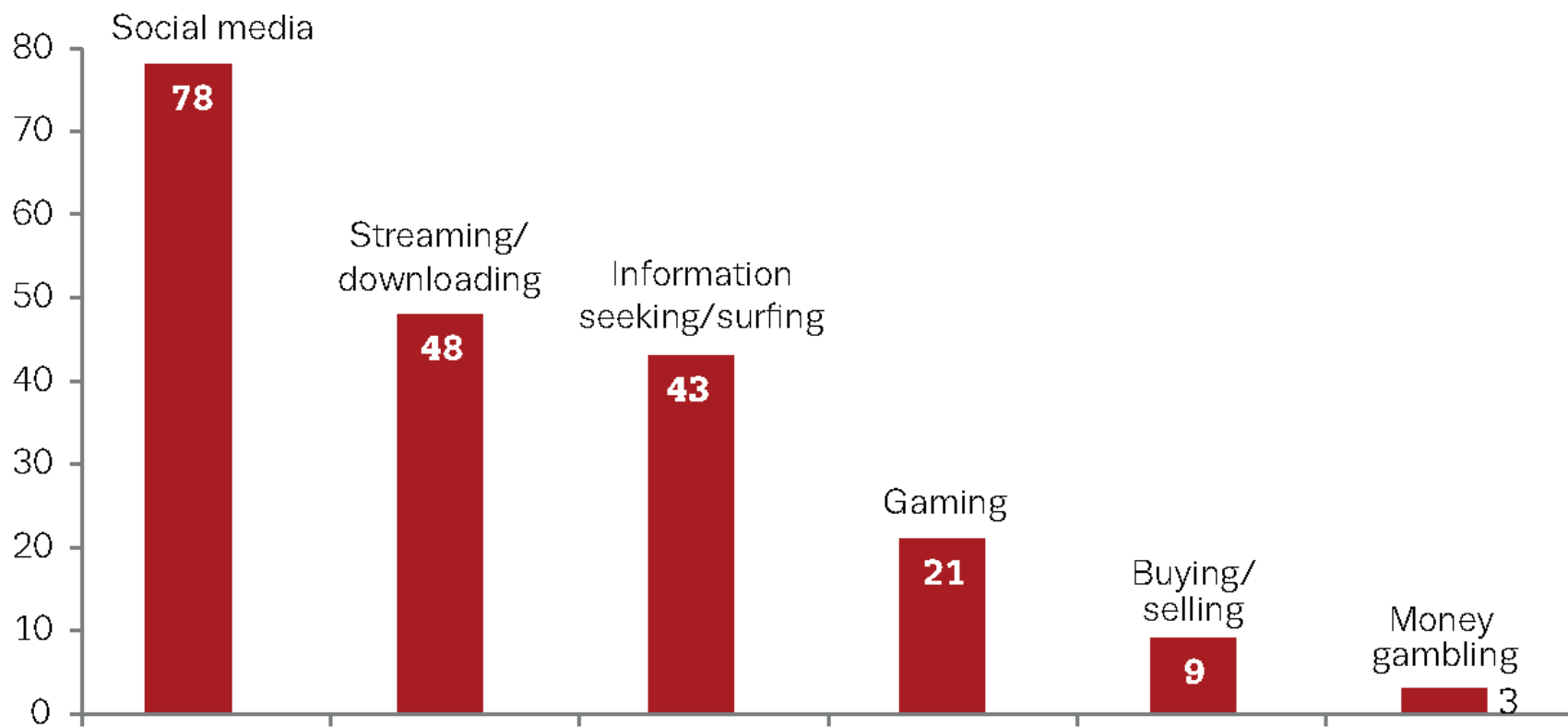


Prevalence of activities on the internet

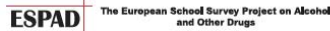
On 4 or more days in the last 7 days (percentage)

European average
(34 countries)

Percent

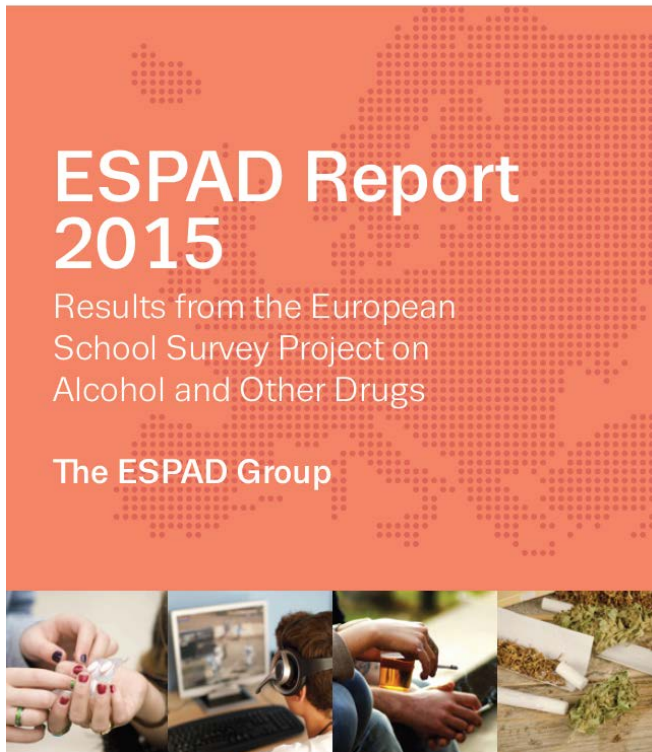


ESPAD@emcdda.europa.eu



Available

- **Electronically:
(PDF and html)**
- **Download at:
www.espad.org**
- **Hard copies:**
 - **Order from the EMCDDA
emcdda.europa.eu**
 - **Order from EU Bookshop
bookshop.europa.eu**



In summary

- **Smoking and drinking show signs of decline**
- **Concerns over new drugs and new addictive behaviours**
- **Tobacco decreasing, but availability still high**
- **Positive developments in alcohol use**
- **Heavy episodic drinking still reported by a third of students**
- **Availability of alcohol continues to be high**

Continuation

- **Illicit drug use stabilised, albeit at high levels (18%)**
- **Cannabis accounts for most illicit drug use**
- **30% of students find cannabis easily available**
- **Use of other illicit drugs is much lower than cannabis**
- **4% of students reported ever using new psychoactive substances**
- **Online gambling reported by a substantial proportion of students (23% of boys and 5% of girls)**



European Monitoring Centre
for Drugs and Drug Addiction

Electronic version of the report with:

- additional methodological information
- additional figures and tables
- extraction of customised data

www.espad.org

Contact — ESPAD@emcdda.europa.eu