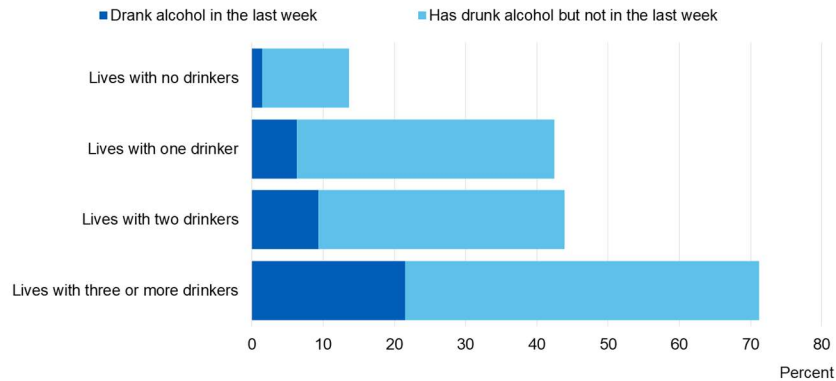


Pupils who lived with people who drank alcohol were more likely to drink alcohol themselves. Only 1% of pupils who lived with only non-drinkers had drunk alcohol in the last week, compared to 9% who lived with two drinkers, and 22% where they lived with three or more drinkers. There was a similar pattern for the proportion of pupils who had ever drunk alcohol.



49% of pupils said their parents did not or would not like them to drink alcohol. Perceived parental disapproval of their drinking decreased as the age of pupils increased; 63% of 11 and 12 year old pupils said their parents would disapprove, falling to 28% for 15 year olds. Pupils who lived with people who drank alcohol were less likely to say their parents do not or would not like them drinking; 19% of pupils who lived with three or more drinkers, compared to 79% of pupils who lived only with non-drinkers. Other groups where perceived parental disapproval of drinking was lower were among pupils who drank in the last week, those who were drunk in the last four weeks, and those whose family were aware that they drank alcohol.

Pupils' attitudes to drinking alcohol by pupils of their own age were similar to 2018, though acceptance of both drinking and getting drunk have slowly increased since 2014. In 2021, 23% thought that it was OK to drink alcohol once a week, and 9% thought it was OK to get drunk once a week. Nearly half (48%) of 15-year-olds, and nearly a third (32%) of 14-year-olds, thought it was OK to drink alcohol once a week. 19% of 15-year-olds thought it was OK to get drunk once a week. While 63% of pupils believe alcohol only harms people who drink a lot, though 79% did agree that it increased the risk of developing cancer.

