

Gaps in current regional alcohol policy and the desire for change: Opportunities for Caribbean Civil Society Organizations.

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www.healthycaribbean.org

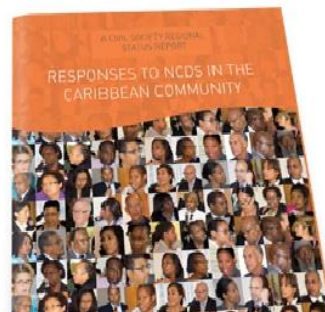
END CERVICAL CANCER NOW

Thousands of women in the Caribbean die from cervical cancer every year more than 95% of cases can be prevented

Sign our e-petition NOW www.endcervicalcancernow.org



**HCC
Launches
NCD
Regional
Status Report**



HCC Newsletter - February 26th - March 4th

The CARICOM political declaration on noncommunicable [diseases](#) seven years on: an evaluation to accelerate further multi-sectoral implementation; News: Supporting Youth NCD Advocacy - The Belize Cancer Society leading on Multisectoral effort to beat Cervical Cancer

Friday, March 07, 2014

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Healthy Caribbean
Coalition

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The Healthy Caribbean Coalition is a civil society alliance established to combat chronic diseases (NCDs) and their associated risk factors and conditions.

Mission

To harness the power of civil society, in collaboration with government, private enterprise, academia, and international partners, as appropriate, in the development and implementation of plans for the prevention and management of chronic diseases among Caribbean people.

http://www.healthycaribbean.org/about_us.html

OUTLINE

- WHO Global Strategy
- Regional policy (2014)
- National Alcohol Household Survey (NASHTT)
- The Way Forward and Discussion

Before we go any further...

- Policy- A course of action or principle adopted or proposed by a government or other organization, that is advantageous or expedient.
- Science and evidence may create policy but emotion and politics determine whether anything is done.

WHO Global Strategy

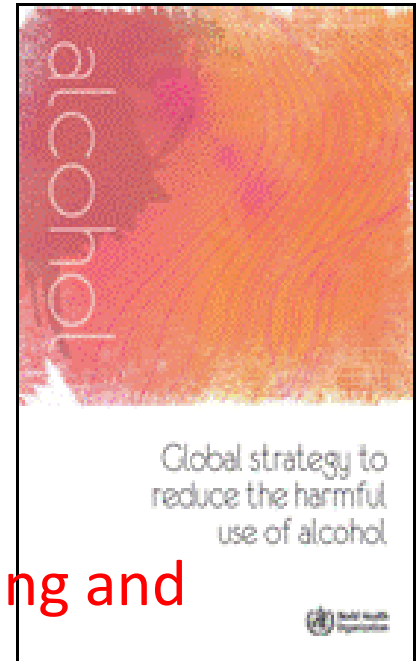
WHO global strategy: The 4 priority areas for global action are:

1. Public health advocacy and partnership;
2. Technical support and capacity building;
3. Production and dissemination of knowledge;
4. Resource mobilization.



WHO global strategy: 10 key areas of policy options and interventions at the national level

1. Leadership, awareness and commitment
2. Health services' response*
3. Community action
4. Drink-driving policies and countermeasures*
5. Availability of alcohol*
6. Marketing of alcoholic beverages*
7. Pricing policies*
8. Reducing the negative consequences of drinking and alcohol intoxication*
9. Reducing the public health impact of illicit alcohol and informally produced alcohol
10. Monitoring and surveillance



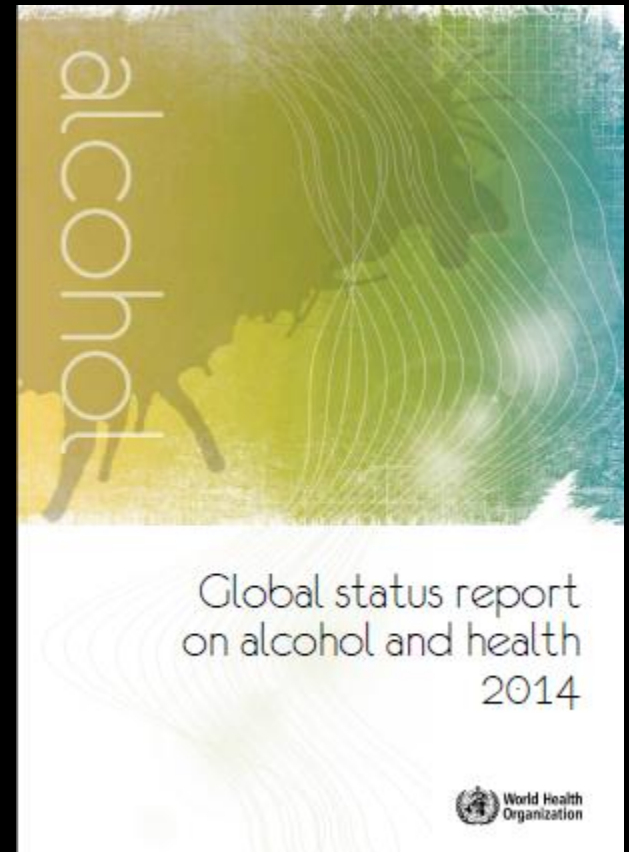
* WHO Best Buy

Reducing risks and preventing disease: population-wide interventions

A **best buy** is an intervention that is not only highly cost-effective but also cheap, feasible and culturally acceptable to implement.



Regional policy (2014)



- All ESC countries have laws and policies governing alcohol. Broadly, there are 4 distinct ways in which alcohol is represented.
 1. In legislation- not directly dealing with health, but with a social and economic focus
 2. As a distinct national policy- recognizing the health implications of alcohol
 3. In conjunction with NCDs and mental health policies
 4. In conjunction with policies addressing illegal substance use

ALCOHOL POLICY:

ESC (WHO, 2014)

	ANB	BAH	BAR	BLZE	DOM	GDA	GUY	JAM	SKN	SL	SVG	TTO
National Policies, Monitoring, Taxes, Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)												
Written national policy (adopted/revised)/National Action Plan 1	No/-	Yes (1932/2006)/No	No/-	No/-	No/-	No/-	No/-	No/-	No/-	No/-	No/-	No/-
National government support for community action 2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
National monitoring system(s) 3	No	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No
Excise tax on beer / wine / spirits (WHO best buys) 4,5,6	No/ No/ No	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	No/ No/ No	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	Yes/ No/ Yes	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	Yes/ Yes/ Yes
National maximum legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) when driving a vehicle (general/young/professional) 7	No/ No/ No	0.08% 0.08% 0.08%	No/ No/ No	0.08% 0.08% 0.08%	No/ No/ No	No/ No/ No	0.08% 0.08% 0.08%	0.08% 0.08% 0.08%	0.08% 0.08% 0.08%	0.08% 0.08% 0.08%	No/ No/ No	0.08% 0.08% 0.08%

ALCOHOL POLICY:

ESC (WHO, 2014)

	ANB	BAH	BAR	BLZE	DOM	GDA	GUY	JAM	SKN	SL	SVG	TTO
Minimum Age interactions												
National legal minimum age for off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, spirits) 8,	10/10 /10	18/18 /18	18/18 /18	18/18 /18	16/16 /16	16/16 /16	16/16 /16	18/18 /18	18/18 /18	18/18 /18	16/16 /16	18/18 /18
National legal minimum age for on-premise sales of alcoholic beverages (beer, wine, spirits) 9	10/10 /10	18/18 /18	18/18 /18	18/18 /18	16/16 /16	16/16 /16	18/18 /18	18/18 /18	18/18 /18	16/16 /16	16/16 /16	18/18 /18

ALCOHOL POLICY: Retail outlets

ESC (WHO, 2014)

	ANB	BAH	BAR	BLZE	DOM	GDA	GUY	JAM	SKN	SL	SVG	TTO
Restrictions for on-/off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages: (WHO best buys)												
Time (hours and days) / location (places and density), 10,11,12, 13	Yes, Yes/ Yes, No	Yes, Yes/ Yes, Yes	No, Yes/ No, No	Yes, No/ Yes, No	Yes, No/ Yes, No	Yes, Yes/ No, No.	Yes, No/ Yes, Yes	Yes, No/ No, No	Yes, Yes/ Yes, Yes	Yes, Yes/ Yes, No	Yes, Yes/ No, No	Yes, Yes/ Yes, No
Specific events / intoxicated persons / petrol stations 14,15,16	Yes/ Yes/ No	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	No/ Yes/ No	No/ No/ No	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	No/ Yes/ No	Yes/ Yes/ No	No/ No/ No	Yes/ Yes/ Yes	No/ No/ Yes	No/ No/ No	Yes/ Yes/ No

ALCOHOL POLICY: ESC (WHO, 2014)

	ANB	BAH	BAR	BLZE	DOM	GDA	GUY	JAM	SKN	SL	SVG	TTO
Advertising, Marketing and Labeling												
Legally binding regulations on alcohol advertising / product placement (<i>WHO best buys</i>), 17,18	No/ No	Yes/ Yes	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	Yes/ Yes	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No
Legally binding regulations on alcohol sponsorship / sales promotion (<i>WHO best buys</i>) 19, 20	No/ No	Yes/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	Yes/ No	No/ No
Legally requiring health labels on alcohol advertisements/containers, 21	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No	No/ No

ALCOHOL POLICY: ESC (WHO, 2014)

	MAXIMUM	REGIONAL SCORE
Written national policy (written/revised)/National Action Plan 1	12	1 (8%)
National government support for community action 2	12	10 (83.3%)
National monitoring system(s) 3	12	4 (33.3%)
Excise tax on beer / wine / spirits (CORE WHO Best Buys) 4,5,6	36	29 (81%)
National legal minimum age for off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages (selling) (IDEAL=18 years) 7	12	7 (58%)
National legal minimum age for on-premise sales of alcoholic beverages (serving) (IDEAL=18 years) 8	12	7 (58%)
Restrictions for on-/off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages: (CORE WHO best buys) Time (hours and days) / location (places and density) 9, 10, 11, 12 Specific events / intoxicated persons / petrol stations 13, 14, 15	84	48 (57%)
National maximum legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) when driving a vehicle (A Good Buy) 16	12	7 (58%)
Legally binding regulations on alcohol advertising / product placement (CORE WHO Best Buys) 17, 18	24	4 (17%)
Legally binding regulations on alcohol sponsorship / sales promotion (CORE WHO Best Buys) 19, 20	24	2 (8.5%)
Legally requiring health labels on alcohol advertisements/containers 21	12	0 (0%)
TOTAL	252	119 (47.1%)

ALCOHOL POLICY: ESC (WHO, 2011)

	ANB	BAH	BAR	BLZE	DOM	GDA	GUY	JAM	SKN	SL	SVG	TTO
National Policy/Government support/National Monitoring System	1/3	3/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	2/3	2/3	1/3	1/3	1/3	0/3	1/3
Excise tax on beer / wine / spirits (WHO best buys)	0/3	3/3	3/3	0/3	3/3	3/3	3/3	3/3	3/3	2/3	3/3	3/3
National legal minimum age for off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages (selling)	0/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	0/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	0/1	1/1
National legal minimum age for on-premise sales of alcoholic beverages (serving)	0/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	0/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	0/1	0/1	1/1
Restrictions for on-/off-premise sales of alcoholic beverages: (WHO best buys) Time (hours and days) / location (places and density) Specific events / intoxicated persons / petrol stations	5/7	7/7	2/7	2/7	5/7	4/7	5/7	1/7	7/7	4/7	2/7	5/7
National maximum legal blood alcohol concentration (BAC) when driving a vehicle	0/1	1/1	0/1	1/1	0/1	0/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1	0/1	1/1
Legally binding regulations on alcohol advertising / product placement (WHO best buys)	0/2	2/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	2/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2
Legally binding regulations on alcohol sponsorship / sales promotion (WHO best buys)	0/2	1/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	0/2	1/2	0/2
Legally requiring health labels on alcohol advertisements/containers	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1	0/1
COUNTRY SCORE	6/21	19/21	8/21	6/21	9/21	8/21	12/21	10/21	14/21	9/21	6/21	12/21

National Alcohol Survey of Households in Trinidad and Tobago (NASHTT)

National Alcohol Survey of Households in Trinidad and Tobago (NASHTT), 2013

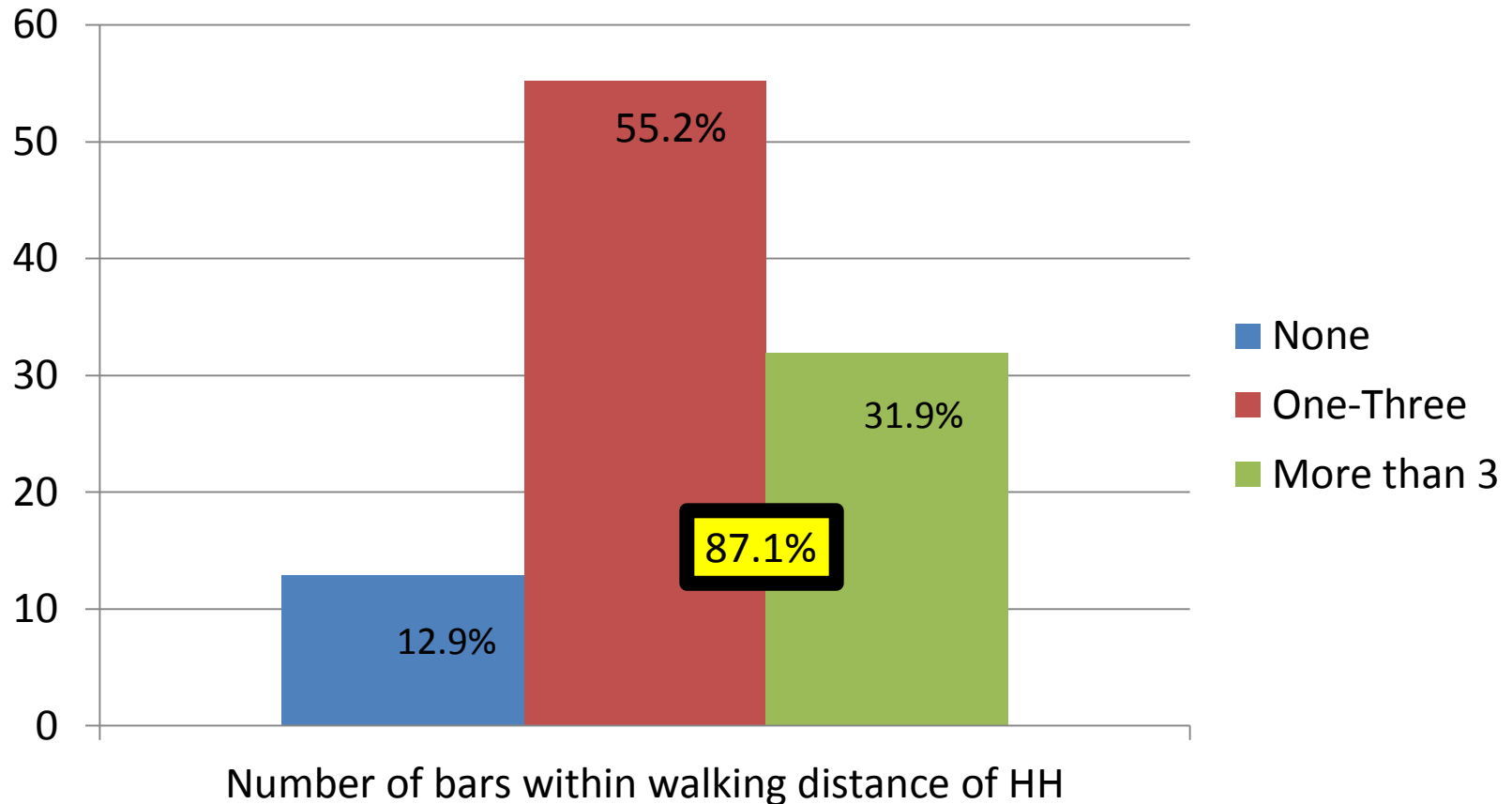
- Survey of 1695 HH to determine effect of alcohol on the psychological and social fabric of the HH
- **HHs willingness to support a national campaign to change alcohol regulations, advertisements and other policies.**
 - 53 enumeration districts
 - Experienced enumerators from government's CSO
 - Interviewer applied *de novo* instrument developed over an 18 month period with input from sociologist, public health practitioners, epidemiologist, psychiatrist, family physicians and statistician; pre-tested.
 - 92% response rate

Domains

- Density of outlets
- Availability
- Advertising
- Adolescent issues
- Music
- Labeling and retail sales
- Drunk driving
- Public education
- Taxation

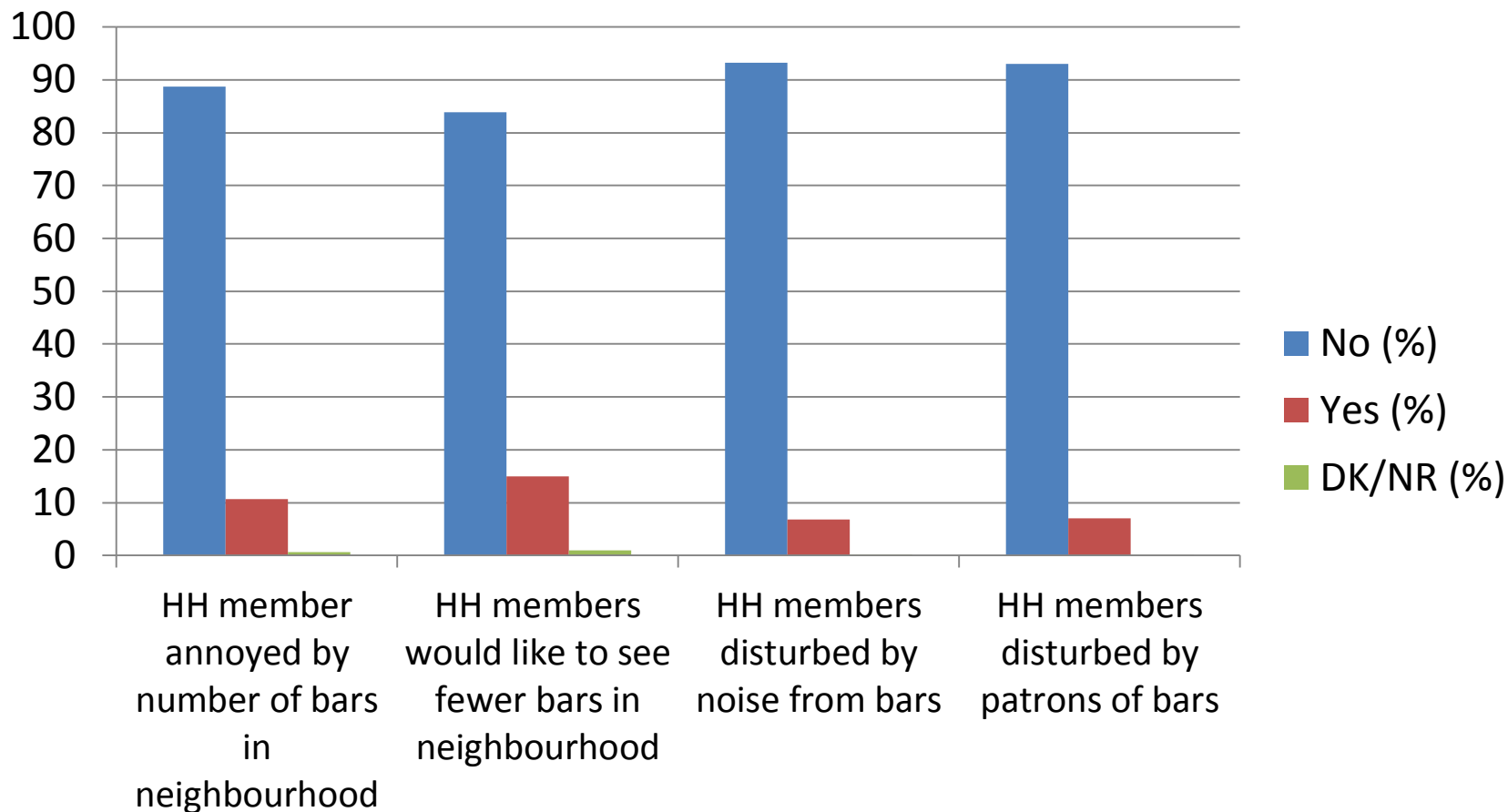
How many bars or rumshops are there within walking distance of your home?

Outlet Density



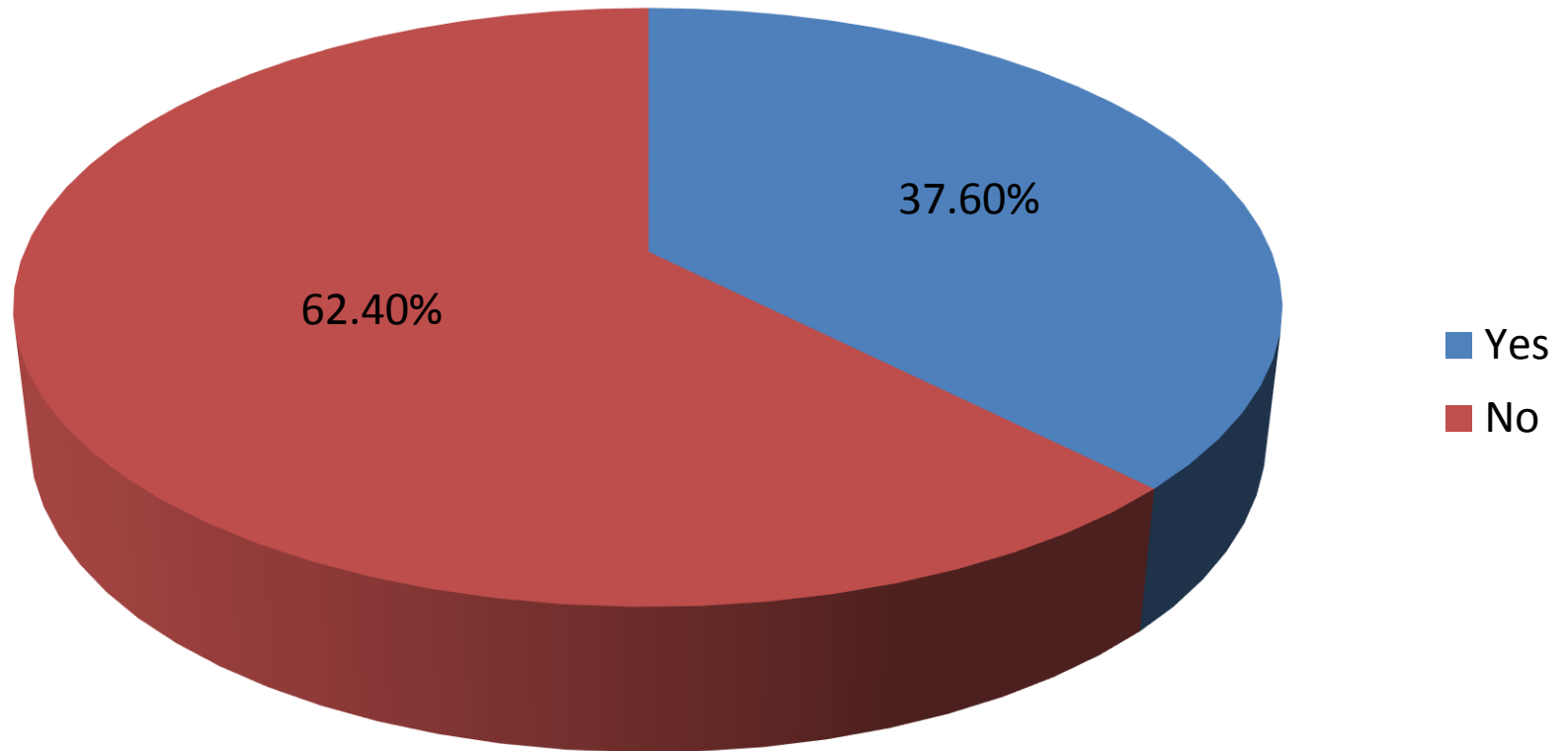
Bars, Rumshops and impact on Neighbourhoods in Trinidad and Tobago.

Outlet Density



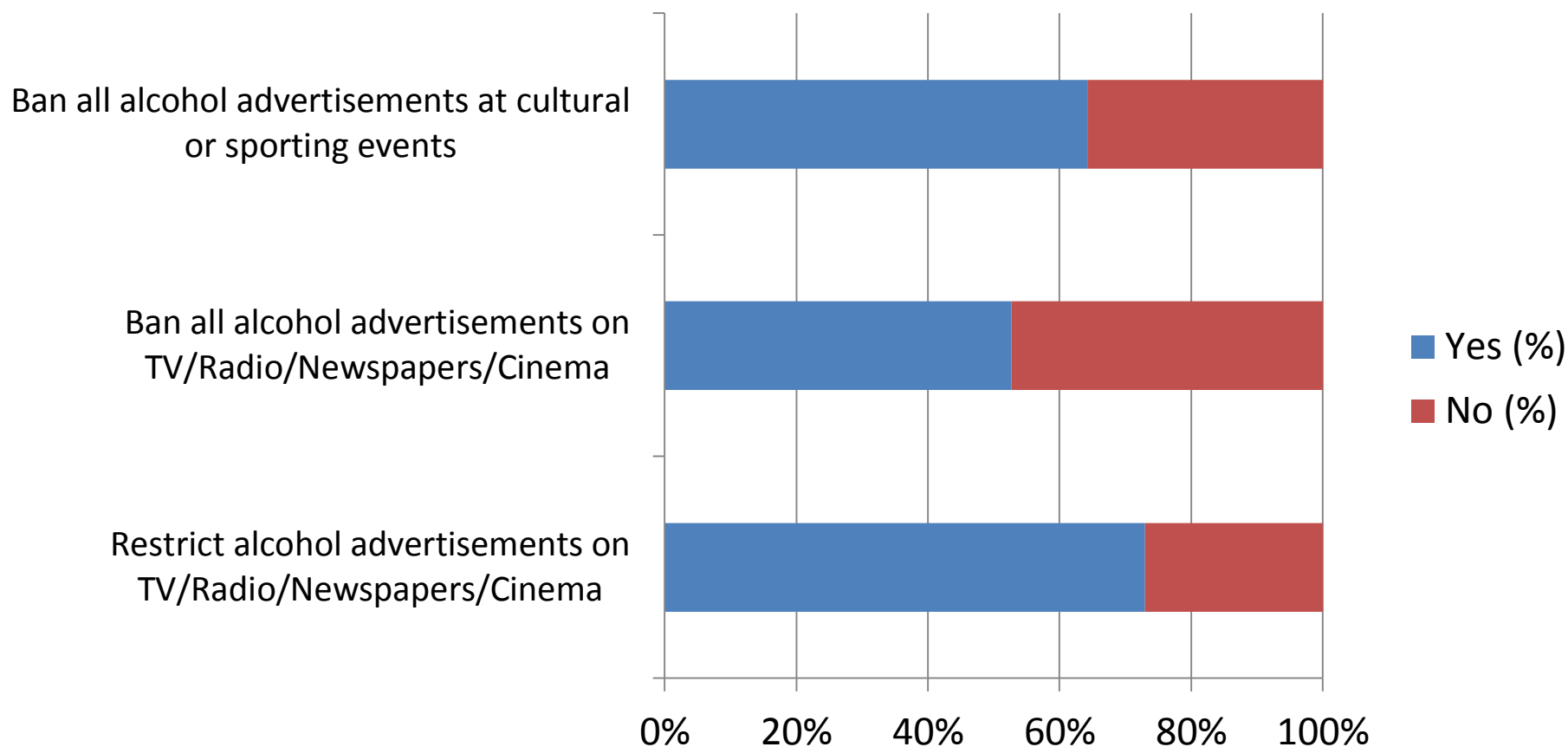
Reduce opening hours of bars and rumshops.

Availability



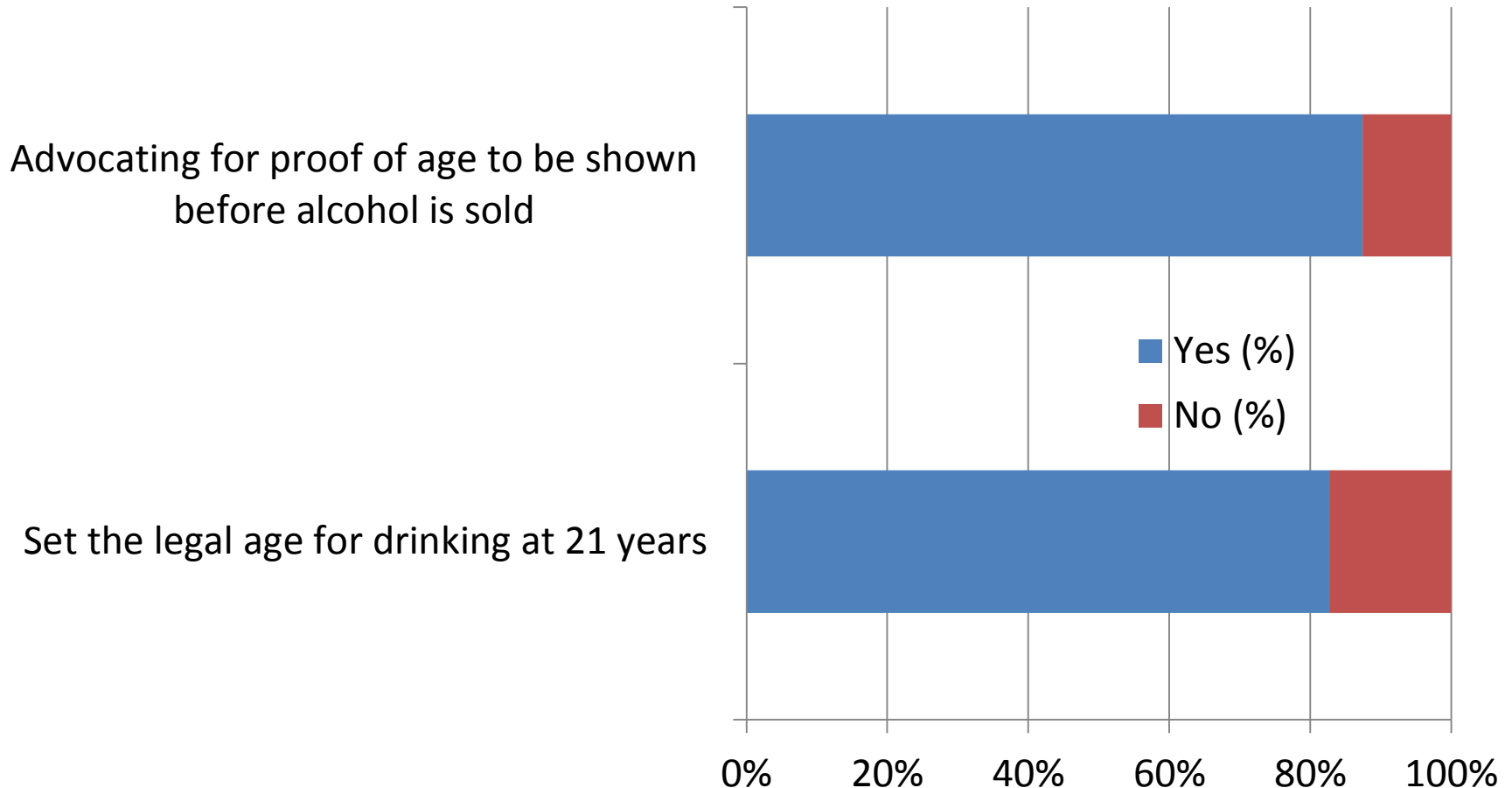
Which of the following changes regarding alcohol do you believe members of this HH will support in a national campaign?

Advertising



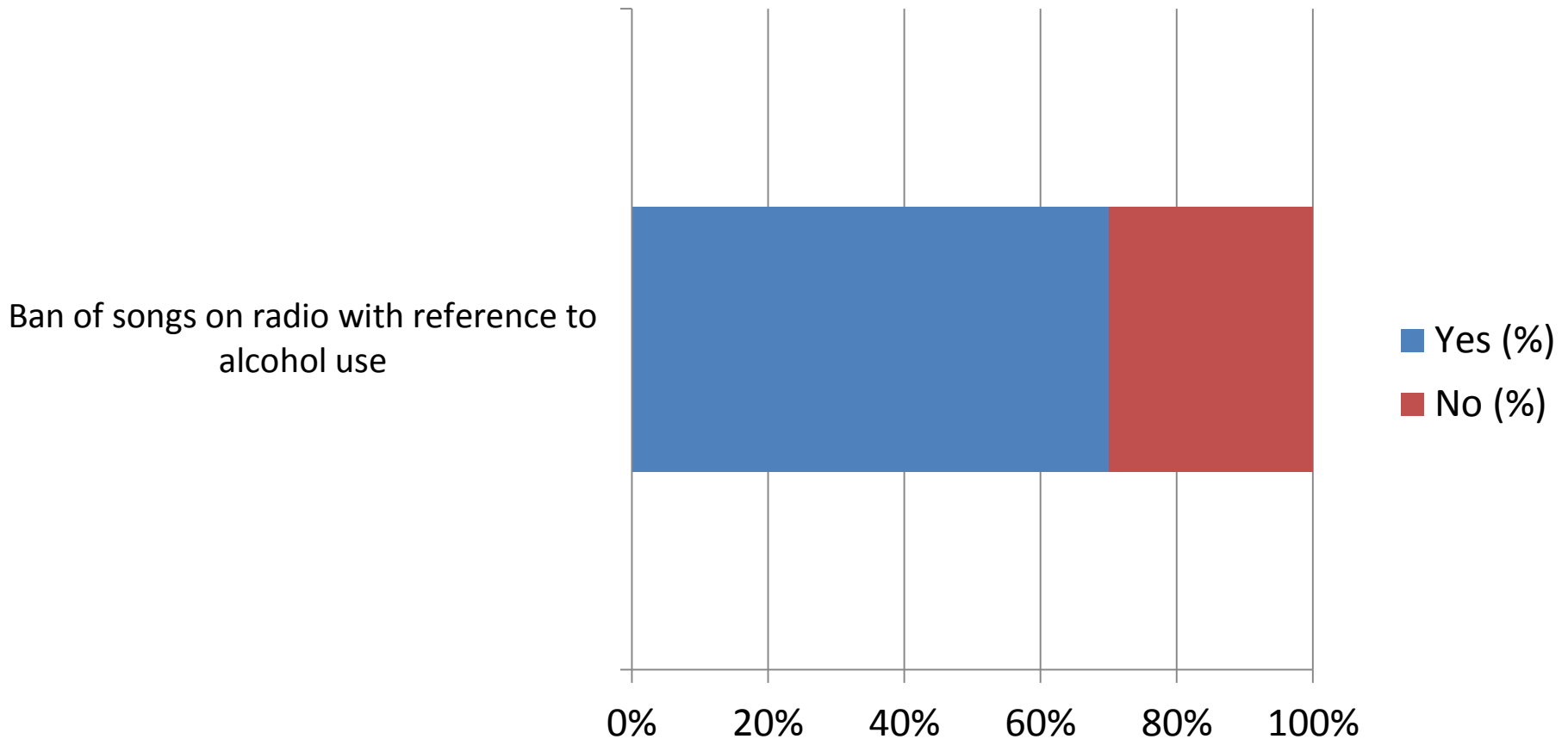
Which of the following changes regarding alcohol do you believe members of this HH will support in a national campaign?

Adolescent Issues



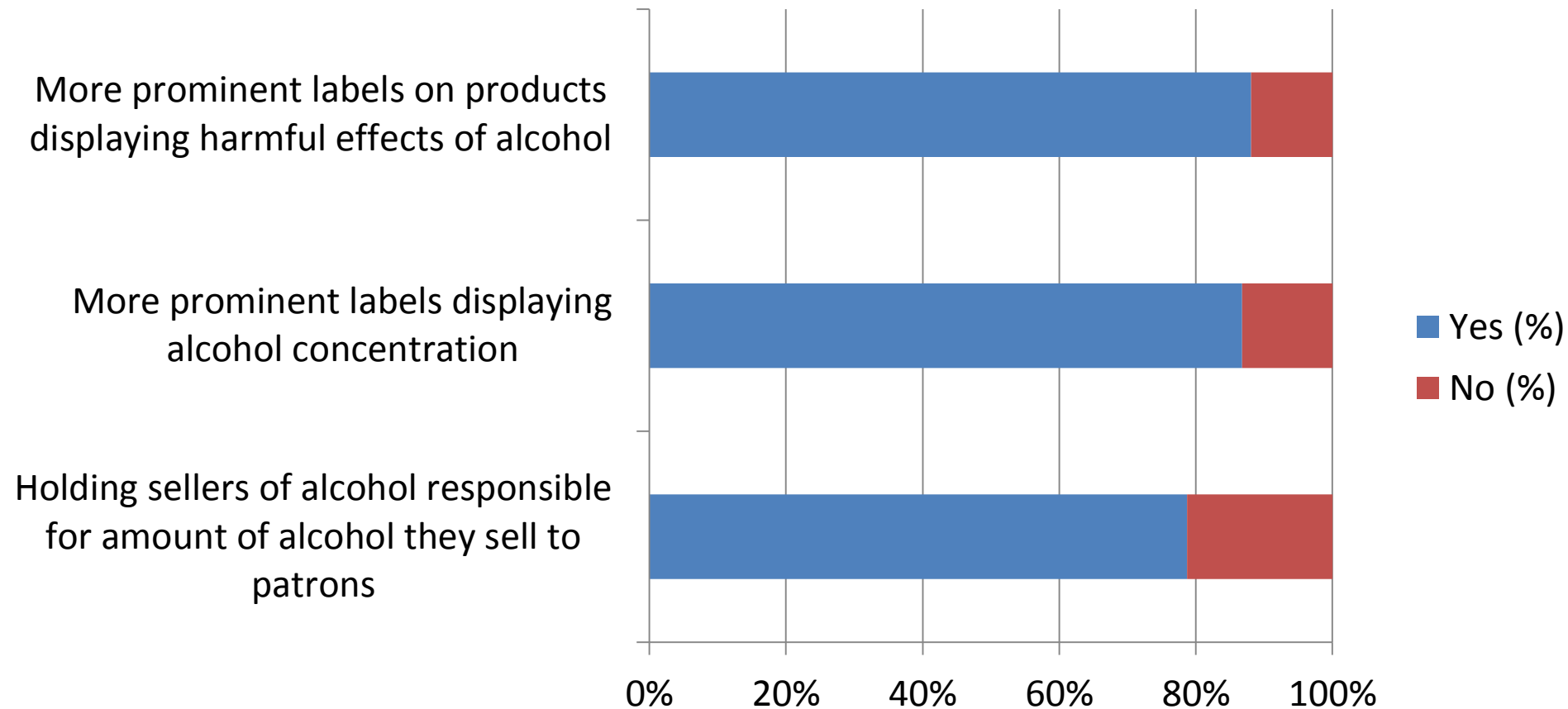
Which of the following changes regarding alcohol do you believe members of this HH will support in a national campaign?

Music



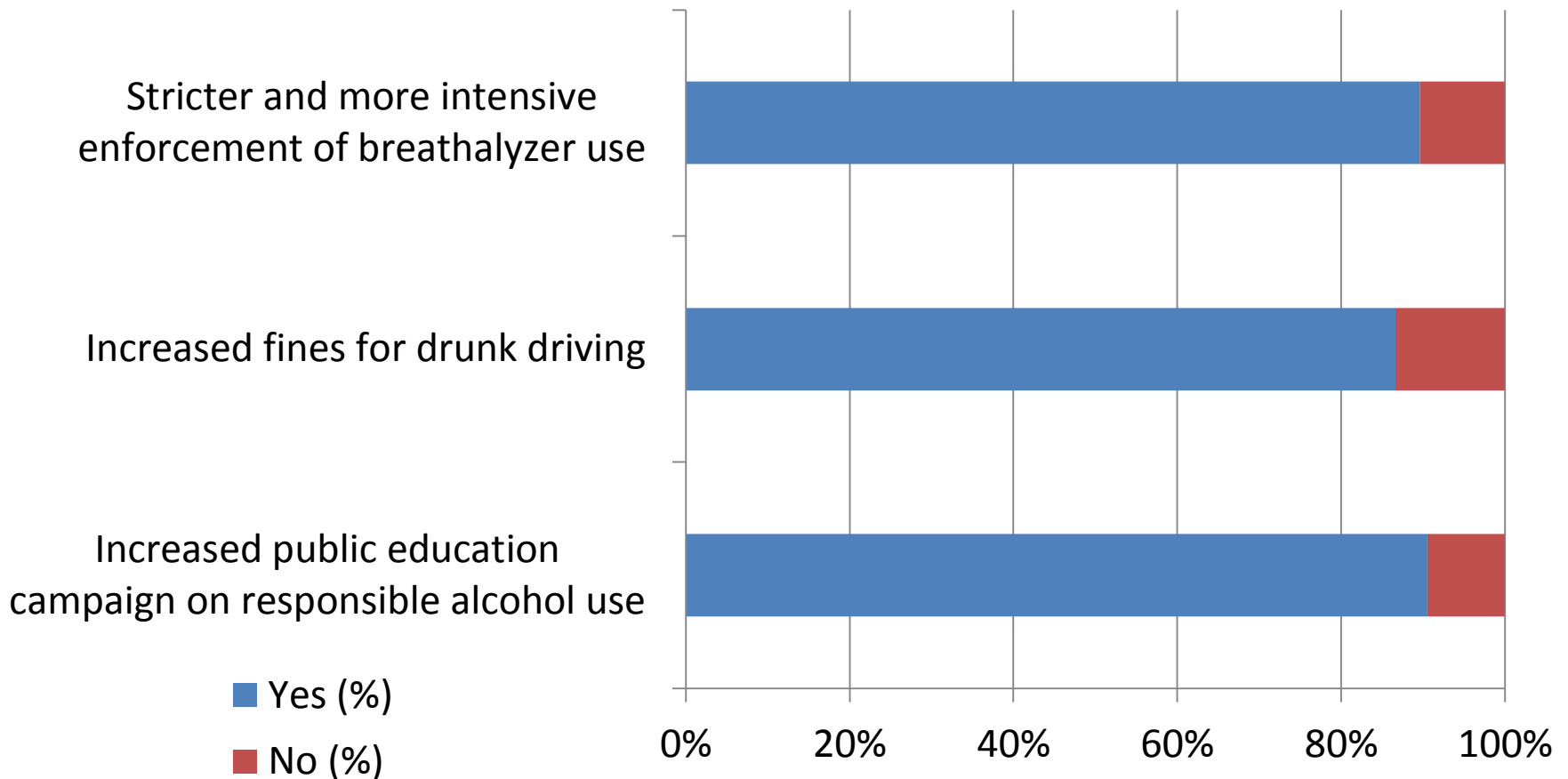
Which of the following changes regarding alcohol do you believe members of this HH will support in a national campaign?

Labeling and Retail Sales



Which of the following changes regarding alcohol do you believe members of this HH will support in a national campaign?

Drunk Driving and Public Education

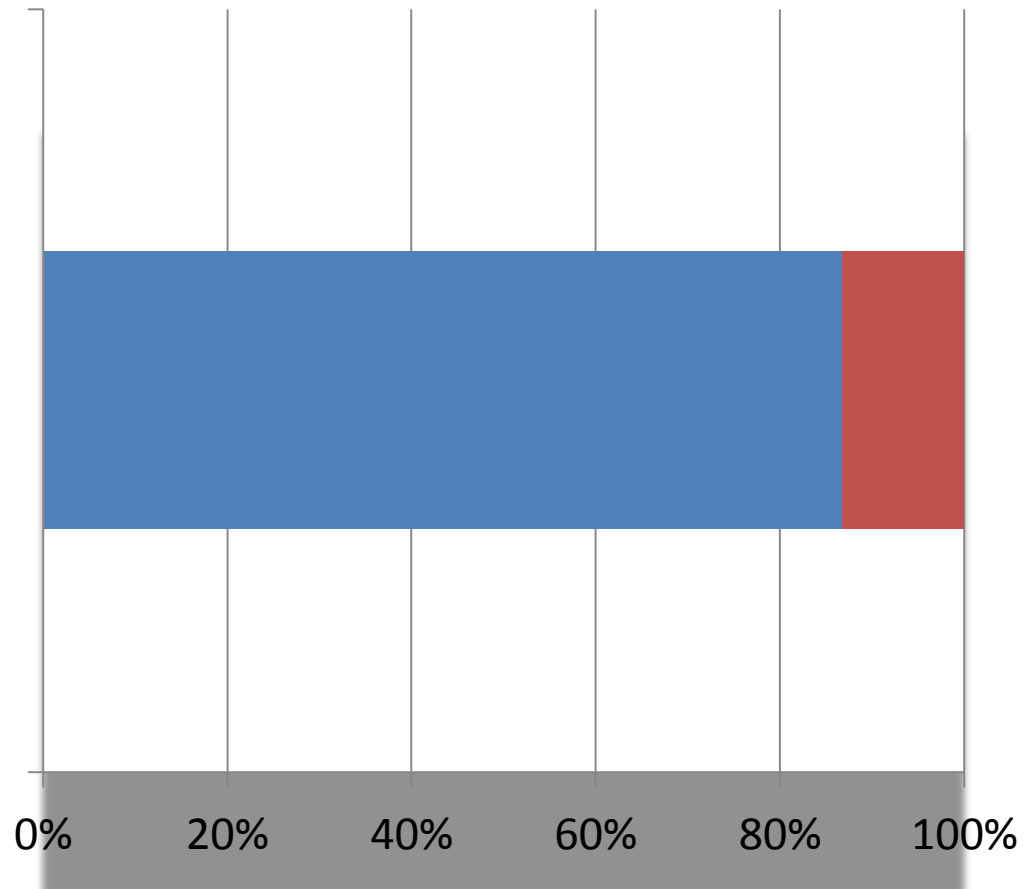


Which of the following changes regarding alcohol do you believe members of this HH will support in a national campaign?

Taxation

Increased taxation on alcohol

■ Yes (%)
■ No (%)



The Way Forward for Civil Society in ESC

Gaps and Opportunities

- A comprehensive regional policy on alcohol
- Advertisement and Marketing
- DUI and driver's license suspension
- Zero tolerance to youth drinking and driving

Opportunities

- Case studies and sharing of best practices- The Bahamas, St. Kitts/Nevis
- Follow up
 - *That public revenue derived from... alcoholshould be employed....for preventing chronic NCDs, promoting health and supporting the work of the NCD Commissions
 - Belize meeting outcomes

Recommendations

- Be cognizant of the historical failures of overzealousness.
- Be conscious of the historical intertwining of our societies and alcohol production, trade and contribution to societal development.....

Caribbean Civil Society Work Plan:

Short term

- Short working session for members of English speaking Caribbean at the PANNAPH and other regional forums
- Consolidate interest of 1st regional meeting (Belize).
- Examine gaps identified- e.g. POS declaration
- Encourage strengthening of enforcement of existing regulations and laws
- Establish working relationships with other CSOs, NGOs, FBOs, CBOs with interest in alcohol policy
 - Survey these organizations regarding priority areas (evidence-based) for possible intervention
 - Commission short public opinion polls in region as to feasibility of support for these priority areas



Short to medium term

- In recognition of CARICOM's stated acknowledgement of alcohol as a risk factors for NCDs and CARICOM's leadership on NCDs globally
 - Establish lines of communication with CARICOM, CMOs, and Heads of government at CARICOM meetings
 - Consider developing a regional alcohol policy
- Establish lines of communication with members of government, government Ministers and governmental organizations, statutory bodies, and government Ministries
 - Explore feasibility of support for identified priority areas



Medium to long term

- Work with governments and regional bodies to implement new regulations or laws pertinent to priority areas.
- Resume process

A FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON ALCOHOL
CONTROL (FCAC)

Final thoughts

- Regionally there are clear gaps in the policy landscape around alcohol
- The intertwining of culture, economic interests, political lethargy and public acceptance make change difficult but not impossible
- UWIs recent national survey in T&T suggests that many households are amenable to change
- There are clear opportunities for CSO to advocate for new policy, strengthen old ones and prepare society for change.

*If you produce cars, it does not mean
you need to drive fast, and you still
have speed limits;*

If you produce rum....

Selected Bibliography

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