

PRP
Prevenção Rodoviária Portuguesa

Drink Driving in Portugal

November 17th, 2026

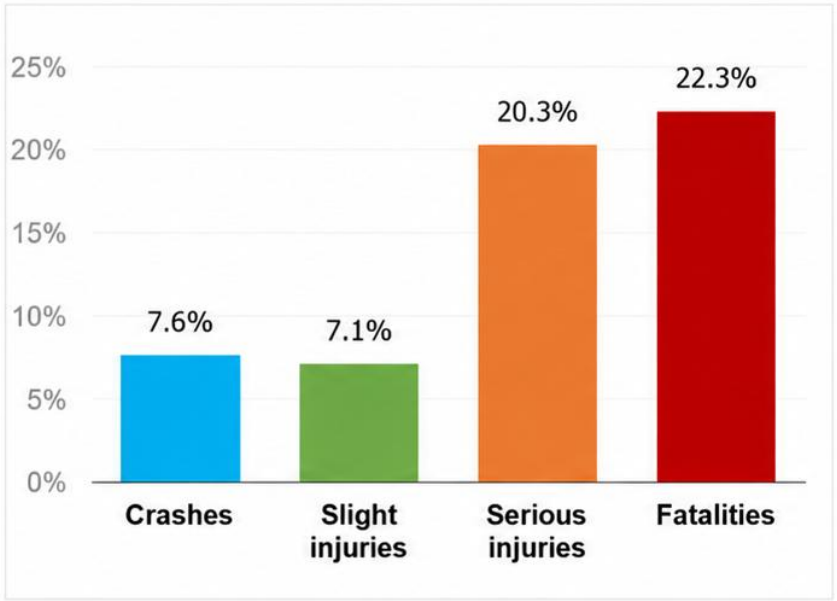
Alain Areal
(alain.areal@prp.pt)
Portuguese Road Safety Association (PRP)

Drink and Drug-Driving in Portugal

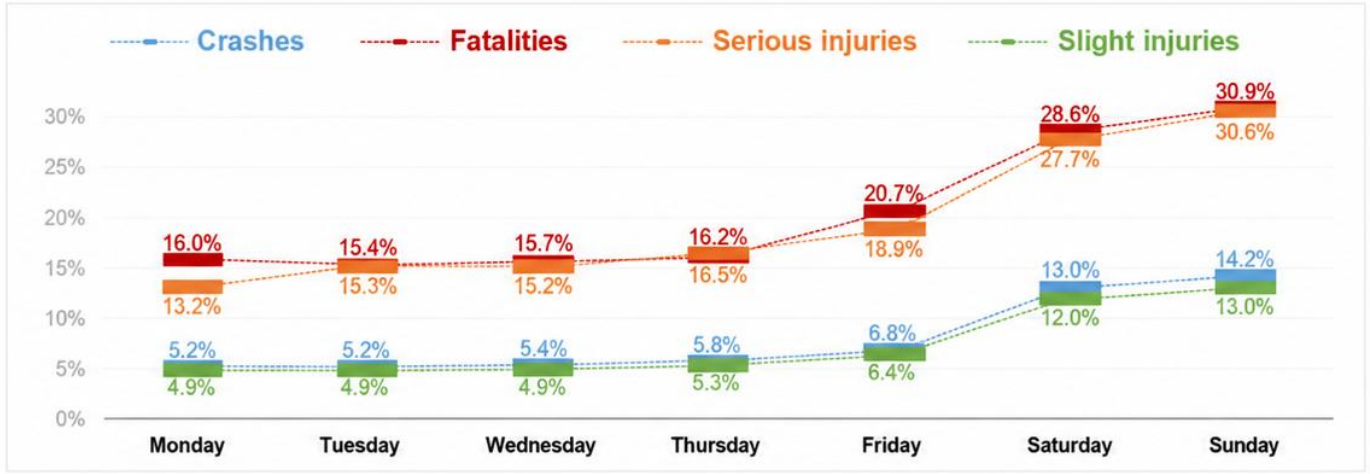
Alcohol-related crashes and casualties

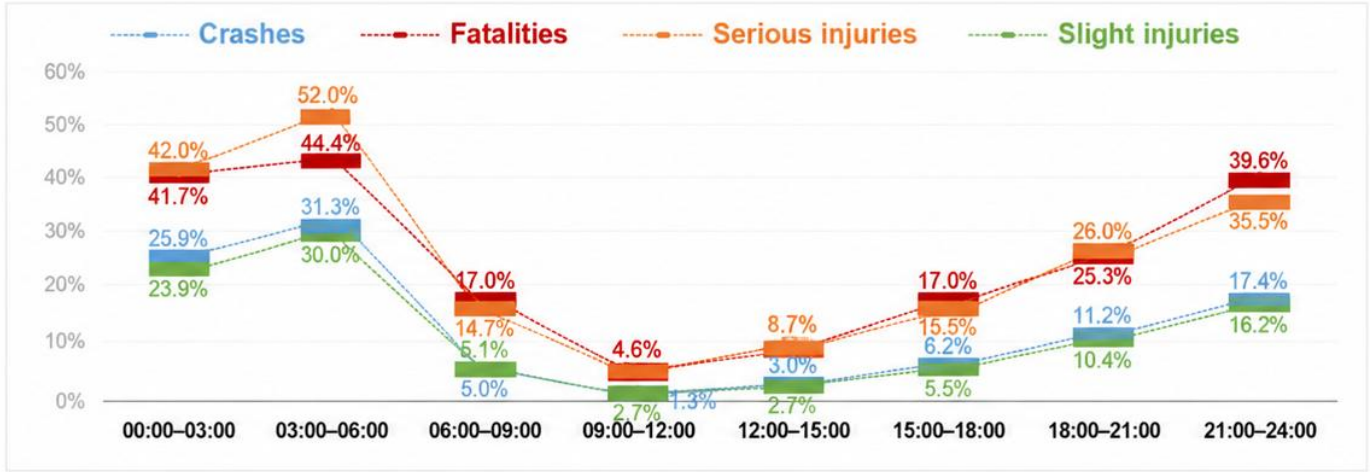
Percentage of crashes and casualties from crashes involving at least one driver with BAC ≥ 0.50 g/L

(Portugal 2019-2024)



By day and time



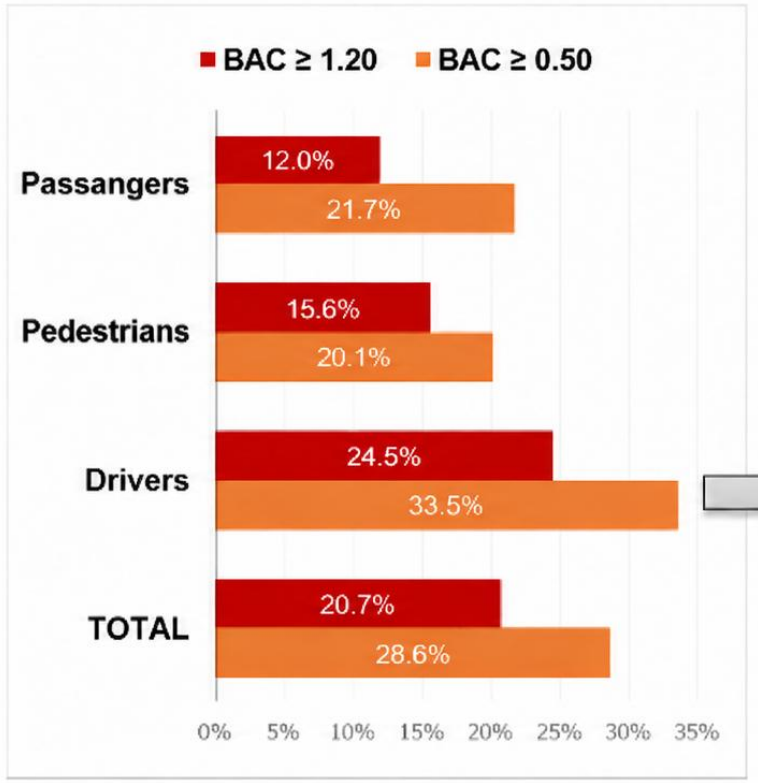


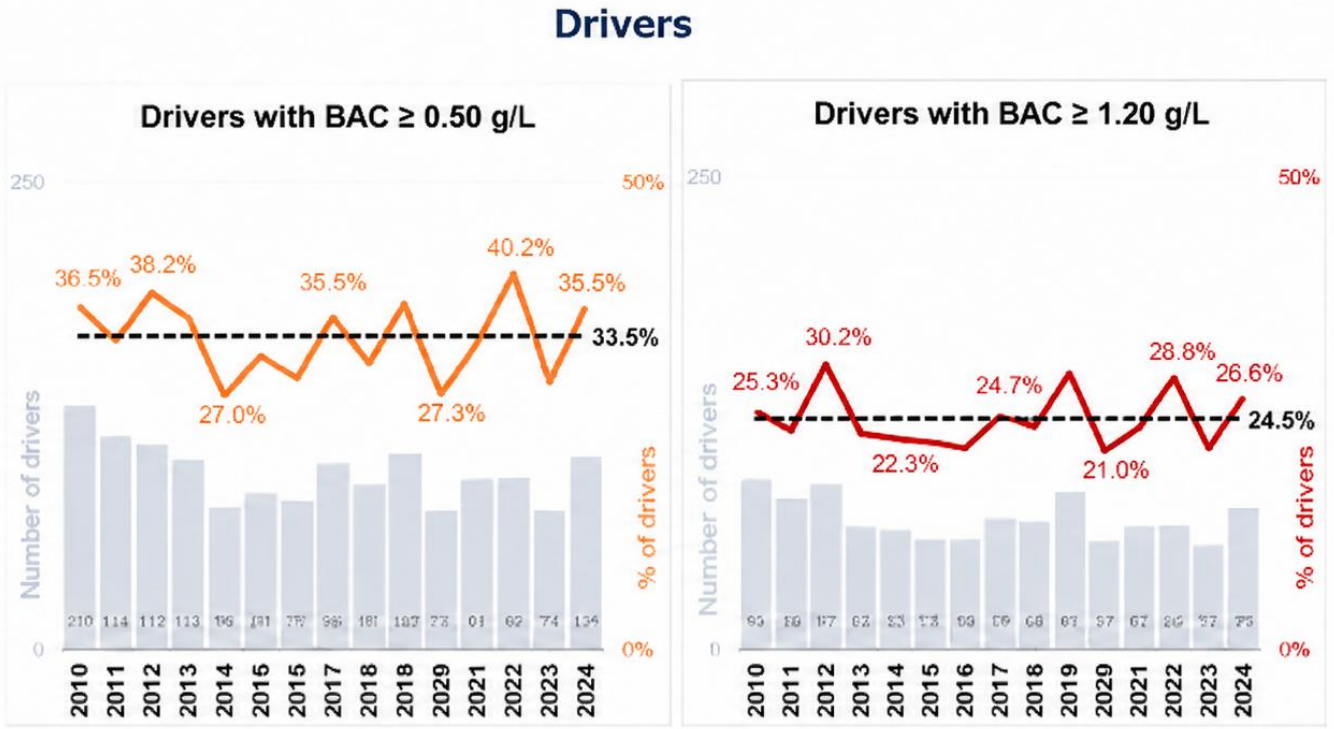
Source: Portuguese National Road Safety Authority (ANSR), 2019–2024.
Crashes involving at least one driver with BAC ≥ 0.50 g/L. Percentages should be interpreted as minimum estimates.

PRP Prevenção Rodoviária Portuguesa

Road fatalities under the influence of alcohol

Percentage of road fatalities with BAC ≥ 0.50 g/L and ≥ 1.20 g/L (Portugal 2010–2024)





Source: Portuguese National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences (INMLCF), 2010–2024.

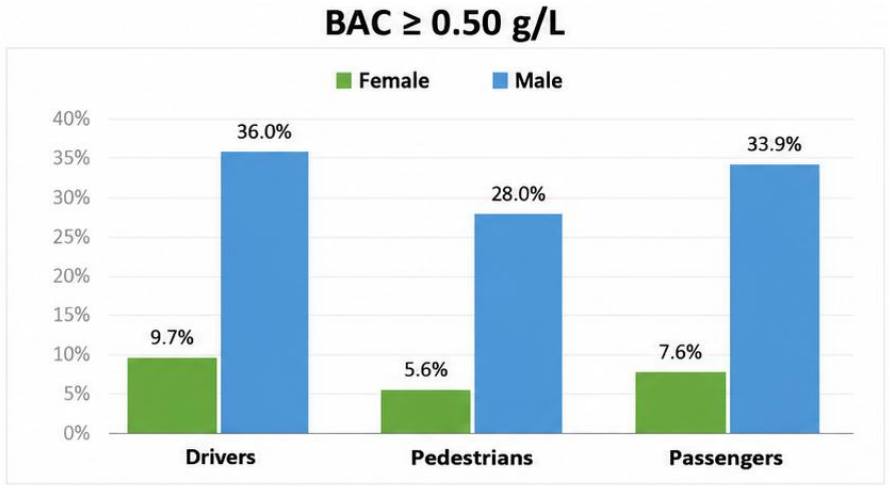
PRP Prevenção Rodoviária Portuguesa

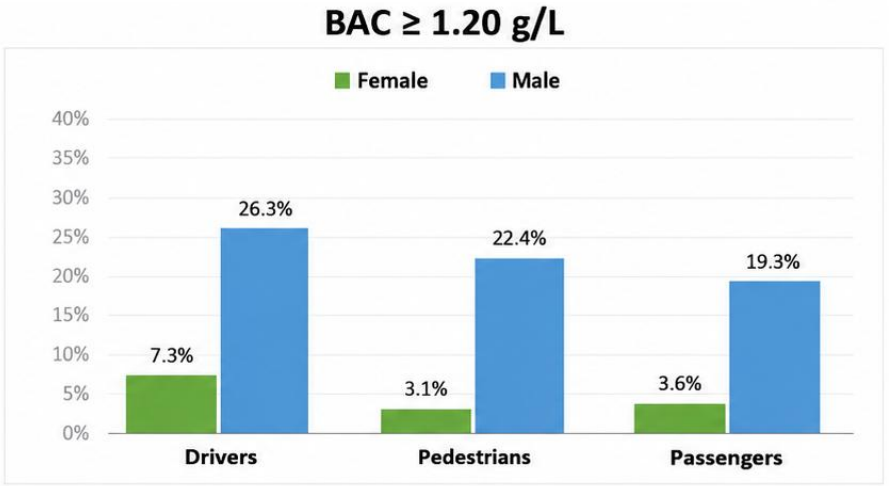
Drink and Drug-Driving in Portugal

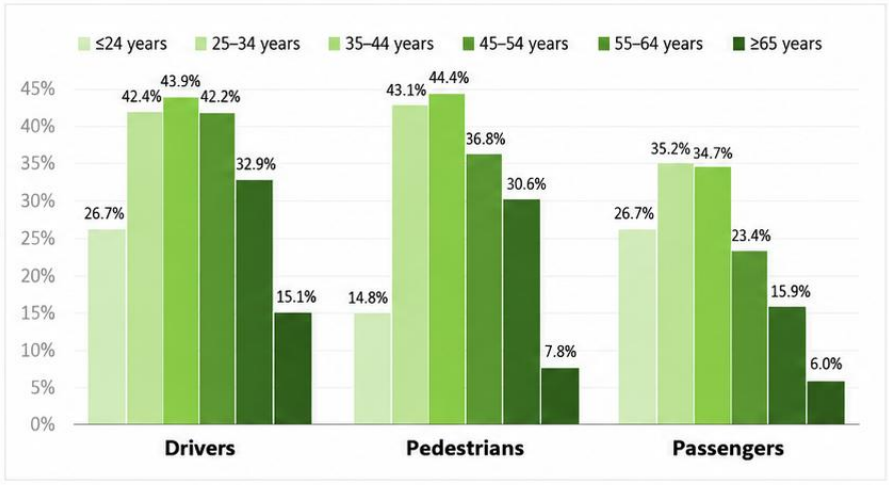
Road fatalities under the influence of alcohol

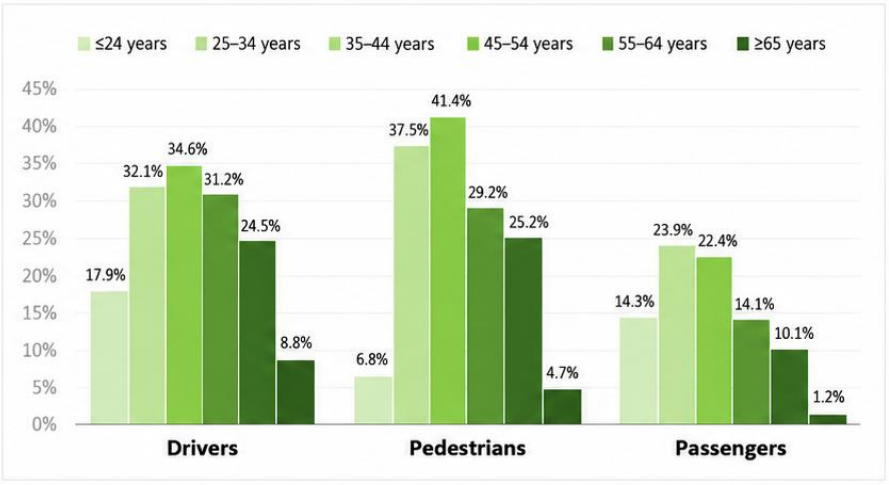
Percentage of road fatalities with BAC ≥ 0.50 g/L and ≥ 1.20 g/L (Portugal 2010–2024)

By gender and age group







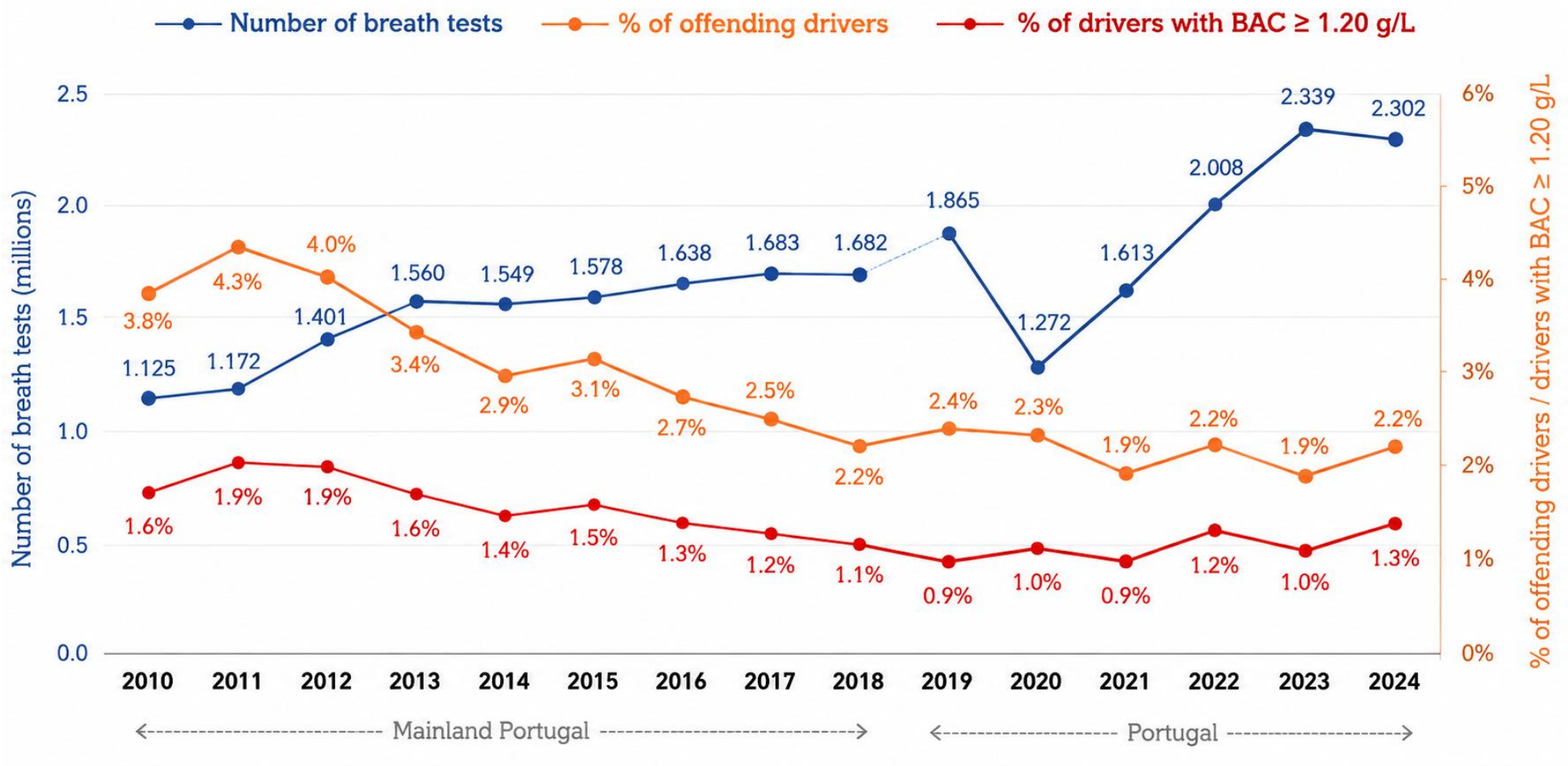


Source: Portuguese National Institute of Legal Medicine and Forensic Sciences (INMLCF), 2010–2024.

PRP Prevenção Rodoviária Portuguesa

Drink and Drug-Driving in Portugal

Enforcement and alcohol offences



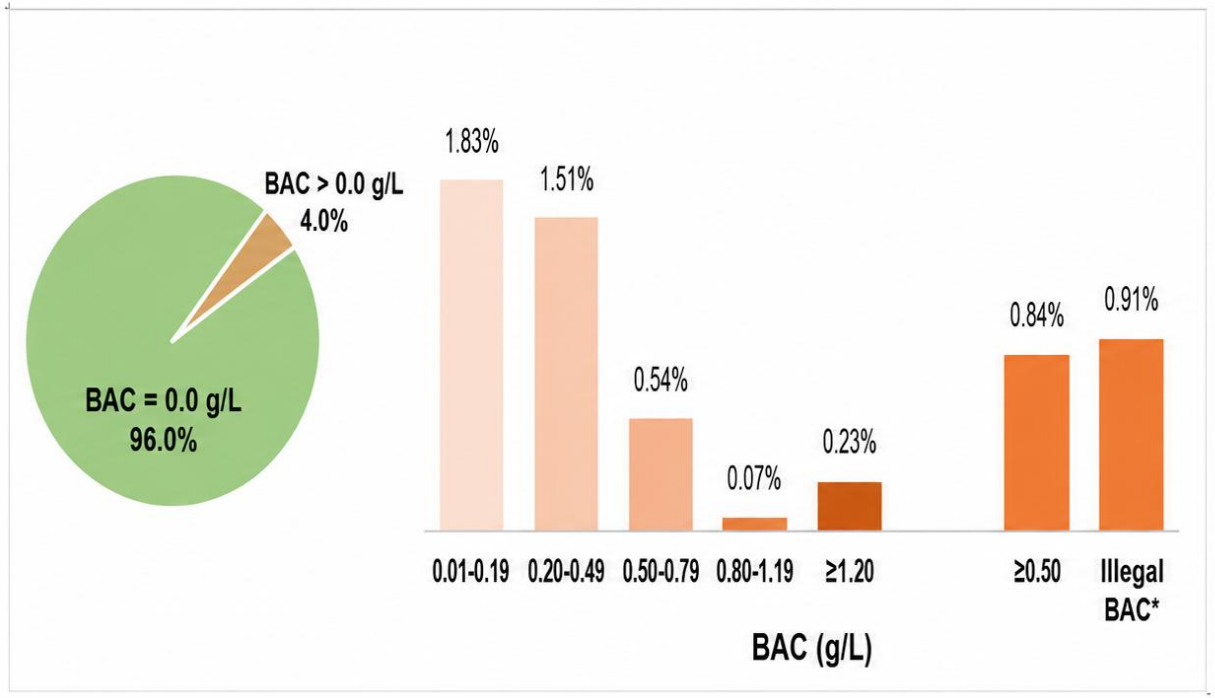
Source: Portuguese National Road Safety Authority (ANSR), 2010–2024.
Note: Data for 2010–2018 refer to mainland Portugal; data for 2019–2024 refer to Portugal.

PRP Prevenção Rodoviária Portuguesa

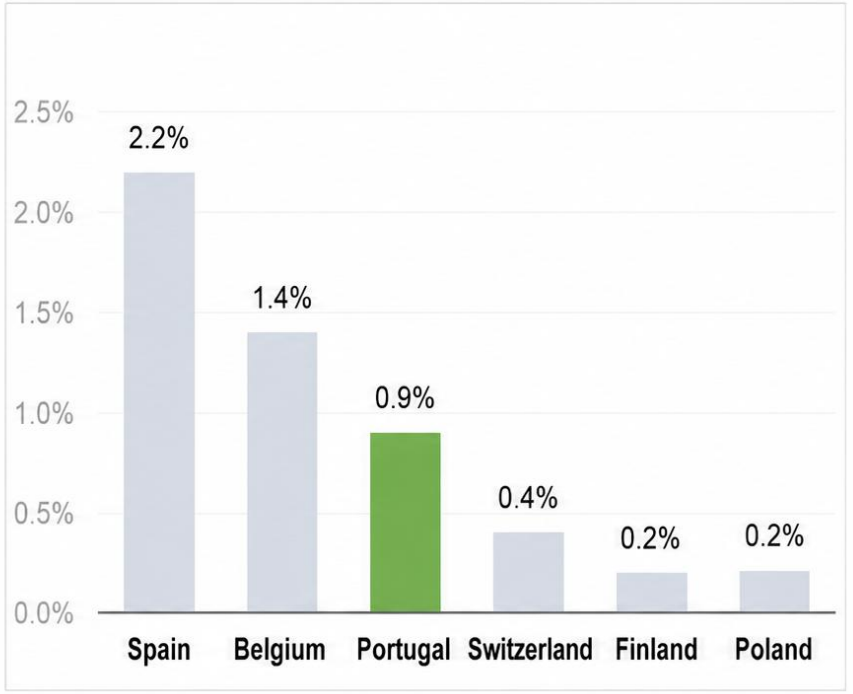
Drink and Drug-Driving in Portugal

Drink-driving: observed prevalence (Trendline 2024)

Observed prevalence in Portugal



Illegal BAC prevalence across six European countries



Source: Trendline (2024). Roadside survey of 5,068 car drivers in mainland Portugal.
*Iliegal BAC in Portugal: ≥ 0.20 g/L for novice and professional drivers; ≥ 0.50 g/L for other drivers.

Drink and Drug-Driving in Portugal

Drink-driving: observed prevalence (Trendline 2024)

Observed prevalence in Portugal by gender, age group, and day/time (illegal BAC*)



Source: Trendline (2024). Roadside survey of 5,068 car drivers in mainland Portugal.
Illegal BAC in Portugal: ≥ 0.20 g/L for novice and professional drivers; ≥ 0.50 g/L for other drivers.

Drink and Drug-Driving in Portugal

Key recommendations

Based on the report's findings and European Commission guidance.

- **Integrated national strategy**: Adopt a coordinated approach to preventing drink-driving.
- **Targeted enforcement**: Prioritise high-risk periods and locations, combining visible enforcement with strategic communication.
- **Alcohol interlocks and rehabilitation**: Introduce interlock programmes and strengthen rehabilitation for high-risk and repeat offenders.
- **Education and awareness**: Strengthen driver training, educational programmes, public campaigns and workplace prevention policies.
- **Safer mobility and technology**: Promote alternative transport options and the uptake of vehicle safety technologies.
- **Monitoring and data integration**: Improve the collection, integration and regular reporting of crash, toxicological, enforcement and prevalence data.
- **Legal measures**: Consider zero-tolerance BAC limits for novice drivers and legislation.

PRP
Prevenção Rodoviária Portuguesa

Drink and Drug-Driving in Portugal

Report

Drink and Drug-Driving in Portugal

Prevalence, road crashes and casualties, enforcement and road safety culture



https://prp.pt/investigacao/publicacoes/ (Available from December 10th)



PRP
Prevenção Rodoviária Portuguesa

Drink Driving in Portugal

November 17th, 2026

Alain Areal
(alain.areal@prp.pt)
Portuguese Road Safety Association (PRP)