



PLANETARY HEALTH WEEKLY

BRINGING YOU CURRENT NEWS ON GLOBAL HEALTH & ECOLOGICAL WELLNESS

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Out of Africa

The European Union recently struck a deal with Turkey to vastly increase E.U. aid to Ankara for dealing with migrants who have reached Turkey. If we would invest a fraction of that amount helping African nations combat deforestation, improve health and education and sustain small-scale farming, which is the livelihood of 80% of the people in Africa, so people could stay on their land, it would be so much better for them and for the planet. Young people are deciding to flee their homes, join terrorism or wilt away.

[Read More on New York Times](#)

[Read Also on New York Times](#)



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Study Reveals Greater Climate Impacts of 2C Temperature Rise

A difference of half a degree centigrade may be barely noticeable day to day, but the difference between 1.5C and 2C of global warming is a shift into a new, more dangerous climate regime. Scientists have found the additional 0.5C would lead to longer heatwaves, greater droughts and, in the tropics, reduced crop yields and all coral reefs being put in grave danger.

[Read More on The Guardian](#)





Why Africa's HIV Crisis Continues to Devastate Young Women

While vast progress has been made in AIDS treatment in sub-Saharan Africa, barely a dent has been made in HIV infection rates among young women (which are significantly higher than among young men). With the youth population of Africa booming (40% of Zambians are under 16), a realization is dawning: The AIDS epidemic will be uncontrollable unless the number of infections among young women is rapidly and dramatically reduced. High rates of HIV infection among young women are a medical crisis for which there is no purely medical answer. Norms need to be changed. The empowerment of young women has become an essential health priority.

[Read More on The Washington Post](#)

Innovative New Programme Set to Treat 10,000 Patients Co-Infected With Hepatitis C and HIV

The global burden of HIV/hepatitis C co-infection and its impact is significant. Worldwide an estimated 2.75 million people are co-infected with HIV and hepatitis C, the vast majority of whom are in the African and Asian regions. A new study found that people living with HIV are on average six times more likely to have hepatitis C than HIV-uninfected people, posing a serious health threat, particularly for those living in under-resourced countries.

[Read More on World Hepatitis Alliance](#)



What China's Food Safety Challenges Mean for Consumers, Regulators and the Global Economy

China's food safety woes are well-known especially after the 2008 scandal over melamine-tainted milk. From gutter oil to fake eggs to contaminated strawberries, the long list of food safety incidents in China means that domestic consumers are understandably worried about the food they can buy and eat. According to one survey, 71% of Chinese people considered food safety to be a big problem in 2015. Improving food safety in China is also important for international consumers because food from China can be found all over the world.

[Read More on Brookings](#)



Historic New Analysis Puts Price Tag on Global Malnutrition Crisis

One in five of all maternal deaths is caused by malnutrition – a preventable and senseless tragedy that must end. No mother should die giving life. Because many of the risks from malnutrition start before pregnancy, women and girls hold the keys to ending the intergenerational cycle of hunger, malnutrition, and extreme poverty. Malnutrition is the result of insufficient food intake and it is the underlying cause of 45% of under-five child deaths. Malnutrition is also a profound contributor to the cycle of extreme poverty. A quarter of children under five years old are stunted permanently leaving them with diminished cognitive and physical development.

[Read More on One](#)

Brewers Work to Secure Hop Supplies Against Climate Change

Climate change could push up the price of beer. A key ingredient, hops, grows best in just a few places on earth. If hops are hit by storms, drought, flooding or temperature extremes, brewers could be in trouble. Hops are green cone-shaped flowers that grow from vines strung along poles and wires. From a distance, you might mistake them for grapes, and like grapes, they're very particular about where they'll grow. Brewers are learning to work with different varieties of hop and substitutes for another basic beer ingredient – barley – which could also be hit by climate change.

[Read More on DW](#)



University of Ottawa Bucks Trend With Partial Divestment From Fossil Fuels

The University of Ottawa's board of governors has approved a plan that will see the university reduce the carbon footprint of its investments 30% by 2030. The new plan will also reportedly reallocate \$10 M from the university's long-term portfolio to invest in clean technologies. While Concordia University has also pursued partial divestment, the *Canadian Press* notes that this strategy diverges from those of most other Canadian universities, which have created low-carbon investment funds but have rejected divestment.

[Read More on The Hamilton Spectator](#)



Giving Land Rights to Women Yields Multiple Benefits

When women have rights to land, children's health and education improves, household resources increase and there are fewer child brides as daughters do not need to be married off young for financial reasons. Equally, women with land rights tend to have savings accounts, a factor that reduces domestic violence. If women have stronger bargaining power, they actually can resist. Their husbands will think twice before beating them. In sub-Saharan Africa, women make up more than half of the agricultural workforce, yet fewer than one in five own farms which needs to change.

[Read More on Reuters](#)

The World's Humanitarian Burden is Too Big. How can We Lessen it?

Twelve months have passed since the adoption by UN member states of the Sendai framework for disaster risk reduction, a 15-year plan for reducing disaster losses from manmade and natural hazards. During that period, almost 100 million people have lost their homes, their livelihoods, been displaced or suffered injury or loss because of a wide range of natural hazards during the hottest year on record. Alongside the rising needs driven by climate change and one of the strongest El Niño events in 50 years, the humanitarian assistance system is under increasing strain from conflicts and migration events.

[Read More on The Guardian](#)



SPOTLIGHT ON INDIGENOUS HEALTH University of Saskatchewan Launches New Aboriginal Career Start Program

The University of Saskatchewan has officially launched the Aboriginal Career Start program in an effort to provide practical experience and training to Aboriginal students. Sixteen graduates from the Gabriel Dumont Institute, the Saskatchewan Indian Institute of Technologies, and Saskatchewan Polytechnic will receive paid, on-the-job training in a variety of university departments, such as financial services and human resources. The university hopes to employ some of the students when positions become available.

[Read More on MBC](#)



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

“The next few decades offer a brief window of opportunity to minimize large-scale and potentially catastrophic climate change that will extend longer than the entire history of human civilization thus far.”

Peter U. Clark et al, "Consequences of twenty-first-century policy for multi-millennial climate and sea-level change" Nature Climate Change, February, 2016.

[Read More on nature.com](http://www.nature.com)

EVENTSTABLE

DATE	CONFERENCE	LOCATION	REGISTER
May 11-13	Interdisciplinary Thinking and Planning: Sharing Good Practice and Learning New Ways of Doing	Prague Czech Republic	http://www.inter-disciplinary.net/
May 13	Integrative Health Institute (IHI) Inaugural Conference	Edmonton Canada	https://uofa.ualberta.ca/
May 13-15	Peace, Global Health and Sustainability (PEGASUS)	Toronto Canada	http://www.pegasusconference.ca/
May 17-20	International Congress on Integrative Medicine and Health (ICIMH)	Las Vegas USA	https://www.cvent.com/
May 26-27	Indigenous Health Conference	Toronto Canada	http://www.cpd.utoronto.ca/
Jul. 8-9	2016 Summer Global Nursing Symposium	Los Angeles USA	http://www.uofriverside.com/
Jul. 26-30	Building Trust: A Global Challenge in Health System Reform The Network: Towards Unity For Health (TUFH) 2016 Conference	Shenyang China	http://www.cvent.com/events/
Nov. 21-24	9th Global Conference on Health Promotion	Shanghai China	http://www.who.int/healthpromotion



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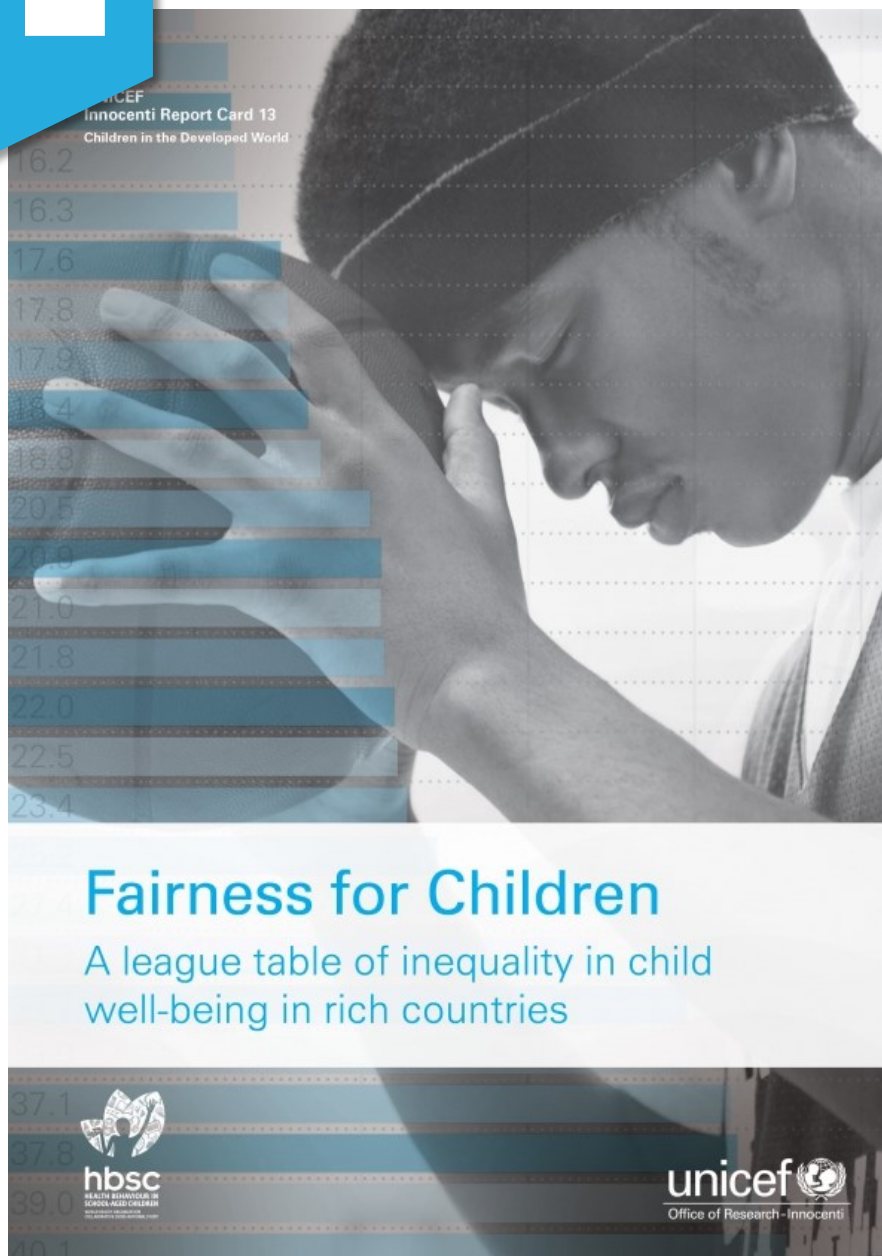


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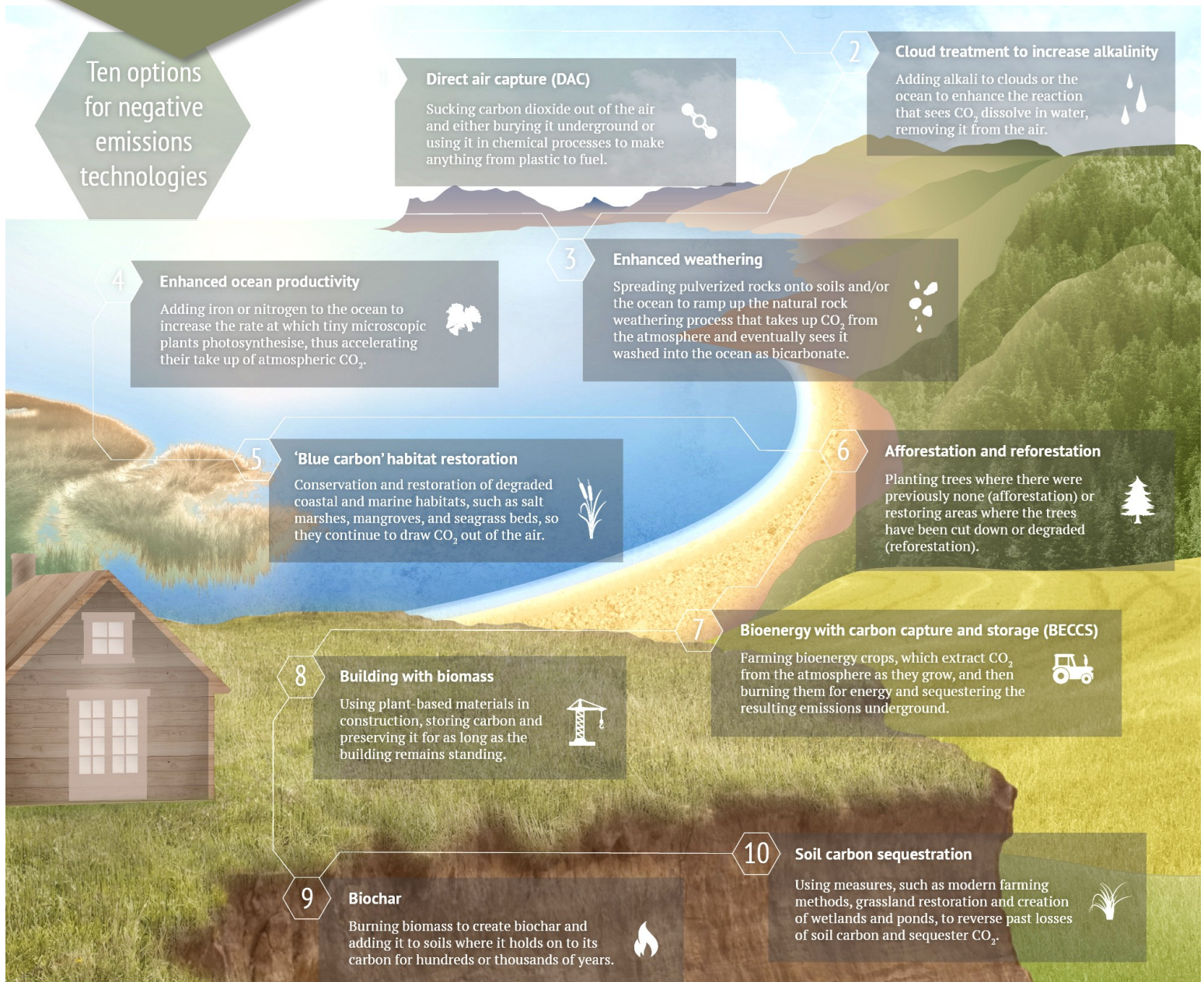


Fairness for Children: A League Table of Inequality in Child Well-Being in Rich Countries

The Report Card presents an overview of inequalities in child well-being in 41 countries of the European Union (EU) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). It focuses on 'bottom-end inequality' – the gap between children at the bottom and those in the middle – and addresses the question 'how far behind are children being allowed to fall?' in income, education, health and life satisfaction.

[Read More on UNICEF](#)

Ten options for negative emissions technologies



Explainer: Ten Ways 'Negative Emissions' Could Slow Climate Change

If we can't stop carbon emissions altogether, then we need to counterbalance them by taking some CO₂ back out of the atmosphere.

[Read More on CarbonBrief](#)



Development Aid Hits Record in 2015

Development aid given by rich countries rose to a new high in 2015, mainly because of an increase in funds spent on hosting and processing refugees. The rise in spending on refugees in donor countries did not have a significant impact on development programs as half the donors used money from outside their aid budgets to cover these costs.

It's promising to see aid to the poorest finally starting to increase, but extreme poverty must be tackled with the same sense of urgency that Europeans have shown in supporting refugees. We can and must do both.

[Read More on yahoo finance](#)



Contemporary Solutions to an Age-Old Challenge: Breastfeeding and Work

Exclusive breastfeeding for six months has many benefits for the infant and mother. Given that circumstances play a major role in whether women breastfeed after returning to work, it makes sense to ask whether providing breastfeeding breaks from work might not increase the number of women who breastfeed for the recommended 6 months. Legislation guaranteeing breastfeeding breaks could substantially improve working mothers' ability to continue to breastfeed. However, it might not make a substantial difference if the legislation covers a small fraction of the labour force, if breaks are too short for women to be able to pump milk or breastfeed, if infants are far from workplaces and locations for storing pumped milk are not available, or if legislation is not enforced.

[Read More on WABA](#)

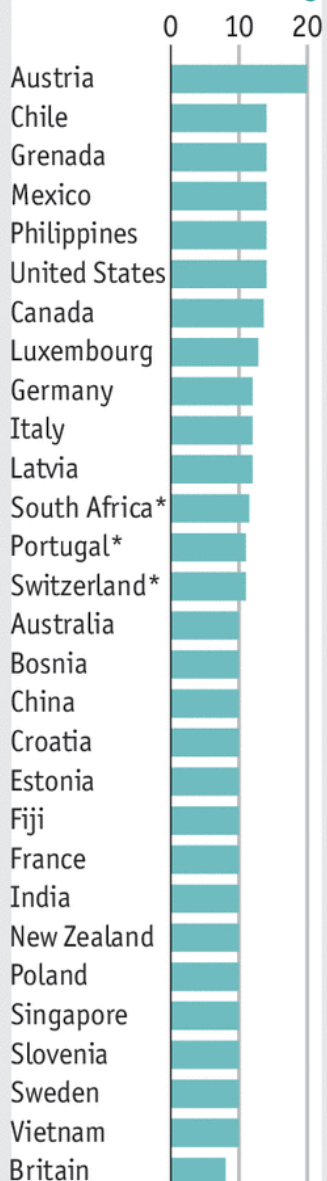


Drinking responsibly?

Governmental standard drink definitions and daily guidelines

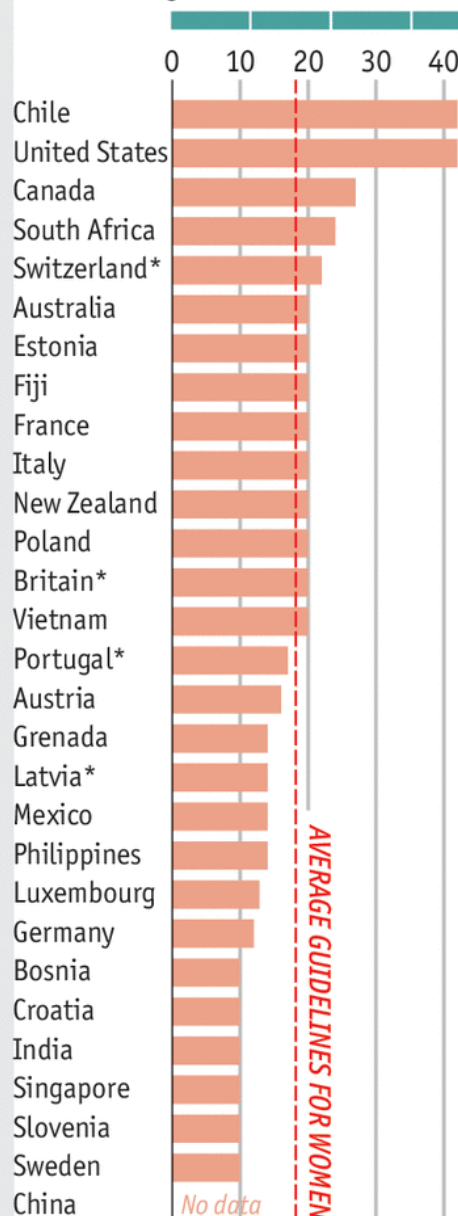
2016, grams of pure ethanol

National definition of standard drink
Pure ethanol, grams
AVERAGE 11.3g



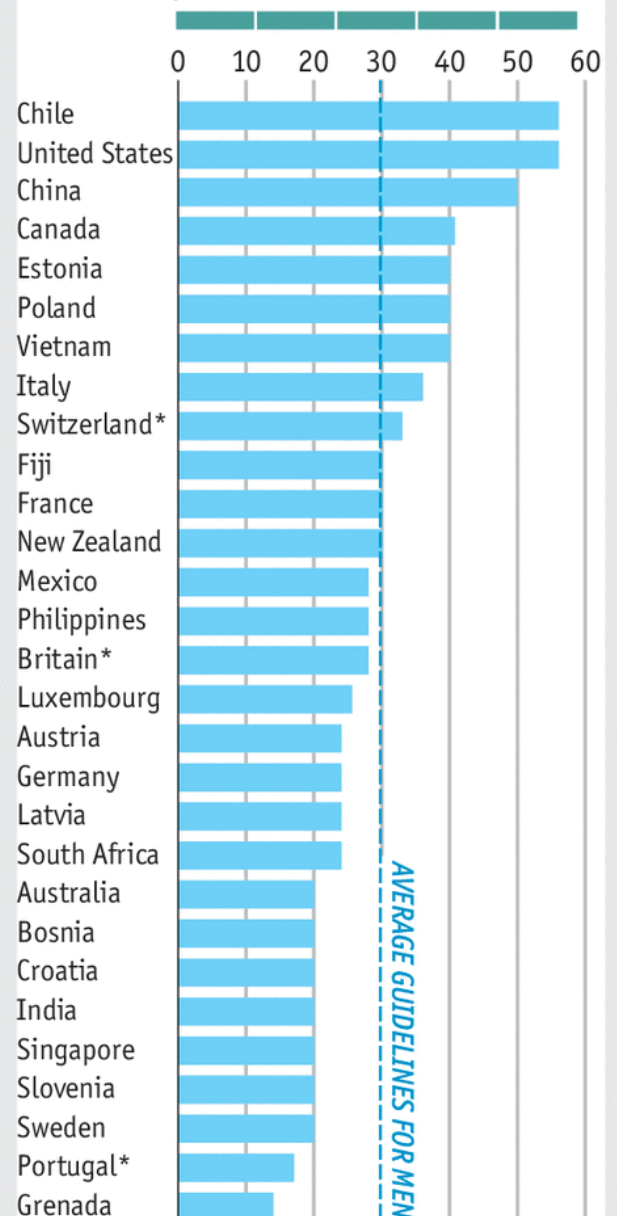
Daily guidelines for women

Low-risk
Pure ethanol, grams



Daily guidelines for men

Low-risk
Pure ethanol, grams



[Read More on the Economist](#)

*Average within a range



How to Talk to Your Friends About the Paris Agreement

You don't have to be a policy wonk to understand what's happening with the Paris Agreement.

When a record-breaking 175 nations attended the UN ceremony on April 22 to sign the Paris Agreement, Earth Day 2016 officially became one for the history books. But with a whole bunch of technical and official-sounding terms flying around, it's not always immediately clear what exactly is happening or why.

In one sentence – what's the big deal?

On April 22 – Earth Day – the Paris Agreement became one step closer to having legal effect around the world, as the 195 countries that adopted the agreement in December began signing it – and over 175 signing in person at a special UN ceremony.

[Read More on The Climate Reality Project](#)



In the movie Spectre, 007 is told that he is a 'kite dancing in a hurricane.' What about the millions of kids living in poverty, when getting towards adulthood, they lack education and cannot see a future, another coming and current hurricane.

This Newsletter is FREE.

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