# Nine in Ten Parents (91%) in 11 Countries Agree Talking With Children about Drinking Alcohol is Important

## Fewer Parents (73%) Say They Have Actually Talked With Their Children About Alcohol

Public Release Date: September 19, 2013



Ipsos is an independent market research company controlled and managed by research professionals. Founded in France in 1975, Ipsos has grown into a worldwide research group with a strong presence in all key markets. In October 2011 Ipsos completed the acquisition of Synovate. The combination forms the world's third largest market research company. With offices in 85 countries, Ipsos delivers insightful expertise across six research specializations: advertising, customer loyalty, marketing, media, public affairs research, and survey management. Ipsos researchers assess market potential and interpret market trends. They develop and build brands. They help clients build long-term relationships with their customers. They test advertising and study audience responses to various media and they measure public opinion around the globe. Ipsos has been listed on the Paris Stock Exchange since 1999 and generated global revenues of €1,789 billion (2.300 billion USD) in 2012.

*Visit www.ipsos-na.com to learn more about Ipsos offerings and capabilities.* 

For copies of other news releases, please visit: http://www.ipsos-na.com/news-polls/.



# Nine in Ten Parents (91%) in 11 Countries Agree Talking With Children about Drinking Alcohol is Important

## Fewer Parents (73%) Say They Have Actually Talked With Their Children About Alcohol

**Brussels** — A strong majority (91%) of parents with children between the ages of five and 17 in 11 countries agree on the importance of talking with their children about drinking alcohol, finds a new poll by global research company Ipsos on behalf of Anheuser-Busch InBev. A somewhat weakened majority (73%) indicate they have in fact spoken with their children about drinking alcohol, leading to a gap score of -19 points. The study spoke with parents from 11 countries: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, Great Britain, Mexico, Russia, Ukraine and the United States.

# Strong Majority (91%) of Parents Agree on Importance of Discussing Alcohol Consumption with Children...

Nine in ten (91%) parents with children aged 5-17 agree with the statement, 'It's important for parents to talk with their children about drinking alcohol' – 79% strongly agree, 13% somewhat agree. These proportions among the parent population in the 11 countries studied match quite closely with the opinions of



the wider adult population, where 89% – 75% strongly agree, 14% somewhat agree.

Those parents most likely to agree with the statement are from Germany, where the entire parent population (100%) agrees. They are followed by: Argentina (99%), Brazil (98%), the United States (97%) and Belgium (97%), Canada (96%), Great Britain (96%), Russia (93%) and Ukraine (90%) while Mexico (92%) and China (46%) round out the list.

...Considerable Gap (-19 points), however, Exists Between Parents Who Agree on Importance (91%) and Those Who Say They Have Actually Spoken About the Issues with Their Kids (73%)

A weakened proportion of parents (73%) say 'yes' when asked if they have talked with their children about drinking alcohol, a weaker proportion of parents, while three in ten (27%) 'no'.

Those from Germany (82%) are most likely to say they have actually spoken about the topic with their children, followed by Argentina (81%), Belgium (79%), Brazil (77%), Mexico (76%), the United States (74%), Canada (74%), Great Britain (73%), Russia (69%), Ukraine (66%) and China (47%).

Across all 11 countries, there is a gap of -19 points between the proportion of those who say they have actually spoken with their children and the proportion who say it is important to have the talk. Only China has a positive gap score of +1 point, meaning that parents there appear to talk with their kids and value the conversation about drinking to a similar extent.

The rest of the gap scores are negative, meaning parents seem to be more likely to say the issue is important than to actually have the talk. The largest negative



scores are found in Russia (-24 pts), Ukraine (-24 pts), the United States (-23 pts) and Great Britain (-23 pts). They are followed by Canada (-22 pts), Brazil (-21 pts), Argentina (-18 pts), Belgium (-18 pts), Germany (-18 pts) and Mexico (-16 pts).

#### Age of Kids is Top Reason for Not Having the Conversation

Parents were asked to consider the reasons why they have not talked with their children about drinking, from a list of options. The top reasons selected are: 'feel child is still too young' (78%) and 'trust my children to make the right decision' (20%). The average age parents believe is the appropriate time to start talking with their children about drinking is 10 years old and this varies somewhat across the 11 countries surveyed. Parents in China continue to appear most reticent to discuss the issue with young children as they provide the highest average age for when they think it is appropriate to start discussing alcohol with kids: 14. They are followed, in reverse order, by Belgium (12), Great Britain (11), Canada (11), Mexico (10), the United States (10), Argentina (10), Germany (10), Ukraine (10), Brazil (9) and Russia (9).



	% Strongly Agree 'It's important for parents to talk with their children about drinking alcohol'?	% Have Talked With Children About Drinking Alcohol	Action-Attitude Gap Score (% Talked with Children minus % Agree Talk is Important)	
TOTAL	91%	73%	-19%	
Germany	100%	82%	-18%	
Argentina	99%	81%	-18%	
Brazil	98%	77%	-21%	
United States	97%	74%	-23%	
Belgium	97%	79%	-18%	
Canada	96%	74%	-22%	
Great Britain	96%	73%	-23%	
Russia	93%	69%	-24%	
Mexico	92%	76%	-16%	
Ukraine	90%	66%	-24%	
China	46%	47%	1%	



### Methodology:

	Methodology	Sample Size			Age		
Country		Total	Parents with Kids 5-17	Language	range	Location	Field Dates
Argentina	Face to face	1,000	343	Spanish	18 to 70	Urban areas	June 14 to July 5
Belgium	Phone	1,000	300	French and Dutch	18+	National	June 10 to June 20
Brazil	Face to face	1,000	336	Portuguese	18 to 64	National	June 20 to June 30
Canada	Online	1,000	246	English / French	19+	National	June 5 to June 9
China	Phone	1,000	407	Simplified Chinese	18 to 64	Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Wuhan	June 23 to July 4
Germany	Phone	1,000	282	German	18+	National	June 10 to June 13
Great Britain	Phone	1,000	225	English	18+	National	June 7 to June 9
Mexico	Face to Face	1,000	393	Spanish	18+	70% urban / 30% rural	June 8 to June 22
Russia	Phone	1,000	331	Russian	18 to 64	Metro areas with a population of 500,000+	June 18 to July 9
U.S.	Phone	1,000	247	English	21+	National	June 6 to June 11
Ukraine	Phone	1,000	321	Ukrainian	18 to 59	National	June 12 to June 26

-30-

### For more information on this news release, please contact:

Keren Gottfried Research Manager Ipsos Global Public Affairs 416-572-4481 keren.gottfried@ipsos.com

News releases are available at: http://www.ipsos-na.com/news-polls/