

Alcohol Education Trust survey findings on young people and their experience of drink spiking

- In answer to the question 'Do you think you have ever had one of your drinks spiked?' 94 replied 'yes' and a further 26 'maybe'. This equates to 15% of females having their drinks spiked, 7% of males and 17% of those identifying as other.
 - 81% of females said no
 - 4% of females said maybe
 - 7% of males said yes
 - 89% of males said no
 - 4% of males said maybe
 - 17% of others said yes
 - 75% of others said no
 - 8% of others said maybe
- Of the 94 young people who had had a drink spiked, 77% had an alcoholic drink spiked and 23% a non-alcoholic one, raising the importance of realising that any drink can be spiked, alcoholic or not.
- Public perception is that drink spiking occurs mainly in pubs and clubs, but the survey found that among those who had had a drink spiked, the most common location of spiking was at a private party (35%) followed by at a night club (28%).
 - 13% was in a bar/pub
 - 7% was at a festival
 - 28% was in a nightclub
 - 17% was in another location
 - 35% was at a private party
- Perhaps the most shocking statistic of all from the survey was that 92% of those who had their drink spiked didn't report it. A variety of reasons were given including 14% thinking they wouldn't be taken seriously and 8% thinking there wouldn't be enough proof or they didn't realise until too late (11%) what had happened to them.
 - They didn't know who to report it to 4%
 - It didn't occur to them that they should report it 4%
 - They didn't think they would be taken seriously 14%
 - They felt embarrassed 3%
 - They thought there would be no proof 8%
 - They were not 100% sure that their drink had been spiked 20%
 - They didn't feel concerned enough 15%
 - Other 13%
 - They realised later 11%
 - They felt scared 4%
 - They were friends 2%
 - They were too drunk to report 1%
 - They were drinking underage 1%
- Of the small number who did report that their drink has been spiked, 25% told the police, 26% a Medic and 25% a bouncer/venue staff.
 - Parents 8%
 - Police 25%
 - Medics 26%
 - Bouncer 25%
 - Friend 8%
 - Party host 8%

- 50% of those who reported spiking said nothing happened as a result.
 - o It was investigated 9%
 - o Received help from parents 8%
 - o More security was added to the venue 8%
 - o Friends came to collect 9%
 - o They were not believed 8%
 - o They just left the party 8%
 - o Nothing 50%
- Among those who didn't report the drink spiking, 34% didn't wish they had, 22% wished they had and 44% answered maybe.
- When asked if they know where to go for help and support around drink spiking 60% said they didn't.
 - o 24% said yes
 - o 60% said no
 - o 16% said maybe
- When asked if people felt confident knowing what to do if friend's drinks had been spiked:
 - o 36% said yes
 - o 38% said no
 - o 26% said maybe
- When asked what they would find helpful to prevent/deal with drink spiking, people said:
 - o Campaigns/ads/raising awareness 15%
 - o Education at school/college/university 12%
 - o Advice re how to know if a drink has been spiked 11%
 - o Nothing 1%
 - o Having a cover for drinks 3%
 - o Other 16%
 - o Target the perpetrators 2%
 - o Unsure 7%
 - o Advice re what to do if a drink is spiked 33%