

Education in Support of Blue Pacific 2050

- Blue Pacific 2050 seeks to foster enhanced cooperation among Pacific nations to advance sustainable development, grounded in our shared cultures, values, and beliefs. The vision is to create an inclusive and secure society in which the peoples of the Pacific can flourish. Achieving this ambitious goal requires the collective commitment of all, irrespective of age, gender, heritage, culture, or faith. From today, we must lay the essential foundations for this vision, while remaining mindful of those who will continue this endeavour in the generations to come.
- Indeed, today’s children will be the builders of tomorrow’s Pacific. It is essential to equip them with the knowledge and tools they need to thrive, embody this shared vision, and meet the challenges that lie ahead. With this in mind, we have focused our attention on the existing educational frameworks and their tangible impacts on young people.
- Dividing the countries into three major regions – Melanesia, Micronesia, and Polynesia – provides a clearer and more streamlined approach to analysing and visualising the data. This grouping is based on shared characteristics such as land area, population demographics, and geographical proximity within each zone.



Melanesia

(FJ) Fiji	(NC) New-Caledonia	(PG) Papua New Guinea
(SB) Solomon	(VU) Vanuatu	

Micronesia

(FM) Federate States of Micronesia	(MH) Marshall Islands
(NR) Nauru	(PW) Palau

Polynesia

(TV) Tuvalu	(KI) Kiribati	(CK) Cook Islands
(TO) Tonga	(NU) Niue	(WS) Samoa
(PF) French Polynesia		

“Education is the most powerful weapon you can use to change the world.”
Nelson Mandela.

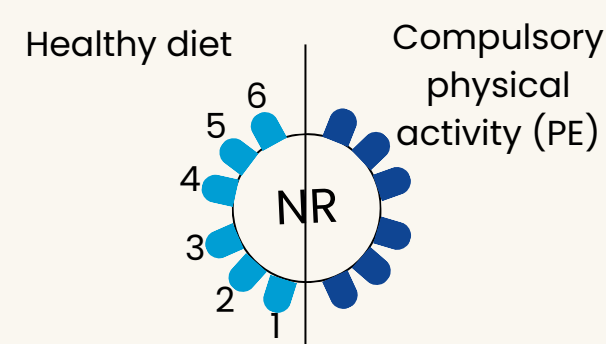
MELANESIA

MICRONESIA

POLYNESIA

Policies...

These charts illustrate the presence or absence of policies implemented in relation to healthy eating and compulsory physical education (PE) within schools in each country. This indicator is of particular interest as it reflects the level of public policy engagement on these two public health issues, both of which have a direct impact on non-communicable diseases (NCDs), the leading cause of mortality in the Pacific. The most recent available score has been used for each country.

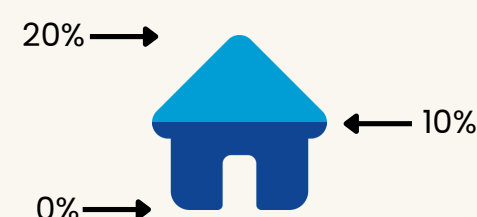


These two indicators are measured using a scoring scale from 0 to 6:

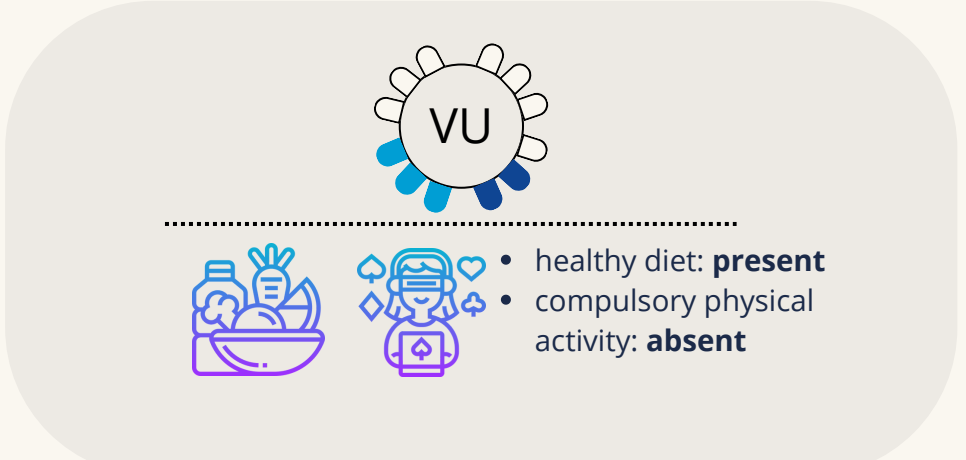
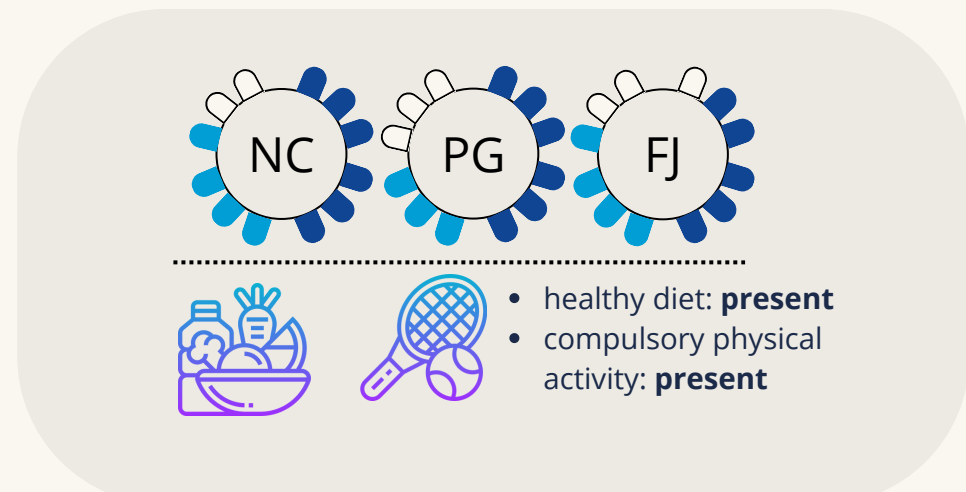
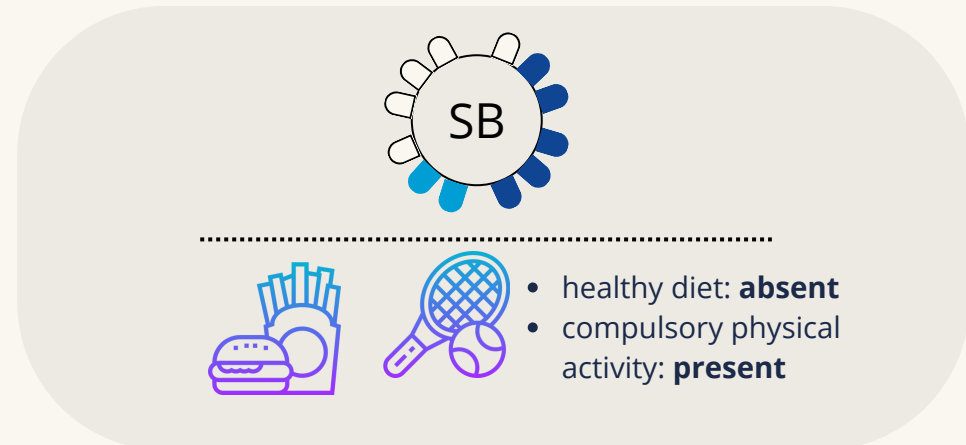
- **Healthy diet:**
 - Absent (1–2)
 - Present (3–6)
- **Compulsory physical activity:**
 - Absent (1–3)
 - Present (4–6)

...and facilities

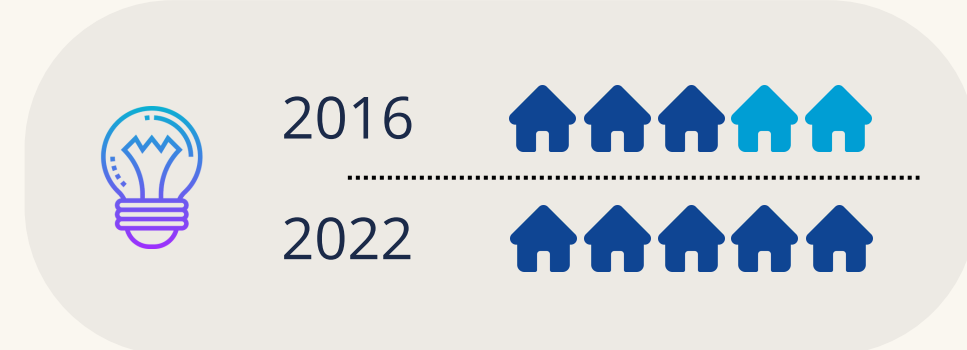
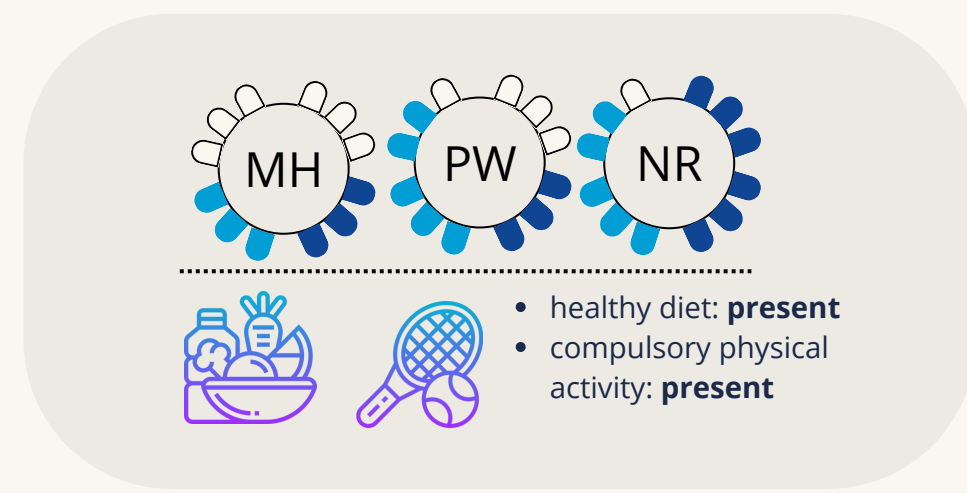
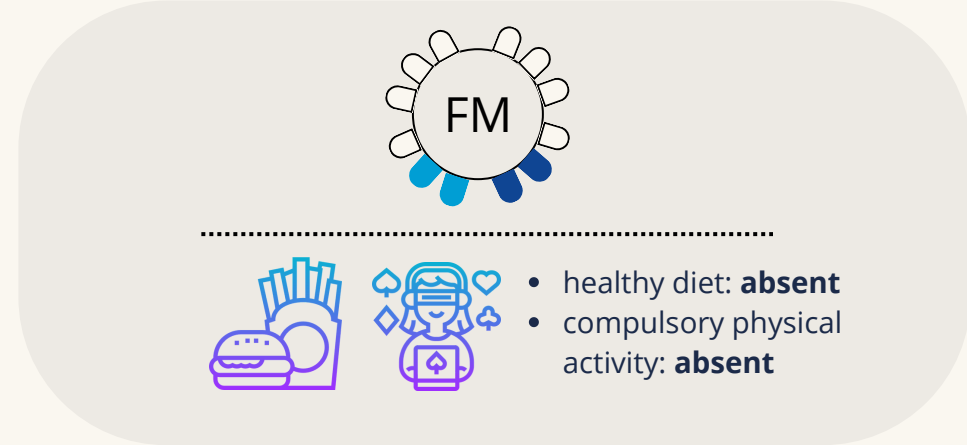
These charts presents the percentage (regional average) of schools with access to water and electricity in 2016 and again in 2022. These data are particularly valuable as they provide an indication of the level of development of school infrastructure supporting the education of young people across Pacific.



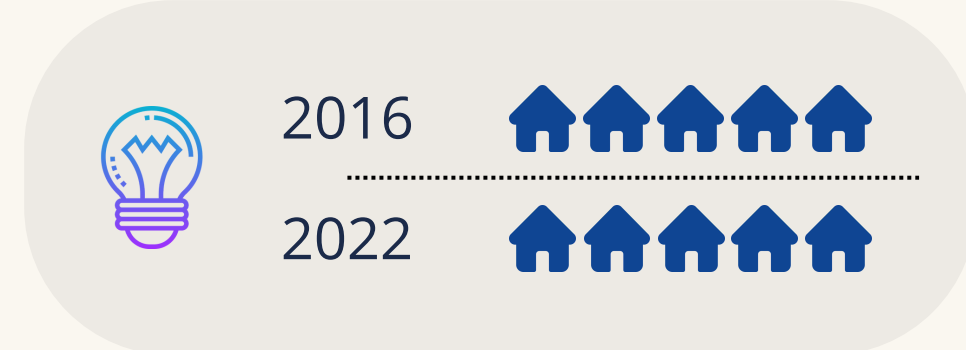
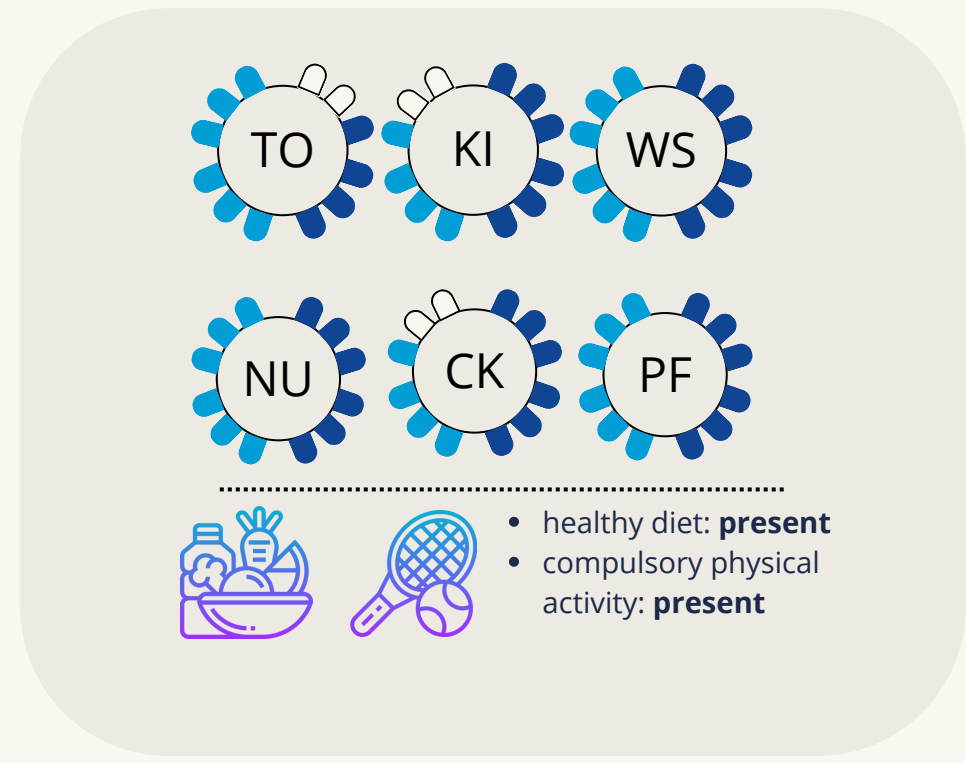
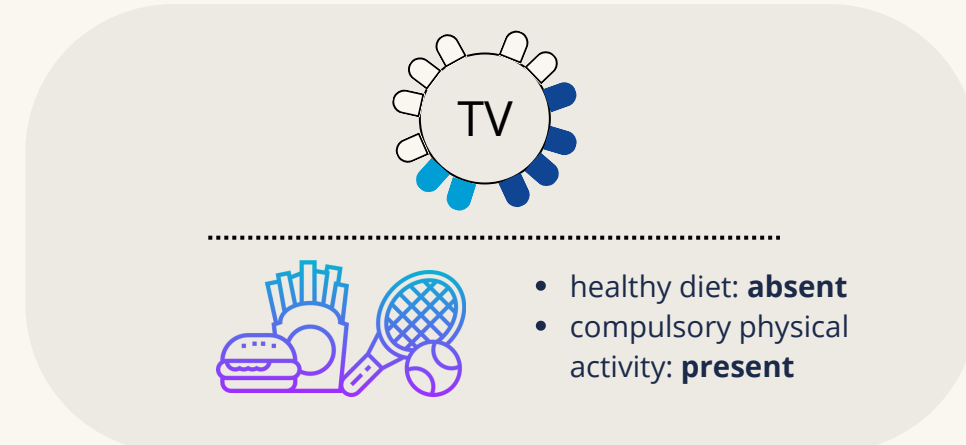
The diagram above represents a school equipped at a rate of 10%. Each school icon corresponds to a total of 20%, which is why there are five icons displayed per region.



• Access to water and electricity in Melanesian schools increased steadily between 2016 and 2022. However, a dip in electricity access was observed in 2019, as only the Solomon Islands provided data for that year.



• Micronesian schools have experienced a significant improvement in access to water and electricity between 2016 and 2022. This increase has been gradual over the years.



• Access to water and electricity in Polynesian schools has been close to 100% since 2016. The only decline was observed in 2019 for both water and electricity, mainly due to a significant drop in data reported from Tuvalu.

- (FJ) Fiji
- (SB) Solomon
- (NC) New-Caledonia
- (VU) Vanuatu
- (PG) Papua New Guinea

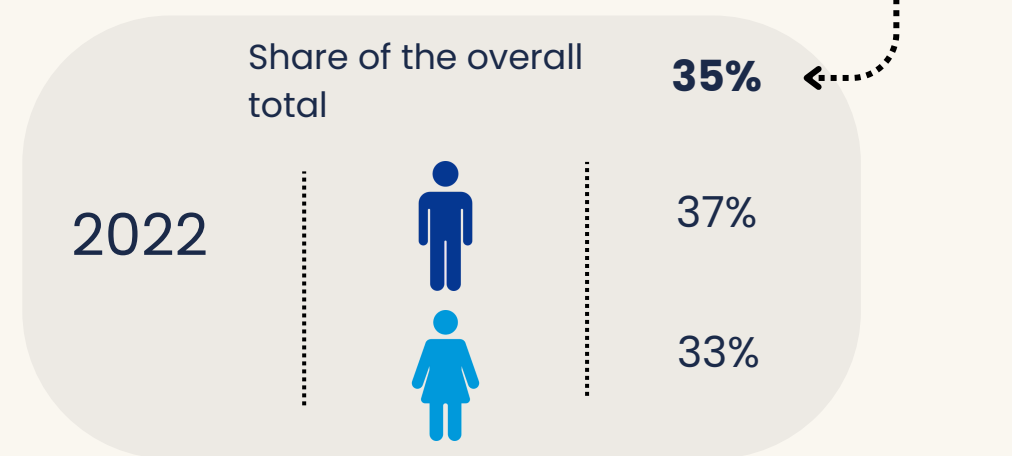
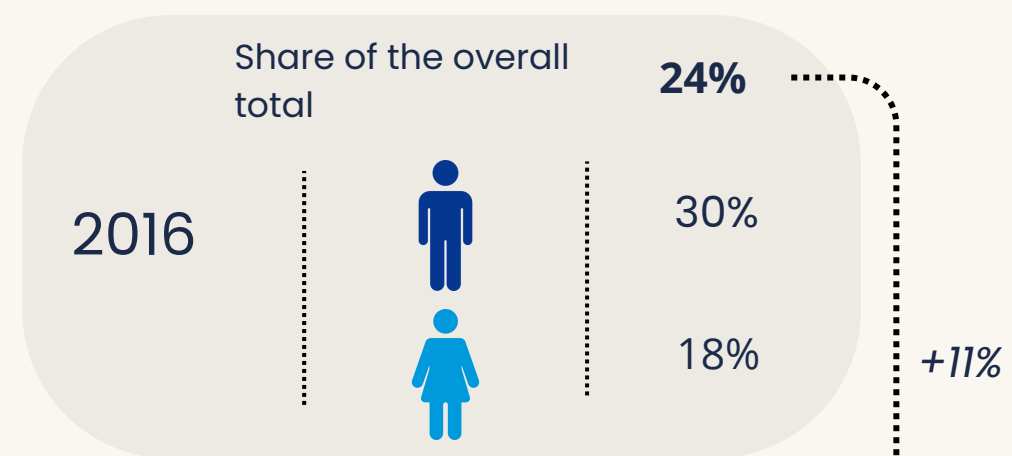
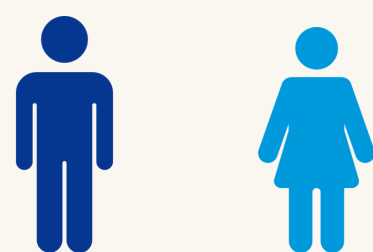
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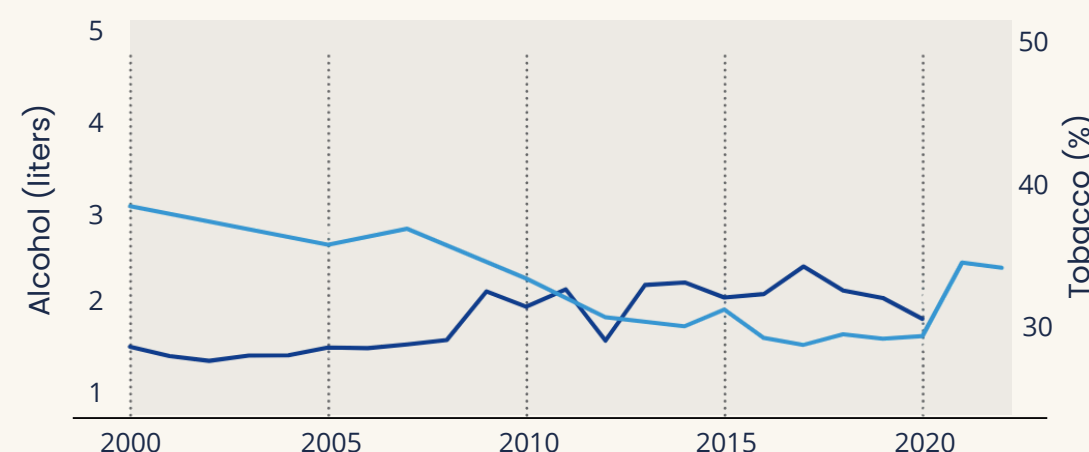
MELANESIA

Impacts on education...

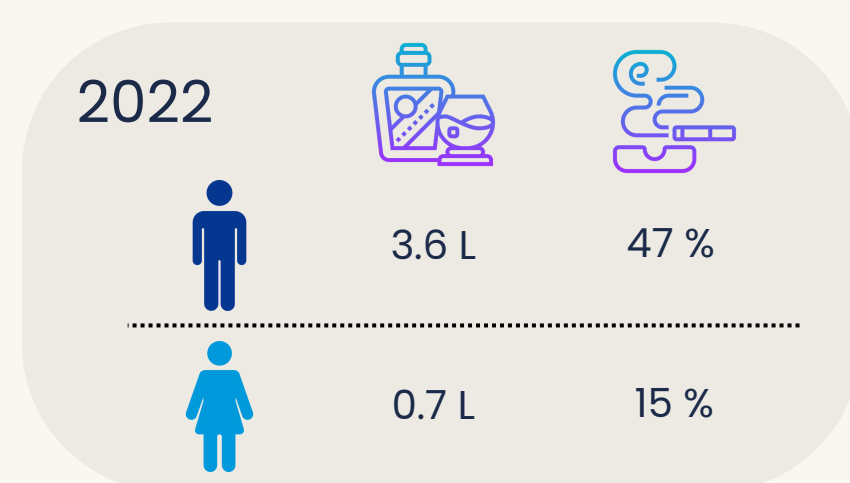
These visuals show the percentage of young people who are not in school, employment, or training during the periods 1999–2016 (2016) and 2017–2022 (2022). The overall total reflects the number of young people not enrolled in education relative to the total youth population, while the male/female ratio is calculated within each gender group. This indicator is particularly insightful as it highlights the level of youth engagement in society.



- An increase in non-schooling is observed for both males and females, with a factor close to 2 for females. It is worth noting that in 2022, only 3 out of 5 countries provided data.

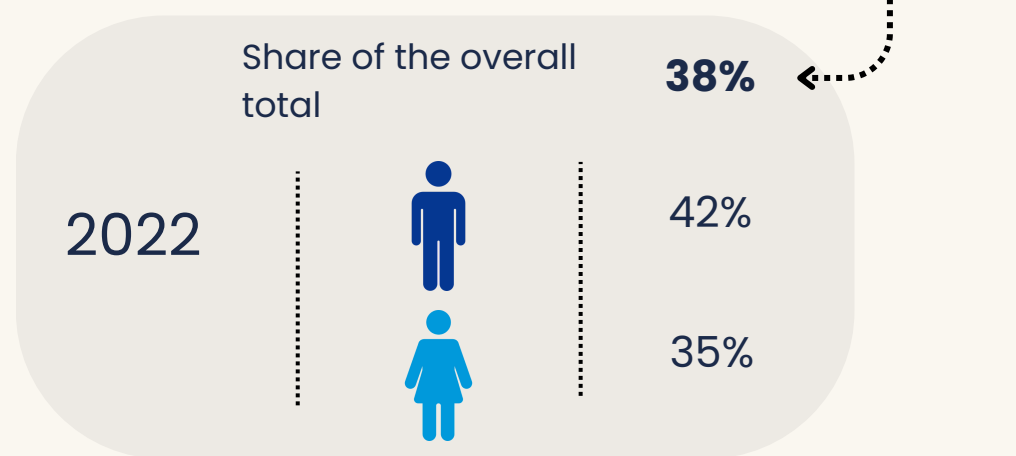
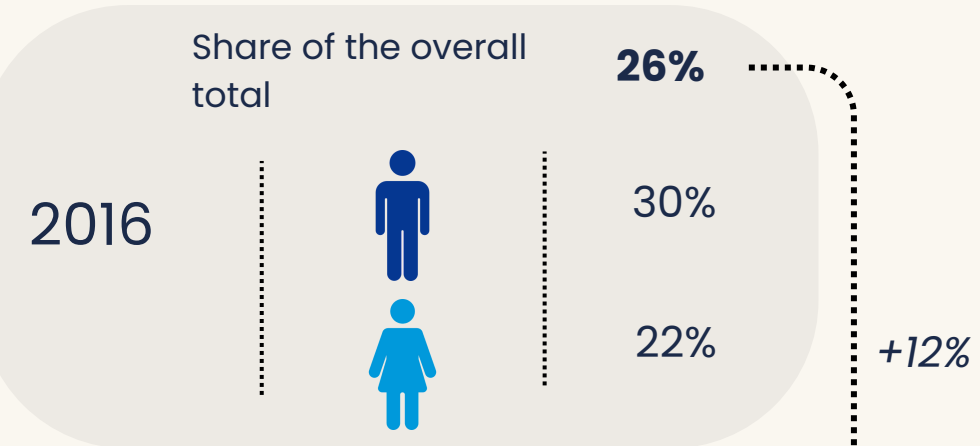


- Tobacco consumption progressively decreased until 2020 before experiencing a five-point increase in 2022. Alcohol consumption has shown slight upward fluctuations since 2000.

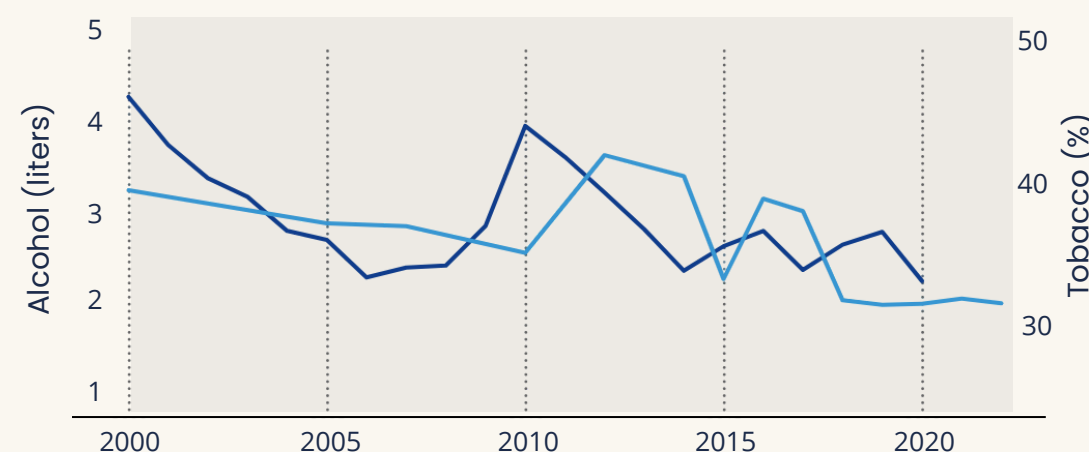


- Men consume five times more alcohol than women. Nearly half of men use tobacco, while prevalence among women is only 15%.

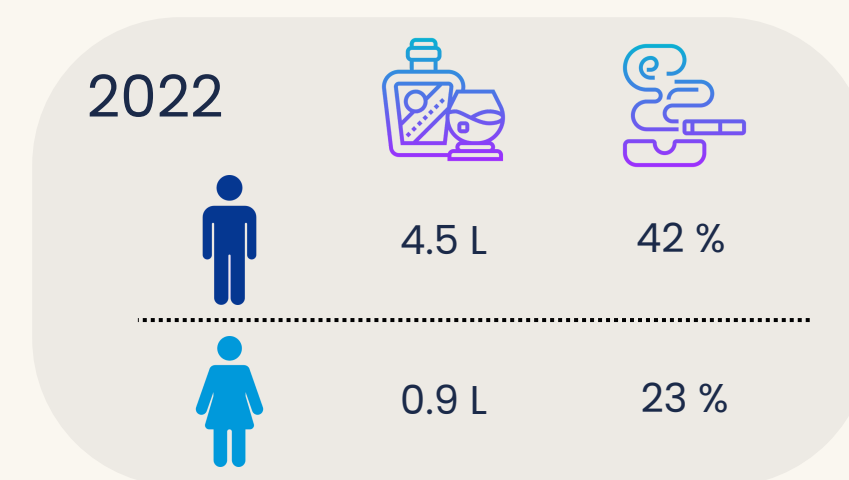
MICRONESIA



- A nearly identical increase in non-schooling is observed for both genders. It should be noted that the data collected relates to three different countries for each period.

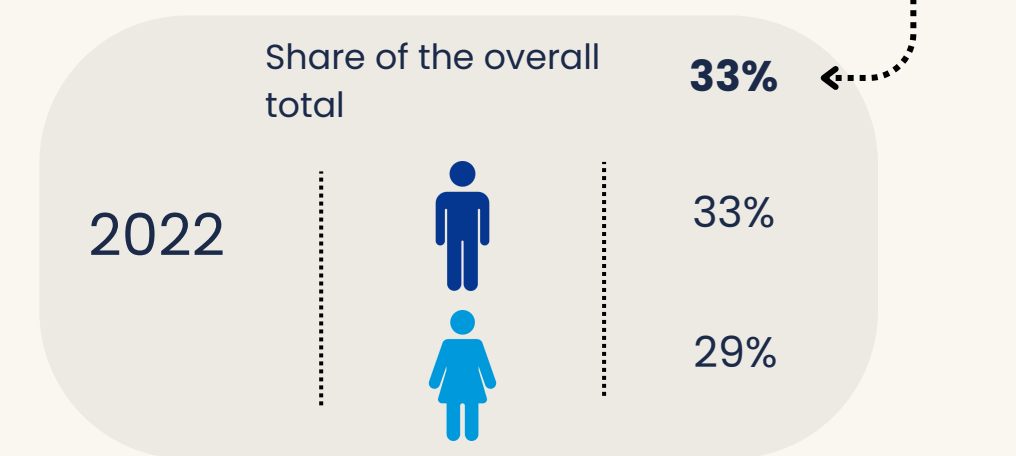
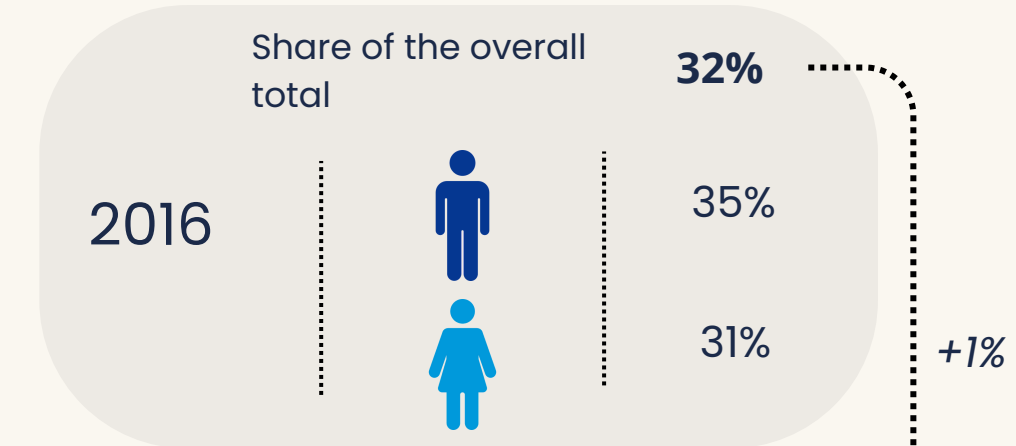


- Tobacco consumption dropped by 10 percentage points between 2000 and 2022. Alcohol consumption also declined by approximately 50% over the same period.

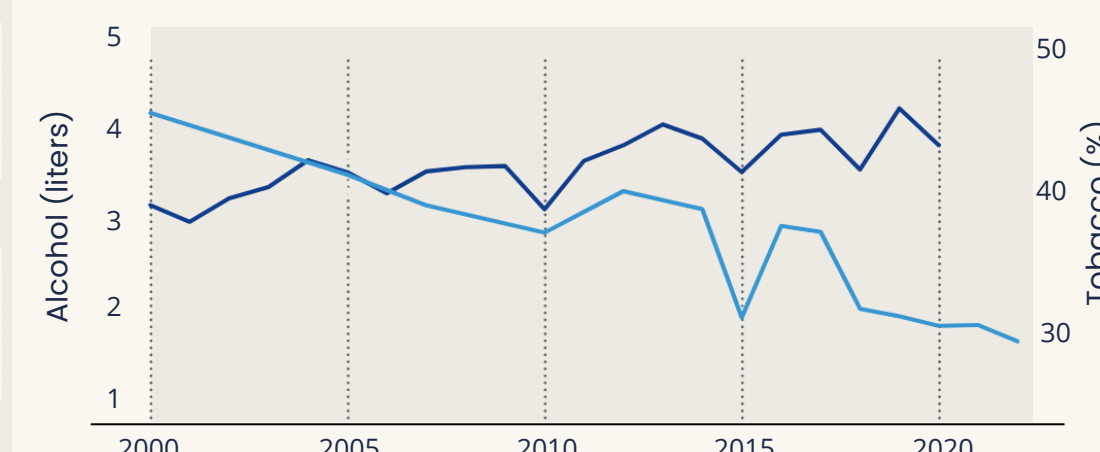


- Men consume 4.5 times more alcohol than women. Tobacco use prevalence is 42% among men, compared to 23% among women.

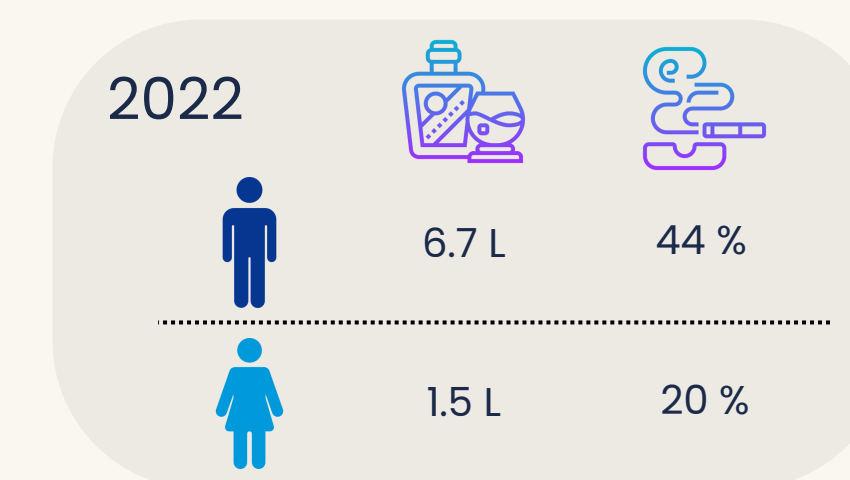
POLYNESIA



- Overall non-schooling has increased only slightly over the years, with a similar distribution between males and females. It should be noted that data was provided by 6 out of 7 countries.



- Tobacco consumption steadily declined, reaching 30% of the population in 2022 compared to 45% in 2000. Alcohol consumption rose unevenly since 2000, reaching 4 litres in 2020.



- Men consume 4.5 times more alcohol than women. Polynesia records the highest alcohol consumption among the three regions. Tobacco use prevalence is 44% among men, compared to 20% among women.

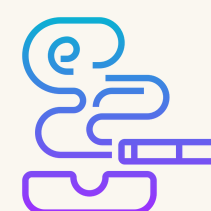
...alcohol and tobacco consumption

The gender-based analysis of alcohol and tobacco consumption was conducted over the period 2017 to 2022 (2022). Tracking the evolution of consumption of these two substances partly reflects the impact of policies implemented in schools regarding healthy eating and compulsory physical activity.

Pure alcohol consumption (liters per year)



Prevalence of tobacco use (% of population)



Conclusion

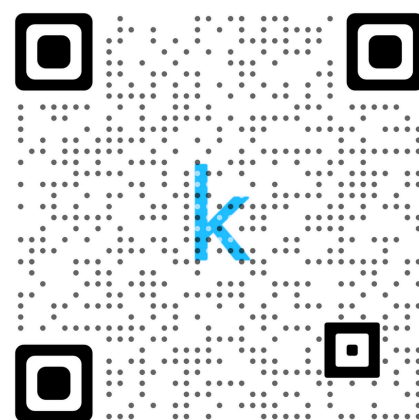
- The majority of the States studied have implemented policies aimed at promoting healthy diet and/or making physical activity mandatory in schools, reflecting public authorities' commitment to tackling non-communicable diseases (NCDs) from an early age. However, for these measures to be truly effective, they must be supported by adequate school infrastructure.
- Across all the regions analysed, access to water and electricity in schools has significantly improved, now reaching levels close to 100%. This progress demonstrates that, beyond their political commitment, these States have invested financial and technical resources to strengthen their education systems. The three regions studied therefore show a genuine interest in the education and health of young people, particularly in Polynesia.
- However, despite these efforts, the rate of young people out of school has continued to rise across all regions, reaching a global average of 35% in 2022 for those neither in education, employment nor training. This highlights that public initiatives are still struggling to fully engage young people. Polynesia is the only region to show a slight increase in non-education. While one might expect this rise in non-education to lead to increased alcohol and tobacco consumption among those aged 15 and over, this correlation is less clear-cut. In fact, tobacco use prevalence has steadily declined between 2000 and 2020 across all regions, as has alcohol consumption—except in Polynesia, where alcohol use shows a slight upward trend. Finally, men remain the most affected by alcohol consumption and tobacco use.
- Thus, while Pacific States have undertaken actions to improve youth education and health, further efforts are needed to reverse the trend of non-enrolment, particularly in Micronesia and Melanesia. The health outcomes are encouraging, especially in relation to tobacco use. Despite certain intra- and interregional disparities, overall trends are similar and highlight the need to strengthen youth education across the Pacific. It is essential to draw inspiration from successful initiatives observed in other countries within the region and globally, in order to foster more effective regional collaboration.

Nathanaël
AMBROISE



Clémentine
GALIN

To access the
results: scan me



<https://www.kaggle.com/code/mayasixtine/pacific-dataviz-challenge-2025-data-use>