

Alcohol policies and contextual factors

Finland

Esa Österberg

Senior Researcher, Alcohol and Drugs Unit,
Department of Alcohol, Drugs and Addiction

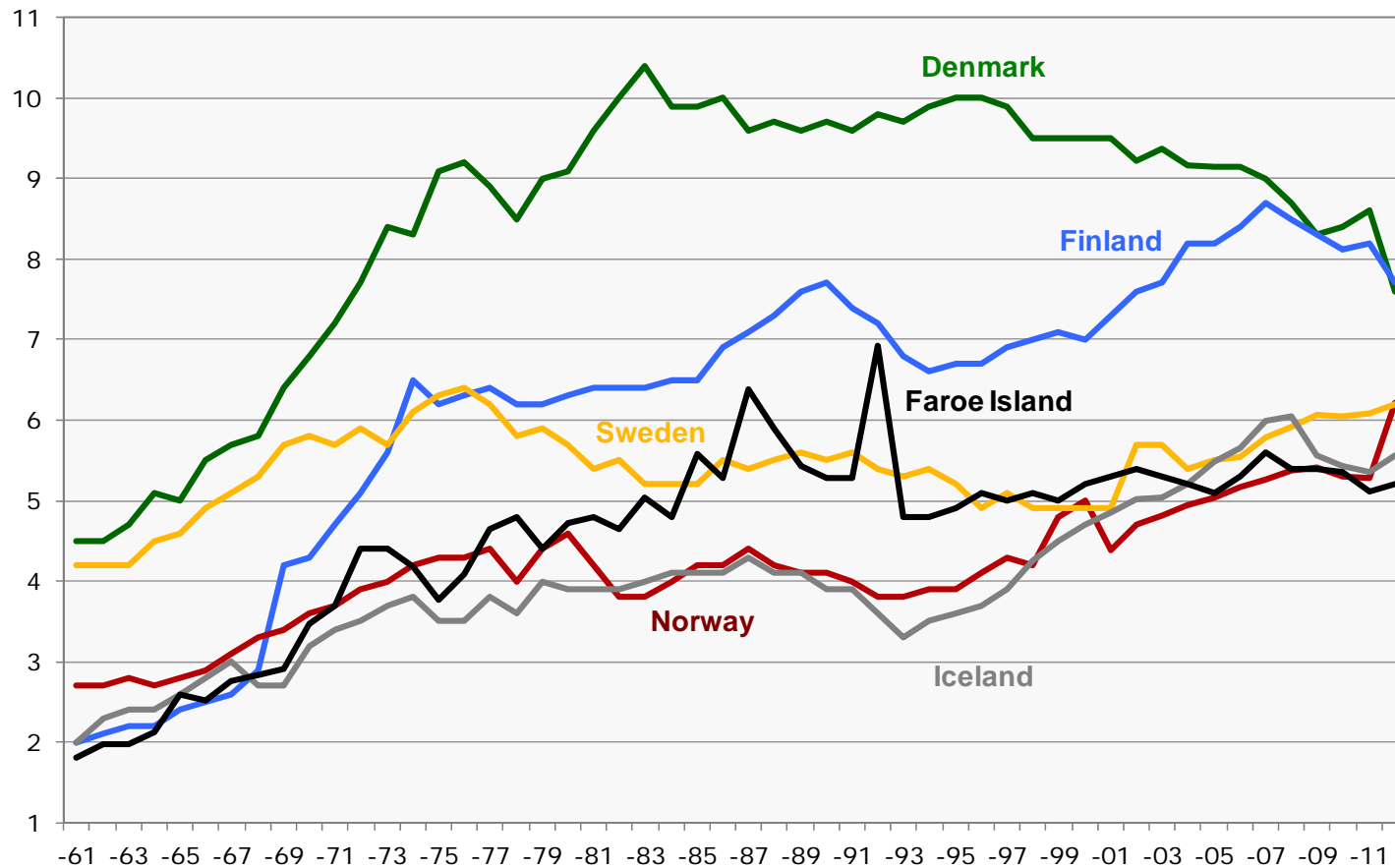
esa.osterberg@thl.fi



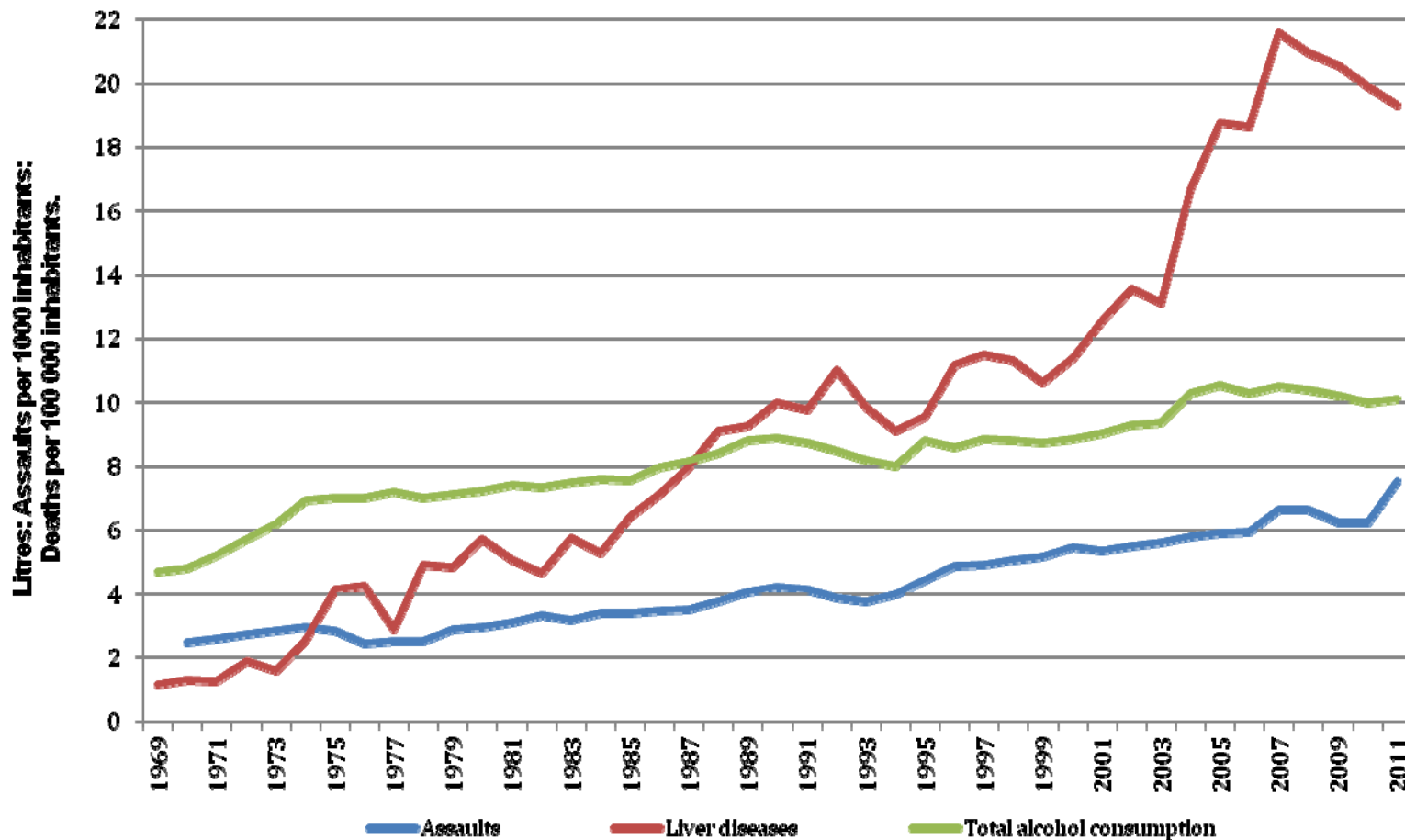
NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR HEALTH AND WELFARE, FINLAND



Recorded alcohol consumption in the Nordic countries in 1961-2012 in litres of 100 % alcohol per capita



Assaults per 1 000 persons, deaths from liver disease per 100 000 persons and total alcohol consumption in litres of 100 per cent per capita alcohol in 1969–2011



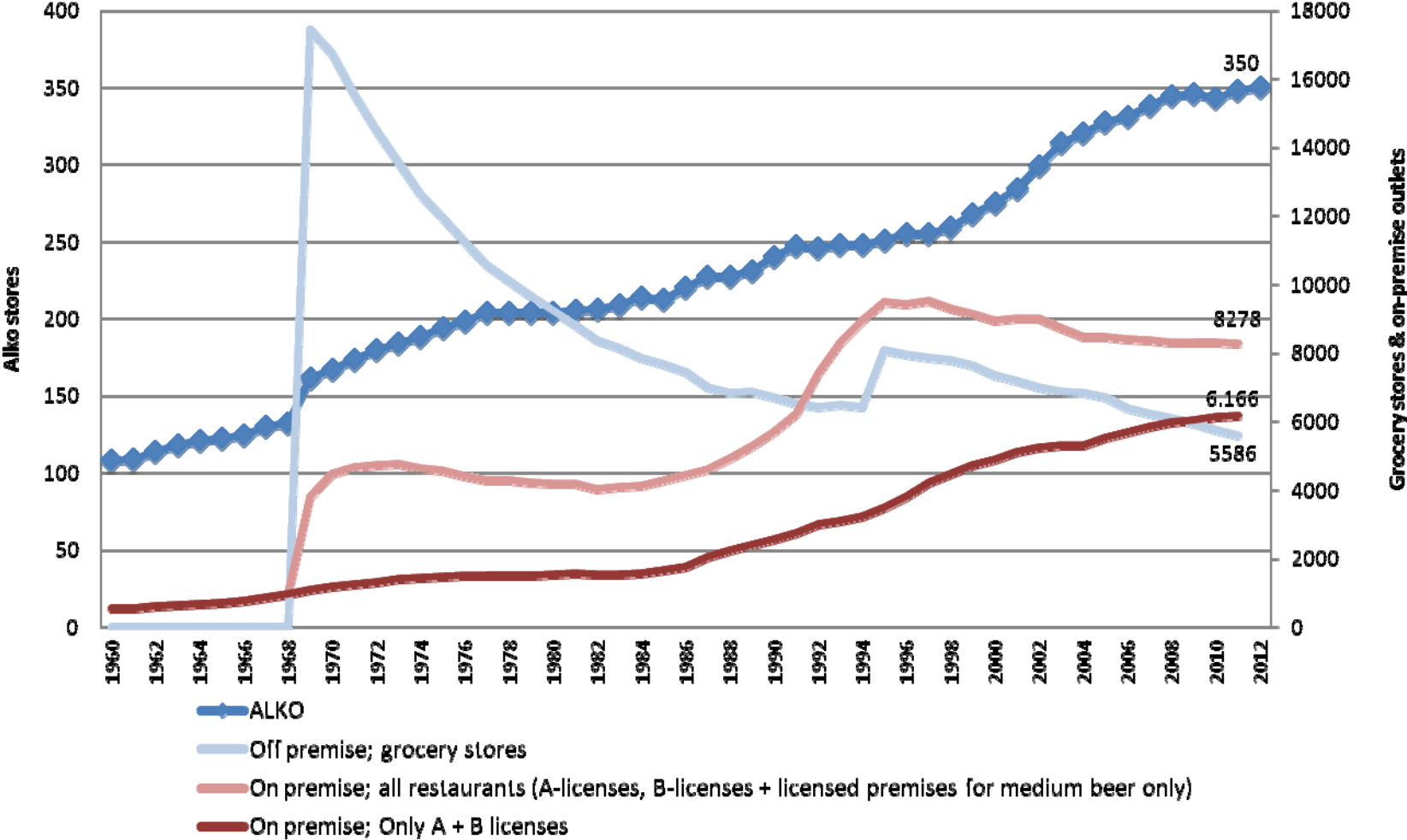
Changes in alcohol control policies (1/2)

- **Alcohol Act and Medium Beer Act in 1969**
 - **Medium beer to groceries and cafes**
 - **Alko stores in rural municipalities**
 - **Easier to get on-premise licenses**
 - **Lower age limits in off-premise sales**
- **Two alcohol price changes in 1975 (an increase with 8 per cent)**
- **Alcohol advertising banned in 1977**

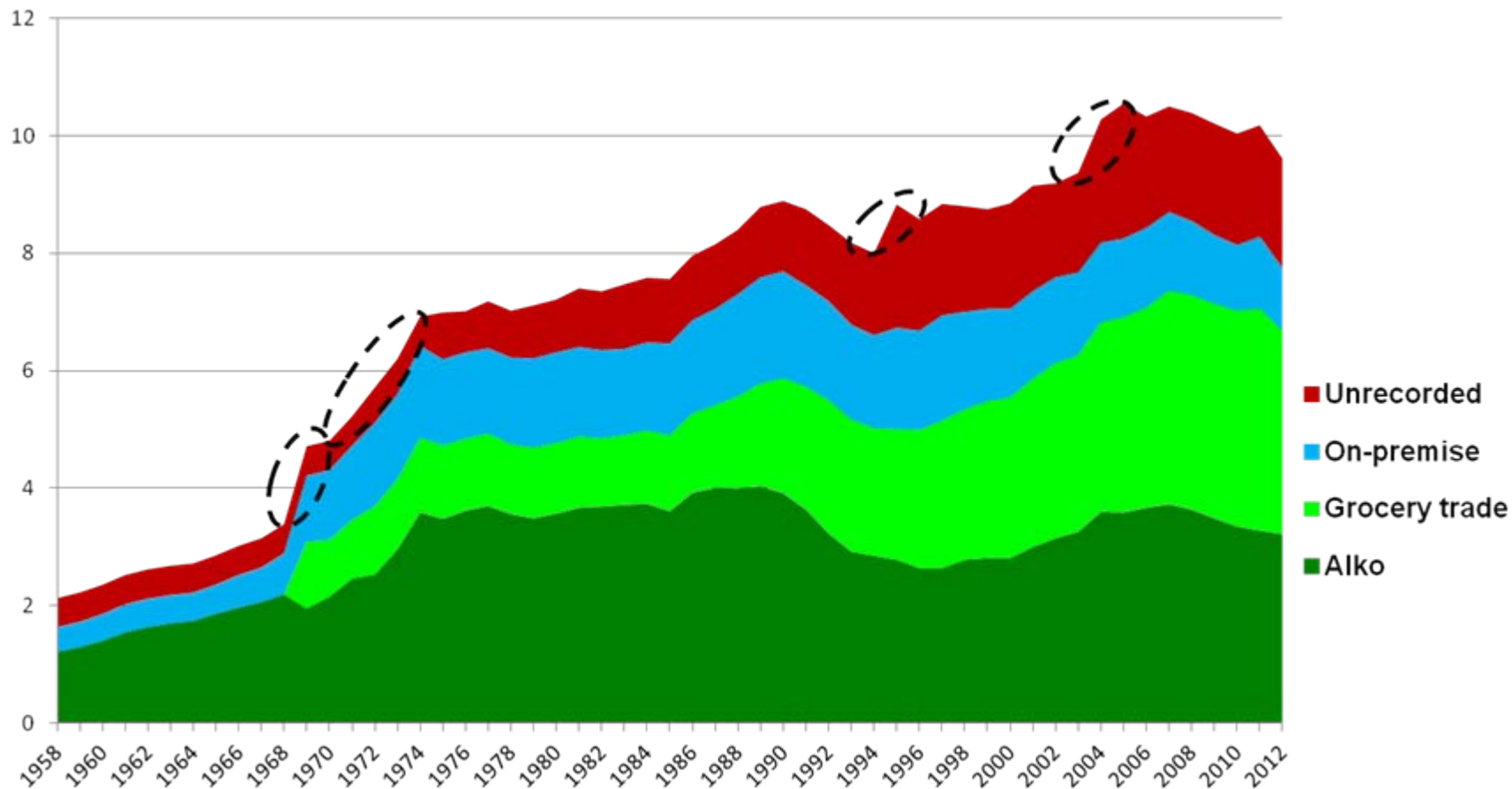
Changes in alcohol control policies (2/2)

- **1995 Alcohol Act**
 - **Abolishment of the comprehensive alcohol monopoly with off-premise monopoly remaining**
 - **Cider and long drinks to grocery stores**
 - **Medium beer, cider and long drinks to kiosks and gasoline stations**
 - **Advertisement of light alcoholic beverages allowed**
 - **Increased in travellers' import allowances**
- **Decrease in alcohol excise duty rates in 2004 with Estonia joining the EU and travellers' alcohol import quotas from EU abolished**
 - **spirits – 44 %, wine – 10 % and beer – 32 %**

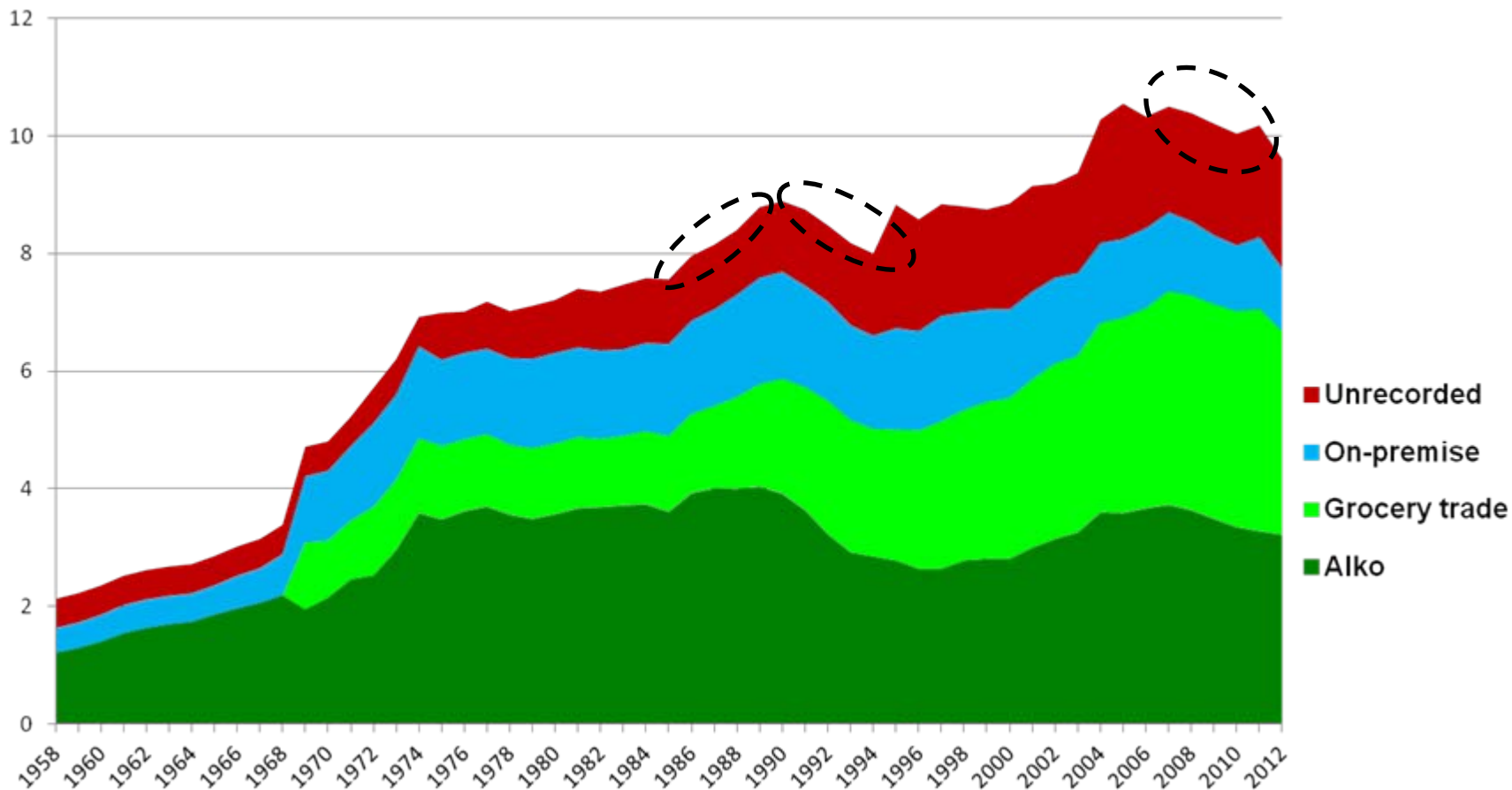
Distribution networks for retail sale of alcoholic beverages in Finland in 1960–2012



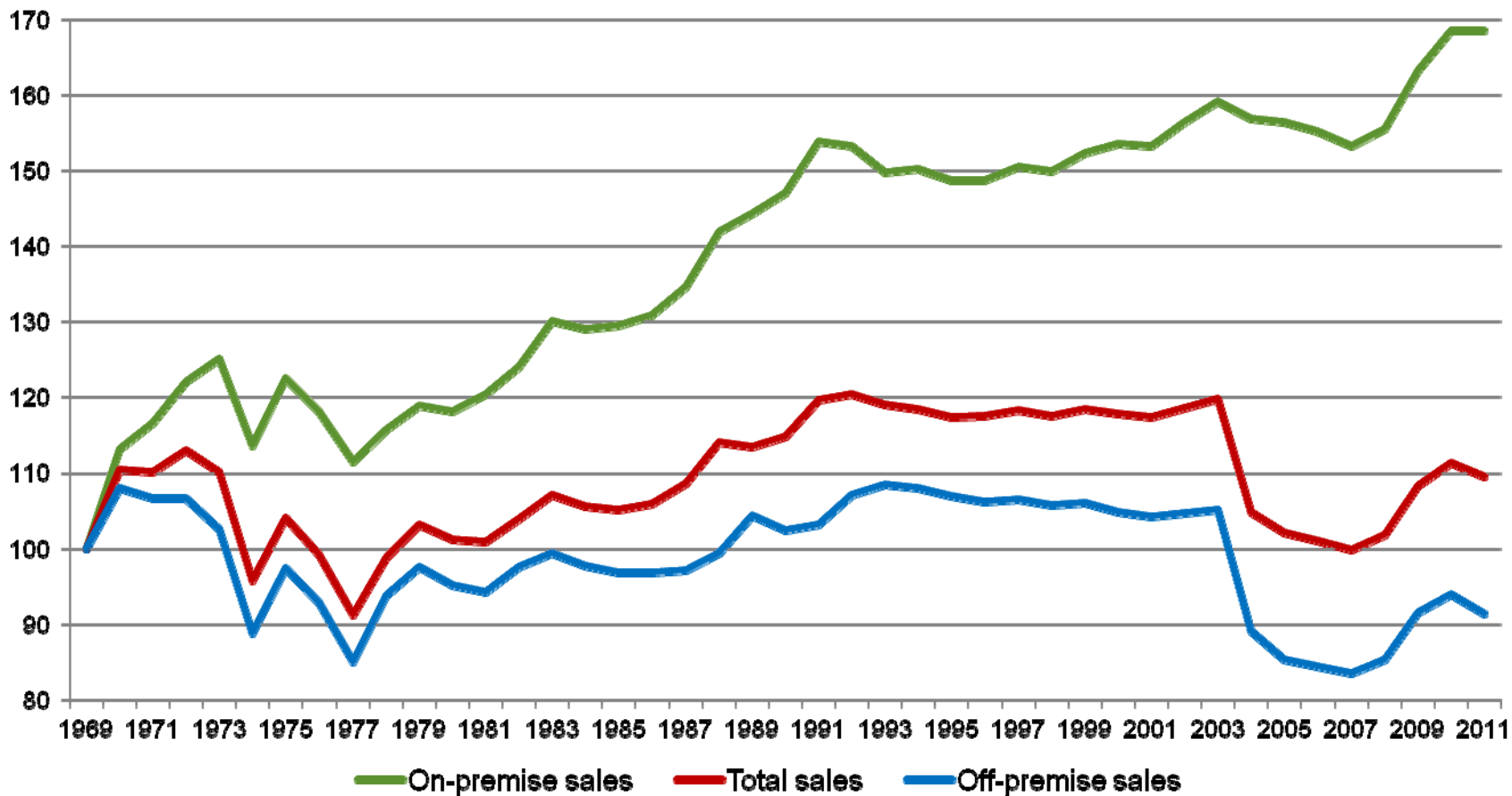
Total alcohol consumption in Finland in litres of 100 per cent alcohol per capita



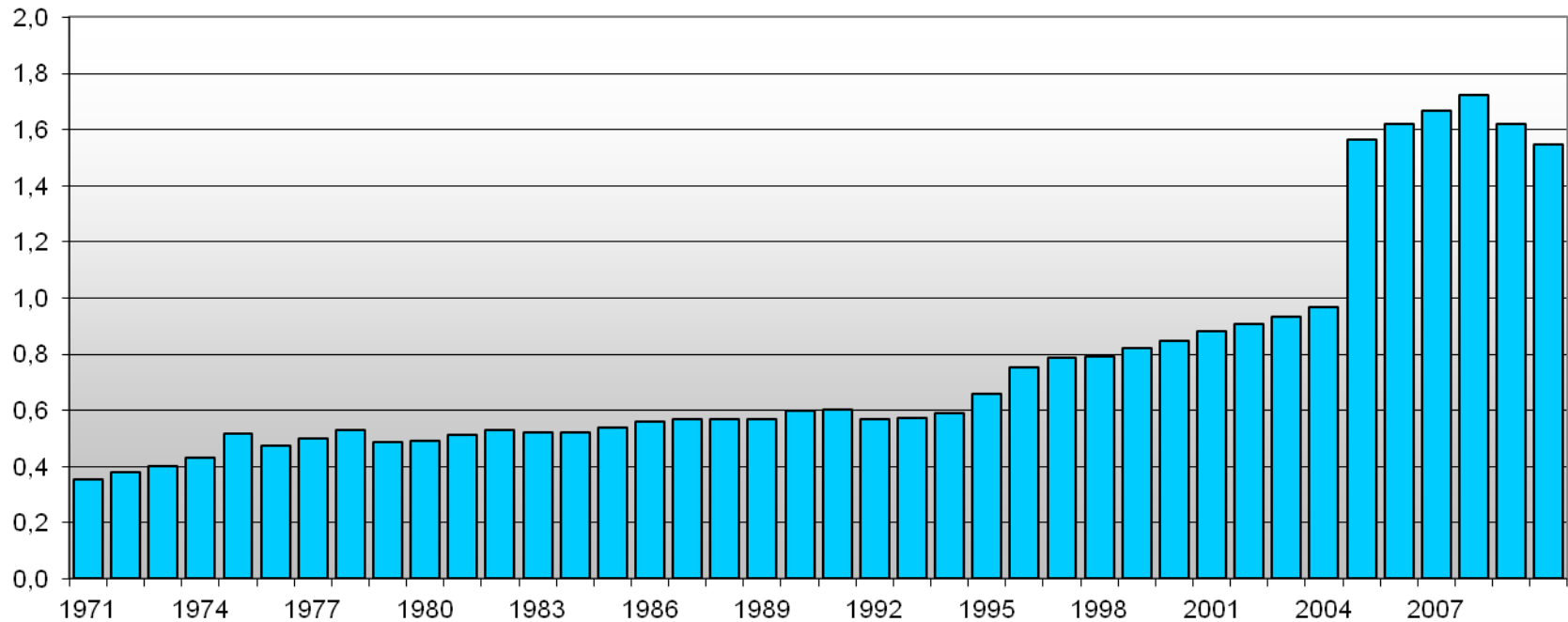
Total alcohol consumption in Finland in litres of 100 per cent alcohol per capita



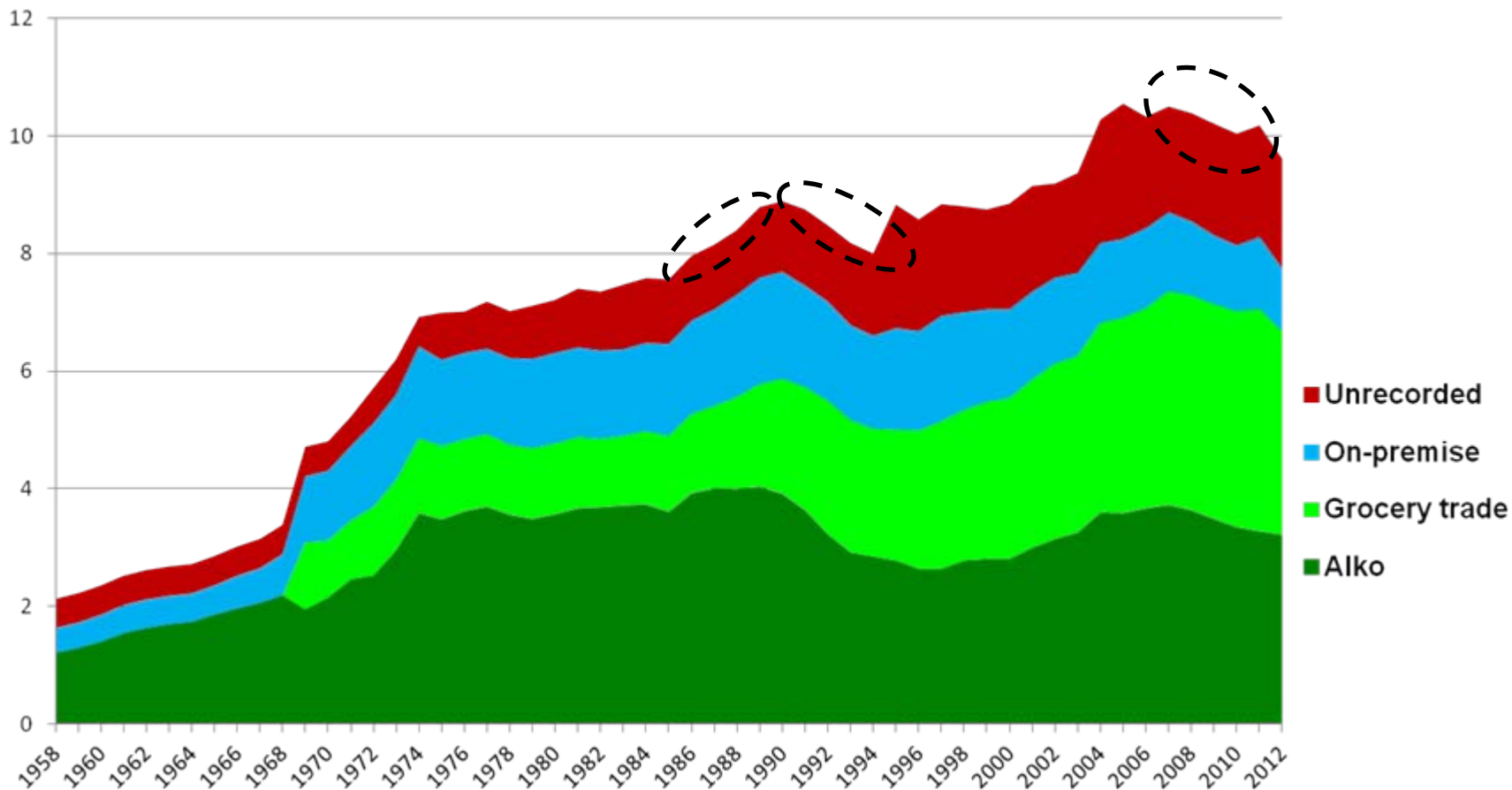
Real price indecies of alcoholic beverages in Finland in 1969-2011



Affordability of alcohol: How many bottles of Koskenkorva vodka (0.5 liter) can one buy with an average industrial worker's hourly salary?



Total alcohol consumption in Finland in litres of 100 per cent alcohol per capita



Total alcohol consumption in Finland in litres of 100 per cent alcohol per capita

