Highland Alcohol Profile



October 2023

There are 1,244 places to buy alcohol in Highland:

922 on-sales premises (pubs and restaurants)





322 off-sales premises (supermarkets and shops)

Scottish Liquor Licensing Statistics 2021-22.

In Highland, 22% of people drink above the Chief Medical Officers' low-risk guidelines.

This includes 15% of women and 30% of men.

This compares to 23% of people in Scotland who drink above the guidelines.



Scottish Health Survey.



Parental drinking was a concern identified for 24% of children on the child protection register in Highland.

Children's Social Work Statistics 2021-22.

There were 1,413 alcohol-related hospital admissions in Highland in 2021-22.

Alcohol related hospital statistics 2021-22.

The admission rate was lower than for Scotland as a whole.



ScotPho Profiles.

In Highland, 66 people died because of alcohol in 2022, from conditions solely caused by alcohol.

The death rate was similar to Scotland as a whole.



Alcohol-specific deaths 2022.

The true number of alcohol deaths is over 3 times as high when including conditions such as cancer and cardiovascular diseases.

NHS Health Scotland.

39% of 13-year-olds and 72% of 15-year-olds in Highland have drunk alcohol.

Of those who have ever drunk alcohol, 52% of 13-year-olds and 72% of 15-year-olds have been drunk.

Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey 2018.

Every year, alcohol costs Highland £84.85m or £383 per person.

This includes:

Health service	£10.40m
Social care	£8.51m
Crime	£33.11m
Productive capacity	£32.83m

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The Societal Cost of Alcohol Misuse in Scotland for 2007.

For full references and methods, visit www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk/alcohol-information/local-alcohol-profiles

About Alcohol Focus Scotland