

Argyll & Bute Alcohol Profile

September 2025

There are **602 places to buy alcohol** in Argyll & Bute:

451 on-sales premises
(pubs and restaurants)

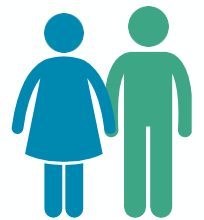


151 off-sales premises
(supermarkets and shops)

Scottish Liquor Licensing Statistics 2021-22.

In Argyll & Bute, **23% of people** drink above the Chief Medical Officers' low-risk guidelines.

This includes **15% of women** and **32% of men**.



This compares to **20% of people** in Scotland who drink above the guidelines.

Scottish Health Survey.



Parental drinking was a concern identified for **7% of children** on the child protection register in Argyll & Bute.

Children's Social Work Statistics 2022-23.

There were **627 alcohol-related hospital admissions** in Argyll & Bute in 2022-23.

Alcohol related hospital statistics 2022-23.

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

ScotPho Profiles.

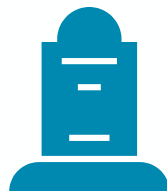


In Argyll & Bute, **22 people** died because of alcohol in 2024, from conditions solely caused by alcohol.

Alcohol-specific deaths 2024 (NRS, 2025).

The death rate was higher than Scotland as a whole.

Alcohol-specific deaths 2024 (NRS, 2025).



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

Public Health Scotland.

44% of 13-year-olds and **78% of 15-year-olds** in Argyll & Bute have drunk alcohol.

Of those who have ever drunk alcohol, **56% of 13-year-olds** and **74% of 15-year-olds** have been drunk.



Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey 2018.

Every year, alcohol costs Argyll & Bute **£27.98m or £314 per person**.

This includes:

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Health Service | £4.01m |
| Social Care | £3.45m |
| Crime | £10.42m |
| Productive Capacity | £10.10m |



The Societal Cost of Alcohol Misuse in Scotland for 2007.

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

About Alcohol Focus Scotland

Alcohol Focus Scotland (AFS) is the national charity working to prevent and reduce alcohol harm.

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