

East Lothian Alcohol Profile

March 2026

There are **307 places to buy alcohol** in East Lothian:

213 on-sales premises
(pubs and restaurants)

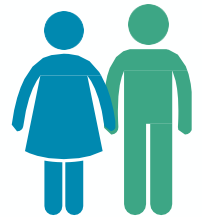


94 off-sales premises
(supermarkets and shops)

Scottish Liquor Licensing Statistics 2021-22.

In East Lothian, **24% of people** drink above the Chief Medical Officers' low-risk guidelines.

This includes **20% of women** and **29% 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 **34% of children** on the child protection register in East Lothian.

Children's Social Work Statistics 2022-23.

42% of 13-year-olds and **73% of 15-year-olds** in East Lothian have drunk alcohol.

Of those who have ever drunk alcohol, **49% of 13-year-olds** and **64% of 15-year-olds** have been drunk.



Scottish Schools Adolescent Lifestyle and Substance Use Survey 2018.

There were **372 alcohol-related hospital admissions** in East Lothian in 2024-25.

Alcohol related hospital statistics 2024-25.

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

Alcohol related hospital statistics 2024-25.

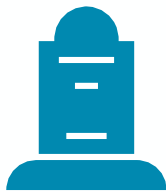


In East Lothian, **15 people** died because of alcohol in 2024, from conditions solely caused by alcohol.

Alcohol-specific deaths 2024 (NRS, 2025).

The death rate was lower 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.

Every year, alcohol costs East Lothian **£26.77m** or **£275 per person**.

This includes:

Health Service	£3.97m
Social Care	£3.89m
Crime	£9.50m
Productive Capacity	£9.42m



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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