

North Ayrshire Alcohol Profile

March 2026

There are **376 places to buy alcohol** in North Ayrshire:

255 on-sales premises
(pubs and restaurants)



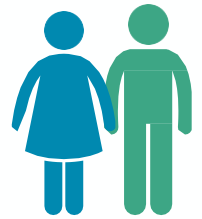
121 off-sales premises
(supermarkets and shops)

Scottish Liquor Licensing Statistics 2021-22.

In North Ayrshire, **25% of people** drink above the Chief Medical Officers' low-risk guidelines.

This includes **14% of women** and **41% 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 **38% of children** on the child protection register in North Ayrshire.

Children's Social Work Statistics 2022-23.

48% of S2 and S4 students in North Ayrshire drink alcohol.

23% of S2 and S4 students in North Ayrshire drink alcohol at least once a month.

Health and Wellbeing Census Scotland 2021- 2022.



There were **825 alcohol-related hospital admissions** in North Ayrshire in 2024-25.

Alcohol related hospital statistics 2023-24.

The admission rate was higher than Scotland as a whole.

Alcohol related hospital statistics 2023-24.



In North Ayrshire, **32 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.

Every year, alcohol costs North Ayrshire **£58.60m or £433 per person**.

This includes:

Health Service	£9.98m
Social Care	£8.00m
Crime	£23.28m
Productive Capacity	£17.34m



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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