

# Scottish Borders Alcohol Profile

There are **456 places to buy alcohol** in Scottish Borders:

**343 on-sales premises**  
(pubs and restaurants)



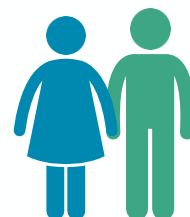
**113 off-sales premises**  
(supermarkets and shops)

*Scottish Liquor Licensing Statistics 2021-22.*

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

This includes **17% of women** and **35% 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 **12% of children** on the child protection register in Scottish Borders.

*Children's Social Work Statistics 2022-23.*

There were **381 alcohol-related hospital admissions** in Scottish Borders in 2022-23.

*Alcohol related hospital statistics 2022-23.*

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

*ScotPho Profiles.*



In Scottish Borders, **20 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 for 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.*

**53% of S2 and S4 students** in Scottish Borders drink alcohol.

**28% of S2 and S4 students** in Scottish Borders drink alcohol at least once a month.

*Health and Wellbeing Census Scotland 2021- 2022.*



Every year, alcohol costs Scottish Borders **£30.50m or £270 per person**.

This includes:

Health Service	£4.31m
Social Care	£5.27m
Crime	£10.62m
Productive Capacity	£10.29m



*The Societal Cost of Alcohol Misuse in Scotland for 2007.*

For full references and methods, visit [www.alcohol-focus-scotland.org.uk/harm-profiles/](http://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.

Alcohol Focus Scotland is a Registered Scottish Charity (SC009538) and a Company Limited by Guarantee (Scottish Company No. SC094096)