Crime and social impacts of alcohol

Factsheets
Is alcohol-related crime falling? (1)

In 2017/18, **561,000 (39%)** of all violent crimes occurred where the victim believed the offender(s) to be under the influence of alcohol in England and Wales, **38%** down on a decade ago.

The proportion of violent crimes involving offenders under the influence of alcohol has fallen from just over **three-in-five** in 2008/09 to around **two-in-five** in 2016/17.
Is alcohol-related crime falling? (3)

Alcohol-related crimes make up 20% of all crimes (and 40% of all violent crimes) against the person in Northern Ireland.

Of alcohol-motivated crimes by type of crime, violence with injury is most common.

Criminal damage and public order offences

**England and Wales:** 13,000 Penalty Notices for Disorder (PNDs) were issued in relation to non-notifiable offences for the year ending September 2017, the majority of which related to drunk and disorderly behaviour.

**Scotland:** Consuming alcohol in a public place was the third most commonly issued Anti-Social Behaviour Fixed Penalty Notice (ASBPN) in 2017/18, making up a fifth of all notices given.

**Northern Ireland:** Data is not held for exactly how many PNDs issued are related to alcohol, although there is one offence referring specifically to alcohol-related behaviour – ‘simple drunk’ – for which 41 PNDs were issued in 2016.

Public perceptions of crime (1)

A survey examining the North West of England found that:

- **43%** of respondents felt annoyed by people vomiting or urinating in the street after drinking
- **49.4%** were kept awake by drunken noise

Source: Institute of Alcohol Studies (July 2015), Alcohol’s harm to others
Public perceptions of crime (2)

79% of Scots find alcohol abuse to be a problem, with 45–59-year-olds most likely to treat it as “a big problem”

Source: Scottish Crime and Justice Survey (SCJS) 2010/11, 'Data tables volume 1 – main survey – demographic breaks', p. 16
Alcohol is the second most commonly identified major cause of crime in Northern Ireland.

N.B. Percentages may add to more than 100 as respondents could select more than one cause.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Reference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office for National Statistics</td>
<td>Crime in England and Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Scottish Government</td>
<td>The nature of violent crime in England and Wales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Service of Northern Ireland</td>
<td>Scottish Crime and Justice Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Institute of Alcohol Studies</td>
<td>Criminal proceedings in Scotland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Justice (NI)</td>
<td>Trends in Police Recorded Crime in Northern Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Alcohol’s harm to others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Perceptions of Crime: Findings from the 2016/17 Northern Ireland Crime Survey</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>