

## THE LATEST ALCOHOL FACTS - source - the Prime Minister's Strategy Unit

Annual Cost To The UK - £20 billion a year

Working Days Lost - 17 million days are lost to hangovers and drink-related illness each year.

Annual Cost To Employers - estimated at £6.4 bn

Cost To The NHS - is in the region of £1.7bn.

Billions are spent clearing up alcohol-related crime and social problems.

In addition, alcohol-related problems are responsible for 22,000 premature deaths each year.

There are 1.2 million incidents of alcohol-related violence a year.

Around 40% of A&E admissions are alcohol-related. Between midnight and 5am that figure rises to 70%.

Alcohol-related accidents and illnesses land around 150,000 people in hospital each year.

Up to 1.3 million children are affected by parents with drink problems, the report said.

They are also more likely to have problems later in life themselves.

Over 90% of British adults drink alcohol

One in three men drink more than they should

One in five women drink more than they should

Teenagers are drinking earlier and more heavily than ever before

Young, white, unemployed men are more likely to abuse alcohol

Women in skilled jobs drink more heavily than other women

Britons spend £30bn on alcohol each year

The government raises £7bn through taxes on alcohol

Alcohol-related crime costs £7.3bn

Another £4.7bn is spent on the human and emotional costs of alcohol-related crime

Some 22,000 people die prematurely each year because of alcohol misuse

Young people are binge-drink at an earlier age.

The binge-drinking period that was once confined to the late teens now often runs from 16 to 24.

### Recommended alcohol limits

- Men should drink no more than 21 units of alcohol per week
- Women should drink no more than 14 units of alcohol per week
- One unit of alcohol is half a pint of beer or a small glass of wine
- Binge drinking is classed as consuming more than 10 units of alcohol in a single session for men and seven units for women

### Solutions?

Government - changes to pub opening hours by having variable closing times to reduce disorder. Drive to give more info to young people.

Charities - more money to be spent on alcohol treatment, education and social care in families.

Educationalists - strong recommendations to tackle the problem, including labelling of alcohol content and health warnings on drinks.

Industry - need to tackling and treat alcohol misuse and get to the root causes of why people drink to excess and indulge in anti-social behaviour. Also to develop mass media campaigns to curb excessive drinking, funded at the same level as government drink-drive campaigns over the years

### Your Ideas..

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