

More than 1 in 5 of 11-15 year olds drinks alcohol at least once a week. The average amount of alcohol drunk by 11-15 year olds has doubled since 1990.^{DB}

Alcohol and crime are related. UK offenders are intoxicated in 85% of crime in pubs and clubs, 50% of street crime, 33% of burglaries and 30% of sexual offences._{DB}

Alcohol is the seventh most common cause of death worldwide, causing 774,000 deaths a year. Around 80% of alcohol related deaths occur in developing countries.^{DB}

For adults, guidelines warn of risks to health if they drink over a certain amount of alcohol a day. For young people, whose bodies may still be developing, risk free drinking does not exist.^{DB}

A recent report by the chief inspector of prisons found that a quarter of young prisoners had been drinking alcohol when they committed their first crime.^{DB}

Alcohol contributes to 70% of all assaults in the UK, 13% of home accidents, 14% of road traffic deaths, 15% of drownings, 20% of fatal accidents at work and 39% of deaths in fires.^{DB}

Around 1 in 20 adults becomes dependent on alcohol. This is over twice the number that becomes dependent on illicit drugs.^{DB}

There are more than 4,000 deaths a year directly due to alcohol in England and Wales. This is more than twice the number of deaths from all other drugs in UK, excluding tobacco.^{DB}

A range of crimes is associated with the use of alcohol. In over 40% of contact crime, including assaults and muggings, the offender has been drinking.^{DB}

At peak times, up to 8 out of 10 people attend hospital A & E departments due to alcohol. Half of seriously injured patients needing to stay on in hospital have an alcohol related injury.^{DB}

In a study of the links between alcohol and crime in young people, 25% of weekly drinkers had a criminal record compared with only 7% of occasional and non-drinkers.^{DB}

Around 13,000 violent incidents take place in or near licensed premises each week causing 2,500 facial injuries. In 61% of such cases either assailant or victim has been drinking.^{DB}

In the UK up to 33,000 deaths a year are alcohol related. We spend over £164 million a year treating alcohol related illness. Too much alcohol affects nearly every part of the body.^{DB}

Alcohol affects the bones, brain, circulatory system, digestive system, heart, liver, muscles, nervous system, sex organs and skin. It can impair foetal growth & development.^{DB}