Shetland Islands Alcohol Profile



November 2024

There are 147 places to buy alcohol in the Shetland Islands:

104 on-sales premises (pubs and restaurants)





43 off-sales premises (supermarkets and shops)

Scottish Liquor Licensing Statistics 2021-22.

In the Shetland Islands, 19% of people drink above the Chief Medical Officers' low-risk guidelines.

This includes 12% of women and 27% of men.

This compares to 20% of people in Scotland who drink above the quidelines.





Parental drinking was a concern identified for 5% of children on the child protection register in the Shetland Islands.

Children's Social Work Statistics 2022-23.

60% of S2 and S4 students in the Shetland Islands drink alcohol.

34% of S2 and S4 students in the Shetland Islands drink alcohol at least once a month.

Health and Wellbeing Census Scotland 2021- 2022.



There were 129 alcohol-related hospital admissions in the Shetland Islands in 2022-23.

Alcohol related hospital statistics 2022-23.

The admission rate was similar to Scotland as a whole.





In the Shetland Islands, 4 people died because of alcohol in 2023, from conditions solely caused by alcohol.

Alcohol-specific deaths 2023.

The death rate was lower than Scotland as a whole.



Alcohol-specific deaths 2023.

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 the Shetland Islands £8.84m or £395 per person.

This includes:

Health Service	£1.33m	
Social Care	£1.96m	
Crime	£2.10m	
Productive Capacity	£3.45m	£

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