



# Alcohol Related Hospital Statistics Scotland 2023/24

An Accredited official statistics release for Scotland

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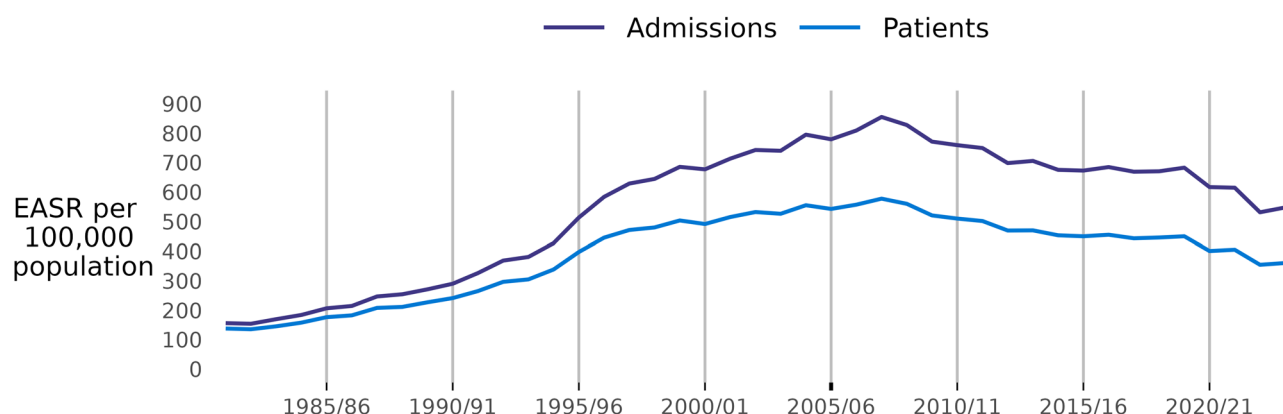
## About this release

This release by Public Health Scotland (PHS) provides information on alcohol-related inpatient and day case activity within general acute and psychiatric hospitals in Scotland. This release covers general acute hospital activity for the financial years 1981/82 to 2023/24 and psychiatric hospital admissions from 1997/98 to 2023/24. Please note that for this December 2024 release, the 2022/23 and 2023/24 Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) rates analysis figures are based on 2021 SIMD mid-year population estimates. 2022 and 2023 SIMD mid-year population estimates produced by National Records of Scotland were not available at the time of publication. When these become available the relevant analysis will be rerun and if a significant impact on the 2022/23 or 2023/24 figures is seen a planned revision of published statistics will be undertaken. The Tableau dashboard published with previous editions in this series of publications has not been updated for this edition. Dashboard provision for this publication can be found on the 'Wholly Attributable Alcohol Hospital Statistics' pages in the [Alcohol Consumption and Harms Dashboard](#).

## Main Points

- In 2023/24 there were 32,301 alcohol-related hospital admissions (stays) in Scotland. The majority of alcohol-related hospital admissions (92%) occurred in general acute hospitals (29,829) with the remaining 8% of admissions (2,469) occurring in psychiatric hospitals.
- In 2023/24, the European Age-sex standardised rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions to general acute hospitals was 548 per 100,000 population and was 3% higher than the rate in 2022/23 (532 per 100,000).
- In 2023/24, males (539 patients per 100,000 population) were two times more likely than females (233 patients per 100,000 population) to be admitted to hospitals for conditions wholly attributable to alcohol.
- In 2023/24, people in the most deprived areas (942 patients per 100,000 population), as measured by SIMD, were six times more likely to be admitted to hospitals for conditions wholly attributable to alcohol than those in the least deprived areas (143 patients per 100,000 population).

# Alcohol-related hospitalisation rates, general acute hospitals, Scotland, 1981/82-2023/24



Source: Public Health Scotland

## Background

Consumption of alcohol can result in a wide range of health problems. Some may occur after drinking over a relatively short period, such as acute intoxication (drunkenness) or poisoning (toxic effect). Others develop more gradually, such as damage to the liver and brain. Estimates of the number of inpatient and day case hospitalisations are based on counts where alcohol-related conditions are diagnosed during the hospital stay (see Metadata for more information).

Attendances at Accident and Emergency that do not result in an admission to hospital are not included in this report. Individuals may have more than one stay in hospital during a year, therefore the number of people admitted will be less than the total number of admissions.

Data presented for 01 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 are provisional and subject to change in future publications as figures will be updated to reflect more complete data from NHS Boards.

## Contact

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## Further Information

Our statistical practice is regulated by the Office for Statistics Regulation (OSR). These accredited official statistics were independently reviewed by the Office for Statistics Regulation in February 2013. They comply with the standards of trustworthiness, quality and value in the Code of Practice for Statistics and should be labelled 'accredited official statistics'.

Accredited official statistics are called National Statistics in the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007. Visit the UK Statistics Authority website for more information about the [Code of Practice](#) and [Accredited official statistics](#).

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### PHS and official statistics

Public Health Scotland (PHS) is the principal and authoritative source of statistics on health and care services in Scotland. PHS is designated by legislation as a producer of 'Official Statistics'.

Visit our website for [further information about our statistics and PHS as an Official Statistics producer](#).

Data from this publication are available from the [publication page](#) on our website.

The next release of this publication will be December 2025.

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