

## FACTSHEET 2 – ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION AND IMPACTS

Consumption of alcohol is both recreational and social for many people. However, there are significant harms involved in over consumption and/or risky consumption of alcohol<sup>i</sup>.

### HOW MANY OF US CONSUME ALCOHOL?

The 2014 Victorian Population Health Survey found that<sup>ii</sup>:

12.5% in Glen Eira  
abstained from alcohol  
87.5% consumed alcohol

20.8% in Victoria abstained  
from alcohol  
79.2% consumed alcohol

The 2017 Student Resilience Survey in Glen Eira (years 3 to 12) found that 14% of females and 12% of males consumed alcohol<sup>iii</sup>.

### HOW AVAILABLE IS ALCOHOL IN GLEN EIRA?

As of May 2018, there are 428 active liquor licences in Glen Eira<sup>iv</sup>, including:

70 licences for takeaway venues, such as cellars, supermarkets, hotels, taverns, bars and clubs

208 licences for venues where alcohol can be purchased and consumed on premises only, including about 180 restaurants and cafes

54 licences for venues that allow patrons to BYO alcohol

The number of liquor licences has increased around 4.4% per year on average over the last three years. Currently, Glen Eira ranks 12 of the 31 Greater Melbourne LGAs for the total number of liquor licences in the municipality .

In 2016-17, there were **5,451,328 litres of wholesale liquor sold to suppliers in Glen Eira**. Glen Eira had the second lowest amount of liquor sold of all Greater Melbourne LGAs and the lowest number of litres of liquor sold per adult of any Melbourne LGA<sup>v</sup>

### FOR HOW MANY OF US IS ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION A PROBLEM?

The 2014 Victorian Population Health Survey found that of those who consumed alcohol in Glen Eira<sup>vi</sup>:

65.6% consumed **more than the recommended** two standard drinks a day over time (compared with 59.2% in Victoria), placing them at risk of long term harm

45.7% consumed **more than the recommended** four standard drinks on single drinking occasions (compared with 42.5% in Victoria) placing them at risk from short term injury

The 2015 VicHealth Indicator Survey estimated that in Glen Eira<sup>vii</sup>:

33.7% consumed more than 5 standard drinks in a single occasion at least once a month (29.4% in Victoria) placing them at high risk of short term injury

9.5% consumed more than 11 standard drinks in a single occasion at least once a month (9.2% in Victoria) placing them at very high risk of short term injury

## WHAT ARE THE HARMS THAT CAN RESULT FROM OVER CONSUMPTION OR RISKY CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL?

High or risky alcohol use can result in:

Drink driving and accidents on the roads

Injuries from violence (including family violence) and crime

Absenteeism, effects on workplace productivity and employment

Family and relationship impacts, including breakdown and social isolation

Cardiovascular, digestive and neuropsychiatric diseases, cancers and injuries, lower life expectancy

## HOW IS ALCOHOL HARMING PEOPLE IN GLEN EIRA?

### Ambulance call-outs

Data compiled by Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Centre<sup>viii</sup> finds that in 2016-17, there were 338 alcohol intoxication related ambulance attendances in Glen Eira, for 195 males and 143 females.

The number of ambulance attendances equates to 226.8 per 100,000 persons

Compared to other Greater Melbourne LGAs, this rate ranks Glen Eira 26 of 31 (where 1 is highest)

The most numerous age group of those involved in ambulance attendances for alcohol in 2016-17 is 40-64 years. However, as a proportion of the total population of each group it is highest for those aged 15-24 years.

### Hospitalisation

Turning Point data<sup>ix</sup> finds that in 2014-15, there were 899 alcohol-related hospitalisations in Glen Eira, for 489 males and 410 females.

The number of hospitalisations equates to 62.4 per 10,000 persons

Compared to other Greater Melbourne LGAs, this rate ranks Glen Eira 11 of 31 (where 1 is highest)

### Fatalities

Research in Australia indicates that cardiovascular disease and cancer account for most alcohol-related deaths. We don't know the cause of alcohol related deaths in Glen Eira, but Turning Point data indicates that in 2014, there were:

13 alcohol related deaths

7 male, 5 female and 1 for whom details are unknown

### Health services clients receiving alcohol and drug treatment services.

Information collated by the Victorian Department of Health finds that in 2015, there were three in every 1,000 health services clients in Glen Eira who are receiving alcohol and drug treatment services<sup>x</sup>.

This rate places Glen Eira at 25<sup>th</sup> of 31 Greater Melbourne LGAs (where 1 is highest)

Headspace in Glen Eira received 78 referrals in the six months to February 2018 where substance abuse was an issue.

## Family violence

Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Centre information suggests that in 2014-15, there were 130 incidents of family violence in Glen Eira where alcohol was definitely or positively involved.

The number of family violence incidents definitely or positively involving alcohol equates to 8.9 per 10,000 persons

Compared to other Greater Melbourne LGAs, this ranks Glen Eira 27 of 31 (where 1 is highest)

## DRUNK AND DISORDERLY IN PUBLIC INCIDENTS

Between January and December 2017 there were 122 incidents in Glen Eira where drunk and disorderly in public was the primary offence<sup>xi</sup>.

This equates to 81.1 incidents per 100,000 persons

Compared to other Greater Melbourne LGAs, this rate ranks Glen Eira 14 of 31 (where 1 is highest)

## REFERENCES AND NOTES

<sup>i</sup> Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, 'Alcohol; about', <https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports-statistics/behaviours-risk-factors/alcohol/about-alcohol>

<sup>ii</sup> Department of Health and Human Services 2016, 'Victorian Population Health Survey 2014: Modifiable risk factors contributing to chronic disease, *State Government of Victoria*, <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/public-health/population-health-systems/health-status-of-victorians/survey-data-and-reports/victorian-population-health-survey/victorian-population-health-survey-2014>

<sup>iii</sup> Glen Eira City Council, 2018, 'Glen Eira Student Resilience Survey 2017 Report', <https://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/Community-services/Youth/Youth-consultation>

<sup>iv</sup> Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation, 'Victorian liquor licences by location', <https://www.vcglr.vic.gov.au/resources/data-and-research/liquor-data/liquor-licences-location>

<sup>v</sup> Victorian Department of Justice and Regulation, 'Victorian wholesale liquor sales data', <http://www.justice.vic.gov.au/utility/data+and+research/wholesale+liquor+data>

<sup>vi</sup> Study based on the National Health and Medical Research Council's 2009 guidelines for the consumption of alcohol, <https://www.nhmrc.gov.au/health-topics/alcohol-guidelines>

<sup>vii</sup> VicHealth 2016, 'VicHealth Indicator Survey 2015; Glen Eira', <https://www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/media-and-resources/publications/vichealth-indicators-lga-profiles-2015>

<sup>viii</sup> Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Centre, 'AOD Ambo Stats LGA Map', <http://amboaodstats.org.au/VicLGA/>

<sup>ix</sup> Turning Point Drug and Alcohol Centre, 'AOD stats LGA Map', <http://aodstats.org.au/VicLGA/>

<sup>x</sup> Department of Health Victoria, 'Data: Southern Metro Region 2015; Glen Eira', <https://www2.health.vic.gov.au/about/publications/data/southern-metro-region-2015>

<sup>xi</sup> Crime Statistics Agency Victoria, <https://www.crimestatistics.vic.gov.au/crime-statistics/latest-crime-data/recorded-criminal-incidents-0>