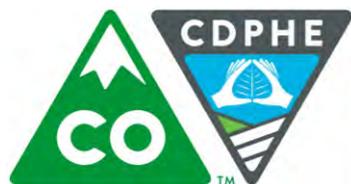




State Epidemiological Outcomes Workgroup Alcohol Policy Brief

Colorado Substance Abuse Trend and Response Task Force
Kacy Crawford, Alcohol Epidemiologist
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February 2, 2018



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment

SEOW Overview

- Who and what is the SEOW?
- Our Mission
- Our Funding
- Our Future

Partnering Organizations



COLORADO
Office of Behavioral Health
Department of Human Services



COLORADO
Department of Revenue



COLORADO
Department of Public
Health & Environment



COLORADO
Department of Public Safety



University of Colorado
Denver

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COLORADO
CONSORTIUM
for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention

Today's Goals

- What is excessive drinking?
- What is the impact?
- What can be done about it?



WHAT IS CONSIDERED A "DRINK"?

U.S. STANDARD DRINK SIZES



12 OUNCES
OF 5% ABV
BEER



8 OUNCES
OF 7% ABV
MALT LIQUOR

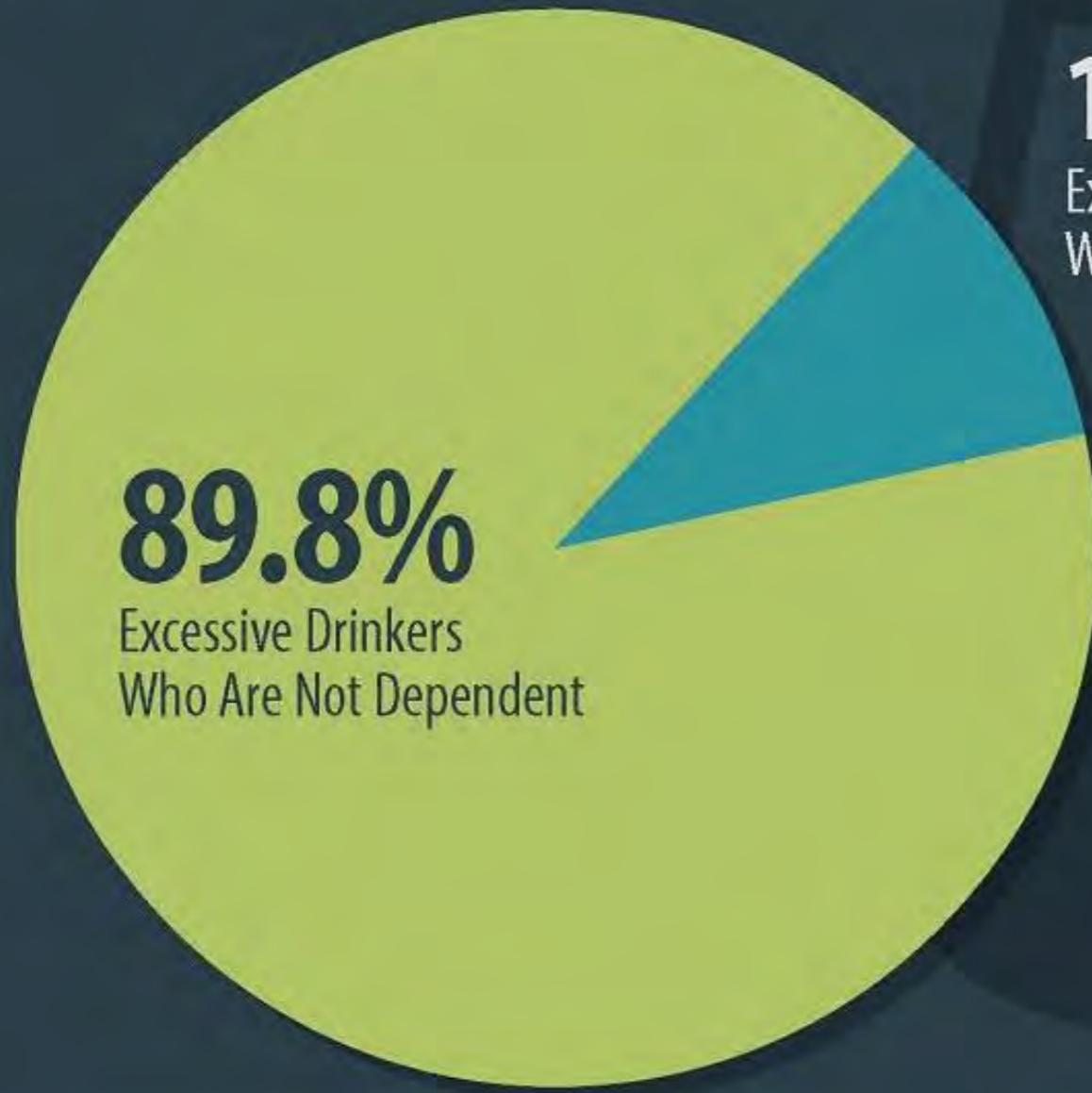


5 OUNCES
OF 12% ABV
WINE



1.5 OUNCES
OF 40% ABV
(80-PROOF)
DISTILLED SPIRITS
OR LIQUOR
(Examples: gin, rum,
vodka, whiskey)

9 out of 10 excessive drinkers are **not** alcohol dependent.



10.2%

Excessive Drinkers
Who Are Dependent

89.8%

Excessive Drinkers
Who Are Not Dependent



CS252939-A

PREVENTING CHRONIC DISEASE

PUBLIC HEALTH RESEARCH, PRACTICE, AND POLICY

www.cdc.gov/pcd/issues/2014/14_0329.htm

www.cdc.gov/alcohol

Reduce Excessive Drinking to Build Healthier Communities



One in five adults in Colorado drinks alcohol excessively.



Excessive drinking can cause injuries, violence, and chronic disease.



Excessive drinking cost Colorado \$5 billion in 2010, with almost half of the cost paid by taxpayers.



This is similar to the cost of providing 150,000 students in Colorado with four years of college tuition.



Effective policies to reduce excessive drinking:



Limit alcohol outlet density



Limit days and hours of sale



Strengthen liability laws



Increase alcohol taxes

Evidence-Based Policies to Reduce Excessive Drinking

Limit Alcohol Outlet Density



Density refers to how many and how close together alcohol outlets (such as bars, restaurants, or liquor stores) are in an area. High alcohol outlet density increases excessive drinking, along with disorderly conduct, public nuisance, and property damage.

Limit Days and Hours of Sale



Colorado allows the sale of alcohol up to seven days a week, 19 hours a day. Extending hours of sale can increase motor vehicle crashes, emergency room visits, alcohol-related injuries, and violent crimes.

Strengthen Liability Laws



A licensed alcohol establishment can be sued for knowingly selling alcohol to a person under the age of 21 or a visibly intoxicated person in Colorado. Strengthening these laws can reduce excessive drinking and related harms such as alcohol-impaired driving, crashes, and fatalities.

Increase Alcohol Taxes



Even a small increase in the price of alcohol can lead to reductions in excessive drinking. The current excise tax in Colorado is only one cent for a 12-ounce beer, which is the third-lowest beer tax in the country.

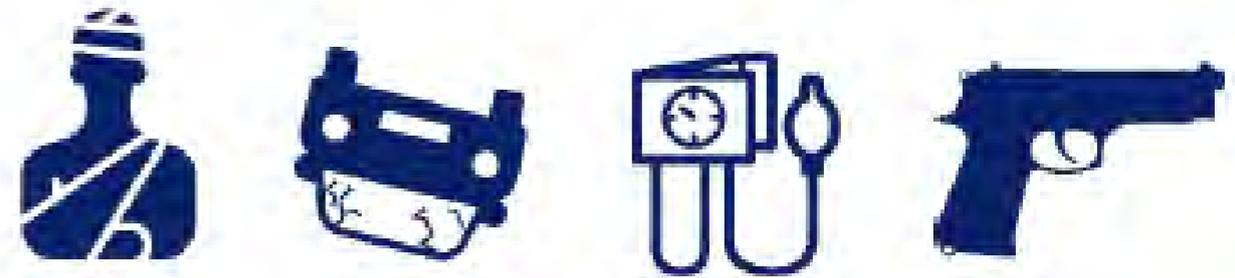
For more information visit the Colorado State Epi Outcomes Workgroup [website](https://hijun.com/coloradosew).



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Evidence-Based Policies to Reduce Excessive Drinking



Limit alcohol
outlet density



Limit days and
hours of sale



Strengthen
liability laws



Increase
alcohol taxes

Limit Alcohol Outlet Density

- Applying regulatory authority (e.g. licensing, zoning, nuisance ordinances) to reduce density or limit the increase of density of alcohol outlets
- Alcohol outlet - a place where alcohol is legally sold for the buyer to drink on-premises (e.g. bars, restaurants) or off-premises (e.g. liquor stores)

Limit Days and Hours of Sale



Maintain existing limits
(e.g. limit extending hours at liquor stores)

Expand current limits
(e.g. reduce # of hours a bar may be open)

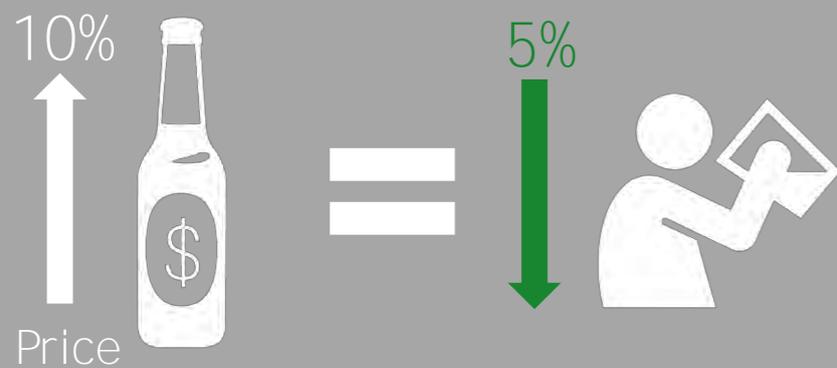
Strengthen Liability Laws

Liability to the licensee of an alcohol outlet if a patron is served and then causes harm, including death, injury, or other damages to another person

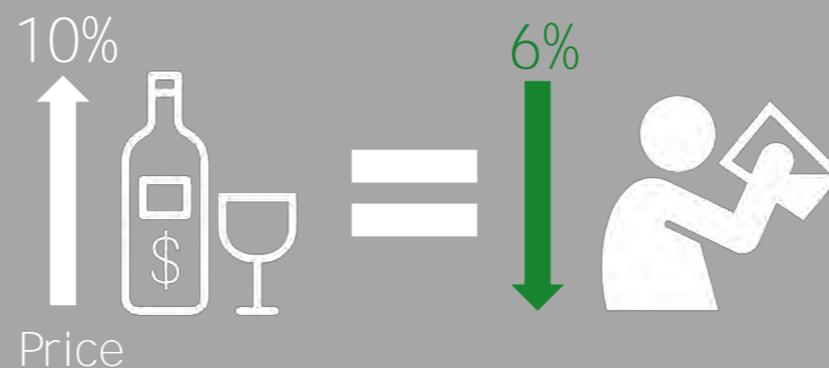
Increase Alcohol Taxes

- Alcohol excise taxes are charged to the manufacturers or the first licensee to receive alcohol from out-of-state

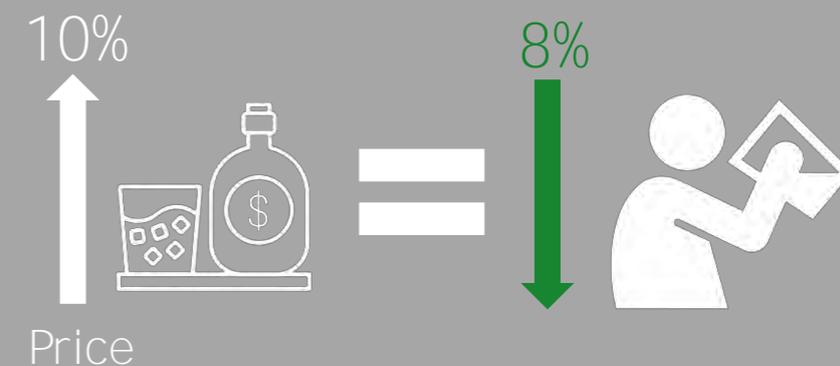
Beer



Wine



Spirits



Increase Alcohol Taxes

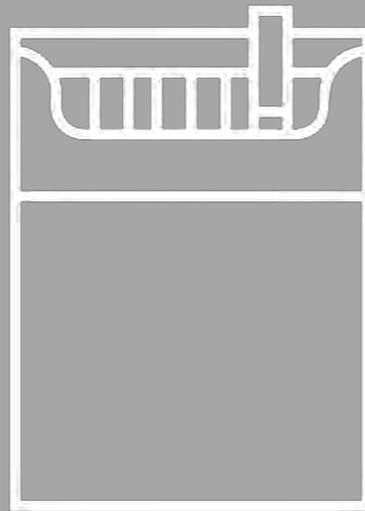
- Current excise tax rate by alcohol type:
 - Beer = \$0.01 per drink
 - Wine = \$0.01 per drink
 - Spirits = \$0.03 per drink
- Economic cost of excessive drinking:
 - \$2.14 for each drink sold

Increase Alcohol Taxes



Taxable at the
local level

Portion of funds
generated from
taxes support
prevention efforts



Taxable at the
local level*

Portion of funds
generated from
taxes support
prevention efforts



Nationally one of the states with
the lowest alcohol excise taxes

Not taxable at local level

Taxes do not support
prevention efforts

*If local governments (e.g. cities and towns) levy a cigarette tax, they forfeit their portion of the state tobacco tax 'share back'.

Communities with Stronger Alcohol Policies have less:

- Adult alcohol-related impaired driving
- Alcohol-related motor vehicle crash deaths among youth and adults
- Adult binge drinking
- Youth drinking, youth binge drinking
- Alcohol-Related homicides, suicides
- Alcoholic cirrhosis and mortality rates

Next Steps for the brief

- Dissemination planning and implementation
- Evaluation of dissemination efforts

Thank you!



Kacy Crawford, Alcohol Epidemiologist

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