

ALCOHOL-RELATED DEATHS¹

Headline figures - 2009

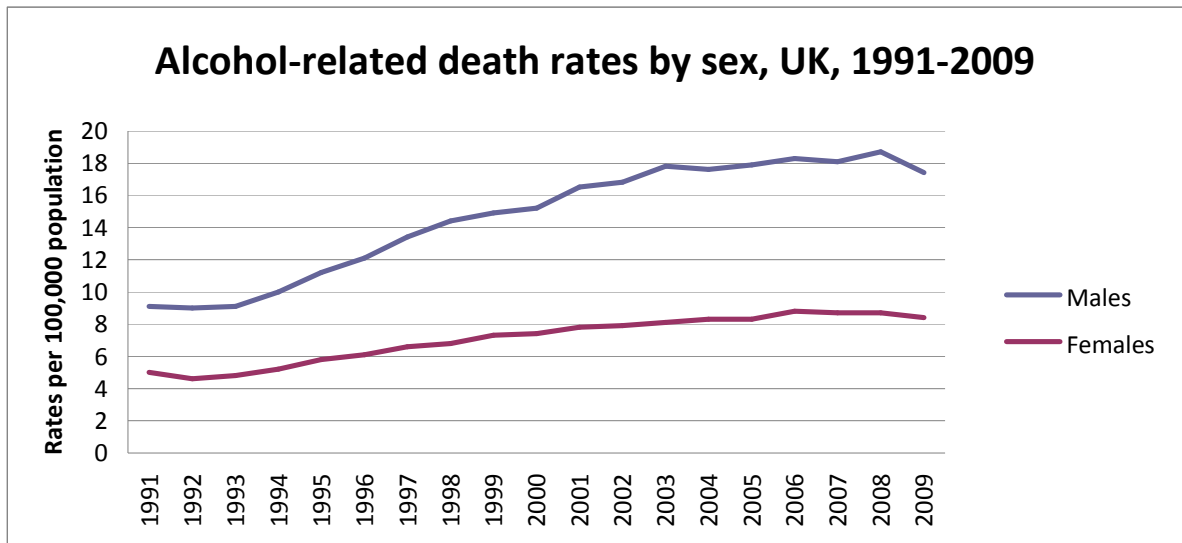
- In 2009, there were 8,664 alcohol-related deaths² in the United Kingdom. The number decreased from 9,031 in 2008.
- In 2009, males accounted for approximately two thirds of the total number of alcohol-related deaths, there being 5,690 deaths in men and 2,974 deaths in women.

Trend data

- The number of alcohol-related deaths has doubled since the early 1990s, rising from 4,023 (6.7 per 100,000 population) in 1992 to a point of 9,031 (13.6 per 100,000) in 2008. Figures for 2009 were lower than the previous year at 8,664 (12.8 per 100,000).
- The rate of male deaths more than doubled from 9.1 per 100,000 in 1991 to 18.7 per 100,000 in 2008 but fell to 17.4 per 100,000 in 2009.
- The rate of increase in female deaths has been slower, rising from 5.0 per 100,000 in 1991 to 8.4 in 2009, less than half the male death rate.
- Trends differ according to age. For both males and females the lowest rates across the period were in those aged 15-34. In 2009, the rates for this age group were 2.6 per 100,000 and 1.5 per 100,000 respectively. The highest death rate is among men aged 55-74; the rate increased from 23 per 100,000 in 1992 to 41.8 per 100,000 in 2009.

¹ Source: Office for National Statistics (ONS), General Register Office for Scotland, Northern Ireland Statistical and Research Agency. Main source document: "Alcohol-related deaths in the United Kingdom 2000 – 2009" published by the ONS, 27/01/2011.

² The ONS definition of alcohol-related deaths only includes those causes regarded as being most directly due to alcohol consumption. This includes all deaths from chronic liver disease and cirrhosis (excluding biliary cirrhosis) even when alcohol is not specifically mentioned on the death certificate. It does not include diseases where alcohol has been shown to have some causal relationship, such as cancers of the mouth, oesophagus and liver. Apart from deaths due to poisoning with alcohol (accidental, intentional or other) this definition does not include deaths as a result of road accidents, falls, fires, suicide or violence involving people who had been drinking.



Regional differences

- Within England, alcohol related death rates for both males and females were highest in the North West at 22.5 per 100,000 and 11.7 per 100,000 respectively) and lowest in the East of England at 11.4 per 100,000 and 5.2 per 100,000 respectively).