

Information topic	Details
Indicator name	Alcohol outlet licence density
Domain and topic	Alcohol-related harm: Alcohol environment
Indicator definition and units	<p>Population density - Number of liquor licences per population aged 15 years and over</p> <p>Geographical density – Number of liquor licences per square kilometres of land area</p> <p>Physical locations with premises supplying alcohol can hold more than one type of licence.</p>
Data source	<p>Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority, Ministry of Justice, Downloaded from https://www.justice.govt.nz/tribunals/licences-certificates/arla/register-of-licences-and-certificates/.</p> <p>Statistics New Zealand for denominator data</p>
Numerator	<p>Number of liquor licences including on-licences, off-licences, and club licences. Excludes special licences.</p> <p>Similar to Cameron et al (2013), the following licence subtypes were excluded: conveyances (eg, boats, planes), mail order, hospitals, caterer endorsed, auctioneer endorsed, complimentary, and complementary to type of goods sold. The location and nature of the licence is unlikely to be related to the location of drinking.</p>
Denominator	<p>TA and CAU estimates of usually resident population, aged 15 years and over, mid-year estimates as at 30 June 2016.</p> <p>Land area in square kilometres, excluding area for water bodies.</p>
Methodology	<p>Licence data was cleaned and addresses geocoded with a 99% match rate. Duplicates were identified and removed by examining the licence number, premise name, street address, licence type and sub-type, licence dates and licence application type. Repeats of licences where only the licence conditions or licensee details were amended, were treated as duplicates.</p> <p>Density rates were calculated for the number of total licences as well by the main categories of licences – on-licence, off-licence and club licence</p> <p>Results were suppressed for AUs with populations of 30 or less. Density was not calculated for AUs of inland water bodies, uninhabited or scenic reserve islands, or covering ocean areas eg, marina AUs.</p>

Time period and time scale	Single time point. Licences as at 7 June 2016.
Population coverage	All residents. Excludes population living in Area Outside Territorial Authority and other excluded AUs.
Spatial Coverage	Territorial authority including Auckland local boards Area unit
Measures of frequency	By total licence, on-licence, off-licence, and club licence.
Confidence interval methodology	Not applicable
Limitations of indicator	<p>Only reflects one aspect of the availability of alcohol influencing alcohol use and alcohol-related harm.</p> <p>Population measures of outlet density do not necessarily reflect the spatial or physical clustering of licenced premises more commonly associated with alcohol-related harm (NZ Law Commission 2009). Geographic measures of density are a better measure of density for rural areas than population measures, as high licence density per capita in rural areas reflects the supply of alcohol to a widely dispersed population.</p>
Limitations of data source	<p>This central register of licences relies on District Licencing Committees providing the Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority with regular up-to-date and accurate data. This is not always provided. The Alcohol Regulatory and Licensing Authority updates the register available for download every three months so data will not reflect recent activity in alcohol outlet licencing.</p> <p>Address data is often incomplete or inaccurate. Only those outlets that can be geographically located are included in analysis.</p> <p>It is difficult to examine density over time, due to data availability.</p>
Created by	Environmental Health Indicators Programme, Massey University
Related indicators	<p>Prevalence of hazardous drinking</p> <p>Alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes</p> <p>Injury outcome of alcohol-related motor vehicle crashes</p> <p>Hospitalisations wholly attributable to alcohol</p>
For more information	https://www.justice.govt.nz/tribunals/licences-certificates/arla/
References	Cameron MP, Cochrane W, Gordon C et al. 2013. <i>The locally-specific impacts of alcohol outlet density in the North Island of New Zealand, 2006-2011. Research report commissioned by the Health Promotion Agency.</i> Wellington: Health Promotion Agency.

	<p>New Zealand Law Commission. 2009. <i>Alcohol in our lives: curbing the harm. A report on the review of the regulatory framework for the sale and supply of liquor (NZLC R114)</i>. Wellington, New Zealand: New Zealand Law Commission.</p>
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