

2017 QUEENSLAND POLL

PERSPECTIVES ON ALCOHOL-RELATED VIOLENCE AND POLICIES



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Foundation for Alcohol
Research & Education

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JANUARY 2017

KEY FINDINGS

- Almost three quarters (72%) of Queenslanders support the late night trading measures introduced by the Queensland Government in July 2016 to reduce alcohol-related violence.
- The majority of Queenslanders (64%) believe the Queensland Government should honour its election commitment and introduce 1am lockouts for venues located within approved 3am safe night precincts.
- 80% of Queenslanders believe that Australia has a problem with excess drinking or alcohol abuse.
- The majority of Queenslanders (81%) believe that more needs to be done to reduce the harm caused by alcohol-related illness, injury, death and related issues.
- The majority of Queenslanders do not believe that governments (66%), alcohol companies (71%) and pubs and clubs (67%) are doing enough to address alcohol misuse. The proportion of Queenslanders who hold the belief that governments are not doing enough to address alcohol misuse has increased since 2016.
- Two in five Queenslanders have been affected by alcohol-related violence (40%), an increase from 29% in 2016.

ABOUT THE POLLING

The Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) commissioned Galaxy Research to undertake polling of Queenslanders to gain an understanding of their perspectives on alcohol-related violence and policies.

This study was conducted online between Monday 9 January 2017 and Friday 13 January 2017. The survey sample comprised 300 respondents aged 18 years and older residing in Queensland.

Following the collection of data, the results were weighted by age, gender and region to reflect the latest Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) population estimates.

FINDINGS

AUSTRALIA'S PROBLEM WITH ALCOHOL

The majority of Queenslanders (80%) believe that Australia has a problem with excess drinking or alcohol abuse, 10% do not believe this, and the remaining 10% are unsure. This finding is consistent with 2016 results.

The majority of Queenslanders (81%) believe that more needs to be done to reduce the harm caused by alcohol-related illness, injury, death and related issues, 8% do not believe this and 11% are unsure. This finding is also consistent with 2016 results.

The majority of Queenslanders (73%) expect alcohol-related problems in Australia to remain the same or get worse over the next five to 10 years, 17% expect a reduction in alcohol-related problems and 10% are unsure.

The majority of Queenslanders do not believe that governments (66%), alcohol companies (71%) and pubs and clubs (67%) are doing enough to address alcohol misuse. The proportion of Queenslanders who hold the belief that governments are not doing enough to address alcohol misuse has increased since 2016.

The table below provides an overview of Queenslanders' attitudes on who is not doing enough to address alcohol misuse in 2015, 2016 and 2017.

	2015 (%)	2016 (%)	2017 (%)
Governments are not doing enough to address alcohol misuse	51	59	66 ↑
Alcohol companies are not doing enough to address alcohol misuse	61	69	71
Pubs and clubs are not doing enough to address alcohol misuse	60	70	67

↑ Denotes a significant change from the previous year's results

PERSPECTIVES ON ALCOHOL-RELATED POLICIES

Almost three quarters (72%) of Queenslanders support the late night trading measures introduced by the Queensland Government in July 2016 to reduce alcohol-related violence (pubs, clubs and bars to stop serving alcohol at 2am or 3am, depending on location), 20% do not support and 8% are unsure.

The majority of Queenslanders (64%) believe the Queensland Government should honour its election commitment and introduce 1am lockouts for venues located within approved 3am safe night precincts, 23% do not believe this and 13% are unsure.

More than half of Queenslanders (56%) support a closing time for bottle shops of no later than 10pm, 39% do not support this and 5% are unsure.

The majority of Queenslanders also support the introduction of a number of other alcohol-related policies to reduce violence (with support for each of the measures ranging from 56% to 92%).

Policies that received majority support include increasing penalties for people involved in alcohol-related violence (92%) and more public transport options in areas where there are pubs, clubs and bars (86%). The table below provides an overview of the level of support Queenslanders have for alcohol policies to reduce violence.

	SUPPORT (%)	DO NOT SUPPORT (%)	DON'T KNOW (%)
Increasing penalties for people involved in alcohol-related violence	92	4	4
Closed-circuit television (CCTV) in and around licensed venues	89	4	7
Increasing police numbers at times and places where alcohol-related violence is greater	89	6	5
More public transport options in areas where there are pubs, clubs and bars	86	6	8
Stopping the sale of alcohol 30 minutes before closing time	78	14	8
Introducing identification (ID) scanners	74	17	9
Not allowing alcohol to be sold for less than \$1 per standard drink	68	21	11
Placing a limit of four drinks on the number of drinks a person can purchase at one time after 10pm	67	20	13
Stopping the sale of alcohol and energy drinks after midnight	61	29	10
Stopping the sale of shots after 10pm	58	28	14
A closing time for bottle shops of no later than 10pm	56	39	5

Note that participants were able to select more than one response. Therefore the total may exceed 100%.

EXPERIENCES OF ALCOHOL-RELATED VIOLENCE

Two in five Queenslanders have been affected by alcohol-related violence (40%). This represents an increase from 2016 where almost one third of Queenslanders had been affected by alcohol-related violence (29%). One in five Queenslanders (21%) have been a victim of alcohol-related violence and nearly one third (29%) have had a family member or friend who has been affected.

About the Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education

The Foundation for Alcohol Research and Education (FARE) is an independent, not-for-profit organisation working to stop the harm caused by alcohol. Alcohol harm in Australia is significant. More than 5,500 lives are lost every year and more than 157,000 people are hospitalised, making alcohol one of our nation's greatest preventative health challenges.

For over a decade, FARE has been working with communities, governments, health professionals and police across the country to stop alcohol harms by supporting world-leading research, raising public awareness and advocating for changes to alcohol policy. In that time FARE has helped more than 750 communities and organisations, and backed over 1,400 projects around Australia.

If you would like to contribute to FARE's important work, call us on (02) 6122 8600, email info@fare.org.au or visit FARE's website: www.fare.org.au.