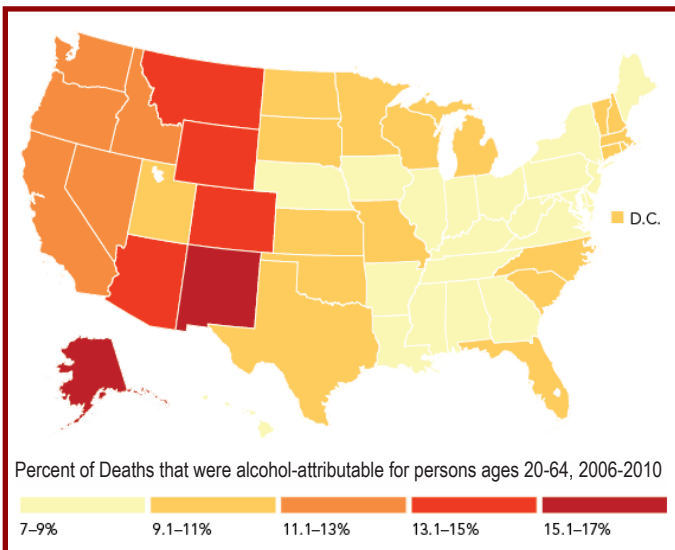


Alcohol Taxes *Save* Lives & Money

New Mexico is # 1 in the Nation in Alcohol-Related Deaths

*This is Where People are Drinking
Themselves to Death*



16.4% of all deaths in New Mexico are caused by excessive alcohol use.

Increasing the alcohol excise tax 25¢ per drink would decrease alcohol consumption by 10%, with most of the decrease occurring in excessive* and underage drinking groups.

About 1 in 6 deaths among working age people in New Mexico can be attributed to alcohol. These causes of death include violence, alcohol poisoning and motor vehicle collisions, as well as conditions like liver failure, breast cancer, heart disease and other fatal illnesses caused by alcohol abuse. *Source: Center for Disease Control*

Public Health Benefits of a 25¢ Per Drink Increase in New Mexico's Alcohol Excise Tax:

- Save 52 lives a year initially, with the number of lives saved growing larger each year as more and more alcohol-related long term diseases are prevented.
- Prevent 306 violent acts a year.
- Prevent 12,375 cases of alcohol dependence or abuse a year, relieving thousands of families of the heartache, financial strain, and emotional turmoil that alcohol abuse and dependence creates.
- Reduce overall Underage Drinking by 13%. That's 7,150 fewer New Mexico youth drinking each year, resulting in thousands of New Mexico children avoiding alcohol problems later in life and contributing to New Mexico's long term success!
- Binge drinking among youth would decrease by 4,680 children, saving New Mexicans \$20,618,000 a year in the costs of underage binge drinking.
- The revenues raised could be used to fund the Medicaid Expansion match that the state will have to pay in 2017, insuring continued health care coverage to over 200,000 New Mexicans.

*Excessive Drinking includes: 1) binge drinking—5 or more in a sitting by men, 4 or more by women, 2) heavy drinking—15 or more drinks per week by men, 8 or more for women, 3) drinking by pregnant women, 4) drinking by people under age 21.

Visit alcoholtaxessavelives.org for the complete public health report & economic modeling.