

Alcohol & Violence

Baltimore City has more than three times as many alcohol outlets as the state of Rhode Island¹ despite only having ~ 60% of the population.²

THE PROBLEM

Alcohol is the most commonly used drug in the U.S.³

53% of adults are drinkers⁴

16% of adults are binge drinkers⁴

7% of adults are heavy drinkers⁴

In Baltimore in 2015, alcohol caused⁵


1,182
robberies


161
homicides


1,354
aggravated
assaults


80
sexual
assaults

The cost of alcohol-attributable violence in Baltimore in 2016 was **\$289.8 million**⁶

City taxpayers pay for **49%** of these costs⁷

Each additional alcohol outlet in a census tract is associated with more violent crime¹³

Alcohol is the #1 drug used by homicide offenders⁸

48% Positive BAC⁹

37% Intoxicated⁹

These business practices are associated with increased violence



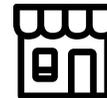
Longer operating hours¹⁰



Single serves¹¹



Advertising¹²



On-premise outlets (Bars & restaurants)

3.1%
more crime



Off-premise outlets (liquor stores)

4.8%
more crime

Baltimore City has **1,296** liquor licenses¹⁴

Increased physical availability of alcohol is associated with increases in



Homicide¹³



Suicide¹⁵



Intimate partner violence¹⁶



Child maltreatment¹⁷



Robbery¹³



Sexual Assault¹³



Aggravated assault¹³



Underage drinking¹⁸



Hospital admissions¹⁹



Alcohol use disorders²⁰

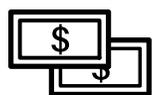


Motor vehicle crashes²¹



Gonorrhea²²

Areas with more restrictive alcohol policy environments tend to have lower rates of alcohol-involved homicides.²³ **The following practices have been used in other cities to regulate alcohol outlets and protect the public's health, safety and quality of life:** ²⁴



Increase alcohol taxes/price of alcohol



Enforce the minimum legal drinking age law



Create more accountability for liquor licensees for illegal sales practices (e.g. dram shop liability)



Enforce laws prohibiting sales to intoxicated individuals



Regulate excessive price discounting practices



Regulate alcohol-related marketing (e.g. window signage, billboards)



Place limits on hours and days of sales for alcohol outlets



Regulate alcohol outlet density through licensing and zoning processes

To see a detailed reference list, visit bmoreneighborly.org

TAKE ACTION

- Have a BGNC member come speak to your organization
- Contact your legislators (city and state) to tell them what you've learned about the connection between alcohol and violence
- Submit a letter to the editor on the connection between alcohol and violence
- Join regular calls to discuss moving the action plan forward
- Engage with the state task force to study alcohol regulation when opportunities arise

