

Raising Taxes on Alcohol Can Reduce Violence and Injuries

Alcohol is a risk factor for various types of violence.

KEY FACTS

- Alcohol causes harms not only to those who consume alcohol but also to families, communities and societies.
- 17% of Brazilians over the age of 18 reported having driven after consuming alcohol. This behavior was more prevalent among men (21%) compared to women (8%).¹
- 3.5 million Brazilians have hurt someone or injured themselves after drinking alcohol.²
- Among those, 6.9% of 25-34-year-olds have hurt someone or been hurt themselves after drinking alcohol. For those between the age of 35 and 44 years, the figure was 8.2%.

Alcohol plays an insidious role in gender-based violence.

Despite the existence of a law to combat violence against women in Brazil, women still face severe consequences from gender-based violence. And while violence is a multifactorial phenomenon, alcohol consumption still plays a large role in gender-based violence in the country.

- Domestic violence caused by alcohol is among the top three concerns Brazilians have about alcohol.³
- Women are more likely than men to suffer from their partner's drinking and its consequences, such as domestic violence, the most common type of violence against women.
- The effects of alcohol on men may increase the severity of aggression toward a female partner.
- Men overall drink a higher total volume of alcohol and have more harmful patterns of consumption, including heavy episodic or binge drinking, defined as five or more drinks in a single occasion for men, and four or more for women.

Brazil's tax reform can lead to less violence against women and fewer traffic deaths and injuries, if the tax rates are increased enough to reduce alcohol consumption.

Learn more about RESET at: <https://www.vitalstrategies.org/programs/alcohol-policy>

