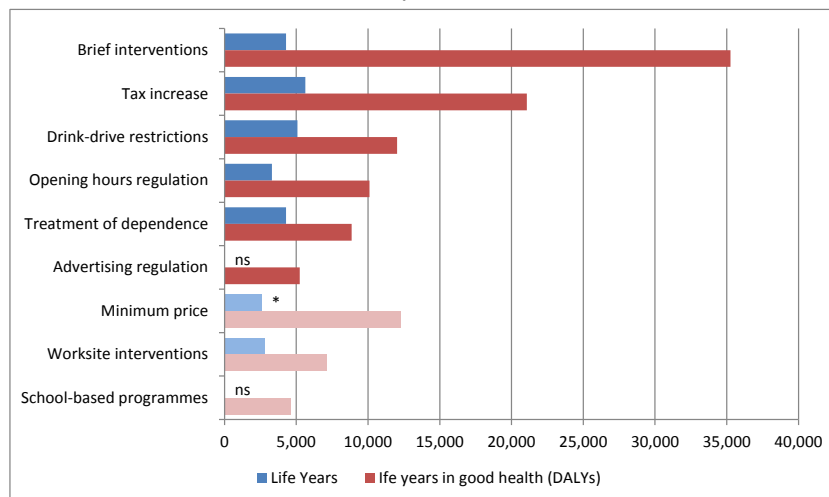


## Tackling Harmful Alcohol Use

### Impact of Policy Changes – Canada

Taken individually, prevention programmes could avert up to 5 600 deaths from chronic diseases and injuries every year. Even more deaths could be averted if different interventions were combined into a comprehensive prevention strategy. An organised programme of brief interventions by primary care physicians, aimed at people with harmful levels of alcohol consumption, would lead to an annual gain of 35 300 years of life in good health.

**Figure 1.** Life years saved from prevention programmes at the population level, average number per year

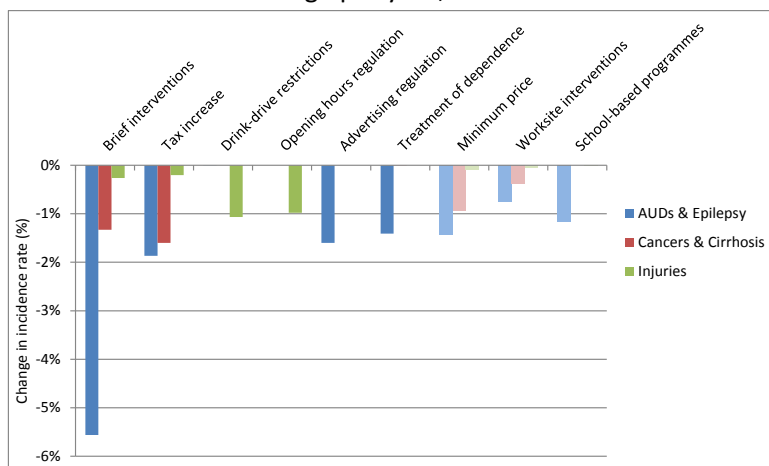


Source: OECD analysis based on CDP-Alcohol simulation model.

Note: ns, not statistically significant; (\*) statistically significant at the 10% level; other results significant at 5% level. Darker-shaded bars, main analysis; lighter-shaded bars, further analysis.

Individual prevention programmes avoid the development of new cases of major chronic diseases and injuries. Alcohol use disorders and epileptic seizures associated to harmful levels of consumption would be reduced by up to 5.6%. Further benefits would derive from a reduced incidence of cancers, cirrhosis and injuries.

**Figure 6.** Decrease in numbers of disease and injury cases resulting from prevention programmes, average per year, 2010-50

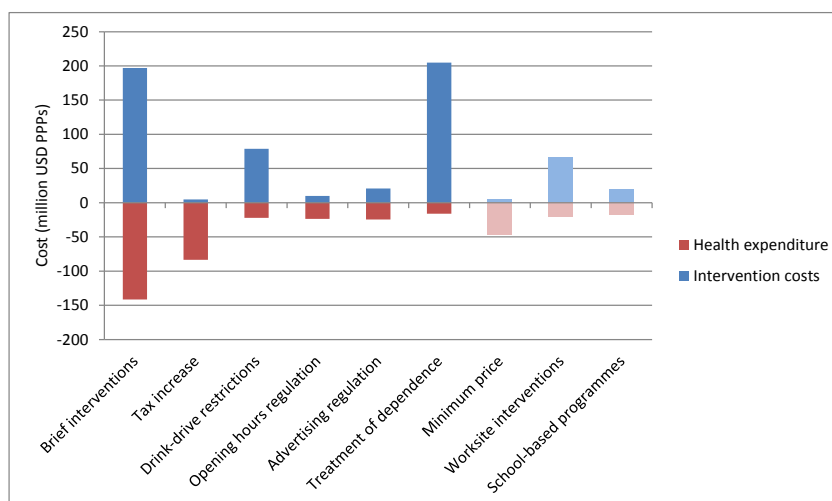


Source: OECD analysis based on CDP-Alcohol simulation model.

Note: darker-shaded bars, main analysis; lighter-shaded bars, further analysis.

Most prevention programmes would cost less than USD PPPs 80 million every year, with brief intervention and medical and psychological treatment of dependence costing up to USD PPPs 200 million. Interventions have the potential to cut health expenditures for chronic diseases and injuries by up to about USD PPPs 140 million per year.

**Figure 3.** Economic impact of prevention programmes at the population level, average per year, 2010-50



Source: OECD analysis based on CDP-Alcohol simulation model.

Note: darker-shaded bars, main analysis; lighter-shaded bars, further analysis.

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### Useful links

Read the report online, access the press release, country notes, data viz and a video at:

<http://www.oecd.org/health/health-systems/tackling-harmful-alcohol-use-9789264181069-en.htm>

OECD Economics of prevention project:

<http://www.oecd.org/health/economics-of-prevention.htm>

OECD Health: [www.oecd.org/health](http://www.oecd.org/health)