FPA commissioned a survey of more than 2,000 UK adults, which found alcohol played a part in various scenarios of risky sexual behaviour.

- 32% of respondents have taken part in a sexual activity with someone and then regretted it later. Of these people who drink alcohol, just over half (51%) said it had an impact.
  - Those aged between 25 and 44 who drink alcohol were more likely than other age groups to have been impacted by alcohol if they had taken part in a sexual activity with someone and then regretted it later (59%).
  - There was very little difference in the impact of alcohol between men and women who drink (m = 50%, f = 51%)
  - Full-time students were more likely to say they have taken part in a sexual activity with someone and then regretted it later (39%) than those who work (36%), or are unemployed (31%).

- 31% of respondents said they had sexual intercourse with someone new without using a condom (when not intending to become pregnant). Of these who drink alcohol, 41% said it had an impact.

- Over two-fifths of respondents (44%) said they have had sexual intercourse with a partner without using any contraception (when not intending to become pregnant). 30% of these who drink alcohol said it had an impact.

- More than a quarter of respondents (28%) said they had sexual intercourse without using a condom or other protection, even though protection was available (when not intending to become pregnant). Of these who drink alcohol, over a third (35%) said it had an impact.

- Just under a quarter of all respondents (24%) said they had taken part in a sexual activity with someone they wouldn’t normally find attractive. Of these who drink alcohol, more than half (53%) said it had played a part.
  - The figure for those who said they had taken part in sexual activity with someone they wouldn’t normally find attractive was higher for men (33%) than women (16%). Among men aged 18-40 it was 40%. But when saying how much alcohol had played a part in their decision to do this, the percentage of women of all ages who drink alcohol who said it had an impact was higher (58%) than for men (50%).
By age, the incidence of alcohol playing a part was highest among 35 – 44-year-olds who drink alcohol, with two-thirds (66%) saying it had an impact when they had taken part in a sexual activity with someone they wouldn’t normally find attractive.

- Almost a fifth of respondents (19%) said they had been physically unable to have sexual intercourse (e.g. could not get sexually aroused) when they wanted to. 35% of these who ever drink alcohol said it had played a part.

- Among 18-40-year-old men, just over a quarter (26%) said they had been physically unable to have sexual intercourse (e.g. could not get sexually aroused) when they wanted to.

**STIs and memory**

- 6% of respondents said having sexual intercourse without using a condom had resulted in a sexually transmitted infection. In a third of cases amongst those that drink alcohol (33%), it had an impact.

- 6% of respondents said they were unable to remember whether or not they had sexual intercourse, or what sexual activity had taken place the day after. In 68% of these incidences where respondents ever drink alcohol, alcohol had played a part.

**Full time students**

- Most likely to be unable to remember whether or not they had sexual intercourse or what type of sexual activity took place (11% compared to workers 7% and unemployed 4%).

**Perceptions**

- 89% of respondents agreed with the statement that drinking alcohol reduces people’s inhibitions about having sex.

- 90% of respondents agreed that people tend to think less about the risk of sexually transmitted infections when they take part in sexual activity after drinking alcohol.

- 88% of respondents agreed that people are less likely to use a condom or other method of contraception when they have sex if they have been drinking alcohol.

- 80% of respondents agreed that it is easy for people to forget to use protection when having sex with someone new if they have been drinking alcohol.
• In all four of these questions, women were more likely than men to agree with the statements.

• 57% of respondents drink alcohol on average at least once a week.

Notes

Agreed = “strongly agree” or “tend to agree”

Had an impact / played a part = “a great deal” or “a fair amount”

All figures, unless otherwise stated, are from YouGov Plc. Total sample size was 2,171 adults. Fieldwork was undertaken between 9 - 10 June 2014. The survey was carried out online. The figures have been weighted and are representative of all UK adults (aged 18+).