

# Alcohol Taxes **Save** Lives & Money

## Excessive Drinking Costs New Mexico \$1.8 Billion a Year!



**Total Economic Cost to New Mexico: \$1,876,108,000**

**Economic Loss Per Drink: \$2.36**

**Annual Economic Loss Per Person: \$960**

Excessive drinking<sup>1</sup> burdens our state with over \$1.8 billion in economic costs :

- lost work days
- increased insurance prices
- higher health care cost

### **The Solution:**

**Increase the alcohol excise tax 25¢ per drink.  
Let excessive drinking pay for excessive drinking harms.**

- Generating \$154,090,910 in new state revenues annually.
- Increasing annual economic productivity by \$128,133,220 in New Mexico because employers would suffer fewer lost work days and less insurance costs due to decreased alcohol consumption in employees.
- Creating up to 2,800 new jobs, even after accounting for alcohol industry job losses.
- Resulting in a 10% decrease in alcohol consumption, due to the increased cost of alcohol.

**Boost our Economy and Create Jobs!**

<sup>1</sup>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.

Source: Sacks. et al. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 2013

Visit [alcoholtaxessavelives.org](http://alcoholtaxessavelives.org) for the complete public health report & economic modeling.