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# COUNTY OF MONTEREY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Elsa Mendoza Jimenez, Director of Health

Administration      Animal Services      Behavioral Health      Clinic Services  
Emergency Medical Services      Environmental Health      Public Administrator/Public Guardian      Public Health

## County of Monterey Health Department Administration Bureau

### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** 12/13/23

**TO:** Zoe Zepp, Assistant Planner

**FROM:** Vicente Lara, Planning, Evaluation and Policy, Management Analyst III

**SUBJECT:** Letter of Public Convenience and Necessity for Application PLN230278

Thank you for the opportunity to consider Application Request Form PLN230278 to obtain an alcohol on-sale license for the Ladysomm Wine School and Wine Salon, located at 3728 The Barnyard Unit G-23, Carmel, CA 93923. The application, submitted by Tamara Carver & Roxanne Langer, is currently being considered by the Administration Bureau's Planning, Evaluation and Policy Unit due to the number of permitted on-sale facilities already in this census tract (116.05).

Our review is based on the public health considerations related to alcohol availability and consumption. "Overall, there are causal relationships between alcohol consumption and more than 60 types of disease, disability, and injury, including traffic fatalities." (*A Call for a Framework Convention on Alcohol Control*, American Public Health Association, Policy Statement).

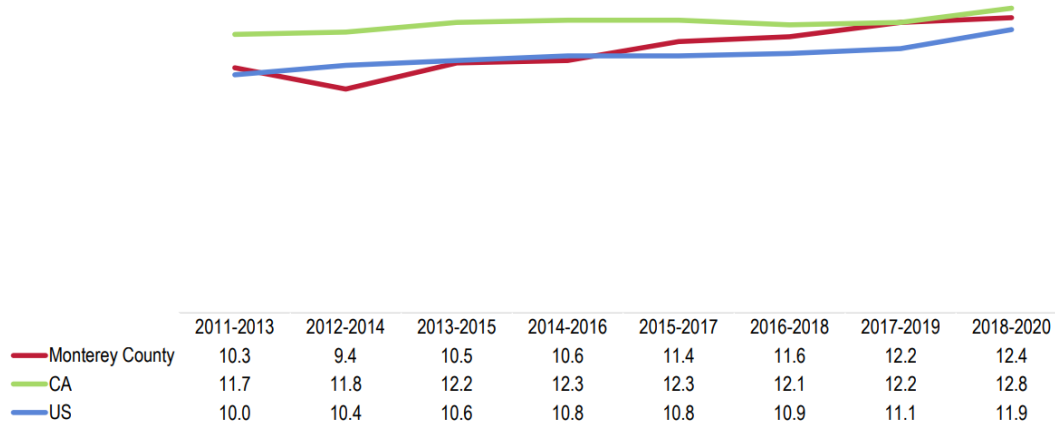
Per the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (2022) "Excessive alcohol use is responsible for more than 140,000 deaths annually in the United States, including 1 in 10 deaths among working-age adults aged 20–64 years, costing the United States \$249 billion in 2010, or \$2.05 per drink. Binge drinking, or four or more drinks per occasion for women and five or more drinks per occasion for men, is responsible for more than half the deaths and three-quarters of the costs caused by excessive drinking. Yet, 9 in 10 adult excessive drinkers are not alcohol dependent. (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Alcohol and Public Health*; 2022). High alcohol outlet density, defined as a high concentration of retail alcohol outlets in a small area, is known to be an environmental risk factor for excessive drinking." (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Guide for Measuring Alcohol Outlet Density*. Atlanta, GA: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, US Dept of Health, and Human Services; 2017).

# Alcohol

## Age-Adjusted Cirrhosis/Liver Disease Deaths

Heavy alcohol use contributes to a significant share of liver disease, including cirrhosis. The following chart outlines age-adjusted mortality for cirrhosis/liver disease in Monterey County. [COUNTY-LEVEL DATA]

**Cirrhosis/Liver Disease: Age-Adjusted Mortality Trends**  
 (Annual Average Deaths per 100,000 Population)  
 Healthy People 2030 = 10.9 or Lower



Sources: • CDC WONDER Online Query System. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Epidemiology Program Office, Division of Public Health Surveillance and Informatics. Data extracted June 2022.  
 • US Department of Health and Human Services. Healthy People 2030. August 2030. <http://www.healthypeople.gov>

In 2019, there were 402 total collisions in Monterey County that involved alcohol, a 35% increase from 2018 and 80% or greater increase from the 171 reported in 2013 (Statewide Integrated Traffic Records System; 2019).

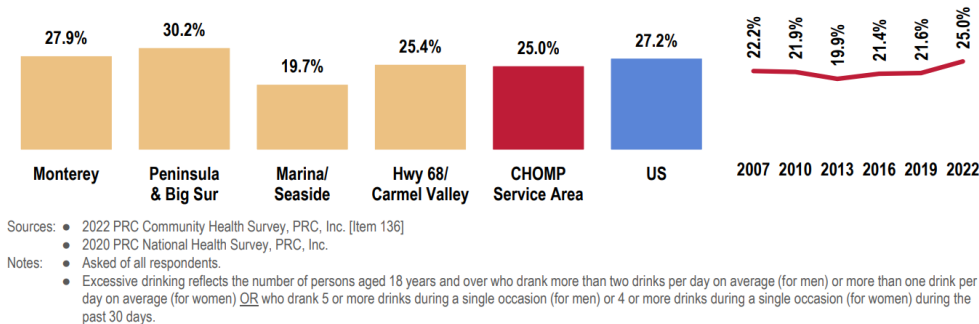
As income goes up, so does the number of individuals who are excessive drinkers. In the CHOMP Service Area, rates of excessive drinking were highest for Highway 68/Carmel Valley 25.4% and 19.8% and 26.4% for low and mid/high income surveyed individuals respectively (2022 PRC Community Health Needs Assessment [CHOMP]).

**Excessive drinking** includes heavy and/or binge drinkers:

- **HEAVY DRINKERS** ► men reporting 2+ alcoholic drinks per day or women reporting 1+ alcoholic drink per day in the month preceding the interview.
- **BINGE DRINKERS** ► men reporting 5+ alcoholic drinks or women reporting 4+ alcoholic drinks on any single occasion during the past month.

# Excessive Drinkers

CHOMP Service Area



Given these local public health outcomes associated with alcohol and excessive drinking, there is a public health need to assess new alcohol outlet permit applications in relation to the density of alcohol outlets in Monterey County.

The application for a new on-site alcohol outlet located at 3728 The Barnyard Unit G-23, Carmel, CA 93923, is in census tract 116.05. This census tract is currently over saturated (over the number allowed by California Alcohol Beverage Control, CA ABC) for ABC on-sale licenses. The number of licenses allowed is 5 while the number of existing on-sale licenses in the census tract is 17. Thus, an addition of one more outlet to the number already licensed in census tract 116.05 creates an excessive density.

Monterey County Health Department (MCHD), Planning Evaluation and Policy Unit, cannot at this time support the issuance of this license as, from a public health perspective, this census tract is oversaturated for permitted on-sale alcohol outlets. Less permitted alcohol outlets in the county would likely be associated with improved health outcomes, including reductions in alcohol-related motor vehicle accidents.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide our input.  
Sincerely,

Vicente Lara  
Management Analyst III  
Planning, Evaluation, and Policy

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