



More people in the UK drink twice a week than those in the US and Australia, according to a new survey.

The study, carried out by Maxus, a media agency for the drinks industry, examined the drinking habits of 6,500 people in the UK, Germany, America, Australia and China.

The results showed that 66% of the British participants drank at least twice a week, followed by China with 63%, Australia 62% and Germany 57%.

Only 55% of participants in the US said they drank at least twice a week, reported [The Independent](#).

Brits also came out on top when questioned about the amount of alcohol they consume in one sitting, with 15% saying they had at least one “high energy” night of drinking per week.

“From the malmsey wine of the 14th century to the craft gin producers of today, we Brits have a long and distinguished heritage of creating, sourcing and enjoying the best drink in the world.

“Why? Because we British are a hugely sociable nation, we love to chat, and booze facilitates that. The pub gives us somewhere to meet and alcohol helps lubricate our conversation.” Nick Vale, author of the report, told The Independent.

More than 9 million people in England drink more than the recommended daily limits. Alcohol is a causal factor in more than 60 medical conditions, including: mouth, throat, stomach, liver and breast cancers; high blood pressure, cirrhosis of the liver; and depression, according to Alcohol Concern.

The number of older people between the ages of 60 and 74 admitted to hospitals in England with mental and behavioural disorders associated with alcohol use has risen by over 150% in the past ten years, while the figure for 15-59 years old has increased by 94%.

Alcohol abuse could be costing the UK up to £6 billion a year in NHS bills, premature death, loss to business and drink-related crimes and accidents, according to a study by the Royal College of Physicians.