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## 61% - St. Patrick's Day Drinking?

As many head to the bars for Saint Patrick's Day, not everyone will be celebrating; more than six-in-ten Americans (61%) think drinking alcohol excessively is morally wrong. On a list of 10 behaviors, having "one too many" drew the third most disapproval, behind only having an affair and not reporting income taxes. More people said excessive drinking was morally wrong than said the same for having an abortion, and twice as many condemned drinking as did overeating. Those who have a college degree (43%) and higher incomes (48%) are much less likely to decry too much alcohol than those with a high school degree or less (74%) and those who earn less than \$30,000 (72%). While there is little difference between Republicans (67%) and Democrats (63%), liberals (50%) are far more likely to be at the bars tonight than conservatives (71%), or at least not feel bad about it the next morning. [Read more](#)

**More Daily Numbers**

**March 15**  
17% - "Sext" Senders

**March 12**  
70% & 60% - Racial Convergence

**March 11**  
26% - Filibuster Proof

**March 10**  
52% - Mixed Views of Hamas and Hezbollah

**March 9**  
24 - Marrying Young

**March 8**  
3% - Abortion Not Driving Health Care Opposition

**March 5**  
45% - Top Discrimination Targets: Gays

**March 4**  
16% - Eyed by Evil

**March 3**  
54% - 15% - Online Shopping OK

**March 2**  
83% - Again, it's the Economy, Stupid

**Drinking Alcohol Excessively**

Percent who believe this behavior is...

	Morally wrong	Morally acceptable	Not a moral issue	(Vol.) Depends	Don't know	N
	%	%	%	%	%	
<b>All adults</b>	61	5	31	2	1=100	745
<b>Gender</b>						
Men	59	7	31	2	1=100	359
Women	63	3	31	2	1=100	386
<b>Age</b>						
18-49	55	5	37	2	1=100	357
50-64	64	4	28	2	2=100	230
65+	80	3	15	2	*=100	147
<b>Education</b>						
College Grad	43	4	49	3	1=100	304
Some college	59	8	31	2	*=100	188
High school or less	74	4	20	1	1=100	249
<b>Family Income</b>						
\$75,000 or more	48	5	44	2	1=100	234
\$30,000 to \$75,000	62	4	31	2	1=100	254
Less than \$30,000	72	5	20	2	1=100	180
<b>Marital Status</b>						
Married	62	4	31	2	1=100	447
Not married	61	6	30	2	1=100	292
<b>Church Attendance</b>						
Weekly or more	76	2	19	2	1=100	290
Monthly or less	58	7	33	2	*=100	246
Seldom or never	44	6	45	3	2=100	198
<b>Religion</b>						
White evangelical protestant	82	2	15	1	0=100	173
White mainline protestant	58	5	32	2	3=100	172
Catholic	58	4	34	4	*=100	173
<b>Ideology</b>						
Conservative	71	3	24	1	1=100	301
Moderate	58	6	33	3	*=100	291
Liberal	50	7	40	2	1=100	126
<b>Party Identification</b>						
Republican	67	6	26	1	*=100	242
Democrat	63	5	28	2	2=100	239
Independent	57	3	37	2	1=100	228
<b>Region</b>						
Northeast	58	5	35	2	0=100	128
Midwest	58	4	35	2	1=100	177
South	70	4	23	2	1=100	254
West	55	5	36	2	2=100	186

Source: Pew Research Center survey, February 1 - 5, 2006

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