Liquor Quick Facts



Alberta's Liquor Model

Since 1993, Alberta's unique liquor model has created an open and competitive marketplace providing ample business opportunity and consumer choice. AGLC is responsible for managing the liquor supply chain in Alberta and ensuring progressive developments in the industry while building strong relationships with liquor stakeholders.

Before Privatization*	
Alberta Liquor Control Board stores	208
Hotel off-sales	530
Private retailers (beer / wine / agency)	65
Total liquor retailers	803
Products available	2,200
Pricing: Government set shelf price, which was consistent in all stores.	

^{*} From ALCB Annual Report, year ended January 5, 1993.

Pricing and Supply

- Suppliers of spirits, wine and beer (or agencies that represent them) ship their product to privately operated warehouses approved by AGLC.
- Licensees, including retailers, buy their liquor products at wholesale prices.
- The wholesale price includes the manufacturer's cost, federal customs and excise duties (where applicable), AGLC's markup, recycling costs, bottle deposit and GST.
- AGLC retains the revenue from the markup and remits it to the Government of Alberta's General Revenue Fund (less expenses).

Public Satisfaction

• 85 per cent of Albertans who purchased liquor in the past 12 months are satisfied with the conduct of Alberta's liquor business.

AGLC Survey of Albertans, fiscal year 2018-19.

Currently*	
Retail liquor stores	1,500
Off-sales** (hotel / manufacturer / other)	566
General merchandise liquor stores	98
Other liquor retailers (commercial caterer / sacramental wine / delivery service)	125
Total liquor retailers	2,289
Products available	28,960

Pricing: Retailers set shelf price based on market conditions and competition.

Sales AGLC Annual Report 2018-19, page 46.

	Volume (1hL = 100L)	Dollars (thousands)
Spirits	274,445 hL	\$792,153
Wine	445,795 hL	\$611,992
Coolers / Ciders	322,919 hL	\$162,131
Beer	2,496,794 hL	\$1,028,914
Total	3,539,953 hL	\$2,595,190
Revenue to gove	rnment	\$860 million

Manufacturing in Alberta As of March 31, 2020.

Breweries*	126
Distilleries	40
Wineries/Meaderies	15
Refreshment Beverages**	5
Total	186

^{*}One licensee produces beer plus spirits.

^{*}As of March 31, 2020.

^{**}Effective March 17, 2020, all Class A licensees are permitted to sell liquor for off-site consumption. Liquor may be sold through take-out or delivery from licensed establishments with or without the purchase of food.

^{**}Refreshment Beverages include coolers, cideries, kombucha and ready-to-drink.

Liquor Quick Facts



Licensing & Compliance

Licensees / Registrations in Effect*

Class A MINORS ALLOWED (Restaurants)	4,346
Class A MINORS PROHIBITED (Bars / Lounges / Taprooms)	1,140
Class B (Convention Centre / Racetrack / Arena / Salon)	873
Class C (Private Club / Military or Police Canteen)	774
Class D (Retail Store / Hotel Off-Sales)	2,289
Class E (Distillery / Winery / Brewery / Refreshment Beverages / Packaging)	189
Class F (Ferment on Premises)	18
Other (Duty Free / Liquor Agency)	636
Total Licensees / Registrations	10,247

^{*}As of March 31, 2020.

Licence Classes

For more information on classes of liquor licences, visit aglc.ca.

Inspections Fiscal year 2018-2019.

- AGLC inspectors conducted nearly 23,000 inspections at licensed gaming, liquor and cannabis premises.
- Inspectors check licensees for compliance in a number of areas including, but not limited to: patron proof of age, selling to minors, serving to intoxicated patrons and serving after hours.
- 99 per cent of liquor licensees complied with legislation, regulation and policy.

Recycling

- As part of our commitment to providing a high level of responsible liquor service, AGLC works in partnership with the Beverage Container Management Board in container recycling efforts throughout the province.
- In 2018, more than 2 billion containers (soft drink, juice, water and liquor bottles and cans) were returned to recycling depots with a return rate of 86 per cent.*

Encouraging Responsibility

DrinkSense

AGLC encourages Albertans to make positive choices for themselves by following Canada's Low-Risk Drinking Guidelines and avoiding alcohol-related harms. Visit DrinkSenseAB.ca.

Dry9

The Dry9 program encourages women and their supporters to not drink alcohol while pregnant or trying to conceive and to share their healthy choice with others. Visit Dry9.ca.

Responsible Consumption

Among Albertans surveyed, **79** per cent report they have purchased alcohol and **80** per cent reported that they drink responsibly based on Canada's Low-Risk Drinking Guidelines.

AGLC Survey of Albertans, fiscal year 2018-19.

Training for Staff at Licensed Premises

As of March 31, 2020.

ProServe Liquor Staff Training

Mandatory online training for anyone involved in security, or the sale or service of liquor.

504,709

certificates issued since program began in 2004

ProTect Security Staff Training

Online training for security staff and managers of licensed premises. Mandatory for employees whose position requires them to respond to problems within a licensed premises.

53,053

certificates issued since program began in 2008

Visit SmartPrograms.aglc.ca.

^{*}Beverage Container Management Board