

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.	

Currently*

Retail liquor stores	1,492
Off-sales** (hotel / manufacturer / other)	563
General merchandise liquor stores	99
Other liquor retailers (commercial caterer / sacramental wine / delivery service)	128
Total liquor retailers	2,282
Products available	27,819

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

*As of June 30, 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.

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).

Manufacturing in Alberta As of June 30, 2020.

Breweries	125
Distilleries	44
Wineries / Meaderies	17
Refreshment beverages*	5
Total	191

*Refreshment beverages include coolers, cideries, kombucha and ready-to-drink.

Sales From April 1 to June 30, 2020.*

	Volume (1hL = 100L)	Dollars (thousands)
Spirits	79,045 hL	\$223,776
Wine	120,235 hL	159,602
Refreshment beverages	179,300 hL	87,810
Beer	703,814 hL	279,086
Total	1,082,394 hL	\$750,274

Financial results From April 1 to June 30, 2020.*

Spirits	\$100.84 million
Wine	47.02 million
Refreshment beverages	31.69 million
Beer	76.20 million
Liquor net revenue	\$255.74 million
Operating expenses	(7.69 million)
Other revenue	2.26 million
Liquor net income (Revenue to Government)	\$250.31 million

*Unaudited financial information.

Licensing & compliance

Licences / registrations in effect*

Class A MINORS ALLOWED (restaurants)	4,186
Class A MINORS PROHIBITED (bars / lounges / taprooms)	1,197
Class B (convention centre / racetrack / arena / salon)	852
Class C (private club / military or police canteen)	761
Class D (retail store / hotel off-sales / delivery service / sacramental wine resale / commercial caterer)	2,282
Class E (distillery / winery / brewery / refreshment)	194
Class F (ferment on premises)	19
Other (duty free / liquor agency)	643
Total licences / registrations	10,134

*As of June 30, 2020.

Licence classes

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

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 2019, almost **2 billion** containers (soft drink, juice, water and liquor bottles and cans) were returned to recycling depots with a return rate of **85.3** per cent.*

*Beverage Container Management Board

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.

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 June 30, 2020.

ProServe Liquor Staff Training

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

512,432

certificates issued since program began in 2004

Protect Security Staff Training

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

53,566

certificates issued since program began in 2008

Visit SmartPrograms.aglc.ca.