

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	1,499
Off-sales** (hotel / manufacturer / other)	565
General merchandise liquor stores	99
Other liquor retailers (commercial caterer / sacramental wine / delivery service)	140
Total liquor retailers	2,303
Products available	28,750

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

*As of December 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.

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), liquor markup, recycling costs, bottle deposit and GST.
- Revenue from the markup is retained by AGLC and remitted to the Government of Alberta's General Revenue Fund (less expenses).

Financial results

Liquor markup revenue (in thousands of dollars).

	YTD: Apr. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020*	2019-20 (AGLC Annual Report 2019-20, page 93)**
Spirits	\$ 309,355	\$ 368,070
Wine	143,099	179,199
Refreshment beverages	79,200	64,110
Beer	199,560	263,395
Liquor net revenue	731,214	874,774
Operating expenses	(23,720)	(42,162)
Other revenue	6,703	12,245
Liquor net income (Revenue to government)	\$ 714,197	\$ 844,857

*Unaudited financial information.

**Only summary information is provided in the annual report.

Sales

Liquor that's sold to licensees (e.g. retailers) at wholesale prices.

	YTD: Apr. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020*		2019-2020 (AGLC Annual Report 2019-20, page 47)	
	Volume (1hL = 100L)	Dollars (thousands)	Volume (1hL = 100L)	Dollars (thousands)
Spirits	247,819 hL	\$ 716,205	286,805 hL	\$ 835,818
Wine	365,780 hL	507,597	457,786 hL	629,657
Refreshment beverages	452,115 hL	223,484	367,538 hL	183,312
Beer	1,869,195 hL	755,741	2,365,873 hL	972,456
Total	2,934,909 hL	\$ 2,203,027	3,478,002 hL	\$ 2,621,243

Licensing & compliance

Licences / registrations in effect*

Class A MINORS ALLOWED (restaurants)	4,107
Class A MINORS PROHIBITED (bars / lounges / taprooms)	1,194
Class B (convention centre / racetrack / arena / salon)	861
Class C (private club / military or police canteen)	767
Class D (retail store / hotel off-sales / delivery service / sacramental wine resale / commercial caterer)	2,326
Class E (distillery / winery / brewery / refreshment)	206
Class F (ferment on premises)	23
Other (duty free / liquor agency)	680
Total licences / registrations	10,164

*As of December 31, 2020.

Licence classes

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

Inspections Between April 1 and December 31, 2020.

- AGLC inspectors conducted **32,005** inspections at liquor licensed 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.
- **99.59** per cent of liquor licensees complied with legislation, regulation and policy.

Public satisfaction

- **88** 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 2019-2020.

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

Manufacturing in Alberta As of December 31, 2020.

Breweries	128
Distilleries	46
Wineries / Meaderies	21
Refreshment beverages*	8
Total	203

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

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, **83** per cent report they have purchased alcohol and **88** per cent reported that they drink responsibly based on Canada's Low-Risk Drinking Guidelines.

AGLC Survey of Albertans, fiscal year 2019-2020.

Training for staff at licensed premises

As of December 31, 2020.

ProServe Liquor Staff Training

Mandatory online training for anyone involved in the sale or service of liquor or providing security at licensed premises.

528,025

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 licensed premises.

54,966

certificates issued since program began in 2008

Visit smartprograms.aglc.ca.