

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	1,566
Off-sales** (hotel/manufacturer/other)	559
General merchandise liquor stores	100
Other liquor retailers (commercial caterers/ sacramental wine resellers/delivery services)	188
Total liquor retailers	2,413
Products available	30,047
Pricing: Retailers set shelf price based on market conditions and competition.	

*As of March 31, 2022.

**Effective March 17, 2020, Class A Minors Allowed and Minors Prohibited 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 results¹

Liquor markup revenue (in thousands of dollars).

	2022 ²	2021 ²
Liquor net revenue	\$ 876,677	\$ 921,524
Operating expenses	(32,740)	(33,458)
Other revenue	9,743	9,039
Funds withheld	N/A	(23,300)
Liquor net income (Revenue to GoA) ³	\$ 853,680	\$ 873,805

¹For the years ended March 31 (in thousands of dollars).

²AGLC Annual Report 2021-22, page 42 & 60.

³Government of Alberta.

Sales¹

	2022 ²		2021 ²	
	(in thousands of dollars)	(in hectolitres, hL)	(in thousands of dollars)	(in hectolitres, hL)
Beer	\$ 932,120	2,233,147	\$ 951,896	2,352,229
Spirits	909,451	303,380	907,086	313,168
Wine	636,943	430,522	647,502	466,639
Refreshment beverages	285,972	573,567	276,516	558,088
Total	\$ 2,764,486	3,540,616	\$ 2,783,000	3,690,124

¹For the years ended March 31. Liquor that is sold to licensees (e.g., retailers) at wholesale prices.

²AGLC Annual Report 2021-22, page 30.

Licensing & compliance

Licences / registrations in effect*

As at March 31, 2022.

Class A (restaurants/bars/lounges/taprooms)	5,452
Class B (sports stadiums/convention centers/racetracks)	958
Class C (private clubs/military or police canteens)	759
Class D (retail stores/hotel off-sales/delivery services)	2,413
Class E (manufacturer/packaging)	236
Class F (fermentation/winemaking facilities)	27
Total*	9,845
Liquor agencies	764

*Totals do not include an additional four duty free store licenses.

Licence classes

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

Inspections Between April 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022.

- AGLC inspectors conducted **23,625** inspections at liquor licensed premises, **7,131** licensees were inspected and **43** licensees were issued **46** penalties.
- 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.

Encouraging responsibility

DrinkSense

AGLC encourages Albertans to be informed and 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 pregnant people 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, **85** 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 2021-2022.

Manufacturing in Alberta As at March 31, 2022.

Breweries	142
Distilleries	52
Wineries/meaderies	23
Refreshment beverage* manufacturers	14
Packaging facilities**	5
Total	237

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

** Licensees who blend, flavour and/or package liquor for, or on behalf of, a liquor supplier as approved by AGLC.

Recycling

- As part of our environmental commitments, AGLC works in partnership with the Beverage Container Management Board in container recycling efforts throughout the province.
- In 2021, over **2.13 billion** beverage containers (soft drink, juice, water, and liquor bottles and cans) were returned to recycling depots with a return rate of **84.1** per cent.*

*Beverage Container Management Board

Training for staff at licensed premises

As at March 31, 2022.

ProServe Liquor Staff Training

Certification is mandatory for anyone involved in liquor sales, service or delivery, or providing security at licensed premises.

579,394

certificates issued since program began in 2004

ProTect Security Staff Training

Mandatory for security staff, managers and supervisors of security at minors prohibited licensed premises and Commercial Public Resale Special Events. Owners, managers and security staff of companies contracted to provide security must also be ProTect-certified.

59,800

certificates issued since program began in 2008

Visit smartprograms.aglc.ca.