
Alcoholic Beverage Taxes

Taxpayer

- Manufacturers, importers, wholesale distributors (beer, wine, and mixed beverages).
- Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control (liquor).

Tax Base

Beer, wine, mixed beverages, and liquor.

Rates**Beer**

Barrel (31 gallons)	\$5.58 per barrel
Containers (over 12 ounces) per six ounces	0.84 cent(s)
Containers (12 ounces or less) per ounce	0.14 cent(s)

Wine

Less than 14% alcohol by volume	32 cents per gallon
14% to 21% alcohol by volume	\$1.00 per gallon

Apple cider (alcohol content over 0.5% by volume)	24 cents per gallon
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Vermouth	\$1.10 per gallon
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Sparkling wine, champagne	\$1.50 per gallon
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Mixed beverages	\$1.20 per gallon
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Liquor	\$3.38 per gallon
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Major Exemptions

- Sacramental wine.
- Sales to the federal government.
- Sales in interstate commerce.
- Small breweries and wineries.

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Revenue (In Millions)

Fiscal Year	Wine & Mixed			Total
	Beer	Beverages	Liquor	
2001	\$46.9	\$8.8	\$29.0	\$84.7
2002	47.6	8.9	29.3	85.8
2003	48.3	9.0	29.7	87.0
2004	48.1	9.1	30.9	88.1
2005	48.1	9.5	32.2	89.8

Disposition of Revenue

- Ohio Grape Industries Fund (see Ohio Revised Code section 4301.432: five cents per gallon of wine, two cents of which is a temporary levy).
- Remainder to the General Revenue Fund.

Payment Dates

Beer	Advance payment by 18 th of current month; balance due 10 th of following month.
Wine and mixed beverages	18 th of each month for previous month.
Liquor gallonage	Weekly on or before Monday.

Special Provisions/Credits

Beer taxpayers can receive a 3.0% discount on the amount of their estimated advance payment when filing and paying their return. Estimated advance payments must be made by the 18th of the month, and returns are due by the 10th of the following month.

Wine and mixed beverages taxpayers can receive a 3.0% discount for timely filing of their return and payment of the tax if payment is received by the 18th of the month.

Any licensed Ohio brewer whose total production is less than 31 million gallons in a calendar year will receive in the following year a credit for the full amount of excise tax up to 9.3 million gallons of beer distributed in Ohio, and a refund of any excise tax paid.

Any licensed Ohio wine producer whose total sales do not exceed 500,000 gallons in a calendar year will be granted in the

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following year an exemption from excise tax and a refund of any excise tax paid.

Counties and convention facilities authorities may levy taxes of up to 16 cents per gallon on beer, 32 cents per gallon on wine and mixed beverages, 24 cents per gallon on apple cider, and \$3.0 per gallon on spirituous liquor. This revenue is to be used for the construction of a sports facility. Cuyahoga County adopted this tax effective August 1, 1990 (see **Alcoholic Beverage Taxes – County** section).

Sections of Ohio Revised Code

Chapters 131, 4301, 4303, 4305, and 4307.

Responsibility for Administration

- Tax Commissioner (beer, wine and mixed beverages).
- Ohio Department of Commerce, Division of Liquor Control (liquor).

History of Major Changes

- 1933 • Beer and malt beverages taxed at \$1.00 per barrel.
- Wine taxed at 10% of retail price.
- 1934 • Liquor taxed at \$1.00 per gallon.
- Rate on bottled beer and malt beverages set at 0.75 cent(s) per six ounces.
- 1935 • Mixed beverages taxed at 10% of retail price.
- Malt beverage tax increased to \$2.50 per barrel.
- 1939 • Mixed beverages taxed at 40 cents per gallon.
- Wine tax revised as follows:

Wine (less than 14% alcohol)	12 cents per gallon.
Wine (14% to 21% alcohol)	30 cents per gallon.
Vermouth	60 cents per gallon.
Sparkling wine and champagne	\$1.00 per gallon.
- 1959 • Sales of wine and mixed beverages subjected to sales tax.
- Beer tax increased to \$2.50 per barrel.

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- 1967 • Beer and malt beverages subjected to sales tax.
- 1969 • Liquor gallonage tax increased to \$2.25 per gallon.
- Mixed beverage tax increased to 80 cents per gallon.
 - Wine tax revised as follows:

Wine (less than 14% alcohol)	24 cents per gallon.
Wine (14% to 21% alcohol)	60 cents per gallon.
Vermouth	75 cents per gallon.
Sparkling wine and champagne	\$1.25 per gallon.
- 1981 • Temporary tax increases on beer, malt beverages, wine, and mixed beverages during the period January - June 1981.
- 1982 • Credit against taxes enacted for Ohio brewers and wine producers.
- Wine tax increased two cents per gallon.
 - Three cents per gallon of tax on wine earmarked for Ohio grape industries.
 - Distinction between “beer” and “malt” beverages repealed.
 - Tax on beer in containers of 12 ounces or less changed to 0.125 cent(s) per ounce.
- 1989 • Barreled beer rate increased to \$3.50 per barrel.
- 1992 • Alcoholic beverage and liquor gallonage rates increased, as follows:
- Beer to 0.14 cent(s) per ounce for bottled and \$5.58 per barrel.
 - Wine (less than 14% alcohol) to 32 cents per gallon.
 - Wine (between 14% and 21% alcohol) to \$1.00 per gallon.
 - Sparkling wine to \$1.50 per gallon.
 - Vermouth to \$1.10 per gallon.
 - Mixed beverages to \$1.20 per gallon.
- 1995 • An additional two cents of the excise tax on wine allocated to the Ohio grape industry special account until July 1, 1999.

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- Tax on apple cider reduced to 24 cents per gallon.
- 1997 • Department of Liquor Control was renamed Division of Liquor Control and transferred to the Department of Commerce.
- 1999 • Continuation of the two cents/gallon credit to the Ohio Grape Industries Fund until July 1, 2001.
- 2001 • Continuation of the two cents/gallon credit to the Ohio Grape Industries Fund until July 1, 2003.
- 2003 • Continuation of the two cents/gallon credit to the Ohio Grape Industries Fund until July 1, 2005.
- 2005 • Continuation of the two cents/gallon credit to the Ohio Grape Industries Fund until July 1, 2007.

Comparisons with Other States (As of 04/06)(1)(2)

Notes: (1)Percentages refer to alcohol content, which is measured by volume. (2)Beer excludes malt beverages.

California

Beer	20 cents per gallon
Still wines	20 cents per gallon
Sparkling hard cider	20 cents per gallon
Champagne, sparkling wine	30 cents per gallon
Distilled spirits (100 proof or less)	\$3.30 per gallon
Distilled spirits (over 100 proof)	6.60 per gallon

Florida

Malt beverages	48 cents per gallon
Ciders	89 cents per gallon
Beverages and wine (0.5% to less than 17.259%)	\$2.25 per gallon
Beverages, other than wine (17.259% to 55.78%)	6.50 per gallon
Beverages (over 55.78%)	9.53 per gallon
Wine (17.259% or more)	3.00 per gallon

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Comparisons with Other States (As of 04/06)(1)(2)

Notes: (1)Percentages refer to alcohol content, which is measured by volume. (2)Beer excludes malt beverages.

Natural sparkling wine 3.50 per gallon

Illinois

Beer and cider (between 0.5%
to 7.0%) 18.5 cents per gallon

Alcohol and spirits, including
wine (less than 20%) 73 cents per gallon

Alcohol and spirits
(20% or more) \$4.50 per gallon

Indiana

Beer and hard cider 11.5 cents per gallon

Mixed beverages
(15% or less) 47 cents per gallon

Wine (less than 21%) 47 cents per gallon

Liquor and wine
(21% or more) \$2.68 per gallon

Kentucky

Beer \$2.50 per barrel

Wine 50 cents per gallon

Spirits 1.92 per gallon

Massachusetts

Beer \$3.30 per 31-gallon barrel

Cider (3.0% to 6.0%) 3.0 cents per wine gallon

Still wine, including
vermouth 55 cents per wine gallon

Sparkling wine
and champagne 70 cents per wine gallon

Other alcoholic beverages:
(15% or less) 1.10 per wine gallon
(over 15% to 50%) 4.05 per wine gallon
(over 50%) 4.05 per proof gallon

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Comparisons with Other States (As of 04/06)(1)(2)

Notes: (1) Percentages refer to alcohol content, which is measured by volume. (2) Beer excludes malt beverages.

Michigan

Beer	\$6.30 per 31-gallon barrel
Wine (16% or less)	13.5 cents per liter
Wine (over 16%)	20 cents per liter
Liquor (21% or more)	
On premises	8.0% of retail price + 4.0% surtax
Off premises	9.85% of retail price + 4.0% surtax
Mixed drinks	48 cents per liter

New Jersey

Beer	12 cents per gallon
Apple cider (3.2% to 7.0%)	12 cents per gallon
(7.0% or more)	70 cents per gallon
Wines, vermouth, sparkling wines	70 cents per gallon
Liquor	\$4.40 per gallon

New York

Beer	11 cents per gallon
Wine (still and sparkling)	18.93 cents per gallon
Cider	3.79 cents per gallon
Liquor (less than 2%)	1.0 cent per liter
(2% to 24%)	67 cents per liter
(more than 24%)	\$1.70 per liter

Pennsylvania

Beer	\$2.48 per barrel
Wine (all wine sales are through state stores; revenue is generated from various taxes, fees, and net profits)	
Liquor	18% of price (including all applicable federal excise taxes and allowed mark-ups)

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Notes: (1)Percentages refer to alcohol content, which is measured by volume. (2)Beer excludes malt beverages.

Texas

Beer	\$6.00 per barrel
Still wine (14% or less)	20.4 cents per gallon
Still wine (over 14%)	40.8 cents per gallon
Sparkling wine	51.6 cents per gallon
Malt liquor (over 4.0%)	19.8 cents per gallon
Distilled spirits	2.40 per gallon
Mixed beverages	14% of gross receipts

West Virginia

Beer	\$5.50 per barrel
Wine	26.406 cents per liter
Liquor	5.0% of purchase price

