

## AGENCY

The Division of Liquor Control is responsible for controlling the manufacture, distribution, licensing, regulation, and merchandising of beer, wine, mixed beverages, and spirituous liquor as the law is outlined in the Ohio Revised Code Chapters 4301 and 4303. The division promotes the responsible consumption of these products by educating the public and ensuring that business owners and their employees are fully informed and properly trained on their responsibilities to prevent sales to underage or intoxicated individuals.

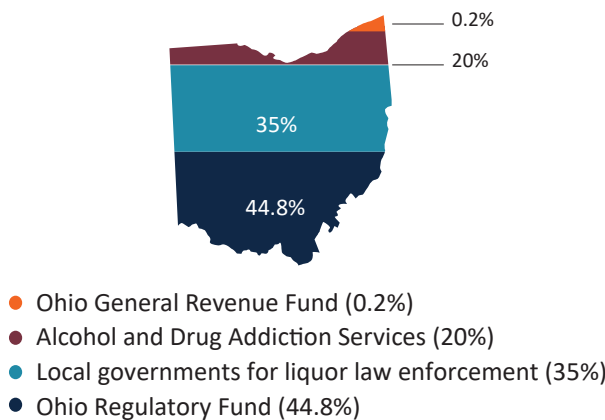
## WET AND DRY COUNTIES

State law allows local jurisdictions to hold local option elections to determine the authorized alcohol sales privileges. There are townships and city voting precincts in the state that remain dry.

Population 21 and over (Estimate) (2014) **8,400,000**

## PERMIT FEES

Ohio Division of Liquor Control Permit Fee Distribution FY 2018:



## HISTORY

In 1983, Ohio completed a conversion from state-run warehouses and state-owned stock system to a bailment system. From 1991-1996, it converted all state stores to private businesses called Contract Liquor Agencies. In Fiscal Year 2013, JobsOhio Beverage System (JOBS) purchased from the state an exclusive franchise for the sale and distribution of spirituous liquor throughout Ohio. The division modernized Ohio's liquor distribution and sales enterprise resource planning software and logistics infrastructure in 2017 through the Liquor Modernization Project. In 2018, the division awarded more than 25 new Agencies throughout the state to increase customer access to product and drive economic growth. At time of publication, nine new Agencies are operational.

## LICENSING

The division's Licensing Section is responsible for licensing the operations of more than 24,000 privately owned and operated manufacturers, distributors and retailers of alcoholic beverages. This includes the issuance of new permits, permit renewals and transfers, as well as the investigative and hearing requirements associated with permit issuance. During FY 2018, the section issued 1,709 new permits and 7,203 temporary permits, transferred 1,482 permits and renewed 24,589 permits. The division also works with the Liquor Control Commission, local law enforcement and the Department of Public Safety's Investigative Unit to ensure compliance with Ohio law.

**\$40,870,847**  
Total permit fees distributed in Fiscal Year 2018



## DISTRIBUTION

JOBS owns the spirituous liquor product (intoxicating liquor containing more than 21 percent ABV) in Ohio for retail and wholesale sales. The division manages wholesale and retail operations for the sale of spirituous liquor in Ohio. The division selects and prices products, and JOBS supplies the product to Agencies for sale on consignment. Agencies are private businesses which own and operate retail outlets selling other goods and services to the public, such as beer, wine and low proof mixed beverages. Profits from spirits sales provide dedicated funding for JobsOhio. JobsOhio uses the profits from the sale of spirituous liquor to fulfill its nonprofit purpose of driving job creation and new capital investment in Ohio. This model provides stability and consistency to economic development in Ohio.

Does jurisdiction allow direct shipping of wine?



Estimated tax per standard drink:

**SPIRITS: \$0.152**

**WINE: \$0.026**

**BEER: \$0.008**

## OUTLETS AND GROCERY STORES

The division awarded more than 25 new Agencies in 2018, increasing the number to 487. The division issues permits to the state's approximately 24,000 privately owned and operated manufacturers, distributors and retailers of alcoholic beverages.

- Ohio law provides a quota on the number of certain permit classes that the Division of Liquor Control can issue within a taxing district based on population. There are permit classes that are exempt from said quota.
- Jurisdiction does allow the sale of spirits in convenience stores.
- Servers must be at least 19 years old to serve beer at on-premise outlets, and employees at off-premise outlets must be 18 years old to sell beer.
- The sale of beer, wine and mixed beverages in sealed containers is permitted in grocery stores.
- Sunday sales are allowed.
- Keg registration is not required.
- For every 100,000 residents ages 21 and older, there are 5.8 spirits outlets.
- Beverage service training is voluntary.

## OHIO DIVISION OF LIQUOR CONTROL IN ACTION



The division developed the Redefine campaign in partnership with Prosper for Purpose, a Cleveland based public relations firm. The campaign aims to reduce underage consumption and overconsumption of legal age users by challenging and redefining common beliefs about the relationship between alcohol and fun through creative messaging and visuals. Aspects of the Redefine campaign are also directed at alcohol retailers and their employees to ensure their definition of success includes keeping their communities safe by not selling to underage or intoxicated consumers. Check out [www.redefineohio.org](http://www.redefineohio.org) for more.

## DEFINITIONS

Control systems -- jurisdictions that directly control the distribution and sale of beverage alcohol in their borders.

Three-tier system -- the method of alcohol distribution developed after Prohibition in the United States. Producers/manufacturers (first tier) can sell products only to wholesalers/distributors (second tier) who then sell to retailers (third tier).

Revenue Per Capita -- revenue per person.

Wet and dry counties -- Wet jurisdictions are those that permit the sale of spirits, wine, or beer for on-premise and off-premise consumption. Dry jurisdictions prohibit some or all alcohol sales, whether on- or off-premise.

Sources: 2016 Survey Database, State Alcohol Tax Rates (July 2016), Educational Awards Program Reports for 2014-2015, Ohio Division of Liquor Control, The Beverage Information Group's 2015 Fact Book, Alcohol Policy Information System (APIS)