

AGENCY

The **Wyoming Liquor Division** is a part of the state's Department of Revenue. It is responsible for wholesale liquor operations, liquor licensing and enforcement. It is committed to establishing successful relationships with all of its partners of the trade. The division is run as a business equally concerned about the welfare of its employees and the survival of the liquor industry, as it serves the citizens of Wyoming.

Department of Revenue

Wyoming Liquor Division

WET and DRY COUNTIES

State law prohibits dry localities.

All counties are wet.

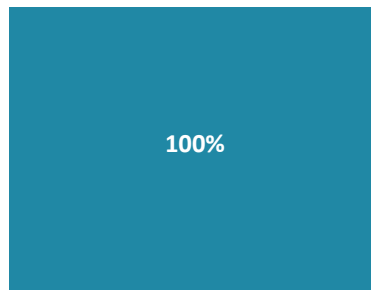
Over 21+ Population- July 2021
(Census.gov)

424,305

NET REVENUE

WY distributes its net revenue into one avenue:

- Genreal Fund (100%)



HISTORY

On May 15, 1933, Wyoming voters elected to ratify the 21st Amendment. On April 1, 1935, the legislative bills creating the Wyoming Liquor Commission became law. The Liquor Commission consisted of the Governor, Secretary of State and the State Treasurer. In 1949, the legislature created a bill adding the State Auditor and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction to the Liquor Commission. In 1996, under government reorganization, the legislature dissolved the Liquor Commission and created a separate division within the Department of Revenue.

ENFORCEMENT

The Compliance Section within the Wyoming Liquor Division is responsible for enforcement, licensing and education. Although liquor licenses are issued at the local level, law requires that every application for a new, transfer or renewal be reviewed by the Liquor Division. The Liquor Division is also a licensing authority for a total of 1,694 total licenses = 789 retail, 245 restaurant, 88 bar & grill, 118 limited retail (club), 48 retail county malt beverage, 6 special malt beverage, 43 malt beverage wholesaler, 46 microbrewery, 9 winery, 3 winery satellite, 226 industry representative, 15 manufacturer, 42 resort, 5 importer and 11 manufacturer satellite.

Compliance Agents perform on average over 2,000 on-site unannounced liquor inspections per year. In 2022 this number was reduced due to the implementation to a new ERP and On-Line ordering system. 742 on premise inspections with a compliance rate of 99.1% were completed. Compliance Agents also work with the Wyoming association of Sheriffs and Chief of Police (WASCOP) to distribute materials for all compliance checks and act as a resource for interpretation of Title 12.

\$16,857,701

FY 2022 Net Revenue
Note-decrease due to cost of new ERP and On-Line ordering system



From 2003 through 2022, the WLD has contributed more than \$285 million to the state.

DISTRIBUTION

The Wyoming Liquor Division moved into a new facility in February 2012. The 140,000 square foot warehouse has 17 dock doors to accommodate all shipping and receiving. The warehouse has incorporated new technologies such as pick-to-voice computer assisted, paperless picking methods, pushback racking, and a new bottle line for filling single bottle orders.

Wyoming's control state model is based on providing timely and efficient distribution of wine and spirits to a geographically vast but sparsely populated state. Wyoming's more than 1350 privately-owned retail establishments enjoy unparalleled service, minimal mark-up at the wholesale level, and access to virtually any product in the market place. There were 2,391 wines and spirits available to licensees daily; 78,347 cases of special order items were shipped to retailers in FY2022. 13,506 one-time buy items were shipped. There were 1,084,611 cases standard nine-liter cases sold in FY 2022.

Does jurisdiction allow direct shipping of wine?



Direct ship wine program:
1226 out of state
wine shippers

Tax per standard drink:

SPIRITS: \$0.011

WINE: \$0.017

BEER: \$0.002

OUTLETS AND GROCERY STORES

Wyoming has control of spirits and wines at wholesale. The Wyoming Liquor Division serves over 1,605 privately-owned retail establishments throughout the state.

- Wyoming statutes require that liquor licenses are issued via a population formula in statute. Liquor licenses are issued by local licensing authorities. For locations within an incorporated city or town, the licensing authority is the city/town council. For locations outside of an incorporated city/town, the local licensing authority would be the board of county commissioners.
- Jurisdiction allows the sale of spirits in convenience stores
- Servers must be 18 years old and older to serve beer at on-premise outlets, and employees at off-premise outlets must be 21 years old to sell beer
- The sale of beer, spirits and wine are permitted in grocery stores
- Sunday sales are allowed
- For every 100,000 residents ages 21 and older, there are 68.9 spirits outlets
- Beverage service training is voluntary

WYOMING LIQUOR DIVISION IN ACTION



The Compliance Section is responsible for enforcement of Wyoming's Alcohol Beverage Control Laws, Licensing and the various education programs. In 1997, the Wyoming Liquor Division partnered with the Wyoming State Liquor Association, the association of liquor retailers, to bring alcohol server training to Wyoming. To date, they have trained over 40,000 people in the TIPS program.

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: 2018 Survey Database, Alcohol Beverages Revenues & Taxes 2020 Report (June 2022), Wyoming Liquor Division, Alcohol Policy Information System (APIS), Census.gov