

- BC: 36%
- AB: 34%
- SK: 36%
- MB: 44%
- ON: 40%
- QC: 42%
- NB: 35%
- NS: 38%
- PE: 37%
- NL: 41%
- YT: 33%
- NT: 32%
- NU: 34%

If Alberta implemented all the best existing policies across Canada's provinces and territories, their score could change from 34% (F) to 80% (A-). If we graded AB against best existing policies across provinces and territories, their score would still only be 42% (F).

The 11 policy domains in this assessment form part of a comprehensive and synergistic approach to preventing and reducing different types of alcohol harms. Policies examined fall under provincial or territorial control, and each domain reflects the current evidence and is weighted based on its effectiveness and scope of reach. This results in a ranked order from one (i.e., highest overall impact) through 11 (see next page). However, all the domains are necessary to create a health-focused alcohol policy environment. To read more, see Project Methodology.

While lower than recommended, there are minimum prices for on-premise alcohol sold in AB. In general, prices for beer and spirits sold from on-premise establishments are keeping pace with inflation.

There is no minimum pricing for off-premise alcohol sold in AB; on-premise minimum pricing is lower than recommended, not indexed to inflation or tied to ethanol content. There is no provincial sales tax in AB and no alcohol-specific sales tax.

AB Minimum Pricing in 2021/22

Note: Price per standard drink (12.3% alc/vol) in 2021/22: (a) 3.25 (b) 3.0 (c) 2.75 (d) 2.5 (e) 2.25 (f) 2.0 (g) 1.75 (h) 1.5 (i) 1.25 (j) 1.0 (k) 0.75 (l) 0.5 (m) 0.25 (n) 0.0

The policy domains below are listed in order of impact based on their effectiveness and scope.

Note: Grade ranges: A+ = 90-100%; A = 85-89%; A- = 80-84%; B+ = 77-79%; B = 73-76%; B- = 70-72%; C+ = 67-69%; C = 63-66%; C- = 60-62%; D+ = 57-59%; D = 53-56%; D- = 50-52%; F = 0-49%.

Score: 5% (F)

Recommendations

All recommended policies should be developed and implemented without alcohol industry involvement, without incorporating exceptions, and enacted in legislation or regulation where possible.

- Implement legislated minimum prices for all alcohol sold that is tied precisely (e.g. \$/L ethanol) to ethanol content. Set minimum prices at a rate per standard drink (e.g. 17.05mL ethanol) of at least \$2.04* for alcohol sold at off-premise retail outlets and increase to \$4.07* for alcohol sold at on-premise establishments, after taxes, and implement automatic indexation (*2023 price); on-premise minimum prices in AB have not been updated since 2008.
- Update general alcohol prices annually to ensure that all keep pace with AB-specific inflation, implement sales taxes for alcohol and tax alcohol at a higher rate than other consumer goods.
- Set off-premise minimum retail markups to be at least 100% of the landed cost for each beverage type and set on-premise markups at or above the off-premise retail price.

Recommendations

All recommended policies should be developed and implemented without alcohol industry involvement, without incorporating exceptions, and enacted in legislation or regulation where possible.

- Appoint a health and/or safety-focused ministry to oversee alcohol regulation and distribution/retail. Require a government wholesaler or equivalent fee between the producer/manufacturer and retailer in all cases.
- Consider reinstating government-owned and operated off-premise retail (u-3 Berg 4S(i)(f)tr0/0

Recommendations

All recommended policies should be developed and implemented

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