

THE DISTILLED SPIRITS INDUSTRY IN AMERICA



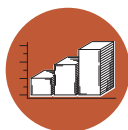
There are over **3,100 distilleries** nationwide, contributing to the vibrancy of the manufacturing, hospitality, tourism, and agriculture industries.



The industry is highly taxed and regulated. The Alcohol and Tobacco Tax & Trade Bureau within the Department of Treasury regulates the industry and collects excise taxes. In 2024 alone, distillers paid **\$6.7 billion in federal excise taxes**.



The economic activities of exporting, importing, and sale and distribution within the U.S. support approximately **1.7 million U.S. jobs** and contributes **\$200 billion to the U.S. economy**.



In 2024, U.S. distilled spirits **exports totaled more than \$2.4 billion**.

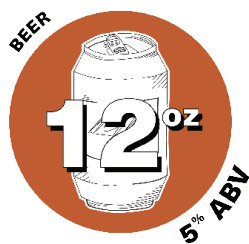
The 2025-2030 Dietary Guidelines and the Standard Drink Definition

Every five years, the U.S. Department of Agriculture and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services review the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. The 2025 DGA process is underway, and it is important that this process is **transparent, evidence-based and free of bias and conflicts of interest**. The DGAs should continue to:

(1) Address the moderate consumption of alcohol. Moderate drinking is defined as two standard drinks or less in a day for men and one drink or less in a day for women.

(2) Reaffirm the importance of the standard drink or “drink equivalent.” According to the DGAs, one standard drink contains the same amount of alcohol (i.e., 0.6 ounces of ethanol).

STANDARD DRINKS



According to the Centers for Disease Control, “It is the amount of alcohol consumed that affects a person most, not the type.” That’s why, when it comes to drinking alcohol, there is no beverage of moderation, only the practice of moderation.



DISTILLED SPIRITS COUNCIL
OF THE UNITED STATES

distilledspirits.org



International Trade

We ask Congress to urge the Administration to exempt spirits from any current or new tariffs. The U.S. spirits sector is the model for fair and reciprocal trade. We have zero-for-zero tariffs with 51 countries, and many imported spirits have distinctive product recognition, which means they cannot be produced in the U.S. Forty-five countries recognize Bourbon and Tennessee Whiskey as distinctive products of the U.S.

We ask Congress to urge the Administration to **secure new tariff reductions for U.S. distilled spirits**. In February 2025, President Trump secured a reduction of India's tariff on bottled Bourbon to 150% to 100%. However, the 150% tariff remains on all other U.S. spirits. Despite being the world's largest market by volume, American Whiskey exports to India in 2024 reached \$8.8 million - less than what was exported to Singapore, New Zealand and the UAE.

150%
tariff

Taxes

The spirits sector is one of the most heavily taxed industries. When you factor in federal, state and local taxes, more than 52% of the price of a typical bottle of spirits goes toward a tax of some kind.

Distillers pay significantly more than any other industry within the beverage alcohol sector. **The federal tax rate on distilled spirits is almost three times the rate on wine and over two times the rate on beer.** In fiscal year 2022, distillers paid \$7 billion in federal excise taxes. Distillers have to pay \$13.50 in FET for every proof gallon they distill.

52%
Spirits Bottle Price
Going Towards Taxes



About DISCUS

The Distilled Spirits Council of the United States represents distilled spirits producers, marketers, and importers. DISCUS advocates on issues impacting distilled spirits producers, promotes the sector by raising awareness and opening markets, and encourages responsible and moderate consumption among adults who choose to consume distilled spirits products.

Responsibility

DISCUS and its members are strongly committed to the principles of responsible alcohol consumption and the elimination of impaired driving. For nearly 40 years, our industry has advocated for effective legislative countermeasures to eliminate underage drinking and alcohol-impaired driving. Underage drinking is at or near record low levels, and alcohol-impaired driving decreased for the first time since the pandemic. For more information, please visit Responsibility.org.

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