

TTB Alcohol Beverage Sampling Program

2012 Results

We selected 246 distilled spirits, 206 malt beverages, and 196 wines for the 2012 ABSP, with 642 total products included in the survey. After analyzing these products, we found 158 products that were non-compliant. By commodity, we found that 85 distilled spirits products, 40 malt beverage products, and 33 wine products were non-compliant. The most common compliance issues we identified involved alcohol content that did not match the label and was outside regulatory tolerances, or that placed the product in a different tax class than indicated by the label. These differences can lead to additional tax liability for the industry member. For a complete list of findings by commodity, see the charts below.

For more information about our sampling program, visit the [Alcohol Beverage Sampling Program](#) page at TTB.gov.

2012 Findings

Distilled Spirits

We identified 93 noncompliance issues in 85 different distilled spirits products.

Reasons for Noncompliance*	Number of Products
Alcohol content: over	60
Alcohol content: under	12
Non-mandatory information differs from COLA	6
Mandatory information is missing	5
Mandatory information differs from COLA	4
Type size/legibility	3
Fill: over	1
Fill: under	1
No COLA	1
Total Instances of Noncompliance	93

*[Definitions of Non-Compliance Categories](#)

Malt Beverages

We identified 48 noncompliance issues in 40 different malt beverage products.

Reasons for Noncompliance*	Number of Products
Alcohol content: under	19
Alcohol content: over	10
Statement of average analysis	4
Non-mandatory information differs from COLA	3
No COLA	3
Mandatory information differs from COLA	2
Other: label not firmly affixed	2
Other: label covered by another label	1
Class, type, or statement of composition is incorrect	1
Mandatory information is missing	1
Prohibited practice	1
Type size/legibility	1
Total Instances of Noncompliance	48

[*Definitions of Non-Compliance Categories](#)

Wine

We identified 36 noncompliance issues in 33 different wine products.

Reasons for Noncompliance*	Number of Products
Tax class	11
Non-mandatory information differs from COLA	10
Mandatory information differs from COLA	4
Class, type, or statement of composition is incorrect	1
Government warning has error	2
Mandatory information is missing	2
Type size/legibility	2
Alcohol content: over	1
Fill: under	1
Other: label not firmly affixed	1
Prohibited practice	1
Total Instances of Noncompliance	36

[*Definitions of Non-Compliance Categories](#)