

TTB Alcohol Beverage Sampling Program 2013 Results

We selected 275 distilled spirits, 239 malt beverages, and 154 wines for the 2013 ABSP, with 668 total products included in the survey. After analyzing these products, we found 190 products that were non-compliant. By commodity, we found that 80 distilled spirits products, 73 malt beverage products, and 37 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. Another common compliance issue we identified involved labels that did not match their approved Certificate of Label Approval (COLA) due to changes that were not allowable revisions. For a complete list of findings by commodity, see the charts below.

2013 Findings

Distilled Spirits

We identified 86 noncompliance issues in 80 different distilled spirits products.

Reasons for Noncompliance*	Number of Products
Alcohol content: over	50
Alcohol content : under	15
Mandatory information differs from COLA	8
Non-mandatory information differs from COLA	4
No COLA	2
Fill: under	2
Mandatory info is missing	1
Type-size/legibility	1
Government warning has error	1
Prohibited practice	1
Other: Formula Issue	1
Total Instances of Noncompliance	86

[*Definitions of Non-Compliance Categories \(.pdf link\)](#)

Malt Beverages

We identified 92 noncompliance issues in 73 different malt beverage products.

Reasons for Noncompliance*	Number of Products
Alcohol content: over	30
Alcohol content: under	23
Non-mandatory information differs from COLA	24
Prohibited practice	3
No COLA	3
Statement of Average Analysis	3
Mandatory Information is Missing	2
Other: Permit address issue	1
Other: Paste over label	1
Government warning has error	1
Mandatory information differs from COLA	1
Total Instances of Noncompliance	92

[*Definitions of Non-Compliance Categories \(.pdf link\)](#)

Wine

We identified 43 noncompliance issues in 37 different wine products.

Reasons for Noncompliance*	Number of Products
Non-mandatory information differs from COLA	14
Tax class	9
Government warning has error	5
Alcohol content: under	3
Mandatory information differs from COLA	4
Mandatory information is missing	2
No COLA	2
Other: Organic certification issue	1
Alcohol content: over	1
Prohibited practice	1
Type-size/legibility	1
Total Instances of Noncompliance	43

[*Definitions of Non-Compliance Categories \(.pdf link\)](#)