

RAISE THE BAR

Did you know?

8/10

Provinces where restaurant and bar owners pay the same retail price that consumers do (or higher!) for beer, wine and spirits.

NOVA SCOTIA has 105 dry areas where beer, wine and spirits can't be served



QUEBEC requires a
\$500/year
liquor permit for each room/patio where drinks are served

LESS THAN HALF of the provinces allow customers to order a drink without food



These bottle cap ratings are each province's overall score – for more in-depth analysis and understanding go online to restaurantscanada.org



A report card on provincial liquor policies for restaurants and bars.

Check out your province's performance. Are you well served? Do your province's laws enhance or hamper your restaurant or bar experience?

As you can see, no matter where you live, there's always room for improvement.

Provincially speaking!

ALBERTA (B+)

Best in the country. Wholesale pricing and lots of product choice. But it's not an A+. Lots of work yet to do.

PEI (B-)

The Gentle Island is working to get it right, but product selection is still an issue.

QUEBEC (C+)

SAQ rules the roost in La Belle Province. Having to apply for multiple licenses and permits is costly and time-consuming.

NOVA SCOTIA (C+)

In Nova Scotia, there are still those pesky "dry" regions that need some attention!

BRITISH COLUMBIA (C+)

Beautiful British Columbia is not so beautiful when it comes to its liquor prices. For example, private retail stores can buy beverage alcohol at wholesale prices, but bar and restaurant owners can't.

MANITOBA (C)

Kudos to Manitoba for its "ground-up" rewrite of liquor laws. Still, things could be better.

NEW BRUNSWICK (C-)

With some political will, the province's modest wholesale pricing program could expand for the better. Consumers would benefit from more competition and choice and N.B.'s "C-" could improve.

SASKATCHEWAN (D+)

Minimal red tape for licensees in Saskatchewan, but once you get the license, you can only buy from a monopoly that refuses to offer a wholesale discount.

ONTARIO (D+)

When you step up to the bar in Ontario, know that the bar owner has to pay well above retail for the product he or she serves you.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (F)

It's a failing grade for "the Rock." A liquor monopoly is the seller, regulator and self-styled enforcer. Do inspectors really need to wear flak jackets?

