A Study of
THE U.S. BEER INDUSTRY'S ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION
in 2020

Analysis, Methodology and Documentation

Prepared for

The Beer Institute
440 First Street N.W., Suite 350
Washington, DC 20001

& National Beer Wholesalers Association
1101 King Street, Suite 600
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

By John Dunham & Associates | May 2021
Executive Summary of Findings:

- Brewers and beer importers directly employ nearly 67,600 Americans. About 50.8 percent of brewing jobs are linked to large and mid-sized brewers and beer importers.

- The number of distributor jobs has increased by more than 16 percent in the last decade, to nearly 141,700.

- Overall, the beer industry contributes more than $331.8 billion in economic output, equivalent to nearly 1.6 percent of the U.S. Gross Domestic Product.

- Suppliers to the brewing industry – enterprises that manufacture bottles and cans, cardboard case boxes, brewing equipment or marketing displays – generate almost $102 billion in economic activity and are responsible for nearly 447,300 jobs alone.

Summary of Analysis and Methodology:

**Beer Serves America**, the Study of the U.S. Beer Industry’s Economic Contribution, has been conducted regularly by the Beer Institute and the National Beer Wholesalers Association (NBWA). This study estimates the economic contributions made by the malt beverage industry to the U.S. economy in 2020. John Dunham & Associates (JDA) conducted the research in concert with the Beer Institute and NBWA. This work used standard econometric models first developed by the U.S. Forest Service and now maintained by IMPLAN. Data came from industry sources, government publications and Infogroup.

### Table 1
**Total Economic Impact of the Beer Industry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Supplier</th>
<th>Induced</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jobs</td>
<td>1,011,632</td>
<td>447,264</td>
<td>588,218</td>
<td>2,048,514</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wages ($ Millions)</td>
<td>$39,564.84</td>
<td>$30,338.83</td>
<td>$32,956.82</td>
<td>$102,860.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Output ($ Millions)</td>
<td>$125,400.59</td>
<td>$101,877.29</td>
<td>$104,565.44</td>
<td>$331,843.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on data from 2020, the beer industry in the United States generated a total of nearly 2.04 million jobs and an economic impact of over $331.8 billion. Table 1 summarizes the total contribution of the beer industry to the U.S. economy.

### Table 2
**Taxes Generated by the Beer Industry**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Type</th>
<th>Federal</th>
<th>State &amp; Local</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business &amp; Personal</td>
<td>$22,181.20</td>
<td>$20,263.13</td>
<td>$42,444.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excise</td>
<td>$3,486.41</td>
<td>$1,705.25</td>
<td>$5,191.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Sales Tax</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$6,863.16</td>
<td>$6,863.16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Sales Based Taxes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$795.30</td>
<td>$795.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$25,567.60</td>
<td>$29,262.85</td>
<td>$55,824.45</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to examining economic activity, the study also estimates taxes paid by the industry and its employees and consumer taxes generated by the sale of malt beverage products. All told, nearly $55.2 billion in tax revenues are generated by the production and sale of beer and other malt beverages. This is equal to 40.0 percent of the retail price paid for these products by consumers.

Beyond the numerical indicators of brewers’ economic activity, there is another powerful story. The brewing industry has a presence in every congressional district in the U.S., and family names appear on most beer packages sold in the United States. Brewers and beer distributors are responsible corporate citizens who care deeply about the responsible use of their products. Members of the brewing industry have worked individually and collectively on dozens of successful education and awareness programs to reduce drunk driving,
underage drinking, and other forms of alcohol abuse.

Industry Components:

*Beer Serves America* measures the impact of the malt beverage industry, as defined by its traditional three tiers of brewing, wholesaling and retailing, on the entire economy of the United States. Overall, the industry contributes $331.8 billion in economic output, equivalent to about 1.6 percent of GDP. Through its production and distribution linkages, it impacts firms in 523 of the 544 sectors of the U.S. economy.

The three tiers are described in more detail below.

Brewing

The brewing process (as defined in this study) begins in one of two ways. First, agricultural products—such as barley, corn, rice and hops—are purchased from farmers and agricultural supply companies throughout the country. Alternatively, beer can enter the country as an imported finished product. The 8,750 firms that use agricultural products to produce malt beverages or directly import the product into the United States are denoted as brewers. There are four types of brewing firms in the country. First, the major brewers—those that produce more than two million barrels of malt beverages per year. These include the traditional names such as Anheuser-Busch, Molson Coors Beverage Company and Yuengling, as well as newer firms that began production after federal brewing laws were changed in the latter 1970s (The Boston Beer Company, or Sierra Nevada, for example). In addition, while they may not brew beer in the U.S., many major international brewing companies like Heineken, Diageo and Constellation Brands Beer Division (Corona) also have substantial domestic sales and service operations that are included in the brewing figures. The figures for major brewers in Table 3 also include all of the facilities in these companies’ craft divisions.

Table 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Facilities</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>FTE Jobs</th>
<th>Percent</th>
<th>Jobs/Facility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major/Importer</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>27,358</td>
<td>41.6%</td>
<td>129.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regional</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
<td>6,049</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>28.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Micro</td>
<td>5,663</td>
<td>64.7%</td>
<td>23,169</td>
<td>35.2%</td>
<td>4.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brewpub</td>
<td>2,615</td>
<td>29.9%</td>
<td>9,067</td>
<td>13.8%</td>
<td>3.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>2.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>8,750</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>65,777</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>7.52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3 does not include approximately 1,800 home-based sales employees.

There are also over 200 regional brewers in the country, which are sizable and have national distribution, but generally produce less than two million barrels of malt beverages. These include many well-known companies like New Belgium Brewing Company, Deschutes Brewery, and F.X. Matt Brewing Company.

Finally, the last type of brewing firms, brewpubs and small micro-brewers, number in the thousands and are located throughout America.

The government-imposed shutdowns in response to COVID-19 proved to be significant obstacles for the beer industry. 600 small breweries closed permanently due to the COVID-19 shutdowns. Nearly 150,800 jobs were lost because beer could not be sold at on-premise locations like restaurants, entertainment venues and bars.

And as the volume of beer sold rose slightly, sales fell as consumers purchased less premium beer. Sales fell by over $8 billion.

These firms produce beer for a limited market—sometimes only for their own restaurant or retail establishment. All told, brewers employ nearly 67,600 people in brewing or importing operations, sales, packaging and direct distribution.
Most of the growth in establishments is coming from local and regional brewing operations; however, the government-imposed shutdowns in response to COVID-19 led to the permanent closure of at least 600 local breweries and brewpubs.

Interestingly, while overall volumes of beer sales are up by about 0.9 percent over 2018,\textsuperscript{iv} brewing jobs have decreased by 3.3 percent. This decrease represents tremendous losses in the micro and brewpub segments of the market due to the government-imposed shutdowns due to the COVID-19 panic.

### Wholesaling

Once malt beverages have been produced or imported, they enter the second tier of the brewing industry – the wholesale tier. JDA estimates that there are 6,226 firms involved in the wholesale distribution of alcoholic beverages, of which 4,637 or 74.5 percent supply malt beverage products throughout the country (not including wholesale operations directly owned and operated by the major breweries).\textsuperscript{v}

Wholesalers, also called distributors, are involved in the transportation of malt beverages from the brewers or a bonded warehouse operated by importers, the sales of products to retailers, and the storage of products for a limited period of time.

Based on the data, the wholesale tier of the industry directly employs 141,676 individuals throughout the country. Overall employment in beer distribution is up by 16.3 percent over the past decade, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.\textsuperscript{vi}

The growth in wholesale jobs can be attributed to the development of new malt beverage products, substantial growth in imports and more regional and even national distribution by smaller producers, the wholesaling operation of which is included in the brewing impact figures. It should be noted that, like brewing jobs, wholesale jobs fell in 2020 due to the COVID-19 shutdowns.

### Retail

Finally, the third tier of the industry directly sells products to the consumer. This can either be through on-premises sales (restaurants, bars or taverns) or for off-premises consumption (grocery or convenience stores).

### Retailing Jobs by Segment

The nature of malt beverage retailing varies by state. In some states, liquor stores sell malt beverages, in some grocery stores sell malt beverages, and in others, bars sell products for off-premises consumption.
For this analysis, the retail tier is assumed to consist of firms in the following industries:

- Restaurants, bars and taverns
- Retail stores
- Hotels
- Airlines
- Amusement locales
- State stores where applicable

While there are other venues that may sell beer to the public—street vendors, cruise lines, non-profit groups, etc.—they are not included in the analysis due to limited data availability and the small amount of product they handle. It is estimated that outlets selling malt beverages in the United States employ 801,770 people.

Beer retailing jobs are down fairly dramatically since 2018; however, it must be remembered that data are from November 2020, when many states were still restricting on-premises establishments from fully opening. Off-premises retail is up by 17.0 percent over 2018, while on-premises jobs are down by nearly 22.4 percent. This is better than the restaurant industry in general. According to the National Restaurant Association as of April 2021, four out of 10 restaurants open prior to the government-imposed shutdowns are either still closed or out of business.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, there has been a shift away from more expensive local and “craft” beers in bars and restaurants to beers produced by national brewers and importers that are generally more readily available for off-premises sale. This has helped keep beer volumes up during these trying economic times, even though overall sales (output) have been relatively flat.

Suppliers

Other firms are related to the three tiers of the malt beverage industry as suppliers.

Each job in the brewing industry generates 30 additional full-time equivalent jobs:

- 2.1 jobs in beer wholesaling
- 11.9 jobs in beer retailing
- 1.0 other manufacturing job
- 0.551 jobs in farming

These firms produce and sell a broad range of items, including ingredients for the production process, fuel, packaging materials, sales displays or machinery. In addition, supplier firms provide a broad range of services, including personnel services, financial services, advertising services, consulting services or even transportation services. Finally, a number of people are employed in government enterprises responsible for the regulation of the malt beverage industry. All told, it is estimated that suppliers to the malt beverage industry are directly responsible for about 447,265 jobs, with supplier firms generating nearly $101.9 billion in economic activity.

Induced Activity

An economic analysis of the malt beverage industry will also take additional linkages into account. While it is inappropriate to claim that suppliers to the supplier firms are part of the industry being analyzed, the spending by employees of the industry, and those of supplier firms whose jobs are directly dependent on malt beverage sales and production, should surely be included. This spending, on everything from housing to food to educational services makes up what is traditionally called the “induced impact” or multiplier effect of the malt beverage industry. In other words, this spending, and the jobs it creates, are induced by the production, distribution, and sale of malt beverages. JDA estimates that the induced impact of the industry is
nearly $104.6 billion and generates close to 580,220 jobs.

The output multiplier effect of the beer industry in 2020 was therefore 1.65, in line with the multiplier of about 1.66 the last time the study was conducted, and 1.65 two years prior to that.15

Fiscal

An important part of an impact analysis is calculating the industry’s contribution to the community’s public finances. In the beer industry, this contribution comes in two forms.

First, the traditional direct taxes paid by the firms and their employees provided over $42.4 billion in revenues to federal, state, and local governments.16 In addition, the consumption of beer generated $5.1 billion in federal and state excise taxes, $6.9 billion in state sales taxes and nearly $795.3 million in other beer-specific local taxes. The $795.3 million is comprised of local beer-specific taxes, such as city and county excise taxes. This method is the minimum practical level for calculating taxes and consumption. As a result, additional local taxes are likely imposed on malt beverages not included in this figure.17

Table 4

Taxes Generated by the Beer Industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Type</th>
<th>Federal</th>
<th>State &amp; Local</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Business &amp; Personal</td>
<td>$22,181,200</td>
<td>$21,735,610</td>
<td>$43,916,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excise</td>
<td>$3,468,410</td>
<td>$1,785,250</td>
<td>$5,253,650</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Sales Tax</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$6,863,160</td>
<td>$6,863,160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Sales Based Taxes</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$795,300</td>
<td>$795,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$25,587,600</td>
<td>$31,099,330</td>
<td>$56,686,930</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4 presents a summary of the tax revenues generated by the industry and its consumers in the United States. All told, over $55.2 billion in taxes at the federal, state and local level are directly attributable to the production, sale and consumption of beer, which represents 40.0 percent of overall sales.18

Methodology:

Every economic impact analysis begins with a description of the industry being examined. In the beer industry model, the malt beverage industry is defined as the three tiers of the brewing industry.

Beer Serves America begins with an accounting of the direct employment in the various sectors. Brewing encompasses beer production and sales facilities as well as company-owned distribution operations, can production, other supply operations and beer importers. Wholesaling includes the nationwide network of beer distributors and related warehouse and transportation operations. Retailing includes locations where beer is consumed “on-premises,” such as bars, restaurants, sports and entertainment venues and airlines. “Off-premises” retail outlets are supermarkets, convenience stores, warehouse stores and similar locations. The data come from a variety of government and private sources.

It is sometimes mistakenly thought that initial spending accounts for all of the impacts of economic activity for a product. For example, at first glance, consumer expenditures for a beer appear to be the total of the impact on the local economy. However, one economic activity always leads to a ripple effect whereby other sectors and industries benefit from this initial impact.
spending. This inter-industry effect of an economic activity can be assessed using multipliers from regional input-output modeling.

The economic activities of events are linked to other industries in the state and national economies. The activities required to produce a six-pack of beer, from malting barley, to packaging, to shipping generate the direct effects on the economy. Regional (or indirect) impacts occur when these activities require purchases of goods and services such as building materials from local or regional suppliers. Additionally, induced impacts occur when workers involved in direct and indirect activities spend their wages in the region. The multiplier is the ratio between total economic and direct impact. The framework in Figure 3 illustrates these linkages.

**Figure 3**

**Model of Economic Impact Components**

- Direct output or “value added” by the malt beverage industry
- Effects of Direct Spending on regional supplier firms and their employees
- Economic effect induced by re-spending by industry and supplier employees

This method of analysis allows the impact of local production activities to be quantified in terms of final demand, earnings and employment in the states and the nation.

Once the industry’s direct impact has been calculated, the input-output methodology discussed below is used to calculate the contribution of the supplier sector and the re-spending in the economy by employees in the industry and its suppliers. This induced impact is the most controversial part of economic impact studies and is often quite inflated. In the *Beer Serves America* model, only the most conservative estimate of the induced impact has been used.

**Model Description and Data:**

JDA developed the *Beer Serves America* model based on data provided by Data Axle (formally Infogroup), the Beer Institute, the NBWA, the Brewers Association, and state and federal governments. The analysis utilizes the IMPLAN model to quantify the economic impact of the malt beverage industry on the United States’ economy. The model adopts an accounting framework through which the relationships among different inputs and outputs across industries and sectors are computed. This model can show the impact of a given economic decision – such as a factory opening or operating a sports facility – on a pre-defined geographic region. It is based on the national income accounts generated by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA).xiii

This model will incorporate firms in the following economic sectors:

**Brewing:**

Including firms that brew beer and other malt beverages, and firms that import (and directly market with their staff) malt beverages for consumption in the United States. The brewing sector also includes company-owned packaging and wholesaling operations. Brewers include major multi-state, multi-operational brewing companies, regional and craft brewers and brewpubs.

**Wholesaling:**

Including firms involved in the distribution and storage of malt beverages after they leave control of the manufacturer. The wholesaling sector includes exporters and some smaller importers. However, the direct effects of company-owned wholesaling operations have been shifted to the brewing sector for this analysis.
Retailing:

This includes firms involved in both the on-premises and off-premises sale of malt beverages. This sector includes restaurants, bars, hotels, retail establishments (e.g., grocery stores, package shops, convenience stores, liquor stores), amusement places (e.g., amusement parks, beer gardens, bowling alleys) and airlines. Control state package stores that sell beer are included. However, model limitations preclude military stores, colleges or other government-owned outlets as part of the retailing sector. In addition, outlets that may sell minimal amounts of beer like bookstores, zoos and cruise ships are not included in the model.

The IMPLAN model is designed to run based on the input of specific direct economic factors. It uses a detailed methodology (see Methodology section) to generate estimates of the other direct impacts, tax impacts and supplier and induced impacts based on these entries. In the case of the model used in Beer Serves America, direct employment in the malt beverage industry (as described above) is a base starting point for the analysis. Direct employment in each of the three components of the industry is – due to data limitations – estimated in two distinct ways. In the brewing sector, establishment employment is based directly on data provided to JDA by Data Axle as of November 2020. Data Axle is the leading provider of business and consumer data for the top search engines and leading in-car navigation systems in North America. Data Axle gathers data from various sources by sourcing, refining, matching, appending, filtering, and delivering the best quality data. The company verifies its data at the rate of almost 100,000 phone calls per day to ensure absolute accuracy.

These data are gathered at the facility level; therefore, a company with a brewery, warehouse and sales office would have three facilities, each with separate employment counts. Since the Infogroup data continually adjusts, JDA staff scanned the brewery data for discrepancies. The data from Data Axle was merged with other data gathered from Beer Institute member records, survey data collected directly from Beer Institute member companies, and 2019 data on individual breweries and brewing companies from the Brewers Association. This process helped ensure that all the smaller breweries and non-brewing operations from larger firms were included. The database was then checked against company websites or addresses looked up on Google maps to ensure that companies existed or were still in business.

Employment estimates were generally taken directly from the Data Axle data; however, employment figures for facilities were replaced where necessary with figures directly obtained from the companies themselves. In brewpubs, if brewing employment counts were not available, industry employment is assumed to be three employees, reflecting only the brewing operations of what are essentially restaurants or taverns. Where no data were available, employment at each location was estimated to be equal to the median value for similar sites in the same state or based on the production volume at the facility.

Wholesale employment is based directly on data provided to JDA by Data Axle as of November 2020 and the NBWA and Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America (WSWA) as of November 2020. This data is gathered at the facility level; therefore, a company with a warehouse, truck repair shop and sales office would have three separate employment counts. JDA staff verified the data using either company websites, or Google Maps. Where facilities handled products in other categories such as wine, spirits or soft drinks JDA staff assigned jobs based on data collected by the NBWA, the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of America, or based on the predominant beverage distributed by the company. Jobs were split across categories based either on company-specific sales data or overall industry sales percentages in the specific state where the wholesale facility was located.

Employee counts for facilities with missing data or facilities not included in the
Data Axle lists are based on industry medians. Where the NBWA or the WSWA data differed from that calculated by JDA, the associations' numbers were used.

Data on the retail sectors start with raw employment data which are adjusted based on sales of beer, wine and spirits using either the industry multipliers and output per employee ratios included in the IMPLAN model for the retail components of the industry to estimate total employment in each sector, or using a calculation based on beer sales as a percentage of total alcohol sales. These results were cross-checked against a wide variety of establishment data by state and were found to present a reasonable estimate of the employment in each sector generated solely by malt beverage sales. Retail data is adjusted to take into account dry counties and state regulations pertaining to beer sales in grocery and food stores.

It should be noted that some government-owned establishments selling malt beverages, including military post exchanges and commissary stores, will be underrepresented in this analysis as most of these facilities would not have Data Axle records, nor would some be licensed by state alcohol beverage licensing authorities. Where possible, those government-owned stores in control states that sell malt beverages are included.

Once the initial direct employment figures have been established, they are entered into a model linked to the IMPLAN database. The IMPLAN data are used to generate estimates of direct wages and output in each of the three sectors: brewing, wholesaling and retailing. Wages are derived from data from the U.S. Department of Labor’s ES-202 reports that IMPLAN uses to provide annual average wage and salary establishment counts, employment counts and payrolls at the county level. Since this data only covers payroll employees, it is modified to add information on independent workers, agricultural employees, construction employees and certain government employees. Data is then adjusted to account for counties where non-disclosure rules apply. Wage data include cash wages, health and life insurance payments, retirement payments and other non-cash compensation. It consists of all income paid to workers by employers. Distribution income and exercised stock options received by proprietors, including sole proprietors, and distributions to partners of LLCs are also included in wage figures.

Total output is the value of production by industry in each state. IMPLAN estimates it from sources like those used by the BEA in its RIMS II series. Where no Census or government surveys are available, IMPLAN uses models such as the Bureau of Labor Statistics Growth model to estimate the missing output.

The model also includes information on income received by the federal, state and local governments, and produces estimates for the following taxes at the federal level: corporate income, payroll, personal income, estate and gift, excise taxes, customs duties and fines, fees, etc. State and local tax revenues include estimates of corporate profits, property, sales, severance, estate and gift and personal income taxes, licenses and fees and certain payroll taxes.

Indirect taxes paid due to the consumption of malt beverages in each state are also included in the analysis. These figures – while primarily separate from the reported taxes paid – contain minimal double counts. This reason is individuals employed by the beer industry or its suppliers purchase malt beverages. The sales taxes on beer and state and federal beer excise taxes paid by these people are already included in the direct taxes section. In addition, estimates of certain small beer-specific taxes – such as the Philadelphia County on-premise beverage tax or the New York City malt beverage excise tax – are included. Federal tax rates are estimated at the state level by the NBWA.

While IMPLAN is used to calculate the state-level impacts, Data Axle data provide the basis for congressional
district estimates. Publicly available data at the county and congressional district level is limited by disclosure restrictions, especially for smaller sectors of the economy like brewing and beer wholesaling. Therefore, this model uses actual physical location data provided by Data Axle to allocate jobs – and the resulting economic activity – by county. For counties entirely contained in a single congressional district, jobs are allocated based on the percentage of total sector jobs in each county. For counties broken by congressional districts, allocations are based on the percentage of total brewing and beer wholesaling jobs physically located in each segment of the county. Physical locations are based on either the actual address of the facility, or the zip code of the facility, with facilities placed randomly throughout the zip code area. All supplier and indirect jobs are allocated based on the percentage of a state’s employment in that sector in each of the counties. Again, Data Axle data are the basis for these percentages.

While brewing, wholesaling and retail jobs are generally allocated in this manner, retailing jobs are restricted to only those counties that allow the retail sale of malt beverages. There are many localities and counties in the United States that are either wholly dry or partly dry. The congressional district breakdowns exclude retailing jobs from these counties. In addition, grocery store/convenience store jobs are included in those states that allow such sales.

JDA calculated malt beverage sales and consumption data and based them on on-premises and off-premises volume splits provided by the Beer Institute and NBWA, personal consumption expenditures from the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis, and wholesale margins from the U.S. Department of Commerce Bureau of Economic Analysis. Personal consumption expenditures measure the amount households in the country spend on goods and services such as beer and dining out. This data, along with estimated retail employment levels, are used to allocate the national malt beverage sales across each state. Sales and excise tax rates are accurate as of December 2020. This model’s federal excise tax rates are based on the current tiered system and average $17.12 per barrel. Ex-dock brewers’ prices without any taxes are estimated to be $260.56 per barrel. Standard retail and wholesale margins are applied along with the taxes and fees to estimate total sales by product category, state and location.

All the estimates of wages, output and tax rates other than beer excise taxes, beer sales taxes and other specific beer-based consumption taxes are derived from the IMPLAN input-output models.

Data and Modeling Considerations When Comparing 2020 with Earlier Studies:

There have been significant changes to the economy, the beer industry and the data sources used in this model compared to 2018.

First, and most importantly, the IMPLAN database used to develop all of the supplier and induced outputs and the direct wage rates and output has undergone a major revision to the brewing industry. The 2016 data tables were used in 2018, while this model uses the 2018 IMPLAN tables. The Input-Output tables are always released at least a year behind, and JDA updates its tables on the even-numbered years.

Before developing the 2014 IMPLAN Tables, neither the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA), nor the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) included much data on regional or small breweries in their calculations. This calculation began to change with the development of the 2014 IMPLAN tables. As of that year, the BLS started to reflect the growth in brewing jobs at small breweries. Job numbers reported in the IMPLAN brewing sector increased considerably to nearly the level that JDA was calculating. At that time, however, the BEA did not adjust its output figures to account for the lower productivity at these facilities in comparison to large national breweries. This change means that the output per employee data that JDA uses to calculate the total economic impact of the industry, and industry sales and tax rates was greatly inflated in IMPLAN. At that time, it was not possible to know that there was such a large overestimate because output per employee in the industry had been
adjusted downward.

With the issuance of the 2016 IMPLAN tables, BEA had made the adjustments to output, reducing the output per employee in the brewing sector by nearly 38 percent. In 2018, the IMPLAN output per employee in the brewing sector was reduced again, this time by 20.8 percent.

Table 5 outlines the output per employee calculates for the past four cycles of Beer Serves America.

Table 5
Output Per Employee from IMPLAN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IMPLAN Table</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These changes have led to lower calculations for beer sales relative to those presented in the 2018 version of Beer Serves America.

In 2018, IMPLAN also changed the structure of the wholesaling and retailing sectors of the economy. Prior to 2018, wholesaling was all grouped together in a single production function. Now, there are ten different wholesaler sectors in the model. Beer wholesaling is estimated using the Wholesale - Grocery and related product wholesalers sector.

In the latter part of 2020, the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census released new product line estimates for retailers and wholesalers. These tables provide JDA with estimates of the percentage of total sales in each retailer type and state coming from beer. The new release reflects Census estimates as of 2017, while the data used in the last edition of Beer Serves America reflected 2012. The Census product line tables were released with substantial amounts of missing and undisclosed data. JDA used a linear optimization model to fill in this missing data.

Finally, the brewing sector and the on-premises retail sector faced significant obstacles in 2020 due to the government-imposed shutdowns of the economy in response to COVID-19. Data in this model were gathered beginning in November of 2020. The data, therefore, reflects the impact of these shutdowns, primarily on the retail and the brewpub sectors of the economy. It is expected that the industry’s impact will improve over time as more of the hospitality sector of the economy can open.

The 2020 Beer Serves America model reflects the best data and modeling techniques available now and should provide a very accurate measure of the industry’s economic benefits today. Any errors are unintentional and are strictly those of John Dunham & Associates and should not reflect on the quality of data provided by the funding associations.

IMPLAN Methodology: xx

Francoise Quesnay, one of the fathers of modern economics, first developed the analytical concept of inter-industry relationships in 1758. The concept was actualized into input-output analysis by Wassily Leontief during the Second World War, an accomplishment for which he received the 1973 Nobel Prize in Economics.

Input-Output analysis is an econometric technique used to examine the relationships within an economy. It captures all monetary market transactions for consumption in a given period and for a specific geography. The IMPLAN model uses data from many different sources – as published government data series, unpublished data, sets of relationships, ratios or estimates. IMPLAN, Inc. gathers this data, converts it into a consistent format and estimates the missing components.

There are three different levels of data generally available in the United States: federal, state and county. Most of the detailed data is available at the county level, and as such, there are many issues with disclosure, especially in the case of smaller industries, such as brewing. IMPLAN overcomes these disclosure problems by combining many data sets and estimating those variables that are not found from any
of them. The data are then converted into national input-output matrices (Use, Make, By-products, Absorption and Market Shares) and national tables for deflators, regional purchase coefficients and margins.

The IMPLAN Make matrix represents the production of commodities by industry. The BEA Benchmark I/O Study of the U.S. Make Table forms the basis of the IMPLAN model. The Benchmark Make Table is updated to current year prices and rearranged into the IMPLAN sector format. The IMPLAN Use matrix is based on estimates of final demand, value-added by sector and total industry and commodity output data provided by government statistics or estimated by IMPLAN. The BEA Benchmark Use Table is then bridged to the IMPLAN sectors. Once the re-sectoring is complete, the Use Tables can be updated based on the other data and model calculations of interstate and international trade.

In the IMPLAN model, as with any input-output framework, all expenditures are in terms of producer prices. This model allocates all expenditures to the industries that produce goods and services. As a result, all data not received in producer prices are converted using margins derived from the BEA Input-Output model. Margins represent the difference between producer and consumer prices. As such, the margins for any good add to one. If, for example, 10 percent of the consumer price of beer is from the purchase of hops, then the hops margin would be 0.1.

Deflators, which account for relative price changes during different periods, are derived from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Growth Model. The BLS model is mapped to the sectors of the IMPLAN model. Where data is missing, deflators from BEA’s Survey of Current Businesses are used. Finally, one of the most important parts of the IMPLAN model, the Regional Purchase Coefficients (RPCs), must be derived. IMPLAN is derived from a national model representing the “average” condition for a particular industry. Since national production functions do not necessarily represent particular regional differences, adjustments need to be made.

Once the databases and matrices are created, they go through an extensive validation process. IMPLAN builds separate state and county models and evaluates them, checking that no ratios are outside of recognized bounds. The final data sets and matrices are not released before extensive testing occurs.

---


ii Economic sectors based on IMPLAN sectors.

iii Throughout this study, the term “firms” actually refers to physical locations. One brewer, for example, may have breweries in 5 or 6 locations throughout the country. Each brewery is included in the count. This figure differs considerably from the 5,095 companies reported by the US Commerce Department in the Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (3rd quarter 2020). There are two reasons for this. First the QCEW counts companies not facilities, and many of the larger brewers have dozens of facilities. Second, the QCEW tends to underestimate both the number of and employment from smaller firms as well as newer firms.

iv Total taxable sales as recorded by the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau. See: https://www.ttb.gov/beer/statistics

v Physical locations. Many predominantly wine or spirits wholesalers also carry some beer. Jobs are allocated to beer wholesaling for these facilities based on the overall market share for beer as a percent of total beverage alcohol products handled by wine and spirits wholesalers. This eliminates double counting of jobs across the three product categories; however, most facilities actually handle at least some of all three products.

vi US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, at: https://www.bls.gov/cew/. The QCEW tends to underestimate both the number of and employment from smaller firms as well as newer firms. The QCEW estimates that there are just under 3,000 beer distributors, up by 45.6 percent since the beginning of the decade.

vii The Restaurant Industry Impact Survey, National Restaurant
Beer Serves America Impact Methodology and Documentation  |  John Dunham & Associates, 2021

viii These firms would more appropriately be considered as part of the supplier firms’ industries.

ix Often economic impact studies present results with very large multipliers – as high as 4 or 5. These studies invariably include the firms supplying the supplier industries as part of the induced impact. John Dunham & Associates believes that this is not an appropriate definition of the induced impact and as such limits this calculation to only the effect of spending by direct and supplier employees.

x This is the first year where the Beer Serves America model reflects the reductions in corporate and excise taxes under the 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. Federal excise taxes are actually paid by the brewer and included in the price of the product. In this analysis, however, they are included as part of consumption taxes (but redistributed based on the location where the beer was sold).

xi Malt beverage industry sales are calculated at approximately $138.6 billion including all taxes. This compares with $135.6 billion in 2018. The 40 percent tax calculation is equal to: Total Taxes [including all business and personal taxes plus consumption taxes (excise, sales, other)] divided by Direct Brewer Output + Direct Wholesaler Output + Direct Retailer Output + Consumption Taxes (excise, sales other).

xii RIMS II is a product developed by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis as a policy and economic decision analysis tool. IMPLAN was originally developed by the U.S. Forest Service, the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Bureau of Land Management. It was converted to a user-friendly model by IMPLAN in 1993.

xiii These studies invariably include the firms supplying the supplier industries as part of the induced impact. John Dunham & Associates believes that this is not an appropriate definition of the induced impact and as such limits this calculation to only the effect of spending by direct and supplier employees.

xiv Generally, most small breweries have a staff of between 2 and 7 people. The estimate used in this analysis is based on IndustryRevealed, Institute for Brewing Studies, 1997. While this study is old, the figure appears to be accurate based on the direct examination of the websites of nearly 8,300 small breweries by JDA staff.

xv A number of different sources were used to calculate the percentage of overall sales due to beverage alcohol purchases. In most cases these sales represent a small part of the overall business. In the case of amusement establishments (bowling alleys, theaters, sporting venues, etc.) as well as on-premise food service establishments, the Economic Census of Accommodations and Food Services and the Economic Census of Arts, Entertainment and Recreation were used to determine the percentage of sales coming from alcohol. In the case of store-based retailers like grocery stores, convenience stores, package stores, etc. the figures come from the US Department of Commerce, Census of Retail Trade. United States Census Bureau, Retail Trade (NAICS Sector 44-45), Product Statistics All Sectors: Industry by Products for the U.S. and States: 2017, 2017 Economic Census, at www.census.gov/data/tables/2017/econ/economic-census/naics-sector-44-45.html.

xvi The same employment counts for retailers were reported in an economic impact model of the beverage alcohol retailing industry produced by John Dunham & Associates for the American Beverage Licensees (2020), a trade association representing retailers of beverage alcohol products.

xvii Sales banned either on- or off-premises.