

COLORADO BREWERS GUILD FACT SHEET

November 6, 2011



Twenty-one great things about Colorado, the state of craft beer!

1. There are currently 130 Colorado breweries, with another dozen breweries in planning.¹
2. There are eleven breweries operating in Boulder, fourteen breweries in Denver, nine in Ft. Collins and nine in Colorado Springs.¹
3. Durango tops breweries per capita with four breweries. One brewery per 3,480 people.¹
4. The Colorado Front Range is the largest craft brewing market in the U.S. with seventy-four breweries in operation.¹
5. In 2010, Colorado ranked fourth in breweries per capita.²
6. Colorado is third for the most number of breweries per state in 2010.⁴
7. Colorado brewers employ approximately 7,000 full and part-time employees.⁴
8. In 2010, Colorado brewers donated an estimated \$1.5 million, beer, and time to non-profits.¹
9. Economic impact of Colorado beer industry on the state economy is over **\$18.5 Billion**.⁴
10. Beer is heavily taxed. Beer lovers in Colorado pay over fifty percent in taxes on each beer they purchase. In other words, if a beer lover pays \$6.00 for a beer in a restaurant, half of it goes to the government.⁴
11. In 2010, Colorado brewers paid almost \$100 million in federal, state, and local taxes.⁴
12. Craft brewing national market share in 2010 was 4.9% by volume and 7.6% by dollars.²
13. Colorado is the third largest brewer of craft beer in the U.S. brewing 988,873 barrels.²
14. Colorado has the highest percentage (18.5%) of draft beer consumed in the U.S, increasing 7.3% in 2010.⁴
15. The Colorado market is the largest market for Colorado craft brewers.¹
16. Colorado malt from the San Luis Valley is used in many Colorado craft beers.^{1,2}
17. Colorado, home to the aluminum beer can, fostered the move of craft beer into the can, an innovative package for craft beer. New styles of cans are being manufactured in Colorado.¹
18. Colorado is home to twenty hop farms growing hops for brewers across the state. Hop production is rapidly expanding.^{1,2}
19. Colorado beer lovers enjoyed 30.7 gallons of beer annually, 23rd nationally for per capita consumption.⁴ A 2011 CalorieLab study finds Colorado the leanest state for 6 years running.
20. Colorado is home to the Great American Beer Festival (GABF), celebrating its thirtieth year.²
21. Colorado brewers were awarded forty-five medals in the 2011 GABF, with 37% being gold!²

Sources: Colorado Brewers Guild¹, Brewers Association², Colorado Hop Farm Services³, Beer Institute⁴