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# Top 50 American Breweries Reflect the Diversity of American Beer

## Craft Brewers Account for More than Half of Leading Brewers

**Boulder, Colo. • March 14, 2005-** Located in 19 different states, the top 50 American brewing companies of 2004 produce a wide range of beers that reflect the diverse flavors of America's vibrant beer culture according to the Brewers Association. From golden light lagers to silky black stouts the leading domestic brewers populate America's coolers with scores of beer brands across dozens of distinct styles.

"More than 1400 breweries operate in the US today and craft brewers constitute the majority of the largest 50 brewing companies," said Paul Gatza, Director of the Brewers Association. More than 30 of the top-50 brewing companies produce the traditional all-malt beer styles that define a craft brewer.

Overall, the brands brewed by top 50 producers include well-known American standards from Bud, Miller and Coors as well as nationally distributed craft beers like Boston Beer Company's Samuel Adams Boston Lager and Sierra Nevada's Pale Ale along with regional stars like New Belgium Brewing Co's Fat Tire, Widmer Brewing Company's Hefe-Weizen and Harpoon Brewery's India Pale Ale. The top-50 also includes Rock Bottom Restaurants Inc. which operates 34 brewpubs.

"The diverse styles of beer available from America's largest producers demonstrate the appeal that craft beer has for American beer drinkers," said Ray Daniels, Director of Craft Beer Marketing for the Brewers Association. "Flavorful beer styles like amber ale and IPA are rapidly becoming favorites for an increasing number of consumers."

Brewers Association figures show that domestic craft beer sales volume grew 7 percent in 2004, faster any other segment of the beverage alcohol business, including wine, spirits and imported beer. (For further information, see [http://beertown.org/pr/pdf\\_Word/2004\\_Craft\\_Beer\\_Stats.doc](http://beertown.org/pr/pdf_Word/2004_Craft_Beer_Stats.doc).)

“The craft beer segment has grown steadily over the past ten years, but in 2004 it showed its biggest increase since 1996,” said Gatzka. “The strong growth in craft beer sales shows American consumers’ continuing interest in flavorful American beers.”

Half of the top 50 brewers can be found in just five states, according to the Brewers Association. California, Oregon, Colorado, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania collectively host nearly 500 breweries including 25 of the top 50 domestic producers. (Five top-50 breweries each in Oregon, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin with six in California and four in Colorado.)

The remainder of the top 50 operate from Texas (with 3 Top-50 breweries), New York (3), Minnesota (3), Vermont (3), Missouri (2), Massachusetts (2), Washington (2), Alaska (1), North Carolina (1), Maine (1), Illinois (1), Michigan (1), Louisiana (1) and Hawaii (1). Complete listings of the top-50 are included below by rank and by state.

The craft beer segment includes approximately 1400 breweries who produce primarily all-malt beers. It includes brewpubs (brewery/restaurant), microbreweries (less than 15,000 barrels per year) and specialty brewers. The Brewers Association has tabulated industry growth data for these breweries annually since 1985.

Top 10 craft brewers in the United States include Boston Beer Co (MA), Sierra Nevada Brewing Co (CA), Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Co (WI), New Belgium Brewing Co (CO), F.X. Matt Brewing Co. (NY), Redhook Ale Brewery (WA), Widmer Brothers Brewing Co (OR), Pyramid Alehouse/Breweries Inc. (WA), Deschutes Brewery (OR), and Alaskan Brewing and Bottling Co (AK).

Rank	Name	City	State
1	Anheuser-Busch Inc.	St Louis	MO
2	Miller Brewing Co	Milwaukee	WI
3	Coors Brewing Co	Golden	CO
4	Pabst Brewing Co.	San Antonio	TX
5	City Brewing Co	LaCrosse	WI
6	D. G. Yuengling and Son Inc.	Pottsville	PA
7	High Falls Brewing Co	Rochester	NY
8	Boston Beer Co	Boston	MA
9	Latrobe Brewing Co	Latrobe	PA
10	Sierra Nevada Brewing Co	Chico	CA
11	Pittsburgh Brewing Co.	Pittsburgh	PA
12	Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Co	Chippewa Falls	WI
13	New Belgium Brewing Co	Fort Collins	CO
14	Spoetzi Brewery	Shiner	TX
15	F.X. Matt Brewing Co.	Utica	NY
16	Redhook Ale Brewery	Woodinville	WA

17	Lion Brewery, Inc.	Wilkes-Barre	PA
18	Widmer Brothers Brewing Co	Portland	OR
19	Pyramid Alehouse/Breweries Inc.	Seattle	WA
20	Deschutes Brewery	Bend	OR
21	Alaskan Brewing and Bottling Co	Juneau	AK
22	Boulevard Brewing Co	Kansas City	MO
23	Harpoon Brewery	Boston	MA
24	Anchor Brewing Co	San Francisco	CA
25	Full Sail Brewing Co	Hood River	OR
26	Mendocino Brewing Co	Ukiah	CA
27	Gluek Brewing Co	Cold Springs	MN
28	August Schell Brewing Co	New Ulm	MN
29	Gordon Biersch Brewing Co	San Jose	CA
30	Carolina Beer and Beverage Co	Mooresville	NC
31	Summit Brewing Co	St Paul	MN
32	Shipyard Brewing Co	Portland	ME
33	Goose Island Beer Co	Chicago	IL
34	Stevens Point Brewery Co	Stevens Point	WI
35	Kalamazoo Brewing Co	Galesburg	MI
36	Magic Hat Brewing Co	South Burlington	VT
37	Long Trail Brewing Co	Bridgewater Corners	VT
38	Abita Brewing Co	Abita Springs	LA
39	Brooklyn Brewery	Brooklyn	NY
40	Rock Bottom Restaurants Inc.	Louisville	CO
41	BridgePort Brewing Co	Portland	OR
42	Pete's Brewing Co	San Antonio	TX
43	Firestone Walker Brewing Co	Paso Robles	CA
44	Rogue Ales	Newport	OR
45	Straub Brewery	Saint Marys	PA
46	Stone Brewing Co	San Marcos	CA
47	Joseph Huber Brewing Co	Monroe	WI
48	Kona Brewery LLC	Kailua-Kona	HI
49	Flying Dog Brewery	Denver	CO
50	Otter Creek Brewing Co.	Middlebury	VT

### Top 50 Brewing Companies Listed Alphabetically by State

Rank	Name	City	State
21	Alaskan Brewing and Bottling Co	Juneau	AK
10	Sierra Nevada Brewing Co	Chico	CA
24	Anchor Brewing Co	San Francisco	CA
26	Mendocino Brewing Co	Ukiah	CA
29	Gordon Biersch Brewing Co	San Jose	CA
43	Firestone Walker Brewing Co	Paso Robles	CA

46	Stone Brewing Co	San Marcos	CA
3	Coors Brewing Co	Golden	CO
13	New Belgium Brewing Co	Fort Collins	CO
40	Rock Bottom Brewery Restaurants	Louisville	CO
49	Flying Dog Brewery	Denver	CO
48	Kona Brewery LLC	Kailua-Kona	HI
33	Goose Island Beer Co	Chicago	IL
38	Abita Brewing Co	Abita Springs	LA
8	Boston Beer Co	Boston	MA
23	Harpoon Brewery	Boston	MA
32	Shipyard Brewing Co	Portland	ME
35	Kalamazoo Brewing Co	Galesburg	MI
27	Gluek Brewing Co	Cold Springs	MN
28	August Schell Brewing Co	New Ulm	MN
31	Summit Brewing Co	St Paul	MN
1	Anheuser-Busch Inc.	St Louis	MO
22	Boulevard Brewing Co	Kansas City	MO
30	Carolina Beer and Beverage Co	Mooreville	NC
7	High Falls Brewing Co	Rochester	NY
15	F.X. Matt Brewing Co.	Utica	NY
39	Brooklyn Brewery	Brooklyn	NY
18	Widmer Brothers Brewing Co	Portland	OR
20	Deschutes Brewery	Bend	OR
25	Full Sail Brewing Co	Hood River	OR
41	BridgePort Brewing Co	Portland	OR
44	Rogue Ales	Newport	OR
6	D. G. Yuengling and Son Inc.	Pottsville	PA
9	Latrobe Brewing Co	Latrobe	PA
11	Pittsburgh Brewing Co.	Pittsburgh	PA
17	Lion Brewery, Inc.	Wilkes-Barre	PA
45	Straub Brewery	Saint Marys	PA
4	Pabst Brewing Co.	San Antonio	TX
14	Spoetzl Brewery	Shiner	TX
42	Pete's Brewing Co	San Antonio	TX
36	Magic Hat Brewing Co	South Burlington	VT
37	Long Trail Brewing Co	Bridgewater Corners	VT
50	Otter Creek Brewing Co.	Middlebury	VT
16	Redhook Ale Brewery	Woodinville	WA
19	Pyramid Alehouse/Breweries Inc.	Seattle	WA
2	Miller Brewing Co	Milwaukee	WI
5	City Brewing Co	LaCrosse	WI
12	Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Co	Chippewa Falls	WI
34	Stevens Point Brewing Co	Stevens Point	WI
47	Joseph Huber Brewing Co	Monroe	WI

*Based in Boulder, Colo., U.S.A., the Brewers Association (BA) is a not-for-profit trade and educational association for small and craft brewers. The Brewers Association was established in 2005 by a merger of the Association of Brewers and the Brewers' Association of America. Visit the website: [www.beertown.org](http://www.beertown.org) to learn more. The Brewers Association has an additional membership division of 9,000+ homebrewers: American Homebrewers Association.*

*The association's activities include events and publishing: World Beer Cup®; Great American Beer Festival®; NBWA/BREWERS Joint Legislative Conference, Craft Brewers Conference and BrewExpo America®; National Homebrewers Conference; National Homebrew Competition; American Beer Month (July); Zymurgy magazine; The New Brewer magazine; and books on beer and brewing.*

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