

# **Craft Complicated Market in 2023**



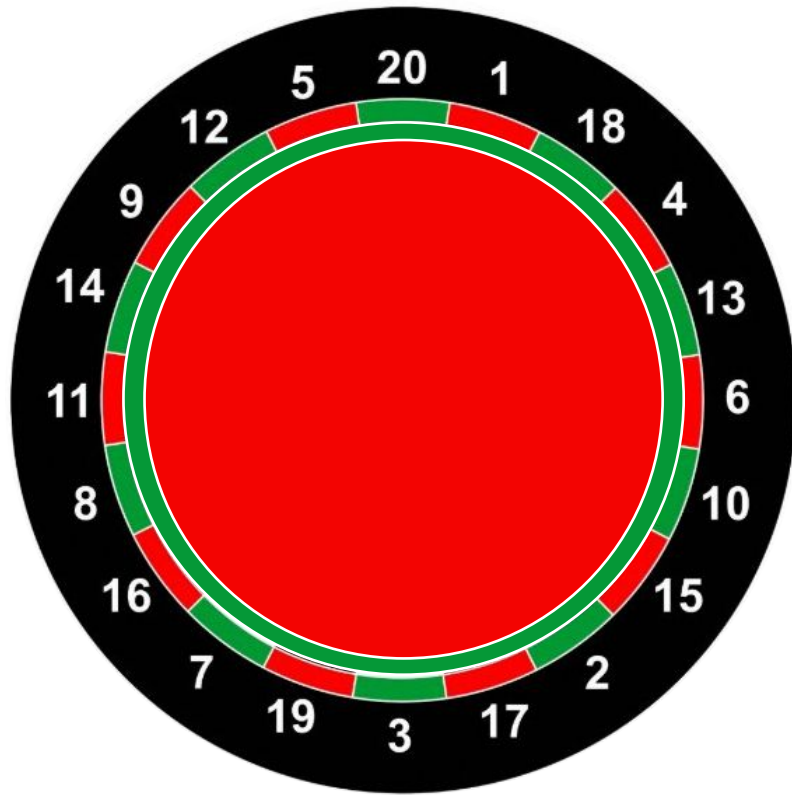
# Introduction

- Thanks to members of the Brewers Association!
- Couldn't be here without you.

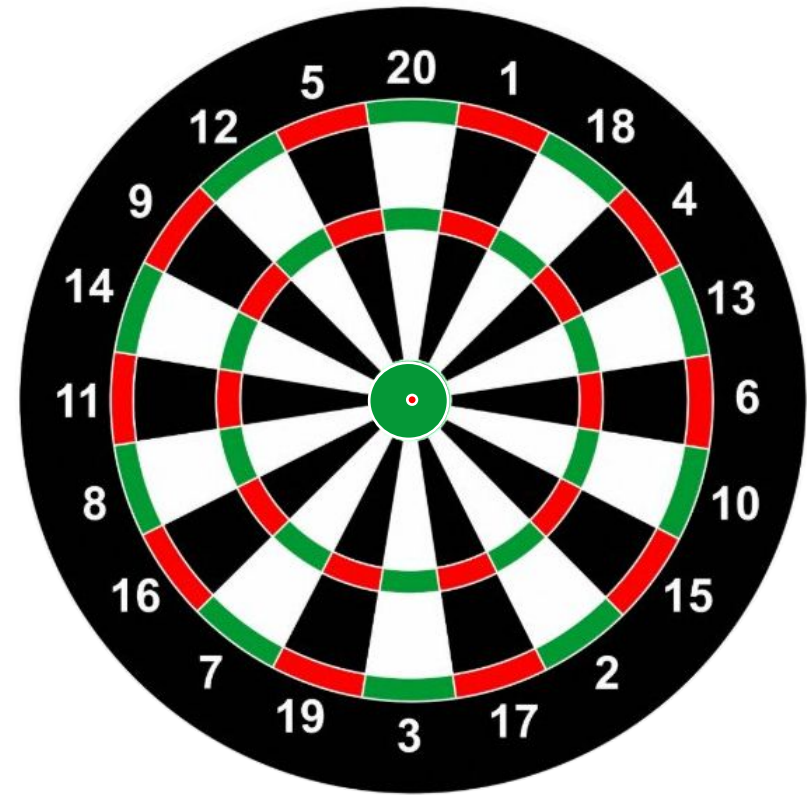




# The Changing/Complicated World



Then



Now

# 2023 Update

- Mixed 2023
- Packaged distribution contracting (though maybe less than it was?)
- Draught not really recovering anymore
- Onsite growing, but increasingly getting sliced – need to differentiate

# First Half Survey

Triangulating on survey and other sources,  
estimating craft volume down -2% in 1<sup>st</sup> half  
of 2023

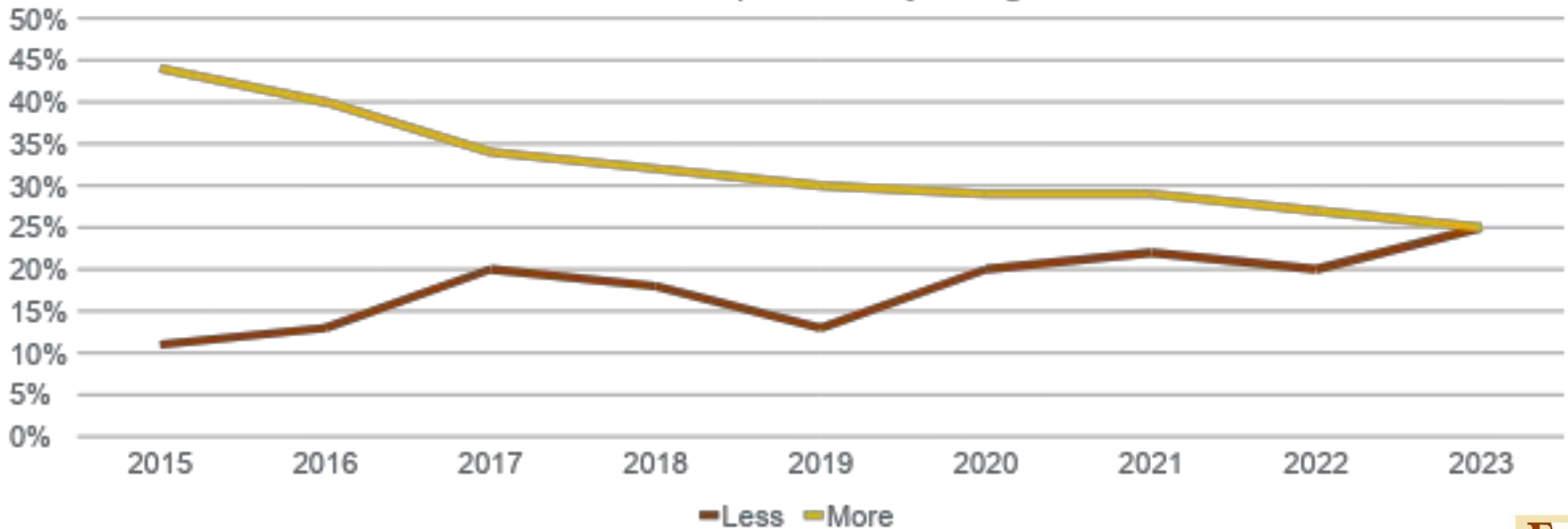
Other than 2020, first decline we've seen

# Mature Market

- In aggregate, demand isn't growing anymore
  - Have to win (take share from others) by differentiating or
  - Collectively grow demand
    - New beer lovers + new occasions

# Levels Changing (hints at in/out flow)

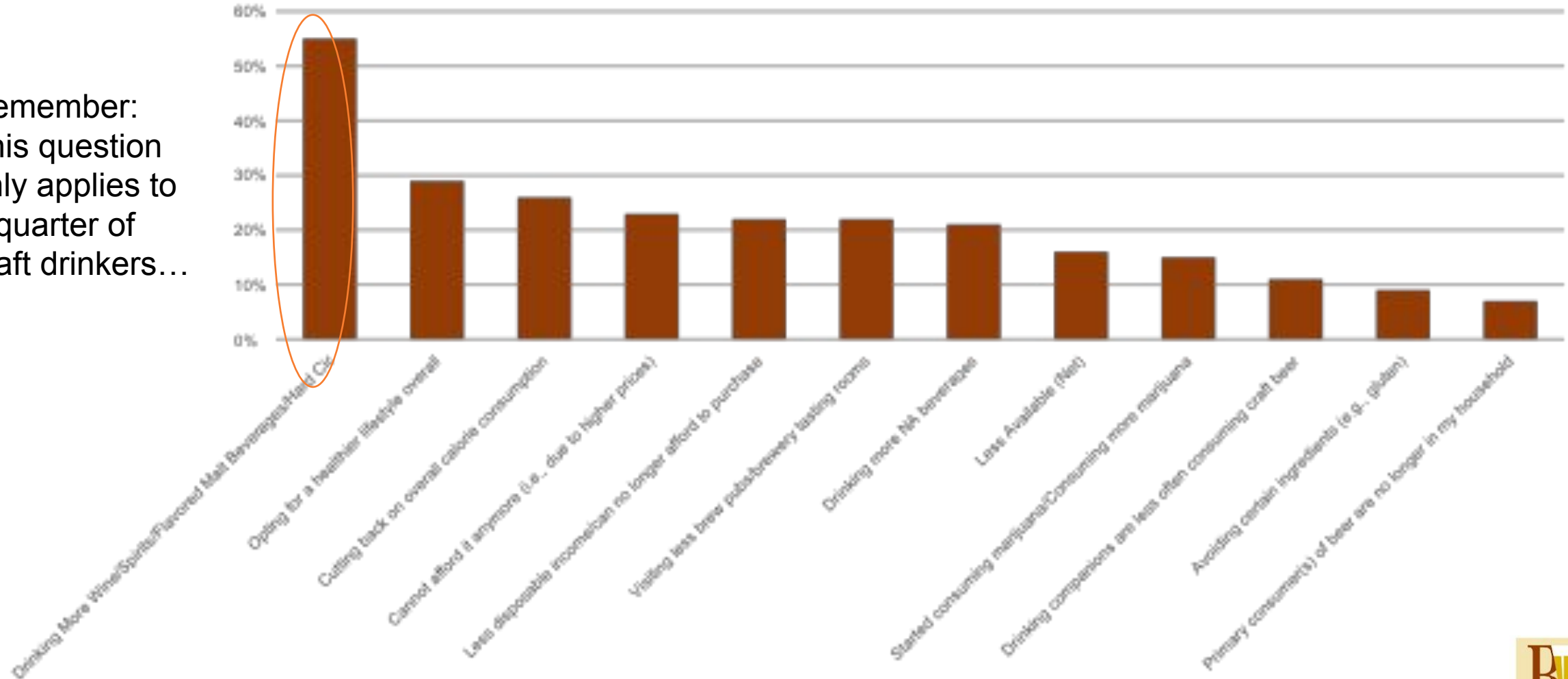
In general, would you say you are drinking more, less, or about the same amount craft beer compared to a year ago?



Source: Harris Poll, Various Years

# Why Less?

Remember:  
This question  
only applies to  
a quarter of  
craft drinkers...



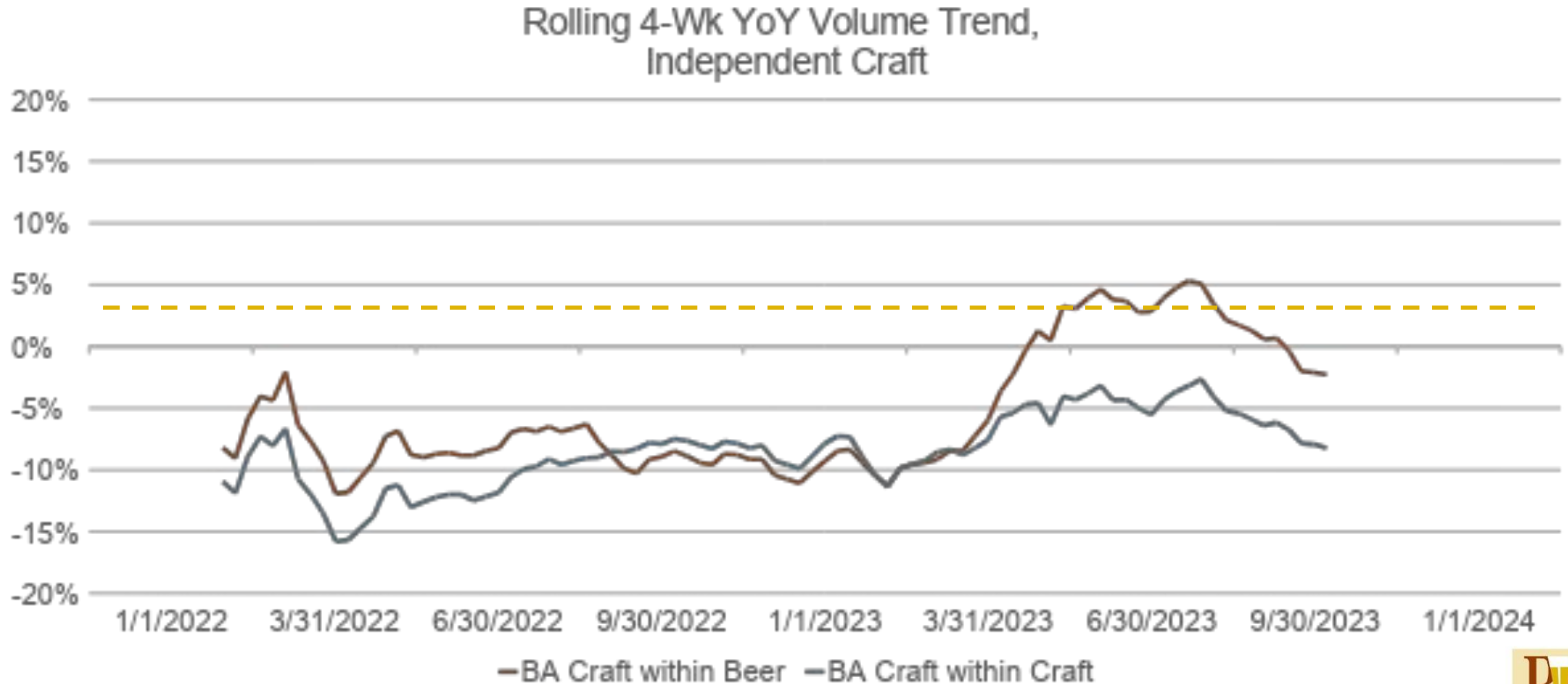


# **Rest of this Presentation:**

- Off Premise trends**
- At the Brewery/Brewery #s**
- Draught/On Premise**
- Beer's decline – why craft should care**
- Winning in Bev Alc**

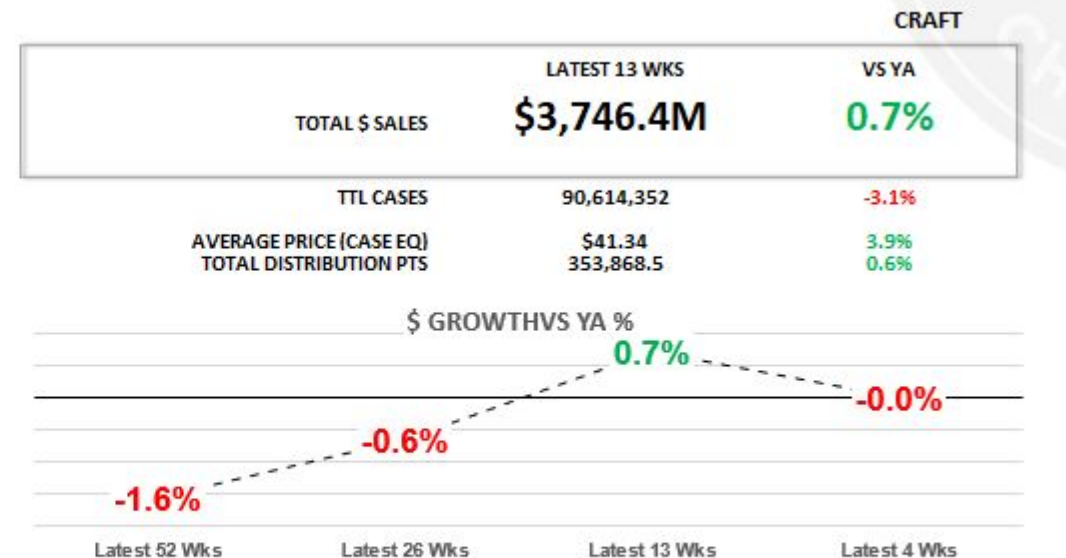
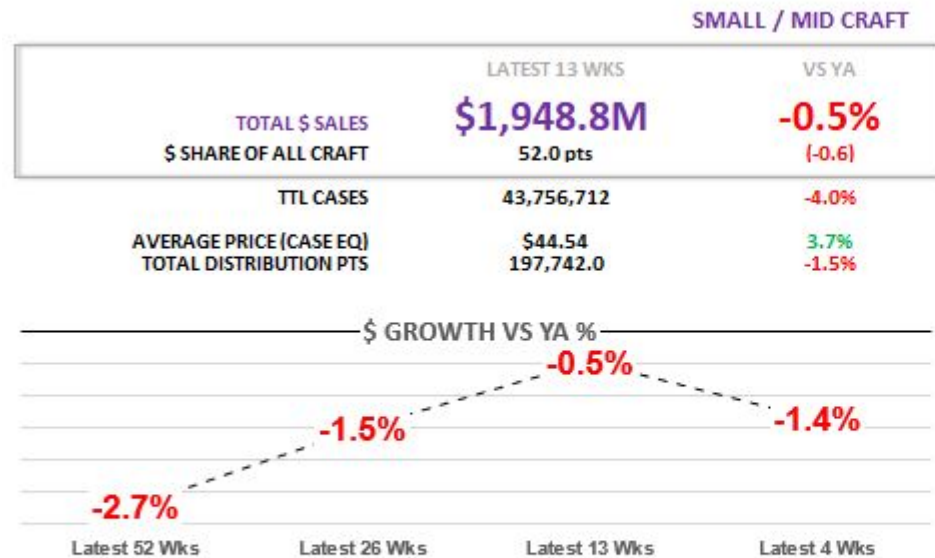
# Off-Premise

# Scan Data Improving... Still not Great



Source: Circana; Total US; MULO+C+Sum of Total Liquor Chain

# 3 Tier Dashboard View (thru 8/12)

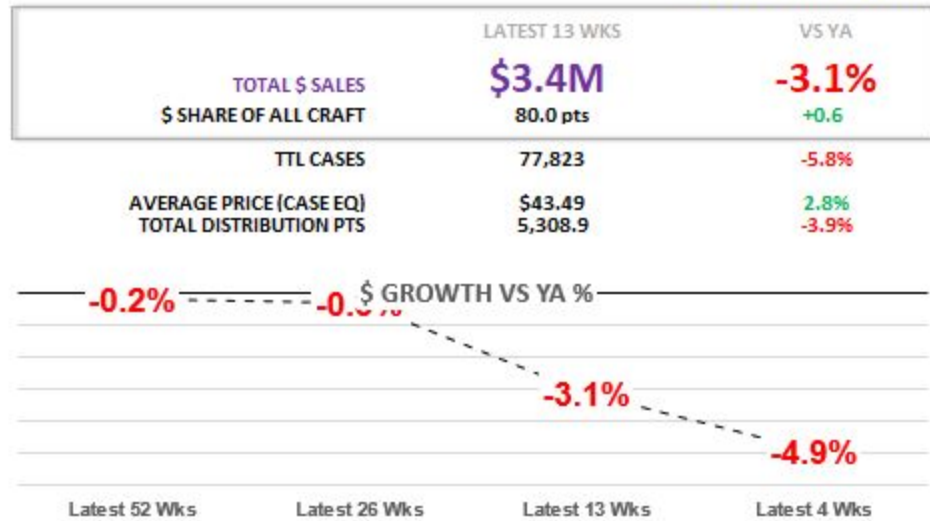


TOPLINE

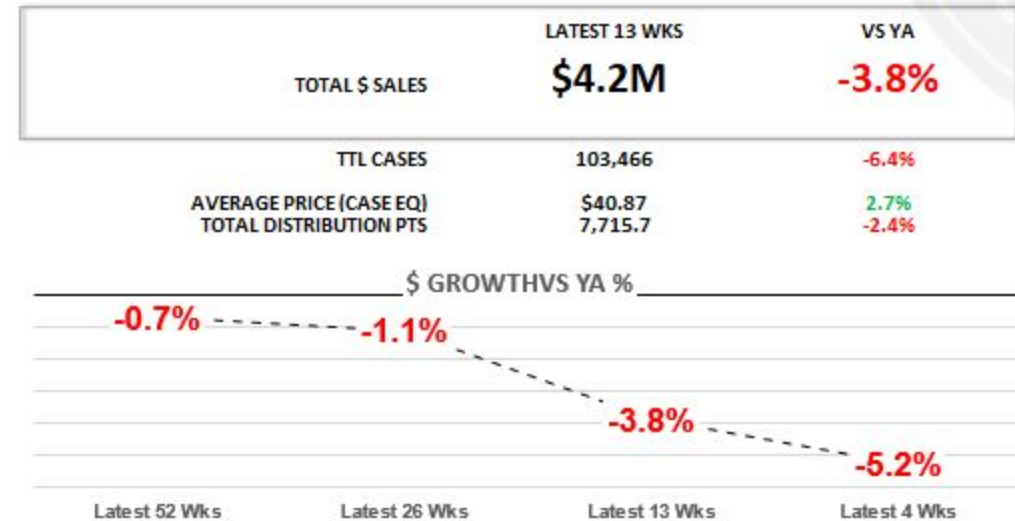
Source: 3 Tier NIQ Dashboard (available to BA members)

# Vermont

## SMALL / MID CRAFT



## CRAFT

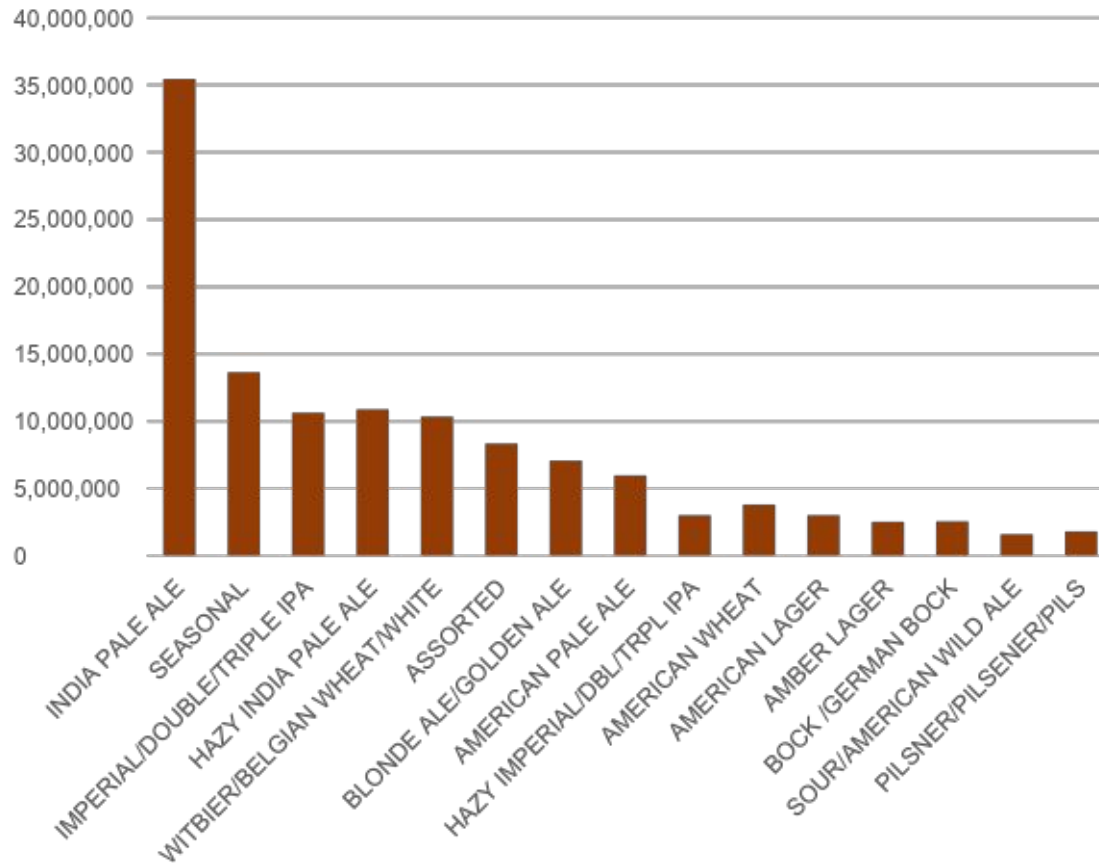


TOPLINE

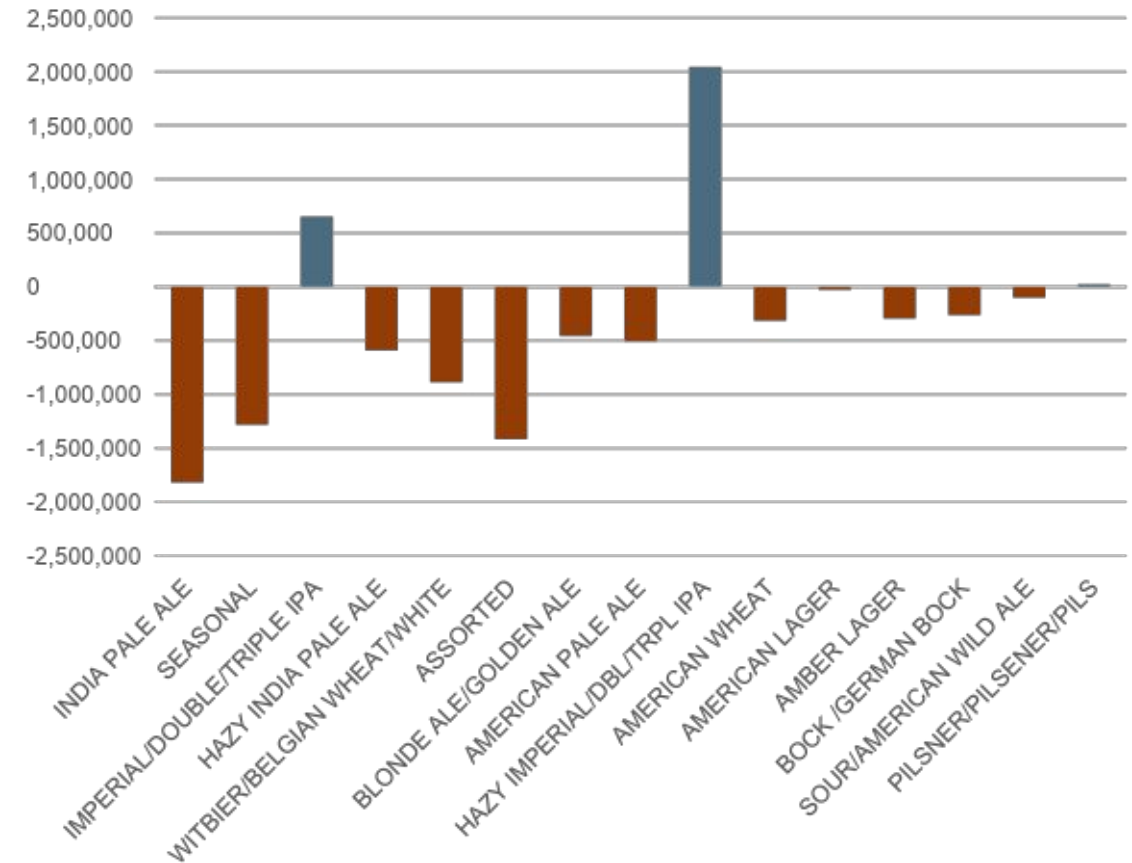


# Styles, Last 52 Weeks

Top Styles

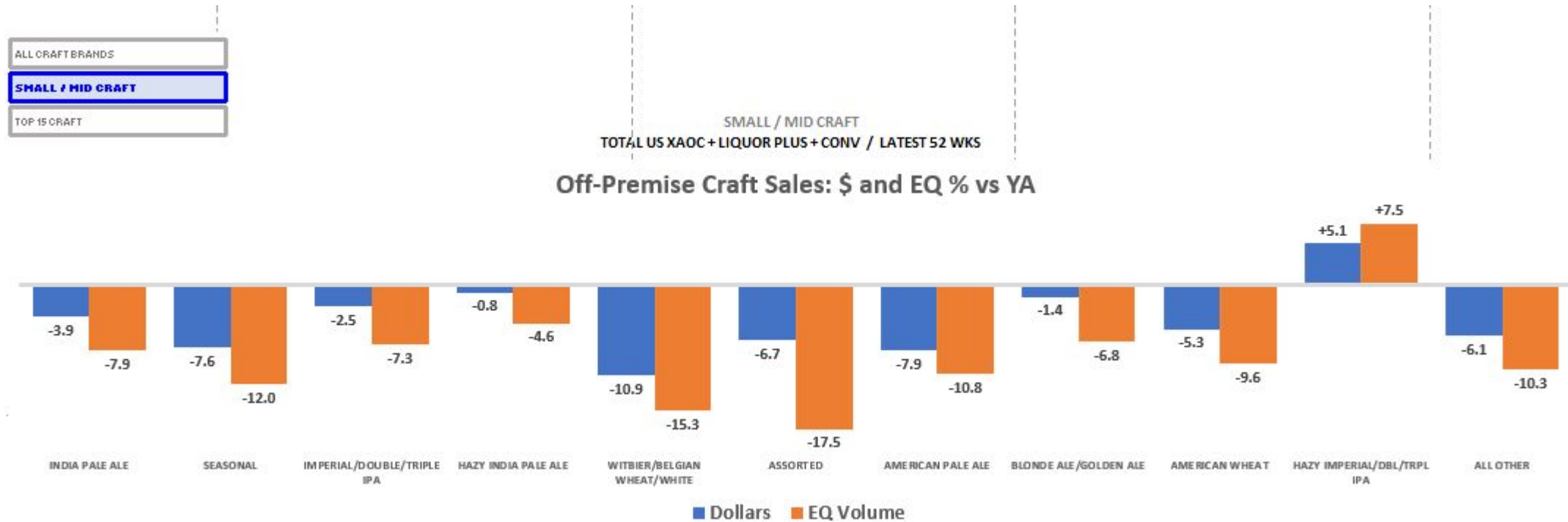


Change vs YA



Source: 3 Tier NIQ Dashboard (available to BA members)

# Different Picture by Size



Source: 3 Tier NIQ Dashboard (available to BA members)

# Vermont

## ALL CRAFT BRANDS

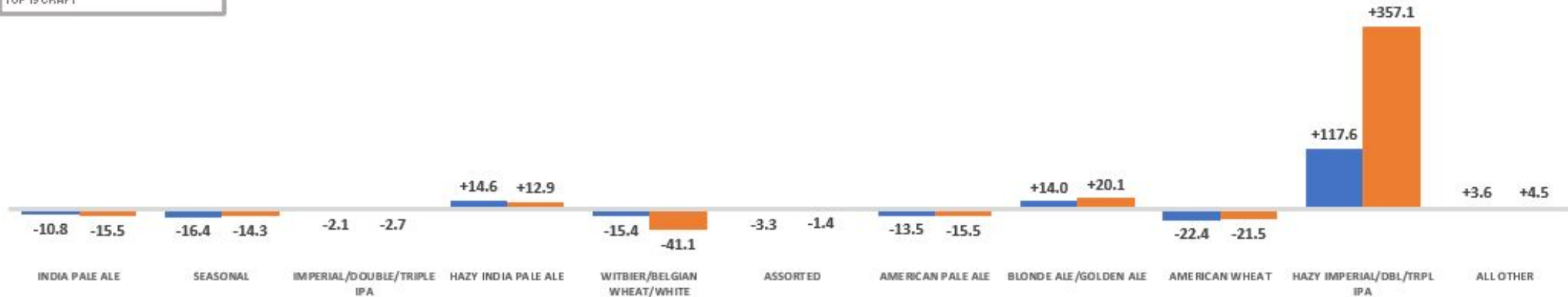
SMALL / MID CRAFT

TOP 15 CRAFT

ALL CRAFT BRANDS

VERMONT XAOC CENSUS (NC) / LATEST 13 WKS

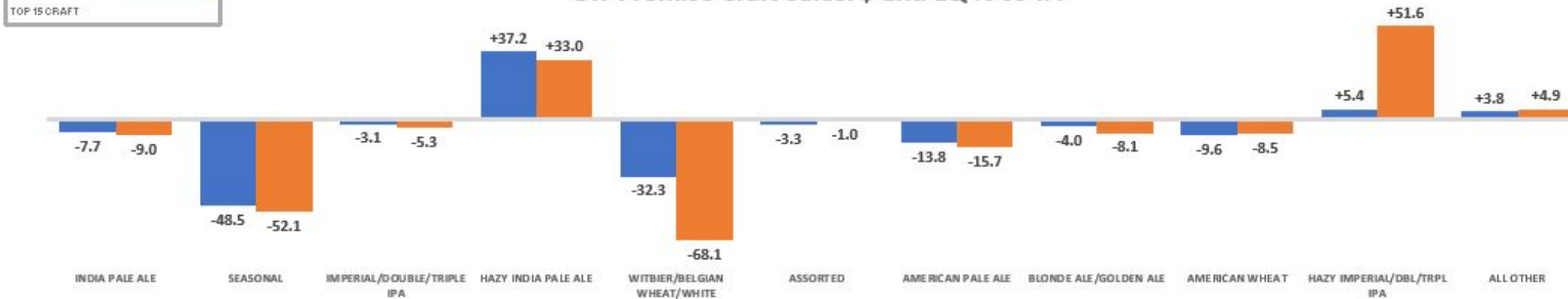
## Off-Premise Craft Sales: \$ and EQ % vs YA



SMALL / MID CRAFT

VERMONT XAOC CENSUS (NC) / LATEST 13 WKS

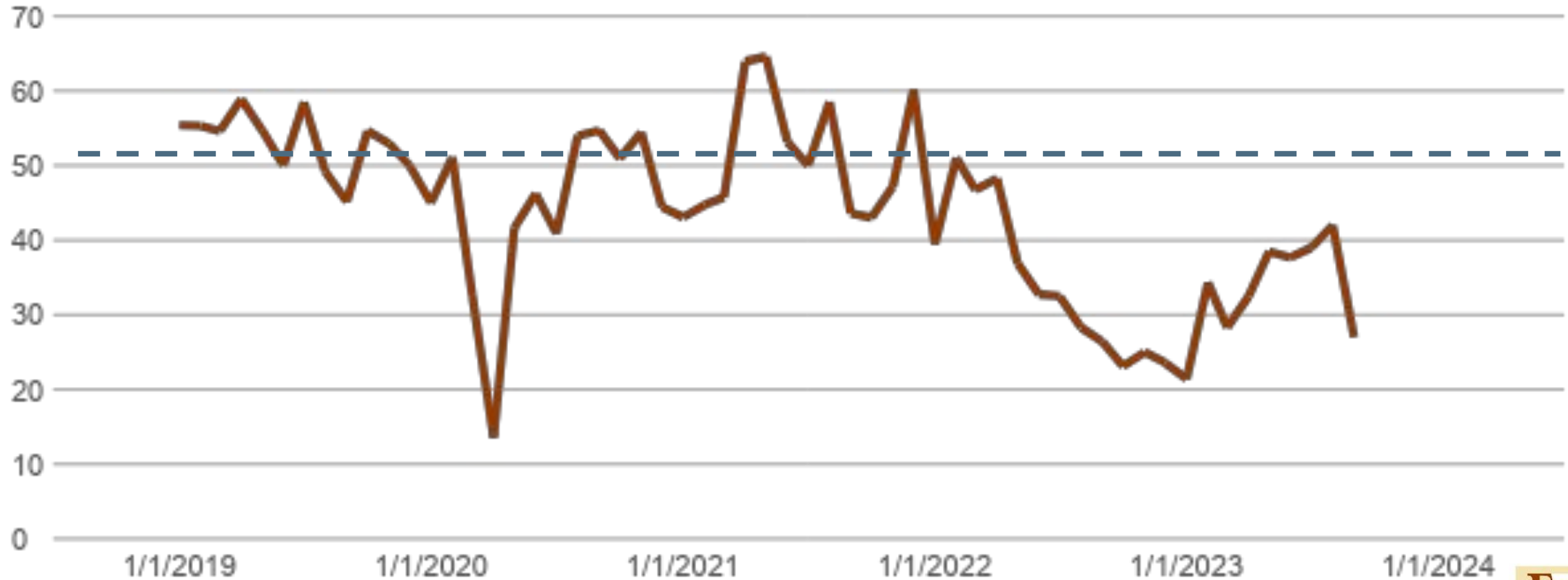
## Off-Premise Craft Sales: \$ and EQ % vs YA



■ Dollars ■ EQ Volume

# Distribution Rationalization Not Over

NBWA Beer Purchasers Index  
Craft: Jan 2019 to June 2023

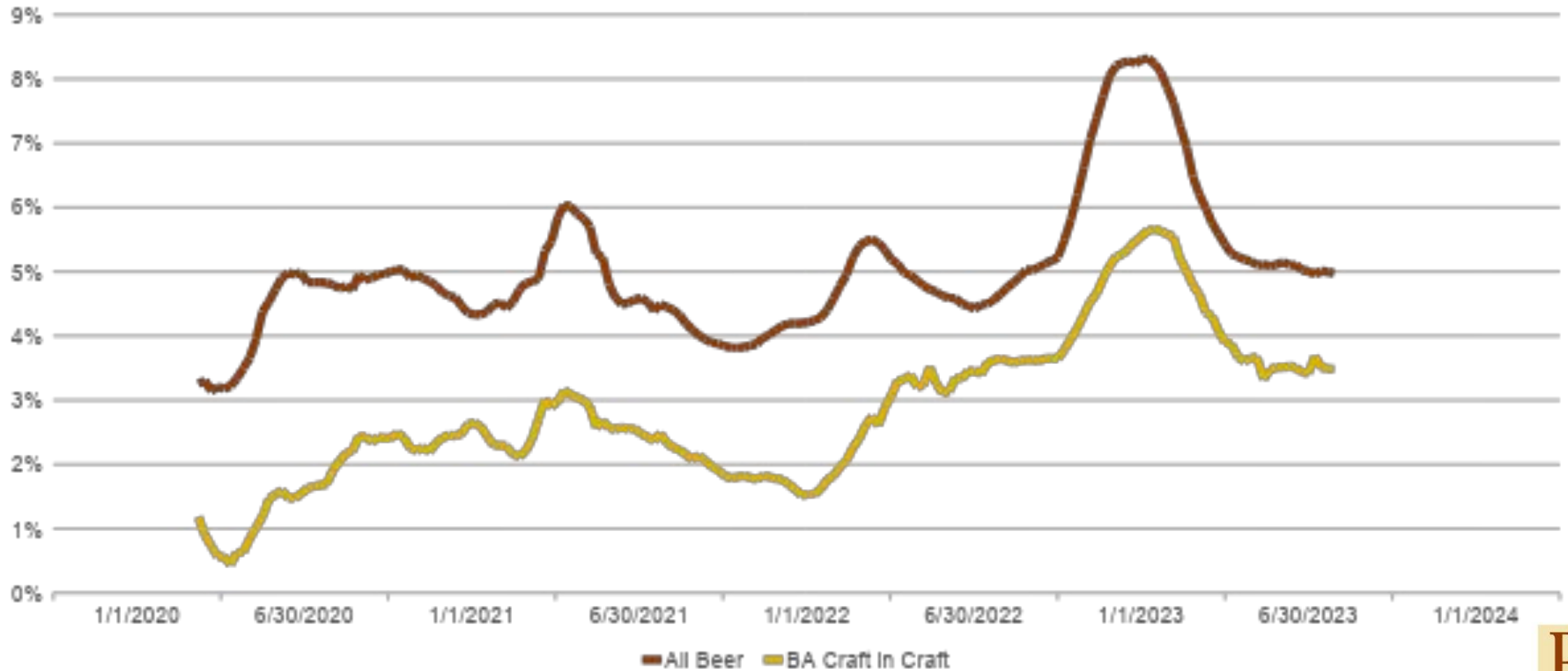


Source: NBWA



# Craft Taking Less Price

Rolling 8-Week YoY Inflation, Craft vs All Beer, Circana Data



Source: Circana



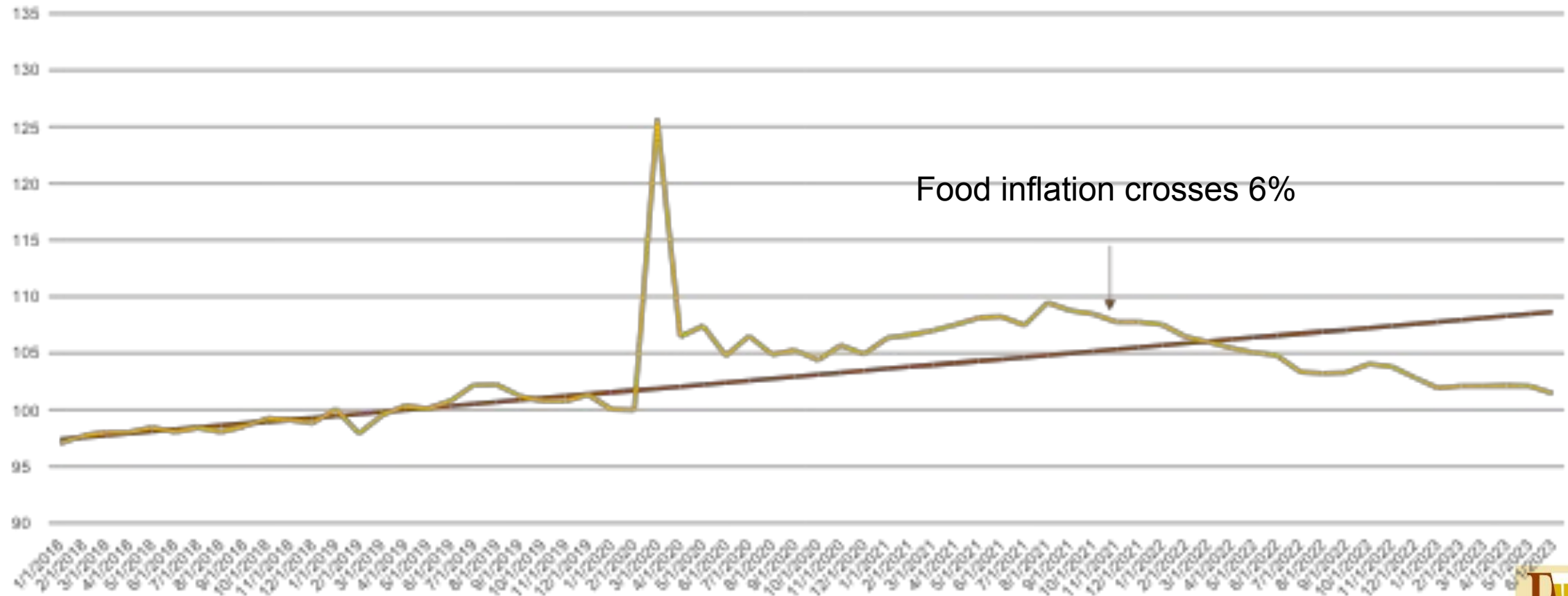
# Opportunity or Worry?

Price Ratio BA Craft to All Beer\*



Source: Circana, BA Analysis

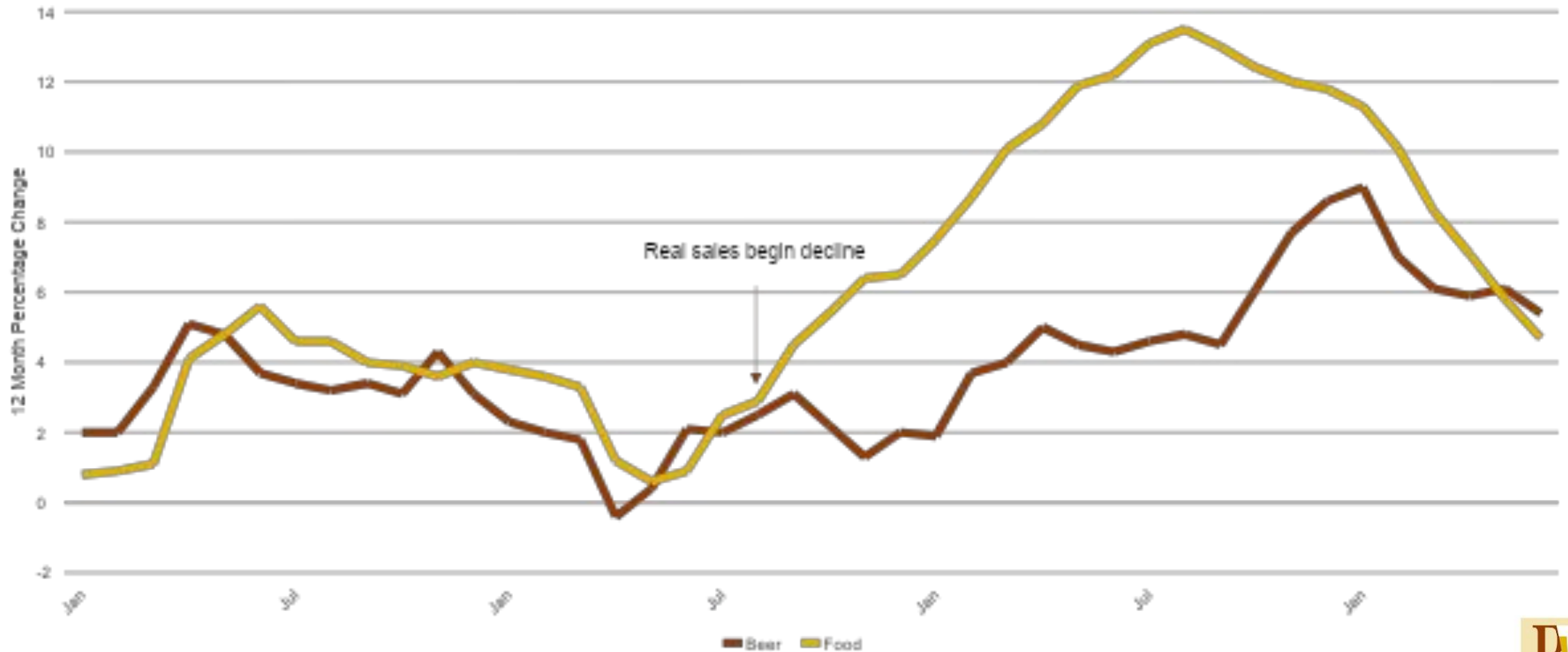
# Total Real Food and Beverage Sales



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, BA Analysis

# Situating Beer

CPI: Beer at Home vs Food at Home



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics

# Inflation Dragging Down Overall F& B Purchasing?



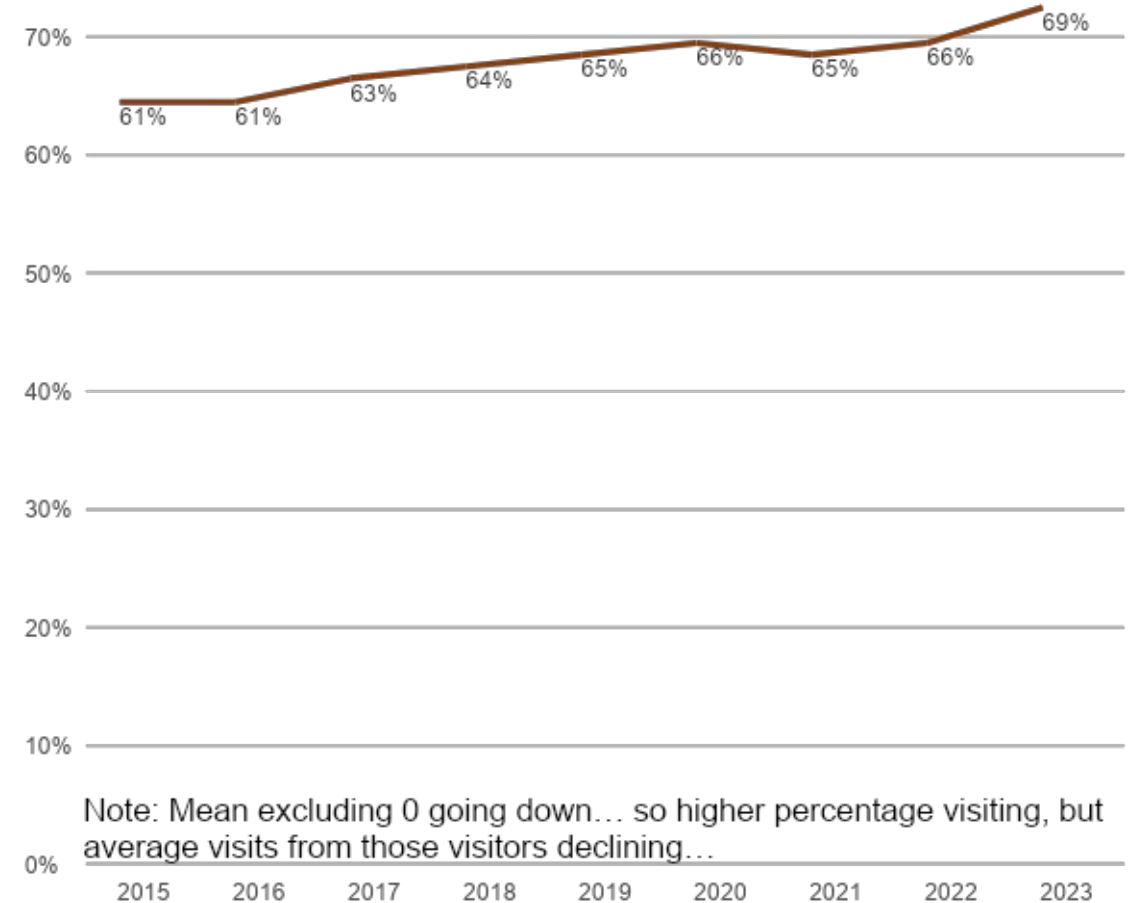
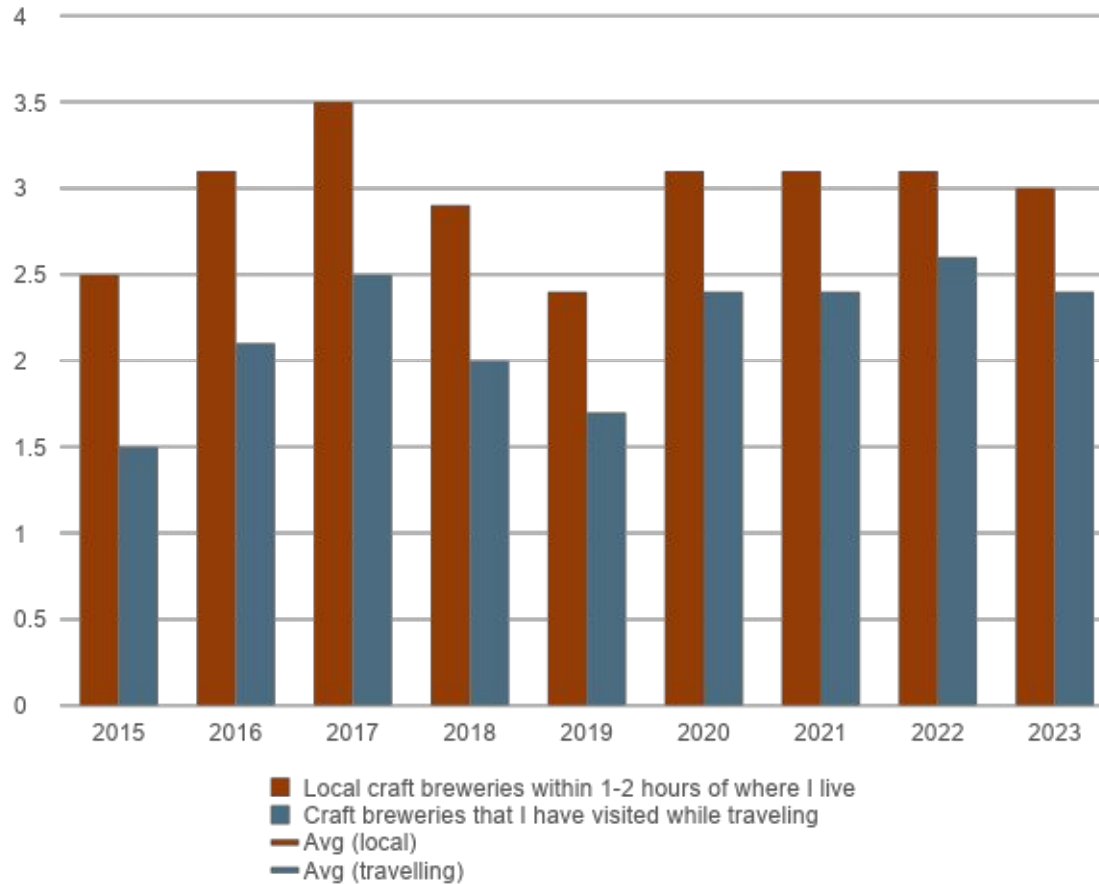
Source: US Census Bureau and BLS

# At the Brewery



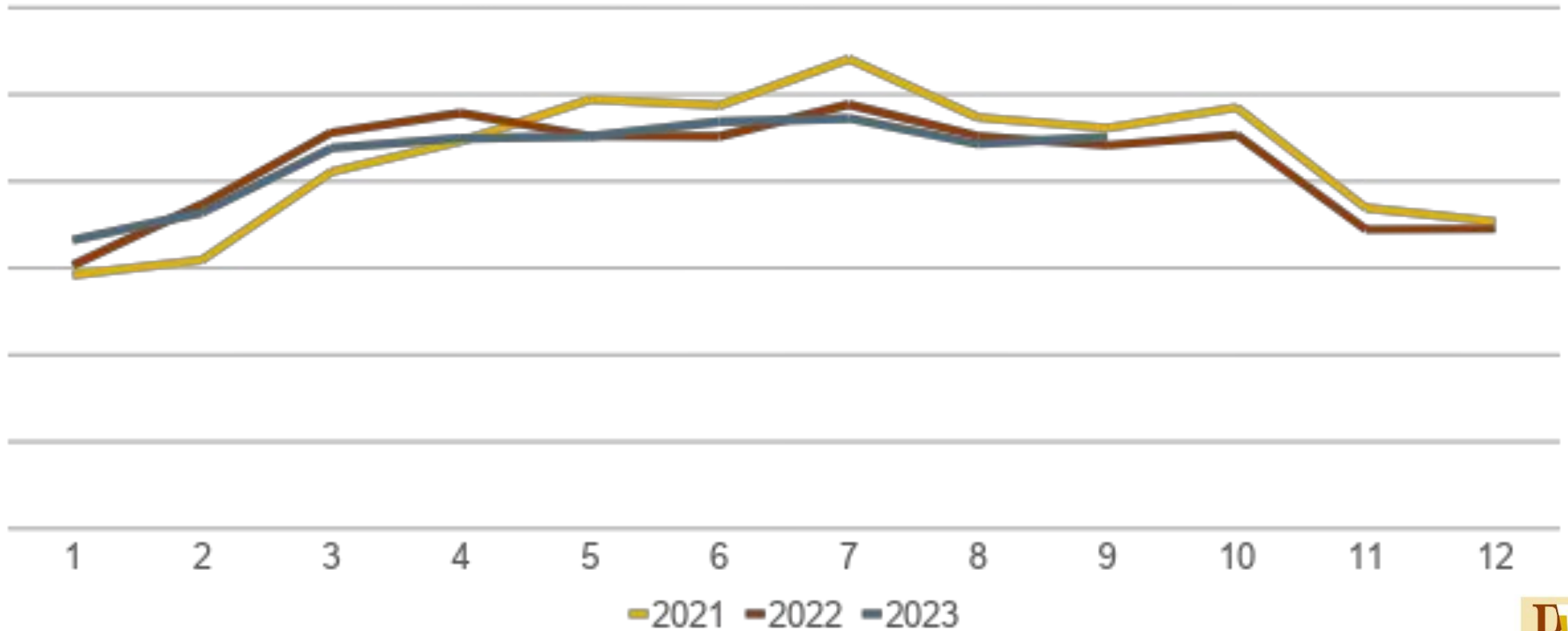
# Onsite Visits Steady

Implies base matters more for total visits



# Check Levels Steady

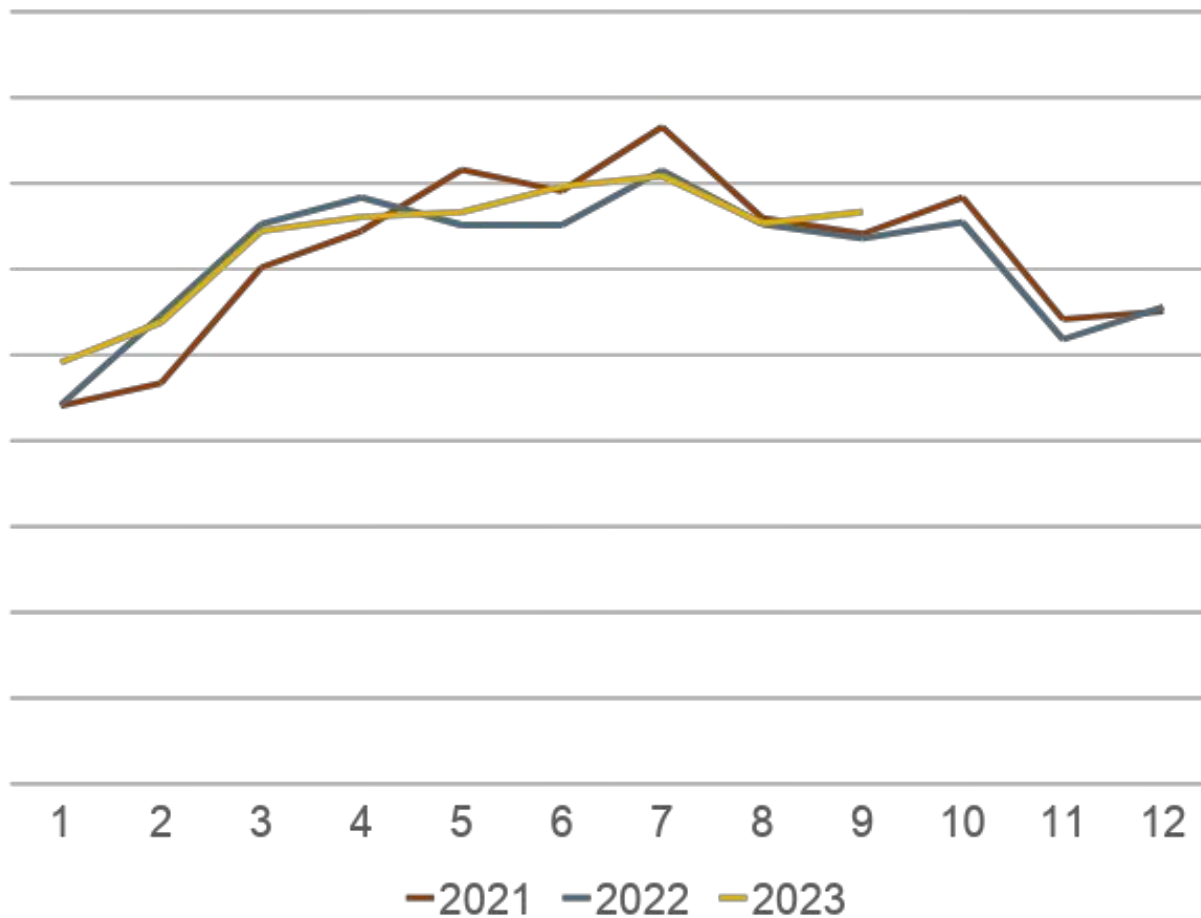
Arryved, Average Checks per Location per Month



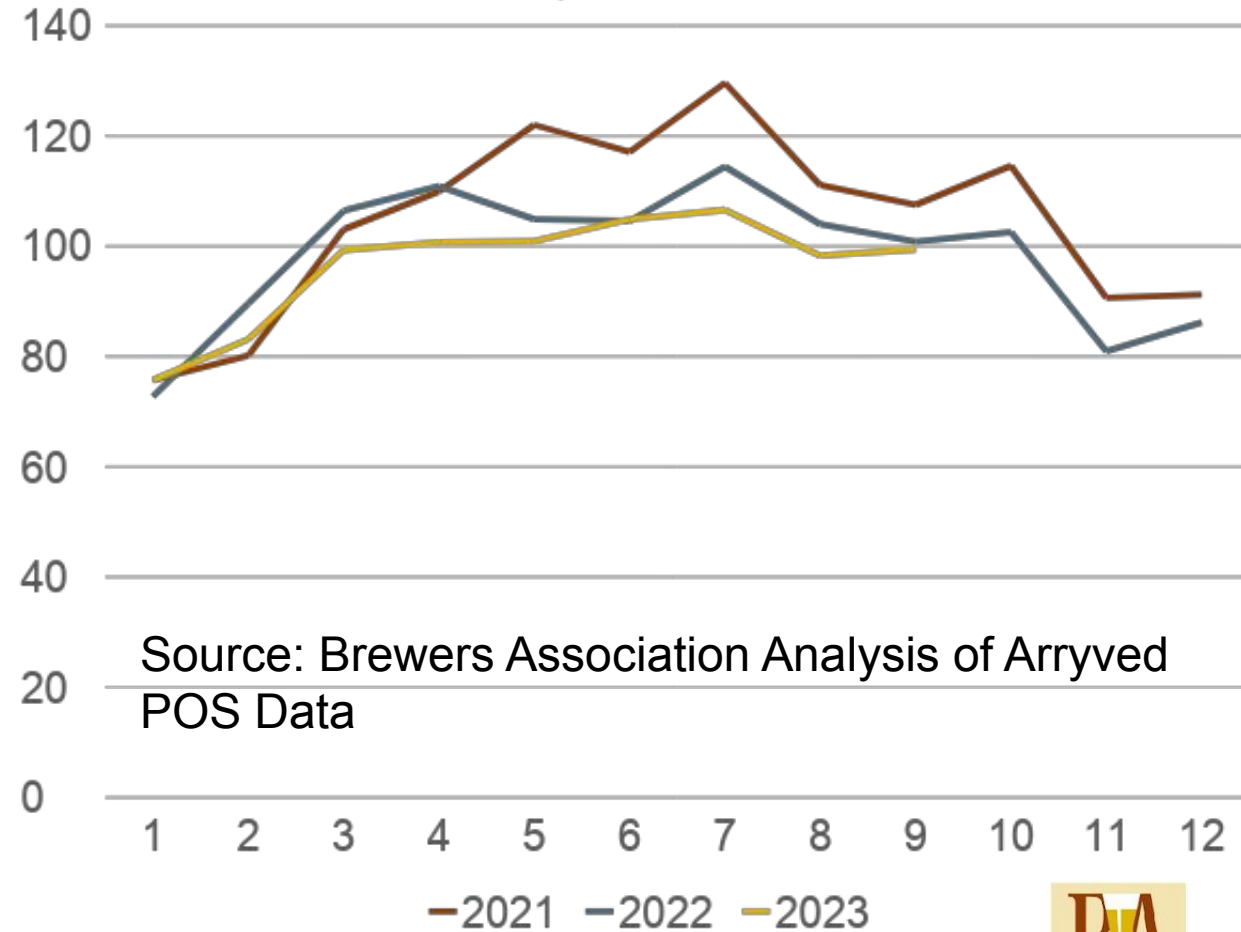
Source: Arryved

# Sales Falling a Bit

Sales Per Location by Month and Year



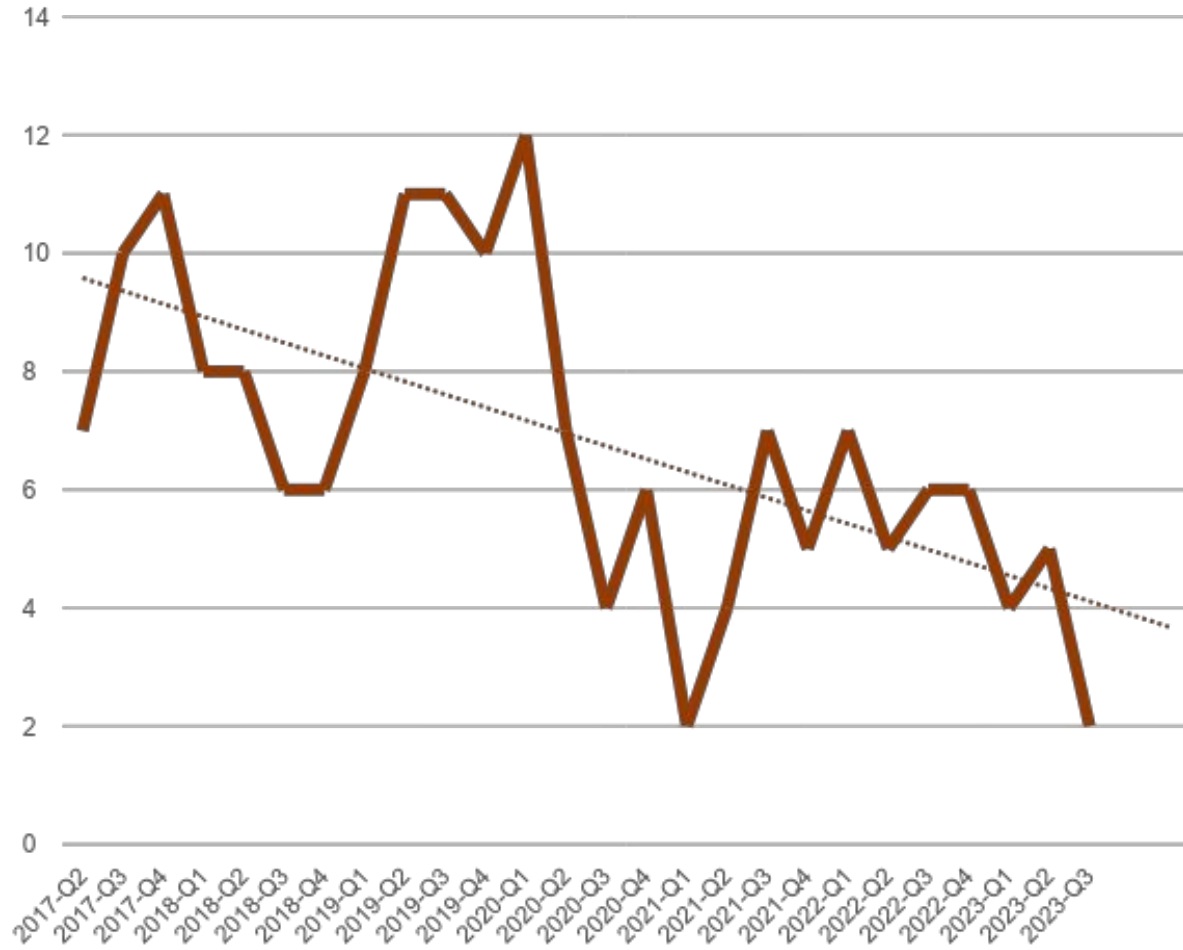
Real Sales per Location Index



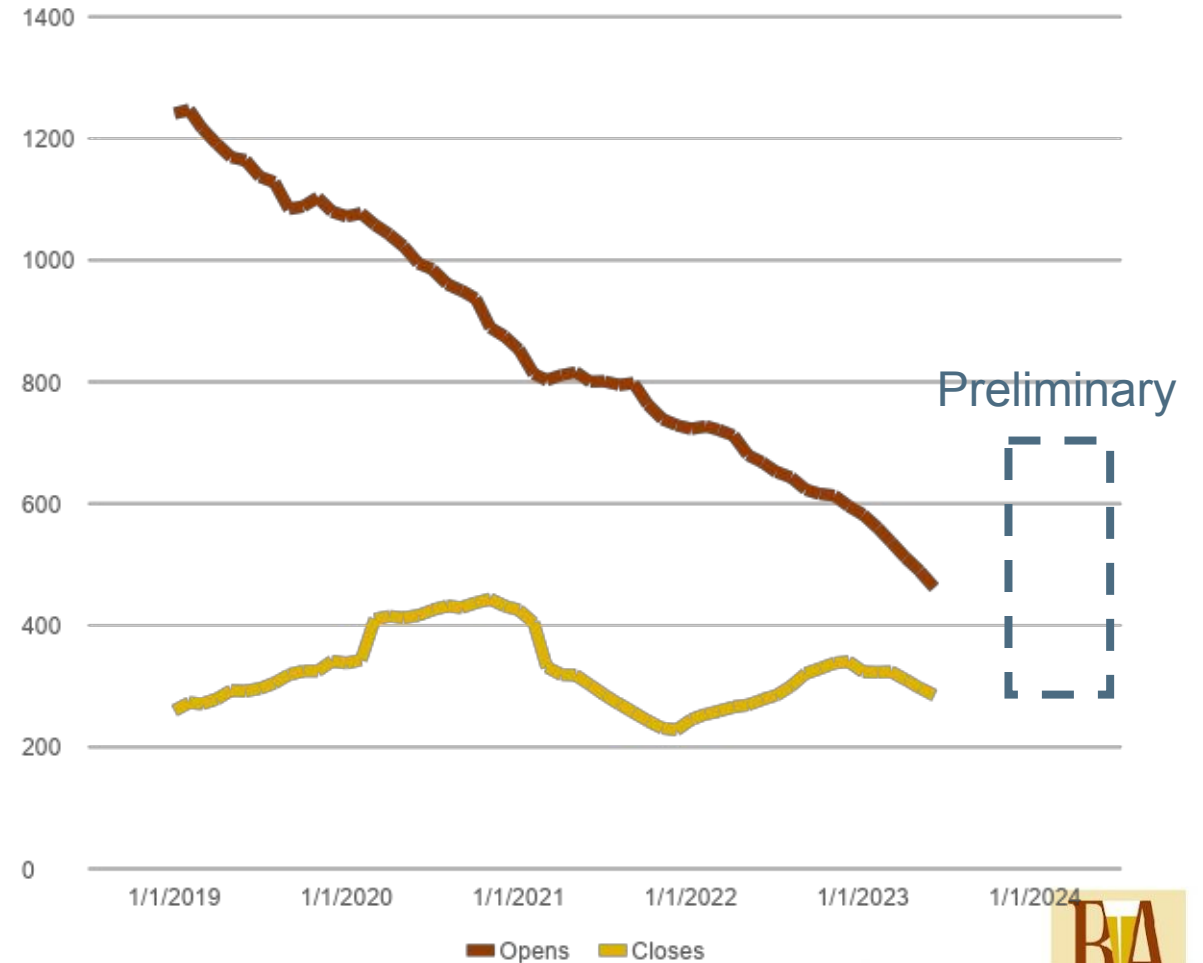
Source: Brewers Association Analysis of Arryved POS Data

# Openings Consistently Declining

Vermont, YoY TTB Permit Growth by Quarter



US, Rolling L12M Opens and Closes



# How Many Breweries?

- Moving target
- Local question
- Closings not a bubble bursting
  - End of golden age
  - Mature, “normal” market

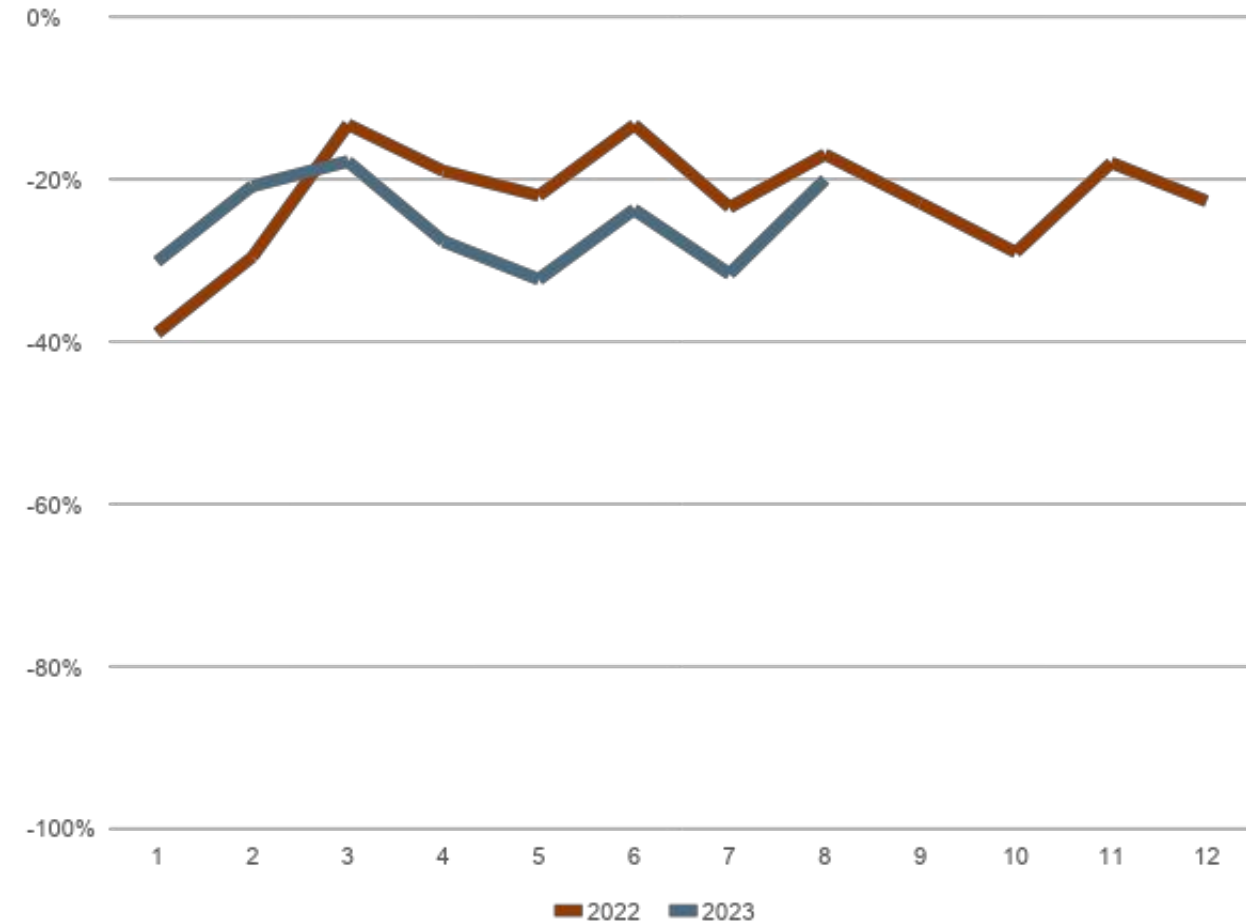




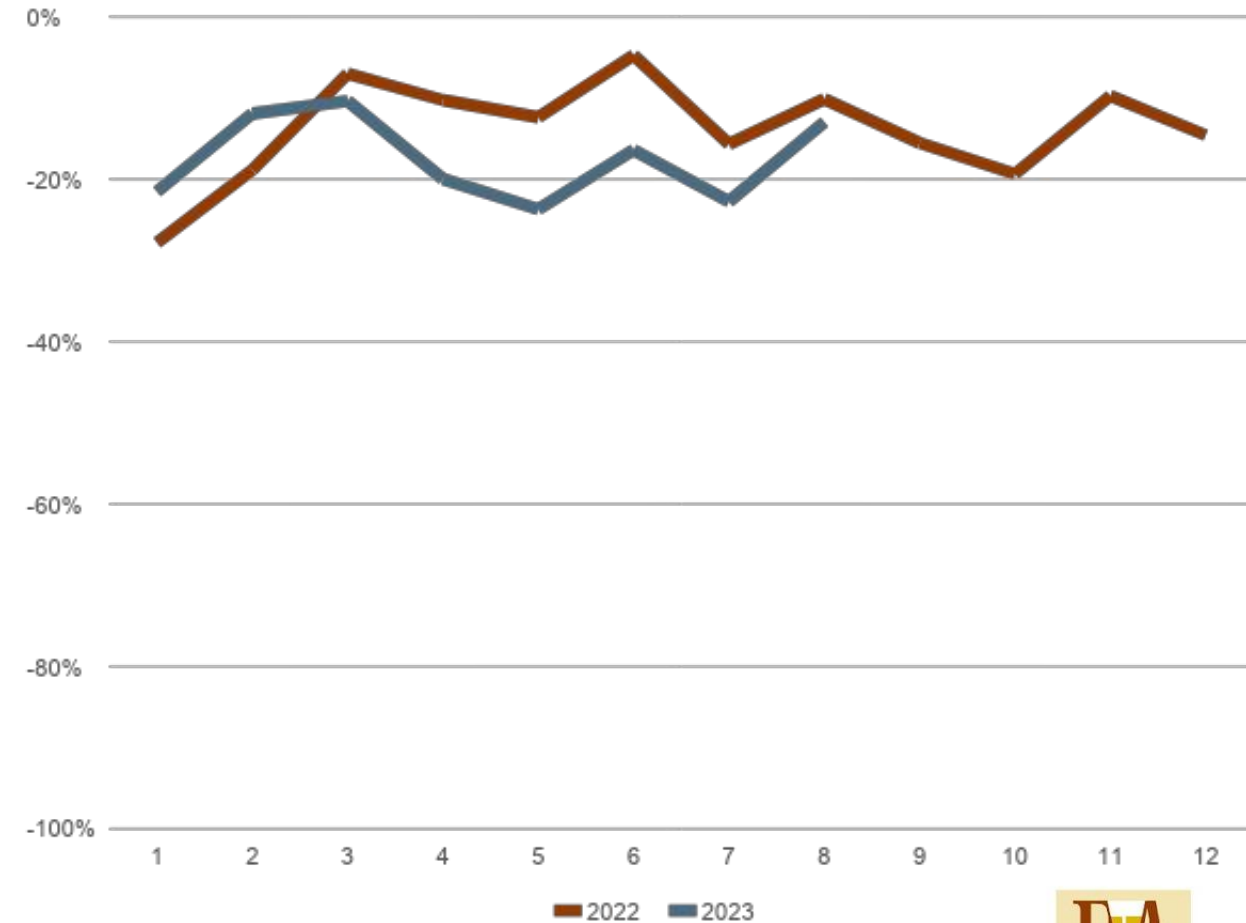
# On Premise

# Draught Never Came Back

Keg Production + Imports as % of 2019 By Year and Month



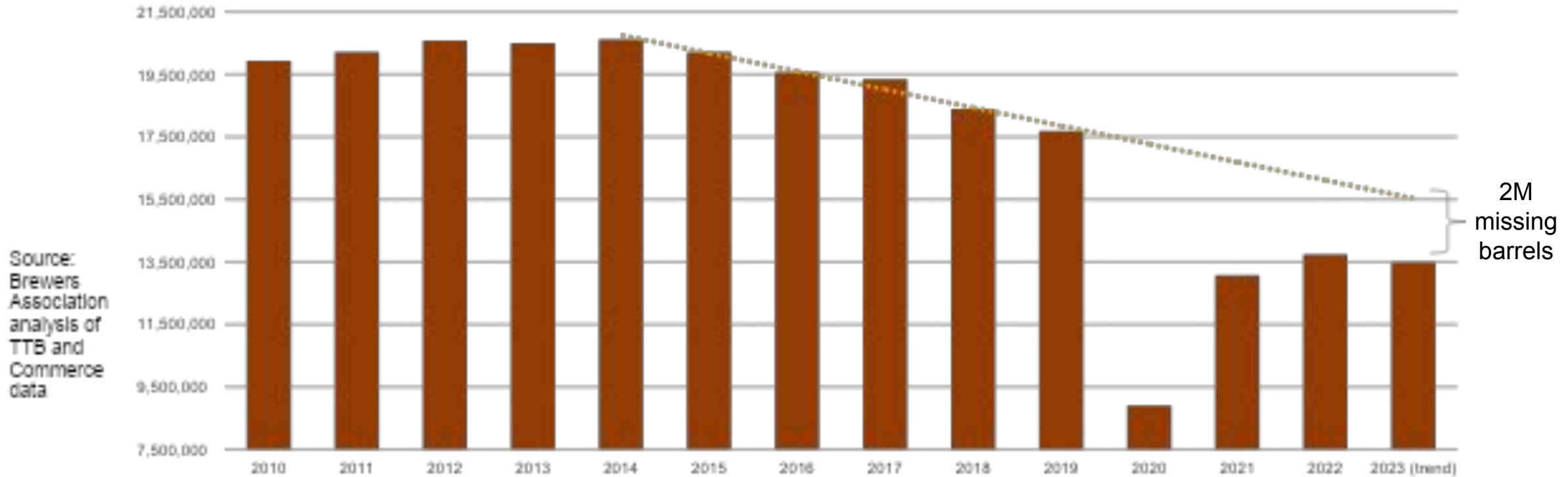
Kegs+Premise Use vs 2019 by Year and Month



Sources: US = TTB and Commerce Dept.

# Was Already Declining... But

US Keg Production + Imports, 2010-2022



Source: TTB and Commerce, BA Analysis

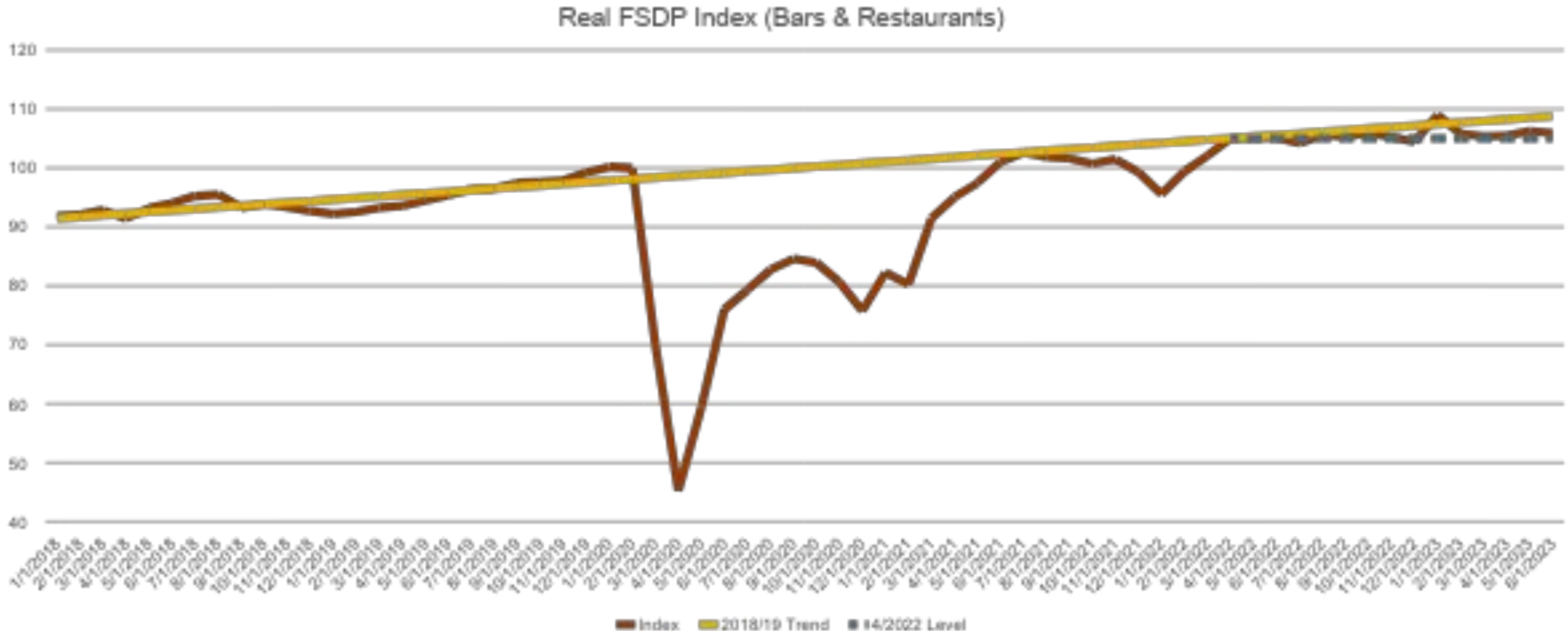
# When Do Retailers Stop Caring?

US Estimate, Draught as % of FSDP Sales



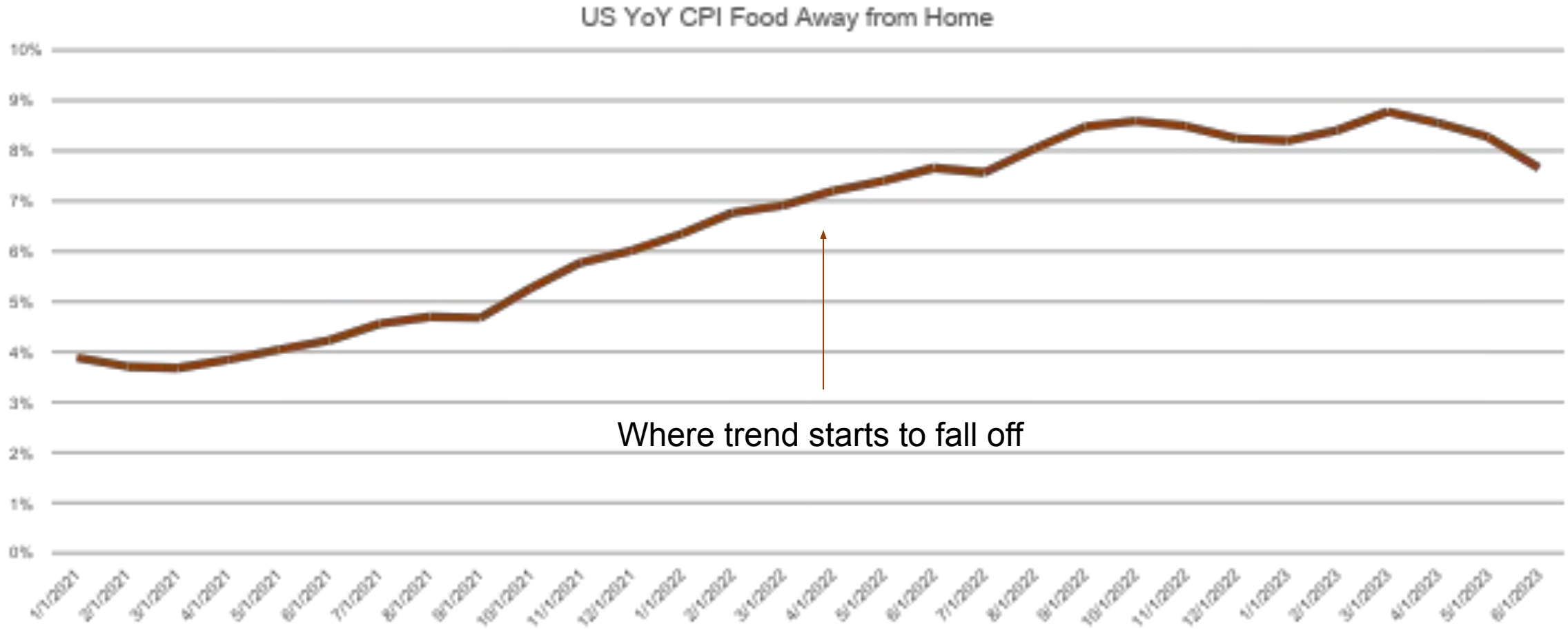
Source: Brewers Association

# US Growth Also Stalled



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, BA Analysis

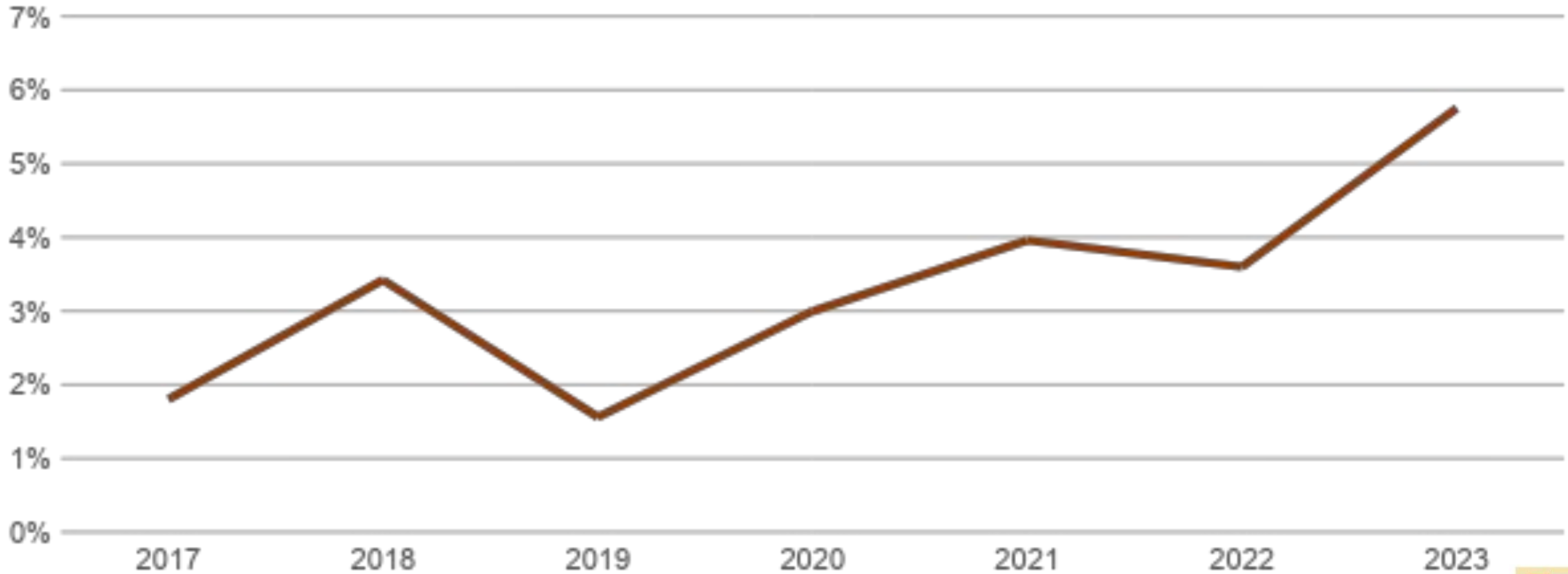
# Inflation Effect?





# Signs in our Craft Research

Drinking Less & citing "Cannot afford it anymore (i.e., due to higher prices)," % of Total

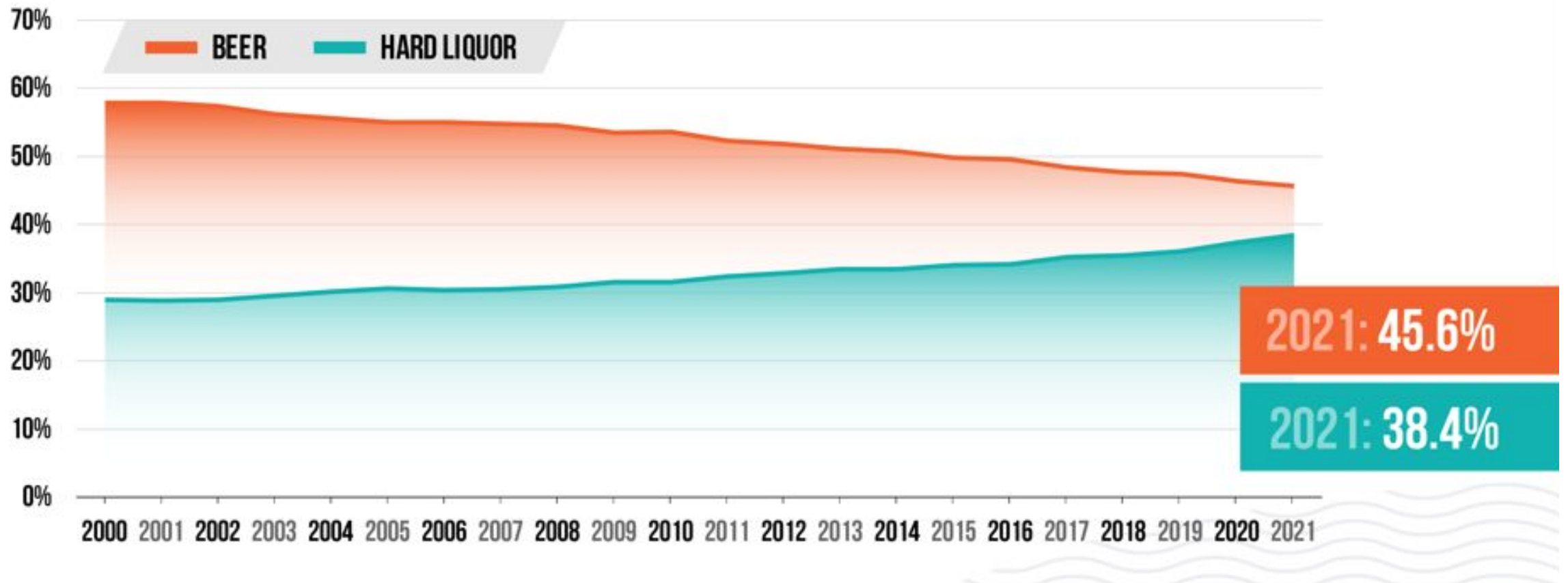


Source: Harris Poll, Various Years



# **Beer's Decline and Why You Should Care**

# Beverage Alcohol Share - US



# Beer Share Loss Isn't Rocket

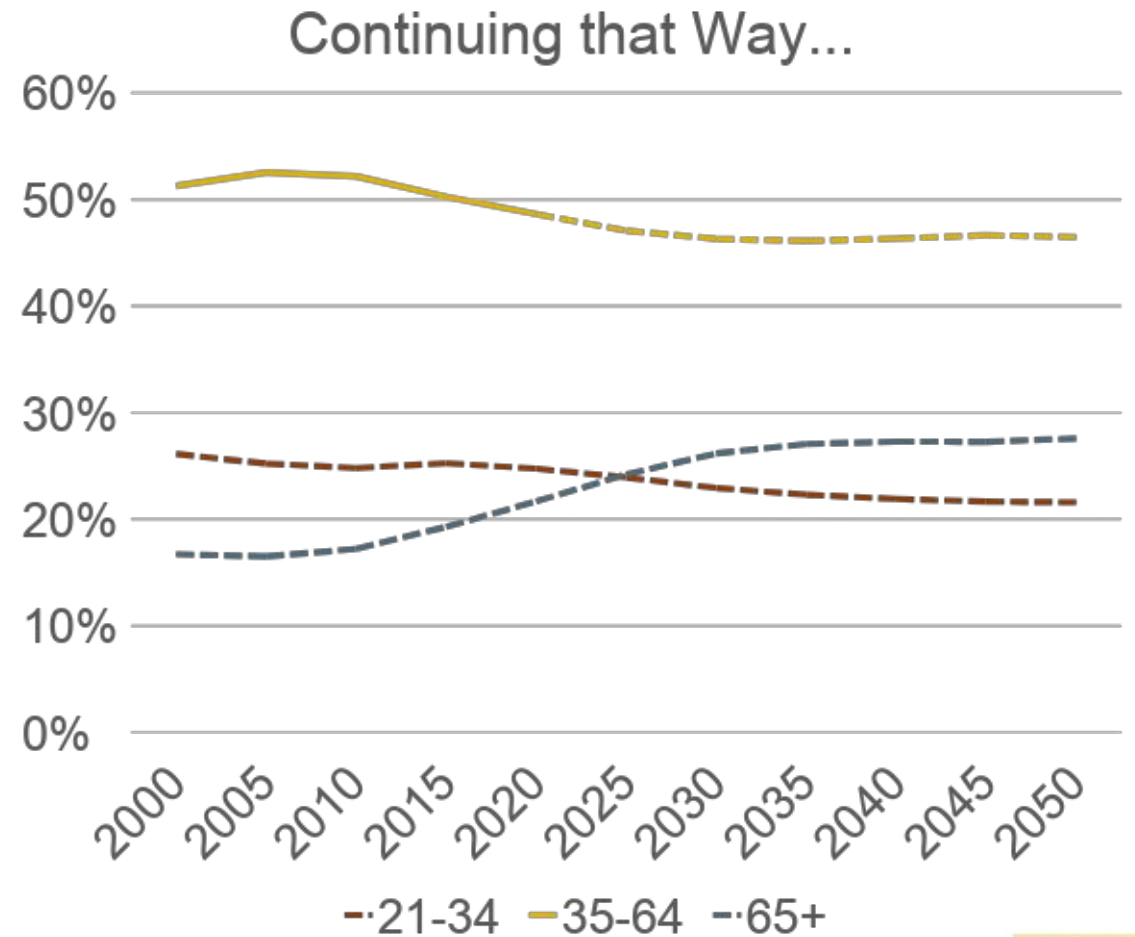
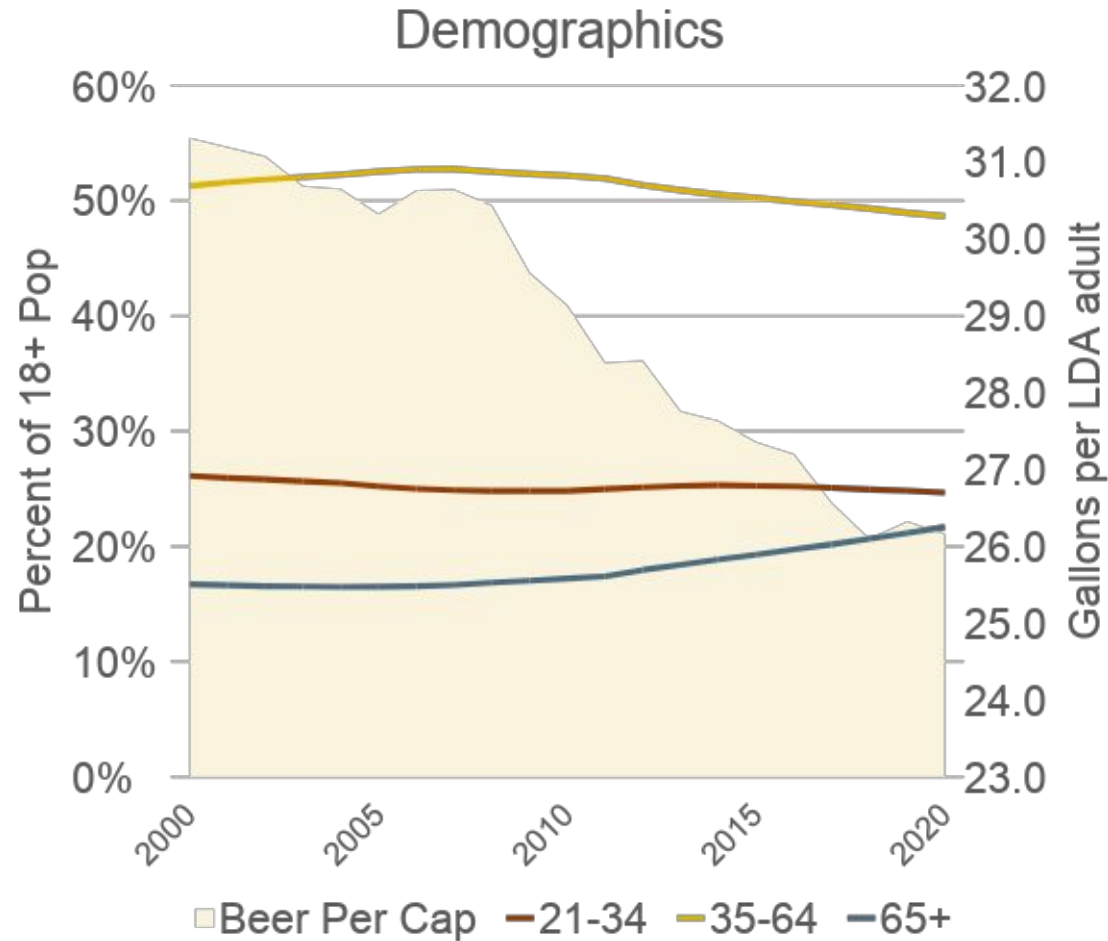
1. Pricing
2. Demographics (and preferences)
  - i. Aging
  - ii. Different generations
  - iii. Different consumers
3. Marketing/branding/growth
  - i. Ties back to #2

# Clear Price Story



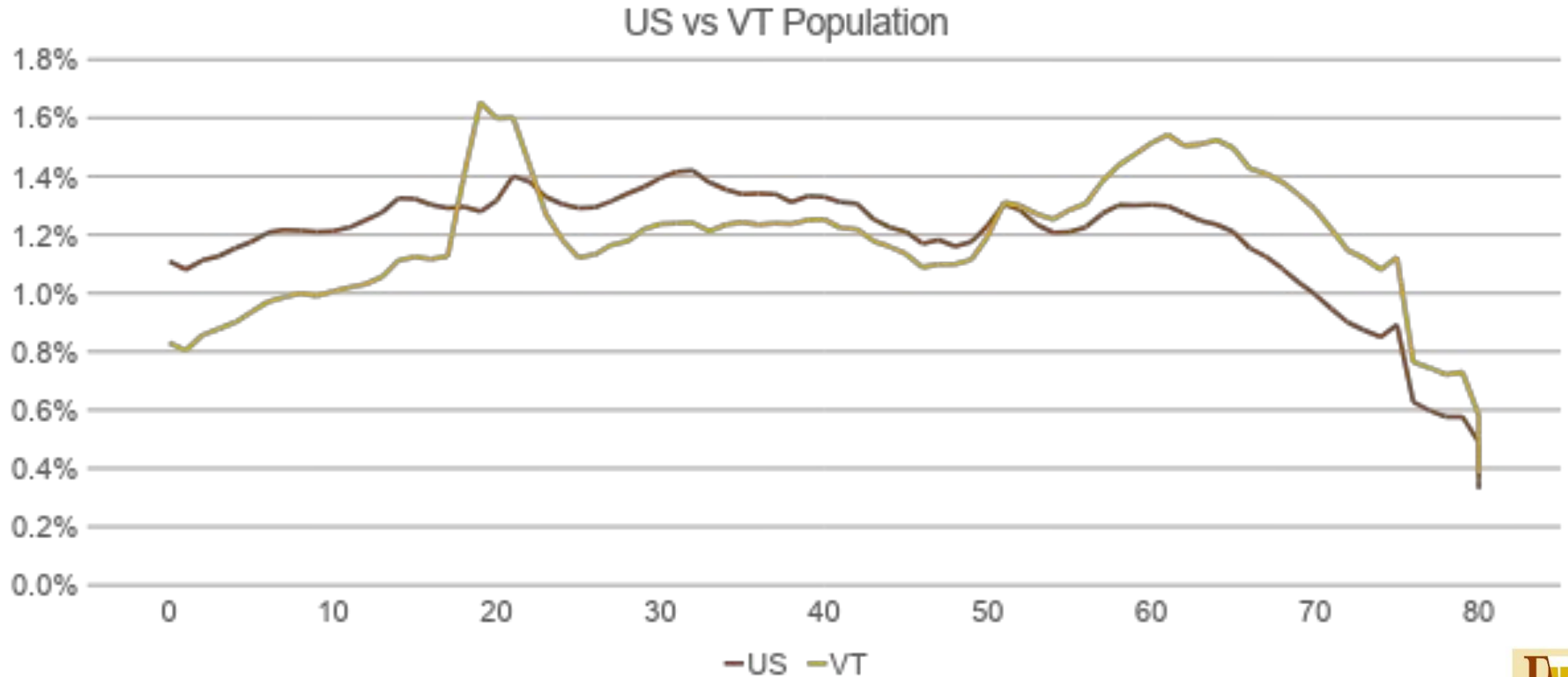
Sources: BLS CPI, BEA

# We're Getting Older



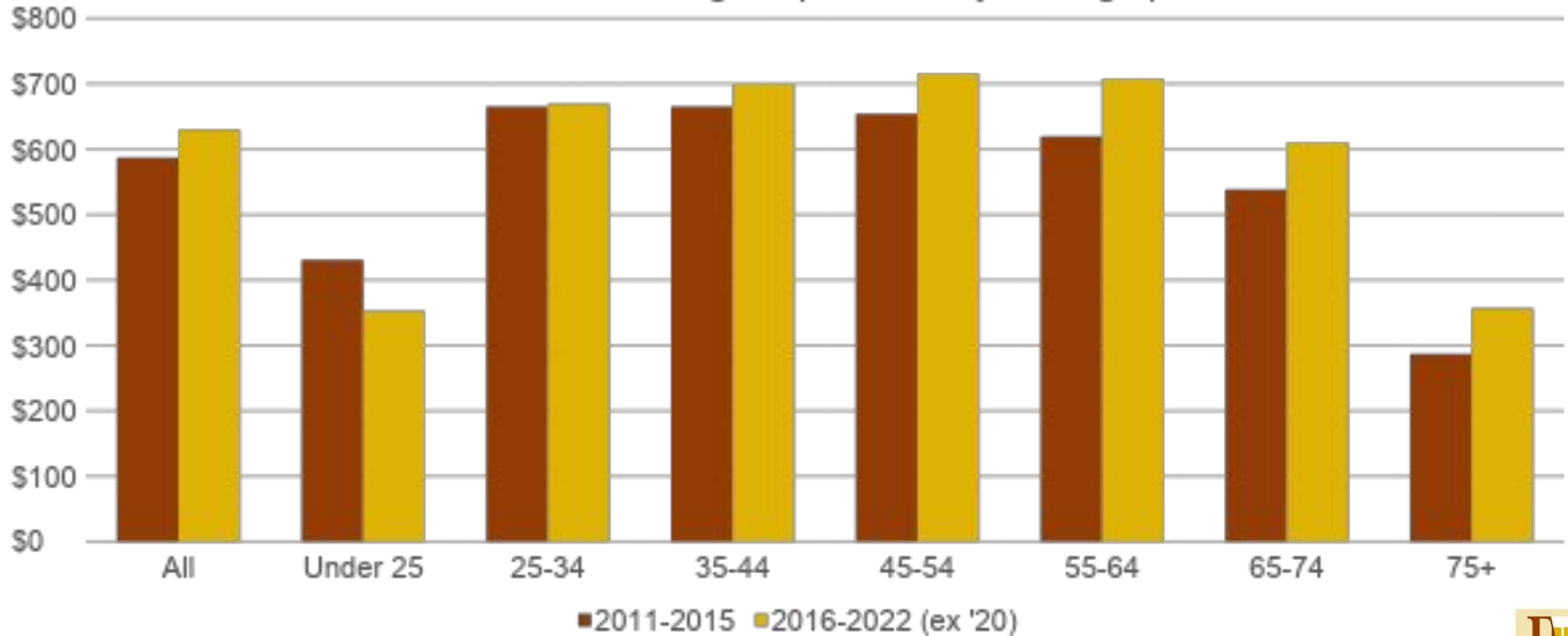


# Vermont Already Older



# Age and Spending

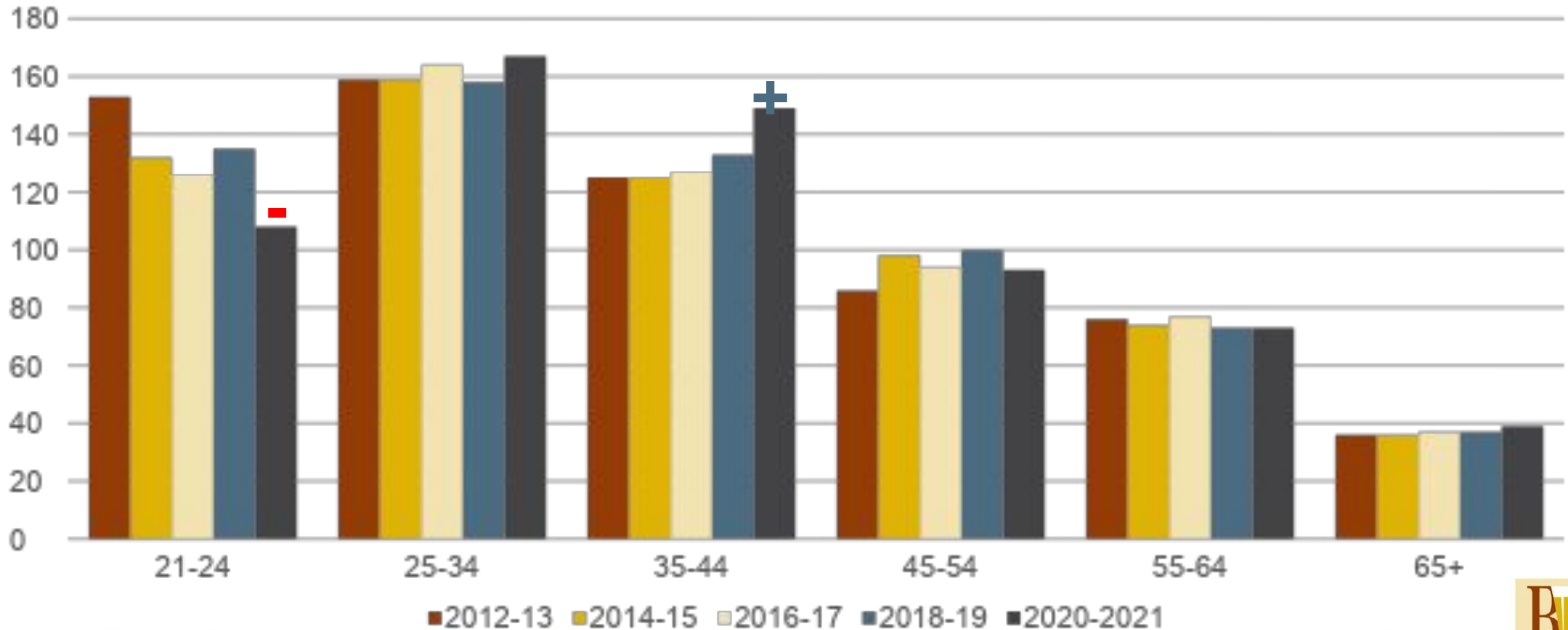
Real Alcoholic Beverage Expenditure by Demographic



Source: BLS Consumer Expenditure Survey

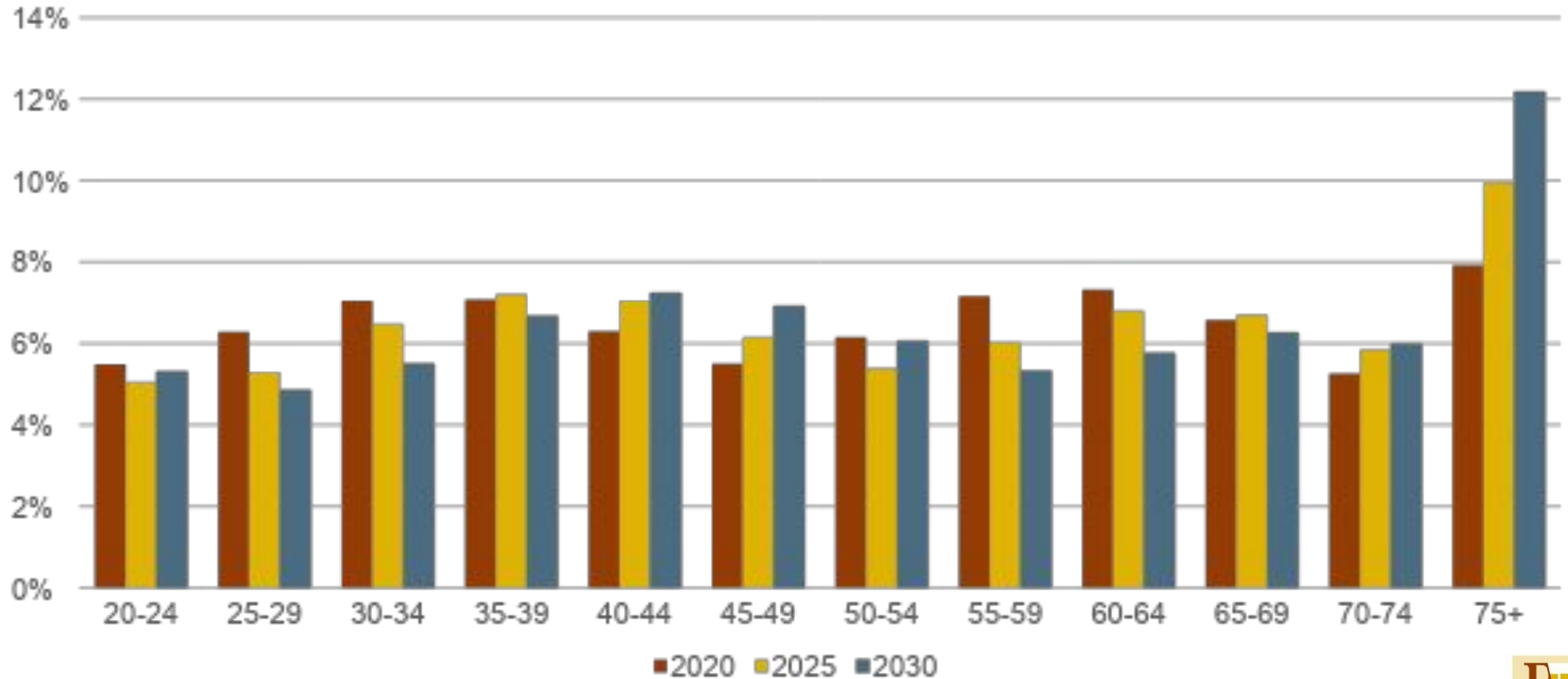
# In US Craft Has Short-Term Demographic Tailwinds, but Headwinds Emerging...

Craft Index, 2012-2021



Source: Scarborough

# Vermont



Source: CDC

# **Winning the Bev Alc Competition**

# 4<sup>th</sup> Category Competition

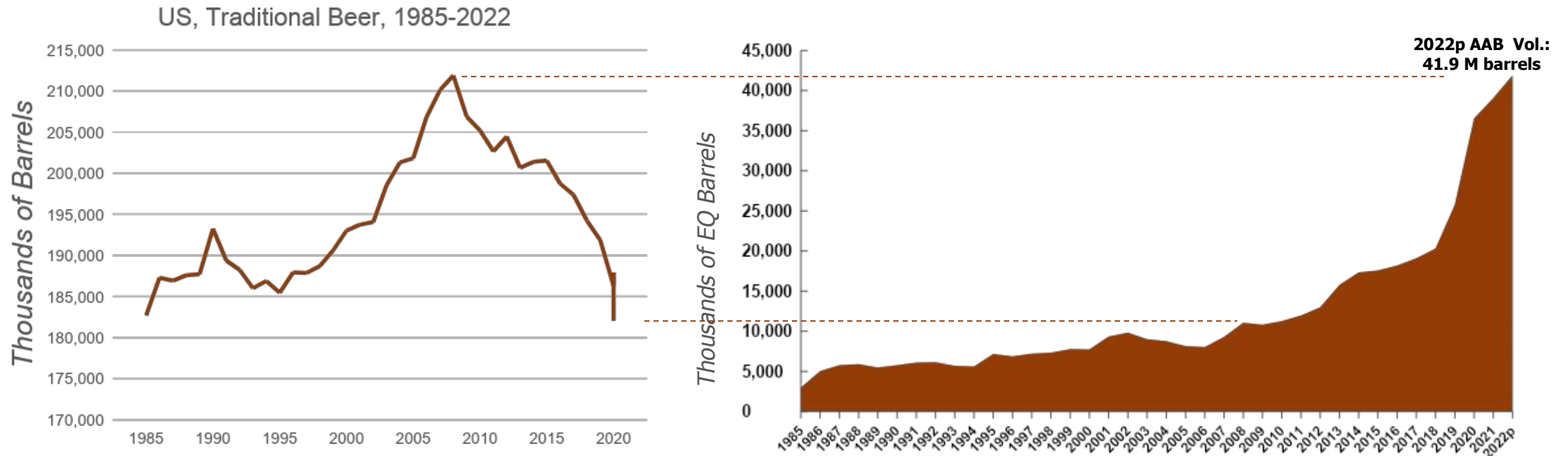
- Only so many shelves and taps
- Seltzer has cooled, but... 4<sup>th</sup> category still coming
- Opportunity for some, but threat for beer, particularly craft
  - Flavor





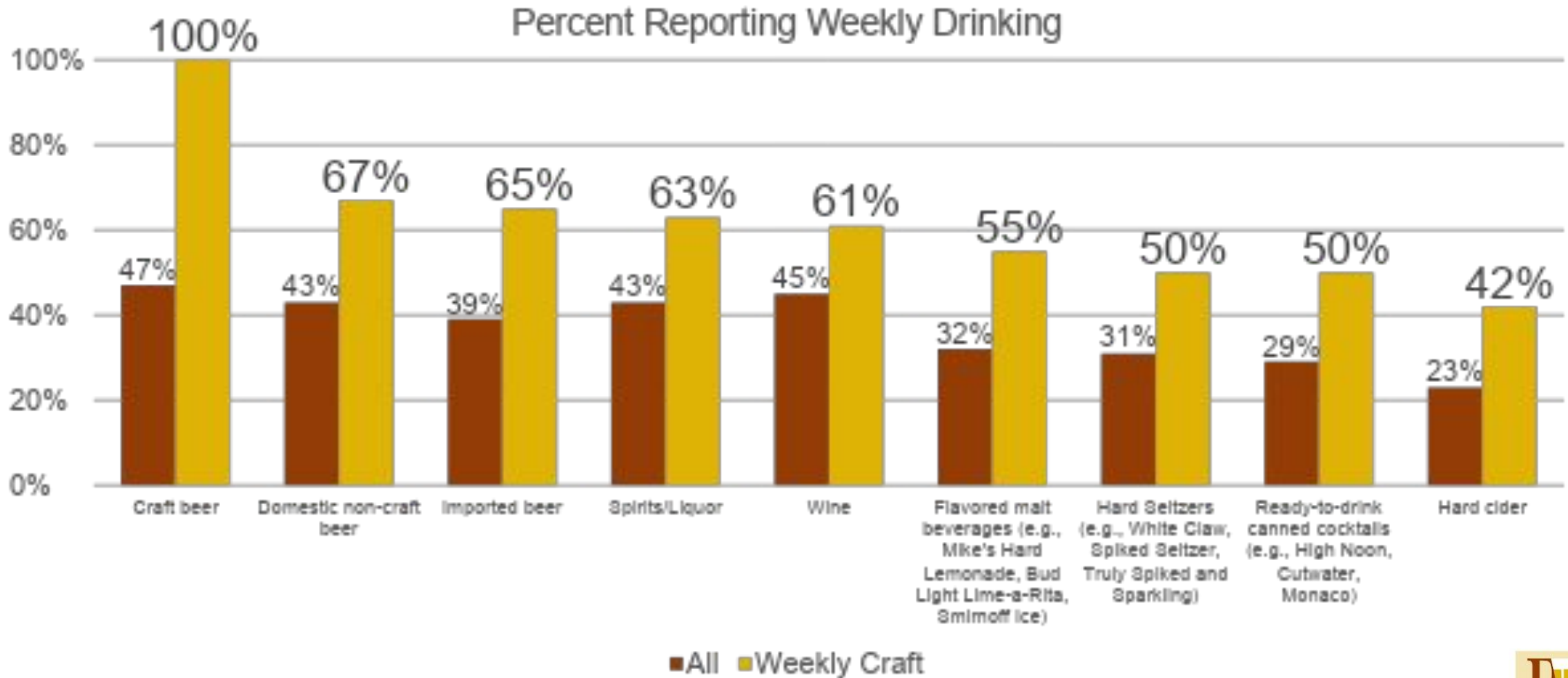
# 4<sup>th</sup> Category Has Steadily Grown

- Only so many shelves
- Seltzer has cooled, but... 4<sup>th</sup> category still coming
- Opportunity for some, but threat for beer



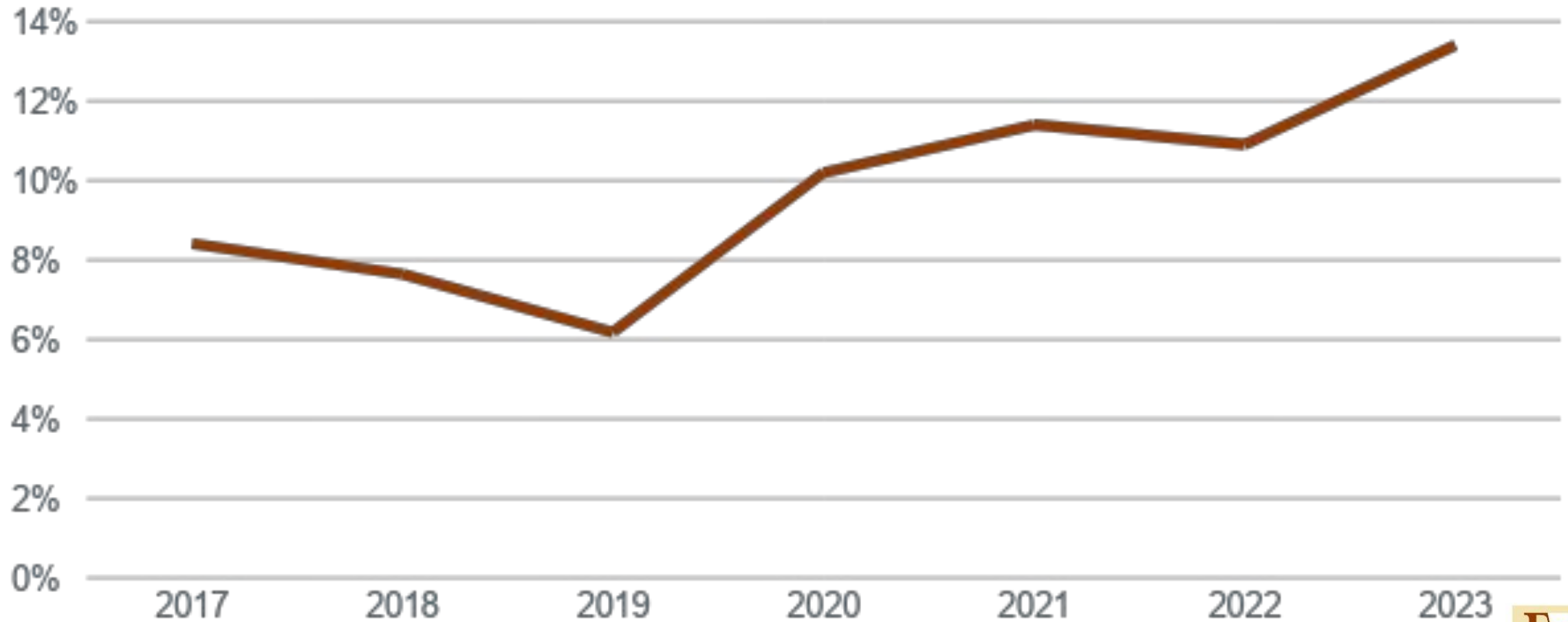
Source: BMCSA Analysis, BMC DrinkTell  
p: Preliminary

# Frequency of Adult Beverages



Source: Harris Poll, 2023

# Increasing Competition

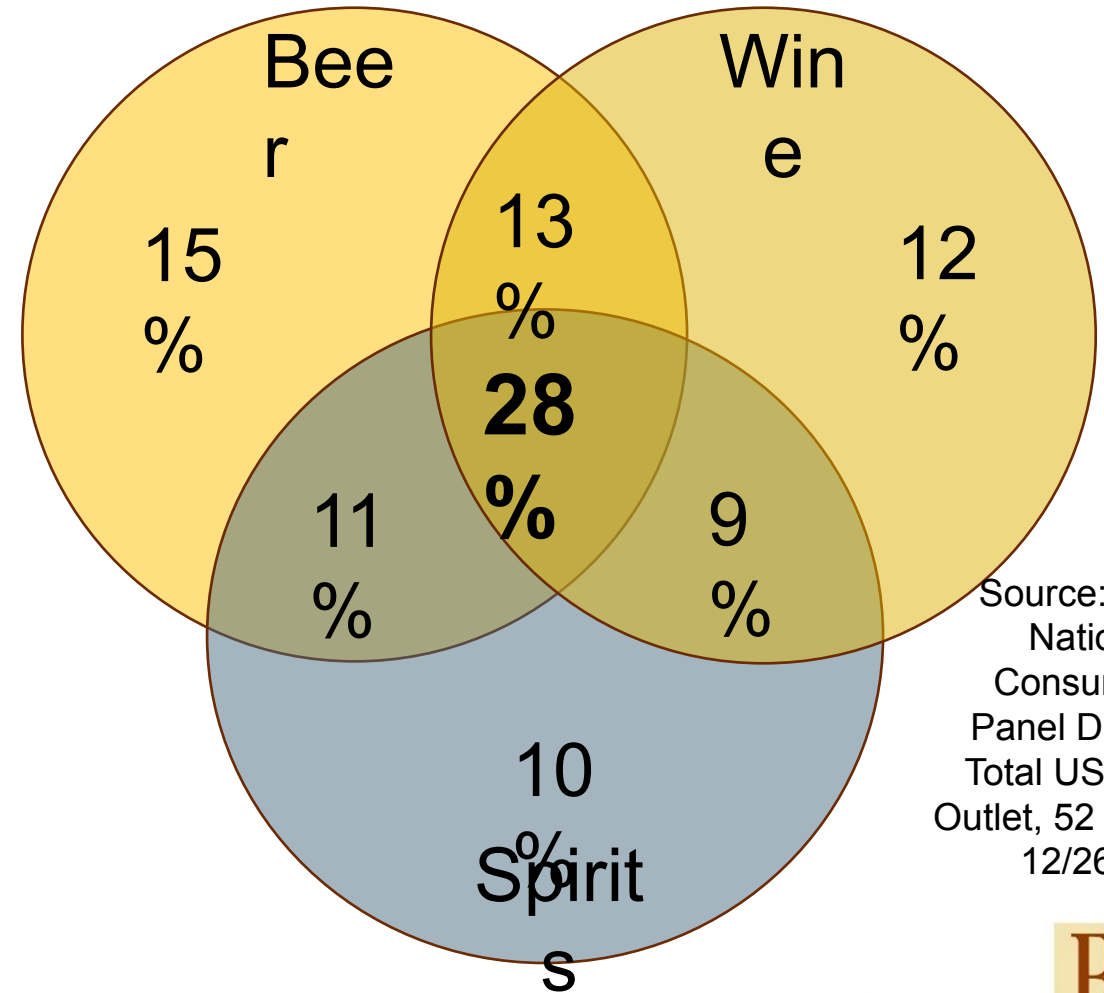


Source: The Harris Poll 2023



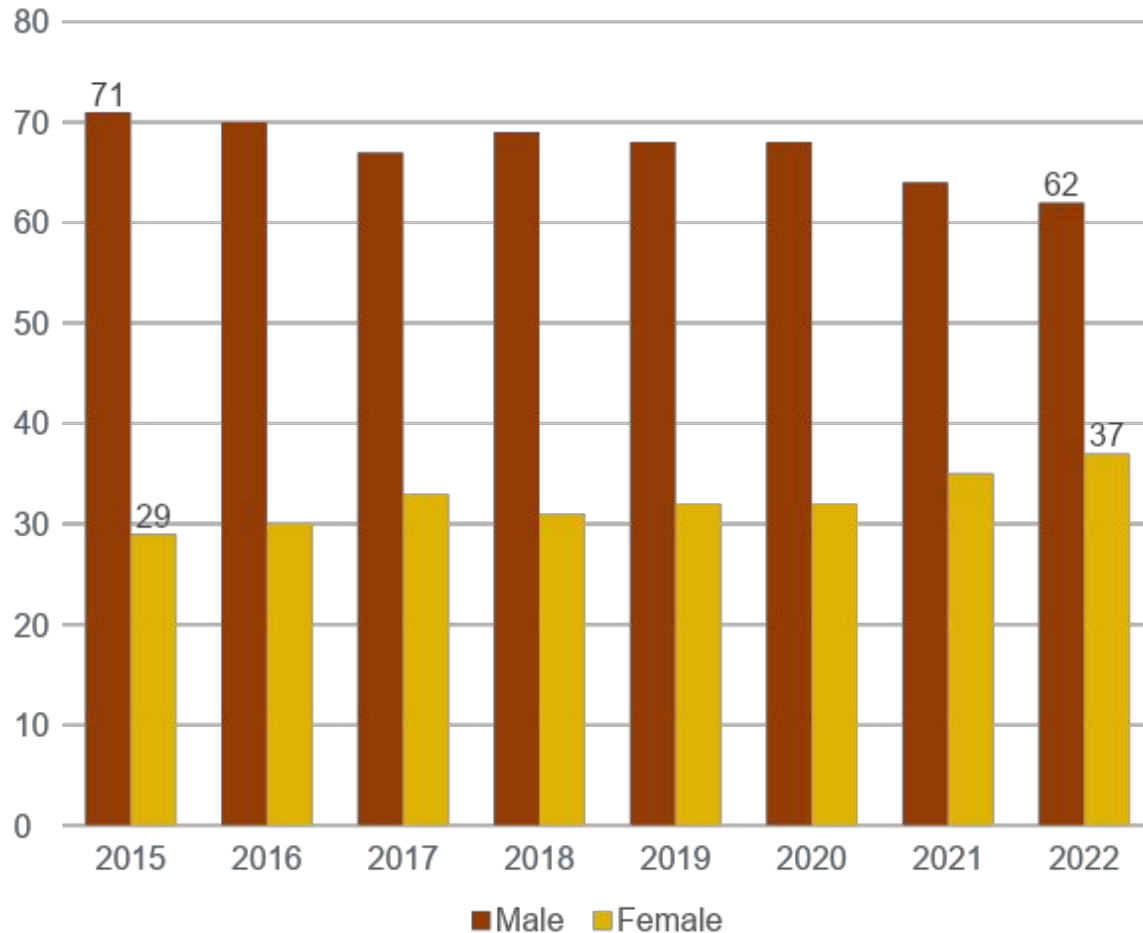
# Omnibibulous

- 90%+ of weekly craft beer drinkers indicate drinking at least one other bev alc category weekly.
- Much higher than total category
- How does craft turn this from threat to opportunity?
  - Innovation
  - Inviting more people to the party

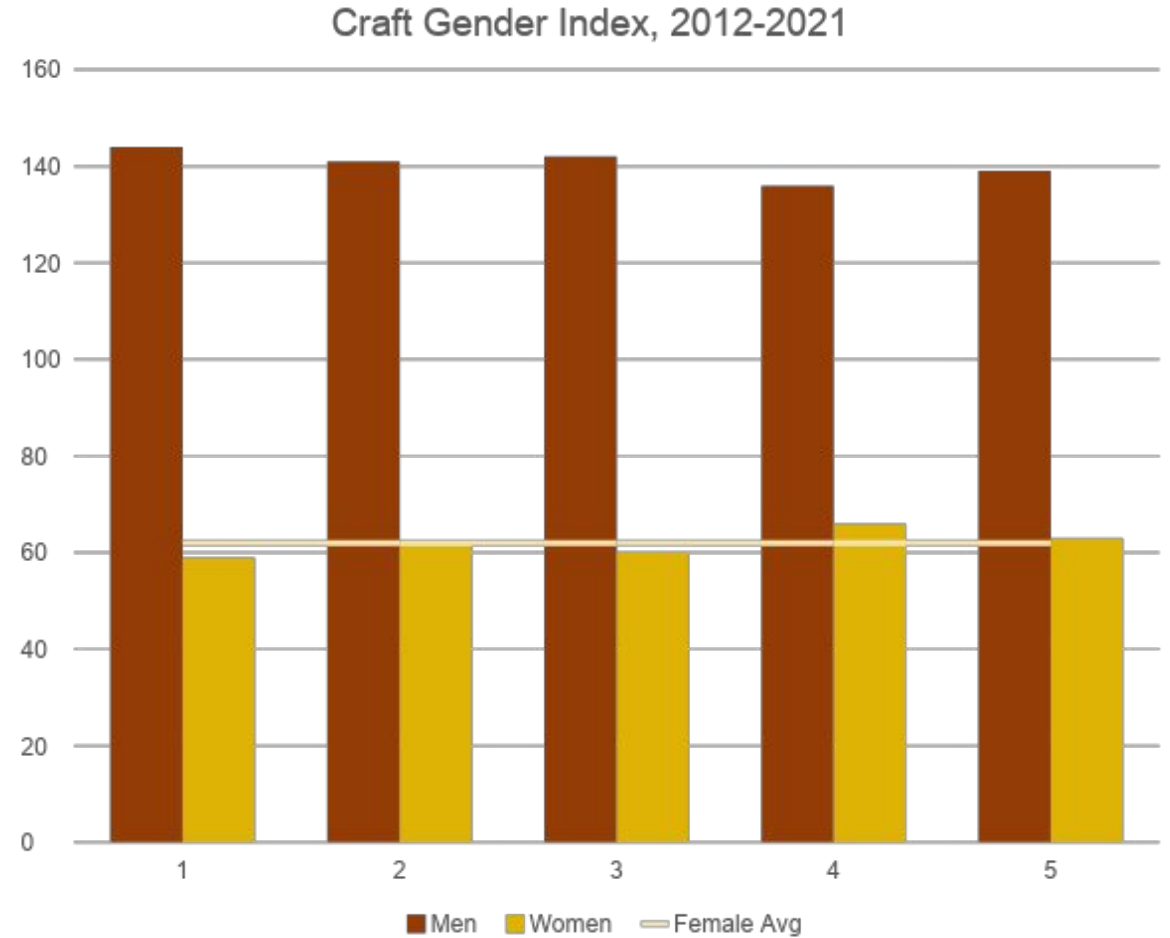


Source: IRI  
National  
Consumer  
Panel Data;  
Total US, All  
Outlet, 52 WE  
12/26/21

# Some Entry, Less Conversion



Harris Poll Data (several times a year)



Scarborough USA+ (last 30 days)



# To Close

- Craft market matured
- Demand growth has stalled
- Can't keep slicing pie and all win
- What can we do to win occasions?





# Thank you!



Bart Watson  
[bart@brewersassociation.org](mailto:bart@brewersassociation.org)

[BrewersAssociation.org](http://BrewersAssociation.org)  
[CraftBeer.com](http://CraftBeer.com)  
[HomebrewersAssociation.org](http://HomebrewersAssociation.org)

