



**BEVERAGE CONTAINER
DEPOSIT AND REDEMPTION
STATISTICS**

**As Reported
For The Period**

October 1, 2004 - September 30, 2005

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Solid & Hazardous Materials
625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12233-7253**

George E. Pataki, Governor

Denise M. Sheehan, Commissioner

Beverage Container Deposit and Redemption Statistics

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Beverage Container Deposit and Redemption Statistics

A. INTRODUCTION

Each year the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) conducts a Deposit Initiator Survey to obtain data from deposit initiators on beverage containers sold and redeemed in New York State. The data in the Survey are reported for the 12-month period of October 1 through September 30. "Deposit initiators" are, in the case of refillable beverage containers, bottlers or brewers and, in the case of non-refillable containers, beverage distributors.

This Beverage Container Deposit and Redemption Statistics Report was developed using deposit information obtained from the 2005 Deposit Initiator Survey. This information is required to be provided to the DEC by deposit initiators pursuant to 6 NYCRR Part 367.11, under authority granted by Title 10, Article 27 of the Environmental Conservation Law. The data as reported is unaudited and no independent verification of data has been done. Accordingly, the extent of underreporting, if it occurred, is unknown.

The data is provided for areas of the State according to the DEC regions (see Figure 1).

B. DEPOSIT SYSTEM IN NEW YORK STATE

The container deposit system in New York State requires a minimum of five cents deposit to be initiated by the first distributor for each filled beverage container sold. The distributor (deposit initiator) receives the five cents from the dealer (retailer), who purchases the filled beverage container, and the retailer in turn passes along this charge to the consumer.

During redemption, the opposite scenario takes place. After redeeming the empty beverage container, the consumer receives the five cents from the retailer, and the retailer in turn is reimbursed the five cents plus a two cent handling fee from the deposit initiator for the empty container.

C. DEPOSIT INITIATOR SURVEY METHODOLOGY

This survey was initiated in November 2005 by sending out 202 survey forms to all known potential deposit initiators, with a response deadline of December 30, 2005. Of the original 202 survey forms sent, 39 were determined to: no longer be a deposit initiator; no longer be an operating business; never was a deposit initiator; or did not initiate any deposits during the reporting period. Therefore, this Report is based on a statistical field of 163 survey forms.

After receipt, the forms were reviewed for obvious reporting omissions, incomplete information, or any other apparent problems. When necessary, deposit initiators were contacted by telephone for clarification of the reported data. After review, the data was entered into a computer data base for tabulation.

Many of the respondents combined soda and wine product dollar amounts with beer amounts when reporting deposits initiated and redeemed and handling fees paid. However, for deposit initiators whose primary market is beer, soda is typically only one or two percent of the total sales, and wine products may be even less. This fact has been verified by New York State Beverage Industry Association representatives. Therefore, the error from the combined reported soda and wine product figures with the beer figures is considered insignificant.

D. SUMMARY OF STATISTICS

A tabulation of data from the 2005 Deposit Initiators Survey is contained in Tables 1 through 5. A summary of these statistics is as follows:

- The overall Statewide redemption rate for all beverage containers was about 66 percent, which was decrease of 3.2 percent from the previous year.
- The redemption rate for beer containers was 76.1 percent, a decrease of 3.9 percent from the previous year.
- The redemption rate for soda containers (which includes carbonated water and other carbonated drinks) was 55.6 percent, a decrease of 2.4 percent from last year.
- The redemption rate for wine product containers was 77.1 percent, an increase of 18.1 percent from last year.
- Northern and central New York State demonstrated the highest overall redemption rates. Redemption rates for beer, soda and wine product containers by DEC region are shown in Table 3. These rates are based on the domicile of the deposit initiator, not on the place of sale or redemption.
- Consumers paid a reported total of \$270.5 million worth of deposits, an increase of \$6.3 million over last year's total, and redeemed \$178.6 million worth of empty containers, a decrease of \$4.2 million from last year.
- There was an estimated \$91.8 million worth of unredeemed deposits, an increase of \$10.5 million from the previous year.
- According to the surveys for the period of October 1, 2004 to September 30, 2005, an estimated 5.4 billion beverage containers were sold in New York State, a decrease of 0.1 billion from last year.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling
 Deposit and Redemption Statistics
 (10/1/2004 - 09/30/2005)

Table 1
Yearly Deposits Initiated and Redeemed by Beverage Type

Beverage Type	Deposits Charged	Deposits Redeemed	Unclaimed Deposits	Redemption Rate
Beer : Non-refillable	\$133,938,178	\$101,336,197	\$32,601,981	75.7%
Beer : Refillable	\$10,067,281	\$8,255,150	\$1,812,131	82.0%
Total Beer	\$144,005,459	\$109,591,347	\$34,414,111	76.1%
Soda : Non-refillable	\$126,336,923	\$68,953,071	\$57,383,852	54.6%
Soda : Refillable	\$44,212	\$27,702	\$16,510	62.7%
Total Soda	\$126,381,135	\$68,980,773	\$57,400,362	54.6%
Wine products	\$81,309	\$62,656	\$18,654	77.1%
Total: All Beverages	\$270,467,903	\$178,634,776	\$91,833,127	66.0%

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Table 2

Consolidated Redemption Rate by Region

Region	Deposits Charged	Deposits Redeemed	Unclaimed Deposits	Redemption Rate
1	\$34,121,937	\$16,377,045	\$17,744,893	48.0%
2	99,890,688	62,160,925	37,729,763	62.2%
3	23,778,919	11,338,802	12,440,117	47.7%
4	14,530,092	11,010,589	3,519,503	75.8%
5	12,775,997	10,834,840	1,941,158	84.8%
6	6,344,034	5,517,045	826,989	87.0%
7	13,527,806	12,414,953	1,112,852	91.8%
8	15,433,920	12,542,454	2,891,466	81.3%
9	16,759,477	13,039,635	3,719,842	77.8%
Out of State	33,305,034	23,398,489	9,906,545	70.3%
Total	\$270,467,903	\$178,634,776	\$91,833,127	66.0%

Note: Data are by Region of domicile of the Deposit Initiator, not Region where redemption occurred.

**New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling
Deposit and Redemption Statistics**

(10/1/2004 - 09/30/2005)

**Table 3
Redemption Rate by Region and Beverage Type**

BEER				
Region	Deposits Charged	Deposits Redeemed	Unclaimed Deposits	Redemption Rate
1	\$14,760,843	\$7,439,978	\$7,320,865	50.4%
2	56,421,009	42,289,797	14,131,212	75.0%
3	8,484,633	4,239,365	4,245,268	50.0%
4	3,610,726	3,157,798	452,928	87.5%
5	11,363,072	9,967,108	1,395,964	87.7%
6	5,473,829	4,737,948	735,881	86.6%
7	12,444,906	12,107,240	337,666	97.3%
8	11,730,348	9,751,036	1,979,312	83.1%
9	13,866,437	11,102,669	2,763,769	80.1%
Out of State	5,849,655	4,798,408	1,051,247	82.0%
Total Beer	\$144,005,459	\$109,591,347	\$34,414,111	76.1%

SODA				
Region	Deposits Charged	Deposits Redeemed	Unclaimed Deposits	Redemption Rate
1	\$19,361,094	\$8,937,067	\$10,424,028	46.2%
2	43,431,720	19,842,474	23,589,246	45.7%
3	15,294,286	7,099,437	8,194,850	46.4%
4	10,919,366	7,852,791	3,066,575	71.9%
5	1,412,372	867,732	544,640	61.4%
6	870,205	779,097	91,107	89.5%
7	1,048,915	274,981	773,934	26.2%
8	3,697,877	2,790,551	907,326	75.5%
9	2,889,921	1,936,562	953,359	67.0%
Out of State	27,455,379	18,600,081	8,855,298	67.7%
Total Soda	\$126,381,135	\$68,980,773	\$57,400,362	54.6%

WINE PRODUCTS				
Region	Deposits Charged	Deposits Redeemed	Unclaimed Deposits	Redemption Rate
1	\$0	\$0	\$0	0.0%
2	37,959	28,653	9,306	75.5%
3	0	0	0	0.0%
4	0	0	0	0.0%
5	553	0	553	0.0%
6	0	0	0	0.0%
7	33,985	32,733	1,252	96.3%
8	5,694	866	4,828	15.2%
9	3,118	404	2,715	12.9%
Out of State	0	0	0	0.0%
Total Wine products	\$81,309	\$62,656	\$18,654	77.1%

Note: Data are by Region of domicile of the Deposit Initiator, not Region where redemption occurred.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling
Deposit and Redemption Statistics
(10/1/2004 - 09/30/2005)

Table 4
Beverage Containers by Type

Beverage Type	Number of Containers on which Deposits were Initiated
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BEER CONTAINERS	
Non-refillable	2,678,763,551
Refillable	201,345,620
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TOTAL BEER CONTAINERS	2,880,109,171
SODA CONTAINERS	
Non-refillable	2,526,738,456
Refillable	884,242
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TOTAL SODA CONTAINERS	2,527,622,698
WINE PRODUCTS CONTAINERS	1,626,188
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TOTAL - ALL CONTAINERS	5,409,358,057

Note: Many survey respondents reported deposits initiated on refillable and non-refillable containers as combined totals. Unspecified containers were considered to be non-refillable.

Table 5
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
Division of Solid & Hazardous Materials
Bureau of Solid Waste, Reduction & Recycling

Deposit and Redemption Statistics for the Returnable Beverage Container Law

Year	Deposits Initiated*	Number of Containers**	Deposits Redeemed*	Number of Redeemed Containers***	Unredeemed Deposits	Handling Fees Paid*	Redemption Rate	Tons Recycled by Material***			Total Tons Recycled
								Glass	Aluminum	Plastic	
04-05	\$270,467,903	5,409,358,057	\$178,634,776	3,572,695,520	\$91,833,127	\$79,770,804	66.0%	104,502	41,077	53,590	199,169
03-04	\$264,160,791	5,283,215,828	\$182,829,685	3,656,593,700	\$81,331,106	\$74,817,543	69.2%	106,956	42,042	54,849	203,846
02-03	\$283,595,561	5,671,911,220	\$196,159,448	3,923,188,960	\$87,436,113	\$72,356,444	69.2%	114,753	45,107	58,848	218,708
01-02	\$296,583,854	5,931,677,078	\$208,338,950	4,166,779,000	\$88,244,904	\$83,797,610	70.2%	121,878	47,908	62,502	232,288
00-01	\$283,743,554	5,674,871,080	\$197,965,983	3,959,319,660	\$85,777,571	\$76,559,855	69.8%	115,810	45,522	59,390	220,722
99-00	\$274,520,919	5,490,418,380	\$189,732,465	3,794,649,300	\$84,788,454	\$72,044,695	69.1%	110,993	43,629	56,919	211,541
98-99	\$294,391,713	5,887,834,260	\$211,743,854	4,234,877,080	\$82,647,859	\$75,624,666	71.9%	123,870	48,690	63,523	236,083
97-98	\$264,008,276	5,280,165,520	\$197,139,245	3,942,784,900	\$66,869,031	\$59,141,774	74.7%	115,327	45,332	59,142	219,801
96-97	\$255,963,632	5,119,272,620	\$194,787,384	3,895,747,680	\$61,176,248	\$58,436,215	76.1%	219,136	46,213	24,348	289,697
95-96	\$247,927,163	4,958,543,260	\$187,617,980	3,752,359,600	\$60,309,183	\$56,285,394	75.7%	211,070	44,512	23,452	279,034
94-95	\$276,789,553	5,535,791,060	\$214,808,135	4,296,162,700	\$61,981,418	\$61,401,026	77.6%	241,659	50,963	26,851	319,473
93-94	\$285,233,845	5,704,676,900	\$217,964,111	4,359,282,220	\$67,269,734	\$62,780,311	76.4%	245,210	51,712	27,246	324,168
92-93	\$285,548,074	5,710,961,480	\$218,450,417	4,369,008,340	\$67,097,657	\$62,584,910	76.5%	245,757	51,827	27,306	324,890
91-92	\$290,856,000	5,817,120,000	\$222,322,000	4,446,440,000	\$68,534,000	\$65,029,000	76.4%	250,112	52,746	27,790	330,648
90-91	\$307,943,000	6,158,860,000	\$233,125,000	4,662,500,000	\$74,818,000	\$66,697,000	75.7%	262,266	55,309	29,141	346,716
89-90	\$309,933,000	6,198,660,000	\$224,740,000	4,494,800,000	\$85,193,000	\$64,360,000	72.5%	252,833	53,320	28,093	334,246
88-89	\$297,545,500	5,950,910,000	\$213,135,700	4,262,714,000	\$84,409,800	\$59,360,800	71.6%	239,778	50,566	26,642	316,986
87-88	\$301,589,000	6,031,780,000	\$221,928,000	4,438,560,000	\$79,661,000	\$64,011,000	73.6%	249,669	52,652	27,793	330,114
86-87	\$288,755,652	5,775,113,043	\$222,341,852	4,446,837,043	\$66,413,800	\$61,528,054	77.0%	250,135	52,751	27,741	330,627
85-86	\$290,879,524	5,817,590,476	\$229,794,824	4,595,896,476	\$61,084,700	\$61,980,609	79.0%	258,519	54,519	28,724	341,762
84-85	\$282,964,000	5,659,280,000	\$226,722,600	4,534,452,000	\$56,241,400	\$62,112,639	80.1%	255,063	53,790	28,340	337,193
83-84	\$192,165,297	3,843,305,940	\$137,608,265	2,752,165,300	\$54,557,032	\$40,946,581	71.6%	154,809	32,648	17,201	204,658
Total	\$6,145,565,811	122,911,316,202	\$4,527,890,674	90,557,813,479	\$1,617,675,137	\$1,441,626,930	73.60%	4,250,105	1,062,835	839,431	6,152,370

* Data reported by deposit initiators.

** Assumes that all containers have a minimum five cents deposit

*** Assumes the following distribution:

Market Share of Containers Sold

Glass - 13%
Aluminum - 63%
Plastic - 24%

Container Weight

0.45 lb
0.0365 lb
0.125 lb

Percentages adjusted during the 1997-98 report period. Prior to that, glass was 25%; aluminum 65%; and plastic 10%

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