



**BEVERAGE CONTAINER
DEPOSIT AND REDEMPTION
STATISTICS**

**As Reported
For The Period**

October 1, 2005 - September 30, 2006

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

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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 (Department) 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 2006 Deposit Initiator Survey. This information is required to be provided to the Department by deposit initiators pursuant to 6 NYCRR Section 367.11, under authority granted by Title 10, Article 27 of the Environmental Conservation Law. The data as reported are unaudited and no independent verification of data has been done. Accordingly, the extent of underreporting, if it occurred, is unknown.

The data are provided for areas of the State according to the Department's 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 transactions occur in reverse. Upon returning an empty beverage container, the consumer receives five cents from the retailer, and the retailer in turn is reimbursed 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 2006 with the mailing of survey forms to all known potential deposit initiators, with a response deadline of December 31, 2006. Of the original 192 survey forms, 27 were determined to:

- no longer be a deposit initiator;
- no longer be an operating business;
- never have been a deposit initiator; or
- have not initiated any deposits during the reporting period.

Therefore, this Report is based on a statistical field of 165 survey forms.

After receipt, the forms were reviewed for obvious reporting omissions, incomplete

information, or any other apparent errors. When necessary, deposit initiators were contacted by telephone for clarification of the reported data. After review, the data were entered into a computer database 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 2006 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 67.8 percent, which was an increase of 1.8 percent from the previous year.
- The redemption rate for beer containers was 76.5 percent, an increase of 0.4 percent from the previous year.
- The redemption rate for soda containers (which includes carbonated water and other carbonated drinks) was 58.7 percent, an increase of 3.1 percent from last year.
- The redemption rate for wine product containers remained the same at 77.1 percent.
- 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 \$289.5 million in deposits, an increase of \$19 million over last year's total, and redeemed \$196.1 million worth of empty containers, an increase of \$17.5 million from last year.
- There was an estimated \$93.2 million worth of unredeemed deposits, an increase of \$1.4 million from the previous year.
- According to the surveys for the period of October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006, an estimated 5.8 billion beverage containers were sold in New York State, an increase of 0.4 billion from last year.

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation
 Bureau of Waste Reduction & Recycling
 Deposit and Redemption Statistics
 (10/1/2005 - 09/30/2006)

Table 1
Yearly Deposits Initiated and Redeemed by Beverage Type

| Beverage Type | Deposits Charged | Deposits Redeemed | Unclaimed Deposits | Redemption Rate |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Beer : Non-refillable | \$137,512,182 | \$104,647,100 | \$32,865,083 | 76.1% |
| Beer : Refillable | \$9,801,877 | \$8,023,789 | \$1,778,088 | 81.9% |
| Total Beer | \$147,314,059 | \$112,670,889 | \$34,643,171 | 76.5% |
| Soda : Non-refillable | \$141,880,210 | \$83,372,621 | \$58,507,589 | 58.8% |
| Soda : Refillable | \$93,496 | \$33,567 | \$59,929 | 35.9% |
| Total Soda | \$141,973,706 | \$83,406,188 | \$58,567,518 | 58.7% |
| Wine products | \$61,882 | \$37,653 | \$24,229 | 60.8% |
| Total: All Beverages | \$289,349,647 | \$196,114,730 | \$93,234,918 | 67.8% |

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Table 2

Consolidated Redemption Rate by Region

| Region | Deposits Charged | Deposits Redeemed | Unclaimed Deposits | Redemption Rate |
|--------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | \$25,652,113 | \$13,224,869 | \$12,427,244 | 51.6% |
| 2 | 117,025,073 | 73,925,590 | 43,099,483 | 63.2% |
| 3 | 23,956,980 | 11,039,816 | 12,917,164 | 46.1% |
| 4 | 13,734,596 | 10,545,702 | 3,188,894 | 76.8% |
| 5 | 14,376,336 | 13,297,217 | 1,079,119 | 92.5% |
| 6 | 9,663,998 | 8,321,369 | 1,342,629 | 86.1% |
| 7 | 19,653,529 | 16,846,740 | 2,806,789 | 85.7% |
| 8 | 20,808,214 | 16,840,635 | 3,967,579 | 80.9% |
| 9 | 25,048,567 | 19,907,856 | 5,140,710 | 79.5% |
| Out of State | 19,430,242 | 12,164,935 | 7,265,307 | 62.6% |
| Total | \$289,349,647 | \$196,114,730 | \$93,234,918 | 67.8% |

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

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Table 3
Redemption Rate by Region and Beverage Type

| BEER | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Region | Deposits Charged | Deposits Redeemed | Unclaimed Deposits | Redemption Rate |
| 1 | \$14,218,904 | \$8,158,200 | \$6,060,704 | 57.4% |
| 2 | 59,162,386 | 42,592,042 | 16,570,344 | 72.0% |
| 3 | 9,154,440 | 4,390,748 | 4,763,692 | 48.0% |
| 4 | 3,629,475 | 3,044,595 | 584,881 | 83.9% |
| 5 | 11,410,789 | 11,359,392 | 51,397 | 99.5% |
| 6 | 5,646,904 | 5,157,394 | 489,510 | 91.3% |
| 7 | 12,189,412 | 11,571,566 | 617,846 | 94.9% |
| 8 | 11,239,244 | 9,409,820 | 1,829,424 | 83.7% |
| 9 | 14,135,715 | 11,917,176 | 2,218,539 | 84.3% |
| Out of State | 6,526,790 | 5,069,957 | 1,456,833 | 77.7% |
| Total Beer | \$147,314,059 | \$112,670,889 | \$34,643,171 | 76.5% |

| SODA | | | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| Region | Deposits Charged | Deposits Redeemed | Unclaimed Deposits | Redemption Rate |
| 1 | \$11,433,209 | \$5,066,669 | \$6,366,540 | 44.3% |
| 2 | 57,812,400 | 31,299,056 | 26,513,344 | 54.1% |
| 3 | 14,802,540 | 6,649,069 | 8,153,471 | 44.9% |
| 4 | 10,105,120 | 7,501,107 | 2,604,013 | 74.2% |
| 5 | 2,965,547 | 1,937,825 | 1,027,722 | 65.3% |
| 6 | 4,017,094 | 3,163,975 | 853,119 | 78.8% |
| 7 | 7,463,453 | 5,274,689 | 2,188,764 | 70.7% |
| 8 | 9,564,150 | 7,428,711 | 2,135,440 | 77.7% |
| 9 | 10,906,740 | 7,990,109 | 2,916,630 | 73.3% |
| Out of State | 12,903,452 | 7,094,978 | 5,808,474 | 55.0% |
| Total Soda | \$141,973,706 | \$83,406,188 | \$58,567,518 | 58.7% |

| WINE PRODUCTS | | | | |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| Region | Deposits Charged | Deposits Redeemed | Unclaimed Deposits | Redemption Rate |
| 1 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | 0.0% |
| 2 | 50,287 | 34,492 | 15,795 | 68.6% |
| 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 6 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| 7 | 663 | 485 | 178 | 73.1% |
| 8 | 4,820 | 2,105 | 2,715 | 43.7% |
| 9 | 6,112 | 571 | 5,540 | 9.3% |
| Out of State | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0% |
| Total Wine products | \$61,882 | \$37,653 | \$24,229 | 60.8% |

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
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 (10/1/2005 - 09/30/2006)

Table 4
Beverage Containers by Type

| Beverage Type | Number of Containers on which Deposits were Initiated |
|---------------------------------|--|
| BEER CONTAINERS | |
| Non-refillable | 2,750,243,644 |
| Refillable | 196,037,540 |
| TOTAL BEER CONTAINERS | 2,946,281,184 |
| SODA CONTAINERS | |
| Non-refillable | 2,837,604,193 |
| Refillable | 1,869,927 |
| TOTAL SODA CONTAINERS | 2,839,474,119 |
| WINE PRODUCTS CONTAINERS | 1,237,644 |
| TOTAL - ALL CONTAINERS | 5,786,992,947 |

Note: Many survey respondents reported deposits initiated on refillable and non-refillable containers as combined totals. Unspecified containers were considered to be 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 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 | |
| 05-06 | \$289,349,647 | 5,786,992,947 | \$196,114,730 | 3,922,294,600 | \$93,234,918 | \$80,153,998 | 67.8% | 114,727 | 45,097 | 58,834 | 218,658 |
| 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 | \$6,434,915,458 | 128,698,309,149 | \$4,724,005,404 | 94,480,108,079 | \$1,710,910,055 | \$1,521,780,928 | 73.40% | 4,364,832 | 1,107,932 | 898,265 | 6,371,028 |

* 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%

REGIONAL OFFICES Solid & Hazardous Materials Engineers

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Department of Environmental Conservation

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