



BOTTLE BILL ADVISORY GROUP

September 18, 2023

Bureau of Materials Management and Compliance Assurance

TODAY'S AGENDA

- 1. Housekeeping and Logistics**
- 2. DEEP Introduction: Bottle Bill General Information and Redemption Access**
- 3. Presentation: Susan Collins, Container Recycling Institute**
- 4. Open Discussion**
- 5. Next Steps**

HOUSEKEEPING AND LOGISTICS

This meeting is being recorded.

Please remain muted unless you are speaking.

An hour is budgeted for this meeting.

We will have an open discussion after the presentation.

DEEP will continue to hold Bottle Bill Advisory Group meetings once a month between now and the end of the calendar year.

DEEP encourages stakeholder feedback during this process. Feedback can be provided orally during these meetings, or via email to DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov.

PURPOSE OF ADVISORY GROUP

- DEEP has received a significant number of questions about Bottle Bill changes and has seen substantial interest from consumers, retailers, distributors and legislators
- DEEP is committed to transparency, predictability, and efficiency in agency processes and has determined that continued stakeholder engagement is warranted and will provide for effective implementation of the Bottle Bill
- DEEP is hosting a series of meetings to engage all stakeholders and legislators in a Bottle Bill Advisory Group to solicit input on the areas of interest and question regarding various components of Bottle Bill implementation
- Meetings are held virtually, noticed in advance and include 1) presentations by DEEP staff and others on relevant issues requiring stakeholder education, engagement or feedback and 2) an opportunity for input from meeting participants

DISCUSSION TOPIC POLL RESULTS

Category	1s	2s	3s	AVG
Redemption accessibility	8	13	4	1.8
General bottle bill info	9	9	7	1.9
CTRV	11	5	11	2.0
Cross-border issues	11	6	11	2.0
Stewardship org.	8	7	10	2.1
Data collection	6	11	9	2.1
Escheats	5	10	12	2.3
RVMs for miniatures	6	6	13	2.3
Refill/reuse	6	6	14	2.3



DEEP Introduction: Bottle Bill General Information and Redemption Access

CT BB PROGRAM – KEY TIMELINE EVENTS

- **Law passed in 1978 and went into effect 1/1/1980.**
- **Primary initial purpose of this program was to help reduce litter.**
- **In 2009, CT program expanded to include water containers. Also in 2009, unclaimed deposits (escheats) were directed to the state's General Fund (instead of remaining with the distributors).**
- **Public Act 21-58 passed, significantly modifying CT's program.**

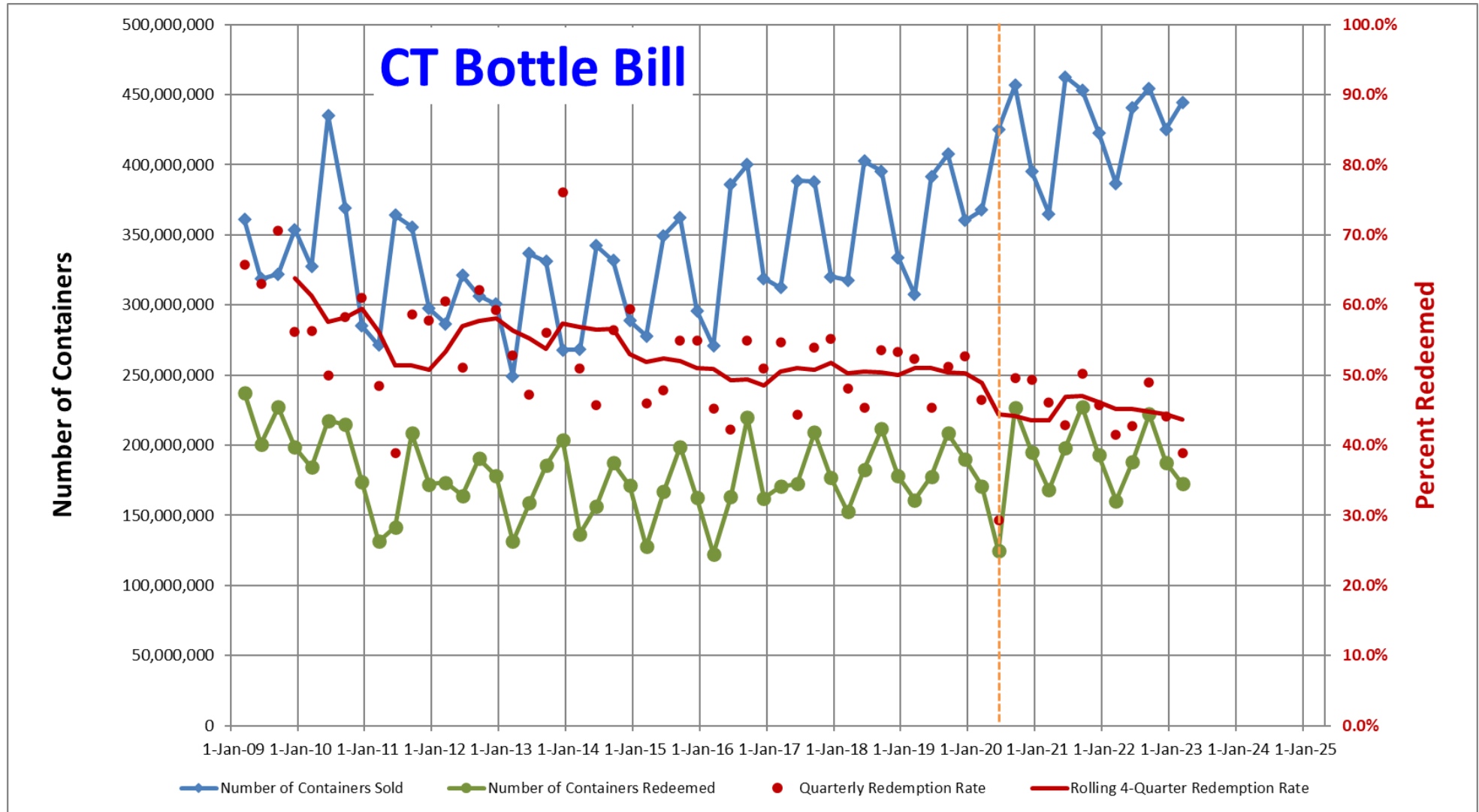
CT BOTTLE BILL ELEMENTS POST P.A. 21-58

Element	
Deposit	10¢ (effective 1/1/24)
Beverages covered	Beer, other malt beverages, carbonated soft drinks, carbonated mineral water, waters (water, flavored water, enhanced water, etc) + hard seltzer, hard cider, plant water, juice, juice drink, tea, coffee, kombucha, plant infused drink, sports drink or energy drink (effective 1/1/23)
Container types covered	Any individual, separate, sealed glass, metal or plastic bottle, can, jar or carton three liters less of a carbonated beverage, or two and one-half liters or less of a noncarbonated beverage. "Beverage container" does not include any such bottle, can, jar or carton that contains less than one hundred fifty milliliters of any such carbonated or noncarbonated beverage.
Handling fee	Beer, hard seltzer, hard cider, other malt beverages - 2.5¢, All other covered beverages - 3.5¢ (effective 10/1/21)
Redemption options	Retail stores and redemption centers
Unredeemed deposits	FY22 – 100% returned to state , FY 23 -95% to state, FY 24 - 65% to state, FY 25 - 55% to state, FY26 & beyond - 45% to state

EXPANSION CLARIFICATION – HB 6671

- **"Carbonated beverage" does not include any product that contains wine or spirits**
- **"Noncarbonated beverage" does not include any product that contains wine or spirits, any food for special dietary use, as defined in 21 USC 350(c)(3), or any medical food, as defined in 21 USC 360ee(b)(3)**

REDEMPTION RATE

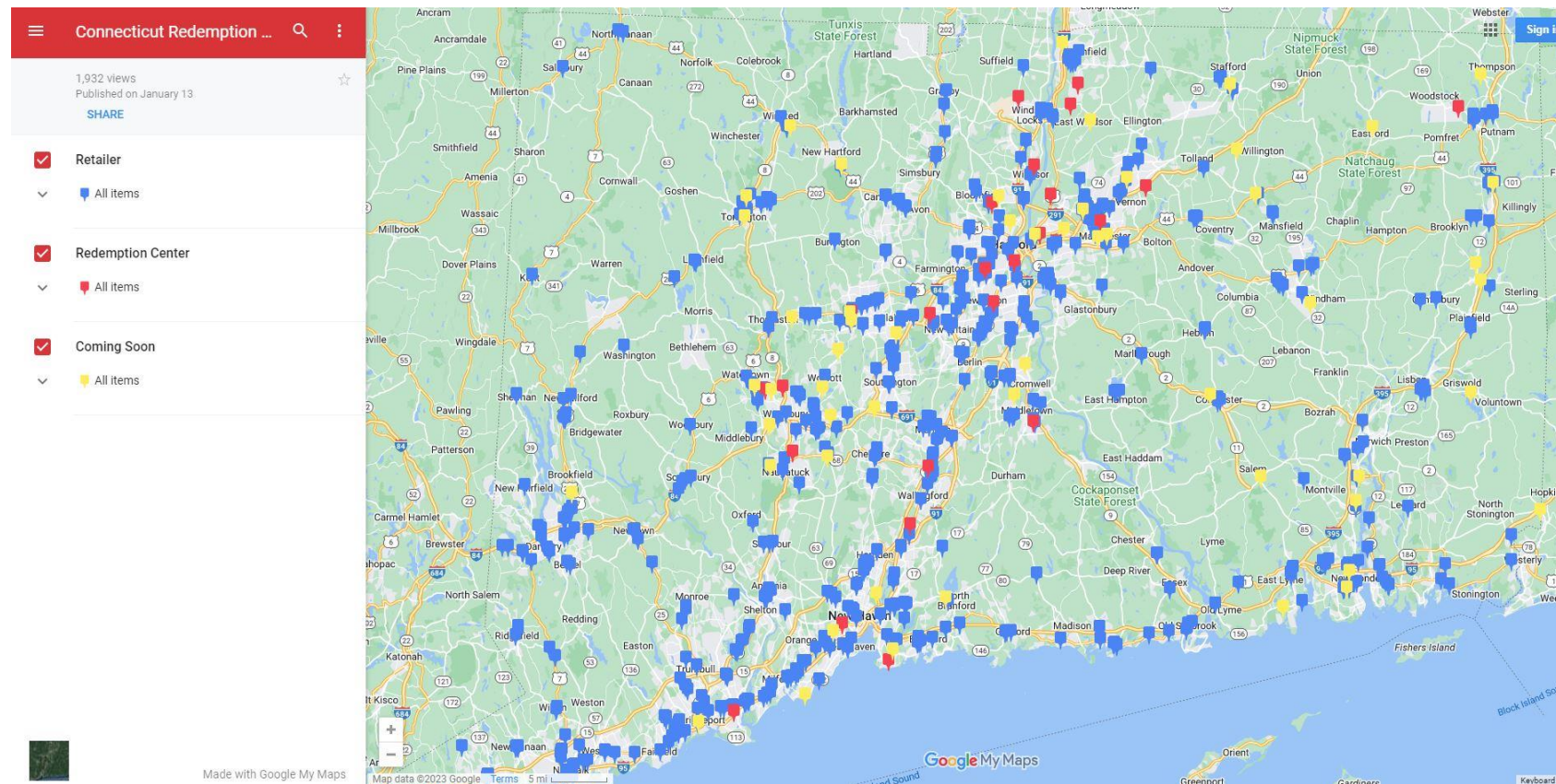


REDEMPTION OPTIONS

- **Every retailer that sells beverages subject to the CT bottle bill program is required to redeem the types of beverages that it sells.**
- **Some retailers redeem manually, others rely on Reverse Vending Machines (RVMs).**
- **CT redemption centers also offer a mix of manual redemption and RVMs.**
- **No Oregon-like "bottle drop" options are available to CT consumers yet.**

REDEMPTION OPTIONS (CONT.)

- Map of RVMs and redemption centers in CT can be found on the recyclingmakescentsct.com website
- Map was last updated in Jan 2023, but is scheduled to be updated again soon.



A stylized, colorful landscape illustration. The top right corner features a bright yellow sun. Below it is a large green hill with a dark blue outline. The bottom of the image shows a light blue area representing water, also with a dark blue wavy outline. The text is centered on the green hill.

**Susan Collins, Container Recycling
Institute**

State of Connecticut Bottle Bill Advisory Group

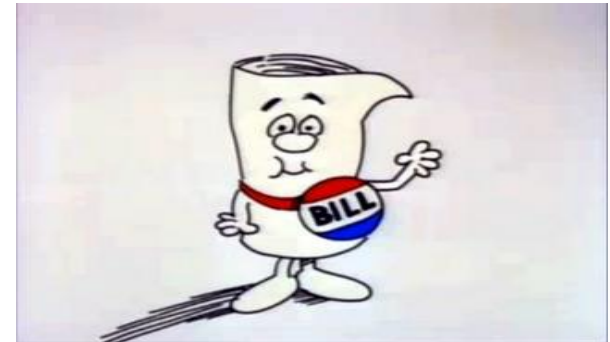
**Susan V. Collins, President
Container Recycling Institute
September 18, 2023**



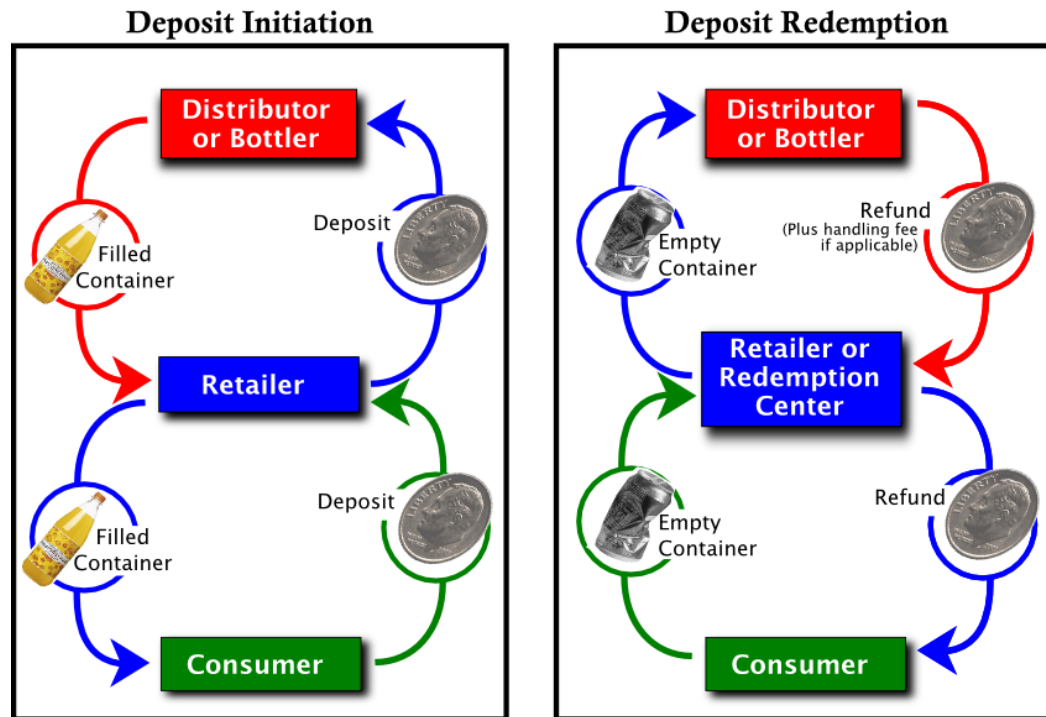
What is a Container Deposit-Refund Law?

(container deposit-refund, bottle bill, or container deposit law/CDL)

- Requires distributors and retailers to collect a minimum **refundable deposit**, usually 5-10 cents on certain beverage containers
- Creates a **privately-funded** collection infrastructure for beverage containers
- Makes producers and consumers **responsible** for their packaging waste



How do Container Deposits Work?

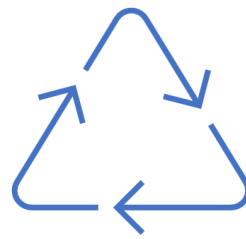


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- Distributor collects deposit when they deliver containers to retailer
- Retailer collects deposit from consumer at point of purchase
- Deposit is refunded to consumer when container is returned
- Deposit is refunded to retailer when containers are returned to distributor

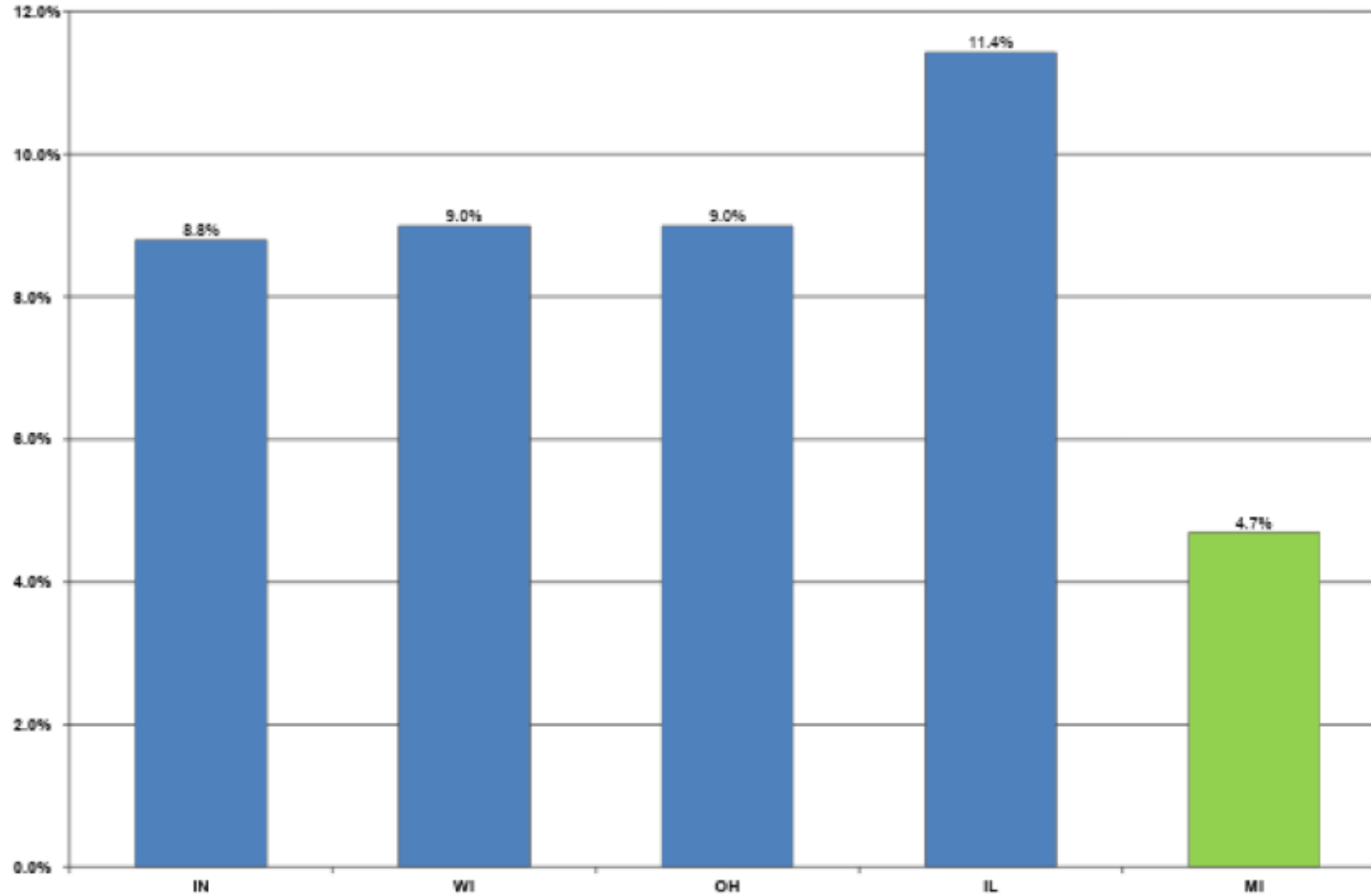
Benefits of deposit systems:

- **High recycling rates:** 80% for beverage containers
- Produce **clean** recycled materials for manufacturing
- Create **jobs** and **new businesses**
- Shift end of life costs for used beverage containers to **producers (EPR)**
- Reduce **litter**
- Conserve **energy** and natural resources
- Reduce **greenhouse gas emissions**
- **Prevent pollution** from manufacturing new containers from virgin materials



Deposits Reduce Beverage Container Litter – Great Lakes

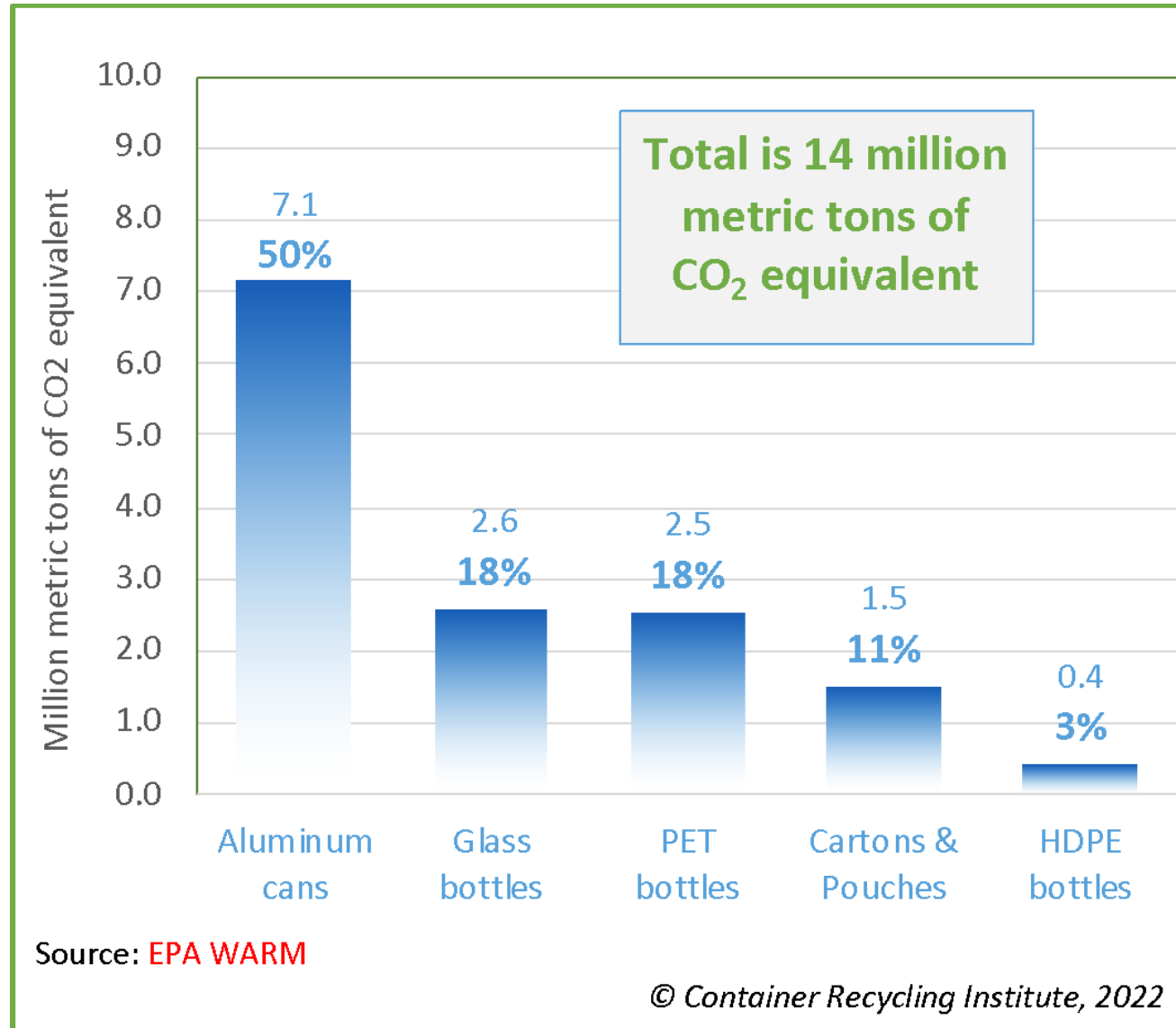
Beverage containers as a percentage of all beach litter in five States



Keep America Beautiful 2020 National Litter Study

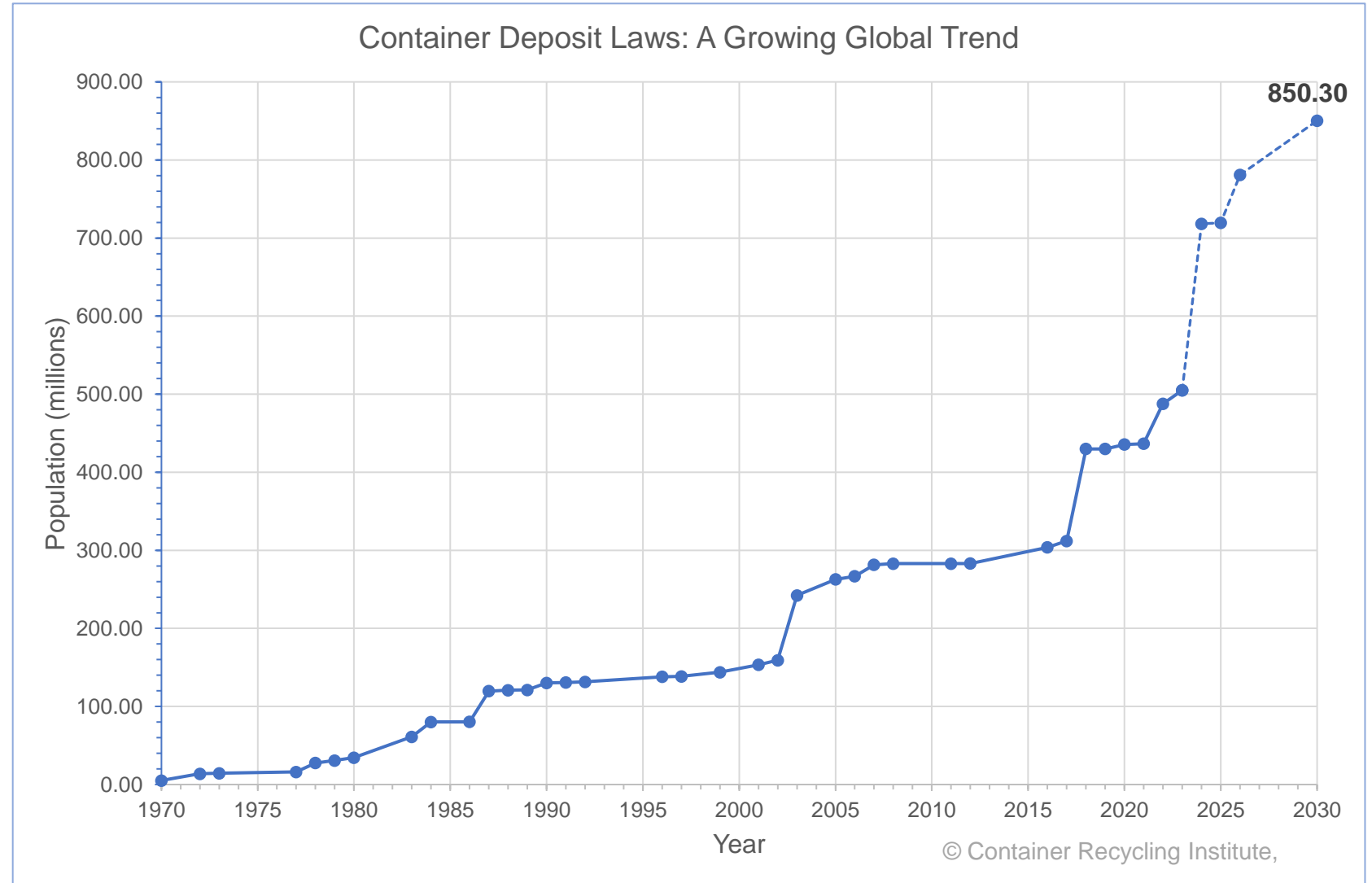
“...There was substantially **more deposit-material litter per capita in non-bottle bill states** than in bottle bill states, by a difference of a **two-to-one ratio.**”

Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Replacing Wasted Containers, 2019 (million MTCO₂E)



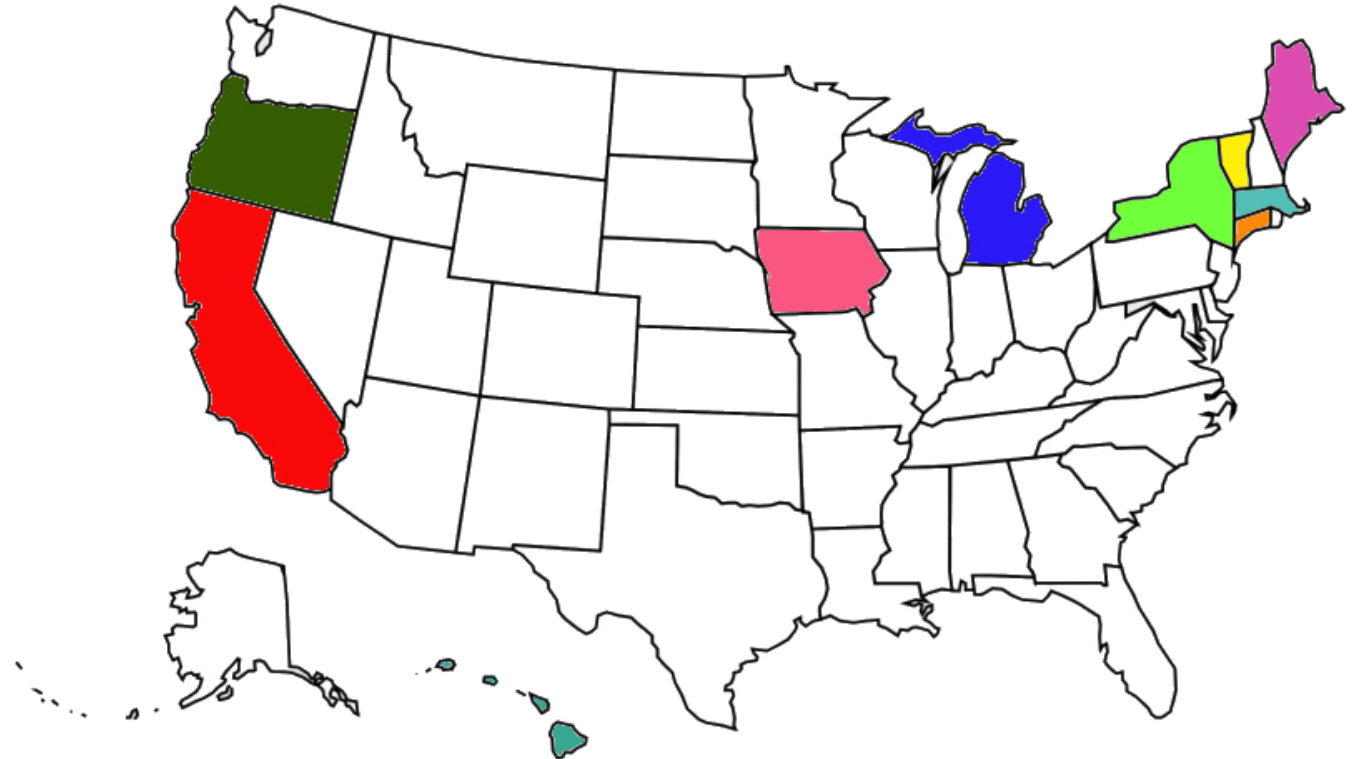
Existing and new laws will serve more than 850 million people by 2030

2023: Czechia, France, and Goa announced + Singapore and Poland confirmed + expansion in CA

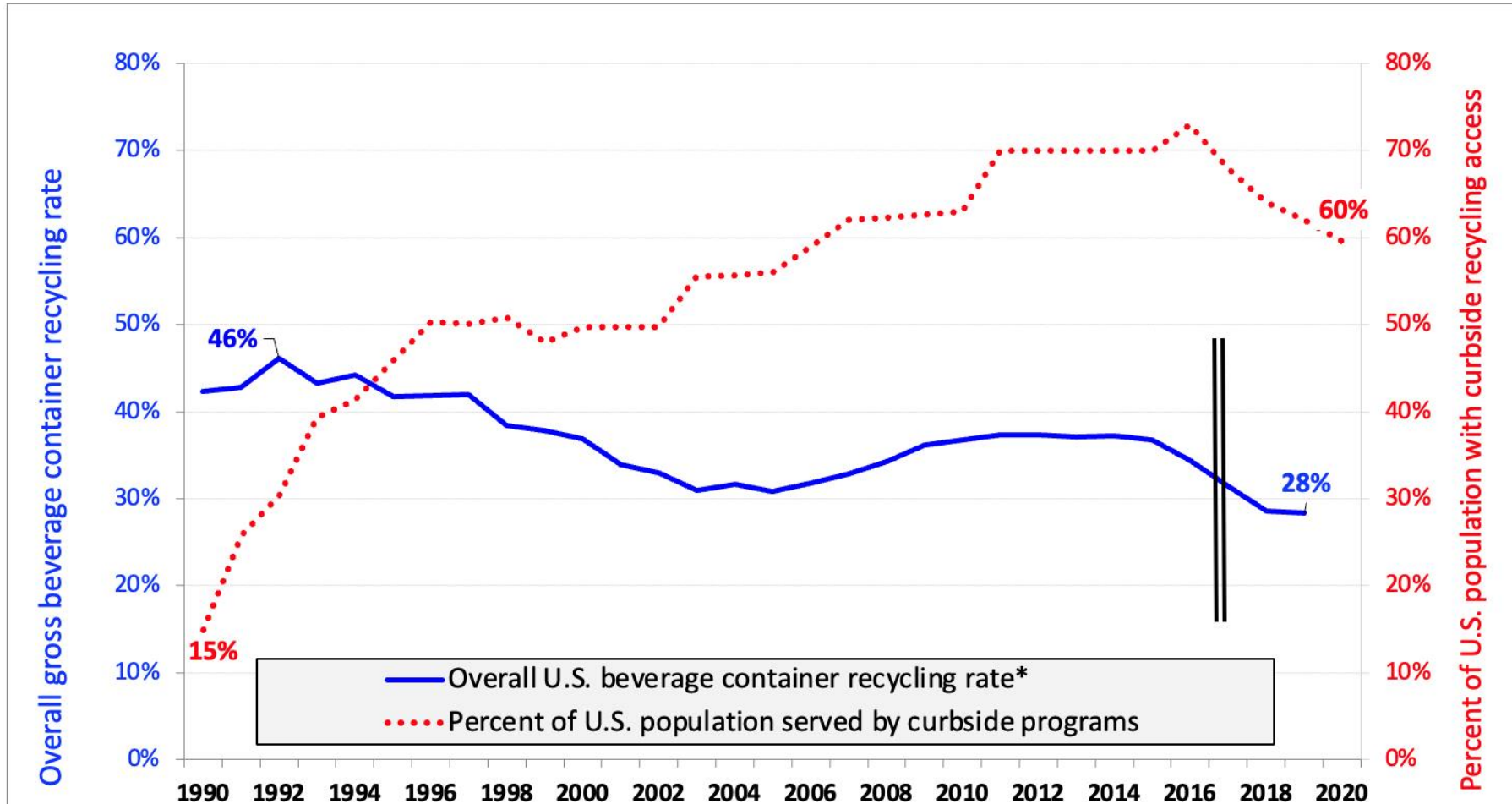


U.S. States with Container Deposit Laws

- Oregon
- Vermont
- Michigan
- Maine
- Iowa
- Connecticut
- Massachusetts
- New York
- California
- Hawaii



Comparing Curbside Recycling Access and Overall Beverage Container Recycling Rates in the U.S., 1990-2019



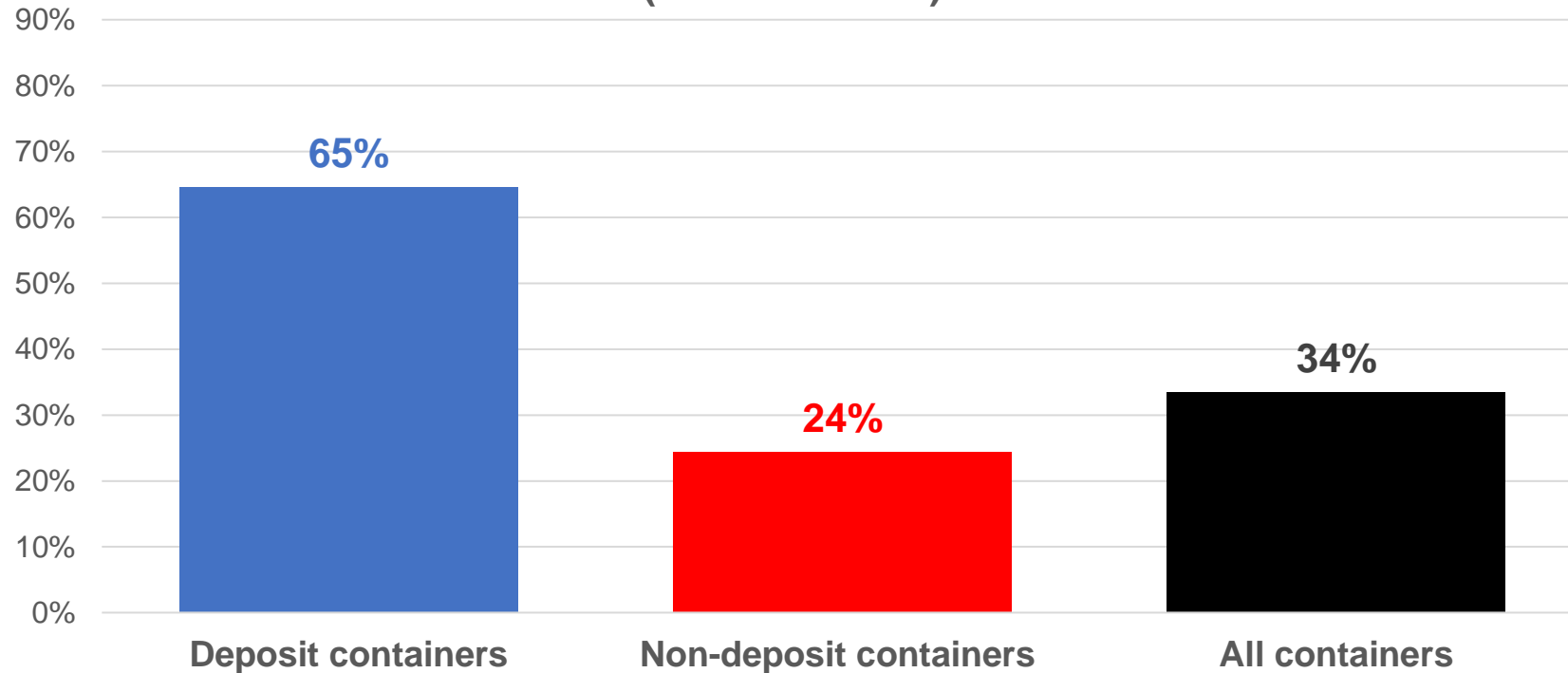
* Vertical black line indicates change in recycling rate calculation methodology. Recycling rates for 2017 and prior are **nominal**: as reported by packaging industry organizations and the U.S. EPA; after 2017, rates are **adjusted** to account for losses from contamination. See endnotes for sources and derivation.

Curbside Theoretical Maximum

- CRI estimates that the theoretical maximum (best case scenario beverage container recycling rate achievable by curbside recycling alone) is **38%**.
- Best case scenario: 100% of residents have curbside access; 100% participate in the program faithfully (no skipping).

Total beverage container waste generated	x	Proportion of tons consumed in residential sector	x	Retention after material losses:		=	Total Recycling
				Sorting	Processing		
100%	x	63%	x	86%	x	71%	= 38%
		37% <i>Away-from-home consumption</i>		14% <i>loss</i>		29% <i>loss</i>	

U.S. Nominal Recycling Rates by Deposit Status, 2019* (All Containers)

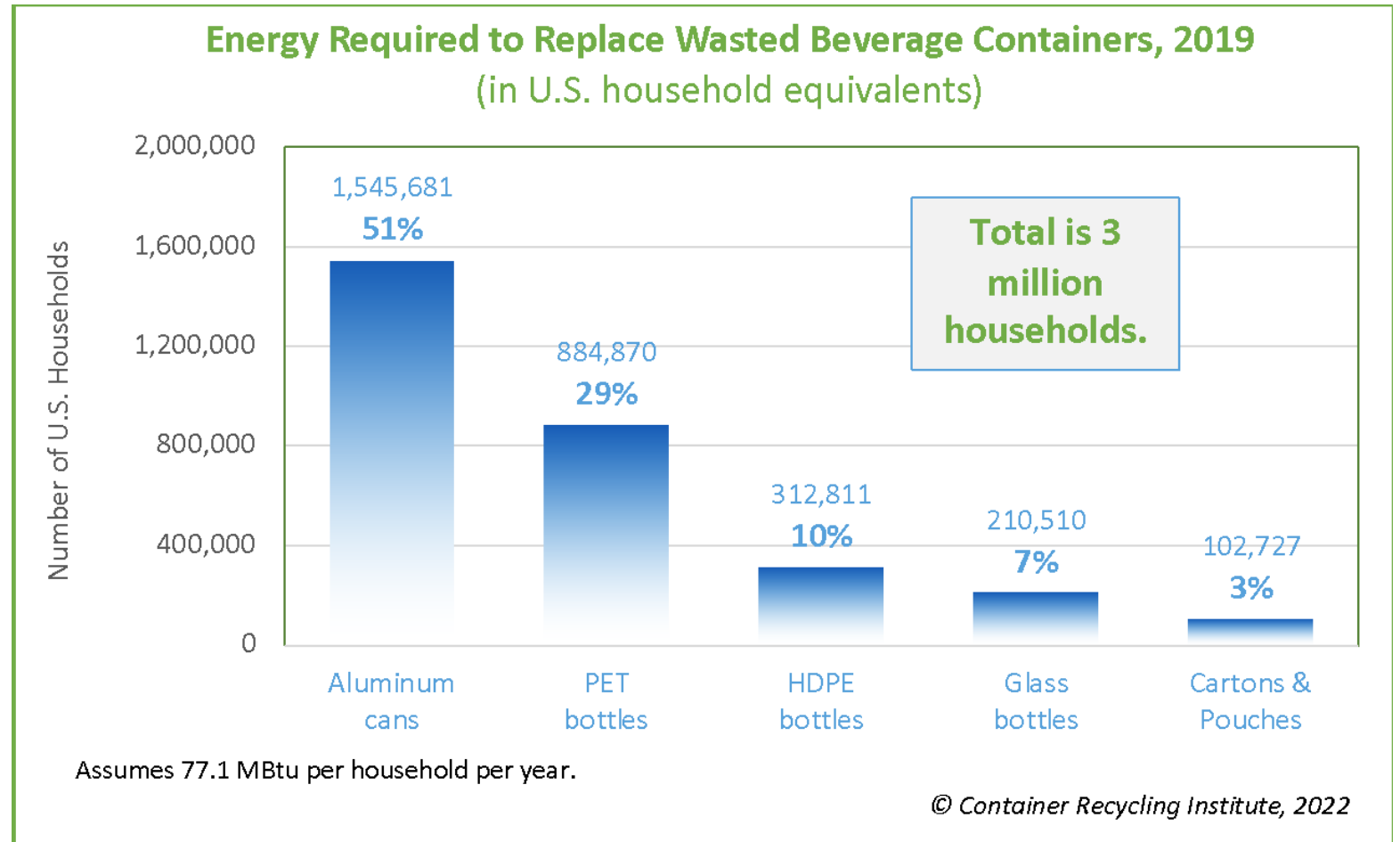


Includes all beverages packaged in aluminum cans, PET & HDPE plastic bottles, glass bottles, gable-top cartons, aseptic boxes, and foil pouches. Non-deposit containers include all containers in states without bottle bills, and all non-deposit beverage containers in states without non-modernized bottle bills. Source: 2019 Beverage Market Data Analysis.

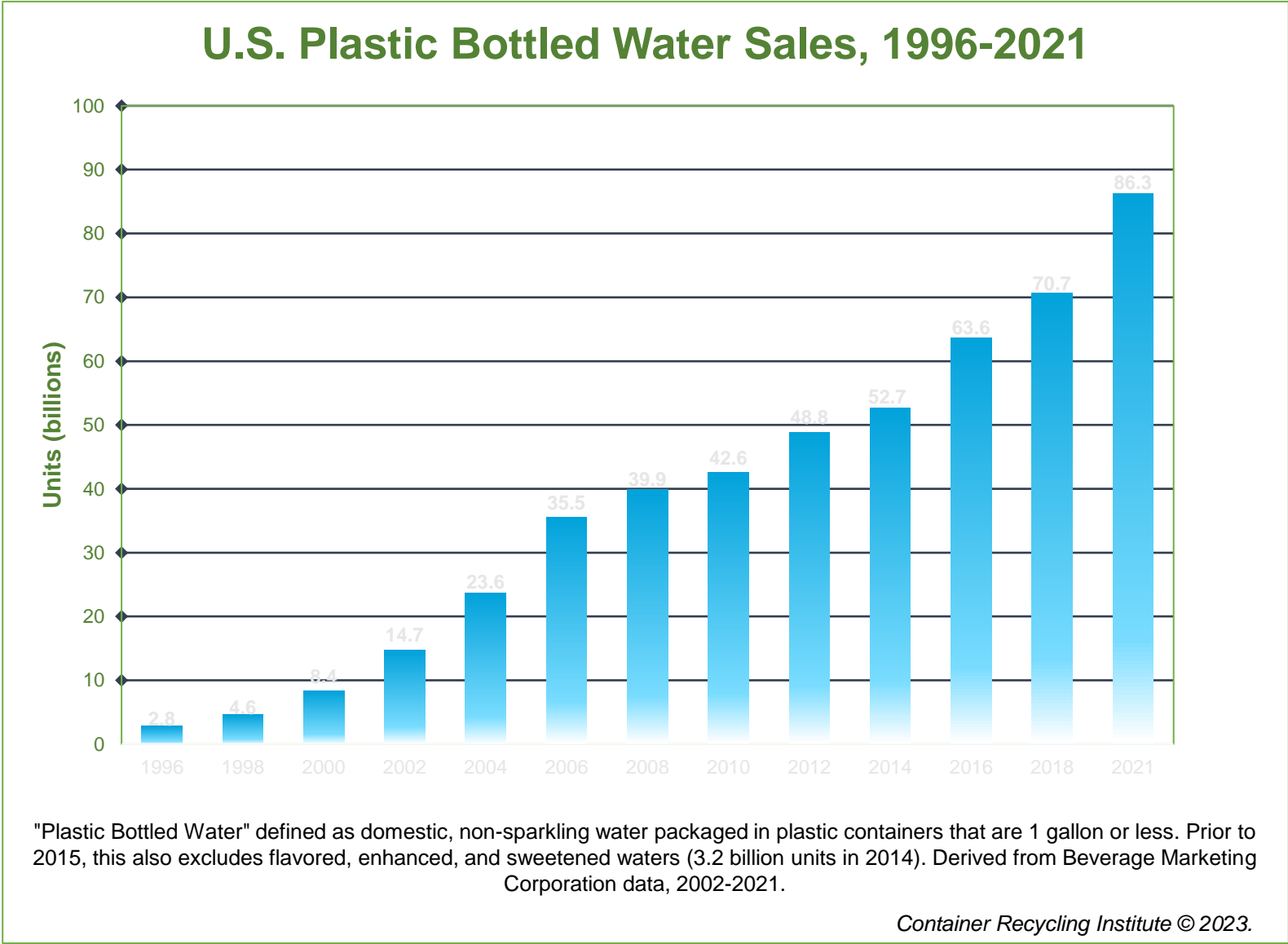
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Energy Impacts of Wasting

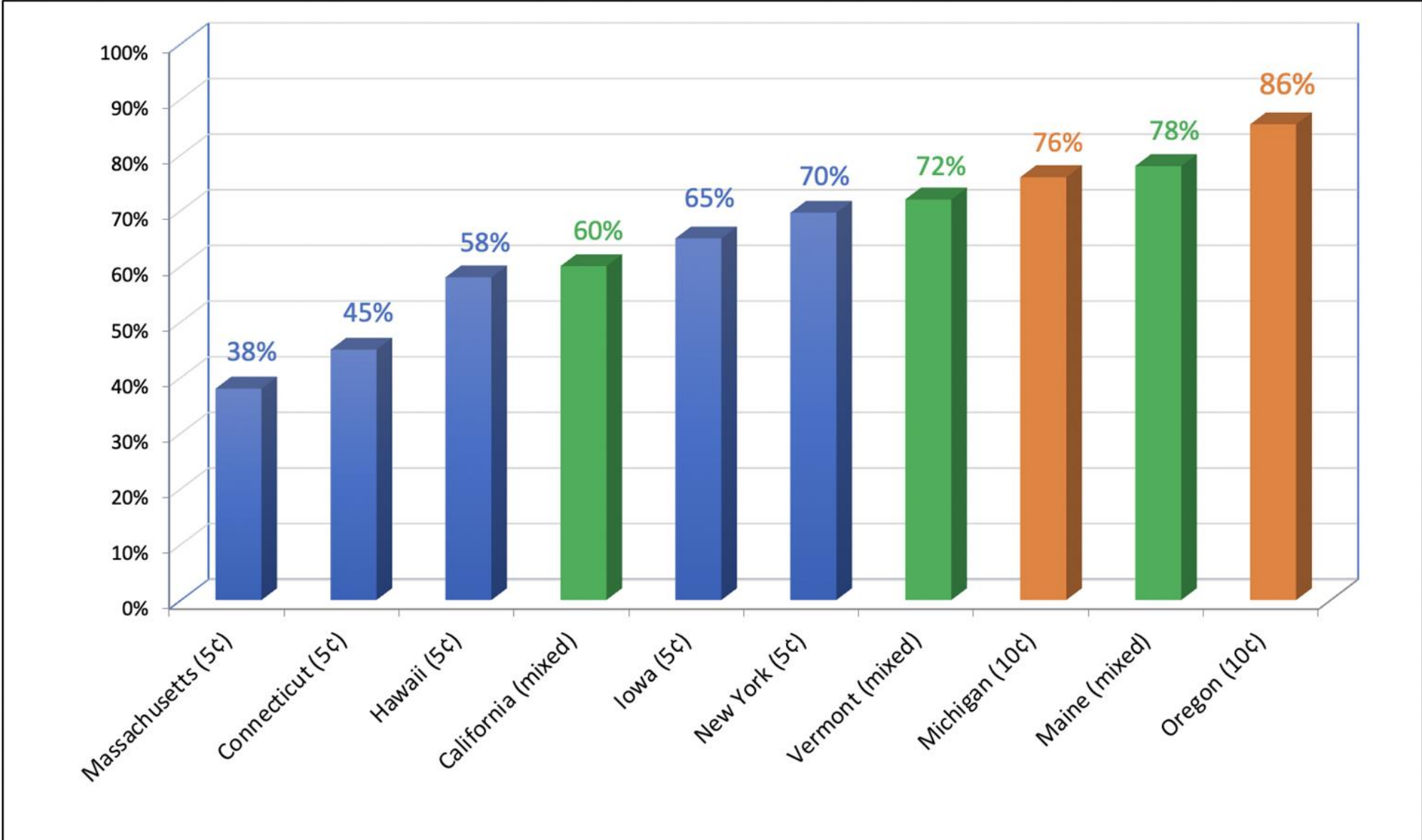
- In total, more than **3 million American homes** could have **all their energy needs met** (heating & cooling, cooking, utilities, etc.) with the amount of energy required to replace the beverage containers wasted in 2019.



PET plastic water bottles are *the* primary source of beverage sales growth



Redemption Rates for U.S. Deposit States, 2022 (deposit values in parentheses)



The Iowa rate is from 2016: the most recent available. Maine's rate is provisional. Redemption rates are sourced from State agencies.



Connecticut Public Act no. 21-58

SB 1037: An Act Concerning Solid Waste Management

Date	Key Point
Oct 1, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases handling fees to 2.5¢ and 3.5¢ Retailers required to have at least 2 RVMs “Nips” (50mL or less) required to have a 5¢ surcharge
Apr 1, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wholesaler must report where & how many nips were sold in previous 6-month period
Jul 1, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stewardship program plan must be submitted to DEEP
Oct 1, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEEP must submit recommendations to plans for stewardship program to Environment Committee
Jan 1, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand to include non-carbonated, malt-based hard seltzer, hard cider 80% of wine and spirit containers to be furnace-ready cullet or by-product
Jan 1, 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase deposit to at least 10¢

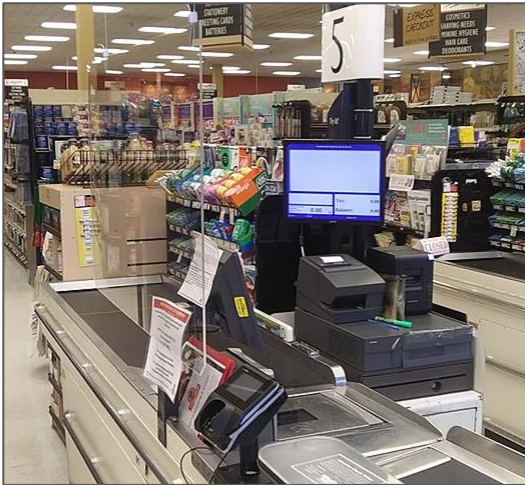
Methods of Container Redemption - General



Redemption Center



Return to Retail – RVM



Return to Retail – Manual



Bag Drop

Methods of Container Redemption – CT

In Connecticut, there are **two** main places to redeem containers:

1. Redemption Center/Depot

- There are currently 24 redemption centers located in CT.

2. Retailers – “return-to-retail” model (RVM and Manual)

- Stores are only required to take back what they carry.
- Stores may not take back a beverage container if there are materials inside the empty bottle or if the bottle is missing a label.

Convenience Standards in CT

Retailers that:

- (a) Have **10 or more units** in the state, AND
- (b) Are in business premises **≥ 7000 sq feet**

are **required** to install and maintain at least **two reverse vending machines**. If a retailer is exempt and whose place of business **≥ 40,000 sq ft**, the dealer shall establish a dedicated area to accept containers for redemption as well as staff the area to facilitate the redemption process.

Exemptions include retailers that:

1. Sell only beverage containers 20 oz. or less,
2. Sell beverage containers and devotes $\leq 5\%$ of the floor space to the display/sale of consumer products, OR
3. Obtain a waiver from the Commissioner of Energy and Environmental Protection



Thank You!

Learn

Main Website www.container-recycling.org

Bottle Bill Website www.bottlebill.org

Connect

Facebook www.facebook.com/container.recycling

Twitter @CRI_recycle

LinkedIn www.linkedin.com/company/container-recycling-institute

Contact

Tel (310) 559-7451

Email scollins@container-recycling.org



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Open Discussion

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Next Steps

NEXT STEPS

- **Next meeting: October 16, 1:00 pm**
 - [Register here](#)
- [Sign up](#) for **Bottle Bill Stakeholder Process email list**
- Any additional questions or feedback can be submitted via email to DEEP.MMCAPlanning@ct.gov