

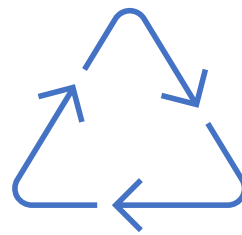
State of Vermont
House Committee on Environment and
Energy

Susan V. Collins, President
Container Recycling Institute
February 8, 2023



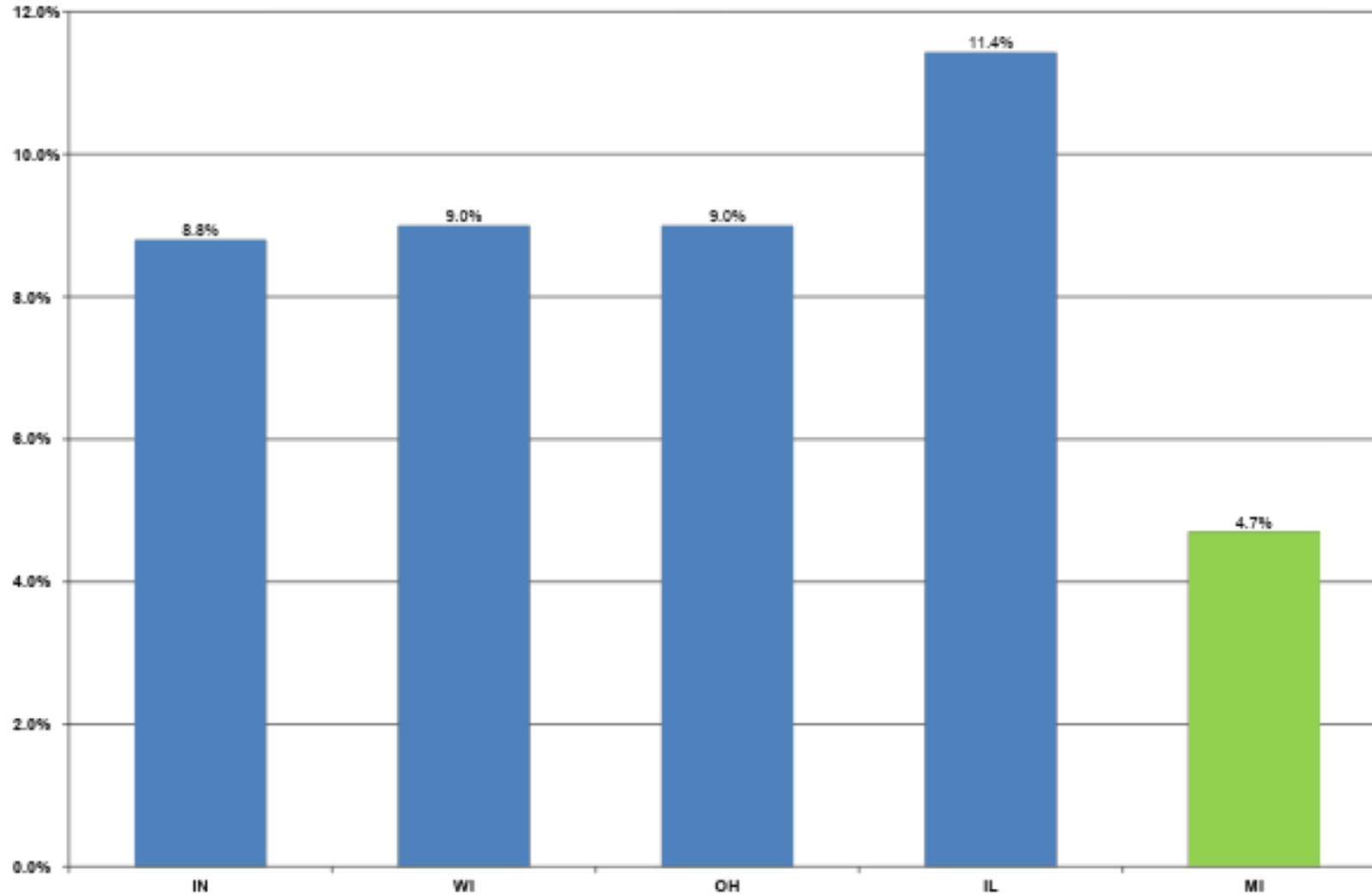
Benefits of deposit systems:

- **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**
 - Adding wine and non-carbonated beverages in Vermont would reduce GHG emissions equivalent to taking nearly 1,600 cars off the road.
- **Prevent pollution** from manufacturing new containers from virgin materials

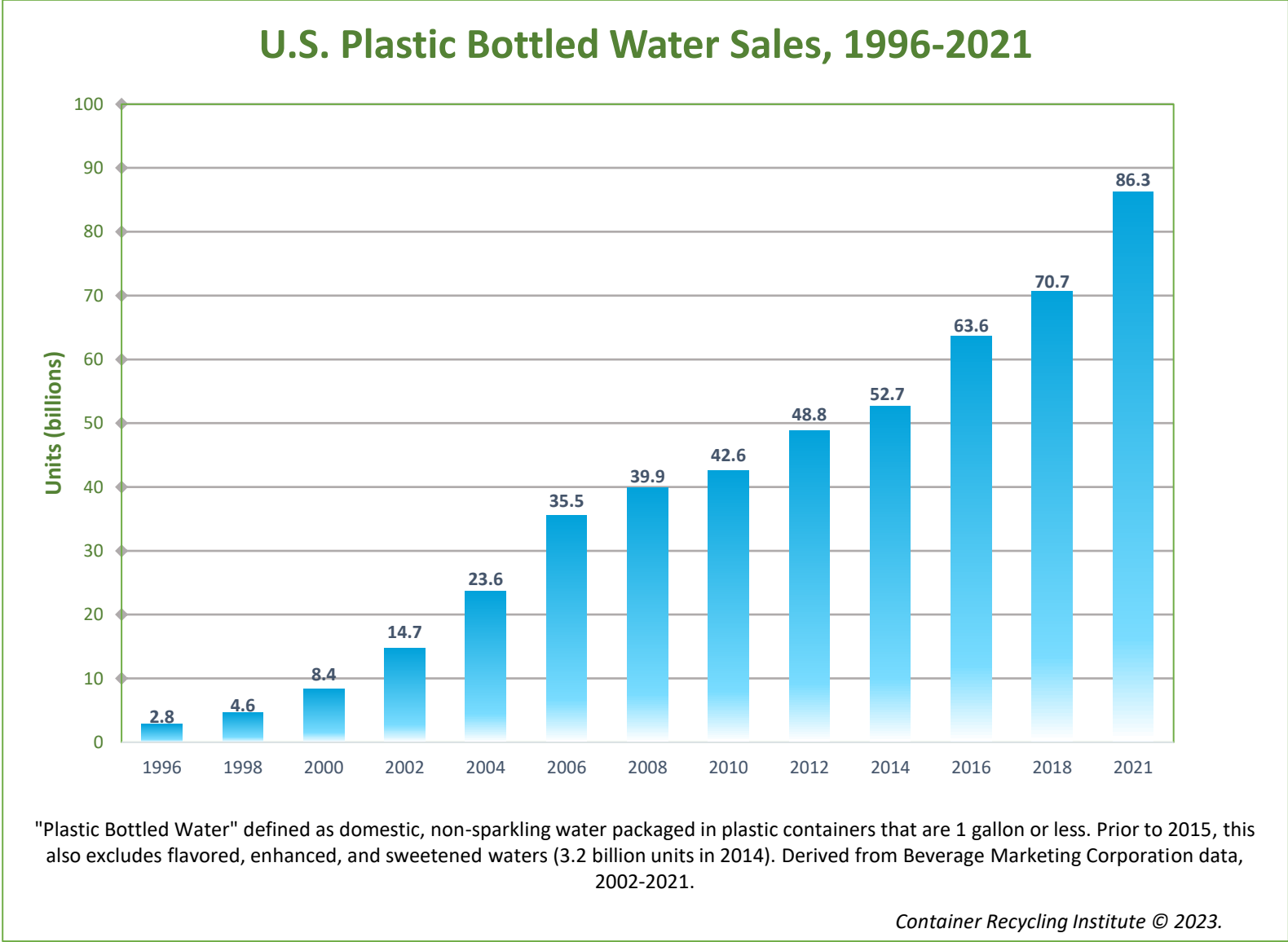


Deposits Reduce Beverage Container Litter – Great Lakes

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



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



28 Container
Deposit
Programs that
Include Wine

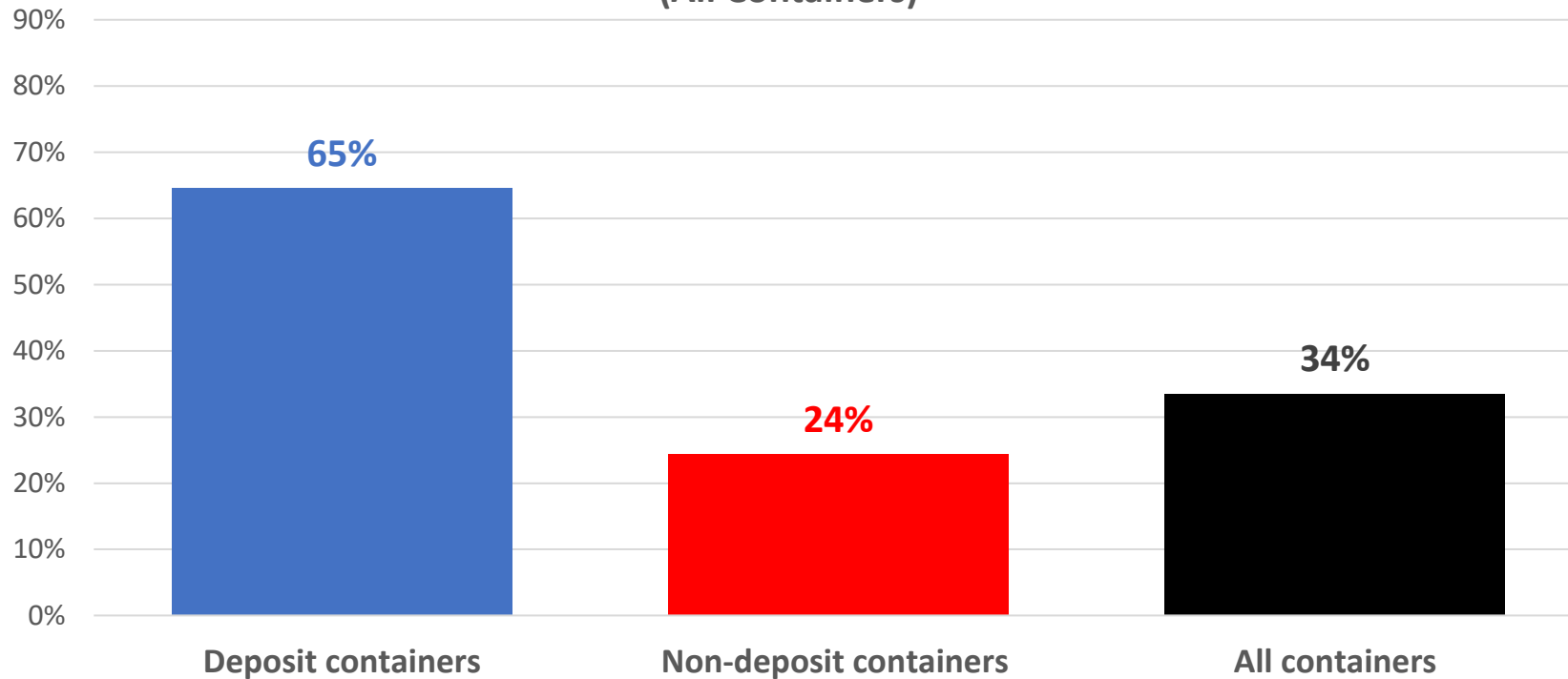
Queensland
Western Australia
Slovakia
Prince Edward Island
Quebec
Yukon Territory
Austria Iowa Ontario Croatia
New South Wales California Turkey
British Columbia Alberta
Newfoundland and Labrador
Northern Territory New Brunswick
Palau Northwest Territories
South Korea Maine Finland
Nova Scotia Iceland
South Australia
Saskatchewan
Australian Capital Territory

Deposit Amount and Coverage by State

State	Beer	Soda/ Carbonated Water	Water	Juice, Tea, Energy Drinks, Sports, Other Non-Carbonated Drinks	Wine	Liquor
ME	5¢	5¢	5¢	5¢	15¢	15¢
OR	10¢	10¢	10¢	10¢	X	X
CT	10¢*	10¢*	10¢*	10¢*	X	X
CA	5¢/10¢	5¢/10¢	5¢/10¢	5¢/10¢	5¢/10¢ - 2024	5¢/10¢ - 2024
VT	5¢	5¢	5¢ - proposed	5¢ - proposed	5¢ - proposed	15¢
HI	5¢	5¢	5¢	5¢	X	X
NY	5¢	5¢	5¢	X	X	X
IA	5¢	5¢	X	X	5¢	5¢
MA	5¢	5¢	X	X	X	X
MI	10¢	10¢	X	X	X	X

* CT increase to 10 cents will be implemented January 1, 2024

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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VT Recycling Rate Calculations for Deposit Material and Non-Deposit Material (tons)

	Total "Containers" from 2018 DSM report	Bottle Bill Containers	Remainder = Non Bottle Bill Containers
Disposed	34,112 (corrected)	2,765 (corrected)	31,347 (corrected)
Recycled	30,183 (corrected)	18,096	12,087 (corrected)
Total	64,295 (corrected)	20,861 (corrected)	43,434 (corrected)
Recycling Rate	47% (corrected)	87% (corrected)	28%
Sources	2018 DSM report, corrected	Disposal from 2018 report, Table 11; Recycling from 3/4/13 DSM report	Calculated from 2 previous columns

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>	

Cost Savings for Municipalities from Container Deposit Laws

Without deposits, 25% of Beverage Containers are Recycled. Municipalities save on:

- Collection costs for recyclables
- Processing costs for recyclables

Without Deposits, 75% of Beverage Containers are Disposed or Littered. Municipalities save on:

- Collection costs for disposal: 75% of the containers
- Landfill tipping fees
- Litter collection pick-up costs
- Collection from public litter bins
- Storm drain (or waterway) cleanup costs
- Costs due to injuries, damage to farms and farm animals

REVENUE LOST from minority of containers that are recycled:

- Sale of recyclables (scrap value)

- 33 studies have found cost savings for municipalities through implementation of deposit programs
<https://www.reloopplatform.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/Fact-Sheet-Economic-Savings-for-Municipalities-8FEB2021.pdf>

Financial Impacts in Vermont: MRFs and Households

- There would be no change to aluminum containers in MRFs, because the vast majority of aluminum beverage containers are already in the current law.
- A recent study by NWRA found that an expansion of the law, as proposed in VT, would add \$2 per year in costs per household, or 17 cents per household per month. However, we also calculate that a slightly higher amount would be saved in landfill tipping fees per household. These cancel each other out.
- CRI's study in MA in 2016 found that the existing bottle bill was saving cities and towns \$20 million per year.

Deposit scrap is more valuable.

Single-stream curbside material is more contaminated, low quality vs. clean, separated deposit material.

- **PET plastic from curbside programs: \$230/ton**
PET plastic from deposit programs: \$380/ton (PRCC, 2/23)
- **Curbside glass *costs \$20/ton* to recycle**—when markets can be found for it at all—versus deposit glass that has a **\$20/ton** scrap value.
- **Aluminum: spec and off-spec**

Beyond immediate impacts, we must consider the catastrophic long-term economic, environmental and societal impacts resulting from plastic pollution, marine debris and climate change if we do not do our part to create a more circular economy.



Thank You!

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