## Fact Sheet: Public Support for Deposit-Return Systems (2003-2018)

Table 1 Public Support for Deposit-Return Systems on a Global Scale (2003-2018)

Jurisdiction	Year	Type & Level of Support	Notes
Australia (South) <sup>i</sup>	2004	<b>92%</b> in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted June 9-17, 2004 via interviews</li> <li>Sample size: 803</li> <li>78% strongly support</li> <li>13% slightly support</li> </ul>
Australia (North) <sup>İİ</sup>	2011	<b>79%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Newspoll survey commissioned by the Boomerang Alliance</li> <li>79% support the NT government's plan to introduce a South Australian style scheme of 10-cents deposit on bottles and cans</li> <li>87% believe a 10-cent deposit will encourage more people to recycle these items</li> </ul>
Australia (Victoria) <sup>iii</sup>	2015	<b>79%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul><li>Poll conducted January/February 2015</li><li>Sample size: 608</li></ul>
Australia (Victoria) <sup>iv</sup>	2018	<b>84%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted June 22-27, 2018 via online survey</li> <li>Sample size: 503</li> <li>Poll commissioned by the Total Environment Centre</li> <li>Support was highest among those living in households with 5 or more people (87%) and lowest among single-person households (77%)</li> <li>Support was also high among those with an associate diploma (89%), bachelor's degree (87%), and skilled vocational (87%).</li> <li>Widowed people (94%), as well as those living common law, defactor or with a partner (87%), married (85%), or divorced/separated (84%) showed more support than those who were single or never married (77%).</li> </ul>
Australia (NSW) <sup>V</sup>	2012	<b>80%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
Australia (NSW) <sup>vi</sup>	2015	<b>90%</b> in favour of deposit legislation (decision taken)	<ul> <li>Poll conducted January/February 2015 via telephone survey</li> <li>Sample size: 669</li> <li>Newspoll commissioned by the Total Environment Centre</li> <li>Support was the highest among grocery buyers with children (92%)</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Year	Type & Level of Support	Notes
Australia (Queensland) <sup>vii</sup>	2013	<b>85%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Newspoll commissioned by Greenpeace and Boomerang Alliance</li> <li>67% strongly in favour</li> <li>18% partly in favour</li> </ul>
Australia (Queensland) <sup>viii</sup>	2015	86% in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul><li>Poll conducted January/February 2015 via telephone survey</li><li>Sample size: 407</li></ul>
Australia (Australian Capital Territory) <sup>ix</sup>	2015	<b>81%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted via online survey; poll closed January 13, 2015</li> <li>Sample size: 624</li> </ul>
Australia (National) <sup>X</sup>	2012	<b>82%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
Australia (National)	2013/1	87% in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
Australia (National)	2013/2	<b>87%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
Australia (Tasmania) <sup>xi</sup>	2011	<b>91%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
Belgium <sup>xii</sup>	2011	<b>62%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
Belgium <sup>xili</sup>	2015	80% in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>The news paper 'Het Belang van Limburg' did a poll among 1,000 people living in Limburg (a province in Flanders). 80% of respondents supported the introduction of deposits on bottles and cans to fight litter.</li> </ul>
Belgium <sup>xiv</sup>	2017	<b>66%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>The consumer organisation Test-Achats / Test-Aankoop did a poll among 1150 of its members (both Dutch and French speaking). 66% of them supported the introduction of deposits on bottles and cans.</li> </ul>
Belgium <sup>xv</sup>	2018	82% in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul><li>Poll conducted May 30-June 7, 2018</li><li>Sample size: 5,134</li></ul>
Germany <sup>xvi</sup>	2016	<b>83%</b> in favour of <b>existing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted March 15-18, 2016</li> <li>Sample size: 1,310</li> <li>87% of respondents believe that deposit money in Belgium can reduce litter</li> </ul>
Hungary	2013	66% in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
Ireland <sup>xvii</sup>	2013	<b>89.4%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted April 20-May 10, 2013 via paper and online surveys</li> <li>Sample size: 1,426</li> </ul>

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			Only 6.1% were against such a scheme and 4.5% gave a conditional
			approval
Lithuania	2016	<b>78.2%</b> in favour of <b>existing</b> deposit legislation	
Netherlands	2006	<b>78%</b> in favour of <b>existing</b> deposit legislation	
Netherlands <sup>xviii</sup>	2016	74% in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Dutch consumer programme Radar</li> <li>74% support the expansion of deposits to small plastic bottles and cans</li> </ul>
Spain <sup>xix</sup>	2013	<b>86%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	Sample size: 5,175
Scotland <sup>xx</sup>	2015	<b>78.8%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted February 12-17, 2015 via online panel</li> <li>Sample size: 1,011</li> <li>Margin of error: +/-3.1% at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>39.1% strongly support</li> <li>35.9% somewhat support</li> <li>Highest support was among 16-24 year olds (50.8%)</li> </ul>
Wales <sup>xxi</sup>	2015	60% in favour of producer responsibility approach to beverage-related litter; out of them 81% in favour of introducing deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Survey carried out during September 2015; sent out over social media to the general public</li> <li>Although this methodology can only provide a snapshot of data and responses are somewhat subjective, results were largely consistent with few anomalies</li> </ul>
UK <sup>xxII</sup>	2008	82% in favour of introducing 5 pence deposit	
		<b>80%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> 10 pence deposit	
UK	2010	<b>89%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
UK <sup>xxiii</sup>	2017	63% in favour of introducing deposit legislation	
UK <sup>xxiv</sup>	2017	<b>73%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Online survey conducted by YouGov on behalf of the Marine Conservation Society between August 7-8<sup>th</sup>, 2017</li> <li>Sample size: 2,137 adults</li> <li>40% strongly support and 33% support introducing a deposit return system across the UK for single-use drinks bottles and cans</li> <li>Most support comes from those aged over 45 years</li> </ul>

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UK <sup>***</sup>	2018	<b>74%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted April 3, 2018 via online survey</li> <li>Sample size: 1,002</li> <li>The survey also reveals what people do with their used empty plastic bottles when they are away from home. Of those that use plastic bottles away from home, 42% say they are likely to keep their bottle and reuse it, 32% say they will go out of their way to find a recycling bin, and 26% say they will just throw it in the nearest bin.</li> </ul>
USA (lowa) <sup>xxvi</sup>	2017	<b>88%</b> in favour of <b>existing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted February 23-26, 2017</li> <li>Sample size: 700 (only includes registered voters)</li> <li>88% say the bottle bill has been good for the state, while nearly 4 in 5 support keeping the law in some form; if anything, voters are open to expansion.</li> <li>89% agree that the combination of the bottle bill and curbside recycling programs is the best way to decrease the amount of materials going into landfills, including 54% who strongly agree</li> <li>78% agree that there should be a national bottle bill</li> <li>81% agree that if the bottle bill were ended, people would not bother with recycling</li> </ul>
USA (Indiana) <sup>xxvii</sup>	2012	<b>73%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll managed by Ball State University Bowen Center using Princeton Survey Research Associates</li> <li>Sample size: 600</li> <li>Tested seven possible outcomes associated with a refundable deposit program - very strong support for all (78% to 87%)</li> <li>67.7% agreed that a refundable deposit is not a tax</li> </ul>
USA (Michigan) <sup>xxviii</sup>	2013	80.5% in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit legislation	Sample size: 334
USA (Massachusetts) xxix	2003	84% in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit legislation	
USA (Massachusetts) xxx	2011	<b>77%</b> in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted January 5-8, 2011 via telephone interviews</li> <li>Sample size: 400</li> <li>53% strongly support</li> <li>24% somewhat support</li> </ul>
USA (New York) <sup>xxxi</sup>	2004	<b>84%</b> in favour of <b>existing</b> deposit legislation	
		70% in favour of expanding deposit	

Jurisdiction	Year	Type & Level of Support	Notes
		legislation	
USA (Vermont) <sup>xxxii</sup>	2010	<b>93%</b> in favour of <b>existing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted November 15-17, 2010 via telephone interviews</li> <li>Sample size: 400</li> <li>Margin of error: plus or minus 4.9 percentage points at the level of</li> </ul>
		<b>86%</b> in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>95% confidence</li> <li>93% thought Vermont's current bottle bill was a 'good idea' (75% strongly agreed)</li> <li>61% strongly favoured expansion</li> </ul>
USA	2013	80% in favour of expanding deposit	• Sample size: 139
(Vermont) <sup>xxxiii</sup>		legislation	Annual survey conducted by Senator Bill Doyle
USA (Tennessee) xxxiv	2008	80.4% in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted March 12-20, 2008 via random telephone interviews</li> <li>Sample size: 777 (only includes registered voters)</li> <li>Margin of error: Plus or minus 3.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>44.4% strongly support</li> <li>36% support</li> </ul>
USA (Tennessee)	2009	<b>83.2%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	
USA (Texas) <sup>xxxv</sup>	2011	<b>71%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted January 18-20, 2011 via telephone interview of N=501 randomly selected registered voters in the State of Texas</li> <li>Margin of error: +/- 4.4% at the 95% confidence level</li> </ul>
Canada (Ontario) <sup>xxxvi</sup>	2006	<b>75%</b> in favour of <b>introducing</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted September 30-October 3, 2006 via random telephone interview</li> <li>Sample size: 500</li> <li>The aggregate survey results are accurate plus or minus 4.4%, 19 times out of 20.</li> <li>Data was weighted for gender and age to match the 2001 Canadian census results for Ontario</li> <li>75% strongly support</li> <li>12% somewhat support</li> </ul>
Canada (Ontario) <sup>xxxvii</sup>	2017	<b>91%</b> in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit legislation	<ul> <li>Poll conducted March 4-7, 2017 via online survey</li> <li>Sample size: 800</li> <li>Margin of error: +/- 3.5%, 19 times out of 20</li> <li>Data is weighed to represent the gender, age, and regional distribution of the province</li> <li>69% strongly support</li> <li>23% somewhat support</li> </ul>

Jurisdiction	Year	Type & Level of Support	Notes
			<ul> <li>Most common explanations for support of expanding the deposit- return program: promotes recycling (26%), reducing trash (25%), and rewarding returning bottles (24%)</li> </ul>
Canada	2016	88% in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit	• Sample size: 1,234
(Quebec) <sup>xxxviii</sup>		legislation to water bottles	<ul> <li>93% totally or somewhat agree that the Quebec government should modernize the deposit system</li> </ul>
		<b>91%</b> in favour of <b>expanding</b> deposit legislation to wine bottles	• 63% said that increasing the deposit from 5-cents to 10-cents would make them always return their containers; 22% said it would make them return them more often; and 14% said it would not change their habits
			<ul> <li>84% of respondents said that extending the deposit to water bottles would result in them always or often bringing back plastic water bottles</li> </ul>
			<ul> <li>89% of respondents said that extending the deposit to wine bottles would result in them always or often bringing back their wine bottles</li> </ul>

v<sup>ii</sup> Williams, B. 19 June 2013. "Most Queenslanders want container deposit laws introduced but the Government cans the idea."

<www.couriermail.com.au/news/queensland/most-queenslanders-want-container-deposit-laws-introduced-but-the-government-cans-the-idea/news-story/7bc49b1878d7da94e8f76a21d1f0b0ff>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> McGregor Tan Research. "Community awareness and acceptance of Container Deposit Legislation." Prepared for the Environment Protection Authority. <www.epa.sa.gov.au/files/4771405\_cdl\_survey.pdf>

<sup>&</sup>quot; "Territorian's back NT Government on 10cent bottle refund." 8 February 2011.

<sup>&</sup>lt;a href="https://d3n8a8pro7vhmx.cloudfront.net/boomerangalliance/pages/102/attachments/original/1438368223/MEDIA\_RELEASES\_2004-15.pdf?1438368223>"
 Newspoll polling results provided by Jeff Angel of Boomerang Alliance on May 17, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iv</sup> O'Shannessy, M. OmniPoll. June 2018. "Container Deposit in Victoria." Prepared for Jeff Angel, Total Environment Centre.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>v</sup> Pauka, C. 7 August 2012. "Container deposit scheme gathers momentum." <www.tandlnews.com.au/2012/08/07/article/container-deposit-scheme-gathersmomentum/>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>vi</sup> Needham, K. 25 January 2015. "Poll shows 90 per cent support for NSW Premier Mike Baird's recycling scheme." <www.smh.com.au/nsw/poll-shows-90-percent-support-for-nsw-premier-mike-bairds-recycling-scheme-20150123-12wvh5.html>

v<sup>iii</sup> Newspoll polling results provided by Jeff Angel of Boomerang Alliance on May 17, 2017.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1x</sup> Lawson, K. January 5, 2015. "Canberra likely to follow NSW into refunds for drinks containers." <www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/canberra-likely-to-follownsw-into-refunds-for-drinks-containers-20150105-12i7m0.html>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>x</sup> Pauka, C. 7 August 2012. "Container deposit scheme gathers momentum." < www.tandlnews.com.au/2012/08/07/article/container-deposit-scheme-gathersmomentum/>

x<sup>i</sup> Serpo, A. 21 May 2012. "Tasmania on the verge of a CDS?" <www.insidewaste.com.au/general/news/1013102/tasmania-verge-cds>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>xii</sup> L'avenir. "Canettes." <www.lavenir.net/Polls/index.aspx?pageName=report&surveyid=703>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>xiii</sup> http://www.hbvl.be/krant

<sup>xiv</sup> Statiegeld: een oplossing voor zwerfvuil die 66% van de bevraagden ziet zitten. March 21, 2017. <www.test-aankoop.be/familieprive/supermarkten/nieuws/reactie-statiegeld>

<sup>w</sup> GfK. 14 June 2018. "Press release: 82% of Belgians want a deposit on plastic bottles and cans." < https://www.gfk.com/insights/press-release/82-percent-of-belgians-want-a-deposit-on-plastic-bottles-and-cans/>

<sup>xvi</sup> "Dosenpfand kommt mittlerweile gut an." <a href="https://yougov.de/news/2016/04/02/dosenpfand-kommt-mittlerweile-gut/">https://yougov.de/news/2016/04/02/dosenpfand-kommt-mittlerweile-gut/</a>

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xviii Drie kwart wil statiegeld op flesjes en blikjes. October 11, 2016. < https://radar.avrotros.nl/testpanel/uitslagen/detail/drie-kwart-wil-statiegeld-op-flesjes-enblikjes/>

x<sup>ix</sup>www.lavanguardia.com/participacion/encuestas/20131015/54392004094/retorno-envases-bebidas-comercio.html

\*\* Survation. Scottish Attitudes Poll (February). <www.haveyougotthebottle.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Survation-Poll-February-2015.pdf>

x<sup>xii</sup> Keep Wales Tidy. November 1, 2015. "Drink Related Litter: A Report on the Survey Findings on the Subject of Drink Related Litter in Wales in September 2015." <www.keepwalestidy.org/login/kcfinder/upload/files/Drink%20Related%20Litter%20Report%202015.pdf>

xxii "Bring back deposits on bottles, say public." 17 December 2008. <www.daelnet.co.uk/countrynews/country\_news\_17122008.cfm>

<sup>xxiii</sup> Carrell, S. 22 February 2017. "Green campaigners welcome Coca-Cola U-turn on bottle and can recycling scheme."

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<sup>xxiv</sup> Marine Conservation Society. "Public Support for Deposit Return Systems across the UK."

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<sup>xxvii</sup> Environmental Quality Service Council. August 28, 2013. "Buried Treasure in Indiana Landfills."

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<sup>xxix</sup> Center for Policy Alternatives, 2003 Policy Summary, Environment/Bottle Bill.

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<sup>xxxi</sup> Public Policy Associates, Inc. (PPA). February 2004. "Survey of New York Registered Voters: Attitudes Toward New York's Bottle Bill and Proposed Reforms." <www.nypirg.org/pubs/enviro/solidwaste/bottlebill/SurveyResults\_Final.pdf>

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