



FACT SHEET

# Public support for deposit return systems

January 2023

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# Public support for deposit return systems

**By the end of 2022, it is expected that over 350 million people<sup>i</sup> will live in jurisdictions with deposit return systems (DRS) in place for the collection and recycling of single-use drinks containers. And according to our knowledge of programmes that are committed to but not yet operational, it's reasonable to predict that this could increase to nearly 750 million people by the end of 2026, when it's expected that more than 70 jurisdictions worldwide will have a DRS (up from 48 in 2020).**

The fact that no other method of collection can effectively recover 90%+ of drinks containers for closed-loop recycling explains why governments around the world are considering DRS. But it's not just governments who are showing a renewed interest in this policy tool; more and more drinks companies (including Coca-Cola, Pepsi, and Nestle)<sup>ii</sup> and industry associations have begun to throw their support behind DRS, too.

In an open letter to the European Commission (EC) in September 2020, the European Federation of Bottled Waters together with the Union of European Soft Drinks Associations (UNESDA) called for the widespread adoption of DRS in European countries to meet the collection and recycled content targets set in the EU's Single-Use Plastics Directive (SUPD).<sup>iii</sup> And in October 2021, Natural Mineral Waters Europe and UNESDA (in association with Zero Waste Europe) urged the EU to acknowledge the role of DRSs in achieving a circular economy for drinks packaging in Europe, and to support the establishment of minimum requirements for new DRS in the revision of the Packaging and Packaging Waste Directive (PPWD). In their joint statement to the EC, they acknowledge that "DRS have not only delivered high collection rates for beverage packaging in countries where they are in place, but they...can also contribute towards the EU's climate objectives...by reducing the need for virgin materials thanks to closed loop recycling."<sup>iv</sup>

More recently, in October 2022, an unprecedented cross-sector coalition of industry, NGOs, and civil society published a joint position paper<sup>v</sup> calling on the EC to adopt DRS in Member States whose collection performance fails to meet interim milestones needed to attain the 90% target. In its letter, the coalition – which includes large associations like UNESDA, Natural Mineral Waters Europe, the European Fruit Juice Association (AIJN), and Mattoni – states "we support DRS because in most Member States there is no other means to achieve 90%+ separate collection for recycling in a short timeframe with sustained performance." As further reasoning behind their support, the coalition points to the litter reduction benefits of DRS and the fact that DRS can serve as a gateway to more reusable packaging.

As governments continue to consider DRS and implement legislation in their own jurisdictions, they will be happy to know that research shows that public support for these systems is high. New laws receive much public fervour, and most respondents to public opinion polls support expansion of existing deposit laws.

This fact sheet represents a compilation of results from over 100 public opinion polls gathered on a global scale over the last 20 years (2003-2022). The data focuses on public attitudes and opinions towards deposit return legislation in over 20 countries including: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, England, France, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of the Maldives, Romania, Scotland, Slovakia, Spain, the US, and Wales.

For more detailed information on each opinion poll (e.g. organisation that carried out the study, survey methodology, sample size, date range, etc.), please see Appendix A.

Figure 1  
Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of Deposit Return Legislation in Europe

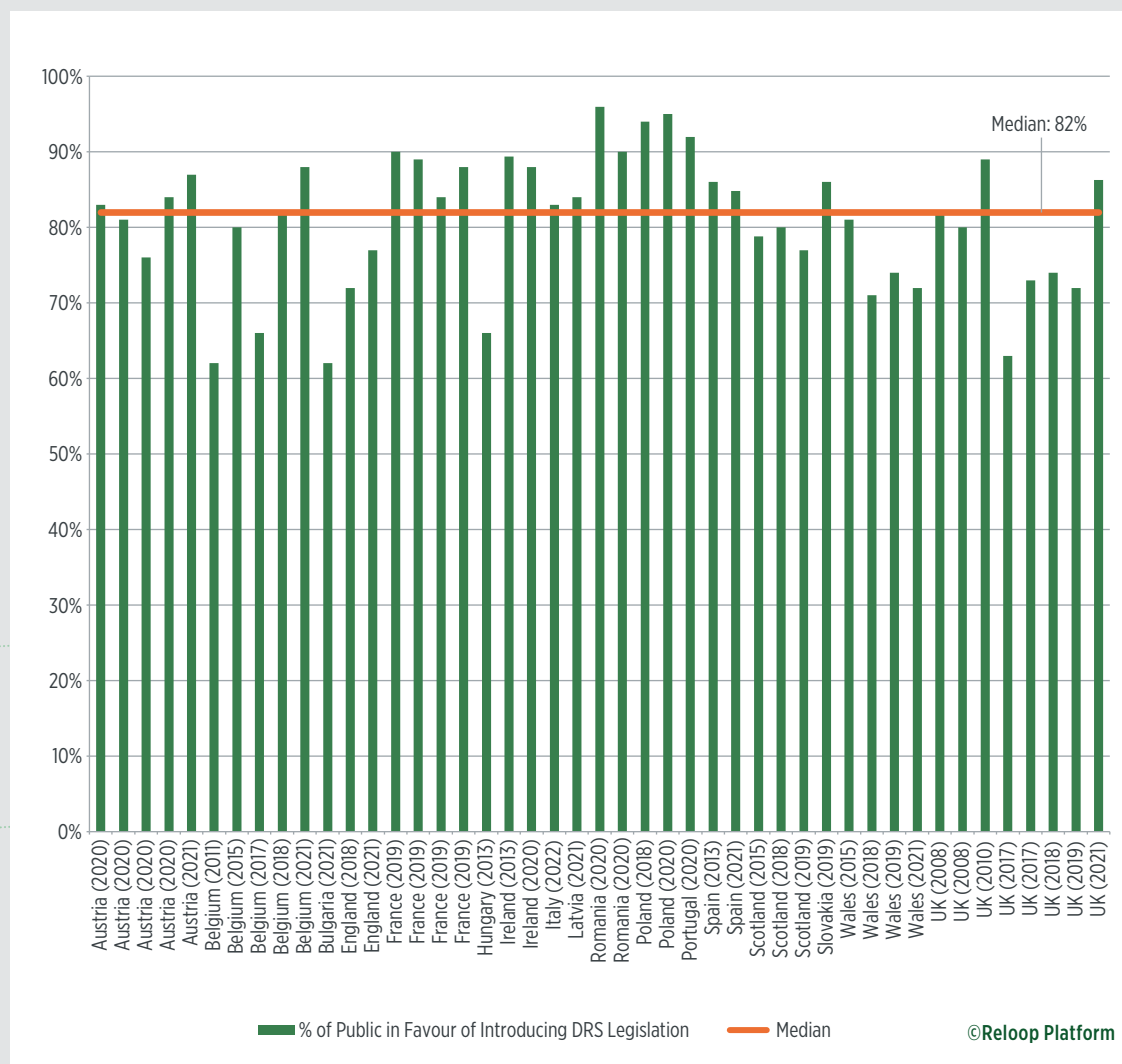


Figure 2  
Opinion Polls Showing Support for Existing Deposit Return Legislation in Europe

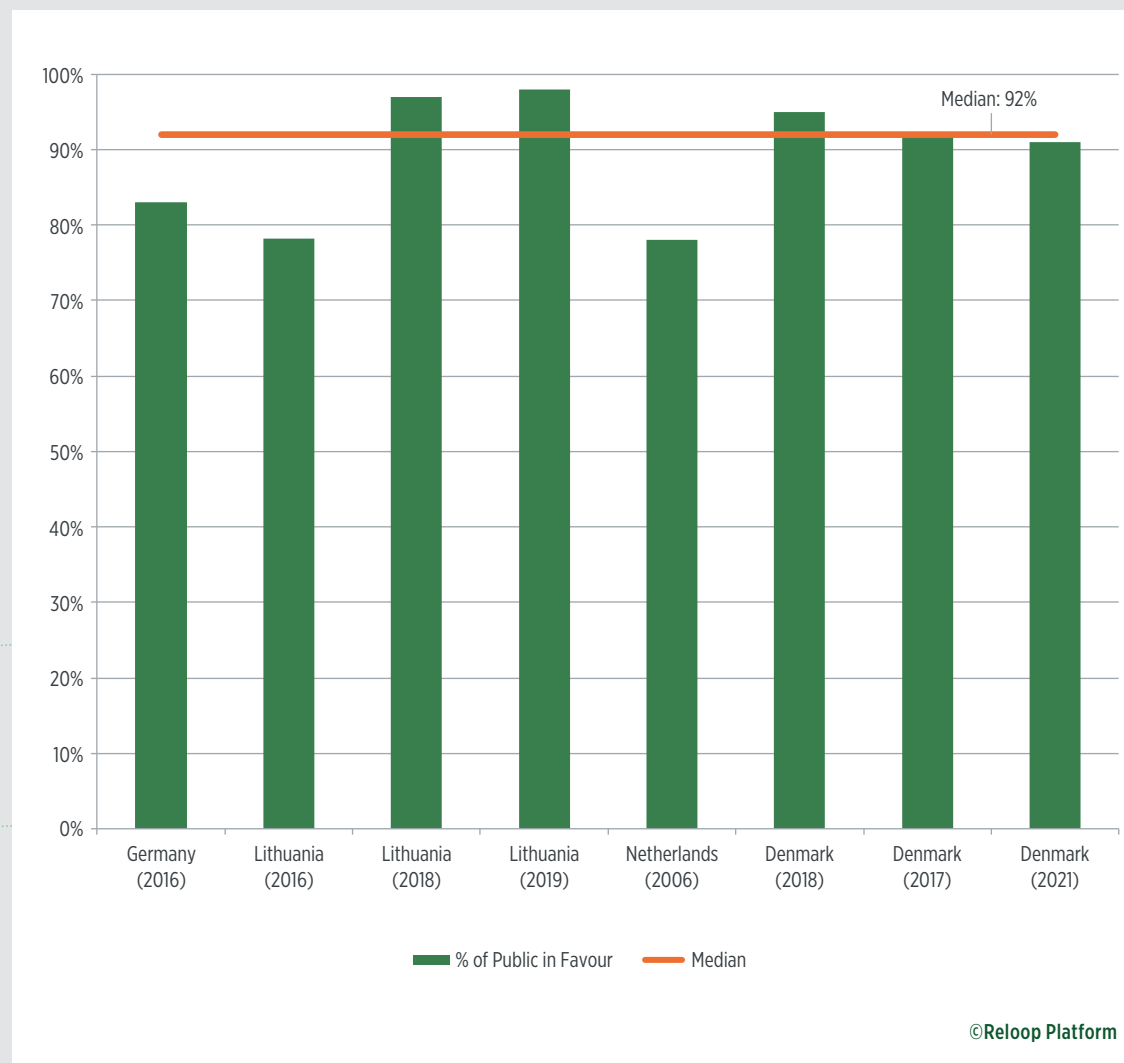


Figure 3  
Opinion Polls Showing Support for Expansion of Deposit Return Legislation in Europe

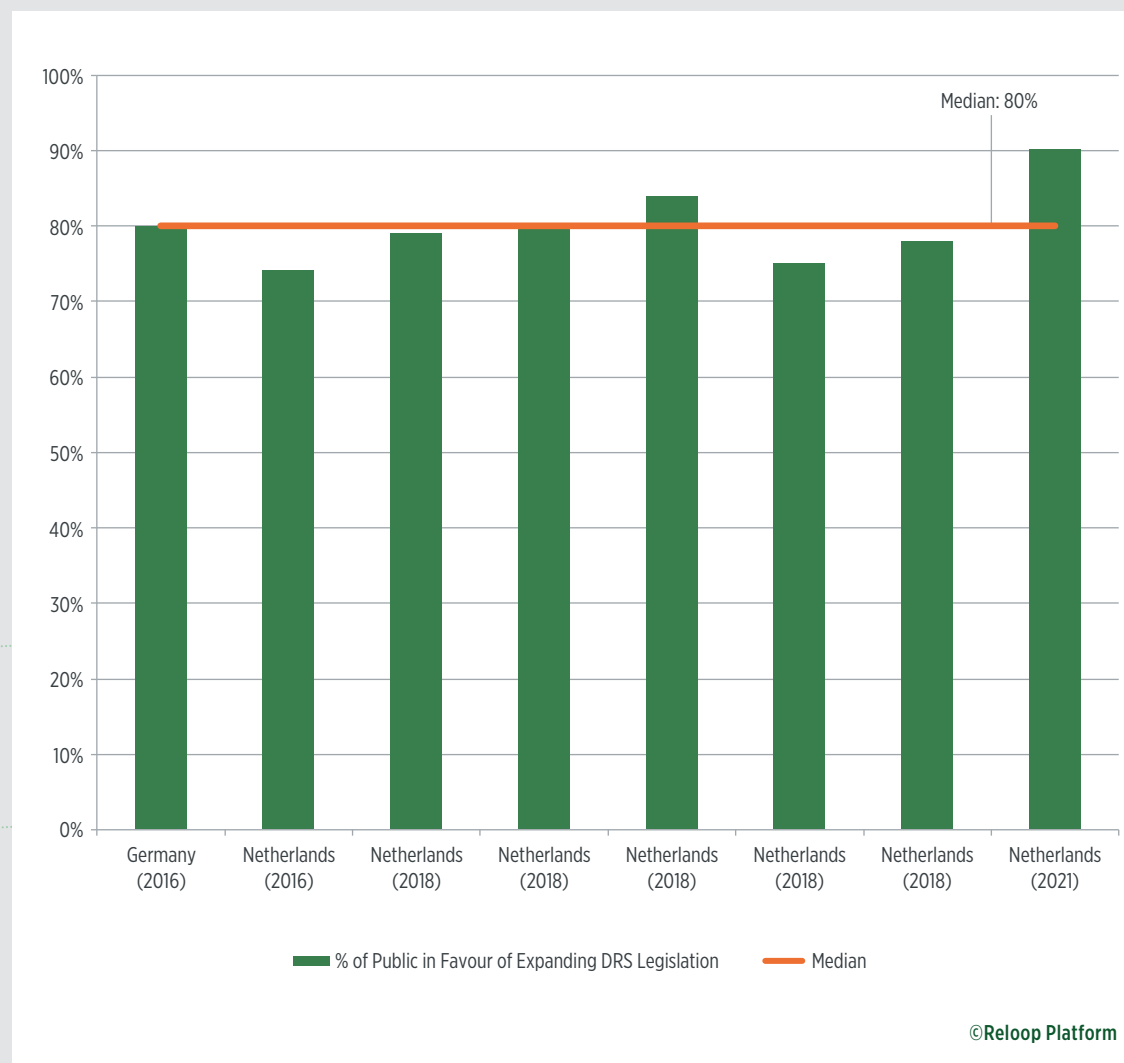


Figure 4  
**Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of Deposit Return Legislation in the U.S.**

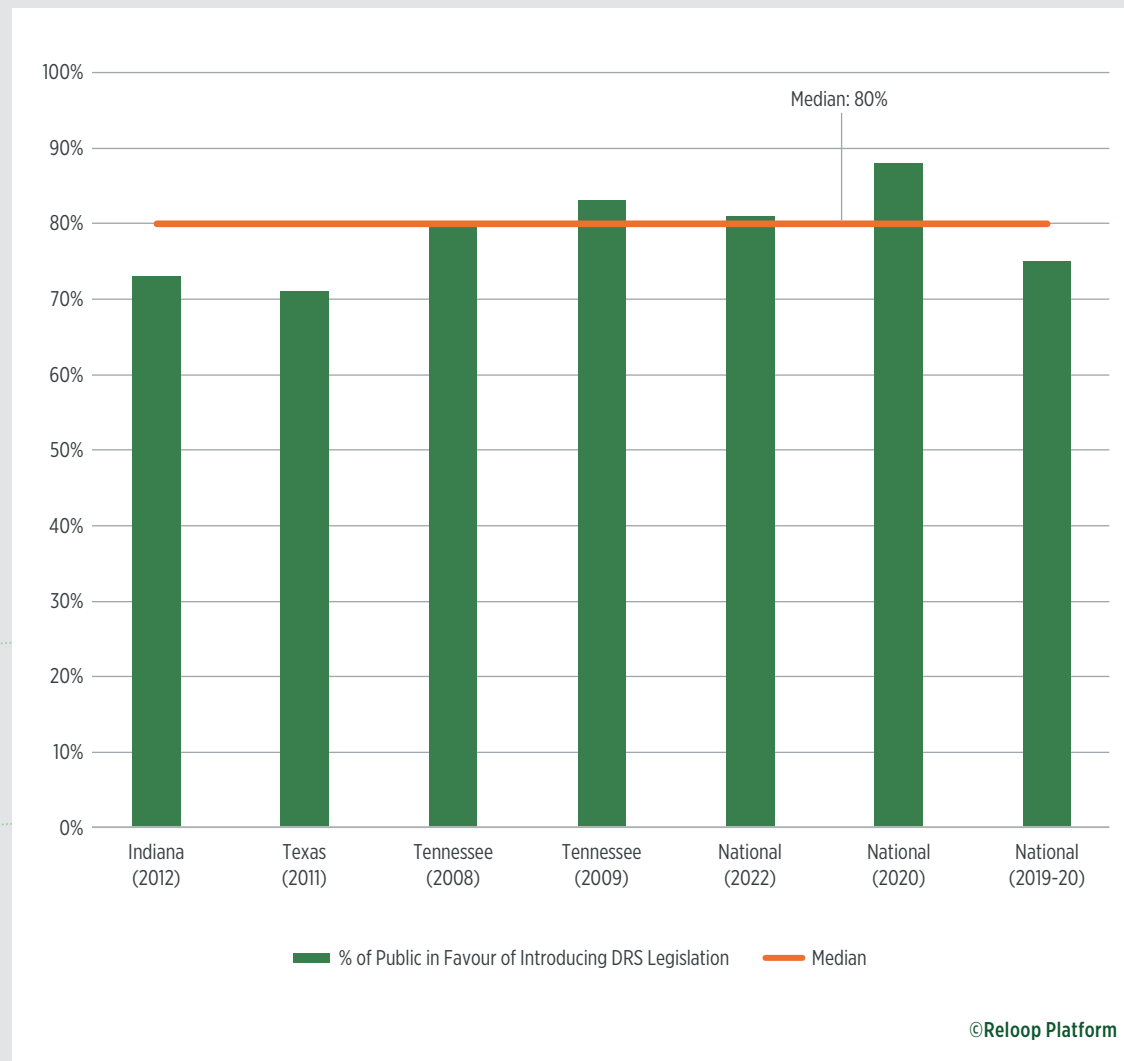


Figure 5  
Opinion Polls Showing Support for Existing Deposit Return Legislation in the U.S.

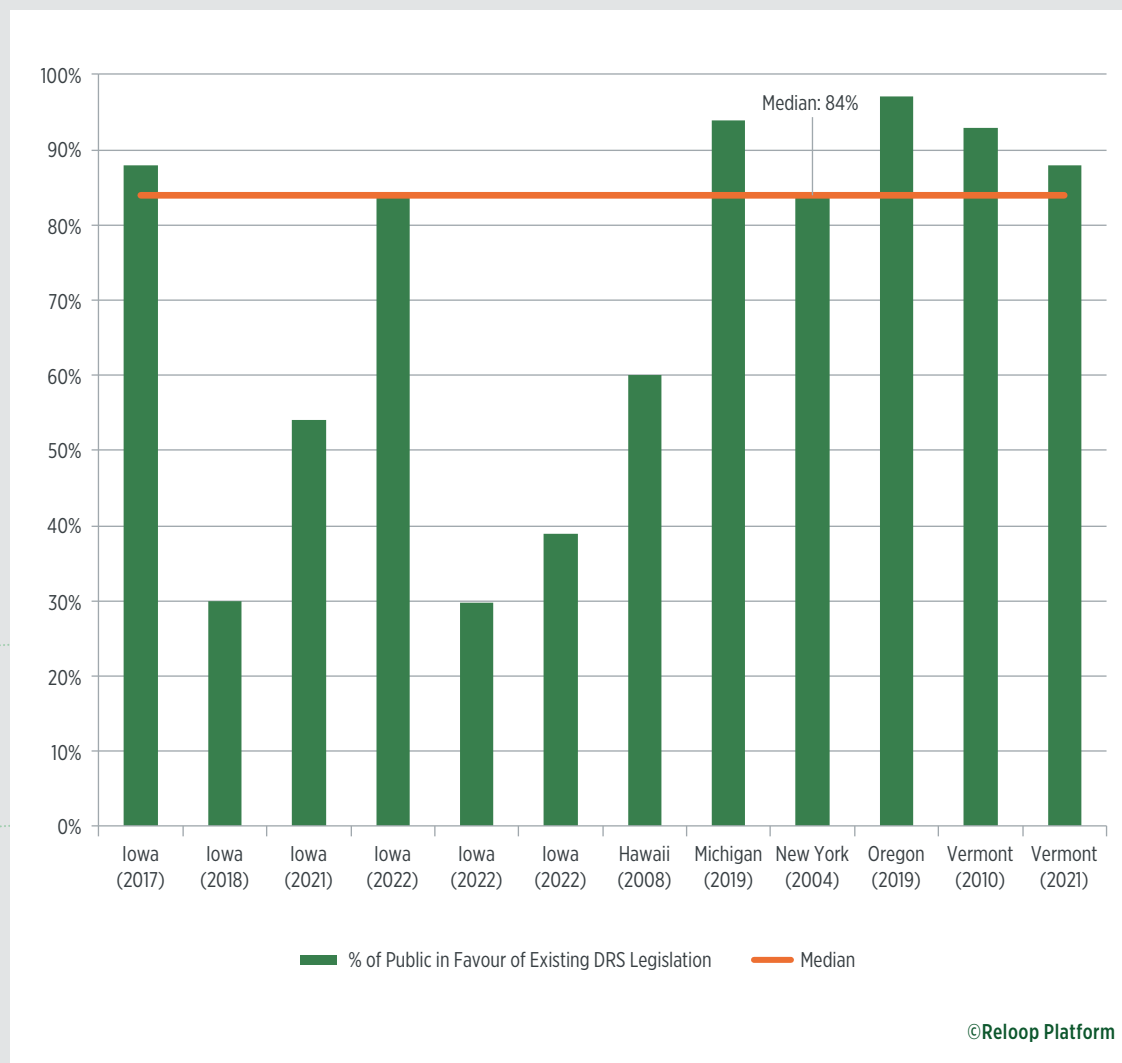


Figure 6  
Opinion Polls Showing Support for Expansion of Deposit Return Legislation in the U.S.

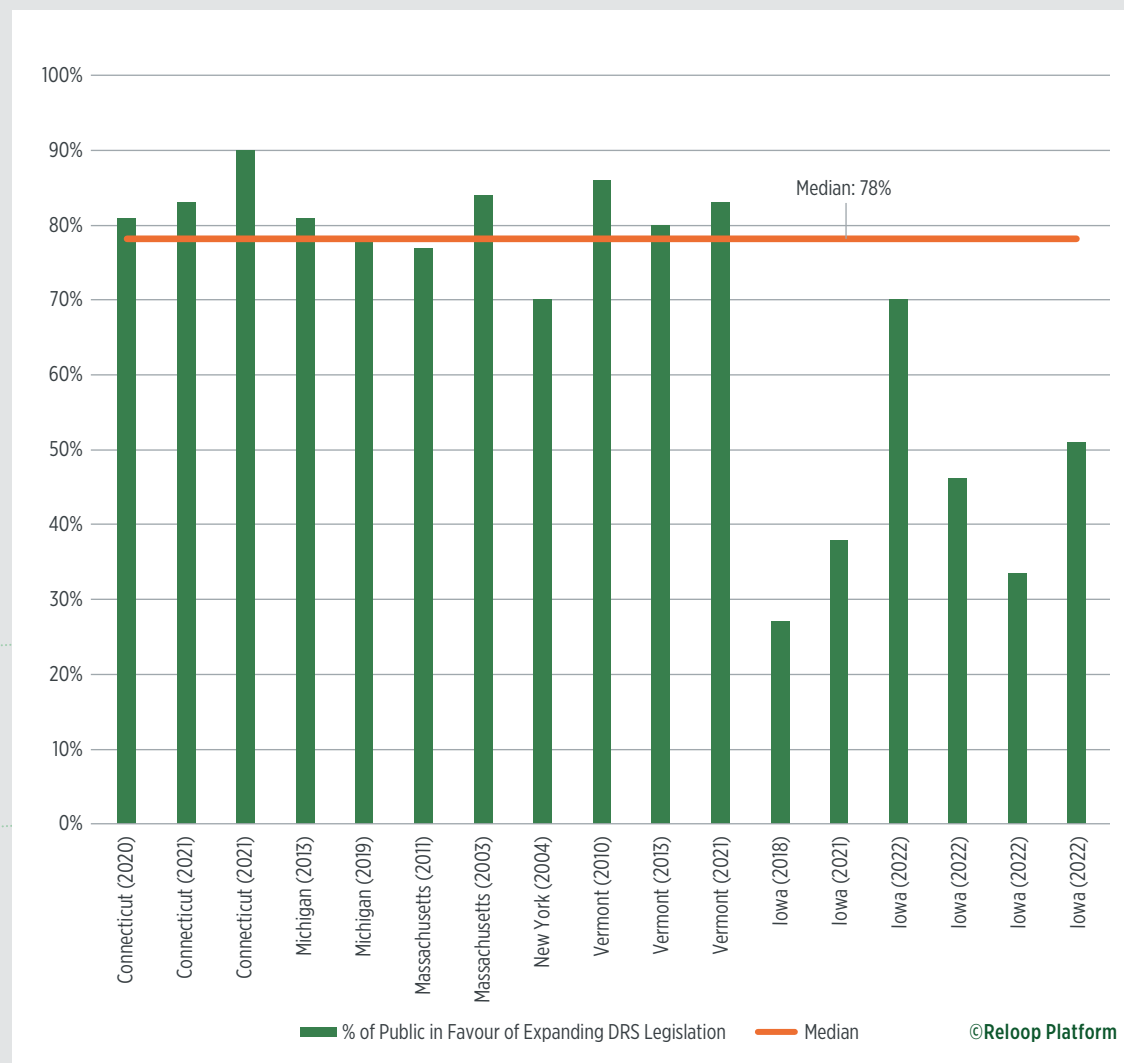




Figure 7

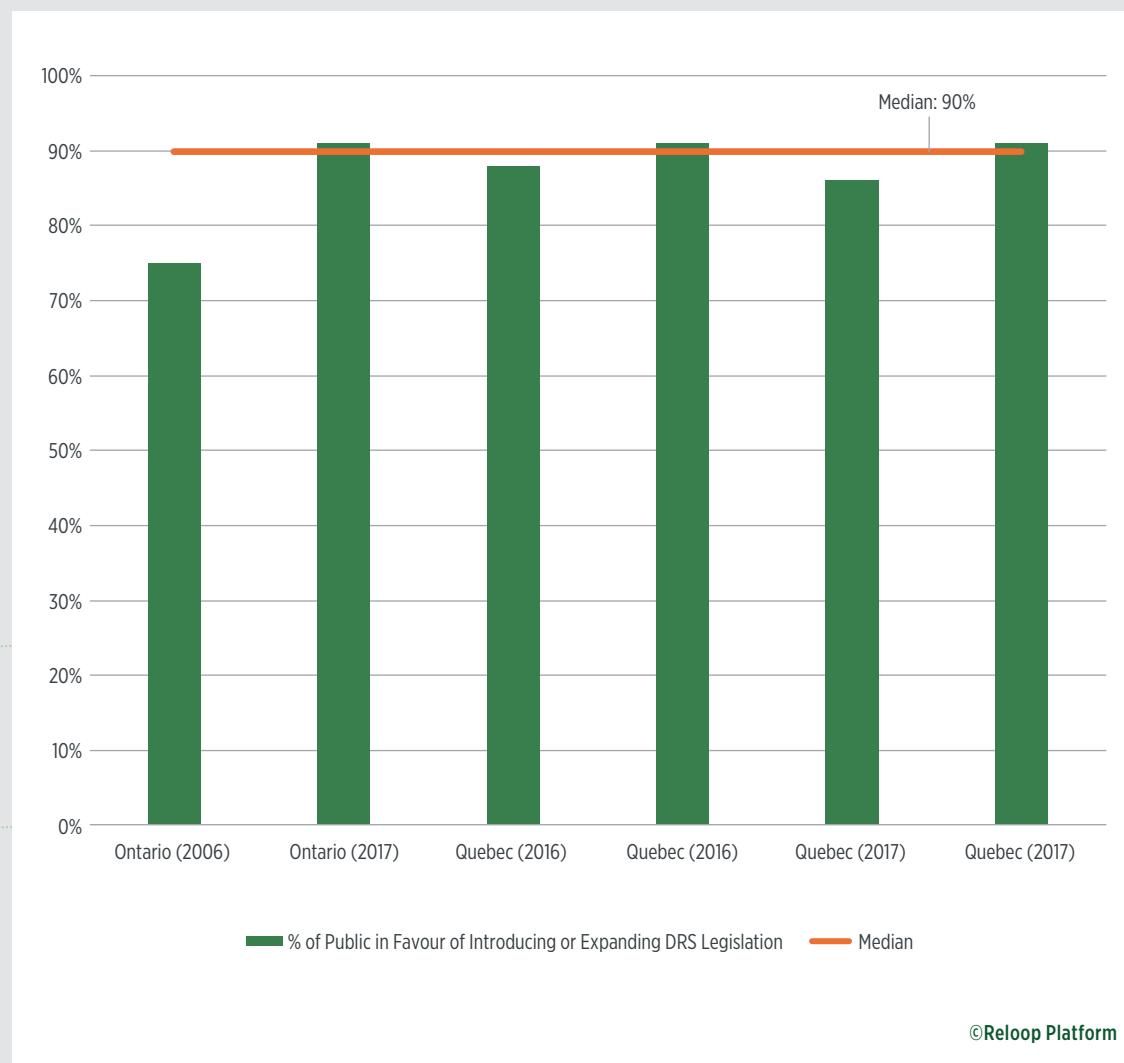
**Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction or Expansion of Deposit Return Legislation in Canada**

Figure 8  
Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of Deposit Return Legislation in Oceania

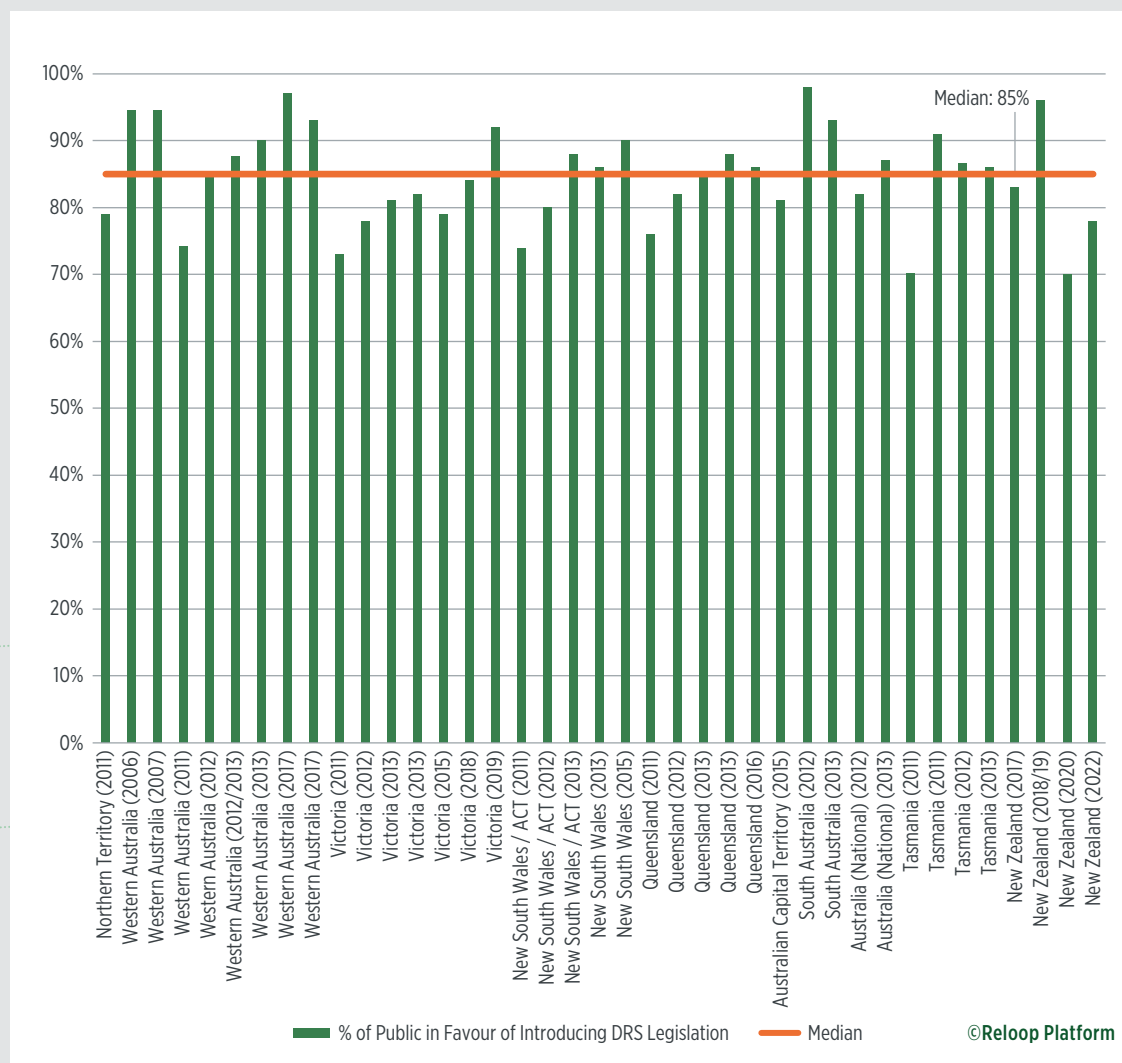


Figure 9  
Opinion Polls Showing Support for Existing Deposit Return Legislation in Oceania

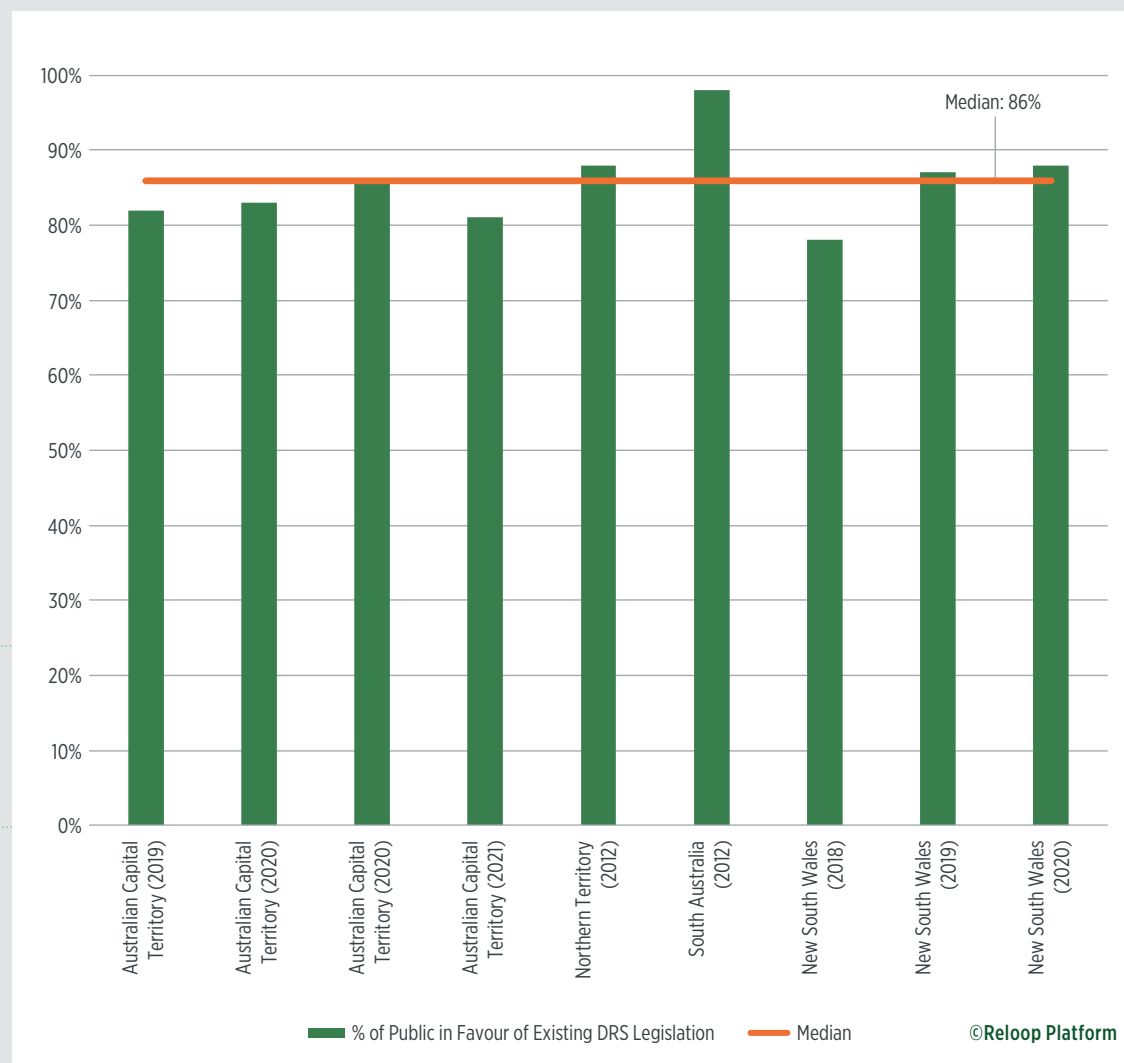
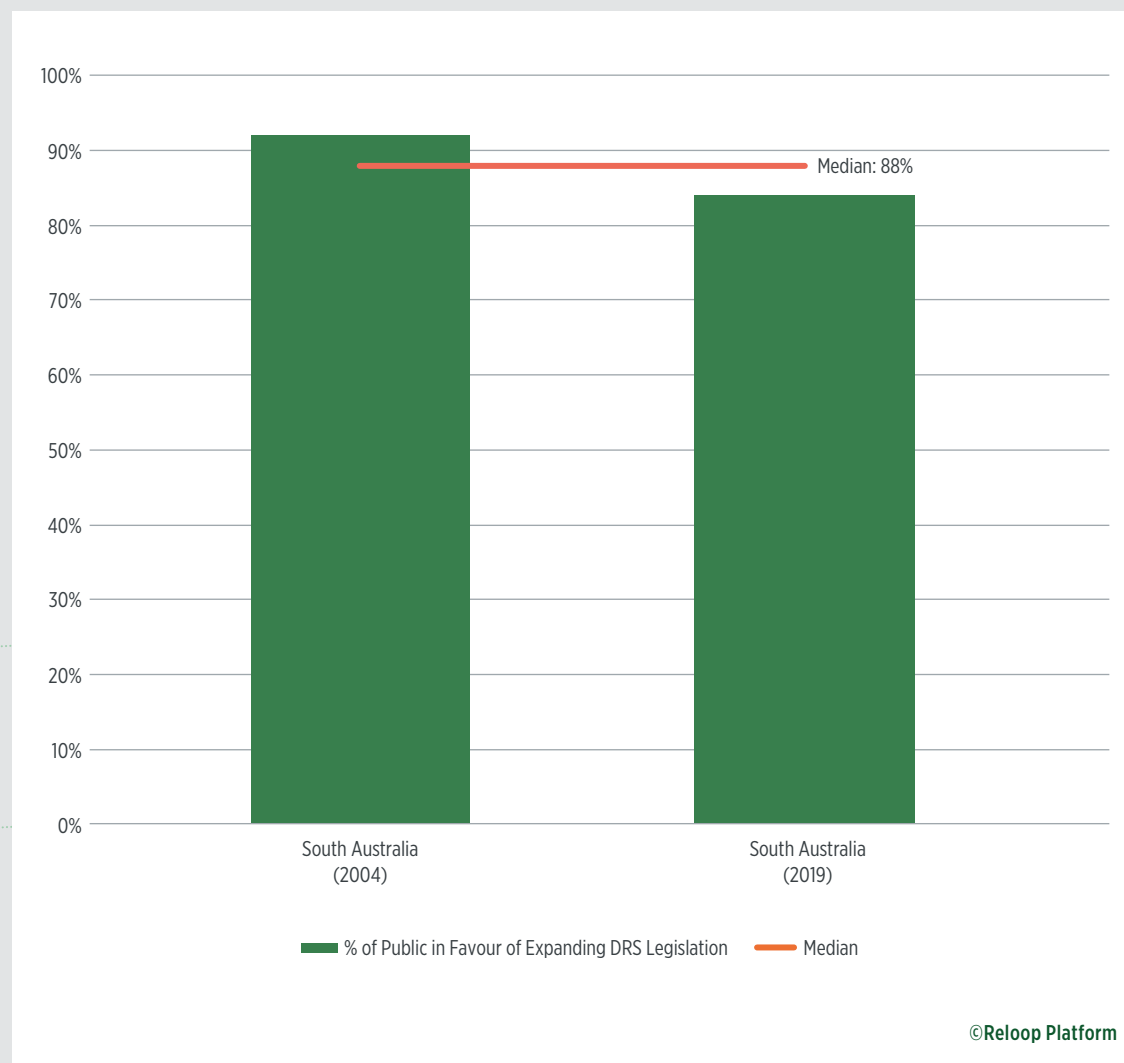


Figure 10  
**Opinion Polls Showing Support for Expansion of Deposit Return Legislation in Oceania**



# Appendix A: Polling Studies

Table 1  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Western Australia, Australia <sup>vi</sup>	2006	94.5% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey commissioned by ECOS Corporation and carried out by Newspoll</li> <li>› Survey conducted by telephone from May 5-7 and May 12-14, 2006</li> <li>› Sample size: 300</li> <li>› 79% “strongly in favour” and 15% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Western Australia, Australia <sup>vii</sup>	2007	94.5% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll from February 16-18 and February 23-25, 2007</li> <li>› Sample size: 304</li> <li>› 79% “strongly in favour” and 19% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Western Australia, Australia <sup>viii</sup>	2011	74.2% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for The Total Environment Centre from April 15-17, 2011</li> <li>› Sample size: 150</li> <li>› “56.1% “strongly in favour” and 18.1% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Western Australia, Australia <sup>ix</sup>	2012	85% in favour of introducing nation-wide legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll from July 27-29, 2012</li> <li>› Sample size: 152</li> <li>› 72% “strongly in favour” and 13% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Western Australia, Australia <sup>x</sup>	2012/13	87.6% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by Newspoll</li> <li>› Sample size: 303</li> <li>› 70.8% “strongly in favour” and 16.8% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Western Australia, Australia <sup>xi</sup>	2013	90% in favour of introducing nation-wide legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance and Total Environment Centre from October 18-20, 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 150</li> <li>› 74% “strongly in favour” and 15% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Western Australia, Australia <sup>xii</sup>	2017	97.1% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted in 2017 by the Government of Western Australia</li> <li>› Sample size: 3,236</li> </ul>
Western Australia, Australia <sup>xiii</sup>	2017	93% in favour of introducing legislation for plastic bottles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted November 16-21, 2017</li> <li>› Sample size: 402</li> <li>› 67% “strongly support” and 26% “support” a 10-cents refund on each plastic bottle returned for recycling</li> </ul>

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Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Northern Territory, Australia <sup>xiv</sup>	2011	79% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll from February 2-3, 2011</li> <li>› Sample size: 250</li> <li>› 67% “strongly in favour” and 12% “partly in favour”</li> <li>› 87% believe a 10-cent deposit will encourage more people to recycle these items</li> </ul>
Victoria, Australia <sup>xv</sup>	2011	73% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for The Total Environment Centre from April 15-17, 2011</li> <li>› Sample size: 300</li> <li>› 53.7% “strongly in favour” and 19.3% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Victoria, Australia <sup>xvi</sup>	2012	78% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance from July 27-29, 2012</li> <li>› Sample size: 304</li> <li>› 61% “strongly in favour” and 18% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Victoria, Australia <sup>xvii</sup>	2013	81% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by Newspoll 7/16 June 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 300</li> <li>› 60% “strongly in favour” and 21% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Victoria, Australia <sup>xviii</sup>	2013	82% in favour of introducing nation-wide legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance and Total Environment Centre from October 18-20, 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 300</li> <li>› 62% “strongly in favour” and 21% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Victoria, Australia <sup>xix</sup>	2015	79% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted January/February 2015</li> <li>› Sample size: 608</li> </ul>
Victoria, Australia <sup>xx</sup>	2018	84% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted June 22-27, 2018 for the Total Environment Centre</li> <li>› Sample size: 503</li> <li>› Support was highest among those living in households with 5+ 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>› Widows (94%), as well as those living common law 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>
Victoria, Australia <sup>xxi</sup>	2019	92% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted in July 2019 by Infrastructure Australia</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,000</li> </ul>

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Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
New South Wales / ACT, Australia <sup>xxii</sup>	2011	73.9% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for The Total Environment Centre from April 15-17, 2011</li> <li>› Sample size: 350</li> <li>› 55.6% “strongly in favour” and 18.3% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
New South Wales / ACT, Australia <sup>xxiii</sup>	2012	80% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance from July 27-29, 2012</li> <li>› Sample size: 352</li> <li>› 65% “strongly in favour” and 15% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
New South Wales / ACT, Australia <sup>xxiv</sup>	2013	88% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance and Total Environment Centre from October 18-20, 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 350</li> <li>› 67% “strongly in favour” and 21% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
New South Wales, Australia <sup>xxv</sup>	2013	86% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance June 7/16, 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 665</li> <li>› 68% “strongly in favour” and 18% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
New South Wales, Australia <sup>xxvi</sup>	2015	90% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Total Environment Centre throughout January/February 2015</li> <li>› Sample size: 669</li> <li>› Support was highest among grocery buyers with children (92%)</li> </ul>
Queensland, Australia <sup>xxvii</sup>	2011	76% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for The Total Environment Centre from April 15-17, 2011</li> <li>› Sample size: 200</li> <li>› 44.8% “strongly in favour” and 31.2% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Queensland, Australia <sup>xxviii</sup>	2012	82% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance from July 27-29, 2012</li> <li>› Sample size: 201</li> <li>› 59% “strongly in favour” and 23% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Queensland, Australia <sup>xxix</sup>	2013	85% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Newspoll commissioned by Greenpeace and Boomerang Alliance</li> <li>› Sample size: 400</li> <li>› 67% “strongly in favour” and 18% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Queensland, Australia <sup>xxx</sup>	2013	88% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance and Total Environment Centre from October 18-20, 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 200</li> <li>› 66% “strongly in favour” and 22% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Queensland, Australia <sup>xxxi</sup>	2015	86% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted January/February 2015</li> <li>› Sample size: 407</li> </ul>

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Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Australian Capital Territory, Australia <sup>xxxii</sup>	2015	81% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey; poll closed January 13, 2015</li> <li>› Sample size: 624</li> </ul>
South Australia, Australia <sup>xxxiii</sup>	2012	98% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance over the period of July 27-29, 2012</li> <li>› Sample size: 153</li> <li>› 93% “strongly in favour” and 5% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
South Australia, Australia <sup>xxxiv</sup>	2013	93% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance and Total Environment Centre from October 18-20, 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 151</li> <li>› 81% “strongly in favour” and 12% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Australia (National) <sup>xxxv</sup>	2012	82.1% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance over the period of July 27-29, 2012</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,212</li> <li>› 65.7% “strongly in favour” and 16.5% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Australia (National) <sup>xxxvi</sup>	2013	87% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Total Environment Centre and Boomerang Alliance from October 18-20, 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,201</li> <li>› 67% “strongly in favour” and 20% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Tasmania, Australia <sup>xxxvii</sup>	2011	70.1% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for The Total Environment Centre from April 15-17, 2011</li> <li>› Sample size: 50</li> <li>› 46.8% “strongly in favour” and 23.4% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Tasmania, Australia <sup>xxxviii</sup>	2011	91% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll undertaken from May 23-29, 2011</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,000</li> <li>› 75% “strongly support” and 16% “partly support”</li> </ul>
Tasmania, Australia <sup>xxxix</sup>	2012	86.6% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance over the period of July 27-29, 2012</li> <li>› Sample size: 50</li> <li>› 74.9% “strongly in favour” and 11.8% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>
Tasmania, Australia <sup>xl</sup>	2013	86% in favour of introducing legislation throughout Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted by Newspoll for the Boomerang Alliance and Total Environment Centre from October 18-20, 2013</li> <li>› Sample size: 50</li> <li>› 68% “strongly in favour” and 18% “partly in favour”</li> </ul>



Table 1  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
New Zealand <sup>xli</sup>	2017	83% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Research commissioned by WasteMINZ's Territorial Authority (TA) Forum</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,000</li> <li>› 58% "strongly in support"</li> <li>› 78% of respondents support including all types of drinks containers being in the DRS</li> </ul>
New Zealand <sup>xlii</sup>	2018-19	96% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey of local government mayors</li> </ul>
New Zealand <sup>xliii</sup>	2020	70% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› The data comes from two nationally representative surveys carried out online by Consumer NZ in February and March 2020 and June 2020</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,516</li> <li>› 70% of respondents were in favour; 15% were undecided; 15% were opposed</li> <li>› 72% of respondents said they would use a DRS if it was introduced</li> <li>› 58% of respondents said up to 20-cents/bottle would be enough to encourage them to return containers</li> <li>› 40% of respondents would prefer to get their refund in cash and 21% would prefer direct payment to their bank account</li> <li>› For 80% of respondents, convenient drop-off points were the most important factor to a DRS's success</li> <li>› 67% said it needed to be easy to understand which containers were covered, with most wanting all drinks containers (glass, metal, and plastic) included in the programme</li> <li>› Supermarkets were picked by 70% as the most convenient place to return containers.</li> </ul>

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Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
New Zealand <sup>xlii</sup>	2022	78% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Consumer research polling carried out by Kantar/Consumer Link (commissioned by Reloop) during August 2022 utilising Kantar's standard, representative survey approach</li> <li>› 78% of respondents indicated support for the Aotearoa/New Zealand Government introducing a DRS on beverage packaging. Fifteen percent declared they were unsure, presumably requiring further detail about the scheme's design and operation and only 7% were not in favour of such a scheme.</li> <li>› The preferred deposit refund value for the Government to legislate is NZ30cents as stated by 52% of consumers:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 78% of consumers stated they were willing to engage with the scheme at this NZ30cent value</li> <li>› 66% of consumers stated they were willing to engage with the scheme if the refund value was set at NZ20cents</li> <li>› Only 45% said they would engage with the scheme and seek their refund if the deposit was set at NZ10cents</li> </ul> </li> <li>› 95% of consumers believe all glass drink containers should be included in the scheme (similar results applied to aluminium and plastics at 92%)</li> <li>› 71% of consumers supported the reintroduction of refillable containers in the scheme, stating they would buy drinks in this format</li> <li>› In terms of where consumers preferred to return their empty containers for their refund:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 89% stated they would use a supermarket located collection point</li> <li>› 70% stated they would use a small retail store</li> <li>› 51% said they would use a resource recovery centre</li> <li>› 31% said they would utilise a depot (located in a light industrial area)</li> </ul> </li> <li>› The type of collection point consumers stated they were most likely to use were:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Supermarket 73%</li> <li>› Small store (dairy) 12%</li> <li>› Resource recovery centre 10%</li> <li>› Depot 5%</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Republic of the Maldives <sup>xli</sup>	2018	80% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted In October 2018</li> <li>› Sample size: Over 100 people</li> </ul>

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Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Austria <sup>xlvi</sup>	2020	81% in favour of introducing a deposit on PET bottles 76% in favour of introducing a deposit on cans 84% in favour of introducing a deposit on glass bottles	› Online interviews conducted between July 30-August 5, 2020 by Research Affairs › Sample size: 1,000
Austria <sup>xlvii</sup>	2020	83% in favour of introducing legislation	› Online survey conducted by YouGov for Changing Markets Foundation February 4-11, 2020 › Sample size: 1,000
Austria <sup>xlviii</sup>	2021	87% in favour of introducing legislation	› Online survey conducted February 8-15, 2021 for Greenpeace Austria by Marketagent › Sample size: 500 › Margin of error: 4.3% › The poll also found that 87.4% of respondents were in favour of expansion of refillables in retail.
Belgium <sup>xlix</sup>	2011	62% in favour of introducing legislation	
Belgium <sup>i</sup>	2015	80% in favour of introducing legislation	› 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.
Belgium <sup>ii</sup>	2017	66% in favour of introducing legislation	› The consumer organisation Test-Achats / Test-Aankoop did a poll among 1,150 of its members (both Dutch and French speaking). 66% of them supported the introduction of deposits on bottles and cans.
Belgium <sup>iii</sup>	2018	82% in favour of introducing legislation	› Poll conducted May 30-June 7, 2018 › Sample size: 5,134
Belgium <sup>iiii</sup>	2021	88% in favour of introducing legislation	› Online poll conducted April 10-19, 2021 by Ipsos België › Sample size: 6,742
Bulgaria <sup>lv</sup>	2021	62% in favour of introducing legislation	› Survey conducted March 22-29, 2021 by KANTAR on behalf of the environmental association For the Earth › Method: Computer Assisted Personal Interviewing (CAPI)(personal interviews in the respondent’s home, based on a standardised questionnaire) › Sample size: 810 › 30% of respondents “totally approve” of the introduction of a deposit system in Bulgaria and 32% “rather approve.
England <sup>lv</sup>	2021	77% in favour of introducing legislation	› Online survey conducted by YouGov 25-26 May 2021, commissioned by the Marine Conservation Society (MCS) › Sample size: 2,076 adults living in Great Britain, of which 1,794 were based in England and 102 in Wales. › The survey found that the public are supportive of a DRS including not just plastic bottles (77%), but also glass (75%), cans (67%), and cartons (57%)

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Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
France <sup>lvi</sup>	2019	90% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted by Ifop for “Agir pour l’environnement” from March 20-22, 2019 via self-administered online questionnaire</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,004</li> <li>› 55% strongly in favour of introducing a DRS on glass bottles; 35% partly in favour</li> </ul>
France <sup>lvii</sup>	2019	89% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online poll conducted September 17-20, 2019 by Ipsos</li> <li>› Sample size: 2,138</li> <li>› 57% “strongly in favour” and 32% “mostly in favour”</li> </ul>
France <sup>lviii</sup>	2019	84% of Millennials in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Study carried out November 22-27, 2019 by the Oceans without Plastic and the Tara Ocean Foundation, in partnership with the Harris Interactive Institute</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,044 people between the age of 18 and 35 (“Millennials”)</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 1.8\%</math> at a 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 50% “strongly in favour and 34% “mostly in favour”</li> </ul>
France <sup>lix</sup>	2019	88% in favour of introducing deposit legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted by Ifop via self-administered online questionnaires from November 28-29, 2019</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,004</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 1.4\%</math> at a 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 57% “strongly in support” and 31% “mostly in support”</li> </ul>
Hungary	2013	66% in favour of introducing legislation	
Ireland <sup>lx</sup>	2013	89.4% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted April 20-May 10, 2013 via paper and online surveys</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,426</li> <li>› Only 6.1% were opposed and 4.5% gave a conditional approval</li> </ul>
Ireland <sup>lxi</sup>	2020	88% in favour of introducing an “all-in” DRS model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted October 1-5, 2020 by RedC and commissioned by Voice Ireland</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,006</li> <li>› 66% of respondents “strongly agree” that Ireland’s DRS should include as wide a scope as possible, while 22% “somewhat agree”</li> <li>› 78% said they supported the introduction of a variable deposit fee, where consumers pay a deposit that varies based on the size and material of the container</li> <li>› Opinion was relatively consistent across the age ranges surveyed, with 90% of 25-34-year-olds calling for a DRS that includes as many drinks containers as possible</li> </ul>
Italy <sup>lxii</sup>	2022	83% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted in February 2022 via interviews</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,005 (people aged 18-65 living in Italy)</li> </ul>

Table 1  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Latvia <sup>lxiii</sup>	2021	84% believe a DRS for drinks packaging is necessary (	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted in February 2021 by SKDS</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,017</li> </ul>
Poland <sup>lxiv</sup>	2018	94% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted by Kantar and commissioned by Wyborcza (daily newspaper in Poland)</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,000</li> <li>› 74% answered “definitely yes” to the question of whether they would support the introduction of a DRS, while another 20% replied “rather yes”</li> </ul>
Poland <sup>lxv</sup>	2020	95% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey by IBRiS</li> <li>› 95% supported the idea, with 86% of respondents declaring they would like such a system as soon as possible</li> <li>› When asked about the size of deposits to encourage bottle returns, 46% said they should be no higher than 0.3 zloty (7 euro cents) and only 3% would have accepted a rate higher than 1.5 zloty (33 euro cents)</li> </ul>
Portugal <sup>lxvi</sup>	2020	91.6% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online questionnaire carried out in late 2020</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,004</li> <li>› 86.5% agree that the system should include all types of bottles and cans, regardless of material type</li> <li>› 90% of poll participants stated that they recycling habits would change with the introduction of a DRS and that they would like it to be up and running as soon as possible</li> </ul>
Romania <sup>lxvii</sup>	2020	96% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted August 17-24, 2020 via computer-assisted telephone interviews</li> <li>› Sample size: 820 (people living in Romania 18+ years old)</li> <li>› Margin of error: ±13.4% at a 95% confidence level</li> </ul>
Romania <sup>lxviii</sup>	2020	90% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted in September 2020 by the Beverage Producers Alliance through Kantar Romania</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,425 people aged 18-65 who had bought at least one of the beverages of interest (juice, beer, bottled water, bottled wine or spirits) in the month prior to the study (802 people were interviewed by the CATI method, at national level, and 623 people from the urban area by the CAWI method)</li> <li>› 87% of respondents would be willing to return through automatic devices</li> <li>› 83% would return the packaging to collection centres at convenience stores, and 81% to supermarkets and hypermarkets</li> </ul>
Spain <sup>lxix</sup>	2013	86% in favour of introducing deposit legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Sample size: 5,175</li> </ul>
Spain <sup>lxx</sup>	2021	85% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by LinQ Market Research Spain</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,000</li> <li>› 84.8% of respondents say DRS is a good idea</li> <li>› 58.3% of respondents gave a score of 10 to the idea of returning cans, bottles, and cartons to the store, and 90% want the DRS to include glass</li> </ul>

Table 1  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Scotland <sup>lxxi</sup>	2015	78.8% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online poll conducted February 12-17, 2015</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,011</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 3.1\%</math> at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 39.1% “strongly support” and 35.9% “somewhat support”</li> </ul>
Scotland <sup>lxxii</sup>	2019	77% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online poll conducted July 16-18, 2019</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,019</li> <li>› 46% “strongly support” and 31% “tend to support”</li> </ul>
Wales <sup>lxxiii</sup>	2015	60% in favour of producer responsibility approach to drinks-related litter; out of them 81% in favour of introducing deposit legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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>
Wales <sup>lxxiv</sup>	2019	74% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› The research consisted of two online panel surveys: one with 1,453 adults aged 16+ and one with 372 children aged 11-15.</li> <li>› Survey was conducted online in March 2019 using Kantar’s online access panel Lightspeed as the main sample source</li> <li>› 39% “strongly support” and 35% “support”</li> <li>› Surveyed children aged 11-15 were also in support of a DRS: 85% supported the introduction of the scheme while only 3% opposed it</li> <li>› An ‘all-in’ DRS, where all containers carry the same deposit, regardless of size, was considered by participants to be the most effective.</li> </ul>
Wales <sup>lxxv</sup>	2021	72% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted 25-26 May 2021 by YouGov and commissioned by the Marine Conservation Society (MCS)</li> <li>› Sample size: 2,076 adults living in Great Britain (1,794 based in England, 102 based in Wales)</li> <li>› The survey found that the public are supportive of a DRS including not just plastic bottles (76%), but also glass (75%), cans (63%), and cartons (58%)</li> </ul>

Table 1  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of DRS Legislation (2003–2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
UK <sup>lxxvi</sup>	2008	82% in favour of introducing 5 pence deposit 80% in favour of introducing 10 pence deposit	
UK	2010	89% in favour of introducing legislation	
UK <sup>lxxvii</sup>	2017	63% in favour of introducing legislation	
UK <sup>lxxviii</sup>	2017	73% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted by YouGov on behalf of the Marine Conservation Society between August 7–8, 2017</li> <li>› Sample size: 2,137 adults living in Great Britain (1,844 were based in England, 106 based in Wales).</li> </ul>
UK <sup>lxxix</sup>	2018	74% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted April 3, 2018</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 (AfH). Of those that use plastic bottles AfH, 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>
UK <sup>lxxx</sup>	2018	72% of people in England in favour of introducing legislation for containers of all sizes 71% of people in Wales in favour of introducing legislation for containers of all sizes 80% of people in Scotland in favour of introducing legislation for containers of all sizes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted October 18–19, 2018 by YouGov for the Marine Conservation Society</li> <li>› Sample size: 2,081 adults living in Great Britain (1,797 based in England, 104 based in Wales).</li> </ul>
UK <sup>lxxxi</sup>	2019	72% in favour of introducing deposit legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted by YouGov on behalf of the Campaign to Protect Rural England, between June 9–11, 2019</li> <li>› Sample size: 3,386</li> <li>› 41% “strongly support”; 31% “tend to support”</li> </ul>

Table 1  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
UK <sup>lxxxii</sup>	2020	84% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted May 29-31, 2020 by Populus</li> <li>› Sample size: 2,087 adults living in the UK</li> <li>› 84% agreed that all drinks containers should be included in the proposed DRS, up from 69% in May 2019</li> <li>› Almost 4/5 support a variable deposit</li> </ul>
UK <sup>lxxxiii</sup>	2021	86.3% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey running from mid-January 2021 to the end of February 2021</li> <li>› Sample size: 138</li> <li>› 86.3% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that a DRS is a good idea and 90.3% either agreed or strongly agreed that it would benefit the environment</li> <li>› 69.4% of respondents would like to see the DRS extended beyond drinks containers to include other types of plastic waste</li> </ul>
Slovakia <sup>lxxxiv</sup>	2019	86% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted in January 2019 by the AKO polling agency for the Slovak Environment Inspection</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,030 people living in Slovakia</li> <li>› More than 86% support introducing a DRS for PET bottles and cans (only 10% oppose this proposal).</li> <li>› 96% of respondents don't mind paying a deposit while buying a drink that will be returned to them when they bring PET bottles or cans back to a shop.</li> <li>› Asked about whether the deposits will influence their waste separation habits, 77% of respondents said they will keep separating plastics as they did until now, while 3% of respondents admitted they would limit separation of plastics.</li> </ul>
Indiana, USA <sup>lxxxv</sup>	2012	73% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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 programme – very strong support for all (78% to 87%)</li> <li>› 67.7% agreed that a refundable deposit is not a tax</li> </ul>
Tennessee, USA <sup>lxxxvi</sup>	2008	80.4% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <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: <math>\pm 3.5\%</math> at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 44.4% “strongly support” and 36% “support”</li> </ul>
Tennessee, USA	2009	83.2% in favour of introducing legislation	
Texas, USA <sup>lxxxvii</sup>	2011	71% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted January 18-20, 2011 via telephone interviews</li> <li>› Sample size: 501</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.4\%</math> at a 95% confidence level</li> </ul>



Table 1  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Introduction of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
USA (National) <sup>lxxxviii</sup>	2019-20	75% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted in the fall and winter of 2019-2020 by Keep America Beautiful as part of its 2020 National Litter Study</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,100+</li> <li>› Respondents were asked about two types of policies targeted at increasing recycling. Half of respondents were asked whether they support a “refundable deposit” policy in their state and the other half were asked whether they support a “rebate incentive.” Across both questions, and across all respondents (nationally, in DRS states and in non-DRS states), over 75% of respondents supported the implementation of these policies within their state.</li> </ul>
USA (National) <sup>lxxxix</sup>	2020	88% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey commissioned by the World Wildlife Fund and conducted by Corona Insights between December 3-11, 2020</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,098 (probability-based sample from NORC AmeriSpeak® panel, stratified into 5 geographical regions) (71% of respondents did not live in a state with DRS)</li> <li>› Margin of error: ±4.11% for the overall results</li> <li>› There was little difference in reaction to “refund program” vs. “deposit program” wording (each version of the survey was shown to half of respondents): 88% of Americans support the creation of a “nationwide plastic beverage container refund program” (51% strongly support, 37% somewhat support), and 86% of Americans support the creation of a “nationwide plastic beverage container deposit program”</li> </ul>
USA (National) <sup>xc</sup>	2022	81% in favour of recycling refund programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Nationwide survey of voters conducted on 7 June 2022 by Lincoln Park Strategies on behalf of the Aluminum Association</li> <li>› Support for recycling refund programs was strong and consistent across all political and demographic groups, registering at more than 70% for Democrats, Independents, and Republicans.</li> <li>› Residents of states with existing bottle bills displayed the highest level of support at 90%</li> </ul>
Ontario, Canada <sup>xi</sup>	2006	75% in favour of introducing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted September 30-October 3, 2006 via random telephone interview</li> <li>› Sample size: 500</li> <li>› Margin of error: The aggregate survey results are accurate ±4.4%, 19 times out of 20</li> <li>› 75% “strongly support” and 12% “somewhat support”</li> </ul>

## Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Expansion of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
South Australia, Australia <sup>xcii</sup>	2004	92% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted June 9-17, 2004 via interviews</li> <li>› Sample size: 803</li> <li>› 78% “strongly support” and 13% “slightly support”</li> </ul>
South Australia, Australia <sup>xciii</sup>	2019	84% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted January 13-February 22, 2019</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,001</li> <li>› A total of 84% of the people responding to this survey thought that more types of containers should be included in the DRS, leaving 16% who did not think so. The most frequently mentioned items for inclusion were wine/spirit bottles, followed by single-use plastics, glass bottles and containers, and other containers that could be recycled.</li> <li>› 4% of respondents thought some containers should be removed from the scheme, and 96% did not support the removal of any items.</li> </ul>
The Netherlands <sup>xciv</sup>	2016	74% in favour of expanding legislation to small plastic bottles and cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by Radar, a Dutch consumer programme</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,500</li> </ul>
The Netherlands <sup>xcv</sup>	2018	84% in favour of expanding legislation to small plastic bottles 75% in favour of expanding legislation to cans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by Consumers’ Association (Consumentenbond)</li> <li>› Sample size: 2,000</li> </ul>
The Netherlands <sup>xcvi</sup>	2018	80% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by Radar</li> <li>› Sample size: 40,000</li> </ul>
The Netherlands <sup>xcvii</sup>	2018	79% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted 8-21 February 2018 by GfK Research for the Recycling Netwerk</li> <li>› Sample size: 24,979</li> <li>› Support was also strong among the governing parties: 85% for CU, 85% for D66, 83% for CDA, and 79% for VVD</li> </ul>
The Netherlands <sup>xcviii</sup>	2018	78% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted 7-9 February 2018 by EenVandaag</li> <li>› Sample size: 33,270</li> <li>› Support was also strong among the governing parties: 89% for DKK, 83% for CDA, 85% for CU, and 72% for VVD</li> <li>› With a 10-cent deposit on plastic bottles, 77% of respondents would often or always return their bottle; with a 25-cent deposit, this increases to 89%.</li> <li>› With a 10-cent deposit on cans, 72% would make the effort to return them to a supermarket; with a 25-cent deposit, this increases to 83%.</li> </ul>

Table 2  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Expansion of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
The Netherlands <sup>xcix</sup>	2021	90.1% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted February 4, 2021 via online poll</li> <li>› Sample size: 7,130</li> <li>› 90.1% agree with the government's decision to extend the deposit system to cans from 31 December 2022</li> </ul>
Iowa, USA <sup>c</sup>	2018	27% in favour of expanding legislation to include juice and water bottles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted January 28-31 by Selzer &amp; Co. (for The Des Moines Register and Mediacom) via telephone interviews</li> <li>› Sample size: 801</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 3.5\%</math></li> </ul>
Iowa, USA <sup>ci</sup>	2021	38% in favour of expanding legislation to include all single-use drinks containers and/or to raise deposit/handling fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted in January 2021 by Kristi Cooper Consulting</li> <li>› Sample size: 600</li> <li>› 21% said to keep the DRS and raise the deposit/handling fee; 17% said to keep and expand the DRS, and 8% said to eliminate it.</li> </ul>
Iowa, USA <sup>cii</sup>	2022	70% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll commissioned by Cleaner Iowa and conducted February 4-8, 2022 by Selzer &amp; Co. via telephone survey using landlines and mobile phones.</li> <li>› Sample size: 814 (active registered Iowa voters)</li> <li>› When asked whether the state should keep the law as is or expand it to add more types of eligible containers and more retail return locations, 61% said expand it. Even after respondents were given a list of arguments for and against the DRS, the percentage of people when asked again if the programme should be expanded increased from 61% to 70%.</li> <li>› Iowans expressed strong levels of support in the myriad proposals to expand the DRS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› 86% favour adding places to return empty containers</li> <li>› 72% favour increasing fees on stores and redemption centres to cover programme costs</li> <li>› 71% favour adding more types of containers</li> <li>› 51% favor increasing the deposit from 5- to 10-cents</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Iowa, USA <sup>ciii</sup>	2022	46.1% in favour of expanding legislation to widen programme scope 33.5% in favour of increasing the deposit 51.0% in favour of either increasing the deposit or expanding the scope	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Iowa Policy and Opinion Lab Poll carried out between February 10-25, 2022</li> <li>› Poll designed by University of Iowa faculty students</li> <li>› Sample size: 883</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 3.4\%</math></li> <li>› 46.1% supported expanding the types of containers covered</li> <li>› 33.5% supported increasing the deposit</li> <li>› Taken together, 26.1% of respondents supported increasing deposits and expanding the scope</li> <li>› In total, 51.0% of respondents indicated a preference for increasing at least one component (deposit or scope)</li> </ul>

Table 2  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Expansion of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Connecticut, USA <sup>civ</sup>	2020	81% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by telephone interviews among both landline and cell phone respondents from January 6-9, 2020</li> <li>› Sample size: 500</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.4\%</math> at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 64% “strongly support” and 17% “somewhat support”</li> </ul>
Connecticut, USA <sup>cv</sup>	2021	83% in favour of increasing the deposit 90% in favour of expanding legislation to include more drink types	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by the Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE) over several days from April to June 2021</li> <li>› Results are the combination of in-person surveys conducted in Bridgeport, Hartford, New Britain, and New Haven, Connecticut, as well as online surveys (SurveyMonkey) distributed via CCE’s e-mail and social media networks.</li> <li>› Sample size: 209</li> <li>› 92% of respondents supported increasing public access to convenient recycling options for bottles and cans</li> </ul>
Michigan, USA <sup>cvi</sup>	2013	80.5% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Sample size: 33</li> </ul>
Michigan, USA <sup>cvi</sup>	2019	78.2% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted April 9-13, 2019 by Marketing Resource Group</li> <li>› Sample size: 600</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.0\%</math></li> <li>› 59.0% “strongly favour” and 19.2% “somewhat favour” expanding the deposit law to offer a deposit on other drinks containers such as plastic water bottles</li> </ul>
Massachusetts, USA <sup>cvi</sup>	2003	84% in favour of expanding deposit legislation	
Massachusetts, USA <sup>cix</sup>	2011	77% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted January 5-8, 2011 via telephone interviews</li> <li>› Sample size: 400</li> <li>› 53% “strongly support” and 24% “somewhat support”</li> </ul>
New York, USA <sup>cx</sup>	2004	70% in favour of expanding legislation	

Table 2  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Expansion of DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Vermont, USA <sup>cxii</sup>	2010	86% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by telephone interviews among both landline and cell phone respondents from January 6-9, 2020</li> <li>› Sample size: 500</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.4\%</math> at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 64% “strongly support” and 17% “somewhat support”</li> </ul>
Vermont, USA <sup>cxiii</sup>	2013	80% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by the Citizens Campaign for the Environment (CCE) over several days from April to June 2021</li> <li>› Results are the combination of in-person surveys conducted in Bridgeport, Hartford, New Britain, and New Haven, Connecticut, as well as online surveys (SurveyMonkey) distributed via CCE’s e-mail and social media networks.</li> <li>› Sample size: 209</li> <li>› 92% of respondents supported increasing public access to convenient recycling options for bottles and cans</li> </ul>
Vermont, USA <sup>cxiii</sup>	2021	83% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Sample size: 33</li> </ul>
Ontario, Canada <sup>cxiv</sup>	2017	91% in favour of expanding legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted April 9-13, 2019 by Marketing Resource Group</li> <li>› Sample size: 600</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.0\%</math></li> <li>› 59.0% “strongly favour” and 19.2% “somewhat favour” expanding the deposit law to offer a deposit on other drinks containers such as plastic water bottles</li> </ul>
Quebec, Canada <sup>cxv</sup>	2016	88% in favour of expanding legislation to include water bottles 91% in favour of expanding legislation to include wine bottles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Sample size: 1,234</li> <li>› 93% totally or somewhat agree that the Quebec government should modernise the DRS</li> <li>› 63% said that increasing the deposit from 5- 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</li> <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> <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>
Quebec, Canada <sup>cxvi</sup>	2017	86% in favour of expanding legislation to include water bottles 91% in favour of expanding legislation to include wine bottles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted June 29-July 1, 2017</li> <li>› Sample size: 1,065</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 3.9\%</math> at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 92% totally or somewhat agree that the Quebec government should modernise the DRS</li> </ul>

## Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Existing DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Northern Territory, Australia <sup>cxvii</sup>	2012	88% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› In order to quantify community attitudes towards the DRS, Boomerang Alliance undertook a face-to-face survey interviewing people both at the entry to major supermarkets and at collection depots in August 2012. Those surveyed were asked a series of questions including whether they were aware of the scheme, whether they thought the scheme was worthwhile, etc.</li> <li>› Sample size: 300</li> <li>› 88% of people responded that they felt the DRS was “worthwhile”</li> </ul>
New South Wales, Australia <sup>cxviii</sup>	2018	78% in favour of existing legislation	
New South Wales, Australia <sup>cxix</sup>	2019	87% in favour of existing legislation	› Kantar December 2019 Return and Earn consumer research results
New South Wales, Australia <sup>cxx</sup>	2020	88% in favour of existing legislation	› Kantar June 2020 Return and Earn consumer research results
South Australia, Australia <sup>cxxi</sup>	2012	98% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted via computer aided telephone interviewing from September 10-16, 2012</li> <li>› Sample size: 800</li> <li>› 93% “strongly support” and 5% “slightly support”</li> </ul>
Australian Capital Territory, Australia <sup>cxvii</sup>	2019	82% in favour of existing legislation	› Survey conducted by Instinct & Reason in February 2019
Australian Capital Territory, Australia <sup>cxviii</sup>	2020	83% in favour of existing legislation	› According to the ACT CDS 2019-20 Annual Statutory Report, support for the scheme rose from 71% in August 2019 to 83% in April 2020. Additionally, 51% stated they believe it is the best way to reduce litter and increase recycling of containers.
Australian Capital Territory, Australia <sup>cxvii</sup>	2020	86% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Survey conducted by Piazza Research for the ACT Government via telephone interview using a computer assisted telephone-interviewing platform</li> <li>› Sample size: 401</li> <li>› Margin of error: ±5%</li> <li>› 50% “strongly in favour” and 36% “in favour”</li> </ul>
Australian Capital Territory, Australia <sup>cxv</sup>	2021	81% in favour of existing legislation	› Instinct & Reason June 2021 consumer research findings

Table 3  
Summary of Public Opinion Polls Showing Support for Existing DRS Legislation (2003-2022)

Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Denmark <sup>cxxvi</sup>	2017	92% in favour of existing legislation	
Denmark <sup>cxxvii</sup>	2018	95% in favour of existing legislation	
Denmark <sup>cxxviii</sup>	2021	91% in favour of existing legislation	
Germany <sup>cxxix</sup>	2016	83% in favour of existing deposit legislation	› Poll conducted March 15-18, 2016 › Sample size: 1,310
Iceland <sup>cxx</sup>	2018	88% in favour of existing legislation	
Lithuania	2016	78.2% in favour of existing legislation	
Lithuania <sup>cxxxi</sup>	2018	97% in favour of existing legislation	› Poll conducted January 15-23, 2018 via standardised direct interview and questionnaire › Sample size: 1,004 › 97% of respondents felt that the DRS is necessary: 64% believed that such a system is “highly” necessary, and 33% that it is “rather” necessary.
Lithuania <sup>cxxxi</sup>	2019	98% in favour of existing legislation	› Poll conducted October 19-29, 2019 by Spinter Reseaerch via standardised direct interview and questionnaire › Sample size: 1,009
Netherlands	2006	78% in favour of existing legislation	

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Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Iowa, USA <sup>cxiii</sup>	2017	88% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted February 23-26, 2017</li> <li>› Sample size: 700</li> <li>› 88% say the bottle bill has been good for the state, while nearly 4/5 support keeping the law in some form; if anything, voters are open to expansion.</li> <li>› 89% agree that the combination of the DRS and kerbside recycling programmes 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 DRS</li> <li>› 81% agree that if the bottle bill were ended, people would not bother with recycling</li> </ul>
Iowa, USA <sup>cxiv</sup>	2018	30% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted January 28-31 by Selzer &amp; Co. (for The Des Moines Register and Mediacom) via telephone interviews</li> <li>› Sample size: 801</li> <li>› Margin of error: ±3.5%</li> </ul>
Iowa, USA <sup>cxv</sup>	2021	54% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Independent survey conducted in January 2021 by Kristi Cooper Consulting</li> <li>› Sample size: 600</li> <li>› 54% of respondents said to “keep” the existing DRS; 21% said to keep the DRS and raise the deposit/handling fee; 17% said to keep and expand the DRS, and 8% said to eliminate it.</li> </ul>
Iowa, USA <sup>cxvi</sup>	2022	84% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll commissioned by Cleaner Iowa and conducted February 4-8, 2022 by Selzer &amp; Co. via telephone survey using landlines and mobile phones.</li> <li>› Sample size: 814 (active registered Iowa voters)</li> <li>› 84% of Iowans said the recycling law is good for the state, while just 12% said it was bad</li> <li>› Fewer than 1/5 Iowans said they want to abolish the programme</li> <li>› 19% said the state should keep the law as it is, and 61% said it should be expanded to add more types of containers and more locations where containers can be returned.</li> </ul>
Iowa, USA <sup>cxvii</sup>	2022	29.8% in favour of keeping the types of containers covered the same 38.9% in favour of keeping the deposit at 5-cents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Iowa Policy and Opinion Lab Poll carried out between February 10-25, 2022</li> <li>› Sample size: 883</li> <li>› Margin of error: ±3.4%</li> <li>› 29.8% were in support of keeping the types of containers covered the same</li> <li>› 38.9% prefer to keep the deposit at 5-cents</li> </ul>
Hawaii, USA <sup>cxviii</sup>	2008	60% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Telephone survey conducted from February 15-March 19, 2008</li> <li>› Sample size: 701</li> <li>› Margin of error: ±3.6% at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 35% very supportive and 25% somewhat supportive</li> </ul>



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Jurisdiction	Year	Level of support	Notes
Michigan, USA <sup>cxix</sup>	2019	94% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted April 9-13, 2019 by Marketing Resource Group</li> <li>› Sample size: 600</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.0\%</math></li> <li>› 83.2% “strongly support” and 11.0% “somewhat support” the existing DRS</li> <li>› 86.3% said it would be less convenient if they had to return their containers to a stand-alone recycling centre (as opposed to their local grocery stores, which is currently the case)</li> </ul>
New York, USA <sup>cxl</sup>	2004	84% in favour of existing legislation	
Oregon, USA <sup>cxli</sup>	2019	97% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Online survey conducted May 16-23, 2019</li> <li>› Sample size: 600</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.0\%</math></li> <li>› 91% of Oregonians think the DRS is “good for the state”</li> </ul>
Vermont, USA <sup>cxlii</sup>	2010	93% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› Poll conducted November 15-17, 2010 via telephone interviews</li> <li>› Sample size: 400</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.9\%</math> at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 93% thought Vermont’s current DRS was a ‘good idea’ (75% strongly agreed)</li> <li>› 61% strongly favoured expansion</li> </ul>
Vermont, USA <sup>cxliii</sup>	2021	88% in favour of existing legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>› VPIRG poll conducted via telephone interviews from March 11-14, 2021</li> <li>› Sample size: 400</li> <li>› Margin of error: <math>\pm 4.9\%</math> at the 95% confidence level</li> <li>› 65% “strongly support” and 23% “somewhat support”</li> </ul>

## Endnotes

- <sup>i</sup> This includes the populations of Malta and the Republic of Korea. Both jurisdictions are expected to have their systems in place by the end of 2022.
- <sup>ii</sup> Natural Mineral Waters Europe, Soft Drinks Europe (UNESDA), and Zero Waste Europe. 6 October 2021. "It's time to acknowledge the role of Deposit Refund Systems (DRS) in achieving a Circular Economy for beverage packaging in the EU." [https://naturalmineralwaterseurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Press-release\\_DRS\\_NMWE-UNESDA-ZeroWaste-Europe-06-10-21.pdf](https://naturalmineralwaterseurope.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/Press-release_DRS_NMWE-UNESDA-ZeroWaste-Europe-06-10-21.pdf)
- <sup>iii</sup> EFBW and UNESDA. September 2020. "DRS: UNESDA and EFBW call for a wide deployment of well-designed deposit return systems (DRS) in EU countries in order to meet the targets of the Single Use Plastics Directive." <https://www.unesda.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/UNESDA-EFBW-joint-paper-DRS.pdf>
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- <sup>viii</sup> Newpoll. April 2011. "Bottle & Can Recycling." Obtained through personal communication with Jeff Angel, 9 June 2021.
- <sup>ix</sup> Boomerang Alliance. 3 August 2012. "Media release: Newpoll results reveal overwhelming support for deposits on bottles and cans." Obtained through personal communication with Jeff Angel, Boomerang Alliance, 9 June 2021.
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- <sup>xi</sup> Newpoll. October 2013. "Container Deposit Scheme." Obtained through personal communication with Jeff Angel, Boomerang Alliance, 9 June 2021.
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- <sup>xv</sup> Newpoll. April 2011. "Bottle & Can Recycling." Obtained through personal communication with Jeff Angel, 9 June 2021.
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- <sup>xix</sup> Newpoll polling results provided by Jeff Angel of Boomerang Alliance on May 17, 2017.
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