

California's
Beverage Container Recycling
and
Litter Reduction Program

FACT SHEET



Fact

In 2018, Californians recycled an average of 50,926,861 beverage containers each day, which equates to more than 18.6 billion CRV beverage containers for the year.

**California Environmental Protection Agency
Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
Division of Recycling**

Information accurate as of June 2018.
Values shown may change over time. Due to rounding, figures may not add to 100%

**2019 CONTAINERS PER POUND
(Recycling Centers Only)***

Material	# of Containers	Refund Value
Aluminum	28.9	\$1.61
Glass	1.95	\$0.104
#1 PET	23.1	\$1.29
#2 HDPE	7	\$0.60
#3 PVC	5.1	\$0.25
#4 LDPE	40.6	\$2.03
#5 PP	10.3	\$0.56
#6 PS	112.2	\$5.61
#7 Other	3.2	\$0.31
Bimetal	8.1	\$0.40

* Rates effective 1/1/2019, as published in 2019 Recycling Program Rates published 12/1/2018.

CONTAINERS CURRENTLY INCLUDED IN THE BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING PROGRAM

- Beer and other malt beverages
- Wine coolers and distilled spirit coolers
- Carbonated fruit drinks
- Carbonated water, including soda and carbonated mineral water
- Carbonated soft drinks
- Non-carbonated water
- Non-carbonated soft drinks and “sport” drinks
- Non-carbonated fruit drinks that contain any percentage of fruit juice (excluding 100% fruit juice in 46 oz. or larger containers)
- Coffee and tea drinks
- Vegetable juices in beverage containers of 16 oz. or smaller.

**SALES AND RETURNS
Calendar Year 2018 (Millions of Containers)**

Material	Sales	Returns
Aluminum	8,496.28	7,029.96
Glass	3,209.65	2,113.55
#1 PET	12,480.70	9,276.24
#2 HDPE	196.17	127.77
#3 PVC	0.12	0.02
#4 LDPE	8.85	0.29
#5 PP	3.51	0.37
#6 PS	117.42	32.05
#7 Other	44.75	2.93
Bimetal	37.28	5.12
All Materials	24,594.72	18,588.30

**RECYCLING RATES
Calendar Years**

Material	2016	2017	2018
Aluminum	91%	84%	83%
Glass	72%	69%	66%
#1 PET	76%	73%	74%
#2 HDPE	65%	64%	65%
#3 PVC	13%	11%	14%
#4 LDPE	2%	3%	3%
#5 PP	7%	7%	11%
#6 PS	24%	26%	27%
#7 Other	8%	7%	7%
Bimetal	11%	12%	14%
All Materials	80%	75%	76%

PROCESSING FEE MEASUREMENTS

2019 RECYCLING CENTER COST PER TON*

Material	Cost per Ton
Aluminum	\$576.31
Glass	\$120.87
#1 PET	\$503.93
#2 HDPE	\$654.10
#3 PVC	\$1,031.36
#4 LDPE	\$1,468.28
#5 PP	\$1,321.02
#6 PS	\$815.19
#7 OTHER	\$894.02
Bimetal	\$823.32

* 2018 costs with reasonable financial return plus Cost of Living Adjustment as published in 2019 Processing Fees Notice dated 12/14/2018.

2018 ANNUALIZED SCRAP VALUES PER TON*

Material	Scrap Values per Ton
Aluminum	\$1,519.29
Glass	-\$2.97
#1 PET	\$206.44
#2 HDPE	\$207.18
#3 PVC	\$0
#4 LDPE	\$4.79
#5 PP	\$138.72
#6 PS	\$12.44
#7 Other	\$1.88
Bimetal	\$8.74

* For period 10/2017–09/2018 as published in 2019 Processing Fees Notice dated 12/14/2018.

2019 PROCESSING PAYMENTS TO RC, CS, CP/DP, SP PER TON*

Material	Urban Recycler	Rural Recycler
Glass	\$123.40	\$128.91
#1 PET	\$295.72	\$318.69
#2 HDPE	\$444.94	\$474.77
#3 PVC	\$1,025.78	\$1,072.70
#4 LDPE	\$1,458.57	\$1,525.50
#5 PP	\$1,174.11	\$1,234.16
#6 PS	\$800.74	\$837.94
#7 Other	\$889.09	\$929.85
Bimetal	\$813.29	\$850.89

* Rates effective 1/1/2019, as published in 2019 Processing Payments Notice dated 12/14/2018. No Processing Payment for Aluminum.

2019 PROCESSING FEE PAID BY MANUFACTURERS PER CONTAINER SOLD*

Material	Processing Fee per Container Sold
Glass	\$0.00288
#1 PET	\$0.00055
#2 HDPE	\$0.00383
#3 PVC	\$0.06572
#4 LDPE	\$0.01172
#5 PP	\$0.03731
#6 PS	\$0.00233
#7 Other	\$0.09061
Bimetal	\$0.03268

* Rates effective 1/1/2019, as published in 2019 Processing Fees Notice dated 12/14/2018. No Processing Fee for Aluminum.








TOTAL 2018 PROCESSING PAYMENTS PAID TO RC, CS, CP/DP, SP (MILLIONS)

Material	Processing Payments Paid
Glass	\$66.586
#1 PET	\$56.510
#2 HDPE	\$4.342
#3 PVC	\$0.001
#4 LDPE	\$0.005
#5 PP	\$0.025
#6 PS	\$0.102
#7 Other	\$0.395
Bimetal	\$0.262
Total Processing Payment	\$128.228

TOTAL 2018 PROCESSING FEES PAID BY MANUFACTURERS (MILLIONS)

Material	Processing Fees Paid
Glass	\$9.483
#1 PET	\$7.044
#2 HDPE	\$0.896
#3 PVC	\$0.002
#4 LDPE	\$0.250
#5 PP	\$0.124
#6 PS	\$0.380
#7 Other	\$2.321
Bimetal	\$2.013
Total Processing Fees	\$22.513

PLASTIC RESIN CODE DESCRIPTION

Code	Plastic Resin
	Polyethylene terephthalate
	High-density polyethylene
	Polyvinyl chloride/vinyl
	Low-density polyethylene
	Polypropylene
	Polystyrene
	Other plastics, includes multilayer

PROGRAM HISTORY

AB 2020 (Margolin), authorizing legislation, signed 9/28/86

- Distributor labeling requirements and redemption payments began 9/1/87
- Dealer signage requirements and consumer redemptions began 10/1/87

Over 75 Bills enacted since 1987, including:

- SB 1221 (Hart), 1989: Two-for-a-nickel
- AB 87 (Sher), 1992: Processing fees, handling fees
- SB 1178 (O'Connell, Sher), 1995: Processing fees, handling fees
- SB 332 (Sher), 2000: New containers, program expenditures
- processing payments, expenditures
- AB 3056 (Nat'l Res Comm.), 2006: CRV, processing fees, processing payments, expenditures
- SB 63 (Strickland), 2009: Merged the Integrated Waste Management Board and the Division of Recycling into the new Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle)
- AB 7 (8X) (Budget Comm.), 2010: Fiscal solvency
- AB 1933 (Gordon), 2012: Enforcement authority, handling fees
- SB 861 (Budget Comm.), 2014: Enforcement; Community Conservation Corps
- AB 1005 (Gordon), 2016: Extended the plastic market development program, until 1/1/2018
- AB 2530 (Gordon), 2016: Established plastic content reporting requirements

- SB 458 (Wiener), 2017; Established the Beverage Container Recycling Pilot Program
- SB 854 (Budget Comm.), 2018: Enforcement authority
- SB 875 (Budget Comm.), 2018: Added new definitions and extended the plastic market development program to 2022
- AB 2493 (Bloom), 2018: Electronic payments, RVM requirements

FUNDS PAID TO CITIES AND COUNTIES

Fiscal Year 2018-19

Total Funds Awarded: \$9.6M
 Total Funds Available: \$10.5M
 Eligible Cities and Counties: 539
 Number of Recipients: 405

LOCAL COMMUNITY CONSERVATION CORPS GRANTS – Fiscal Year 2018-19

Total Funding Provided: \$7.8 M
 Number of Applicants for Grants: 14

BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING GRANTS – Fiscal Year 2018-19

Total Funds Awarded: \$1.4M
 Number of Recipients: 4

**CALIFORNIA BEVERAGE CONTAINER
RECYCLING FUND ACTIVITY**

Fiscal Year 2018-19 Estimated

Estimated Revenues	(Millions)
CRV In (minus 1.5% admin fee from Distributors)	\$1,350.5
Interest	\$1.9

Estimated Expenditures (Millions)

CRV Out (plus 2.5% admin fee to Processors)	\$1,084.9
Processing Fee Offset	\$109.4
DOR Administration	\$53.8
Handling Fees (to CZ RCs)	\$43.9
Curbside/Neighborhood Drop-Off Supplemental Payments	\$15.0
Cities and Counties Payments	\$10.5
Public Education	\$2.5
Quality Incentive Payment Program (for single-stream glass cleaning/color sorting)	\$10.0
Market Development Payments (for plastics)	\$15.0
Community Conservation Corps Grants	\$7.8
Nonprofit Competitive Grants	\$1.5

PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Participants	Count
Processors (PR)	174
Buyback Centers (RC)	1,534
Curbside Programs	600
Collection/Drop-Off (CP/DP)	177
Community Service (SP)	189
Beverage Manufacturers	2,194
Distributors	2,284

**CONVENIENCE ZONE RECYCLERS -
Calendar Year 2018**

Number of Handling Fee Sites: 820
Average Handling Fee

**PARTICIPANT SHARES
Calendar Year 2018**

Participant	CRV Out (%)	AL (%)	GL (%)	P1 (%)	P2 (%)
Traditional RCs	54	57	45	52	38
Supermarket-Sited Handling Fee RCs	27	27	19	28	22
Supermarket-Sited Non-Handling Fee RCs	7	7	5	6	7
Curbside Programs	9	6	25	10	27
CP/DP/SP	3	2	6	3	5

**ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AND
INSPECTIONS**

Calendar Year 2018

Compliance Audits Completed: 51
Audit Findings: \$5.813M
Processor Load Inspections: 2,235
Claims Denied or Reduced: 32
Recycler Inspections Conducted: 2,836
Notice of Noncompliance issued: 615
Notices of Violation Issued: 526
Investigations Completed: 41
Recyclers placed on Prepayment Controls: 8
Probationary Reviews Completed: 195
Handling Fee Review: 32
Handling Fee Denied: 18
Dealer Inspections Conducted: 231
Notices of Noncompliance Issued: 72
Notices of Violation Issued: 46