



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

CHIYOME LEINAALA FUKINO M.D., DIRECTOR
Phone: (808) 586-4410
Fax: (808) 586-4444

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BEVERAGE CONTAINER RECYCLING RATE BREAKS 50% MARK

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) today announced that the Deposit Beverage Container Program helped recycle almost 53% of beverage containers during the month of May.

“We are pleased that these latest figure show increasing redemption rates,” said Laurence K. Lau, Deputy Director of Environmental Health. “While many challenges still lie ahead, the Department of Health will continue to work with recyclers, retailers and the public to improve the program.”

From May 1, 2005 through of May 31, 2005, state certified redemption centers reported:

28,720,456 beverage containers redeemed for deposits

6,594,348 un-labeled or crushed containers were also brought in for recycling

35,314,804 containers turned in for recycling in Hawaii

Based on the approximately 67-million beverage containers used in Hawaii each month these numbers translate to a 52.97% redemption rate for the month of May. More than 133-million containers have been recycled since redemption centers opened January 1, 2005

To view a summary from each month with a breakdown of the numbers for each type of container visit the DOH web site at www.hawaii.gov/health or www.hi5deposit.com. Monthly reports are posted during the first week of each month.

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