

## Nip Surcharge and Disbursements

By: Kristen Miller, Senior Legislative Attorney  
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### Issue

Describe the state's surcharge on beverage containers containing spirits or liquor of up to 50 mL ("nips") and explain how those funds are distributed.

### Summary

By law, there is a five-cent surcharge on each nip sale in Connecticut. Every April and October, wholesalers must remit this surcharge for each nip sold to each municipality where one was sold during the previous six-month period. The wholesaler must also file a report with the revenue services and consumer protection departments on the number of nips sold in each municipality during that six-month period.

The law requires the municipalities receiving the funds to use them for environmental efforts to reduce the (1) amount of solid waste generated in the municipality or (2) impact of litter. These efforts can include such things as hiring a recycling coordinator; installing storm drain filters to block debris; or buying a mechanical street sweeper, vacuum, or broom to remove litter from streets, sidewalks, and abutting lawn and turf areas ([CGS § 22a-244b](#), as amended by [PA 22-143](#)).

Nip surcharge collection began on October 1, 2021. Data reported by the eight wholesalers in the state represented by the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of Connecticut from this date until September 30, 2022, show that municipalities collectively received a total of at least \$4.2 million from the surcharge. The municipalities receiving the five largest surcharge amounts (thus having sold the most nips) were New Haven (\$190,617.89), Waterbury (\$136,822.60), Hartford (\$135,735.87), Bridgeport (\$135,564.10), and Manchester (\$113,869.44). Seven municipalities had no nip sales (Bridgewater, Colebrook, Eastford, Easton, Hartland, Lyme, and Union). The below

table provides the nip surcharge distribution by municipality during each of the first two reporting periods. It also totals the distribution by municipality and by reporting period.

**Table 1: Municipal Nip Surcharge Distribution\***

Municipality	Nip Surcharge (\$)		
	10/1/21 to 3/30/22	4/1/22 to 9/30/22**	Total
ANDOVER	1,138.90	1,929.60	3,068.50
ANSONIA	15,133.70	17,491.49	32,625.19
ASHFORD	4,451.10	5,926.80	10,377.90
AVON	2,810.10	4,155.17	6,965.27
BARKHAMSTED	1,370.50	2,896.00	4,266.50
BEACON FALLS	2,556.40	3,396.90	5,953.30
BERLIN	9,855.90	13,194.77	23,050.67
BETHANY	577.10	1,098.00	1,675.10
BETHEL	7,605.50	8,124.53	15,730.03
BETHLEHEM	798.00	742.55	1,540.55
BLOOMFIELD	9,568.40	11,406.34	20,974.74
BOLTON	5,660.10	6,445.68	12,105.78
BOZRAH	554.40	1,620.73	2,175.13
BRANFORD	16,498.70	19,968.23	36,466.93
BRIDGEPORT	59,068.70	76,495.40	135,564.10
BRIDGEWATER	0.00	0.00	0.00
BRISTOL	40,441.90	54,299.09	94,740.99
BROOKFIELD	6,097.40	6,964.38	13,061.78
BROOKLYN	10,780.10	11,797.08	22,577.18
BURLINGTON	2,349.20	3,605.41	5,954.61
CANAAN	5,160.60	1,006.13	6,166.73
CANTERBURY	5,003.70	5,538.10	10,541.80
CANTON	4,583.30	7,263.87	11,847.17
CHAPLIN	5,052.10	5,507.10	10,559.20
CHESHIRE	7,593.50	9,766.59	17,360.09
CHESTER	1,528.00	1,418.18	2,946.18
CLINTON	7,929.90	10,906.19	18,836.09
COLCHESTER	13,227.70	16,975.20	30,202.90
COLEBROOK	0.00	0.00	0.00
COLUMBIA	3,029.90	3,846.80	6,876.70
CORNWALL	531.20	381.30	912.50
COVENTRY	7,023.60	9,585.11	16,608.71
CROMWELL	13,322.00	14,808.74	28,130.74
DANBURY	41,539.50	44,418.38	85,957.88

**Table 1: Municipal Nip Surcharge Distribution (continued)\***

Municipality	Nip Surcharge (\$)		
	10/1/21 to 3/30/22	4/1/22 to 9/30/22**	Total
DARIEN	1,540.50	1,490.99	3,031.49
DEEP RIVER	3,668.60	4,460.92	8,129.52
DERBY	11,540.00	12,047.00	23,587.00
DURHAM	3,514.20	4,500.44	8,014.64
EAST GRANBY	1,442.10	3,317.58	4,759.68
EAST HADDAM	4,323.10	4,924.06	9,247.16
EAST HAMPTON	8,258.20	9,407.77	17,665.97
EAST HARTFORD	33,391.60	35,790.87	69,182.47
EAST HAVEN	17,952.30	21,250.53	39,202.83
EAST LYME	12,421.80	13,808.48	26,230.28
EAST WINDSOR	13,066.30	15,120.92	28,187.22
EASTFORD	0.00	0.00	0.00
EASTON	0.00	0.00	0.00
ELLINGTON	10,242.70	11,170.64	21,413.34
ENFIELD	34,625.70	39,528.68	74,154.38
ESSEX	5,031.80	5,443.28	10,475.08
FAIRFIELD	15,488.90	16,716.28	32,205.18
FARMINGTON	8,194.60	10,794.41	18,989.01
FRANKLIN	3,047.70	3,024.20	6,071.90
GLASTONBURY	8,466.00	10,851.53	19,317.53
GOSHEN	958.70	985.56	1,944.26
GRANBY	6,366.50	6,306.49	12,672.99
GREENWICH	5,183.60	5,591.42	10,775.02
GRISWOLD	12,796.40	19,217.56	32,013.96
GROTON	33,678.90	43,010.60	76,689.50
GUILFORD	4,100.60	5,007.94	9,108.54
HADDAM	6,803.90	8,713.42	15,517.32
HAMDEN	26,305.30	40,492.01	66,797.31
HAMPTON	1,298.90	2,419.18	3,718.08
HARTFORD	63,633.60	72,102.27	135,735.87
HARTLAND	0.00	0.00	0.00
HARWINTON	4,833.70	5,377.24	10,210.94
HEBRON	6,280.40	7,378.14	13,658.54
KENT	402.30	677.30	1,079.60
KILLINGLY	17,018.30	23,257.30	40,275.60
KILLINGWORTH	1,545.40	1,914.29	3,459.69
LEBANON	718.90	957.60	1,676.50

**Table 1: Municipal Nip Surcharge Distribution (continued)\***

Municipality	Nip Surcharge (\$)		
	10/1/21 to 3/30/22	4/1/22 to 9/30/22**	Total
LEDYARD	10,492.90	13,027.06	23,519.96
LISBON	2,820.40	4,208.18	7,028.58
LITCHFIELD	2,514.20	2,965.06	5,479.26
LYME	0.00	0.00	0.00
MADISON	4,012.30	5,413.09	9,425.39
MANCHESTER	50,030.50	63,838.94	113,869.44
MANSFIELD	14,626.00	18,312.72	32,938.72
MARLBOROUGH	3,439.70	3,945.62	7,385.32
MERIDEN	36,873.40	46,079.52	82,952.92
MIDDLEBURY	2,357.20	2,594.80	4,952.00
MIDDLEFIELD	2,918.40	5,236.45	8,154.85
MIDDLETOWN	27,936.40	33,396.63	61,333.03
MILFORD	30,004.10	36,216.43	66,220.53
MONROE	7,520.70	8,875.73	16,396.43
MONTVILLE	18,087.20	20,846.64	38,933.84
MORRIS	1,575.10	1,951.20	3,526.30
NAUGATUCK	21,757.10	24,722.82	46,479.92
NEW BRITAIN	49,503.20	63,233.41	112,736.61
NEW CANAAN	892.60	800.01	1,692.61
NEW FAIRFIELD	3,228.80	3,354.61	6,583.41
NEW HARTFORD	1,949.70	2,655.15	4,604.85
NEW HAVEN	78,690.50	111,927.39	190,617.89
NEW LONDON	27,696.90	34,515.14	62,212.04
NEW MILFORD	16,720.70	18,050.71	34,771.41
NEWINGTON	18,789.70	22,752.79	41,542.49
NEWTOWN	7,871.80	8,731.41	16,603.21
NORFOLK	1,136.50	1,193.30	2,329.80
NORTH BRANFORD	6,779.20	7,989.37	14,768.57
NORTH CANAAN	528.70	5,561.43	6,090.13
NORTH HAVEN	10,690.10	13,784.99	24,475.09
NORTH STONINGTON	6,567.60	9,087.90	15,655.50
NORWALK	31,974.00	38,196.64	70,170.64
NORWICH	43,609.60	57,315.98	100,925.58
OLD LYME	2,908.20	4,657.76	7,565.96
OLD SAYBROOK	7,569.00	9,628.78	17,197.78
ORANGE	2,982.60	4,494.46	7,477.06
OXFORD	2,985.70	4,025.90	7,011.60

**Table 1: Municipal Nip Surcharge Distribution (continued)\***

Municipality	Nip Surcharge (\$)		
	10/1/21 to 3/30/22	4/1/22 to 9/30/22**	Total
PLAINFIELD	21,222.20	27,332.87	48,555.07
PLAINVILLE	8,739.90	13,745.12	22,485.02
PLYMOUTH	7,187.50	8,420.17	15,607.67
POMFRET	1,011.90	1,181.60	2,193.50
PORTLAND	6,336.30	7,849.57	14,185.87
PRESTON	2,569.30	4,750.05	7,319.35
PROSPECT	3,359.50	4,012.98	7,372.48
PUTNAM	18,436.60	19,816.46	38,253.06
REDDING	1,779.00	1,391.05	3,170.05
RIDGEFIELD	3,247.70	3,256.54	6,504.24
ROCKY HILL	11,172.30	12,687.03	23,859.33
ROXBURY	269.50	338.30	607.80
SALEM	3,817.60	6,305.48	10,123.08
SALISBURY	778.90	1,066.39	1,845.29
SCOTLAND	1,030.90	1,323.84	2,354.74
SEYMOUR	11,191.60	13,345.90	24,537.50
SHARON	743.80	736.20	1,480.00
SHELTON	16,625.30	20,161.44	36,786.74
SHERMAN	450.80	509.73	960.53
SIMSBURY	7,582.30	7,870.52	15,452.82
SOMERS	3,910.00	4,387.45	8,297.45
SOUTH WINDSOR	12,576.40	14,216.85	26,793.25
SOUTHBURY	6,627.40	8,756.38	15,383.78
SOUTHINGTON	22,518.00	31,307.83	53,825.83
SPRAGUE	676.10	1,692.30	2,368.40
STAFFORD	12,721.30	15,333.88	28,055.18
STAMFORD	35,425.10	38,321.95	73,747.05
STERLING	1,542.50	1,776.56	3,319.06
STONINGTON	12,882.60	12,784.33	25,666.93
STRATFORD	27,551.60	34,270.43	61,822.03
SUFFIELD	6,254.70	7,619.39	13,874.09
THOMASTON	4,841.80	6,702.97	11,544.77
THOMPSON	9,114.20	11,684.10	20,798.30
TOLLAND	7,059.30	9,241.84	16,301.14
TORRINGTON	29,445.30	33,454.44	62,899.74
TRUMBULL	5,347.80	6,652.41	12,000.21
UNION	0.00	0.00	0.00

**Table 1: Municipal Nip Surcharge Distribution (continued)\***

Municipality	Nip Surcharge (\$)		
	10/1/21 to 3/30/22	4/1/22 to 9/30/22**	Total
VERNON	19,652.40	24,582.66	44,235.06
VOLUNTOWN	3,771.00	4,585.92	8,356.92
WALLINGFORD	26,979.50	32,443.31	59,422.81
WARREN	508.60	623.95	1,132.55
WASHINGTON	1,113.40	1,129.00	2,242.40
WATERBURY	58,643.80	78,178.80	136,822.60
WATERFORD	14,301.30	18,310.61	32,611.91
WATERTOWN	12,165.30	15,370.27	27,535.57
WEST HARTFORD	19,538.40	24,827.56	44,365.96
WEST HAVEN	39,248.70	51,506.74	90,755.44
WESTBROOK	5,539.70	7,257.02	12,796.72
WESTON	356.80	252.20	609.00
WESTPORT	3,344.60	7,432.38	10,776.98
WETHERSFIELD	13,599.30	15,019.19	28,618.49
WILLINGTON	1,154.40	2,681.32	3,835.72
WILTON	972.10	1,483.37	2,455.47
WINCHESTER	11,220.40	14,881.15	26,101.55
WINDHAM	16,792.50	18,816.43	35,608.93
WINDSOR	14,344.20	15,966.99	30,311.19
WINDSOR LOCKS	13,646.10	17,069.06	30,715.16
WOLCOTT	11,010.20	13,461.83	24,472.03
WOODBIDGE	69.00	138.70	207.70
WOODBURY	3,310.50	3,714.03	7,024.53
WOODSTOCK	1,609.20	794.94	2,404.14
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,879,961.70</b>	<b>2,328,456.55</b>	<b>4,208,418.25</b>

Sources: Department of Revenue Services and Wine & Spirits Wholesalers of Connecticut

\*Represents information from the eight wholesalers represented by the Wine and Spirits Wholesalers of Connecticut and does not include small wholesalers that may have independently reported. Consequently, these amounts are the minimums that municipalities received from the surcharge.

\*\*Some values are not a factor of five (i.e., evenly divisible by 5 cents or 0.05) due to a calculation based on unit cases.

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