Container Recycling Institute:
Striving To Make North America A Global Model For The Collection And Quality Recycling Of Packaging Materials

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Cost to Recycle in Ontario, Canada (by category, per ton)

- Newspaper/Mags: $19
- Other Print: $61
- Glass Average: $135
- Steel: $149
- Aluminum: $404
- HDPE Bottles: $685
- PET Bottles: $1,000
- Old Corrugated Containers: $2,257

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Changes in Packaging Material

Container Sales by Material, 2000 - 2010

* Non-traditional containers consist of aseptic boxes, gable-top cartons, and foil pouches.
Deposit States Have Higher Beverage Container Recycling Rates

Deposit States
- Aluminum: 84%
- PET: 48%
- Glass: 39%

Non-Degposit States
- Aluminum: 20%
- PET: 25%
- Glass: 20%

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CALIFORNIA DEPOSIT LAW FUNDING

- More than $115 million per year to curbside programs from container deposit law
- $10 million grants to glass processors each year
- $10 million grants to plastics processors each year
- $10.5 million grants to municipalities each year
- Overall financial status coming into balance
REAL, HONEST, COMPLETE RECYCLING METRICS
Materials Collection and Processing

1. Collection

2. MRF

3. Post-MRF Processing

4. Manufacture Into

PET

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In the average single-stream collection program, if you collect 100 tons of recyclables at the curb, on average, 75 tons will actually be recycled into new products, and most of the rest will be landfilled.
WE CAN DO BETTER
Glass Recycling Rates by Country, 2000 vs. 2013

Sources: European Container Glass Federation (FEVE); The Glass Packaging Institute.

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Germany – Public Collection of Glass
Richtig wegwerfen spart richtig Geld.

Wer seinen Müll sortiert und richtig entsorgt, spart bares Geld. Denn die Müllabfuhr wird als Betriebskosten auf alle Mieter umgelegt. Dabei gilt: Der Restmüll in der grauen Tonne verursacht die höchsten Kosten.

Glas, Papier, Butgut und trockene Wertstoffe richtig trennen bringt die größte Ersparnis.

Übrigens: Chemikalien, Altfarbe, Medikamente, Elektrogrößgeräte und Sperrmüll gehören nicht in den Hausmüll. Wie Sie das alles loswerden, sagt Ihnen ALBA.

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Germany: Multi-Family Recycling
Germany – Subway Station Collection
Germany – Office Building
Dual-Stream Cart From Sunnyvale
Dual-Stream Cart From Sunnyvale
WHAT GOVERNMENT CAN DO
As we seek new policies to increase recycling rates, we need to start reporting what is *actually* recycled, not just what is collected for recycling.

If recycling rates are reported without removing yield loss from the contamination, it can lead to inflated recycling rates and double-counting.
Recommendations

• **Know what’s really being recycled:** Municipalities should require post-MRF contamination rates from MRFs before entering into contracts, and should continue to receive this information throughout the life of the contract.

• **Further study of collection economics:** Correct the “cost-per-ton collected” data and start using “cost-per-ton recycled” data. This will allow for better decision-making during the procurement phase.

• **Research best practices:** More examples of successful dual-stream and multi-stream collection programs that maximize actual recycling while minimizing costs.
Thank You!