Key Performance Indicators

- The Aluminum Association and Can Manufacturers Institute (CMI) has released an annual report on key sustainability performance indicators (KPI) for the aluminum can.
- Using recycled aluminum in making a beverage can is economically efficient and saves more than 90% of the energy needed to produce a beverage can with primary aluminum.
- The KPIs provide a complete picture of the aluminum beverage can’s sustainability performance.
2021 KPI Comparison Chart

- The aluminum beverage can out-performs competitor packaging types on virtually every measure.
Consumer Recycling Rate

The consumer recycling rate measures the amount of aluminum scrap recycled domestically as a percentage of all cans available for recycling in the United States. This provides a snapshot of how well municipal recycling programs are performing nationwide.

Aluminum cans are recycled at higher rates than any other beverage container — and at more than twice the rate of PET bottles.
The industry recycling rate measures the amount of aluminum can scrap recycled by U.S. aluminum producers as a percentage of finished cans shipped by the industry.

The rate was just 15.4% when it was first recorded in 1972. In 2020, the rate dramatically improved and measured at 59.7%.
Industry Recycling Rate

The U.S. aluminum industry recycles more than 40 billion cans each year. That’s nearly 90,000 cans per minute.
Closed-Loop Circularity Rate

- The closed-loop circularity rate reflects the percentage of recycled material used to re-make aluminum beverage containers.
- Closed-loop recycling saves energy and resources and can be repeated over and over again.
The recycled content data measures the proportion of recycled aluminum verses new aluminum used in the production of an average aluminum can.

- Aluminum can contain up to 20 times the amount of recycled content of other beverage containers such as glass or plastic bottles.

Aluminum cans contain **73% recycled content** on average.

This is up to **20X** the recycled content of plastic bottles.
The value of material data measures the dollar value of aluminum can scrap. Because of aluminum’s high value in the scrap stream, municipal recycling programs rely on aluminum to operate curbside pick up programs.

- Valued at $991 per ton, aluminum can would have saved the U.S. additional $800 million each year if all cans that ended up in landfills were recycled.
According to the Recycling Partnership, aluminum packaging represents only 3% of the weight but nearly half of the economic value of recyclable material generated by a single-family home.
We collaborated with @CansRecyclable to create a new report outlining key sustainability performance indicators for aluminum cans. #KPI

Aluminum cans make our planet greener through the closed-loop recycling process, where recovered materials are used repeatedly in the can production process. 🐾 #ChooseAluminum #KPI

Did you know that using recycled aluminum to make a new beverage can is not only economically efficient, but also saves more than 90% of the energy needed to make a can with new aluminum? Learn more here! LINK

The Aluminum Association endorses our industry’s target to achieve a 70% aluminum can recycling rate by 2030. We can achieve this through continued support of municipal recycling programs nationwide. 🐾 #RecycleAluminum #KPI
The Aluminum Association and Can Manufacturers Institute have released an updated report on key sustainability performance indicators (KPI) for aluminum cans. This report outlines industry sustainability, including updates on consumer, industry and closed-loop circularity recycling rates, improvements on recycled content in aluminum cans and the value of aluminum can scrap. #ChooseAluminum #KPI

The aluminum beverage can is vital to the nation’s recycling system and economy. The updated sustainability key performance indicator (KPI) report provides a comprehensive update on the economic and environmental impact of aluminum can recycling and production. #KPI #ChooseAluminum
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