The Aluminum Can Advantage
Sustainability Key Performance Indicators

December 2020

The Aluminum Association

Can Manufacturers Institute

Citations

[1] http://www.aluminum.org/sites/default/files/LCA_Report_Aluminum_Association_12_13.pdf
[2] No equivalent data available for glass or plastic bottles.
[3] Data for glass beverage and wine bottles via the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Advancing Sus tainable Materials Management: https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2019-11/documents/2016_and_2017_facts_and_figures_data_tables_0.pdf
[4] This rate is for 2017. It is unknown whether the rate is a gross recycling rate or the equivalent of aluminum can's net recycling rate.
[5] This rate is for 2018. It is an estimated net recycling rate that is similar to how the aluminum can's rate is calculated. The estimation is based on the 2018 gross recycling rate of 28.9% published by the Association of Plastic Recyclers (APR): https://plasticsrecycling.org/images/pdf/resources/reports/Rate-Reports/National-Postconsumer-Plastics-Bottle-Recycling-Rate-Reports/2018_UNITED_STATES_NATIONAL_POSTCONSUMER_PLASTIC_BOTTLE_RECYCLING_REPORT.pdf
[6] NAPCOR and APR reported a gross PET bottle recycling rate of 29.2% and a net recycling rate of 20.9% for the year of 2017. Since a 2018 net recycling rate is yet available, our estimation used the same discount rate as 2017. The 2017 rates can be accessed here: https://plasticsrecycling.org/images/pdf/resources/reports/Rate-Reports/Reports-on-Postconsumer-PET-Container-Recycling-Activity/APR_NAPCOR_2017RateReport_FINAL.pdf
[7] The use of net recycling rate for PET bottles in this KPI report is different from all of the previous reports, which were gross recycling rates for PET. This change is to make the rates for aluminum can and PET bottle truly comparable.
[8] Data for glass bottle has not changed since the 2015 KPI report. Data for glass via the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Individual Waste Reduction Model (WARM): https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-03/documents/warm_v14_containers_packaging_non-durable_goods_materials.pdf
[9] Recycled content for PET bottle is estimated based on data from the NAPCOR and APR report for 2017. In 2017, a total of 333 million pounds of rPET was reported to be used for food and beverage bottle production: https://plasticsrecycling.org/images/pdf/resources/reports/Rate-Reports/Reports-on-Postconsumer-PET-Container-Recycling-Activity/APR_NAPCOR_2017RateReport_FINAL.pdf
[10] This content is post-consumer content. Pre-consumer content for PET bottle is unknown.
[11] Data based on a two-year rolling average of commodity prices from February 2018 – February 2020 for various material types via http://recyclingmarkets.net/.
[12] Input weight of used beverage can scrap melted during the year. Figures derived from survey of aluminum mills and secondary producers conducted by Aluminum Association and Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries. Estimated full coverage. Includes imported UBCs since mills purchase scrap from scrap processors, brokers and traders who do not identify source.
[13] Foreign Trade Division. U.S. Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce. Trade statistics derived from U.S. Customs reports. HTS 7602000030: Aluminum beverage container scrap. HTS 7612901030: Aluminum cans of a capacity not exceeding 355 ml.
[14] Survey of U.S. can manufacturers conducted by Can Manufacturers Institute. Reported shipments of aluminum beverage cans lagged one quarter. Estimated full coverage- Includes exports.
[15] Recycling Partnership
[16] Newly produced virgin aluminum and added alloying elements.
[17] Non-UBC scrap from end-of-life products from other market sectors.
[18] This includes scrap generated from the can manufacturing process and recycled back into the manufacturing process, as well as manufacturing scrap from other market sectors such as building and transportation.