



6

Deposits, Refunds and Recovery Rates

Detailed statistics on the number and weight of beverage containers recycled.

Summary of overall units recycled and per capita statistics.

6.1 Recycling by the Numbers

In 2023, Encorp prevented 1.375 billion containers from going to landfills. By doing so, Encorp ensured that these containers were recycled into useful new materials and products, which is a huge positive for British Columbia's environment.

1.375 Billion Containers Collected | **79.6%** Recovery Rate | **\$137,516,157** Deposits Refunded

Container Type	Containers Sold		Containers Recovered		% Recovery Rate	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Aluminum	635,187,798	611,795,652	534,060,041	499,295,633	84.1%	81.6%
Plastic ≤ 1L	557,924,167	540,870,220	438,673,973	380,988,608	78.6%	70.4%
Plastic > 1L	135,524,092	118,634,905	106,164,738	109,900,695	78.3%	92.6%
Plastic Total	693,448,259	659,505,125	544,838,711	490,889,304	78.6%	74.4%
Glass	195,642,219	204,283,192	175,891,915	177,235,306	89.9%	86.8%
Drink Boxes	115,150,241	111,304,721	67,651,998	62,093,090	58.8%	55.8%
Gable Top Cartons	72,966,559	54,692,906	45,756,471	35,795,624	62.7%	65.4%
Bi-Metal	2,990,711	2,865,070	2,351,812	2,401,134	78.6%	83.8%
Bag-In-A-Box	4,134,591	4,415,226	2,241,884	2,153,248	54.2%	48.8%
Pouches	7,182,510	12,209,629	2,368,736	2,617,078	33.0%	21.4%
Totals	1,726,702,889	1,661,071,520	1,375,161,566	1,272,480,416	79.6%	76.6%

Note: Calculations may show slight variances due to rounding.

6.1 Recycling by the Numbers

RECOVERY BY WEIGHT:

In 2023, Encorp recovered 90,283 metric tonnes (Mt) of containers.

85.0% 2023 Recovery Rate by Weight

82.53% 2022 Recovery Rate by Weight

TYPE	ESTIMATED WEIGHT OF CONTAINERS SOLD (Mt)	ESTIMATED WEIGHT OF CONTAINERS RECOVERED (Mt)	RECOVERY BY WEIGHT %
Aluminum	8,194	6,889	84.1%
Plastic	22,661	17,791	78.5%
Glass	68,258	61,367	89.9%
Polycoat	5,828	3,528	60.5%
Pouches	40	13	32.9%
Bag-In-A-Box	967	524	54.2%
Bi-Metal	217	171	78.6%
Totals	106,165	90,283	85.0%

Note: Calculations may show slight variances due to rounding.



6.2 Regional Per Capita Returns

PROVINCIAL TOTALS:

Units Returned	1,375,161,566
Weight Collected (Metric Tonnes)	90,283
Per Capita Units Returned	249.2
Per Capita Weight Collected (Kilograms)	16.4

Regional Breakdown:

Region Name		Aluminum	Plastic	Glass	Polycoat	Other	Total	Jan.-Dec.2023 Per Capita	Jan.-Dec.2022 Per Capita	Change to Per Capita Container Returns
Bulkley/Nechako	Units(000)	5,887	7,250	1,045	998	58	15,239	369.5	323.9	45.6 inc.
	Tonnes	76	226	365	30	5	702	17.01 kg	16.5 kg	
Cariboo	Units(000)	8,621	9,786	2,160	1,307	114	21,989	325.8	313.6	12.2 inc.
	Tonnes	111	308	753	40	11	1,224	18.13 kg	18.0 kg	
Central Coast	Units(000)	402	297	66	62	3	831	218.6	167.3	51.3 inc.
	Tonnes	5	9	23	2	0	40	10.52 kg	10.1 kg	
Fraser – Fort George	Units(000)	15,818	16,574	3,142	2,568	176	38,277	360.2	344.0	16.2 inc.
	Tonnes	204	520	1,096	78	14	1,913	18.00 kg	18.5 kg	
Kitimat – Stikine	Units(000)	6,158	6,566	981	981	60	14,745	348.9	341.0	7.9 inc.
	Tonnes	79	204	342	30	5	660	15.61 kg	16.3 kg	
Skeena – Queen Charlotte	Units(000)	2,854	2,801	560	381	39	6,634	330.7	329.3	1.5 inc.
	Tonnes	37	84	195	12	2	330	16.47 kg	17.8 kg	
Northern Rockies	Units(000)	657	1,075	106	93	5	1,937	392.1	323.6	68.5 inc.
	Tonnes	8	33	37	3	0	82	16.65 kg	14.9 kg	
Peace River	Units(000)	8,027	10,614	1,571	1,501	94	21,807	315.7	307.9	7.7 inc.
	Tonnes	104	333	548	46	6	1,037	15.00 kg	15.6 kg	
Capital Regional District	Units(000)	49,799	39,410	16,940	10,432	508	117,088	255.9	242.0	13.9 inc.
	Tonnes	642	1,281	5,910	331	66	8,230	17.99 kg	18.6 kg	
Cowichan Valley	Units(000)	13,527	10,802	3,733	2,040	184	30,287	315.4	311.4	4.0 inc.
	Tonnes	175	342	1,303	63	23	1,905	19.83 kg	21.9 kg	
Alberni/Clayoquot	Units(000)	5,628	4,742	1,474	791	59	12,694	351.1	369.5	(18.4) dec.
	Tonnes	73	150	514	25	6	767	21.23 kg	24.5 kg	
Comox	Units(000)	9,247	7,047	3,042	1,706	112	21,154	270.0	260.5	9.5 inc.
	Tonnes	119	226	1,061	54	18	1,478	18.86 kg	20.0 kg	
Mount Waddington	Units(000)	2,187	1,959	426	300	20	4,893	400.8	392.7	8.1 inc.
	Tonnes	28	61	149	9	3	250	20.50 kg	21.8 kg	

Note: Calculations may show slight variances due to rounding.

6.2 Regional Per Capita Returns

Regional Breakdown:

Region Name		Aluminum	Plastic	Glass	Polycoat	Other	Total	Jan.-Dec.2023 Per Capita	Jan.-Dec.2022 Per Capita	Change to Per Capita Container Returns
Nanaimo	Units(000)	19,906	16,413	6,547	3,276	234	46,375	253.0	248.9	4.0 inc.
	Tonnes	257	546	2,284	102	36	3,226	17.60 kg	18.6 kg	
Strathcona	Units(000)	6,262	5,083	1,651	911	71	13,978	265.0	263.7	1.4 inc.
	Tonnes	81	162	576	28	10	858	16.27 kg	17.8 kg	
Greater Vancouver	Units(000)	217,730	241,371	83,694	56,676	3,429	602,901	204.3	201.8	2.6 inc.
	Tonnes	2,809	8,003	29,200	1,765	274	42,051	14.25 kg	14.8 kg	
Fraser Valley	Units(000)	36,929	42,357	9,265	7,204	478	96,233	268.0	257.0	11.0 inc.
	Tonnes	476	1,357	3,233	221	44	5,332	14.85 kg	15.6 kg	
Powell River	Units(000)	2,843	2,182	865	493	38	6,421	287.3	282.4	4.9 inc.
	Tonnes	37	75	302	16	7	436	19.50 kg	20.8 kg	
Squamish – Lillooet	Units(000)	5,902	4,735	2,736	991	53	14,416	278.8	278.9	(0.1) dec.
	Tonnes	76	153	954	31	5	1,220	23.59 kg	26.4 kg	
Sunshine Coast	Units(000)	3,618	2,460	1,843	733	54	8,709	250.5	247.5	3.0 inc.
	Tonnes	47	80	643	23	9	802	23.06 kg	24.9 kg	
Central Okanagan	Units(000)	36,699	39,961	10,670	7,674	330	95,334	385.6	280.9	104.7 inc.
	Tonnes	473	1,368	3,723	239	52	5,856	23.69 kg	21.8 kg	
North Okanagan	Units(000)	12,995	12,697	4,073	2,310	146	32,220	327.8	322.1	5.7 inc.
	Tonnes	168	407	1,421	72	19	2,086	21.22 kg	22.4 kg	
Okanagan – Similkameen	Units(000)	12,230	12,286	5,010	2,088	167	31,781	335.9	337.0	(1.1) dec.
	Tonnes	158	388	1,748	65	25	2,383	25.19 kg	27.1 kg	
Columbia Shuswap	Units(000)	7,884	7,190	2,694	1,286	81	19,135	312.1	313.1	(1.0) dec.
	Tonnes	102	232	940	40	12	1,326	21.62 kg	23.3 kg	
Thompson – Nicola	Units(000)	21,531	22,146	5,652	3,378	229	52,936	339.4	331.2	8.2 inc.
	Tonnes	278	697	1,972	104	26	3,076	19.72 kg	20.6 kg	
Central Kootenay	Units(000)	7,780	5,695	2,394	1,302	90	17,261	258.6	246.2	12.4 inc.
	Tonnes	100	185	835	40	12	1,172	17.56 kg	18.3 kg	
East Kootenay	Units(000)	8,827	7,894	2,524	1,246	81	20,571	294.7	278.1	16.7 inc.
	Tonnes	114	251	881	39	9	1,294	18.54 kg	18.5 kg	
Kootenay Boundary	Units(000)	4,113	3,447	1,027	682	50	9,318	265.1	252.6	12.5 inc.
	Tonnes	53	110	358	21	7	550	15.63 kg	16.3 kg	
Total Units	Units(000)	534,060	544,839	175,892	113,408	6,963	1,375,162	249.2	239.2	9.9 inc.
Total Weight	Tonnes	6,889	17,791	61,367	3,528	708	90,284	16.4 kg	17.0 kg	

Note: Calculations may show slight variances due to rounding.