

# Packaging Recycling Rates: Then & Now

With all the attention on sustainability and circularity in the last 10 years, you'd think we would have improved our recycling rates in the US, right? Well ...



**THEN**

**NOW**

**PLASTIC & RIGID: PET**

31%

28%



**PLASTIC & RIGID: HDPE**

33%

~24%



**PLASTIC & RIGID: PP**

45%

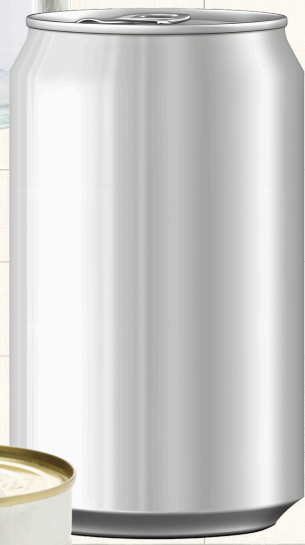
8%



**GLASS**

34%

31%



**METAL: ALUMINUM**

67%

45%



**METAL: STEEL**

71%

58%



**FLEXIBLE FILMS**

1.14

<1%

billion pounds

(percentage not available)



**PAPERBOARD**

63%

68%



Source: Packaging Digest 2015 and 2025 articles on recycling stats of packaging materials