



## GLASS

### 2025 figures

Glass is virtually inert and an impermeable material. It has been successfully selectively collected for recycling for years. Single-use glass can be infinitely recycled. In practice, a specific amount of new material is often added to the product to achieve the desired properties.

#### Collection scenario

- 88% of single-use glass is collected via bottle banks
- 12% of single-use glass is collected door-to-door



Glass may also be brought to the recycling park. The share of collection via bottle banks is slightly increasing because a number of municipalities have switched from door-to-door collection to collection via bottle banks.

#### Recycling process

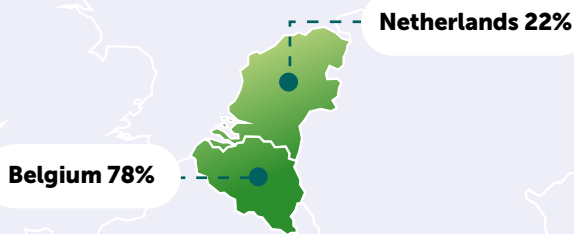
Glass recyclers purify and sort the collected glass. It is shredded into oven-ready glass cullets which serve as a raw material for glass furnaces, so that new glass products and packaging can be blown from it.

#### Materials and equipment

- White glass
- Coloured glass

Colour-separated collection is important, because coloured glass cannot be converted back into white glass.

#### Where is the material recycled?



#### European recycling targets



**70%** (2025)  
**75%** (2030)

#### Recyclate applications

Collected glass packaging is processed into new glass products and packaging.



**27.7 kg**  
of single-use glass packaging collected per inhabitant

**329 kT**  
of recycled glass

The recycling rate of glass has been stable for many years.

## A recycling rate > 100%?

- Over the past 30 years, Belgians have become familiar with the glass collection system. The collection level is high. We can see this among other things from the very low amounts of glass in residual waste. However, we collect more glass than Fost Plus members put on the market.
- Single-use glass packaging from purchases made abroad.
- Glass packaging from freeriders (companies that do not fulfil their packaging responsibilities and do not declare their packaging).
- Glass packaging from companies that put < 300 kg of packaging on the market per year (exempt from declaration).

## Recycling rate for members\* of Fost Plus

# 125%\*



*\* approx. 81% of all packaging on the Belgian market (by weight) comes from Fost Plus members. The rest is purchased by consumers abroad (cross-border purchases) or sold by businesses that consciously or unconsciously evade their take-back obligation (so-called free-riders).*

## How is that possible?

$$\frac{\text{Numerator}}{\text{Denominator}} = \text{Recycling percentage}$$

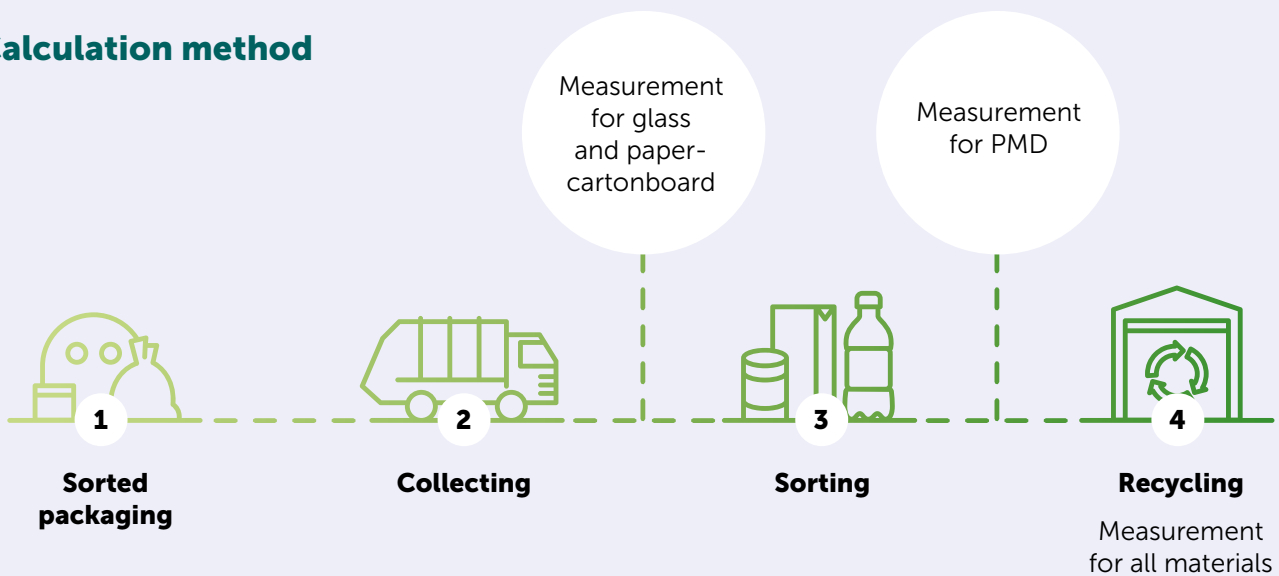
**Numerator** = recycled glass, in weight

**Denominator** = glass packaging declared by Fost Plus members, in weight

**If numerator > denominator**

➔ recycling percentage +100 %

## Calculation method



## How is the recycling percentage calculated?

The recycling percentage is calculated when the recycling actually takes place, after removing any contaminants and unsuitable materials from the sorted bales.

The method used has been determined at European level and validated by the Interregional Packaging Commission (IRPC).

