Food and beverage cartons have a lower carbon footprint compared to packaging alternatives

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THE FOOD & BEVERAGE CARTON ALLIANCE

Essential
Renewable
Circular.

WHY?

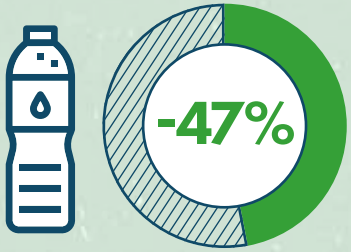
Packaging can and should contribute to lower our carbon footprint

A meta-analysis of selected Life-Cycle-Assessment (LCA) studies revealed that, in terms of carbon footprint, food and beverage cartons yield, on average, significantly better results than PET bottles and single-use glass bottles. An additional evaluation of comparative studies showed that food and beverage cartons yielded better results than reusable glass bottles. Taken together with the analysis, this strongly indicates that food and beverage cartons indeed have a lower global warming potential than reusable glass bottles.

They are recyclable

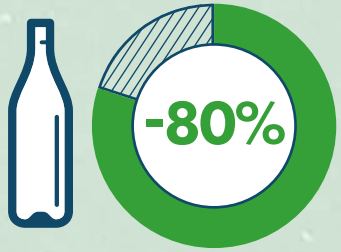
and are recycled in Europe. In 2023, roughly 50% of food and beverage cartons were collected for recycling in EU30. Recycling food and beverage cartons contributes to reducing the overall food and beverage carton's carbon footprint.

Due to their functionality, food and beverage cartons have a lower carbon footprint for milk and juice



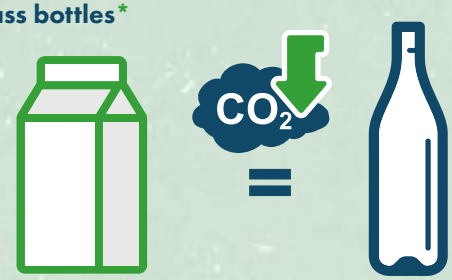
Compared to PET bottles

&



Compared to single-use glass bottles

Food and beverage cartons have a similar carbon footprint compared to reusable glass bottles*



* The Reloop and Zero Waste Europe study says that food and beverage cartons have a lower carbon footprint compared to reusable glass bottles (Reusable vs Single-Use Packaging: A Review of Environmental Impacts | Reloop Platform) thanks to the lower emissions associated with production of an aseptic carton.

And have higher protection quality

Food and beverage cartons have great protective properties, enabling a long shelf life and minimizing food loss and waste.

Source: Supporting evidence – Environmental performance of beverage cartons, Circular Analytics, November 2020

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WHY? Beverage cartons...

have a significantly higher packaging efficiency* for milk and juice

compared to single-use and reusable glass bottles.

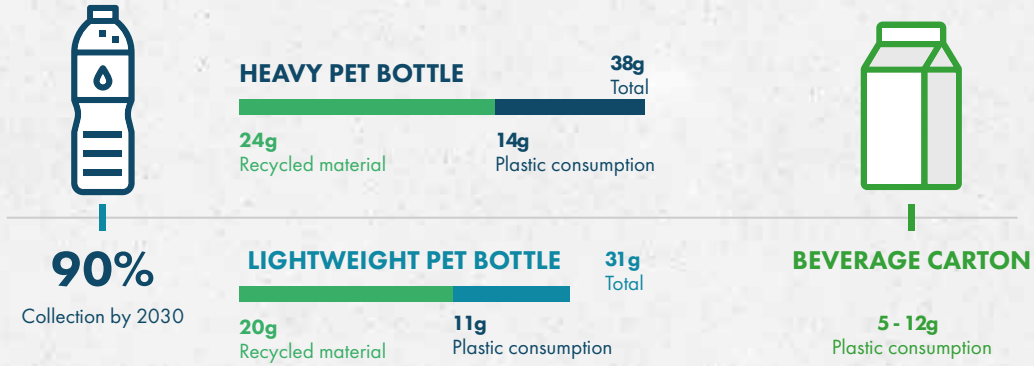
*mass of primary packaging per one litre pack

have a higher transport efficiency, resulting in lower emissions

A truck can be loaded with **25% to 41%** more milk using food and beverage cartons compared to glass bottles. The shape of food and beverage cartons allows to load more quantities onto trucks resulting in lower carbon emissions.

are made mainly from renewable resources, on average 75%,

reducing the strain on fossil resources (e.g. to produce plastic). Even if the entire European Union meets a 90% collection rate of e.g. PET bottles by 2030, plastic consumption in food packaging would still be higher than with food and beverage cartons.*



*Compared to packaging with the same functionality (juice and milk).

are mainly made from paperboard. Our paperboard comes primarily from sustainably managed forests in the Nordics

Sustainable forest management ensures replenishment of the forest and therefore increased yields.

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Source: Supporting evidence – Environmental performance of food and beverage cartons, Circular Analytics, November 2020