VERSION 1: DECEMBER 2024

WOOD

CONSUMPTION AND RECOVERY

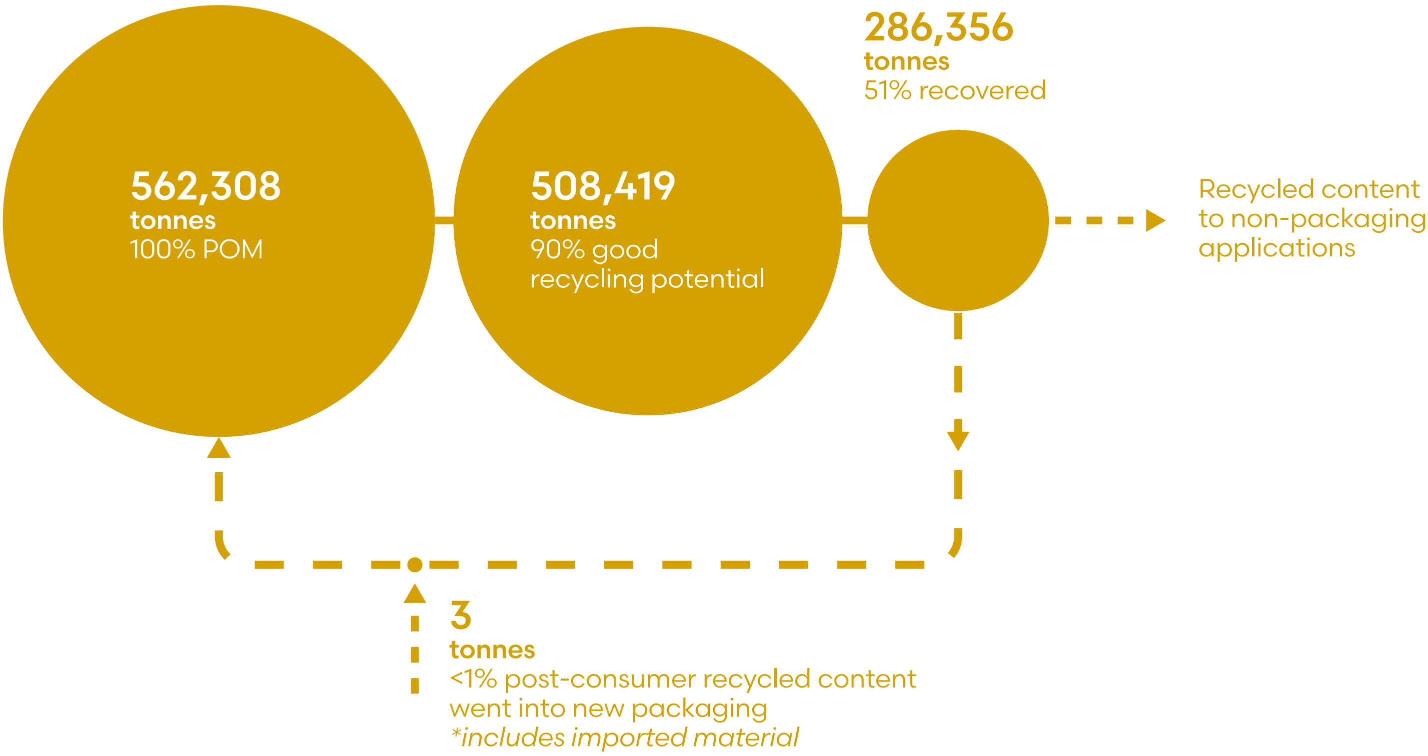
2022–2023 FACTSHEET

Australian
Packaging Covenant
Organisation

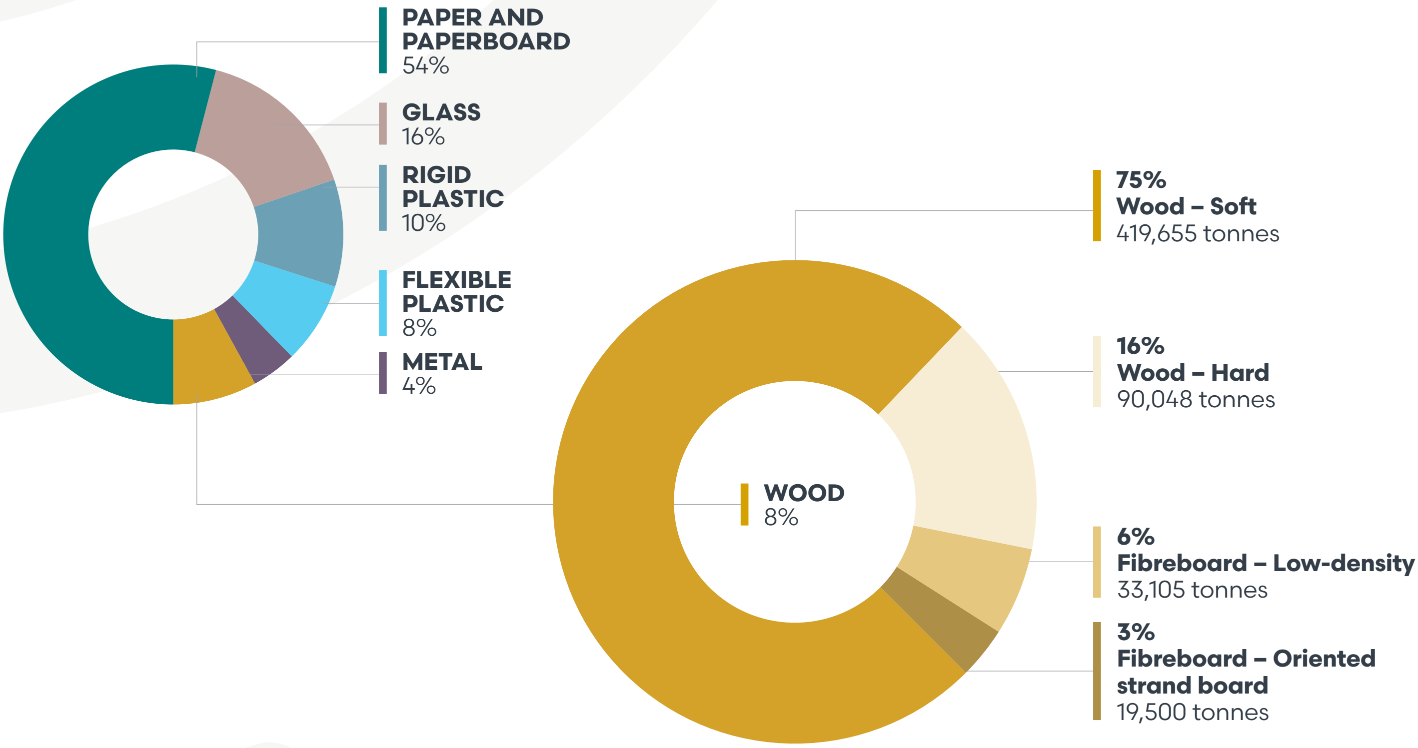
Summary
WOOD

- 8% of packaging placed on market (POM) was wood, representing 562,308 tonnes.
- **Wood recovery has increased**, with 51% of wood packaging POM recovered in 2022-23, up from 45% in the previous year. Across material subcategories, recovery is greatly varied, with the highest recovery rates in hardwood (59%) and softwood (55%) packaging, with lower collection in fibreboard packaging (2%).
- **Unlike other packaging materials, recovered wood is not generally used in packaging-to-packaging applications**. Recovered wood packaging is often repurposed for furniture and other building products or converted into mulches and animal bedding.
- Wood is typically used in B2B contexts for highly durable applications, making it **well suited to reuse systems**. In 2022-23, approximately 4.5 million tonnes of wood were avoided using reusable packaging systems.
- **The volume POM is projected to grow at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 6.0%** over the next 5 years compared to the expected population CAGR of 1.4%.

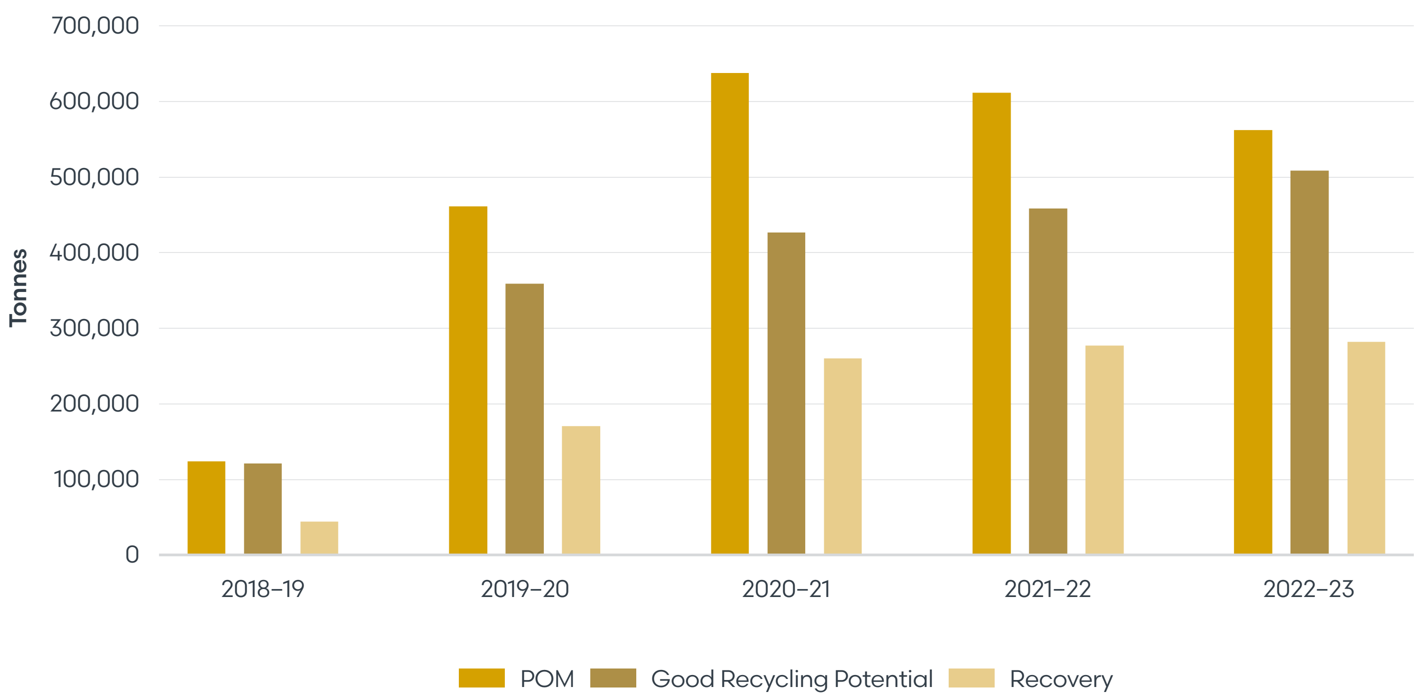
Material recovery



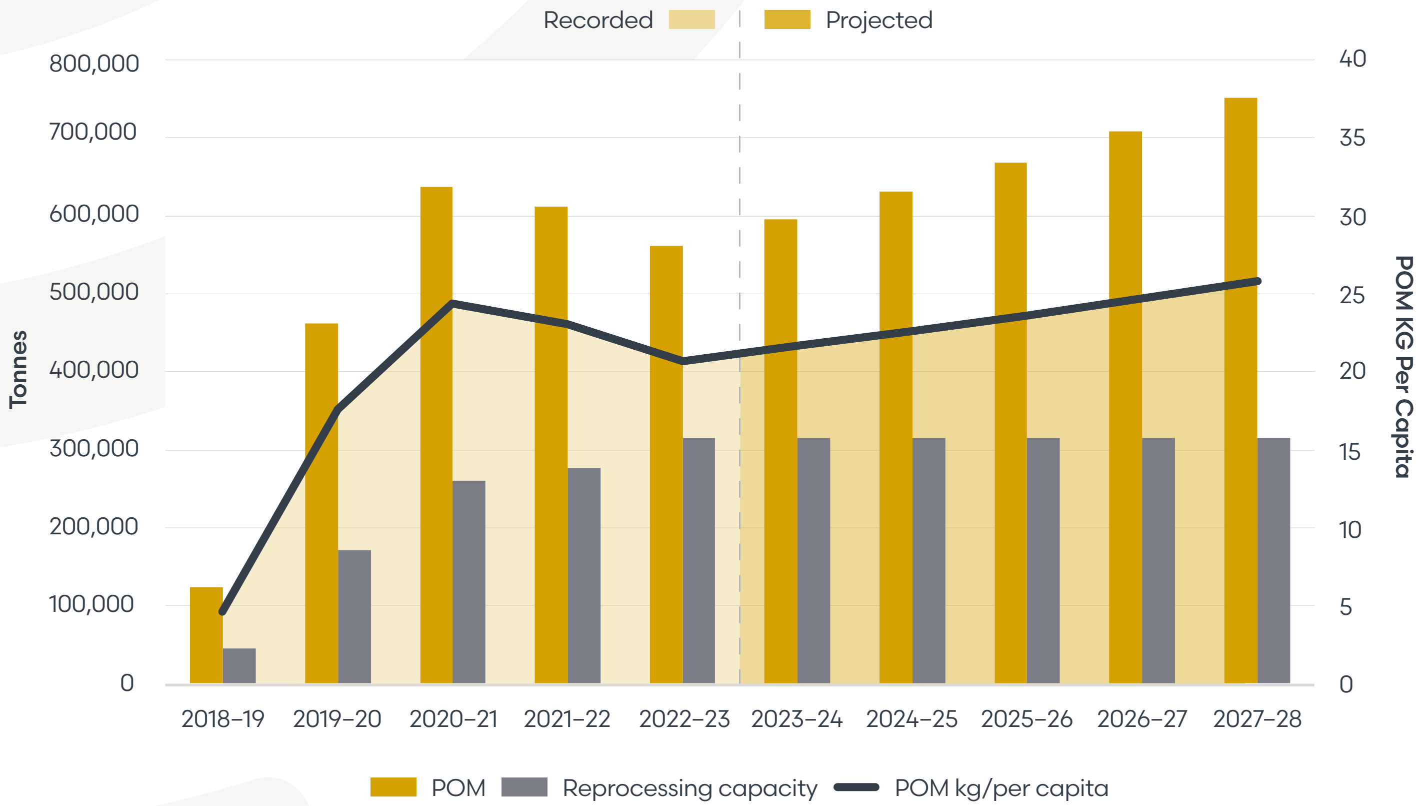
Placed on market
WOOD



TRENDS



Reprocessing capacity



Top 3 priorities
WOOD

The following three component groups represent 97% of all wood packaging placed on market (POM) in 2022-23.

	POM (tonnes)	Recovery (tonnes)
Wood – Soft	419,655	232,689
Fibreboard – Low-density	33,105	637
Wood – Hard	90,048	53,029

Progress towards the National Packaging Targets

OUTCOME	TARGET	PROGRESS
Packaging designed for circularity and sustainability	**100%** of packaging is reusable, recyclable or compostable	**90%** was classified as having good recycling potential
	Problematic and unnecessary single-use plastic packaging will be phased out	*NOT APPLICABLE*
Harmonised and expanded reuse and recovery systems are in place	**70%** of plastic packaging is recycled or composted	*NOT APPLICABLE*
Deep and resilient markets exist for recycled materials	**50%** recycled content	*EXEMPT** **All Wood packaging comes from virgin feedstocks*

For more information on 2022-23 Australian Packaging and Consumption Recovery data visit:

www.apco.org.au or contact APCO.

All data provided within this document is from or estimated based on the data available within the sources outlined below.

These figures do not include packaging lost to litter or with extended shelf life.

Population data sourced from the Australian Bureau of Statistics – National, State and Territory Population data sets.