

VERSION 1: OCTOBER 2025

# WOOD

## CONSUMPTION AND RECOVERY

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2023–2024 FACTSHEET



Australian  
Packaging Covenant  
Organisation

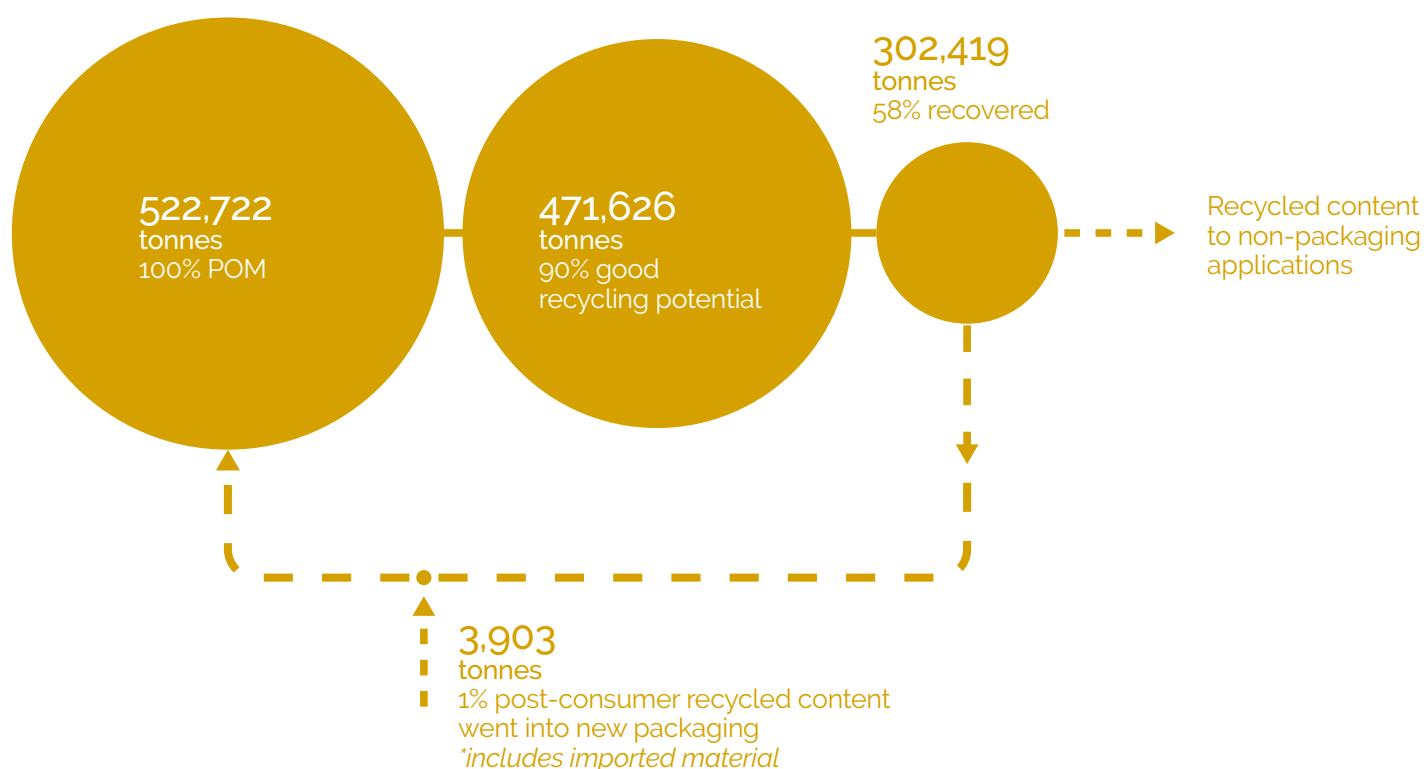


# Summary

## WOOD

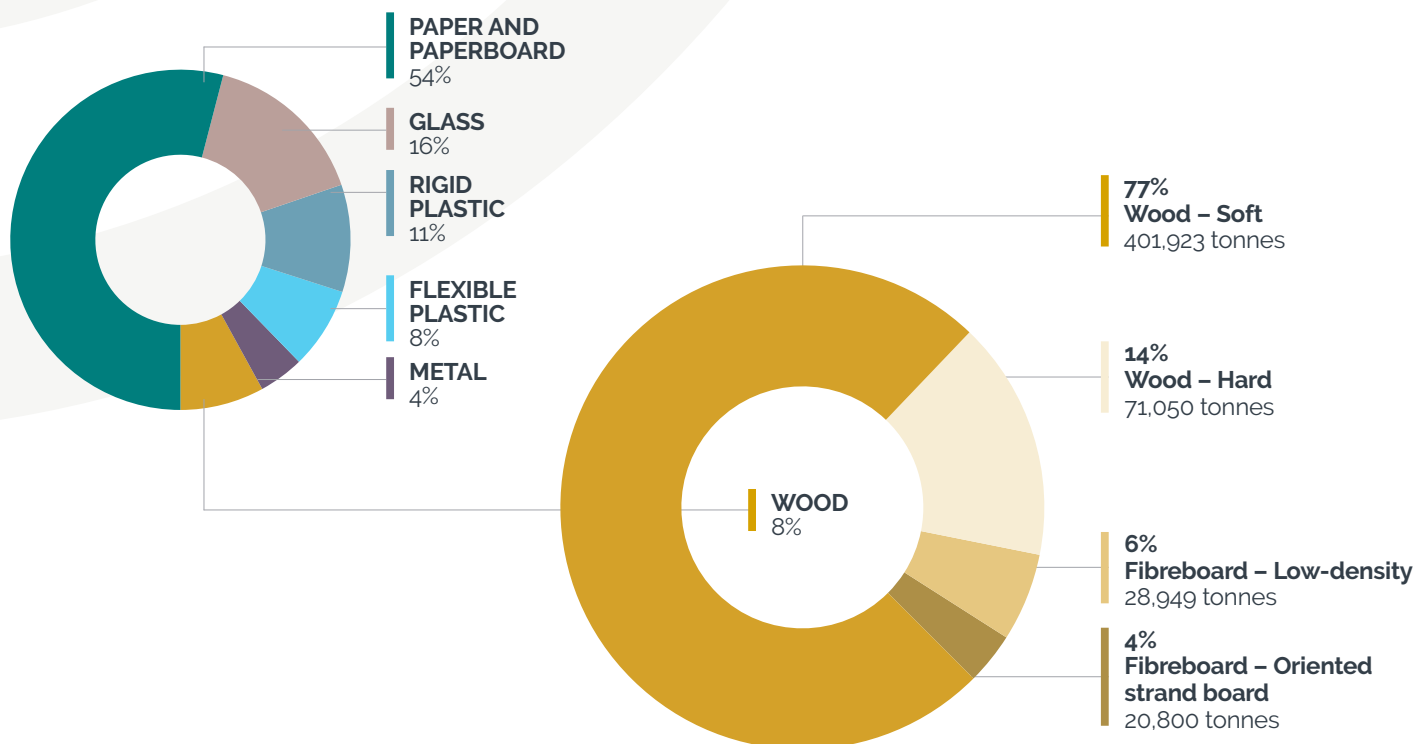
- 8% of packaging placed on market (POM) was wood, representing 522,722 tonnes.
- **Wood recovery has increased**, with 58% of wood packaging POM recovered in 2023-24, up from 51% in the previous year. Across material subcategories, recovery is greatly varied, with the highest recovery rates in hardwood (70%) and softwood (63%) 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 2023-24, approximately 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 3.9%** over the next 5 years compared to the expected population CAGR of 1.3%.

## Material recovery

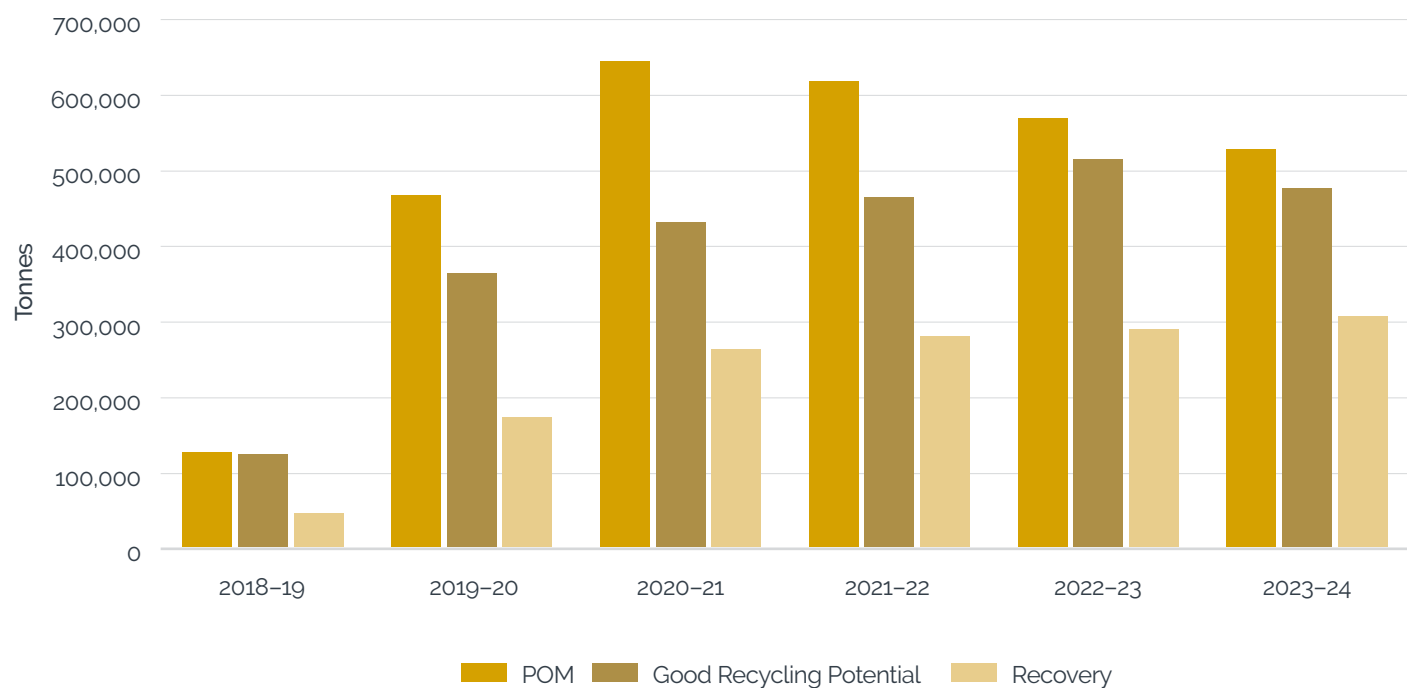


# Placed on market

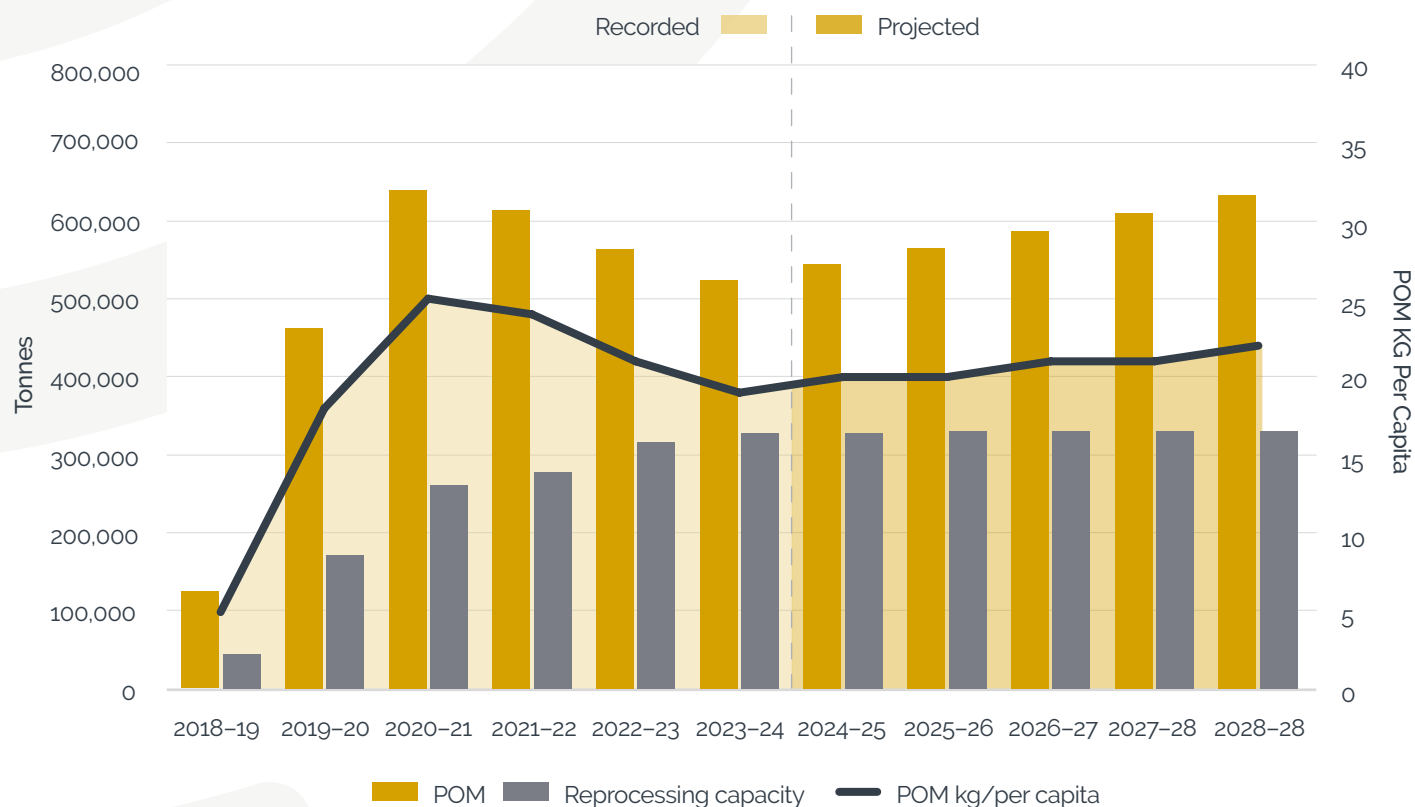
## WOOD



## TRENDS



## Reprocessing capacity



## Top 3 priorities

WOOD

The following three component groups represent 96% of all wood packaging POM in 2023-24.

|                          | POM (tonnes) | Recovery (tonnes) |
|--------------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| Wood – Soft              | 401,923      | 251,935           |
| Fibreboard – Low-density | 28,949       | 603               |
| Wood – Hard              | 71,050       | 49,881            |

# Progress towards the National Packaging Targets

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

For more information on 2023-24 Australian Packaging and Consumption Recovery data visit:

[www.apco.org.au](http://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.

Rounding of percentage data may result in discrepancies among totals. For more details, please refer to the Consumption and Recovery Report 2023-24.

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

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