



COMPARATIVE LIFE CYCLE ASSESSMENT: EUROPE

JULY 2020



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Why recycling is the biggest opportunity

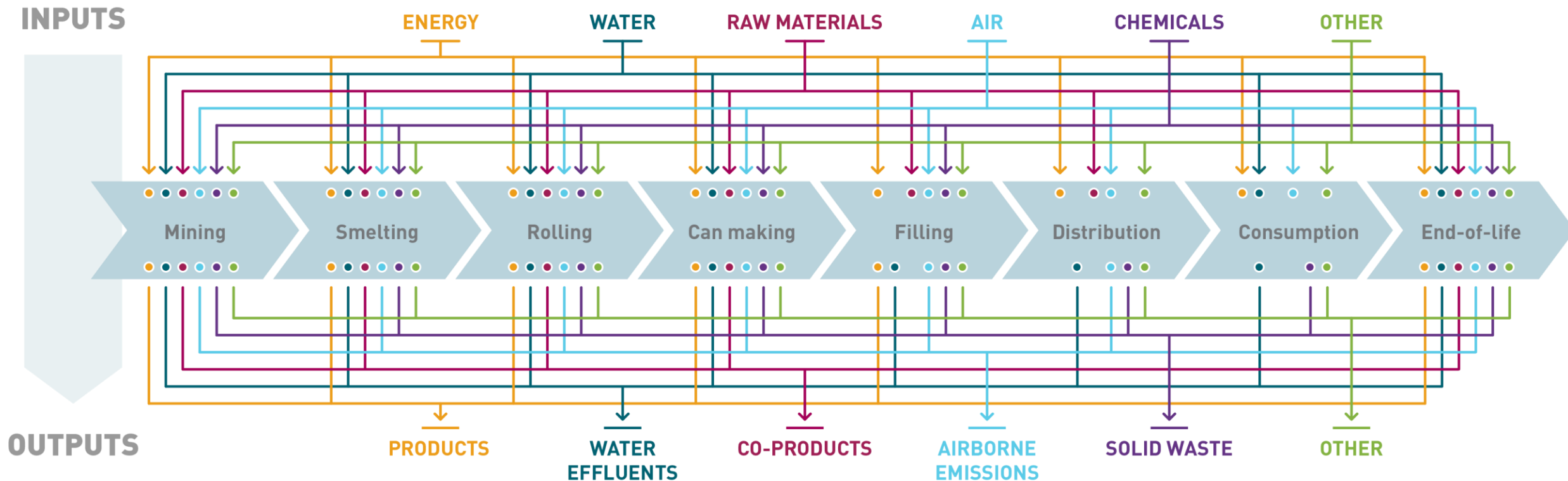
Why recycling yields matter

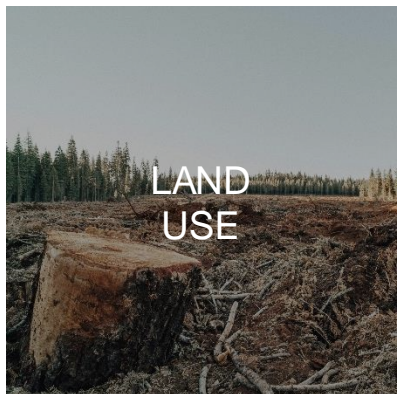
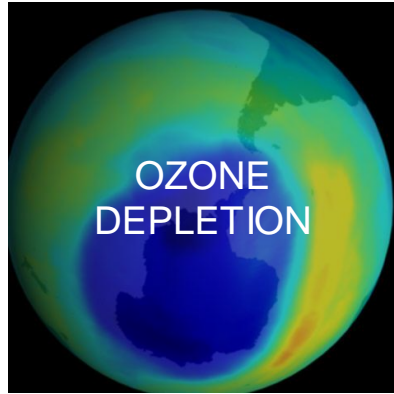


About Life Cycle Assessment

LCA is a technique for assessing the environmental impacts associated with a product, by

- Compiling an **inventory** of relevant inputs and outputs of a product system,
- Evaluating the potential **environmental impacts** associated with those inputs and outputs,
- **Interpreting** the results of the inventory analysis and impact assessment phases in relation to the objectives of the study.





While this presentation focuses on Global Warming Potential and some other environmental impact categories (blue squares), the full Sphera LCA considered all categories recommended by Product Environmental Footprint Guidelines.



PURPOSE

- Identify environmental hotspots along a product's life cycle.
- Add an environmental dimension for decision-makers to explore new design solutions.
- Monitor environmental footprint improvements of a product over time.
- Inform internal decision makers.
- Compare existing products with alternatives.
- Inform and educate external stakeholders, incl. legislators.
- Support product claims.

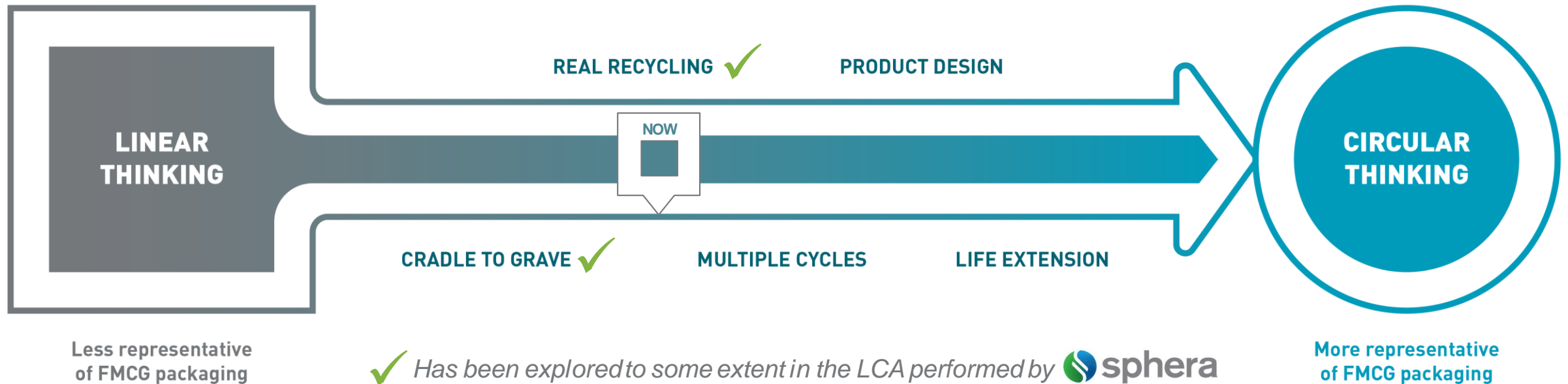


LIMITATIONS

- Not an exact science (methodologies, models and assumptions shape results).
- For the same product, different LCAs can suggest opposing findings.
- Not the single answer to all environmental questions.
- Circularity, real recycling rates, recycling yields, economics of recycling, and impacts of e.g. microplastics on the environment and human life are not considered in LCAs.
- Describe one specific situation, cannot be generalised for all.

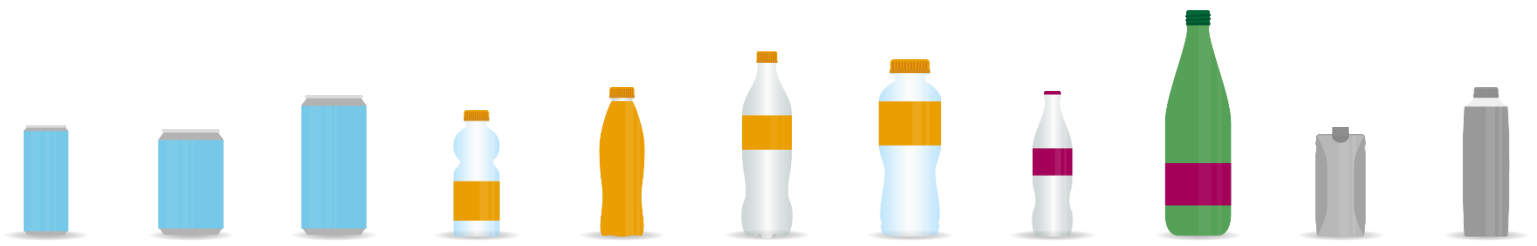
> A high level of transparency and offering various sensitivity analysis and scenarios in a LCA is important to allow readers to understand the study design, interpret results and draw their own conclusions

- LCAs today are mostly linear instead of **applying circular thinking**, which would be more appropriate for fast moving consumer goods such as beverage packaging.
- That is why Ball is sponsoring a multi-year PhD program at the University of Barcelona to research limitations of packaging LCAs and develop **new and scientifically sound approaches** to overcome these limitations.
- Ball will build on these findings and **initiate discussions with stakeholders** to ensure future LCAs adequately capture the true sustainability performance of beverage packaging.



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Sphera Comparative LCA Study





Critical Peer Review Panel



Prof. Dr. Pere Fullana i Palmer

Director of the UNESCO Chair in Life Cycle and Climate Change



Dr. Ivo Mersiowsky

Sustainability and leadership consultant, LCA expert (focus chemical and plastics industry)



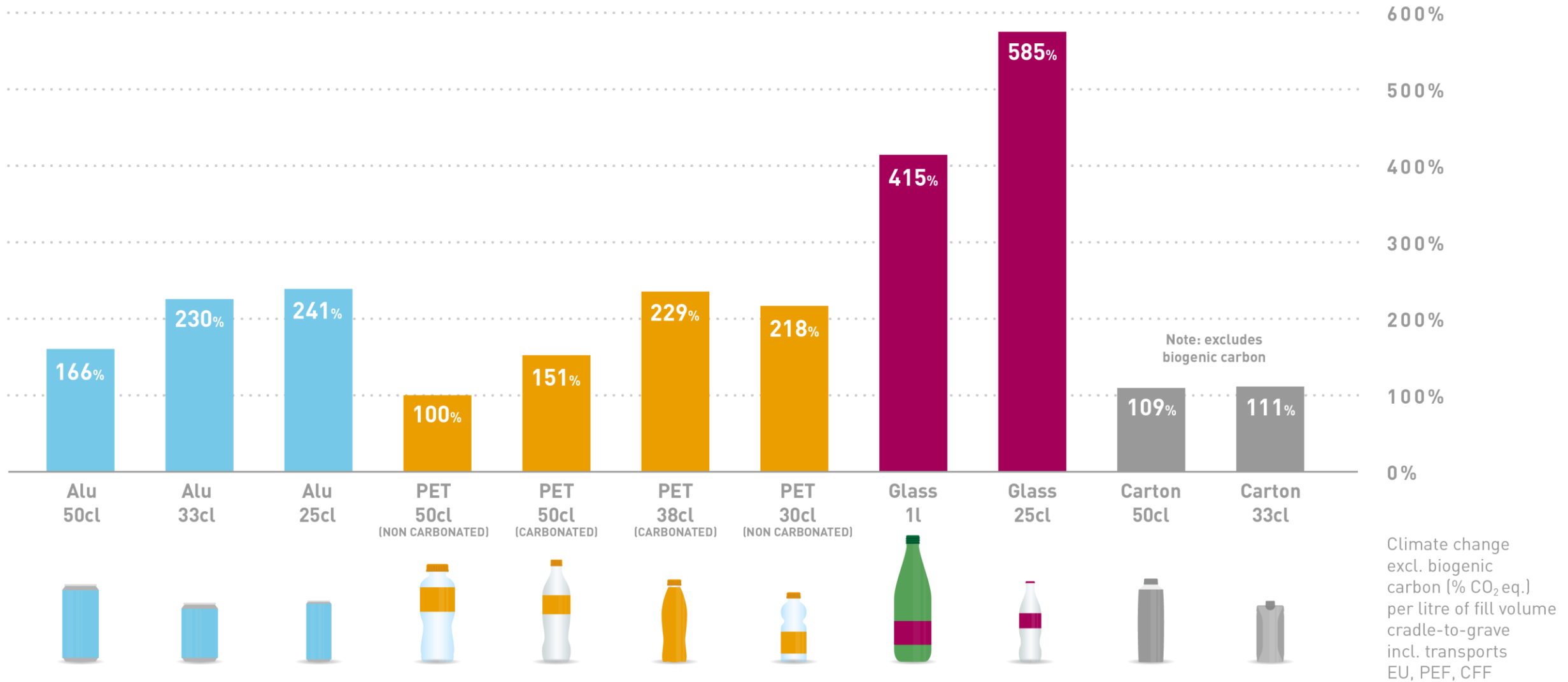
Angela Schindler

Environmental management consultant, LCA expert (focus modelling, packaging), reviewer for the International Journal of Life Cycle Assessment

GLOBAL WARMING POTENTIAL (CARBON FOOTPRINT) PER LITRE



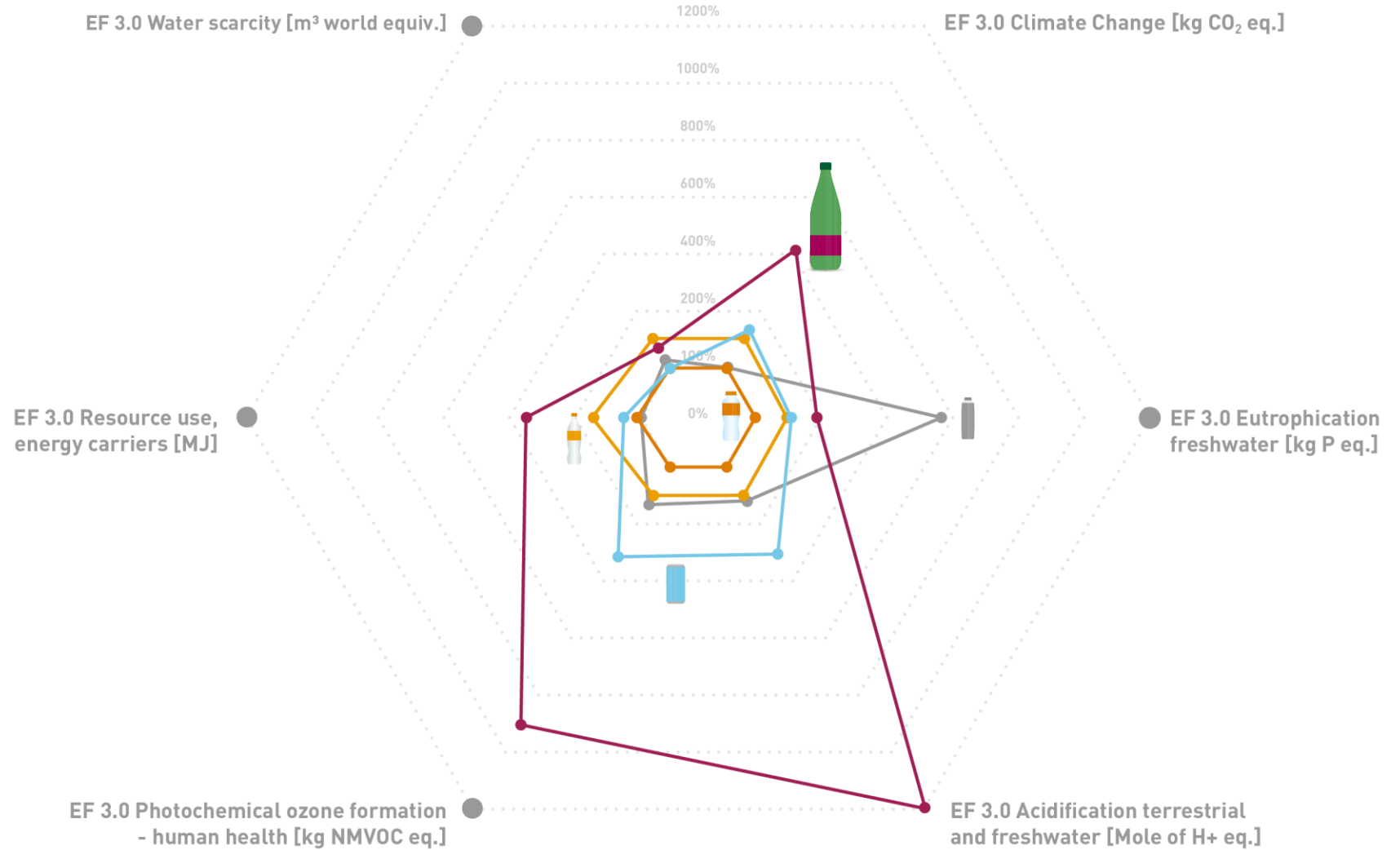
Carbon footprint comparison per litre



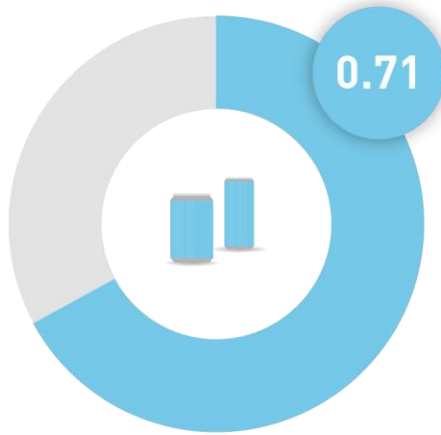
SUMMARY OF SEVERAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT CATEGORIES, BIGGER FORMAT CONTAINERS



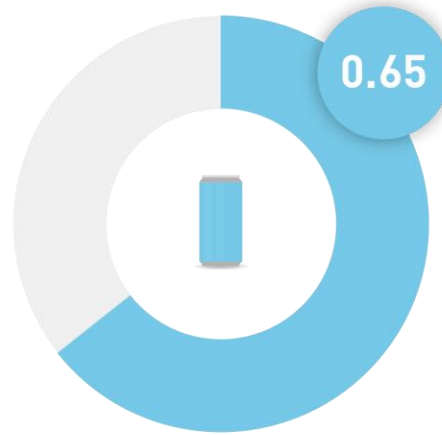
-  **Alu. 50cl**
-  **PET 50cl**
(CARBONATED)
-  **PET 50cl**
(NON-CARBONATED)
-  **Glass 1L**
-  **Carton 50cl**



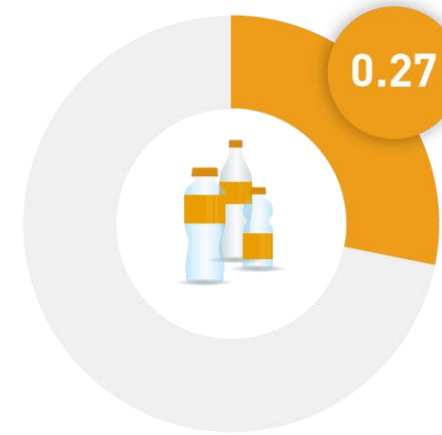
25cl & 33cl aluminium can



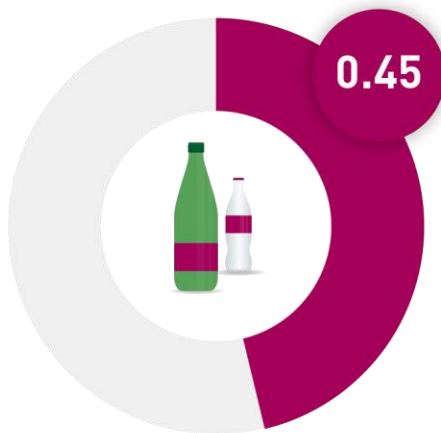
50cl aluminium can



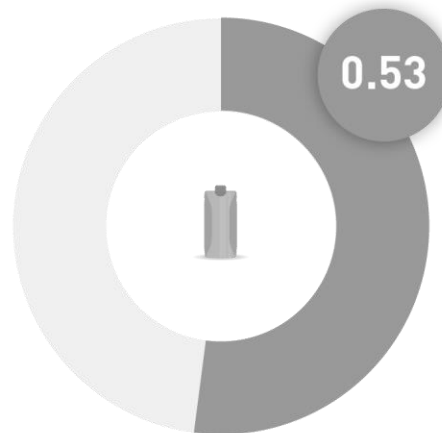
All PET bottles



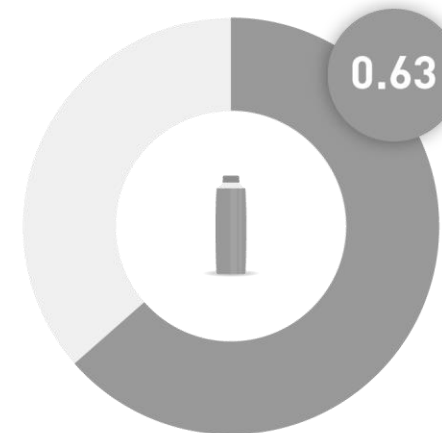
25cl & 1L glass bottle



33cl beverage carton



50cl beverage carton



Note: MCI methodology includes non-recycled renewables fibres as circular. Other methodologies do not.



- Good performance on **Global Warming Potential (GWP)**, benefiting from lightweight, high recycling rates and good recycled content
- Biggest opportunity to decrease further GWP by **increasing recycling rates and recycled content**, reaching the same values of cartons and non-carbonated water PET bottles (recycling cartons adds GWP impact)
- **Best material circularity score** (~0.7) of all single-use packaging options



- Low weight non-carbonated water PET bottles come with the **lowest overall carbon footprint**, benefiting from the low weight compared to heavier PET bottles for carbonated drinks and other bottles such as tea, juice or premium water
- Carbonated PET bottles and cans **come with very similar carbon footprints** – on other environmental impact categories, sometimes cans come with lower impacts (e.g. resource use), and sometimes PET (e.g. acidification)
- Low real recycling rates (42%) and recycled content (0% as per PEF) as well as high recycling yield losses result in **worst material circularity scores** of all substrates for PET (<0.3)









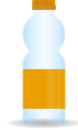
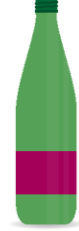



- **Highest environmental impacts** for single-use glass in several categories, driven by heavy weight, and very resource and energy intensive glass production
- Bad scores on **acidification**
- **Average material circularity scores** for single-use bottles (~0.45)



- Good results for several impact categories driven by biogenic carbon accounting rules and relatively **small manufacturing impacts** and the fact that integrated pulp and paper mills generate most of their energy from biomass intake such as wood offcuts
- **Material circularity scores** in the 0.5-0.6 range, benefiting from the MCI methodology which assumes all sustainably sourced fibers are restorative and circular by nature (despite recycling challenges of fiber, plastic and aluminum layers)

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS & MAIN DATASETS USED. ALL CONTAINERS ARE REAL, POPULAR BEVERAGES



| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Alu 50cl | Alu 33cl | Alu 25cl | PET 50cl (non-carbonated) | PET 50cl (carbonated) | PET 38cl (carbonated) | PET 30cl (non-carbonated) | Glass 1L | Glass 25cl | Carton 50cl | Carton 33cl |
| Purchased in | DE | DE | UK | UK | DE | UK | UK | UK | DE | DE | UK |
| Total Container Weight (g) | 14.5 | 11.9 | 10.3 | 14.9 (bottle, cap, label) | 22.5 (bottle, cap, label) | 27.2 (bottle, cap, label) | 20.9 (bottle, cap, label) | 521 (bottle, cap, label) | 172 (bottle, cap) | 23.0 | 17.0 |
| Secondary Packaging | 12 pack, corrug. board, LDPE (60g) | 4 pack, corrug. board, LDPE (51g) | 4 pack, corrug. board, (28.5g) | 12 pack, LDPE (16g) | 12 pack, LDPE (16g) | 6 pack, LDPE (8g) | Individual bottle | 6 pack, HDPE crate (1042g) | 4 pack, corrug. Board (44g) | 8 pack, corrug. board (126g) | 4 pack, corrug. board (20g) |
| Recycled Content* | 55% can body, 3% can end | | | 0% | | | | 40% | | 0% | |
| Recycling rate* | 69% (real recycling) | | | 42% (real recycling) | | | | 66% (real recycling) | | 43% (collection rate!) | |
| Allocation factor* | 0.2 | | | 0.5 | | | | 0.2 | | 0.2 | |
| Main Datasets | Primary & secondary aluminum, sheet rolling: EA 2015 | | | PET granulate, blow moulding: GaBi 2016 | | | | Virgin & recycled glass: GaBi 2016 | | Liquid packaging board: ACE 2014 | |

*all values as per PEF Guidelines, Annex C. Official collection for recycling rates are revised to real recycling rates as per information from each association except for cartons who do not publish it.



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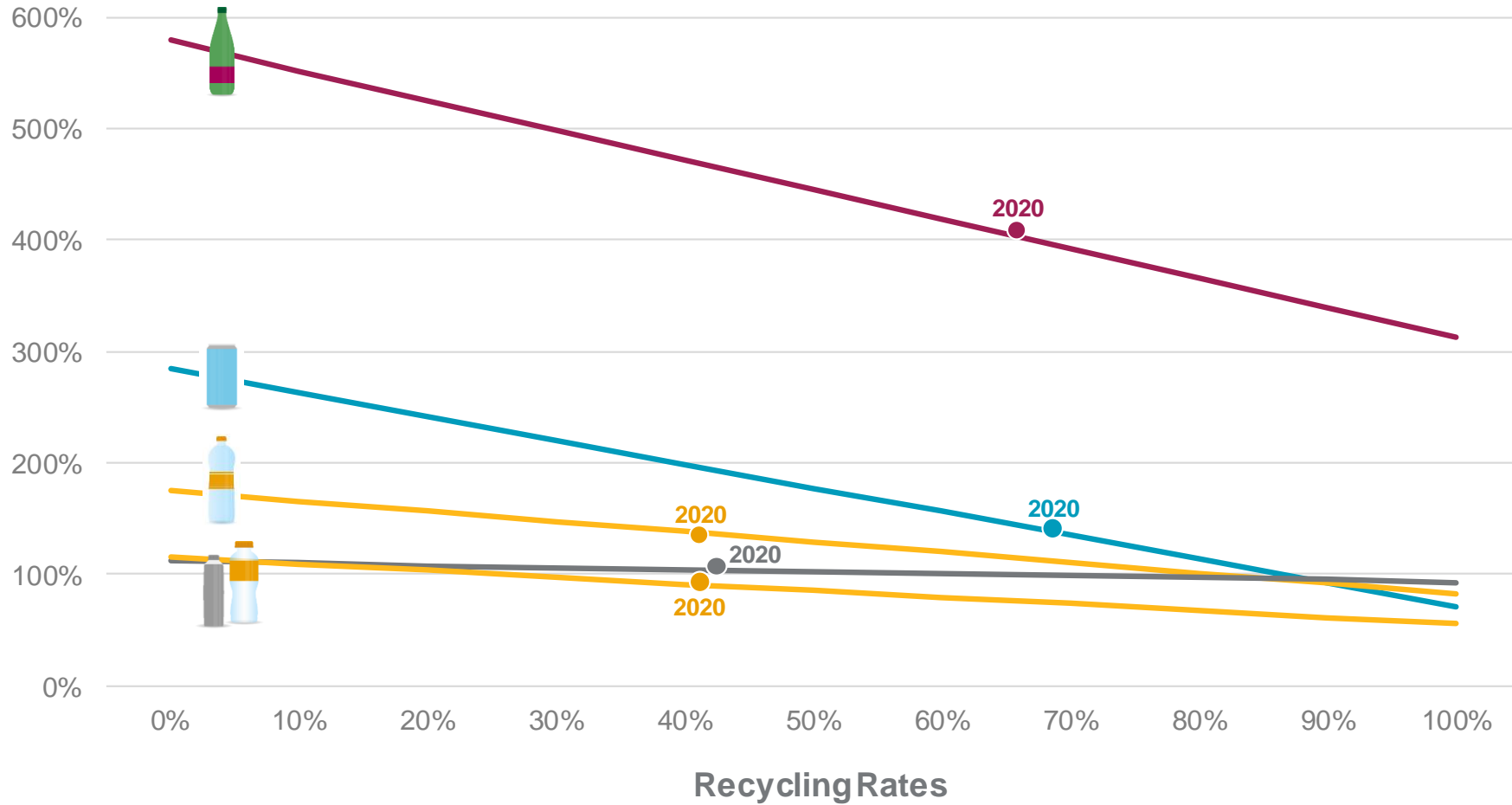
Sensitivity Analysis

EFFECT OF RECYCLING RATE ON CARBON FOOTPRINT



Climate change
(% CO₂ eq.)
per liter of fill volume

Carbon footprint as recycling rate increases (CO₂ eq. per litre)



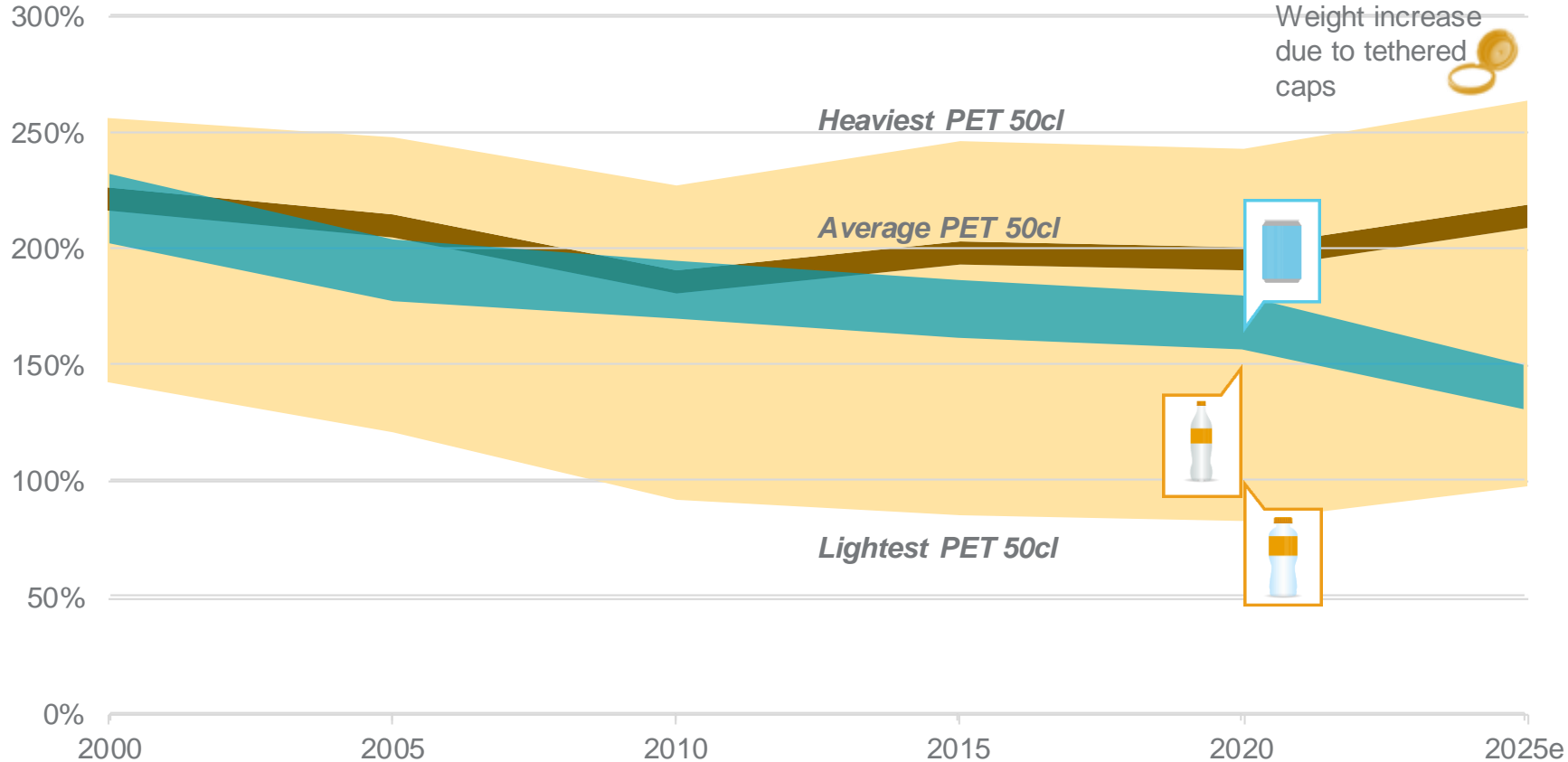
- Glass 1L
- PET 50cl (NON-CARBONATED)
- PET 50cl (CARBONATED)
- Alu 50cl
- Carton 50cl
- 2020 Real recycling rate used in the LCA









Source: Ball's graph based on the sensitivity data from peer reviewed comparative beverage packaging LCA, Sphera, 2020. The PEF CFF formula is too rigid for this sensitivity assessment, so the substitution method has been used as the baseline for this analysis.



Carbon footprint comparison of 50cl formats (range of containers weights in the market)

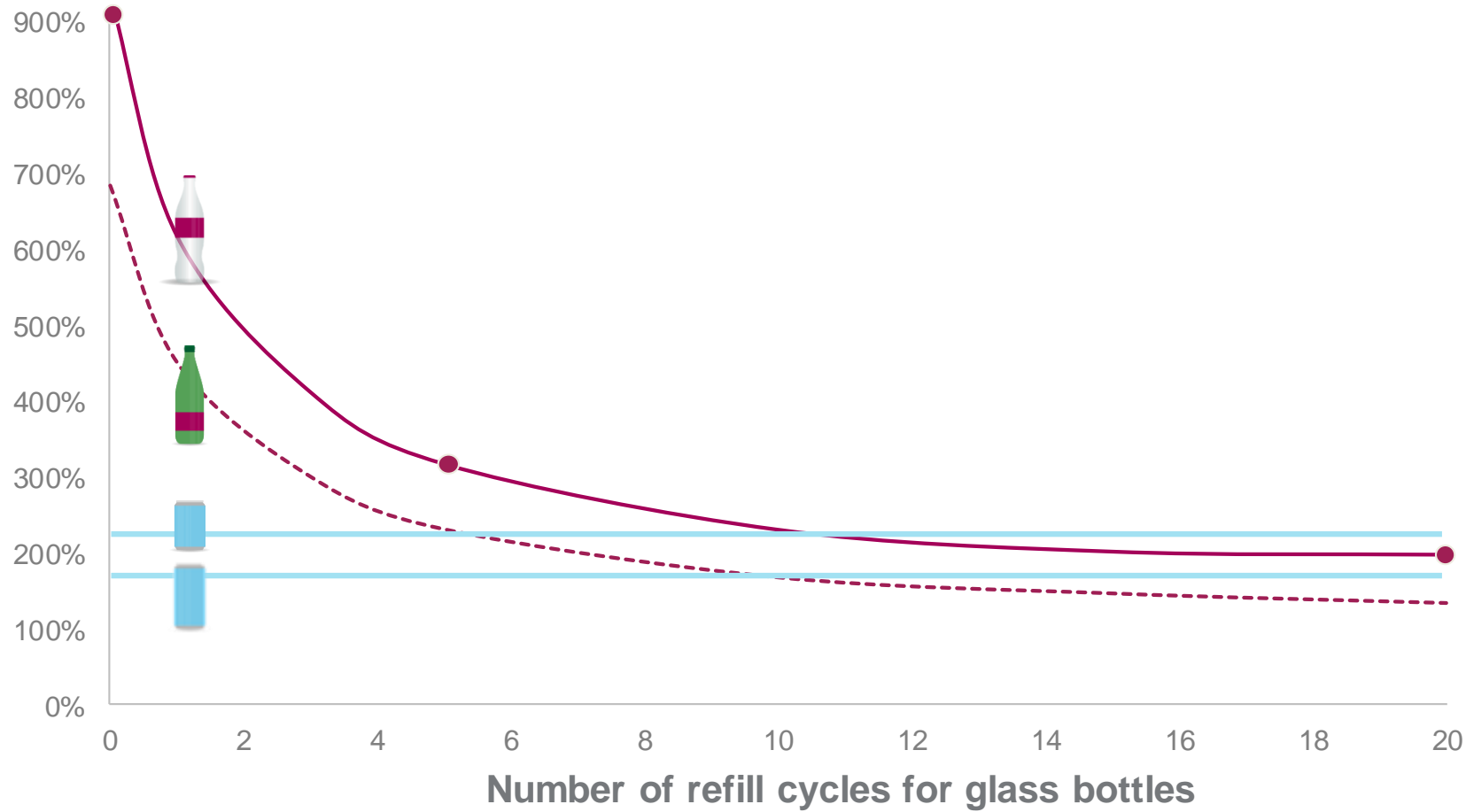
Climate change
(% CO2 eq.)
per liter of fill volume



-  **PET 50cl (NON-CARBONATED)**
Total Container weight 14.9g
-  **PET 50cl (CARBONATED)**
Total Container weight 22.5g
-  **Alu 50cl**
Total Container weight 14.4g
-  Heaviest PET 50cl POM
-  Average PET 50cl POM
-  Lightest PET 50cl POM
-  Heaviest can 50cl POM
-  Lightest can 50cl POM

Climate change
(% CO2 eq.)
per liter of fill volume

Carbon comparison per litre as number of glass refills increase vs single-use cans



-  **Glass bottle 33cl refillable**
-  **Glass bottle 1L refillable**
-  **Alu 33cl**
-  **Alu 50cl**

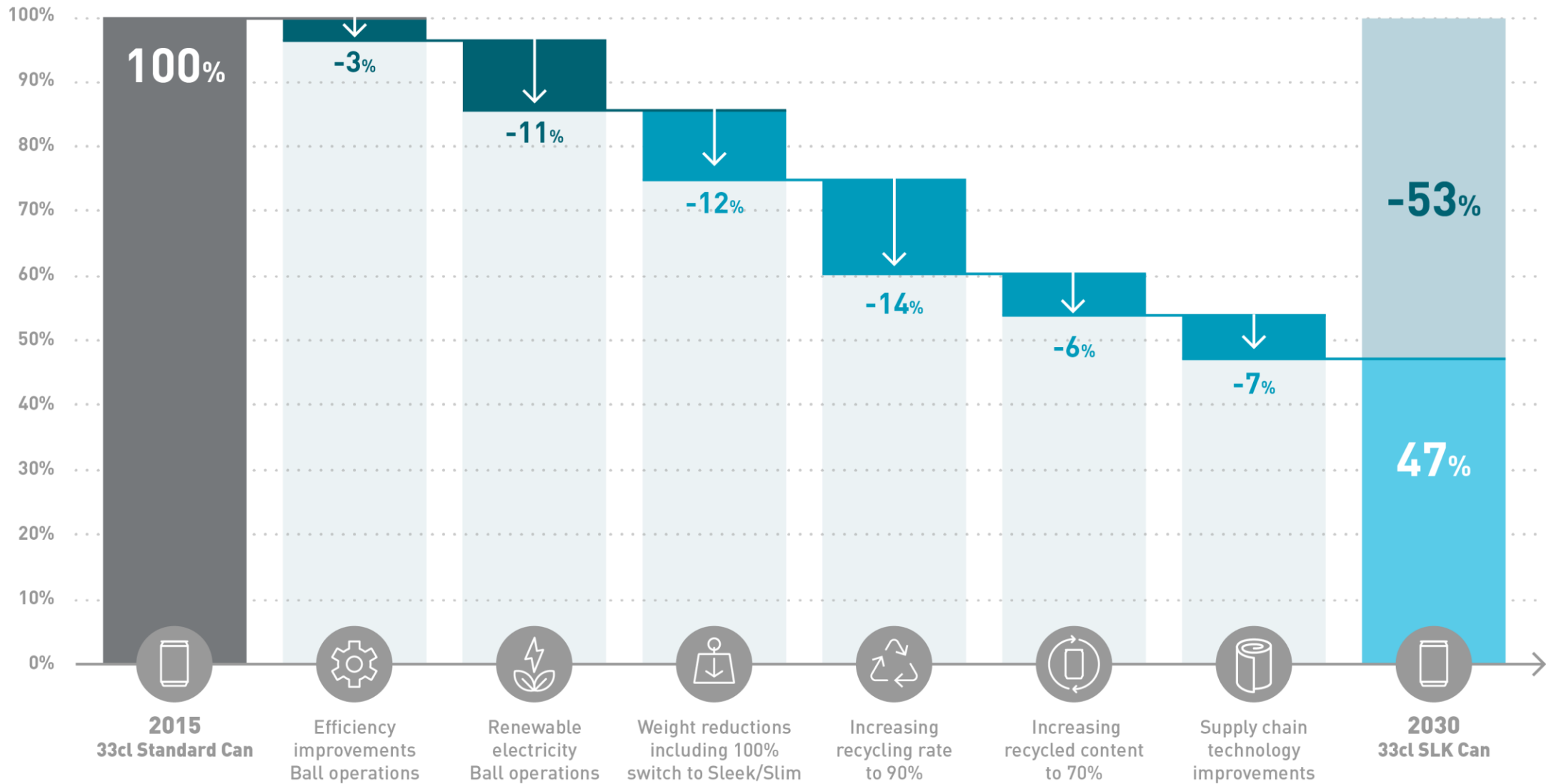
Source: Ball's graph based on the sensitivity data from peer reviewed comparative beverage packaging LCA, Sphera, 2020 for 33cl and 50cl. 1L Glass bottle sensitivity analysis was not included in the Sphera report and has been calculated by Ball at later stage.

A hand holding a beverage can against a teal background. The hand is positioned in the center-left, holding the can vertically. The background is a solid teal color with a faint, textured pattern of small, light-colored dots or fibers. The lighting is soft, highlighting the contours of the hand and the can.

4

**Plans to further
improve the
beverage can**

IDENTIFIED OPPORTUNITIES TO DECREASE A 33CL CAN'S CARBON FOOTPRINT IN NEXT 5-10 YEARS (33CL)



100% COLLECTION

**100% RECYCLED
CONTENT BACK
INTO SAME VALUE
PRODUCTS**



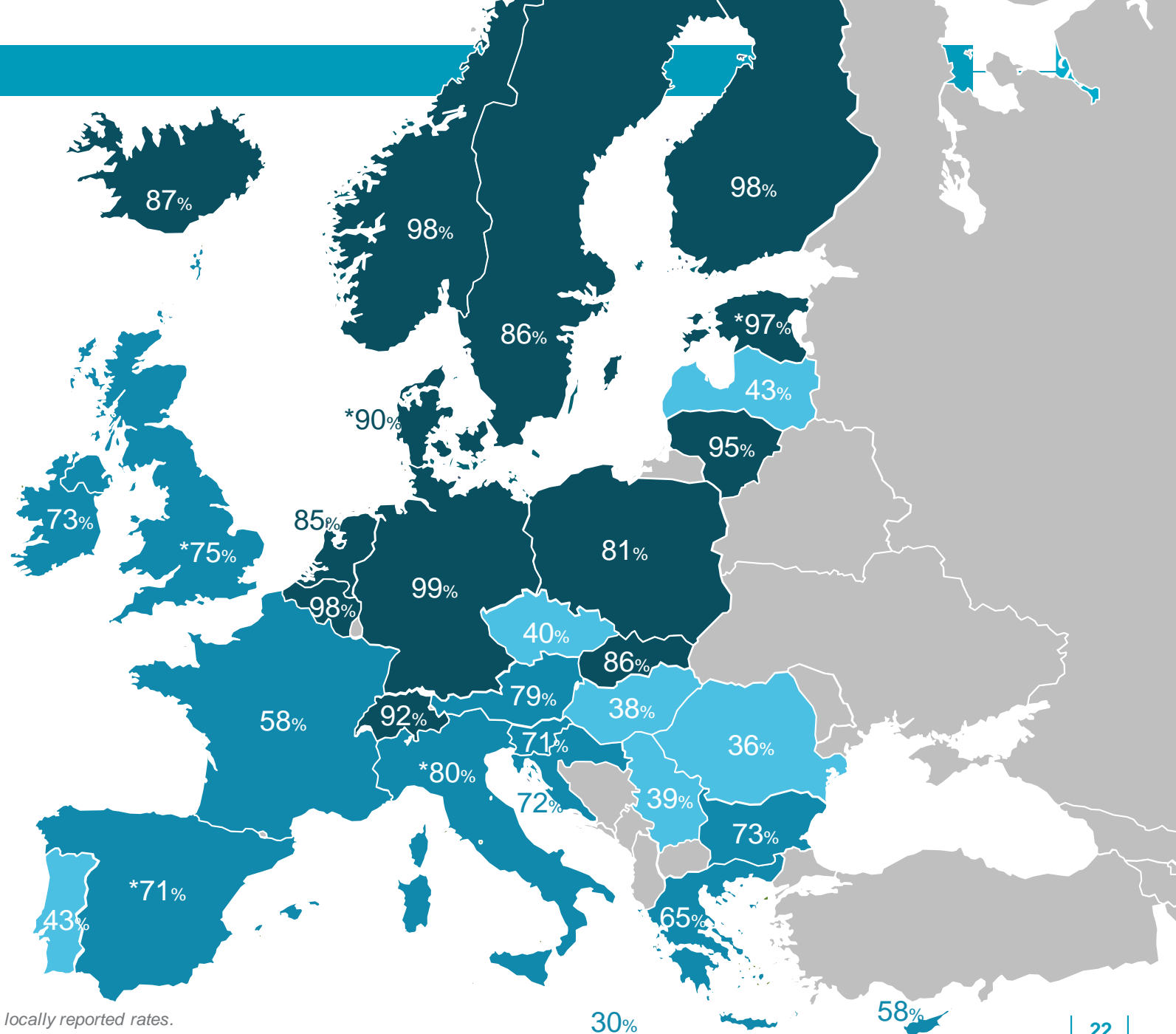
**100% OF THE
MATERIALS
ARE SORTED**

100% YIELD RECYCLING

CURRENT RECYCLING RATES IN EUROPE

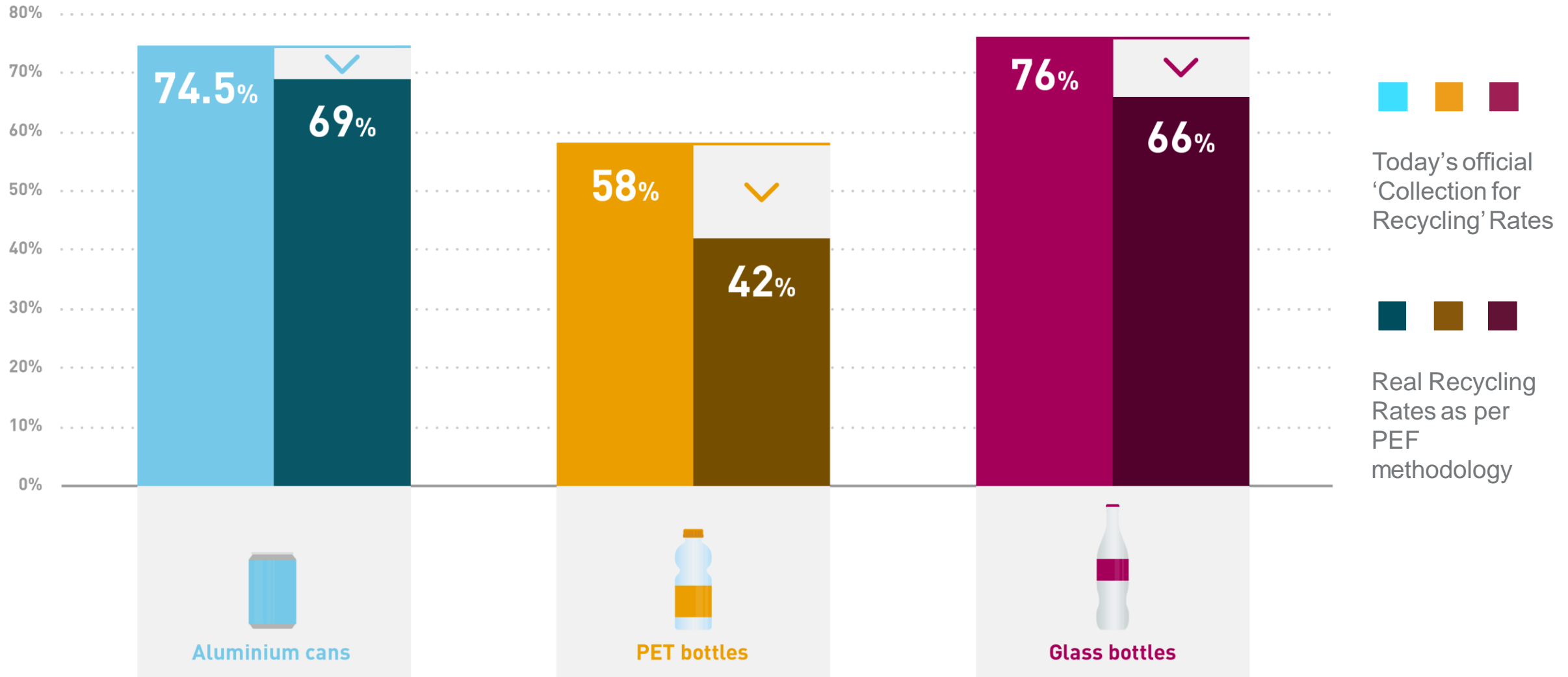
74.5%

The overall recycling rate for aluminium beverage cans in the European Union, Switzerland, Norway and Iceland increased to a new record level of 74.5% in 2017.



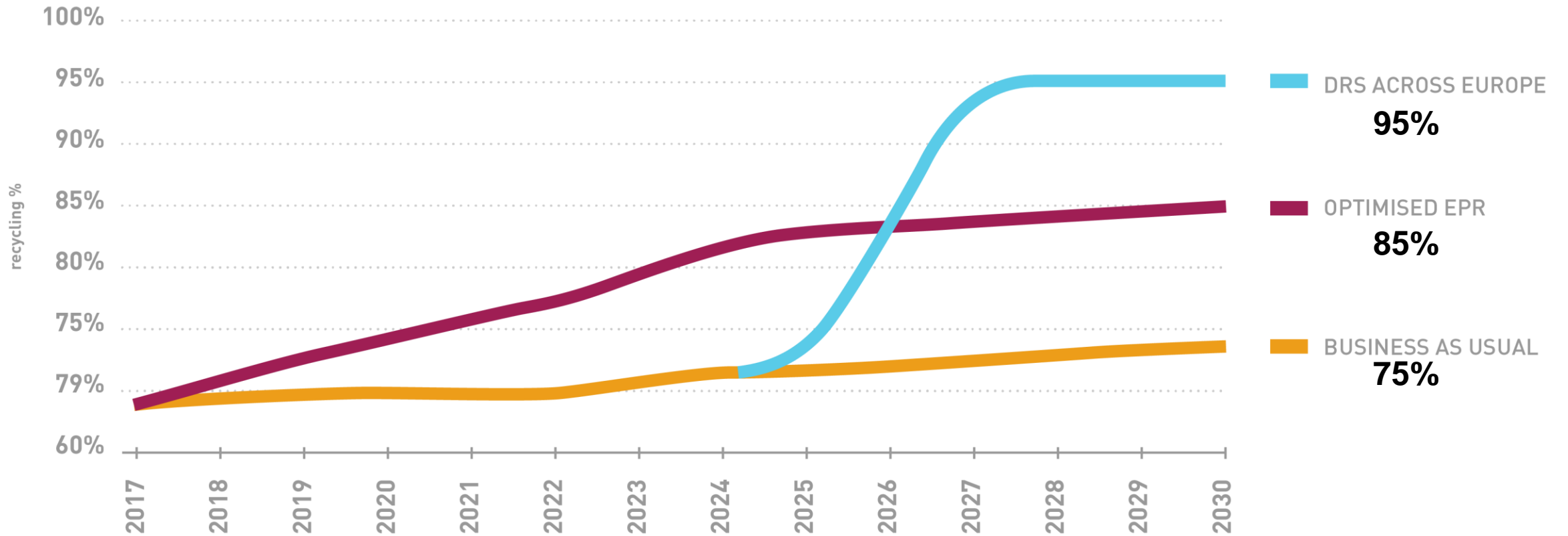
Source: European Aluminium & Metal Packaging Europe 2017 recycle rates. * 2018 locally reported rates. Bulgaria and Slovakia only report overall metal packaging recycling rates.

LIKELY DROP OF RECYCLING RATES WITH NEW EU CALCULATION POINT



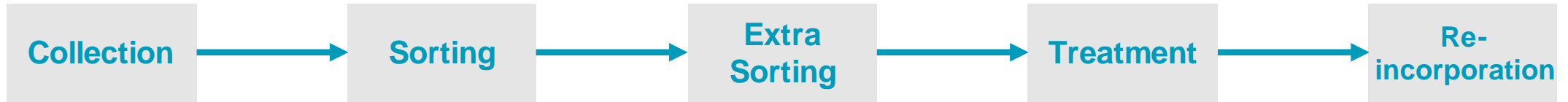
Source: collection rate from each association: aluminium cans (MPE), PET (PETCORE), glass (FEVE), Real recycling rates are calculated as the ratio between the R2 factor of the PEF discussions (output recycling plant [R2], that can be download [here](#)) and the collection rate for the aluminium can, PET bottle and glassbottle.

DRS AND OPTIMISED EPR WILL PUSH THE COLLECTION RATE IN EUROPE BEYOND 90% BY 2030



Development of recycling schemes over the next years

ISSUES ACROSS ALL RECYCLING VALUE CHAIN FOR VARIOUS BEVERAGE CONTAINERS

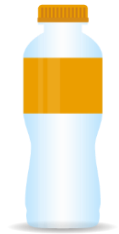


- Weight
- Breaks

- Colour
- Breaks

- Fine particles

- Low value



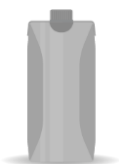
- Minimum collection rate

- Black plastics
- Coloured PET
- Export market

- Cap, silicone valve, glue, label

- Opaque / TiO₂
- High yield losses
- Degradation
- High cost

- Nurdles
- Minimum rPET content
- EFSA guidelines



- Contamination to paper and cardboard
- Low value

- Lack of infrastructure

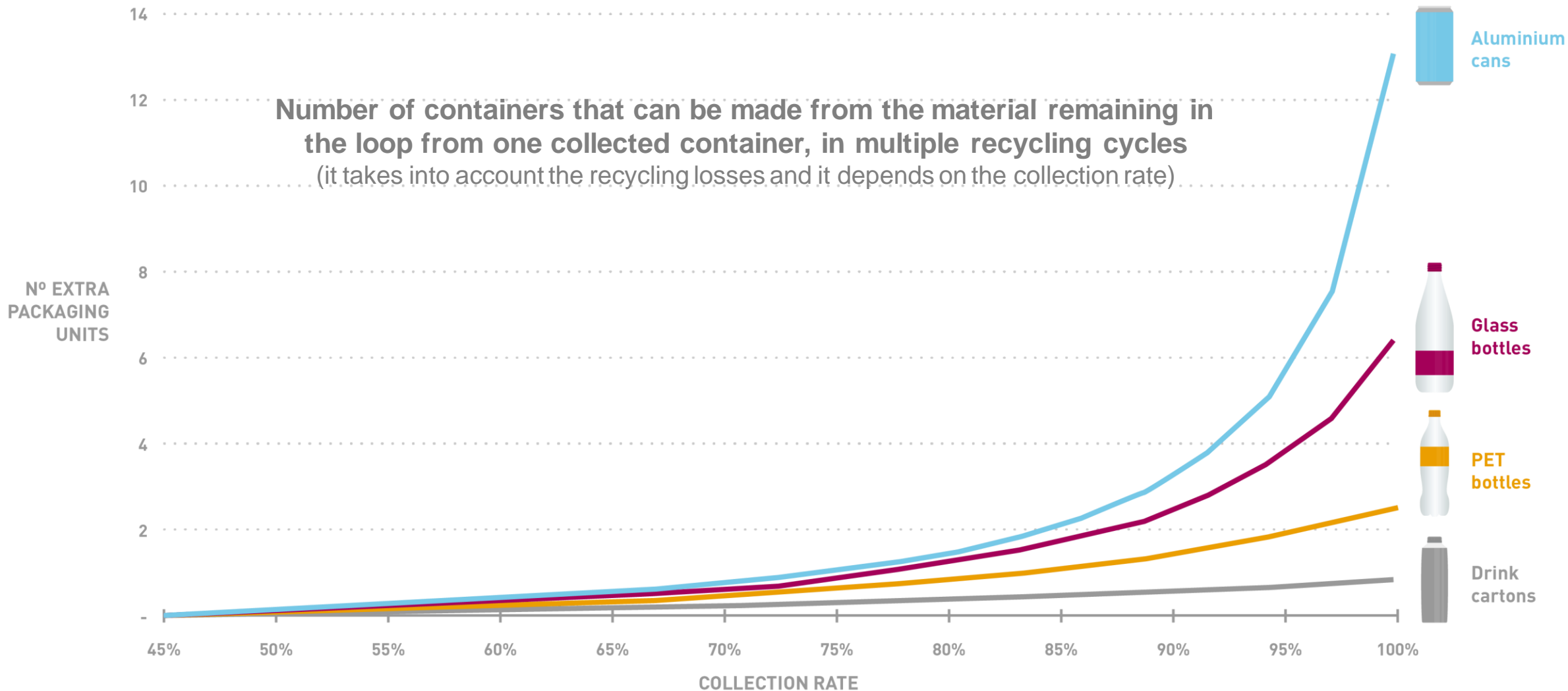
- Cap, straw, straw packaging

- Multi-material
- High yield losses
- PolyAl
- Fibre shortening

- End markets



- Non-aluminium labels, ends, widgets



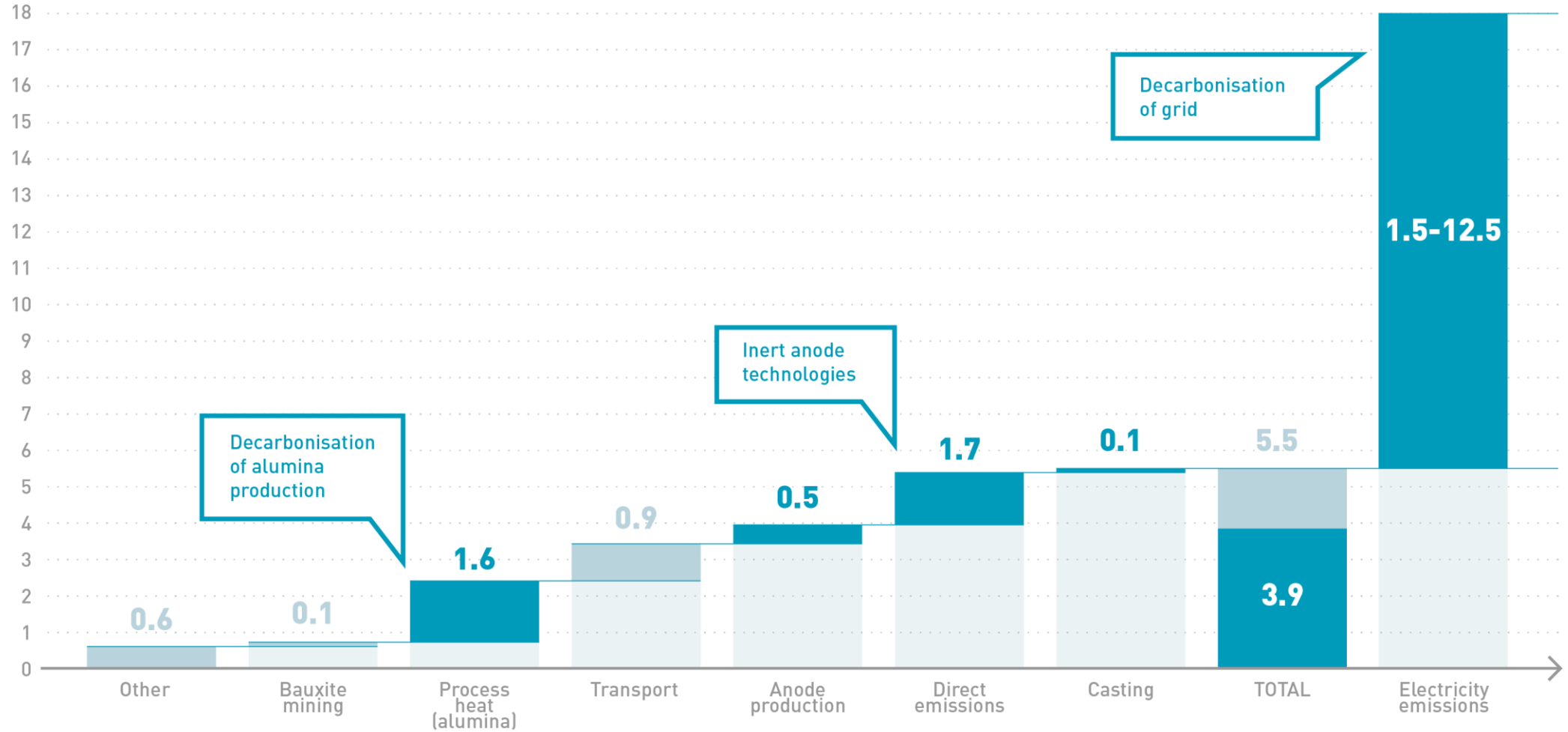
Source: Eunomia's original idea. Ball's own analysis based on recycling yields assumptions for each packaging container. Real recycling yields are calculated as the ratio between the R2 factor of the PEF discussions (output recycling plant [R2], that can be download [here](#)) and the 'collection for recycling' rate for the aluminium can, PET bottle and glass bottle.

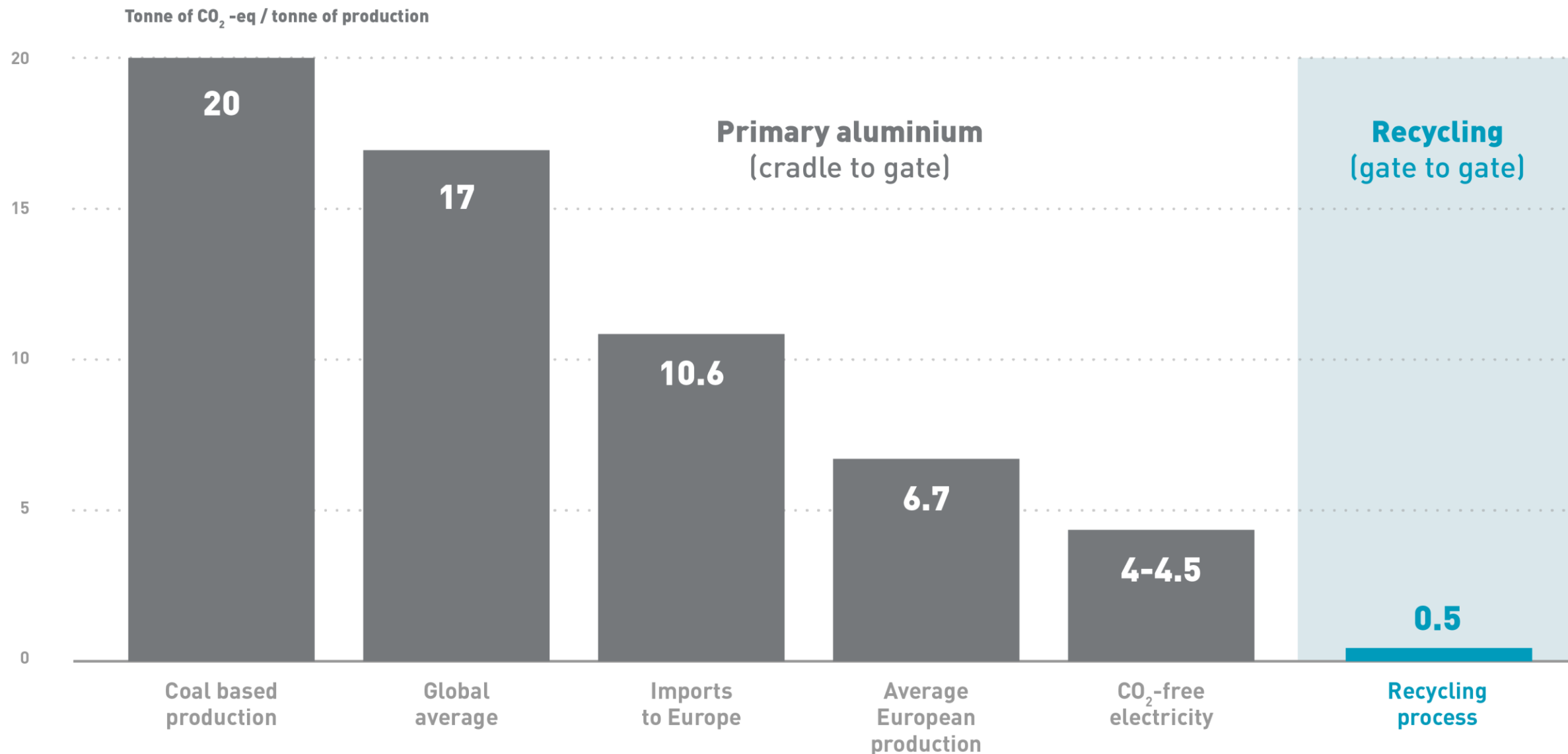


Emissions per ton of aluminium produced per production step - Ton CO₂ / Ton aluminium



In scope of roadmap





THANK YOU



Questions?

