

Policy & Advocacy

We are committed to providing transparency into our public policy advocacy efforts, which remain grounded in promoting circularity of the aluminum we use in our packaging. This is our principal decarbonization lever (see Ball's Climate Transition Plan, [page 23](#)) and we have set an ambitious target to achieve an 85% recycled content goal by 2030 for aluminum cans, cups and bottles in the regions where we operate. This requires policies that create incentives to recycle, and continued support for infrastructure and systems that make the process simple, convenient and affordable. Today, recycling rates vary considerably by geography. The average recycling rate for aluminum beverage cans across Europe is 76%, with Germany (99%) and Finland (97%) leading the way. Both countries have in place a Deposit Return System (DRS). The current U.S. recycling rate is just 45% for aluminum packaging.

In 2021, Ball partnered with Eunomia Research & Consulting to publish the first state-by-state comprehensive comparison of packaging recycling rates across the U.S. Building on the original publication, this year, Ball released an updated report: [Fifty States of Recycling 2.0](#), which reaffirms the critical role policy plays in ensuring high recycling rates. The updated report reiterates that the implementation of well-designed recycling refund programs (for example, DRS) is the most effective way to increase collection and recycling of aluminum beverage packaging. The report also concludes that combining recycling refunds with Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) is the most

effective way to maximize collection and recycling rates. In the regions where we operate, Ball continues to advocate for well-designed recycling refund programs and, where feasible, combining these with EPR systems.

The European Commission introduced an update to the previously introduced Packaging and Packaging Waste Regulations (PPWR). Ball aligned with key stakeholders in support of reaching goals and a well-designed DRS program.

We believe climate leadership must come from both the public and private sectors, and involve collaboration between governments, companies and non-profits. We are members of a number of organizations that support ambitious climate policies such as the Corporate Leaders Group, CERES and the World Economic Forum's First Movers Coalition.

At the COP28 UN Climate Change Conference, Ball joined an international coalition of aluminum manufacturers, recyclers, rolling mill operators, competitors and various industry groups calling on governments to accelerate aluminum beverage can recycling rates reaching at least 80% by 2030 and near 100% by 2050, which are fundamental milestones for the aluminum sector to meet the Paris Agreement's 1.5°C limit.

