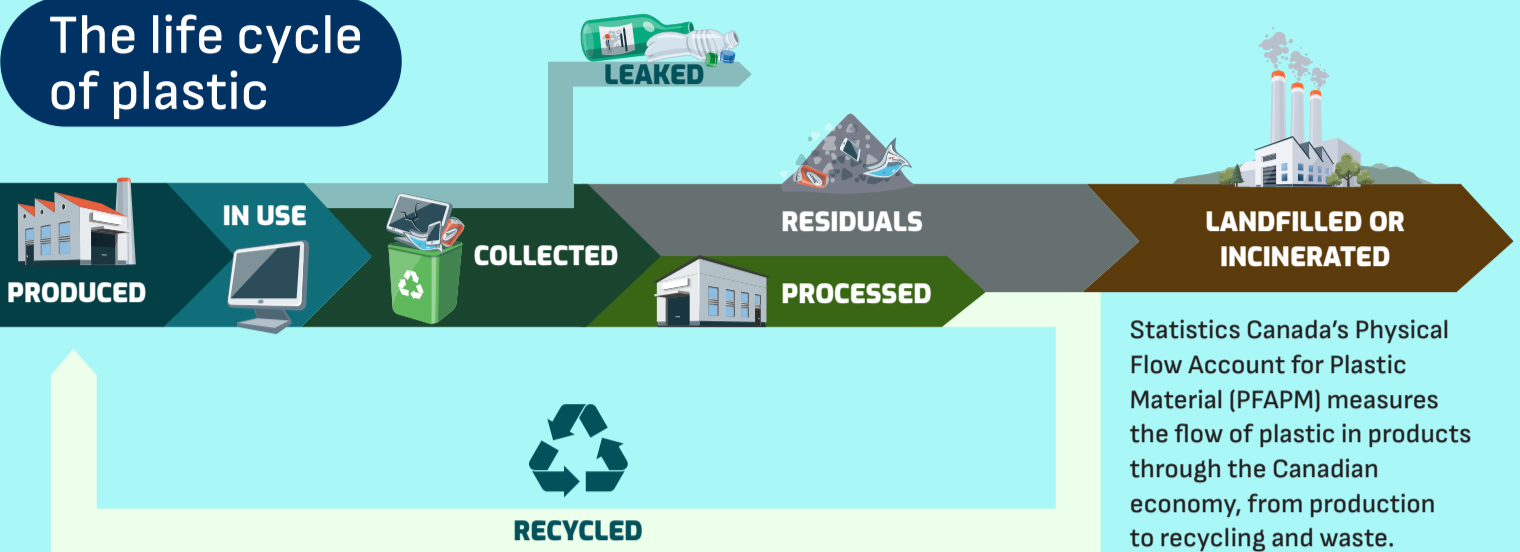


PLASTICS IN CANADA

From production to recycling, 2022

The life cycle of plastic

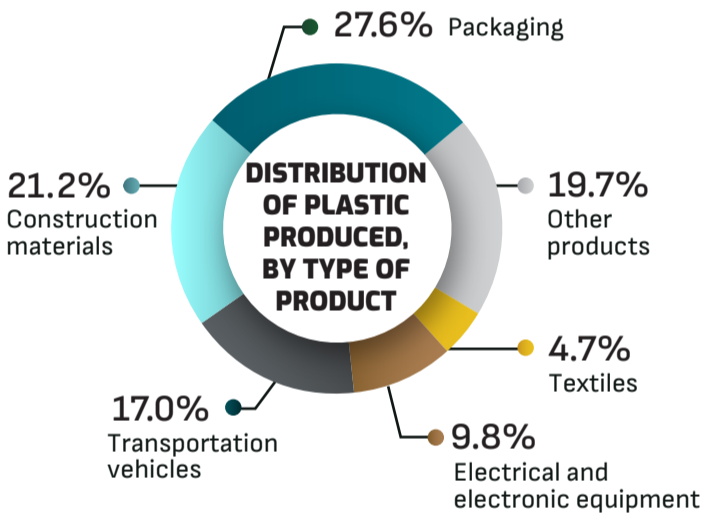


Production

In 2022, **7,585 kilotonnes** of plastic were produced for Canadian consumption.



Plastic in packaging, construction materials and transportation vehicles accounted for nearly **two-thirds** of this plastic.

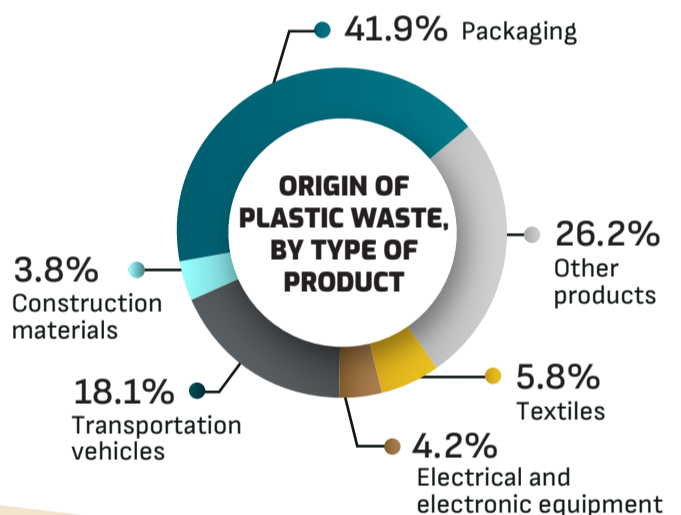


Plastic waste

Plastic products that have reached their end of life are discarded as waste, most of which is collected for waste management and recycling.



In 2022, Canadians discarded **5,152 kilotonnes** of plastic. Of this amount, **98.6%** was collected by waste and recycling management systems.



Recycling

Plastic collected for recycling is sent to primary processing facilities, where it is sorted and baled. Bales are sent to final recycling facilities where they are converted into recycled pellets, flakes and fibres, ready for use in new products.

In 2022, Canadian recyclers converted **333 kilotonnes** of baled plastic into recycled plastic resins, ready for use by manufacturers.

Plastic recovered from packaging—most of which (**65.4%**) came from bottles—accounted for **84.3%** of recycled plastic pellets, flakes and fibres.



Disposal

Plastic waste that is not recycled is permanently disposed of. Disposed plastic is either sent to landfill, incinerated, gasified, or exported.

In 2022, **121.5 kilograms** of plastic were disposed of per capita. This includes plastic waste from all streams (residential, industrial, commercial, institutional, construction and demolition).



Source: Statistics Canada, Physical Flow Account for Plastic Material, 2022.

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