



STAKEHOLDER REPORT

**Q3'25**

JUNE 2025

**bCmb**

BEVERAGE CONTAINER  
MANAGEMENT BOARD

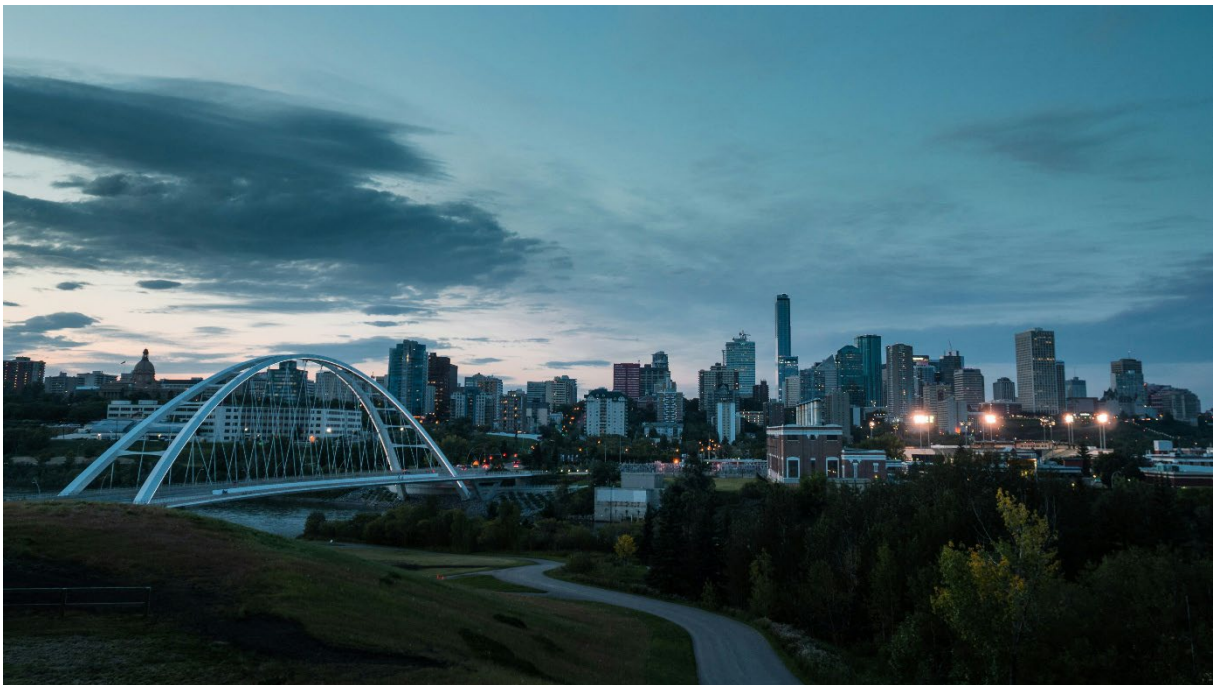


This report highlights the work of Beverage Container Management Board (BCMB) Management and staff for the third quarter of 2025 (period of April 23, 2025, to June 18, 2025).

## ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATE

Since April 23, 2025, the following Committees met in preparation for the June 18, 2025, Board meeting:

- **Registrations & Recycling Committee:** May 27, 2025
- **Depot Siting Review Committee:** May 28, 2025
- **Governance & Compensation Committee:** May 27, 2025
- **Service Agreement Committee:** May 21, 2025



## A MESSAGE FROM BCMB'S PRESIDENT AND CEO

### HIGHLIGHTS

**BCMB has released the [2024 Annual Report](#). Key data reported includes:**

- Alberta beverage container recycling system collection rate: 83.1%
- 2.2 billion beverage containers returned to local depots
- Close to 3,000 people employed by Alberta's beverage container recycling system
- More than 160 communities served
- Over \$225 million in deposit refunds returned to Albertans.

Dear Stakeholders,

The second quarterly report for 2025 covers another active period for BCMB. Over this period, BCMB has boosted efficiency and strengthened beverage container recycling in Alberta.

We kicked off the quarter with our 28th Annual General Meeting, a chance to connect with you and launch our [2024 Annual Report](#). This report is now available, offering a look at BCMB's performance over the past year.

BCMB's Board of Directors recently streamlined operations by dissolving two committees (Service Agreement and Compliance). This decision reflects how well these committees completed their work, allowing us to be agile and efficient.

We also saw some changes on the Board itself: we were pleased to welcome Mark Dekker as a new Director, bringing fresh perspectives. At the same time, we said a heartfelt thank you to Cheryl McLaughlin, who wrapped up her nine-year term.

Operationally, BCMB and ABCRC began an important joint project this quarter, establishing a methodology for calculating recycling rates. The goal of this initiative is to increase both the BCMB's and ABCRC's understanding of how the beverage containers are being recycled. We

also proudly joined the Canada Plastics Pact as a partner. This partnership connects us with a national effort to build a circular economy for plastics, aligning Alberta's world-class work with the other Canadian organizations.

On June 18, 2025, the Board approved crucial amendments to the Interpretation of Beverage Container Policy. These updates bring much-needed clarity on which containers are included in Alberta's system, making things clearer for everyone involved.

These achievements highlight a quarter of meaningful progress and strategic refinement. We're committed to making Alberta's beverage container management system as efficient, transparent, and environmentally effective as possible.

Sincerely,

Mark Emsden  
President & CEO, BCMB



# Money in your wallet.

Economic uncertainty is a reality for many Albertans right now.

Return your non-refillable beverage containers to Alberta bottle depots and put that money back in your wallet.

To find your nearest depot, visit: [albertadepot.ca/find-a-depot](http://albertadepot.ca/find-a-depot)

## BCMB'S 28<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### HIGHLIGHTS

BCMB's Annual General Meeting was held on June 18, 2025.

- Mark Dekker attended his first Board meeting as a Member and Director
- Metrix Group LLP was appointed as BCMB's External Auditor until June 2026

BCMB would like to thank all those who attended the 28<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the BCMB on June 18, 2025, in Edmonton, Alberta. The Board and BCMB Management value the opportunity to connect with and thank system stakeholders and others who play a significant role in Alberta's world-class beverage container recycling system.

The Board said goodbye to one member and director who completed their term with BCMB: Cheryl McLaughlin, Chair of the Governance and Compensation Committee. Cheryl has played a key role over the last nine years and BCMB would like to express gratitude for the work she did during her tenure, her knowledge and contributions still critical to the work BCMB does.

Filling the vacancy on the Board, the [Canadian Beverage Association](#) (CBA) has nominated Mark Dekker, Senior Director of Scientific and Regulatory Affairs, to join BCMB's Board of Directors. Mark has held several leadership roles in the regulatory, medical and nutritional science areas, including as Manager of Regulatory Affairs with Mead Johnson Nutrition and Senior Manager of Nutrition Science for PepsiCo and Tropicana Brands Group. His experience will provide valuable insight to BCMB, who welcomed him to the Board during his June 18, 2025, inaugural meeting.

**During her closing remarks as Chair of her first BCMB Annual General Meeting, Loren Falkenberg shared the following message with valued stakeholders:**

*"The Board and I are confident that by working together—all of us in this room, our stakeholders, and the broader community—we can build upon Alberta's already impressive record in beverage container recycling. We can create a system that is more efficient, more sustainable, and more accessible for generations to come.*

*I look forward to the challenges and opportunities ahead, and I am committed to leading BCMB in its mission to regulate and enhance a leading and sustainable beverage container system that protects Alberta's environment, thereby promoting a circular economy."*

## BCMB'S COMMITTEES

### HIGHLIGHTS

**At the most recent Board meeting, BCMB dissolved two Committees:**

- Service Agreement Committee – AD Hoc
- Compliance Committee – Standing Committee since 2015

During the June 18, 2025, Board meeting, BCMB's Board of Directors reviewed the current roster of Board and Ad-Hoc Committees and moved to dissolve two that have successfully completed their obligations to the Board.

### Service Agreement Committee

In mid-2025 BCMB established an Ad-Hoc Committee to facilitate the exploration of best practices in supply chains to assist the Alberta Bottle Depot Association (ABDA) and Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC) in their service agreement negotiations. BCMB

contracted KPMG to conduct research on the current Service Agreement in Q2 2024, and with their research along with guidance from legal counsel, BCMB proposed a Schedule-A addition to the CSA By-law that will be used as approval criteria that the BCMB will use once a new agreement has been put in place.

With the Board's approval of additions made to the CSA By-law, a motion to disband the Service Agreement Committee was carried unanimously.

Review changes to the CSA By-law on BCMB's [website](#).

### Compliance Committee

The Compliance Policy Committee was established in June 2015 to implement and supervise the [Quality Control \(QC\) Framework](#). For a decade, the Compliance Committee ensured that BCMB's Quality Control (QC) Framework was effective and operational without needing constant oversight. Given the Committee's success and BCMB's robust application of this framework, Committee meetings were no longer required, leading to its dissolution on June 18, 2025.



## STAKEHOLDER AND INDUSTRY COLLABORATION

### HIGHLIGHTS

- Jointly, BCMB and ABCRC began a project to establish methodology for calculating recycling rates.
- BCMB announced their partnership with the Canada Plastics Pact (CPP)

### Verification of Recycling

In this last quarter the BCMB and ABCRC established a Joint Chair Working Group to establish methodologies for measuring how beverage containers are being recycled. Christina Seidel, of [sonnevera international corp.](#), was contracted to lead this project because of her knowledge, experience and extensive connections with processors and end-user manufacturers.

### Canada Plastics Pact (CPP)

BCMB announced their partnership with the [Canada Plastics Pact \(CPP\)](#), an organization uniting leaders across the plastics value chain

to eliminate waste and build a circular economy for plastics.

This partnership aligns with our commitment to environmental stewardship and our mandate to protect Alberta's environment as Alberta's beverage container recycling regulator.

BCMB is ready to leverage our regulatory expertise and Canada's most successful beverage container recycling system to accelerate innovation, driving significant improvements in plastic circularity and minimizing waste.



## INTERPRETATION OF A BEVERAGE CONTAINER POLICY AMENDMENTS

The [Interpretation of Beverage Container Policy](#) was established in 2009 to clarify which non-reusable beverage containers are included in Alberta's beverage container recycling system, particularly after dairy products were included.

While the original Interpretation Policy aimed to clarify which containers were deposit-bearing, BCMB has since identified 'grey area containers' that require updated guidance for both beverage container registration and depot acceptance.

On June 18, 2025, BCMB's Board of Directors approved amendments to the Policy. The updates address ambiguities to ensure consistent application of the [Beverage Container Recycling Regulation \(BCRR\)](#). It's important to note that many of the containers now explicitly addressed in this update were already being included or registered in the system due to past practices or evolving interpretations.

These updates will assist BCMB's Registrations team in communicating registration requirements to beverage manufacturers and other beverage registrants. They will also assist depots to better and more efficiently refund deposits to Albertans.

## REGULATORY UPDATES

### HIGHLIGHTS

BCMB's Board of Directors were briefed on the following Regulatory processes:

- Depot Viability Handling Commission
- Handling Commission Review

Over 2025 and 2026, BCMB is actively overseeing two significant regulatory processes: the Depot Viability Handling Commission and the Handling Commission Review. Management provided the Board with an update on the progress of both of these initiatives at the June 18, 2025, Board meeting.

#### 1. Depot Viability Handling Commission

The Depot Viability Handling Commission (DVHC) is the amount payable to Depots on top of the Handling Commission for the first 1.5 million containers received in a given calendar year. The DVHC was implemented in 2019/2020 by the Depot Viability Committee following the Handling Commission Review, and it was agreed that the DVHC would be reviewed within four years of implementation. The Depot Viability Handling Commission Evaluation has been conducted, and BCMB is meeting with the Data Collection Agent (DCA) to discuss their findings and analysis of the evaluation. The report on the DCA's findings will be released in Q1'2026.

#### 2. Handling Commission Review

Since the commencement of the Handling Commission review on February 19, 2025, a Return Margin Expert Report has been sent to the DRP's, and the Real Estate Expert has been selected by the DCA.

To keep up to date on the Handling Commission Review, visit the Public Record posted on BCMB's [website](#).





## Drink Pouch

Not all containers are refundable.

Alberta's beverage container recycling system only includes beverage containers (including drink pouches!).

Follow local guidelines for other recycling.

Find your local bottle depot: [albertadepot.ca/find-a-depot/](http://albertadepot.ca/find-a-depot/)

## RETAIL INSPECTION PROGRAM: OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

BCMB uses a third-party auditor (One Stop Shoppers) to conduct retail inspections at retail locations across Alberta to verify:

1. The refundable deposit being charged on each beverage container sold is clearly displayed; and
2. All beverage containers being sold have been registered with the BCMB in accordance with the BCRR.

Each month, 60 retail inspections are completed across Alberta. The results of a retail audit are sent to the retail location by BCMB to confirm whether it is considered compliant. If non-compliance is found, BCMB assists retailers and manufacturers in becoming compliant, so that the depot or manufacturer does not escalate to the next level within the compliance framework. BCMB offers instruction, education, and assistance to the non-compliant retail location to ensure they understand their responsibilities as a retailer/manufacturer in Alberta.

Below is a snapshot of the retail inspection results for 2023 to 2025. Though there have been high levels of initial non-compliance identified, most retailers/manufacturers exit the compliance frameworks prior to escalating to Level 2 or higher. There is no compliance fees issued to retailers; however, a \$400 compliance fee is issued to a manufacturer that escalates to Level 2 and 3 of the compliance frameworks.

BCMB has successfully referred nine cases of non-compliance to the Environmental Investigations Branch of the GOA since Q3 of 2024. Currently seven of these referral cases are pending with the GOA, one achieved compliance with GOA intervention, and one instance where the business closed.

Find more information about BCMB's Retailer and Manufacturer Bylaw [here](#).

Retail Inspection Program Results 2023-2025					
Year	Total Audits Conducted	Compliant Audits (% of Total)	Non-Compliant Audits (% of Total)	Total Non-Compliant with Deposit Advertising (% of Total) *	Total Non-Compliant with Container Registrations (% of Total) *
<b>2023</b>	438	119 (27%)	319 (73%)	260 (59%)	128 (29%)
<b>2024</b>	679	187 (27.5%)	492 (72.5%)	393 (58%)	139 (20%)
<b>2025</b> (to end of June)	335	143 (42.6%)	192 (57.3%)	152 (45.3%)	65 (19.4%)

\* A retail location can be found to have deficiencies relating to non-compliance with both deposit advertising and container registration compliance frameworks simultaneously. This can result in more deficiencies found than inspections completed.

## 2024 AUDIT: OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

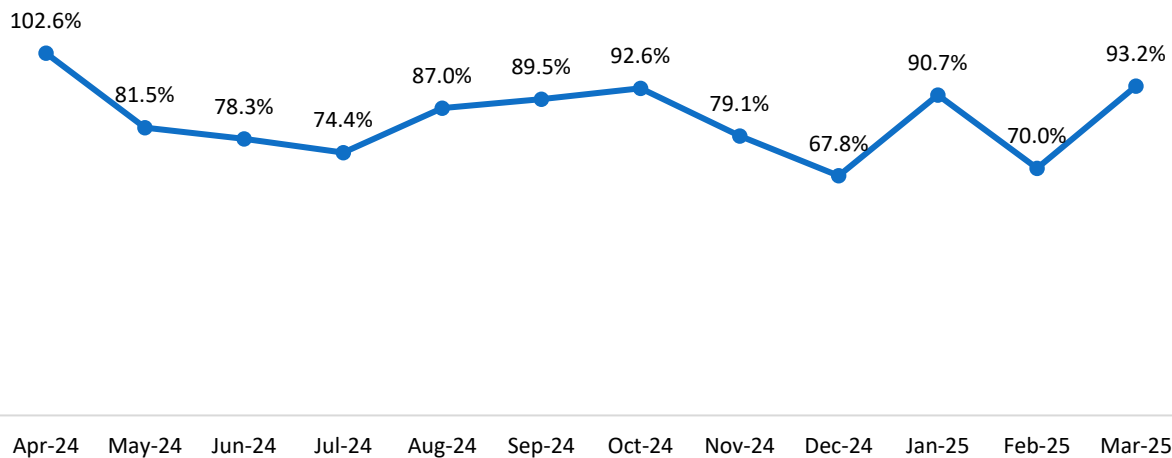
Demonstrating BCMB's commitment to sound financial governance, BCMB received the audit report for our 2024 Financial Statements from Metrix Group LLP. The audit concluded with no recommendations for changes, affirming the integrity of financial reporting. Metrix Group LLP has been re-appointed as the external auditor for the 2025 BCMB Financial Statements. Stakeholders can access comprehensive financial details in the upcoming 2024 Annual Report, scheduled for release on June 18, 2025. Previous BCMB Annual Reports are available for review on our [website](#).

## COLLECTION RATE DATA

From April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2025, approximately 5 million more containers were redeemed than the previous year. The rolling twelve-month collection rate for March 2025 is 83.7% (this is 1.3% more than February 2025's collection rate of 82.4%).

### Rolling Monthly Collection Rate (%)

April 2024 to March 2025

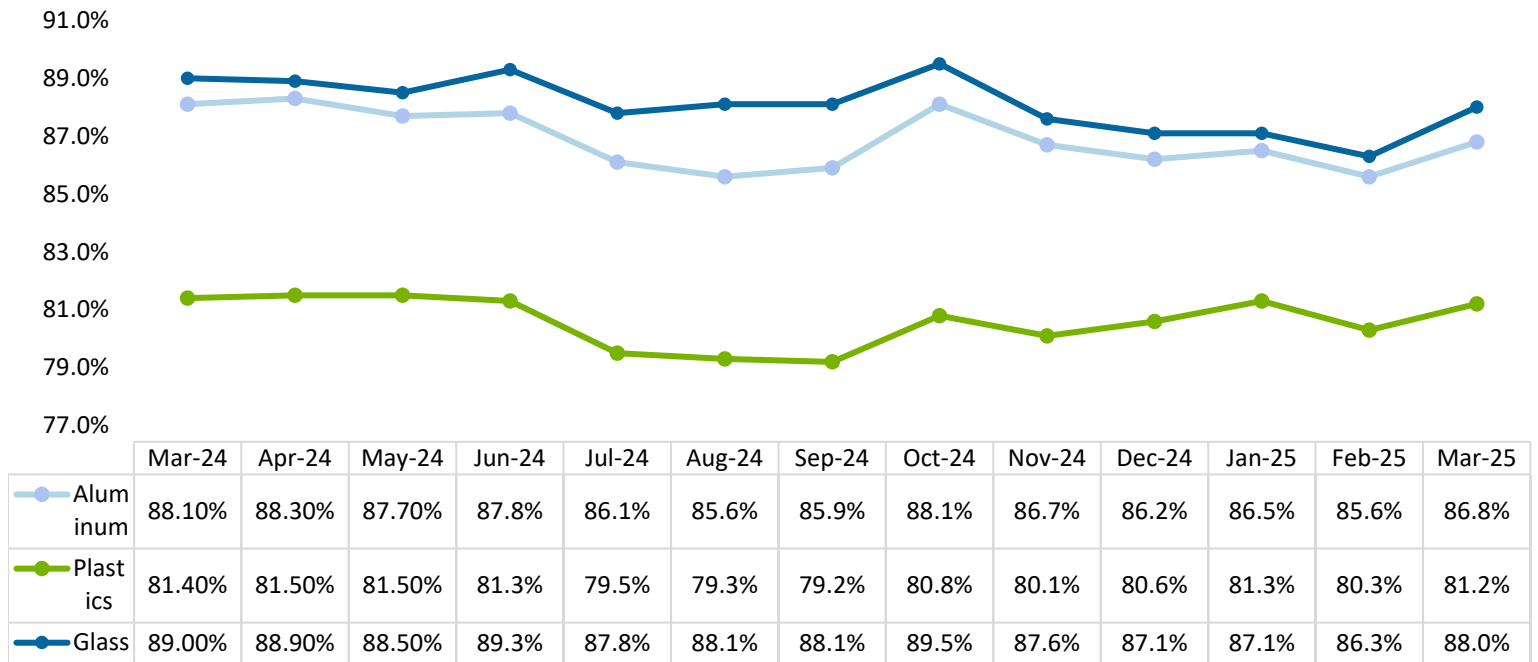


Source: Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC), Brewers Distributor LTD. (BDL)



## Aluminum / Plastics / Glass Rolling Collection Rates (%)

March 2024-2025



Source: Alberta Beverage Container Recycling Corporation (ABCRC), Brewers Distributor LTD. (BDL)

# March 2025: MONTHLY COLLECTION RATE SUMMARY



<b>Container Sales</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Mar-25</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	96,275,458	97,408,646	1,133,188	1.18%
Plastic Combined	68,241,549	70,097,284	1,855,735	2.72%
Glass Combined	10,848,224	9,385,041	(1,463,183)	-13.49%
GableTop	6,977,452	6,843,163	(134,289)	-1.92%
Tetra-Brik	10,420,869	10,128,835	(292,034)	-2.80%
Bag-in-a-Box	170,781	121,484	(49,297)	-28.87%
Drink Pouch	988,335	597,514	(390,821)	-39.54%
Bi Metal	368,394	347,800	(20,594)	-5.59%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>194,291,062</b>	<b>194,929,767</b>	<b>638,705</b>	<b>0.33%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>2,500,380</b>	<b>2,473,668</b>	<b>(26,712)</b>	<b>-1.07%</b>
<b>Total Containers Sold</b>	<b>196,791,442</b>	<b>197,403,435</b>	<b>611,993</b>	<b>0.31%</b>

<b>Redeemed Volumes</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Mar-25</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	77,282,129	93,443,332	16,161,203	16.79%
Plastic Combined	52,798,626	62,908,282	10,109,656	14.81%
Glass Combined	9,026,776	10,128,678	1,101,902	10.16%
Gable Top	5,041,239	5,549,070	507,831	7.28%
Tetra-Brik	7,652,519	8,744,491	1,091,972	10.48%
Bag-in-a-Box	69,055	91,061	22,006	12.89%
Drink Pouch	441,046	450,406	9,360	0.95%
Bi Metal	240,904	304,338	63,434	17.22%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>152,552,294</b>	<b>181,619,658</b>	<b>29,067,364</b>	<b>19.05%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>2,230,080</b>	<b>2,409,552</b>	<b>179,472</b>	<b>8.05%</b>
<b>Total Containers Redeemed</b>	<b>154,782,374</b>	<b>184,029,210</b>	<b>29,246,836</b>	<b>18.90%</b>

<b>Collection Rates</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Mar-25</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Aluminum Combined	80.3%	95.9%	15.66%
Plastic Combined	77.4%	89.7%	12.37%
Glass Combined	83.2%	107.9%	24.71%
Gable Top	72.3%	81.1%	8.84%
Tetra-Brik	73.4%	86.3%	12.90%
Bag-in-a-Bag	40.4%	75.0%	34.52%
Drink Pouch	44.6%	75.4%	30.75%
Bi Metal	65.4%	87.5%	22.11%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>68.3%</b>	<b>93.2%</b>	<b>24.86%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>89.2%</b>	<b>97.4%</b>	<b>8.22%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>78.7%</b>	<b>93.2%</b>	<b>14.57%</b>

## March 2025: ROLLING COLLECTION RATE SUMMARY



<b>Container Sales</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Mar-25</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	1,251,355,100	1,278,529,818	27,174,718	2.17%
Plastic Combined	917,905,739	935,507,097	17,601,358	1.92%
Glass Combined	144,647,405	142,635,998	(2,011,407)	-1.39%
Gabletop	87,348,764	84,694,406	(2,654,358)	-3.04%
Tetra-Brik	133,877,520	129,532,671	(4,344,849)	-3.25%
Bag-in-a-Box	1,900,655	1,855,281	(45,374)	-2.39%
Drink Pouch	13,343,078	10,876,877	(2,466,201)	-18.48%
Bi Metal	3,064,123	5,551,174	2,487,051	81.17%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>2,553,442,384</b>	<b>2,589,183,322</b>	<b>35,740,938</b>	<b>1.40%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>35,197,380</b>	<b>33,091,872</b>	<b>(2,105,508)</b>	<b>-5.98%</b>
<b>Total Containers Sold</b>	<b>2,588,639,764</b>	<b>2,622,275,194</b>	<b>33,635,430</b>	<b>1.30%</b>
<b>Redeemed Volumes</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Mar-25</b>	<b>Difference</b>	<b>Variance</b>
Aluminum Combined	1,102,702,484	1,110,163,822	7,461,338	0.68%
Plastic Combined	747,469,302	759,672,379	12,203,077	1.63%
Glass Combined	128,765,940	125,497,064	(3,268,876)	-2.54%
Gabletop	66,477,915	61,155,582	(5,322,333)	-8.01%
Tetra-Brik	97,173,459	96,359,010	(814,449)	-0.84%
Bag-in-a-Box	979,324	946,297	(33,027)	-3.37%
Drink Pouch	7,853,512	5,186,893	(2,666,619)	-33.95%
Bi Metal	2,827,224	3,386,859	559,635	19.79%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>2,154,249,160</b>	<b>2,162,367,906</b>	<b>8,118,746</b>	<b>0.38%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>34,655,340</b>	<b>31,955,052</b>	<b>(2,700,288)</b>	<b>-7.79%</b>
<b>Total Containers Redeemed</b>	<b>2,188,904,500</b>	<b>2,194,322,958</b>	<b>5,418,458</b>	<b>0.25%</b>

<b>Collection Rates</b>	<b>Mar-24</b>	<b>Mar-25</b>	<b>Difference</b>
Aluminum Combined	88.1%	86.8%	-1.29%
Plastic Combined	81.4%	81.2%	-0.23%
Glass Combined	89.0%	88.0%	-1.04%
Gabletop	76.1%	72.2%	-3.90%
Tetra-Brik	72.6%	74.4%	1.81%
Bag-in-a-Box	51.5%	51.0%	-0.52%
Drink Pouch	58.9%	47.7%	-11.17%
Bi Metal	92.3%	61.0%	-31.26%
<b>Subtotal- Non-Refillable</b>	<b>84.4%</b>	<b>83.5%</b>	<b>-0.85%</b>
<b>Refillable Beer</b>	<b>98.5%</b>	<b>96.6%</b>	<b>-1.90%</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>84.6%</b>	<b>83.7%</b>	<b>-0.88%</b>