

WOOLWORTHS HOLDINGS LIMITED

GOOD BUSINESS JOURNEY REPORT

2026 ELLEN MACARTHUR FOUNDATION SUBMISSION FOR THE 2025 FINANCIAL YEAR



START

The Global Commitment

2025 Progress Report

Woolworths Holdings Limited

Company Details

Description	Woolworths is a South African retailer with holdings in both Africa and Australasia, South Africa accounts for the greater percentage of sales of product in plastic packaging, primarily in food in the South African market. Africa and Australasia are more fashion orientated markets.		
Categories	Retailer		
Revenue band (USD)	\$1 billion - \$10 billion		
Company website	https://www.woolworthsholdings.co.za		
Progress webpage / report	https://www.woolworthsholdings.co.za/sustainability/our-good-business-journey/		
Headquarters location	South Africa		
Operating regions	Australia and New Zeal...	Eastern Africa	Middle Africa Southern Africa Western Africa
Products sold in plastic packaging	Alcoholic Beverages Cosmetics & Personal Care Furniture, Furnishings & Househ... Toys	Cleaning Products Electronics Non-Alcoholic Beverages	Clothing & Apparel Food & Nutrition Pet & Animal Supplies



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Key Metrics

TOTAL WEIGHT Plastic packaging weight (new packaging) (2024) 11,255 metric tonnes	VIRGIN WEIGHT Virgin packaging weight (new packaging) (2024) 10,426 metric tonnes	BASELINE WEIGHT Baseline virgin plastic packaging weight (2020) 11,595 metric tonnes		
VIRGIN REDUCTION 2024 Virgin plastic packaging change since 2020 -10.08% Target -4%	POST CONSUMER RECYCLED Level of post-consumer recycled content in plastic packaging (2024) 7.37% Target 30%	REUSABLE Plastic packaging that is reusable (2024) 4.1%	DESIGNED FOR RECYCLING Plastic packaging that is 'designed for recycling' (2024) 68%	REUSABLE, RECYCLABLE OR COMPOSTABLE Plastic packaging that is reusable, recyclable or compostable (2024) 47.5% *NOT ALIGNED

Reporting details

Data verification/assurance status	No third-party verification or assurance in place
12-month reporting period end date (YYYY-MM-DD)	2024-06-30
Previous reports	2024 2023
Ellen MacArthur Foundation's Plastics Pact Network membership	South Africa
Scope of reporting	Reported data covers all plastic packaging involved in the full scope of our activities



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Plastic packaging portfolio details

Plastic packaging categories in portfolio (%)

Group	Packaging category	Percentage (%)
Flex	< A4 Flexibles PE	12.03
Flex	< A4 Flexibles PP	7.70
Flex	< A4 Mono Material Flexibles	4.00
Rigid	PET Thermoforms	21.05
Rigid	PET Bottles	15.74
Rigid	PP Other Rigid	14.36
Rigid	HDPE Bottles	10.90
Rigid	EPS And XPS In Business-To-Consum...	5.13
Rigid	PS Rigid	3.40
Rigid	Other PET Rigid	2.36
Rigid	HDPE Other Rigid	2.04
Rigid	PVC Rigid	0.70
Rigid	PP Bottles	0.39
Rigid	PE Tubes	0.01

Plastic packaging design assessment (%)

Group	Percentage (%)
Recyclable, Reusable And/Or Compostable	47.50
↳ Recyclable	47.50
↳ Reusable	4.10
↳ Compostable	0.00

Recyclable, Reusable and/or compostable (%) historic change

2024	47.50
2023	38.70
2022	23.40
2021	19.30

Material sourcing (%)

Group	Percentage (%)
Virgin Fossil-Based Content	91.69
Virgin Renewable Content	0.94
Post-Consumer Recycled Content	7.37
Pre-Consumer Recycled Content	0.00



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Commitment(s)

Total and/or virgin plastic packaging reduction

Virgin plastic packaging (2024)	10,426
Baseline virgin plastic packaging (2020)	11,595
Virgin plastic packaging change	-10.08% ↓ change compared to 2020

Eliminating problematic or unnecessary plastic packaging

Materials and additives in portfolio	EPS and XPS in business-to-consumer packaging for FMCG	Metallised films	Multilayer materials	PS	PVC
	Other pigment/additive				

Materials and additives eliminated or reduced

	Material type eliminated	Proportion eliminated % of weight	Weight eliminated metric tonnes	Other details
Substitution to mono-material plastic	Multilayer materials	100	172	Substitution of multilayer multimaterial to multilayer mono material for the ground and bean range of house branded coffee
Removal of a pigment/additive	Other pigment/additive	100	706	Removal of pigment in both the bottle and cap across the full range of fresh milk

Formats in portfolio	Film - very small - e.g. portion size sachets	Rigids B2C - beverage bottles
	Rigids B2C - household/personal products bottles	

Components in portfolio	Labels/stickers/sleeves	Lids/closures	Pumps/trigger sprays
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Moving from single-use towards reuse models

Progress made over the reporting period

Share of plastic packaging that is reusable (2024)	4.1%
Actions taken towards reuse	None of the above
Optional metric - Share of product delivered through reuse systems	-

100% reusable, recyclable or compostable plastic packaging

Progress made over the reporting period

Share of plastic packaging that is reusable, recyclable or compostable (2024)	47.5% *NOT ALIGNED
Actions and progress made to make packaging recyclable or compostable	Reusable packaging still presents a significant challenge to us. Consequently we focus our efforts on recyclability where we are able to make good progress (and lead the way in some categories) across the formats and material types we use. Working on mono-material multi layer solutions along with removing pigment from milk bottles and caps increase the possibility of and effective recycling of these formats. Once again the supply/demand and cost factors play a role in our ability to scale our commitment and possible solutions.
Actions and progress made on collaborating towards increasing recycling and composting rates for plastic packaging	We work with industry in collaboration with South African Plastics Pact and other stakeholders to scale collection, recycling and end markets for recycled materials. We also work with the respective Producer Responsibility Organizations in the context of our responsibilities as a designated producer of identified products as defined in the Extended Producer Responsibility Regulations. Progress in some cases is slower than in others but we are making steady progress in a complex landscape.



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Additional details on recyclability

Share of plastic packaging that is recyclable (2024)

47.5%

Ellen MacArthur Foundation's Plastic Initiative 2025 Recycling Rate Survey

We deviated from the 2025 Recycling Rate Survey results for one or more packaging categories and provided additional evidence of the thresholds for recyclability 'in practice and at scale' (30% recycling rate for 400 million people) being met

*NOT ALIGNED

Optional metric — share of plastic packaging that is 'designed for recycling'

68%

Optional metric — additional information on 'design for recycling'

We have and will continue to make changes to formats that improve the likelihood of collection for recycling but also recyclability. We removed the pigment from both bottle and cap in the fresh dairy range. we are working of changing the sleeves of our iced tea range that will also improve rates of recycling when fully implemented.

Increasing post-consumer recycled content in plastic packaging

Post-consumer recycled content target

30%





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Progress made over the reporting period

Level of post-consumer recycled content in plastic packaging (2024)

7.37%

Post-consumer recycled content in plastic packaging (%) historic change

2024	7.37
2023	13.00
2022	11.40
2021	16.00

Activities and progress made on post-consumer recycled content

We have endeavored to include recycled content at higher or equivalent levels of past reporting periods but the rising cost of PCR have made it difficult to sustain when consumer price points are under pressure. This, coupled with the fact that higher demand drives higher prices and leads to shortages of certain material types and grades, ultimately becomes problematic given we need stability in source material in order to provide stable market related pricing to the consumer. South Africa has now aligned with the global PCR market conditions where PCR is more expensive and in greater demand than virgin which ultimately undermines targets and ambitions related to greater inclusion of PCR.

Investment

Consent given to publish investment information

Submitted to the Foundation only





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End Notes

Interpreting the quantitative data submitted

We have seen real growth in our Foods business which does account for a significant proportion of our packaging footprint. There some packaging shifts that do play a role in this however we are still dealing with legacy issues on data quality which have to be manually addressed as they are identified.

All quantitative data are provided for the latest year reported, in most cases for the relevant company's financial year ending 2024.

The Global Commitment is an initiative led by the Ellen MacArthur Foundation, in collaboration with the UN Environment Programme. Through the Global Commitment, businesses and governments commit to change how we produce, use, and reuse plastic. They will work to eliminate the plastic items we don't need; innovate so all plastic we do need is designed to be safely reused, recycled, or composted; and circulate everything we use to keep it in the economy and out of the environment.

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To find out more about what we're doing, visit

WOOLWORTHSHOLDINGS.CO.ZA

For company-specific information, visit



woolworths.co.za



countryroadgroup.com.au

 Country Road | Mimco | Trenery | Pollifix | Witchery

We appreciate any feedback on our Good Business Journey Report. Please contact GoodBusinessJourney@woolworths.co.za