



Dairy Packaging in Canada

August 2025

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KEY DATA FINDINGS

2024 DEVELOPMENTS

Other packaging leads growth in dairy packaging, driven by artisanal cheese boom
Cabot switches to PCR film, cutting emissions and water use
Thin wall plastic containers dominates dairy packaging; tariffs disrupt supply chains in early 2025

PROSPECTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Dairy packaging volumes to rise along with more product lines and innovation
Sustainability push and policy shifts may challenge dairy packaging supply

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Packaging in 2024: The big picture
2024 key trends
Plastic dominates food packaging, but sustainable alternatives are on the rise
Innovation and premium design revolutionise beverage packaging
Metal cans dominate while the bag-in-box format gains traction in alcoholic drinks
Cartons lead sustainable beauty as brands embrace premium finishes and recyclability
Refills and concentrates alternatives power the future of home care
Large packs maximise value in pet food, while small formats unlock entry for new brands

PACKAGING LEGISLATION

Canada advances towards zero plastic waste through national targets, refill models and investment in circular packaging systems

RECYCLING AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Extended producer responsibility enables circular packaging by funding collection and recovery
Clear labelling standards transform packaging transparency by banning misleading claims
Table 1 - Overview of Packaging Recycling and Recovery in Canada: 2022/2023 and Targets for 2024

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