

Sandra

Thank you so much for taking part in The Big Plastic Count! Your data will be invaluable in helping push for action to tackle the plastic crisis.

It can also provide you with a unique insight into your own household's plastic packaging footprint. You can look at your personal footprint below, plus we've included some new information on the plastic that you threw away, as well as a handbook with tips on how to reduce your plastic usage.

SANDRA'S PLASTIC FOOTPRINT

In one week you used 11 bits of plastic

Over a year that's equivalent to 572 pieces of plastic

If all households were the same as yours, the UK would use 16,073,200,000 bits of plastic every year

What was your plastic packaging waste used for?

91% Food & Drink

0% Cleaning & Toiletries

9% Everything Else

Most plastic packaging is single-use – designed to be used once and then thrown away. For a lot of people plastic packaging from food & drink will be highest. If supermarkets reduced the amount of fruit and vegetable wrapping, it would significantly cut plastic waste.

What was your breakdown of hard and soft plastic?

45% of your plastic was hard plastic

Hard plastic is a lot easier to recycle than soft plastic. Whilst hard plastic is more recyclable, there are many items that cannot be recycled such as black plastic, polystyrene chips and toothpaste tubes.

55% of your plastic was soft plastic

Less than 1 in 10 local councils in the UK collect soft plastic, like plastic bags and wrappers. Do you know if yours collects it?

What happens to your plastic packaging waste?

14% recycled in the UK

Plastic waste that is sorted and reprocessed in the UK then turned into new materials.

20% exported

The UK sends tonnes of rubbish to other countries every day - often to countries in the Global South. Investigations have shown much of it ends up being dumped or burned.

23% landfilled

When plastic is buried in the ground at a landfill, it releases harmful gases into the atmosphere, while wind and rain carry microplastics into surrounding areas.

43% incinerated

Burning or incinerating plastic releases carbon, toxins and pollutants into the air, presenting numerous health risks for local communities and contributing to climate change.

Currently, too much single plastic is being produced without reusable alternatives that suit everyone's needs. We need governments, supermarkets and companies to take action to reduce the amount of plastic that's being produced in the first place.

We're now going to spend the next few weeks crunching all the data that's coming in - we'll be back in touch in mid July, to let you know the overall national picture of what's happening to our plastic, and a plan of action for how together we can push for ambitious change.

In the meantime, if you want more information on how we as individuals can reduce our own plastic use, we've teamed up with City to Sea to create a handbook with tips on how you can reduce, reuse and refill!

[DOWNLOAD HANDBOOK](#)

Thanks again for all your hard work!

Dan and The Big Plastic Count team