

FY25 LITTER REPORT – TAS

During the financial year of 2025, Clean Up Australia volunteers continued to unite against litter by taking to their streets, beaches, parks, bushland and waterways to Clean Up.



Over a million volunteers joined us across 12,242 Clean Up events nationally in FY25. The Litter Report FY25 is a snapshot of litter removed by Clean Up Australia volunteers across a portion of these sites during Clean Up Australia Day, the Great Spring Clean Up and Every Day Clean Ups. Across Tasmania, the Report is based on a count of litter items from 46 surveyed locations (40 locations in FY24).

22,452
EST. VOLUNTEERS
(13,469 IN FY24)

44,904
EST. VOLUNTEER HOURS
(26,938 IN FY24)

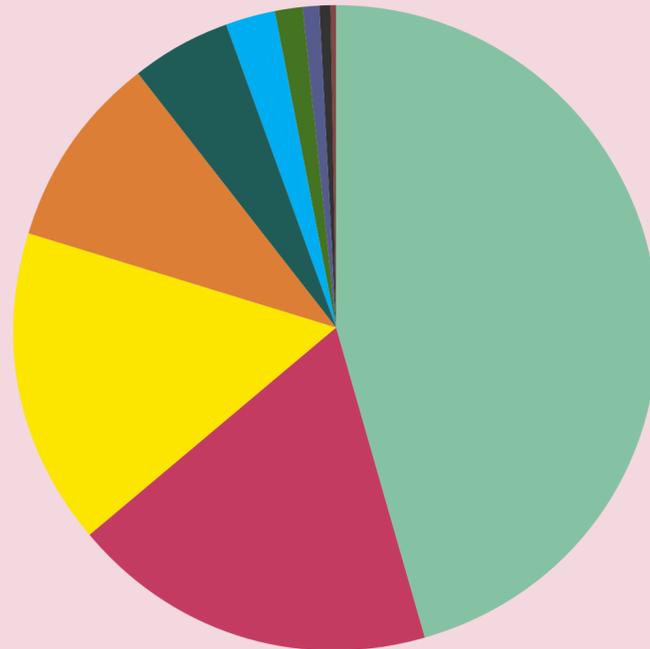
288
*EVENTS REGISTERED
(319 IN FY24)

*FY24 participation figures exclude Drumstick event registrations for comparison purposes.

MAJOR TYPES OF LITTER REPORTED

NATIONAL	FY25	FY24	DIFF.
SOFT PLASTIC	45.7%	21.0%	24.8%
ALL OTHER PLASTIC	18.2%	37.2%	-19.0%
HARD PLASTIC	16.0%	16.0%	0.0%
METAL	9.7%	13.0%	-3.3%
GLASS	5.1%	6.0%	-0.9%
PAPER/CARDBOARD	2.5%	2.5%	-0.1%
MISCELLANEOUS	1.4%	3.0%	-1.6%
E-WASTE	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%
RUBBER	0.6%	0.8%	-0.2%
WOOD	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%

Plastics represent 79.9% of all counted litter (74.2% in FY24).



NOTABLE CHANGES

↑ INCREASE

Soft Plastic 24.8%

↓ DECREASE

All Other Plastic 19.0%
Metal 3.3%
Glass 0.9%
Miscellaneous 1.6%

— UNCHANGED

Hard Plastic
Paper/Cardboard
E-Waste
Rubber
Wood

TOP 10 LITTER CATEGORIES AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL LITTER SURVEYED

RANK	CATEGORY	FY25	FY24	DIFF.
1	SOFT PLASTICS	45.7%	21.0%	24.8%
2	NON-FOOD PACKAGING	23.0%	45.3%	-22.3%
3	BEVERAGE CONTAINERS	16.9%	20.3%	-3.3%
4	FOOD PACKAGING	7.5%	6.0%	1.5%
5	HOUSEHOLD ITEMS	2.3%	3.6%	-1.3%
6	BEVERAGE LITTER	1.4%	1.8%	-0.4%
7	CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS	1.0%	0.5%	0.5%
8	CLOTHING	0.7%	0.8%	-0.1%
9	E-WASTE	0.6%	0.3%	0.3%
10	AUTOMOTIVE ITEMS	0.5%	0.1%	0.3%

NOTABLE CHANGES

Of all the states and territories, TAS has the highest level of soft plastics proportionally, which represent 45.7% of all counted litter. TAS is one of three states (alongside VIC and WA) in which soft plastic counts outweigh non-food packaging as a category. Soft plastic counts have increased by 24.8% from FY24, highlighting the severity of the soft plastic problem in the state. With the commencement of the national voluntary soft plastics scheme in December 2025, soft plastics as a percentage of overall litter counts could decrease in future.

Packaging overall (non-food, beverage containers and food) represents 47.4% of all litter reported in the state throughout FY25. Urgent regulatory reforms are needed to effectively manage packaging waste. Non-food packaging as a category has significantly dropped by 22.3% from FY24, which could largely be attributed to a decrease in cigarette butts being found as litter. Non-food packaging further includes plastic fragments, bags and boxes. As in FY24, beverage containers are the third most collected litter category in the state but have recorded a 3.3% decrease. As of May 2025, TAS Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) Recycle Rewards is operating, and should contribute to further reducing beverage container litter in future.

TOP 10 INDIVIDUAL LITTER ITEMS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL LITTER SURVEYED

RANK	ITEM	FY25	FY24	DIFF.
1	SOFT PLASTICS – PACKETS, WRAPPERS	19.8%	17.5%	2.3%
2	OTHER SOFT PLASTICS	18.9%	1.2%	17.7%
3	CIGARETTE BUTTS	14.2%	34.2%	-20.1%
4	ALUMINIUM BEVERAGE CANS	7.7%	11.3%	-3.6%
5	PLASTIC BAGS – FOOD, RETAIL, GARBAGE	6.3%	3.3%	3.0%
6	PLASTIC BEVERAGE BOTTLES	5.1%	4.1%	0.9%
7	GLASS BEVERAGE BOTTLES	3.6%	4.1%	-0.5%
8	PLASTIC FOOD CONTAINERS & UTENSILS	2.3%	2.5%	-0.2%
9	OTHER HARD PLASTICS	2.0%	0.6%	1.4%
10	NURDLES/MICROPLASTICS < 5MM	2.0%	1.3%	0.7%

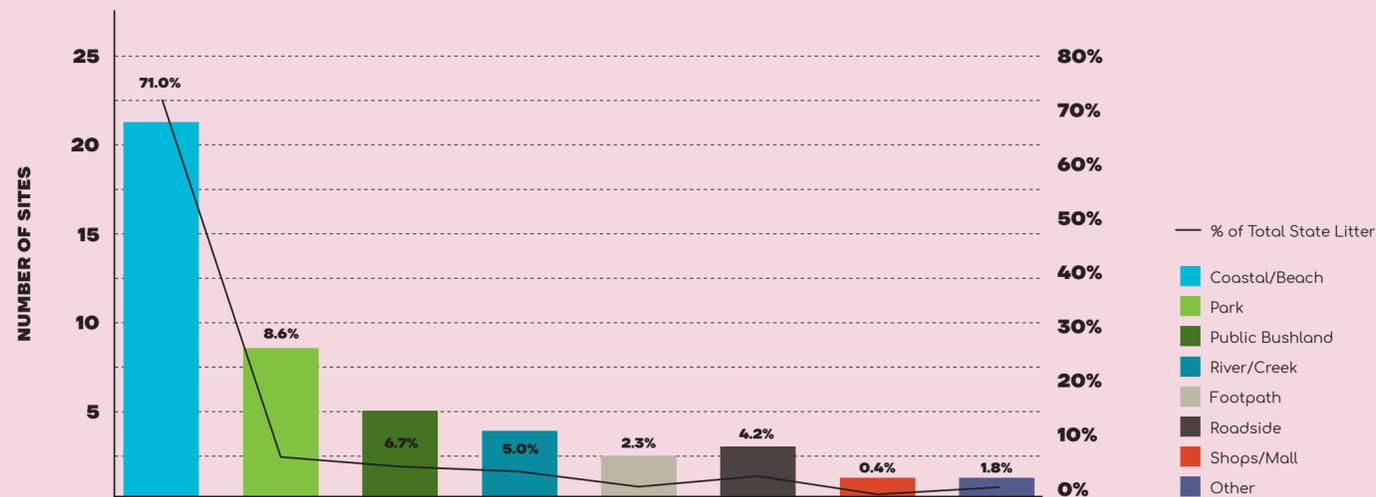
NOTABLE CHANGES

Soft plastics packets and wrappers are the most littered item at Clean Up sites in TAS, representing 19.8% of all litter counts in the state and having increased by 2.3% from FY24. Other soft plastics account for 18.9% of all counted litter in the state. TAS is the only state or territory registering soft plastics packets and wrappers as the number one most littered item, with all other states recording cigarette butts as the number one item. In TAS, cigarette butt counts have decreased by 20.1% from FY24 and represent 14.2% of total litter counts. TAS has the lowest count proportionally of cigarette butts being found as litter of all the states and territories.

Plastic bags have increased by 3.0% from FY24, representing 6.3% of all counted litter. Lightweight bags have been banned in the state since 2013, and TAS is considering phasing out plastic shopping bags greater than 35 microns in thickness as well as plastic produce bags.

The City of Hobart has banned plastic straws since 2021, with TAS considering implementing the ban state-wide. Plastic straws were last seen on the top 10 individual items list in TAS in FY23, when they represented 1.4% of counted litter. In FY25 they represent 0.6% of counted litter.

LITTER DISTRIBUTION BY SITE TYPE



*Small discrepancies in percentages are due to rounding errors.