

PAPER PRODUCTION & RECYCLING STATISTICS SOUTH AFRICA

PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION

(All values in metric tonnes)

	Production	Imports	Exports	Consumption
Newsprint	80 467	37 718	14 164	104 021
Printing/writing	306 705	466 281	137 993	634 993
Corrugated materials/container board	1 252 694	223 538	338 583	1 137 650
Other wrapping papers	13 400			13 400
Tissue	266 284	17 785	42 064	242 005
Other paper & board	178 058	15 192	11 795	181 455
Total	2 097 609	760 513	544 599	2 313 523

61.4%

Paper recovery rate for 2021



2020	69.8%
2019	68.5%
2018	71.7%
2017	70.7%

RECOVERABLE PAPER

Paper consumption	2 313 523
Adjusted for NET trade corrugated box packaging (Positive = net inflow)	- 166 724
Less paper unsuitable for recovery*	-275 874
Recoverable paper	1 870 925

RECOVERY OF RECYCLABLE PAPER

	Paper recovered	Recovered paper imports	Recovered paper exports	Consumption of recovered paper
Newspapers	88 718	416	62 041	27 093
Magazines & coated grades	24 219	57	8 460	15 816
Corrugated, solid cases, kraft papers	890 970	47 899	57 052	881 818
Office papers	133 299	246	11 099	122 445
Mixed and other papers	12 140	5 260	6 687	10 713
Total	1 149 346	53 878	145 340	1 057 884

RECYCLING RATES

	2021	2020	2019	2018
Recyclable paper recovered as % of paper consumption	49.7%	55.3%	49.3%	54.8%
Recycled content in all papers produced in South Africa	50.4%	55.1%	53.5%	52.9%
Locally collected and used in local production	79.4%	85.7%	88.2%	78.8%
Waste paper exported as % of recovered papers	12.6%	9.0%	8.0%	12.7%
Recoverable paper collected - excludes non-suitable papers*	61.4%	69.8%	68.5%	71.7%

SECONDARY CORRUGATED CASE PACKAGING



3.5 million cubic metres of landfill space saved

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Corrugated boxes used to package imported and exported products are included in collectables - Imports and exports are accounted for so as to give a more realistic estimate of volumes available for collection.

* Papers unsuitable for recovery include tissue, cigarette papers, among others, that are excluded from the EPR regulations.

