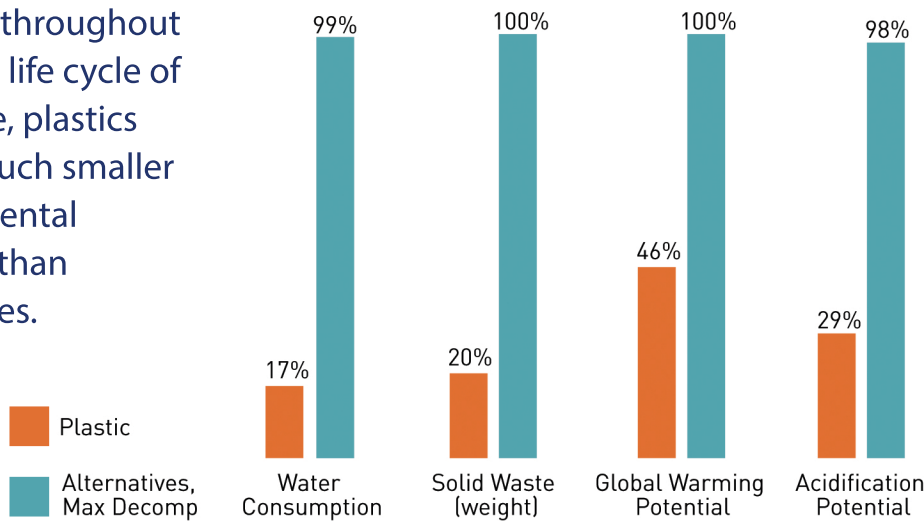


Replacing Plastic Packaging with Other Materials Would Increase Environmental Impacts

ALTERNATIVES TO PLASTIC PACKAGING WOULD NEARLY DOUBLE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS¹

When comparing materials throughout the entire life cycle of a package, plastics leave a much smaller environmental footprint than alternatives.

Normalized U.S. Results for Plastic Packaging and Substitutes



Substituting Plastic Packaging Negatively Impacts Solid Waste

If consumers weren't using plastics, they'd be using more glass and metal as substitutes. On average the combined weight of alternative materials is about 4.5 times more than the weight of plastic packaging,² and compostable packaging requires the more rigorous conditions of municipal composting facilities to degrade³.



Plastics Makers Circular Economy Goals

U.S. resin manufacturers have set goals to ensure that 100% of plastic packaging is recyclable or recoverable by 2030 and that all plastic packaging is re-used, recycled or recovered by 2040.

2040
All plastic packaging is **100%** reused, recycled or recovered

Plastic Packaging



Using plastics in packaging requires less energy

Saves enough energy to heat nearly

48 million homes



The plastic packaging lifecycle including post-consumer disposal, results in less solid waste

Saves the weight of **290,000**

jumbo jets worth of waste



Production of plastic packaging consumes much less water, including in waste system

Saves the weight of **461,000**

Olympic-sized swimming pools

1. Life Cycle Impacts of Plastic Packaging Compared To Substitutes in the United States and Canada. Franklin Associates, A Division of Eastern Research Group (ERG), Apr. 2018 <https://plastics.americanchemistry.com/Reports-and-Publications/LCA-of-Plastic-Packaging-Compared-to-Substitutes.pdf>.
 2. Role of plastics in decoupling municipal solid waste and economic growth in the U.S., Demetra A. Tsiamis, Melissa Torres, Marco J. Castaldi, <https://plastics.americanchemistry.com/Plastics-Decoupling-Waste-and-Growth.pdf>
 3. <http://www.bpiworld.org/>