

NEW SOUTH WALES RUBBISH REPORT 2022

Clean Up



The 2022 Rubbish Report is a snapshot of rubbish removed by Clean Up Australia volunteers. Across NSW, the Report is based on the count of 136,332 rubbish items from 312 surveyed locations (114,067 items from 342 locations in 2021).

SITES REGISTERED

4,482
(5,062 in 2021)

ESTIMATED VOLUNTEERS

318,971
(337,896 in 2021)

VOLUNTEER HOURS

637,942
(675,792 in 2021)

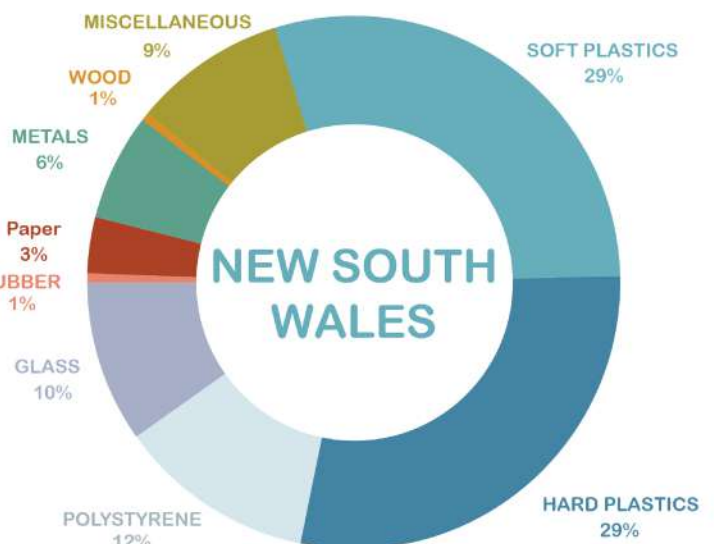
NOTABLE CHANGES FROM 2021



Reflecting volunteer feedback about the impact of recently introduced single-use items such as face masks, 2022 data included a number of new items and groupings such as e-waste.

This feedback reinforces volunteer engagement with Clean Up action and is a clear reminder that the desire to remove rubbish from their streets, beaches, parks, bushland and waterways remains as relevant today as it was over 33 years ago when volunteers first took action.

MAJOR TYPES OF RUBBISH REPORTED



FAVOURITE CLEAN UP SITES



TOP 10 RUBBISH ITEMS AS A % OF THE TOTAL RUBBISH SURVEYED

GROUPED ITEMS	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10
	Soft Plastics	Non-Food Packaging	Beverage Containers	Food Packaging	Beverage Rubbish	Sanitary Items	Household Items	Sporting Equipment / Toys	E-Waste	Construction Materials
	29.6%	27.2%	15.5%	11.8%	7.0%	3.3%	1.8%	1.2%	0.8%	0.7%

While items within the Top 5 of Grouped items remain consistent with 2021, we saw % increases in two categories: soft plastics [up 9.8%], and beverage containers [up 2.8%].

The good news is non-food packaging counts decreased by 2.8%, beverage related rubbish by 4.1% and food packaging by 0.7%.

Sanitary items rose from 8th to 6th in ranking, reflecting a 1.1% increase in their counts. This reflects the inclusion of face masks in that category.

Household items slipped one ranking with a 3.2% reduction of reported items and construction waste replaced clothing at #10. The adjustment to household items reflects the separation of e-waste for the first time, where it took 9th place as a category.

Toys/sporting equipment counts decreased by 0.8%.

INDIVIDUAL ITEMS	#1	#2	#3	#4	#5	#6	#7	#8	#9	#10
	Quick Count Soft Plastics	Plastic Packaging Pieces	Glass Pieces	Cigarette Butts	Fast Food / Take Away Containers	Single Use Plastic Bottles	Other Soft Plastics	Aluminium Beverage Cans	Chips & Confect. Wrappers	Polystyrene Pieces
	18.9%	7.8%	7.5%	7.2%	5.9%	5.4%	4.2%	3.9%	3.9%	3.4%

Top 10 individual item counts moved a number of rankings in 2022, with fast food/takeaway entering the list and plastic packaging pieces and glass jumping up the ranking scale from 5 and 7 to spots 2 and 3.

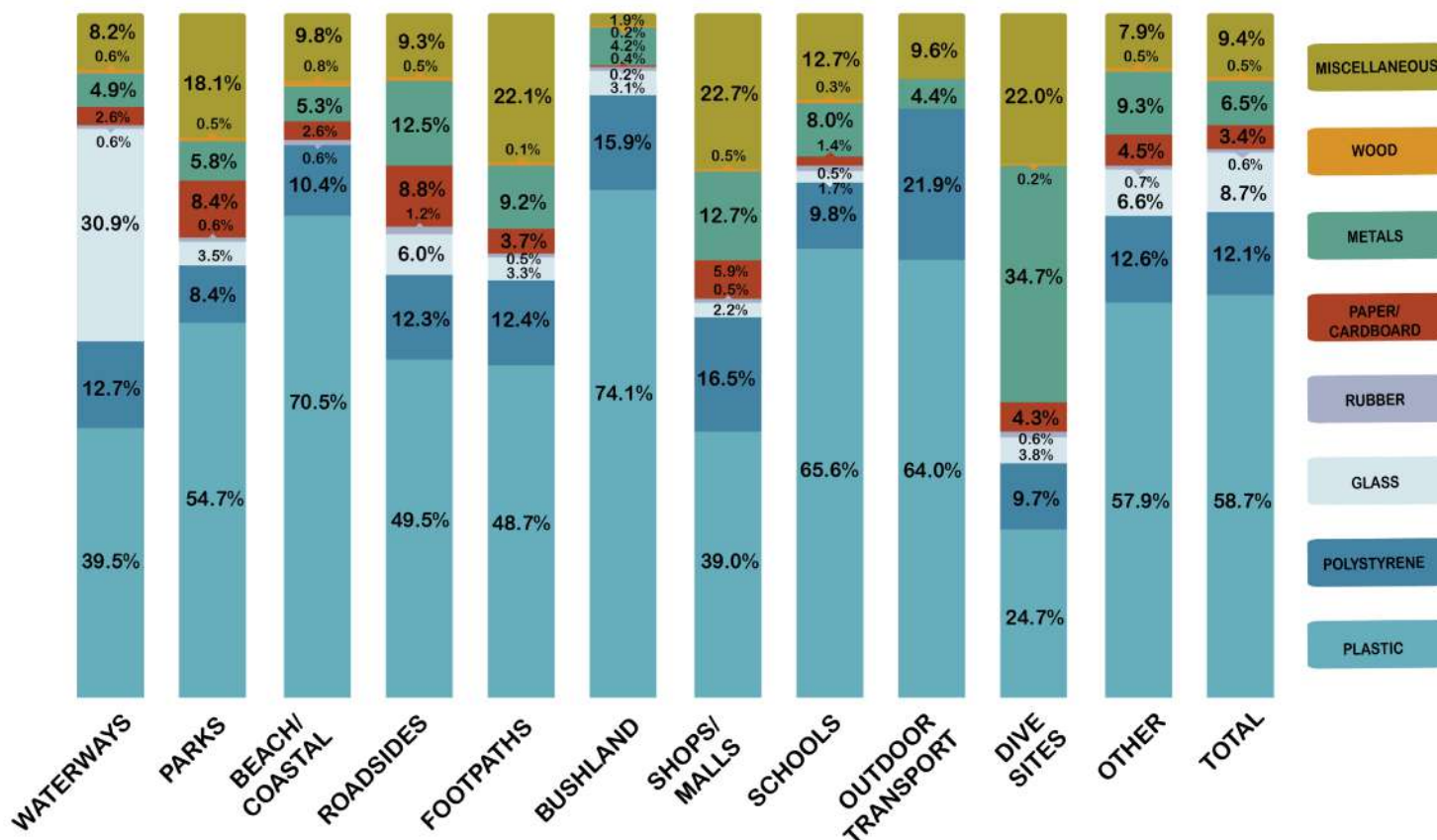
Quick count soft plastics rose a staggering 11.8%, plastic packaging pieces by 3.9%, glass by 4.1% and fast-food containers by 5.9%.

Within the remaining list, single use bottles [which were included as a new 'quick count' category for 2022] entered the list, other soft plastics fell by 2.9%, and aluminium beverage cans and polystyrene pieces each made a disappointing come-back.

The good news is cigarette butts fell from the #1 ranking in 2021 to #4 this year, reflecting a 4.9% decrease in counts.

Bottle caps and lids [both plastic and metal], straws, alcoholic bottles and PET drink containers all fell off the Top 10 counts this year.

RUBBISH TYPE BY LOCATION



Founding Partner



Partners



sodastream

coles

amazon

shopper

shopa docket

Media Partners

iQRenew

LOOKIT

CLEANAWAY Daniels

Suppliers