



2020 Reduction and Recycling Statistics

To measure Ohio's progress toward achieving the State's solid waste reduction/recycling goals, Ohio EPA annually calculates and publishes a statewide solid waste reduction and recycling rate and individual rates for Ohio's 52 **solid waste management districts** (SWMDs).

Ohio's Recycling Goal

Ohio's state solid waste management plan establishes the state's recycling goals. The current state plan is the [2020 State Solid Waste Management Plan](#) (2020 State Plan).

The 2020 State Plan established 10 goals for the SWMDs². One of the goals, Goal 2, challenges SWMDs to reduce and recycle 25 percent of the solid waste generated by the residential/commercial (R/C) sector. Waste from the R/C sector is essentially municipal solid waste.

Ohio measures diversion from landfills, not just recycling. Thus, composted yard waste contributes to achieving Goal 2 as does volume reduction achieved through incinerating solid waste.

Reporting and Surveying

Each SWMD must submit an annual district report to Ohio EPA that details the quantities of materials reduced/recycled. SWMDs obtain data for the annual report by surveying communities, businesses, industries, and other entities that recycle. Completing and returning these surveys is strictly voluntary. Consequently, obtaining accurate, complete data is often a challenge for the SWMDs³.

Statewide Reduction and Recycling

Although Ohio no longer has a statewide goal for waste reduction and recycling, Ohio EPA calculates that rate for tracking purposes. As illustrated in Table 1 and Figure 1 below, the combined quantities reported by the 52 SWMDs allowed Ohio to reduce and recycle 25 percent of R/C waste for the first time in 2005. Following variability from 2006 to 2009, Ohio's R/C rate has exceeded 27 percent since 2009. In 2020, Ohio's R/C waste reduction/recycling rate was 30 percent, the highest rate to date.

2020 Fast Facts

[Ohio's Waste Reduction/Recycling Goal¹](#)

- Residential/Commercial solid waste– 25 percent

[Residential/Commercial Waste Reduced and Recycled](#)

- Weight – 4.39 million tons
- Percent of Generation – 30 percent

For More Information

A variety of information is available on the Solid Waste Management Planning webpage — epa.ohio.gov/dmwm/Home/SWmgmtPlanning2.aspx.

Visit our website at epa.ohio.gov/dmwm/ or contact us directly using the following contact information:

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Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049
(614) 644-2621 (phone)
(877) 372-2621 (toll free)
(614) 728-5315 (fax)

For information about solid waste management in your area, contact your local SWMD. To determine which SWMD you live in, use the [Map of Ohio's Solid Waste Management Districts](#). To contact your SWMD, call or email the person listed on the [Ohio SWMD Coordinator/Director Report](#).

¹ Prior to 2020, Ohio had an industrial sector goal for SWMDs to reduce/recycle 66 percent of industrial solid waste. That industrial goal was eliminated with the 2020 State Plan. The 2020 State Plan also eliminated the statewide goal of reducing and recycling 50 percent of solid waste.

² SWMDs are not required to achieve both Goal 1 and Goal 2. SWMDs can select one or the other. Goal 1 establishes standards for recycling infrastructure. Goal 2 establishes a solid waste reduction and recycling rate. SWMDs that opt to achieve Goal 1 are not required to also achieve Goal 2 and vice versa.

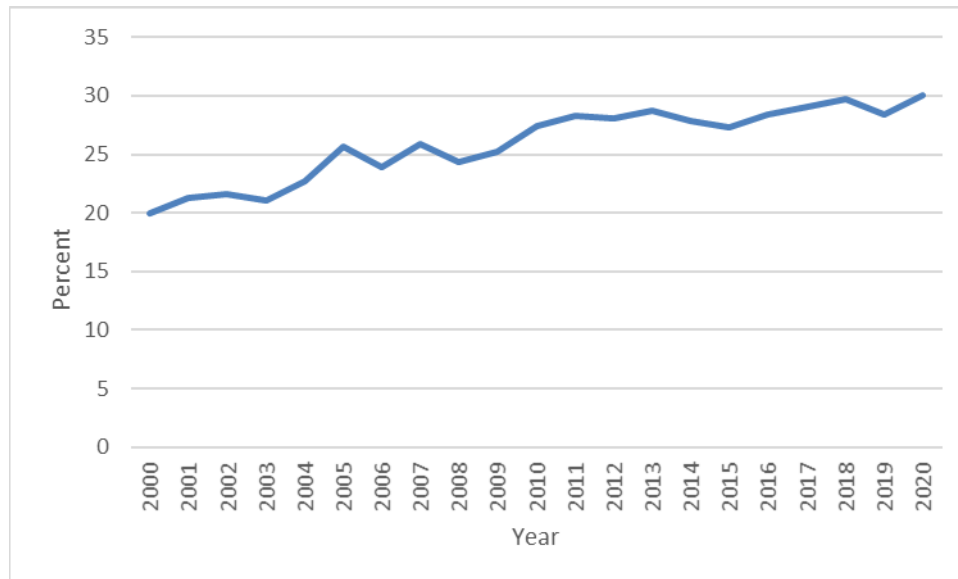
³ In addition to the typical factors affecting the accuracy of data, the completeness of statewide data is affected by Ohio's dual reduction/recycling goals. Some SWMDs that opt to pursue Goal 1 may dedicate limited time and resources to gathering and analyzing data. This is an anticipated result of having two goals.

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Table 1: Ohio's Residential/Commercial Waste Reduction/Recycling Rate – 2000-2020

Year	Waste Reduction/ Recycling Rate (%)	Year	Waste Reduction/ Recycling Rate (%)
2000	20.0	2011	28.3
2001	21.3	2012	28.1
2002	21.6	2013	28.7
2003	21.1	2014	27.9
2004	22.7	2015	27.3
2005	25.7	2016	28.35
2006	23.9	2017	29.06
2007	25.9	2018	29.7
2008	24.3	2019	28.37
2009	25.2	2020	30.0
2010	27.4		

Figure 1: Ohio's Residential/Commercial Waste Reduction/Recycling Rate - 2000-2020



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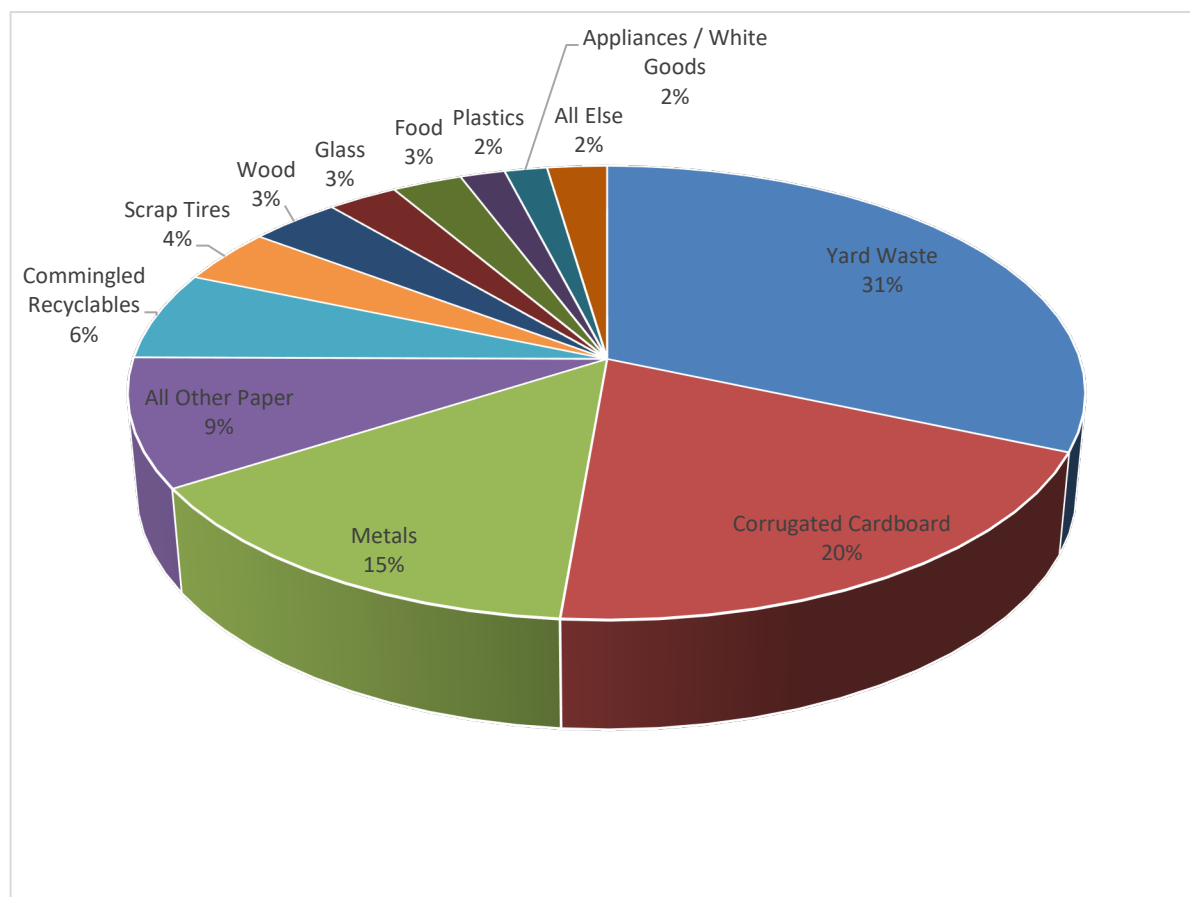
Composition of Residential/Commercial Waste Reduced and Recycled in 2020

Statewide, SWMDs reported that a total of 4,386,564 tons of R/C solid waste were reduced/recycled in 2020. As shown in Figure 2, a small number of materials comprised most of the R/C material reduced/recycled. The top five recovered materials by weight and percent of total in 2020 were:

- yard waste – 1,381,202 tons (31 percent);
- corrugated cardboard – 871,210 tons (20 percent);
- metals – 640,717 tons (15 percent);
- all other paper – 401,771 tons (9 percent); and
- commingled recyclables – 274,996 tons (6 percent).

Collectively, those five materials made up approximately 81 percent of all R/C solid waste reduced/recycled in 2020.

Figure 2: Residential/Commercial Materials Reduced and Recycled in 2020 (in tons)



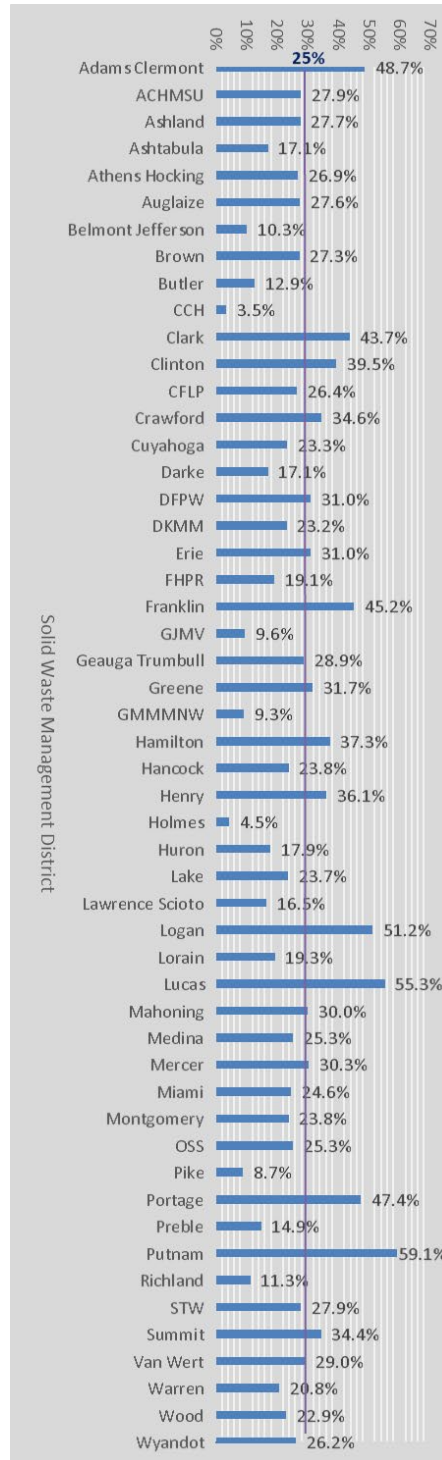
“All Else” consists of, textiles, used oil, lead-acid batteries, electronics, household hazardous waste, household batteries, rubber, and other misc. materials.

Solid Waste Reduction/Recycling Rates for the 52 SWMDs

As shown in Figure 3 on the next page, R/C sector recycling rates in 2020 varied widely among SWMDs, from a low of 4.11 percent to a high of 59.1 percent. Twenty-nine SWMDs reported having recycled enough material to achieve Ohio’s R/C sector waste reduction and recycling goal of 25 percent.

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Figure 3: 2020 Residential/Commercial Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling Rates by SWMD



Key

ACHMSU = Allen-Champaign-Hardin-Madison-Shelby-Union
 CCH = Carroll-Columbiana-Harrison
 CFLP = Coshocton-Fairfield-Licking-Perry
 DFPW = Defiance-Fulton-Paulding-Williams
 DKMM = Delaware-Knox-Marion-Morrow

FHPR = Fayette-Highland-Pickaway-Ross
 GJMV = Gallia-Jackson-Meigs-Vinton
 GMMMMNW = Guernsey-Monroe-Morgan-Muskingum-Noble-Washington
 OSS = Ottawa, Sandusky-Seneca
 STW = Stark-Tuscarawas-Wayne