



SEMASS 2025 WASTE CHARACTERIZATION STUDY



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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

In Massachusetts, combustion facilities with Class II Recycling Programs are required to conduct a waste characterization study (WCS) within 18 months of receiving their Class II Recycling Program certification from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP) and every three years thereafter. An inaugural WCS was conducted in calendar year 2010, with subsequent studies completed in 2013, 2016, 2019, and 2022.

The most recent MassDEP guidance document for conducting waste characterization studies at qualifying Class II Recycling Program facilities is titled “2025 Class II Recycling Program Waste Characterization Scope and Methodology Guidance,” (WCS Guidance). It includes direction on the scope, methodology and protocols to be used in conducting waste characterization studies as required by State regulation. This document relies on the WCS Guidance, and, in turn on the methodologies and protocols described in ASTM Test Method for Determination of the Composition of Unprocessed Municipal Solid Waste, Designation D 5231 – 92 (2016).

Per the Class II Recycling Program regulations, the Reworld SEMASS Resource Recovery Facility (SEMASS facility) engaged MSW Consultants, LLC (MSW Consultants), working as a subcontractor to SAK Environmental, LLC to conduct a WCS of the waste arriving at the facility located in West Wareham, Massachusetts.

Pursuant to the WCS Guidance, the objectives of the study were to complete the following:

- Characterize, in a statistically defensible manner, the waste stream at the Re facility according to MassDEP protocols; and
- Provide representative waste characterization raw data and statistics that can subsequently be aggregated with other WCS study data and used by MassDEP in subsequent data analysis to be performed by MassDEP, to
 - estimate statewide waste characterization information;
 - measure the success of future waste reduction efforts;
 - identify specific materials for increased diversion; and
 - guide MassDEP policy and program initiatives in solid waste management.

This report contains the results of the SEMASS facility 2025 WCS.

1.2 SEMASS SITE OVERVIEW

The SEMASS facility is located in West Wareham, Massachusetts. It provides over 50 communities in southeastern Massachusetts, Cape Cod, and the surrounding metropolitan Boston area with an environmentally responsible means of disposing of the region’s municipal solid waste. The 95-acre facility currently processes approximately 3,300 tons per day, or approximately 1.1 million tons of solid waste (MSW) each year. One-sixth of the total waste tonnage entering the SEMASS facility originates from long-term contracts, while five-sixths of the waste is delivered by commercial accounts and private haulers.

The SEMASS facility weighs trucks on its in-bound scale as they arrive. The incoming trucks follow the traffic pattern around the facility and line up in a staging area just outside the entrance to the tip floor. Depending on the traffic flow, trucks may queue in two lines, taking turns entering the building

when facility personnel direct them to do so. Inside the building, trucks tip their loads onto the tip floor as instructed by facility staff, then they exit the tip area via the exit door and follow the traffic pattern back to the out-bound scale where they weigh-out before they leave the facility.

1.3 REPORT ORGANIZATION

The remainder of this report presents the methodology and results of the SEMASS facility WCS. The report is divided into the following sections:

- **Methodology:** This section provides an overview of waste disposal data available from the facility scale reports, supplemented with direct hauler surveys to establish reasonable estimates by generator sector, and it provides the detailed sampling plan that was developed to govern the study process and provide statistically defensible data. This section also summarizes the study field data collection and analytical methods.
- **Results:** This section presents detailed results about the composition of the combusted waste. Results are presented primarily in tabular format with some summary graphics to highlight findings of interest.
- **Appendix:** The appendix provides detailed waste category definitions.

It should also be noted that the raw data captured for this study has been delivered electronically in spreadsheet format for use by Reworld SEMASS and for subsequent transmittal to MassDEP.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 WASTE DISPOSAL QUANTITIES

Reworld SEMASS provided MSW Consultants with annual waste total for 2025. Table 2-1 shows the total annual waste received at the facility by waste type.

Table 2-1 2025 Waste Disposal Quantities

Waste Type	Total Tons	Percent
MSW-10	703,720	66.8%
MSW-Rail	0	0.0%
TSMSW	342,042	32.5%
Other (Non-MSW)	7,419	0.7%
Grand Total	1,053,181	100.0%

Note: The tonnages shown above are consistent with reported waste streams from 2022 and prior waste composition studies. They exclude special and liquid wastes (i.e., non-MSW).

As shown in Table 2-1, the majority of wastes Reworld SEMASS received are coded as type MSW-10. The facility reported that it defines TSMSW as MSW received from transfer stations. MSW-Rail tons are also received from transfer stations. The TSMSW and MSW-Rail loads fall under the definition of unacceptable loads in Section 2.3 that follows; consequently, they were not sampled, but they are included in the overall WCS analysis.

2.2 TRUCK TYPES

Reworld SEMASS uses scale house software to record the truck types for all incoming deliveries in a manner that is consistent with MassDEP guidance. The following truck types were defined and segregated during the WCS:

- Rear-load compacting vehicles, also called rear loaders
- Side-load compacting vehicles, also called side loaders
- Frontload compacting vehicles, also called front loaders
- Roll-off compactors
- Roll-off open top containers
- Roll-off closed top containers

The SEMASS facility receives a significant quantity of waste from transfer trailers. Because it is not possible to determine the generator sector of origin for wastes contained on transfer trailers, these loads were excluded from sampling during the WCS.

Table 2-2 shows the total tons and percent of waste by vehicle type in 2025, separating transfer trailer waste from direct haul loads.

Table 2-2 2025 Waste Deliveries by Vehicle Type

Vehicle Type	Total Vehicles	Percent of Vehicles	Total Tons	Percent of Tons
Rear Loader	10,607	19.3%	91,908	8.7%
Side Loader	3,594	6.5%	34,580	3.3%
Front Loader	5,954	10.8%	64,940	6.2%
Roll-Off Compactor	4,637	8.4%	29,799	2.8%
Roll-Off Open Top	900	1.6%	4,573	0.4%
Roll-Off Closed Top	113	0.2%	733	0.1%
Acceptable Vehicle Total	25,805	47.0%	226,532	21.5%
Rail	394	0.7%	50,359	4.8%
Other Vehicle Types	1	0.0%	0	0.0%
Tractor/Transfer Trailer	28,754	52.3%	776,290	73.7%
Unacceptable Vehicle Total	29,149	53.0%	826,649	78.5%
Grand Total	54,954	100.0%	1,053,181	100.0%

2.3 GENERATOR SECTORS

Consistent with MassDEP's WCS Guidance, the study team classified the samples obtained in this study into one of three generator types:

- **Residential:** In this study, residential waste is defined as waste from vehicles in which 80 percent or more of the waste originated from single-family or multi-family residential sources. These vehicles include residential drop-off containers (i.e. roll-offs, dedicated transfer trailers from municipal drop-off programs) and both side-load and rear-load compacting vehicles.
- **Industrial/Commercial/Institutional (ICI):** This category includes wastes generated by non-residential sources including commercial businesses, institutions, and industrial facilities (excepting any special industrial wastes or industrial wastes elsewhere classified). In this study, ICI waste was defined as waste from vehicles in which 80 percent or more of the waste was generated by ICI sources. Typically waste from ICI vehicles includes compactor boxes, open top boxes and frontload compacting vehicles.
- **Unacceptable Loads:** In this study, unacceptable loads are defined as loads that contain less than 80 percent of either residential or ICI waste; loads that are more than 50 percent construction and demolition (C&D) material; and loads that originate from out of state. Facility operators did not track or know the proportion of waste delivered to the facility by each of these generator types prior to this study. The study team randomly sampled incoming loads to assure appropriate allocation of samples to each generator sector.

MassDEP agreed that it did not intend for unacceptable loads to undergo sampling and sorting as part of the study. The following load types fit into the definition of unacceptable loads:

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- Front-load and Rear-load compacting trucks that mix residential (including multi-family) and ICI accounts on the same route such neither the residential nor the ICI fraction exceeds 80 percent of the load
- All transfer/tractor trailers. These usually originate at commercial transfer stations that accept a mix of residential and ICI wastes or originate at transfer stations that may accept waste from out of state

If encountered during the random sampling, the study team excluded unacceptable loads from the composition analysis. However, consistent with MassDEP’s reporting requirements, the study team documented the overall fraction of wastes arriving in unacceptable loads from front and rear-load vehicles by randomly selecting vehicles and surveying the drivers regarding load origination.

Table 2-3 shows the results of the random sampling conducted at the SEMASS facility. Results are shown both in terms of the percentage of loads and the percentage of waste by weight.

Table 2-3 Incoming Vehicle Random Sample Results

	Vehicle Type	Residential	ICI	Mixed	Total
Percent By Number of Loads	Rear Loader	42.9%	57.1%	0.0%	100.0%
	Side Loader	85.7%	14.3%	0.0%	100.0%
	Front Loader	6.7%	93.3%	0.0%	100.0%
	Roll-off Compactor	12.5%	87.5%	0.0%	100.0%
	Roll-off Open Top	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Roll-off Closed Top	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Transfer Trailer	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Percent By Weight of Loads	Rear Loader	39.0%	61.0%	0.0%	100.0%
	Side Loader	57.4%	42.6%	0.0%	100.0%
	Front Loader	7.8%	92.2%	0.0%	100.0%
	Roll-off Compactor	20.4%	79.6%	0.0%	100.0%
	Roll-off Open Top	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Roll-off Closed Top	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
	Transfer Trailer	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

The study team subsequently applied the survey results in Table 2-3 to the total waste deliveries by truck type to estimate the proportion of wastes delivered by generator sector and summed quantities of waste by generator sector, the results of which are shown in Table 2-4. As shown, the collected survey data suggest that the SEMASS facility receives 66.5 percent ICI waste and 33.5 percent residential waste. This assumes that the mixed waste entering the facility is the same split as the direct haul waste. Further study is required to improve the accuracy of the estimated split.

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Table 2-4 Residential/ICI Split

Allocation Method	Residential	ICI	Mixed	Total
By Load Count	15.6%	29.7%	53.0%	98.4%
By Weight of Load	7.1%	14.0%	78.5%	99.6%
By Weight Excluding Mixed	33.5%	66.5%	N/A	100.0%

It should also be noted that MassDEP’s WCS Guidance document notes that the statewide average split between ICI and residential waste is 55 percent to 45 percent. The study team understands that this split is intended as a guideline in the absence of actual data. For this WCS, the study team calculated results based on weighting factors derived from the random samples and the truck type stratification.

2.4 SAMPLE ALLOCATION

Table 2-5 shows the proposed and actual allocation of samples by truck type and by season, based on actual 2022 scale house data. The latest 2025 scale data is shown for comparison.

This table also shows how the study team stratified the 52 total samples, with random sampling performed for each stratum. Finally, the table shows the actual samples obtained in the study. From this information, the study reasonably achieved the targeted sampling stratification.

Table 2-5 Proposed Samples vs. Actual Samples (Excluding Transfer Trailers)

Vehicle Type	2022 Percent Tons	2025 Percent Tons	Proposed Samples	Proposed Percent	Actual Samples	Actual Percent
Rear & Side Load Compactors	57.5%	55.8%	33	63.5%	29	55.8%
Front Loader	26.0%	28.7%	13	25.0%	14	26.9%
Roll-Off Compactor	12.3%	13.2%	4	7.7%	8	15.4%
Roll-Off Open Top	3.7%	2.0%	2	3.8%	0	0.0%
Roll-Off Closed Top	0.6%	0.3%	0	0.0%	1	1.9%
Other	N/A	N/A	0	0.0%	0	0.0%
Grand Total	100.0%	100.0%	52	100.0%	52	100.0%

Of the 52 samples obtained, 26 were from the residential generator sector and 26 were from the ICI generator sector.

2.5 WASTE CATEGORIES

This study sorted wastes into the nine primary categories and 62 secondary categories identified by MassDEP in the WCS Guidance document. Table 2-6 summarizes these waste categories.

More detailed definitions of each of the 62 waste categories are provided in Appendix A. The 2025 material list retains the protocol introduced in the 2016 WCS to capture the estimated percent composition of mattresses and box springs in each load.

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Table 2-6 Waste Categories

PAPER	
Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper	Newsprint
Waxed Cardboard	Other Recyclable Paper
High Grade Office Paper	Compostable Paper
Magazines/Catalogs	Remainder/Composite Paper
PLASTICS	
#1 PET Beverage Containers (Non-MA Deposit Containers)	Expanded Polystyrene Non-Food Grade
PET Containers Other than Beverage Containers	Bulk Rigid Plastic Items
Plastic MA Deposit Beverage Containers	Film (Non-Bag Clean Commercial and Industrial Packaging Film)
#2 HDPE Bottles, Colored and Natural	Grocery and Other Merchandise Bags
#5 PP Bottles & Containers	Plastic Film – Other
Other Plastic Bottles and Containers (Non-Hazardous)	Remainder/Composite Plastic
Expanded Polystyrene Food Grade	
METALS	
Aluminium Beverage Containers (Non-MA Deposit Containers)	Other Ferrous and Non-Ferrous
Aluminum MA Deposit Beverage Containers	White Goods
Tin/Steel Containers	Remainder/Composite Metal
Other Aluminum	
GLASS	
Glass Beverage Containers (Non-MA Deposit Containers)	Glass MA Deposit Beverage Containers
Other Glass Packaging Containers (Non-MA Deposit Containers)	Remainder/Composite Glass
ORGANICS	
Food Waste	Manures
Branches and Stumps	Remainder/Composite Organic
Pruning, Trimmings, Leaves, and Grass	
C&D MATERIALS	
Asphalt Pavement, Brick and Concrete	Asphalt Roofing
Aggregates, Stone and Rock	Drywall/Gypsum Board
Wood – Treated	Carpet and Carpet Padding
Wood – Untreated	Remainder/Composite Construction and Demolition
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE	
Ballasts, CFLs and Other Fluorescents	Bio-Hazardous Waste
Batteries – Lead Acid	Vehicle and Equipment Fluids
Batteries – Other	Empty Metal, Glass and Plastic Containers (That Originally Contained Toxic Materials)
Paints	Other Hazardous or Household Hazardous Waste
ELECTRONICS	
Computer-Related Electronics	Televisions and Computer Monitors
Other “Brown Goods”	
OTHER MATERIALS	
Tires and Other Rubber	Mattresses
Textiles	Restaurant Fats, Oils and Grease
Bulky Materials	Other Miscellaneous

2.6 SEASONALITY

To ensure that the final results captured seasonal fluctuations in the composition of the waste stream, the study team performed fieldwork over two seasons. Consistent with MassDEP guidance, the first season field sort occurred during the second quarter period between April 15 and June 15, 2025, and the second season field sort occurred during the third quarter period between July 15 and September 15, 2025. The study team scheduled field sorting to avoid the days immediately preceding and following major holidays as well as scheduled facility outages. Table 2-7 shows the field data collection schedule.

Table 2-7 Sampling and Sorting Schedule

Day of Week	Season 1	Season 2
Monday	June 2, 2025	
Tuesday	June 3, 2025	
Wednesday	June 4, 2025	
Thursday		August 28, 2025
Friday		August 29, 2025
Saturday		August 30, 2025

The Study Design proposed 26 samples to be collected equally between each of the two seasons for a total of 52 samples. The study team achieved sampling targets.

2.7 FIELD DATA COLLECTION

2.7.1 LOAD SELECTION

For each of the truck types identified in Section 2.2, the study team systematically incoming vehicles. Reworld SEMASS provided sufficient incoming scale data prior to the study to estimate the expected number of loads delivered by each truck type and to use an “Nth Vehicle” approach. Systematic sampling is intended to remove any sampling bias that may arise from an individual selecting specific incoming vehicles. The study team divided the number of incoming loads (by vehicle type) by the number of samples needed that day from the facility. The resulting number was the sampling frequency, and it determined whether every third vehicle, every sixth vehicle, or every 20th vehicle would be selected for sampling. The field supervisor, working in coordination with facility personnel, kept a tally of vehicles from each truck type as they entered the facility. When the designated nth truck arrived, the vehicle was directed to the sampling area.

The field supervisor interviewed the drivers of selected loads to obtain information about the origin of the load, validation of the waste generating sector, hauler, vehicle type and number, and other data. The field supervisor noted this on their vehicle selection form along with a unique identifying number associated with that vehicle on that day.

2.7.2 RANDOM SAMPLING

When facility staff discharged a selected vehicle onto the tipping floor, the study team directed sampling using the method described in ASTM standards. A front-end bucket loader removed material longitudinally along one entire side of the discharged load to obtain a representative cross-section of the material. At the request of the field supervisor, the loader operator removed

approximately 1,000 pounds of material, based on a visual assessment. This equates to four times the targeted sample weight of 250 pounds. The loader operator then mixed, coned, and quartered the sample material.

Next, the field supervisor systematically selected roughly one quarter of the material to be taken via a grab sample. For samples that contained heavy or bulky materials, the field supervisor estimated the fraction of the sample occupied by the bulky item and applied that percentage to the overall weight of the bulky item. For example, if a sofa bed was part of the grab sample that was dumped for sampling, the field supervisor estimated what fraction of the sofa bed was contained within the regular municipal solid waste sample and recorded the fractional weight of the bulky item as part of the overall sample.

The field supervisor then placed the material for sorting in 35-gallon barrels and pre-weighed each barrel to ensure the sample used for sorting was at least 250 pounds. A white board with the sample number was placed in the barrel and staged for sorting by the field sorting crew. Figure 2-1 shows samples staged for sorting.

Figure 2-1 Tipped Load Awaiting Sample Collection



2.7.3 MANUAL SORTING

The field sorting crew manually sorted the staged samples into the prescribed component categories. They used plastic 20-gallon bins with sealed bottoms to contain the sorted components. Figure 2-2 is a photograph of the sorting crew sorting material on the sort table and putting it into labeled sort bins.

Figure 2-2 Field Sorting Crew



2.7.4 DATA RECORDING

The weigh-out and data recording process is the most critical process of the sort. The study team crew chief was singularly responsible for overseeing all weighing and data recording of each sample. Once the field sorting crew sorted each sample, they performed the sample weigh out. The sorting crew physically carried each bin containing sorted materials from the just-completed sample to a digital scale. They assisted with weighing the bins of sorted material, and the crew chief oversaw the operation and recorded all data.

The crew chief used a rugged tablet computer to record the composition weights. The tablet allowed samples to be tallied in real time so that field data collection could immediately identify and rectify errors associated with light sample weights. The tablet periodically synchronized with the cloud via cellular signal, providing excellent data security. The crew chief cross-referenced each sample against the field supervisor's sample sheet to assure accurate tracking of the samples each day.

This real-time data entry system offers several important advantages:

- The template contains built-in logic and error checking to prevent erroneous entries.
- The template sums sample weights in real time so the crew chief can confirm achievement of weight targets for each sample.
- Except where host facilities are outside of cell signal range, the data file syncs routinely and can be accessed and checked by the study team's QA/QC staff back at the office. For remote facilities that cannot synchronize during the workday, it is usually possible to sync in the evening upon returning to lodging.

The crew chief carried paper field forms as a back-up in case the tablet computer encountered unforeseen technical difficulties.

2.7.5 STATISTICAL METHODS

The study team calculated the following statistical measures to determine the overall composition of each waste generator sector.

- **Sample Mean:** The sample mean, or average, composition is considered the “most likely” fraction for each material category in the waste stream. The sample mean is determined by
 1. Summing the weight of each material in each sample;
 2. Summing the total weight of all samples, and
 3. Dividing the first value by the second value to determine the percent-by-weight composition.

Note that the sample mean, while a good estimate, is unlikely to be identical to the population mean value. The meaningfulness of the sample mean is enhanced by the following statistical measures.

- **Standard Deviation:** The standard deviation measures how widely values within the data set are dispersed from the sample mean. A higher standard deviation denotes higher variation in the underlying samples for each material, while a lower standard deviation reflects lower variation among the individual samples. The standard deviation is stated in the same unit as the sample mean, which in this case is percentage by weight.
- **Confidence Intervals:** When a sample of data is obtained, it is analyzed in an attempt to determine certain values that describe the entire population of data under analysis. For example, in a poll of likely voters, the intent of the poll is to determine the percentage of all voters who support a given candidate, not simply the percentage of voters in the poll who support that candidate. The percentage of voters who support a given candidate in the poll can easily vary from sample to sample; but the percentage of all voters who support that candidate is a fixed value. In our sample of incoming loads of waste, the study team is not primarily interested in the percentage composition of the sampled loads, but rather in trying to determine what the composition of the sampled loads tells us about the composition of all waste generated. A confidence interval is a statistical concept that attempts to indicate the likely range within which the true value lies. The confidence interval reflects the upper and lower range within which the population mean can be expected to fall. It requires the following inputs:
 - The level of confidence, in other words, how sure one wants to be that the interval being constructed will encompass the population mean
 - The sample mean around which the confidence interval will be constructed
 - The sample standard deviation, which is used as a measure of the variability of the population from which the sample was obtained
 - The number of sampling units that comprise the sample, in other words, the sample size

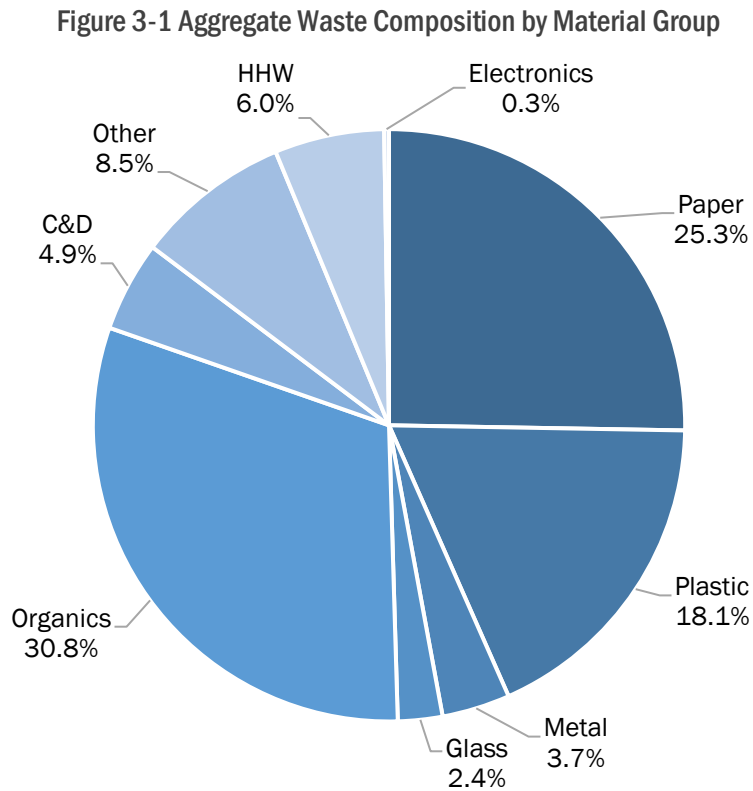
Consistent with MassDEP guidance, the study team calculated confidence intervals at a 90 percent level of confidence, meaning that we can be 90 percent sure that the mean falls within the upper and lower confidence intervals shown. The converse is also true: there is a 10 percent chance that the mean falls outside of the sample mean. In general, as the number of samples increases, the width of the confidence intervals decreases, although the more variable the underlying waste stream composition, the less noticeable the improvement for adding incremental samples.

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3. RESULTS

3.1 AGGREGATE WASTE COMPOSITION

Figure 3-1 shows the breakdown of major material groups for the aggregate municipal solid waste stream entering the facility as percentage of the total. As shown, organics and paper are the most prevalent materials in the aggregate disposal stream.



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Table 3-1 shows the top 10 most prevalent material categories in the overall MSW stream, as well as for the residential and ICI streams. Not surprisingly, food waste is the single most prevalent category. However, compostable paper, other film, bio-hazardous wastes, and corrugated cardboard were also found to be prevalent.

Table 3-1 Top 10 Most Prevalent Material Categories

	Aggregate	Residential	ICI
1	Food Waste (24.2%)	Food Waste (29.6%)	Food Waste (21.6%)
2	Compostable Paper (10.4%)	Compostable Paper (10.9%)	Compostable Paper (10.2%)
3	Other Film (7.5%)	Other Film (6.8%)	Other Film (7.9%)
4	Bio-Hazardous Waste (5.4%)	Bio-Hazardous Waste (6.7%)	Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper (5.3%)
5	Remainder/Composite Organic (5.3%)	Remainder/Composite Organic (5.5%)	Remainder/Composite Organic (5.2%)
6	Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper (5.0%)	Other Recyclable Paper (4.8%)	Bio-Hazardous Waste (4.8%)
7	Textiles (4.8%)	Textiles (4.7%)	Textiles (4.8%)
8	Other Recyclable Paper (4.3%)	Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper (4.4%)	Other Recyclable Paper (4.1%)
9	Remainder/Composite Paper (4.1%)	Remainder/Composite Paper (4.2%)	Remainder/Composite Paper (4.0%)
10	Remainder/Composite Plastic (2.9%)	Remainder/Composite Plastic (2.5%)	Bulk Rigid Plastic Items (3.2%)
	Subtotal = 74.0%	Subtotal = 80.2%	Subtotal = 71.2%

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Table 3-2 provides a detailed statistical profile of the aggregate disposed MSW stream. For each material category, the mean percent and lower and upper confidence intervals are shown. Confidence intervals are calculated at a 90 percent level of confidence.

Table 3-2 Detailed Aggregate MSW Composition

Material	Std.			Material	Std.		
	Percent	Dev	MOE		Percent	Dev	MOE
Paper	25.3%	8.2%	1.9%	Organics	30.8%	10.6%	2.5%
Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper	5.0%	3.6%	0.8%	Food Waste	24.2%	11.4%	2.6%
Waxed Cardboard	0.2%	0.7%	0.2%	Branches and Stumps	0.2%	1.6%	0.4%
High Grade Office Paper	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	Prunings, Trimmings, Leaves and Grass	1.0%	3.2%	0.7%
Magazines/Catalogs	0.5%	1.3%	0.3%	Manures	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Newsprint	0.6%	1.3%	0.3%	Remainder/Composite Organic	5.3%	5.4%	1.3%
Other Recyclable Paper	4.3%	2.6%	0.6%				
Compostable Paper	10.4%	4.8%	1.1%	C&D	4.9%	6.8%	1.6%
Remainder/Composite Paper	4.1%	1.8%	0.4%	Asphalt Pavement, Brick, and Concrete	0.3%	1.4%	0.3%
				Aggregates, Stone, Rock, Soil, Fines	1.2%	4.6%	1.1%
Plastic	18.1%	8.6%	2.0%	Wood - Treated	2.1%	3.8%	0.9%
PET Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.4%	0.5%	0.1%	Wood - Untreated	0.2%	0.6%	0.1%
PET Containers other than Beverage Containers	0.7%	0.6%	0.1%	Asphalt Roofing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Plastic MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.8%	0.6%	0.1%	Drywall/Gypsum Board	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
HDPE Bottles	0.6%	0.4%	0.1%	Carpet and Carpet Padding	0.1%	0.7%	0.2%
#5 PP Bottles & Containers	1.0%	0.9%	0.2%	Remainder/Composite C&D	1.0%	2.5%	0.6%
Other Plastic Bottles & Containers (non-haz.)	0.4%	1.5%	0.4%				
Expanded Polystyrene Food Grade	0.3%	0.6%	0.1%	Household Hazardous Waste	6.0%	6.7%	1.6%
Expanded Polystyrene Non-food Grade	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	Ballasts, CFLs, and Other Fluorescents	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Bulk Rigid Plastic Items	2.7%	4.5%	1.1%	Batteries - Lead Acid	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Film (non-bag clean com/industrial film)	0.7%	3.3%	0.8%	Batteries - Other	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Grocery and other Merchandise Bags	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	Paint	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%
Other Film	7.5%	3.5%	0.8%	Bio-Hazardous Waste	5.4%	6.8%	1.6%
Remainder/Composite Plastic	2.9%	1.6%	0.4%	Vehicle and Equipment Fluids	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
				Empty Metal, Glass, and Plastic Containers	0.2%	0.6%	0.1%
Metal	3.7%	3.9%	0.9%	Other Hazardous or HHW	0.2%	0.8%	0.2%
Aluminum Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%				
Aluminum MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.4%	0.3%	0.1%	Electronics	0.3%	0.7%	0.2%
Tin/Steel Containers	0.7%	1.2%	0.3%	Computer-related Electronics	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Other Aluminum	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	Other "Brown Goods"	0.2%	0.7%	0.2%
Other Ferrous and Non-Ferrous	1.4%	3.0%	0.7%	Televisions and Computer Monitors	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
White Goods	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%				
Remainder/Composite Metal	0.9%	1.4%	0.3%	Other	8.5%	4.9%	1.1%
				Tires and Other Rubber	0.6%	1.5%	0.4%
Glass	2.4%	3.4%	0.8%	Textiles	4.8%	5.0%	1.2%
Glass Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	1.1%	2.3%	0.5%	Bulky Materials	0.3%	1.3%	0.3%
Other Glass Packaging Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.5%	0.7%	0.2%	Mattresses	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Glass MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.4%	0.7%	0.2%	Restaurant Fats, Oils and Grease	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Remainder/Composite Glass	0.4%	0.8%	0.2%	Other Miscellaneous	2.8%	2.7%	0.6%
				Totals	100.0%		
				Sample Count	52		

Confidence intervals calculated at the 90% confidence level. Percentages for material types may not total 100% due to rounding.

3.2 WASTE COMPOSITION BY GENERATOR SECTOR

Table 3-3 compares the detailed composition of the aggregate disposed waste stream with the residential and ICI generator sectors individually. This table illustrates the differences in residential and ICI wastes and the need for programs to target specific material streams by generator sector.

Table 3-3 Comparison of Waste Composition by Generator Sector

Material	Resi-			Material	Resi-		
	Aggregate	dential	ICI		Aggregate	dential	ICI
Paper	25.3%	26.1%	24.9%	Organics	30.8%	36.1%	28.2%
Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper	5.0%	4.4%	5.3%	Food Waste	24.2%	29.6%	21.6%
Waxed Cardboard	0.2%	0.5%	0.1%	Branches and Stumps	0.2%	0.0%	0.4%
High Grade Office Paper	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	Prunings, Trimmings, Leaves and Grass	1.0%	0.9%	1.1%
Magazines/Catalogs	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%	Manures	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Newsprint	0.6%	0.9%	0.4%	Remainder/Composite Organic	5.3%	5.5%	5.2%
Other Recyclable Paper	4.3%	4.8%	4.1%				
Compostable Paper	10.4%	10.9%	10.2%	C&D	4.9%	2.8%	6.0%
Remainder/Composite Paper	4.1%	4.2%	4.0%	Asphalt Pavement, Brick, and Concrete	0.3%	0.0%	0.4%
				Aggregates, Stone, Rock, Soil, Fines	1.2%	0.8%	1.4%
Plastic	18.1%	15.0%	19.6%	Wood - Treated	2.1%	0.8%	2.8%
PET Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	Wood - Untreated	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%
PET Containers other than Beverage Containers	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	Asphalt Roofing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Plastic MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.8%	0.8%	0.8%	Drywall/Gypsum Board	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
HDPE Bottles	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	Carpet and Carpet Padding	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%
#5 PP Bottles & Containers	1.0%	0.9%	1.0%	Remainder/Composite C&D	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%
Other Plastic Bottles & Containers (non-haz.)	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%				
Expanded Polystyrene Food Grade	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	Household Hazardous Waste	6.0%	7.2%	5.4%
Expanded Polystyrene Non-food Grade	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	Ballasts, CFLs, and Other Fluorescents	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Bulk Rigid Plastic Items	2.7%	1.6%	3.2%	Batteries - Lead Acid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Film (non-bag clean com/industrial film)	0.7%	0.0%	1.0%	Batteries - Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Grocery and other Merchandise Bags	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	Paint	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Other Film	7.5%	6.8%	7.9%	Bio-Hazardous Waste	5.4%	6.7%	4.8%
Remainder/Composite Plastic	2.9%	2.5%	3.0%	Vehicle and Equipment Fluids	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
				Empty Metal, Glass, and Plastic Containers	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Metal	3.7%	2.6%	4.3%	Other Hazardous or HHW	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
Aluminum Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%				
Aluminum MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	Electronics	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%
Tin/Steel Containers	0.7%	0.4%	0.9%	Computer-related Electronics	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Other Aluminum	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	Other "Brown Goods"	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%
Other Ferrous and Non-Ferrous	1.4%	0.4%	1.8%	Televisions and Computer Monitors	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
White Goods	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%				
Remainder/Composite Metal	0.9%	0.8%	0.9%	Other	8.5%	7.7%	8.9%
				Tires and Other Rubber	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%
Glass	2.4%	2.3%	2.5%	Textiles	4.8%	4.7%	4.8%
Glass Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	1.1%	1.1%	1.1%	Bulky Materials	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
Other Glass Packaging Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	Mattresses	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Glass MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	Restaurant Fats, Oils and Grease	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Remainder/Composite Glass	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	Other Miscellaneous	2.8%	2.2%	3.1%
				Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
				Sample Count	52	17	35

Confidence intervals calculated at the 90% confidence level. Percentages for material types may not total 100% due to rounding.

3.3 WASTE COMPOSITION BY VEHICLE TYPE

This study also sought to capture and report on waste composition by truck type, shown in Table 3-4. It should be noted that these results are based on an increasingly small number of samples, which in turn increases the width of the confidence intervals. Further, outlier samples will have a much greater potential to skew results given the progressively smaller sample counts. For this reason, the reader is cautioned that the data below are limited in their ability to convey details about waste composition.

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Table 3-4 Comparison of Waste Composition by Truck Type

Material	Aggregate	Rear Load	Side Load	Front Load	Roll-off	
					Compactor	Closed Top
Paper	25.3%	28.5%	25.7%	24.1%	19.0%	21.3%
Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper	5.0%	5.3%	2.8%	6.0%	3.6%	9.6%
Waxed Cardboard	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%
High Grade Office Paper	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%
Magazines/Catalogs	0.5%	0.8%	0.2%	0.5%	0.3%	0.2%
Newsprint	0.6%	0.5%	1.1%	0.5%	0.6%	0.0%
Other Recyclable Paper	4.3%	5.1%	5.7%	2.8%	4.2%	4.1%
Compostable Paper	10.4%	11.9%	11.6%	10.6%	6.1%	4.6%
Remainder/Composite Paper	4.1%	4.7%	4.4%	3.6%	3.6%	2.8%
Plastic	18.1%	17.1%	15.9%	16.6%	23.2%	36.0%
PET Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit containers)	0.4%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.5%	0.8%
PET Containers other than Beverage Containers	0.7%	0.6%	0.9%	0.8%	0.3%	0.6%
Plastic MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.8%	0.6%	1.0%	1.1%	0.4%	1.6%
HDPE Bottles	0.6%	0.6%	0.8%	0.6%	0.2%	0.3%
#5 PP Bottles & Containers	1.0%	0.7%	1.1%	1.3%	1.0%	0.8%
Other Plastic Bottles & Containers (non-haz.)	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	2.0%	0.0%
Expanded Polystyrene Food Grade	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
Expanded Polystyrene Non-food Grade	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%
Bulk Rigid Plastic Items	2.7%	2.8%	1.1%	1.5%	5.0%	9.3%
Film (non-bag clean com/industrial film)	0.7%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	3.5%	0.0%
Grocery and other Merchandise Bags	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.7%
Other Film	7.5%	7.1%	7.5%	7.3%	7.6%	17.9%
Remainder/Composite Plastic	2.9%	3.2%	2.7%	2.8%	2.1%	3.5%
Metal	3.7%	3.2%	2.5%	4.4%	5.1%	1.5%
Aluminum Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Aluminum MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%	0.2%	0.4%
Tin/Steel Containers	0.7%	0.8%	0.5%	0.7%	0.9%	0.1%
Other Aluminum	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.4%
Other Ferrous and Non-Ferrous	1.4%	1.0%	0.1%	1.6%	3.1%	0.3%
White Goods	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Remainder/Composite Metal	0.9%	0.8%	1.1%	1.1%	0.7%	0.3%
Glass	2.4%	2.5%	1.7%	3.6%	0.8%	2.2%
Glass Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	1.1%	1.0%	0.3%	1.8%	0.4%	1.1%
Other Glass Packaging Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.5%	0.5%	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.9%
Glass MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.4%	0.4%	0.4%	0.8%	0.1%	0.2%
Remainder/Composite Glass	0.4%	0.5%	0.4%	0.5%	0.1%	0.0%
Organics	30.8%	30.8%	33.0%	31.6%	28.0%	27.8%
Food Waste	24.2%	26.5%	27.0%	24.9%	15.5%	18.3%
Branches and Stumps	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%
Prunings, Trimmings, Leaves and Grass	1.0%	0.4%	1.0%	1.6%	1.9%	0.0%
Manures	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Remainder/Composite Organic	5.3%	3.9%	4.8%	4.3%	10.6%	9.5%
C&D	4.9%	3.7%	2.3%	7.6%	6.0%	1.5%
Asphalt Pavement, Brick, and Concrete	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Aggregates, Stone, Rock, Soil, Fines	1.2%	0.4%	0.8%	2.4%	1.3%	0.0%
Wood - Treated	2.1%	1.9%	0.6%	2.0%	4.6%	1.2%
Wood - Untreated	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Asphalt Roofing	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Drywall/Gypsum Board	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Carpet and Carpet Padding	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Remainder/Composite Construction and Demolition	1.0%	1.3%	0.6%	1.3%	0.0%	0.2%

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Table 3-4 Comparison of Waste Composition by Truck Type (Continued)

Material	Aggregate	Rear Load	Side Load	Front Load	Roll-off	Roll-off
					Compactor	Closed Top
Household Hazardous Waste	6.0%	6.1%	10.1%	4.2%	6.0%	2.3%
Ballasts, CFLs, and Other Fluorescents	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Batteries - Lead Acid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Batteries - Other	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Paint	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Bio-Hazardous Waste	5.4%	5.1%	9.9%	3.8%	5.9%	1.9%
Vehicle and Equipment Fluids	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Empty Metal, Glass, and Plastic Containers.	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%
Other Hazardous or Household Hazardous Waste	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Electronics	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%
Computer-related Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Other "Brown Goods"	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%
Televisions and Computer Monitors	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other	8.5%	8.0%	8.8%	7.2%	12.0%	7.4%
Tires and Other Rubber	0.6%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%	1.5%	0.1%
Textiles	4.8%	4.4%	5.5%	3.6%	7.1%	6.0%
Bulky Materials	0.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Mattresses	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Restaurant Fats, Oils and Grease	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Miscellaneous	2.8%	2.8%	2.9%	2.5%	3.5%	1.3%
Totals	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Sample Count	52	21	7	15	8	1

Confidence intervals calculated at the 90% confidence level. Percentages for material types may not total 100% due to rounding.

3.4 COMPARISON WITH PRIOR WASTE COMPOSITION

As a final note, this study updates comparable studies performed in 2010, 2013, 2016, 2019, and 2022 and contains the same results sets as in these prior studies. For the convenience of the reader, Table 3-5 compares the aggregate waste composition from this 2025 update with the previous studies. Similar comparisons can be made for all of the results contained in this 2025 Study update.

Table 3-5 Comparison of 2025 Results with Prior Studies

Material	2025 Aggregate	2022 Aggregate	2019 Aggregate	2016 Aggregate	2013 Aggregate	2010 Aggregate
Paper	25.3%	24.4%	24.3%	20.7%	25.0%	23.7%
Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper	5.0%	6.9%	6.7%	8.3%	6.8%	9.2%
Waxed Cardboard	0.2%	0.7%	0.2%	0.2%	0.9%	0.1%
High Grade Office Paper	0.1%	0.6%	0.3%	0.6%	1.0%	0.9%
Magazines/Catalogs	0.5%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	1.8%	1.4%
Newsprint	0.6%	0.5%	1.1%	0.7%	1.8%	1.5%
Other Recyclable Paper	4.3%	3.6%	2.9%	3.6%	4.0%	4.6%
Compostable Paper	10.4%	7.3%	9.9%	5.9%	6.9%	4.7%
Remainder/Composite Paper	4.1%	4.2%	2.4%	0.7%	1.8%	1.4%
Plastic	18.1%	14.7%	16.7%	13.0%	14.8%	13.4%
PET Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit cont.)	0.4%	1.0%	1.0%	0.8%	0.6%	0.6%
PET Containers other than Beverage Containers	0.7%	0.7%	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%
Plastic MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.8%	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
HDPE Bottles	0.6%	0.7%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%
#5 PP Bottles & Containers	1.0%	0.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other Plastic Bottles & Containers (non-haz.)	0.4%	0.3%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Injection Molded Plastic Tubs/Lids	N/A	N/A	0.2%	0.4%	0.5%	0.2%
#3 - #7 Plastic Containers	N/A	N/A	1.2%	0.3%	0.7%	0.4%
Expanded Polystyrene Food Grade	0.3%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	1.7%	0.4%
Expanded Polystyrene Non-food Grade	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
Bulk Rigid Plastic Items	2.7%	2.0%	1.5%	1.0%	1.6%	3.1%
Film (non-bag clean com/industrial film)	0.7%	1.0%	0.8%	0.6%	1.2%	0.2%
Grocery and other Merchandise Bags	0.2%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.7%	0.5%
Other Film	7.5%	5.4%	6.0%	5.0%	4.9%	3.2%
Remainder/Composite Plastic	2.9%	1.7%	4.1%	3.4%	1.7%	3.7%
Metal	3.7%	4.6%	4.1%	4.3%	3.0%	5.5%
Al. Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit)	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Al. MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%
Tin/Steel Containers	0.7%	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	0.5%	0.7%
Other Aluminum	0.3%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%
Other Ferrous and Non-Ferrous	1.4%	1.1%	2.0%	0.7%	0.4%	1.7%
White Goods	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%
Remainder/Composite Metal	0.9%	1.8%	0.8%	2.1%	1.0%	2.2%
Glass	2.4%	2.7%	4.3%	1.9%	2.2%	1.7%
Glass Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit)	1.1%	1.2%	2.2%	0.7%	0.7%	0.4%
Other Glass Pkg Containers (non-MA deposit)	0.5%	0.6%	0.8%	0.4%	0.4%	0.3%
Glass MA Deposit Beverage Containers	0.4%	0.4%	0.7%	0.2%	0.6%	0.3%
Remainder/Composite Glass	0.4%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.3%	0.6%
Organics	30.8%	29.6%	23.4%	29.9%	27.9%	21.3%
Food Waste	24.2%	20.5%	18.0%	26.3%	20.5%	14.4%
Branches and Stumps	0.2%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.9%
Prunings, Trimmings, Leaves and Grass	1.0%	0.6%	2.8%	2.2%	3.4%	2.7%
Manures	0.0%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.6%
Remainder/Composite Organic	5.3%	7.6%	2.5%	1.4%	3.9%	1.8%

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Table 3-5 Comparison of 2025 Results with Prior Studies (Continued)

Material	2025 Aggregate	2022 Aggregate	2019 Aggregate	2016 Aggregate	2013 Aggregate	2010 Aggregate
C&D	4.9%	11.8%	14.9%	16.9%	8.9%	13.2%
Asphalt Pavement, Brick, and Concrete	0.3%	0.3%	0.4%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%
Aggregates, Stone, Rock, Soil, Fines	1.2%	0.6%	0.1%	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%
Wood - Treated	2.1%	2.9%	6.0%	5.9%	2.2%	5.4%
Wood - Untreated	0.2%	2.3%	2.0%	1.7%	0.8%	2.5%
Asphalt Roofing	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.5%
Drywall/Gypsum Board	0.0%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%	0.4%
Carpet and Carpet Padding	0.1%	2.3%	3.3%	4.4%	1.8%	2.8%
Remainder/Composite C&D	1.0%	2.2%	2.4%	3.3%	2.7%	1.0%
Household Hazardous Waste	6.0%	3.4%	4.3%	5.1%	2.8%	2.9%
Ballasts, CFLs, and Other Fluorescents	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
Batteries - Lead Acid	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Batteries - Other	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Paint	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Bio-Hazardous	5.4%	3.1%	3.9%	4.4%	2.2%	2.4%
Vehicle and Equipment Fluids	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%
Empty Mtl, Glass, & Plas. Cont. (former HHW)	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%
Pesticides and Fertilizers	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.0%	0.0%
Other Hazardous or HHW	0.2%	0.1%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%
Electronics	0.3%	0.4%	0.7%	1.2%	1.6%	4.1%
Computer-related Electronics	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%	0.6%	0.9%
Other "Brown Goods"	0.2%	0.2%	0.5%	0.7%	0.8%	2.1%
Televisions and Computer Monitors	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.2%	1.1%
Other	8.5%	8.2%	7.4%	7.0%	13.8%	14.2%
Tires and Other Rubber	0.6%	0.2%	0.6%	0.6%	2.5%	2.1%
Textiles	4.8%	3.7%	2.8%	5.1%	5.2%	6.0%
Bulky Materials	0.3%	2.4%	2.5%	0.8%	4.3%	3.4%
Mattresses	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	N/A	N/A
Restaurant Fats, Oils and Grease	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Other Miscellaneous	2.8%	2.0%	1.4%	0.4%	1.7%	2.6%
Totals	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Sample Count	52	54	52	52	52	52

APPENDIX A

Material Categories & Definitions

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APPENDIX A – MATERIAL CATEGORIES & DEFINITIONS

Material Category		Material Category Definition
Paper		
1	Corrugated Cardboard/Kraft Paper	Corrugated boxes or paper bags made from Kraft paper. Uncoated Corrugated Cardboard has a wavy center layer and is sandwiched between the two outer layers and does not have any wax coating on the inside or outside. Examples include entire cardboard containers, such as shipping and moving boxes, computer packaging cartons, and sheets and pieces of boxes and cartons. This type does not include chipboard. Examples of Kraft paper include paper grocery bags, un-soiled fast food bags, department store bags, and heavyweight sheets of Kraft packing paper.
2	Waxed Cardboard	Cardboard with wax coating on the inside or outside.
3	High Grade Office Paper	Paper that is free of ground wood fibers; usually sulfite or sulphate paper; includes office printing and writing papers such as white ledger, color ledger, envelopes, and computer printout paper, bond, rag, or stationary grade paper. This subtype does not include fluorescent dyed paper or deep-tone dyed paper such a goldenrod-colored paper.
4	Magazines and Catalogues	Glossy coated paper. This paper is usually slick, smooth to the touch, and reflects light. Examples include glossy magazines, catalogs, brochures, and pamphlets.
5	Newsprint	Paper chiefly used for printing newspapers – i.e. uncoated groundwood paper.
6	Other Recyclable Paper	Paper can be recycled. Examples include manila folders, manila envelopes, index cards, white envelopes, notebook paper, carbonless forms, junk mail, chipboard and uncoated paperboard, phone directories, non-glossy catalogs, offshore cardboard and deep-toned or fluorescent dyed paper.
7	Compostable Paper	Low-grade paper that is not capable of being recycled, as well as food contaminated paper. Examples include paper towels, paper plates, waxed papers, egg cartons, pizza boxes, and tissues.
8	Remainder/Composite Paper	Paper products made mostly of paper but combined with large amounts of other materials such as plastic, metal, glues, foil, and moisture. Examples include plastic coated corrugated cardboard, cellulose insulation, aseptic packages, poly-coated (gable top) cartons, blueprints, sepia, onionskin, foiled lined fast food wrappers, frozen juice containers, carbon paper, self-adhesive notes, softcover and hardcover books, and photographs.
Plastic		
9	PET Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit containers)	Clear or colored PET beverage bottles other than MA deposit containers (water, flavored water, juice, sports drinks, etc.). When marked for identification, it bears the number –1 in the center of the triangular recycling symbol and may also bear the letters “PETE” or “PET”. A PET container usually has a small dot left from the manufacturing process, not a seam.
10	PET Containers other than Beverage Containers	(which originally contained non-hazardous material) Types of containers such as PET jars, rectangular PET containers used for produce; egg cartons, etc.

APPENDIX A – MATERIAL CATEGORIES & DEFINITIONS

11	Plastic MA Deposit Beverage Containers	Plastic beverage containers subject to MA's bottle bill and marked as deposit containers in Massachusetts.
12	HDPE Bottles	Colored and natural, (which originally contained non-hazardous material) means natural and colored HDPE containers. This plastic is usually either cloudy white, allowing light to pass through it (natural) or a solid color, preventing light from passing through it (colored). When marked for identification, it bears the number "2" in the triangular recycling symbol and may also bear the letters "HDPE".
13	#5 PP Bottles & Containers	Bottles (other than those marked for MA deposit), tubs, lids, trays, clamshells and other containers labeled #5 PP.
14	Other Plastic Bottles & Containers	(Which originally contained non-hazardous material) Plastic bottles (other than those marked for MA deposit), tubs, tubes, trays, clamshells and other containers made of types of plastic other than PET, HDPE or PP. These containers are rigid (i.e., not expanded or film) plastic, and when marked for identification, may bear the number 3, 4, 6, or 7 in the triangular recycling symbol. This subtype also includes unmarked plastic containers.
15	Expanded Polystyrene Food Grade	"Styrofoam" products includes food packaging and finished products made of expanded polystyrene including cups, plates, trays, clamshells, etc.
16	Expanded Polystyrene Non-Food Grade	Non-food packaging and finished products made of expanded polystyrene including packing peanuts and other packaging materials.
17	Bulk Rigid Plastic Items	Plastic objects other than disposable package items. These items are usually made to last for a few months up to many years. These include the plastics used in children toys, furniture, plastic landscape ties, buckets, crates, pallets, sporting goods, etc.
18	Film (non-bag clean commercial and industrial packaging film)	Film plastic used for large-scale packaging or transport packaging. Examples include shrink-wrap, mattress bags, furniture wrap, and film bubble wrap.
19	Grocery and other Merchandise Bags	Plastic shopping bags, used to contain merchandise to transport from the place of purchase, given out by the store with the purchase. Includes dry-cleaning plastic bags intended for one-time use and other plastic film commonly recycled with grocery bags.
20	Other Film	Plastic film Examples include garbage bags and other types of plastic bags (sandwich bags, zipper-recloseable bags, produce bags, frozen vegetable bags, newspaper bags), painting tarps, food wrappers such as candy-bar wrappers, mailing pouches, bank bags, X-ray film, metallized film (wine containers and balloons), and plastic food wrap.
21	Remainder/Composite Plastic	Plastic that cannot be put in any other type or subtype. This type includes items made mostly of plastic but combined with other materials. Examples include auto parts made of plastic attached to metal, plastic drinking straws, foam packing blocks (not including expanded polystyrene blocks), plastic strapping, new plastic laminate (e.g., Formica), vinyl, linoleum, plastic lumber, imitation ceramics, handles and knobs, some kitchen ware, plastic string (as used for hay bales), and plastic rigid bubble/foil packaging (as for medications); CD's, and rigid plastic housewares, such as mop buckets, dishes, cups, and cutlery.

APPENDIX A – MATERIAL CATEGORIES & DEFINITIONS

Metals		
22	Aluminum Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit containers)	Beverage containers made from aluminum other than MA deposit containers.
23	Aluminum MA Deposit Beverage Containers	Metal beverage containers subject to MA's bottle bill and marked as deposit containers in Massachusetts.
24	Tin/Steel Containers	Rigid containers made mainly of steel, such as food and beverage containers. These items will stick to a magnet and may be tin-coated.
25	Other Aluminum	Includes foil, food containers, aerosols (empty), etc.
26	Other Ferrous and Non-Ferrous	Any iron or steel that is magnetic and metal items that are not magnetic (copper, brass, lead, zinc, etc). This subtype does not include "tin/steel containers". Examples include empty or dry paint cans, structural steel beams, boilers, clothes hangers, pipes, some cookware, security bars, scrap ferrous/nonferrous items, and galvanized items such as nails and flashing.
27	White Goods	Appliances that employ electricity, oil, natural gas, or liquefied propane and to preserve or cook food; wash or dry clothing, kitchen utensils, or related items; or to cool or heat air or water. These are primarily encased in metal, and include items such as refrigerators, freezers, stoves, water heaters, propane/compressed tanks, water coolers, dishwashers, clothes dryers, air conditioners, gas or electric ovens and ranges. White goods does not include microwaves.
28	Remainder/Composite Metal	Metal that cannot be put in any other type. This type includes items made mostly of metal but combined with other materials and items made of both ferrous metal and nonferrous metal combined. Examples include microwaves, bikes, motors, insulated wire, and finished products that contain a mixture of metals, or metals and other materials, whose weight is derived significantly from the metal portion of its construction.
Glass		
29	Glass Beverage Containers (non-MA deposit containers)	Wine bottles, nonalcoholic beverage containers, liquor bottles, etc.
30	Other Glass Packaging Containers (non-MA deposit containers)	Glass food and non-food containers such as sauces, jars, perfume containers, etc.
31	Glass MA Deposit Beverage Containers	Glass beverage containers subject to MA's bottle bill and marked as deposit containers in Massachusetts.
32	Remainder/Composite Glass	Glass that cannot be put in any other type. It may include items made mostly of glass but combined with other materials. Examples include Pyrex, Corningware, crystal, plate glass, window and door glass, ceramics, porcelain, and other glass tableware, mirrors, non-fluorescent light bulbs, auto windshields, laminated glass, or any curved glass.

APPENDIX A – MATERIAL CATEGORIES & DEFINITIONS

Organics		
33	Food Waste	Food material resulting from the processing, storage, preparation, cooking, handling, or consumption of food. This type includes material from industrial, commercial, or residential sources. Examples include discarded meat scraps, dairy products, eggshells, fruit or vegetable peels, and other food items from homes, stores and restaurants. This type includes apple pomace and other processed residues or material from canneries, wineries or other industrial sources.
34	Branches and Stumps	Trees, stumps, branches, or other wood greater than 1 inch in diameter generated from landscapes, clearing land for commercial or residential development, road construction, agricultural land clearing, storms, or natural disaster.
35	Prunings, Trimmings, Leaves and Grass	Plant material, except woody material 1inch or less in diameter from any public or private landscapes. Examples include branches, prunings, shrubs, leaves, grass clippings, and plants. This subtype does not include woody material greater than 4 inches in diameter.
36	Manures	Manure and soiled bedding materials from domestic, farm, wild, or ranch animals. Examples include manure and soiled bedding from animal production operations, racetracks, riding stables, animal hospitals, laboratories, zoos, nature centers, and other sources.
37	Remainder/Composite Organic	Organic material that cannot be put in any other type or subtype. This type includes items made mostly of organic materials but combined with other materials. Examples include cork, hemp rope, hair, cigarette butts, full vacuum bags, sawdust, and animal feces.
C&D		
38	Asphalt Pavement, Brick, and Concrete	Asphalt pavement, brick, and concrete from construction activities and demolition of buildings, roads, and bridges and similar sources. Asphalt pavement also includes other black or brown, tar-like material mixed with aggregate and used as a paving material. Brick also includes masonry brick, landscaping or walkway brick. Concrete also includes pieces of building foundations, concrete paving, and cinder blocks.
39	Aggregates, Stone, Rock, Soil, Fines	Non-organic material from construction and landscaping activities. May also include products made predominately from these materials (i.e. granite counters).
40	Wood - Treated	Wood that contains an adhesive, paint, stain, fire retardant, pesticide or preservative.
41	Wood - Untreated	Any wood which does not contain an adhesive, paint, stain, fire retardant, pesticide or preservative; includes such items as pallets, skids, spools, packaging materials, bulky wood waste or scraps from newly built wood products. Does not including land clearing debris or yard waste prunings and trimmings
42	Asphalt Roofing	Composite shingles and other roofing material made with asphalt. Examples include asphalt shingles and attached roofing tar and tar paper.
43	Drywall/Gypsum Board	Interior wall covering made of a sheet of gypsum sandwiched between paper layers. Examples include used or unused, broken or whole sheets of sheetrock, drywall, gypsum board, plasterboard, gypsum board, gyproc, and wallboard.
44	Carpet and Carpet Padding	Flooring applications consisting of various natural or synthetic fibers which maybe bonded to some type of backing material and plastic, foam, felt, or other material used under carpet to provide insulation and padding.
45	Remainder/Composite Construction and Demolition	Construction and demolition material that cannot be put in any other type or subtype. This type may include items from different types combined, which would be very hard to separate. Household Hazardous Waste

APPENDIX A – MATERIAL CATEGORIES & DEFINITIONS

HHW		
46	Ballasts, CFLs, and Other Fluorescents	Ballasts, which are devices that electrically control fluorescent light fixtures and that include a capacitor, CFLs, which are compact fluorescent bulbs, and other fluorescent lighting, which includes tubular fluorescent lamps, neon lamps, black lights, and other lamps used for sanitation or cosmetic purposes.
47	Batteries – Lead Acid	Lead acid storage batteries most commonly used in vehicles such as cars, trucks, boats, etc.
48	Batteries – Other	Alkaline (including alkaline rechargeable) or household batteries such as AA, AAA, C, D, 4.5-volt, button cell, rechargeable and 9-volt used for flashlights, small appliances, and electronic devices.
49	Paint	Containers with paint in them. Examples include latex paint, oil-based paint, and tubes of pigment or fine art paint. This type does not include dried paint, empty paint cans, or empty aerosol containers.
50	Bio-Hazardous Waste	Discarded animal or human medical/treatment wastes including needles, first aid wastes, diapers and other products which are used in relation to animal or human care. This category does not include cat litter or animal feces.
51	Vehicle and Equipment Fluids	Containers with fluids used in vehicles or engines. Examples include antifreeze, oil, and brake fluid. This type does not include empty vehicle and equipment fluid containers. Oil filters include vehicle engine oil filters.
52	Empty Metal, Glass, and Plastic Containers	(That originally contained toxic materials) All containers that are empty but that at one time contained toxic or hazardous fluids or other materials. Examples include empty antifreeze, oil, or lye containers.
53	Other Hazardous or Household Hazardous Waste	All household or commercial products characterized as toxic, corrosive, flammable, ignitable, radioactive, poisonous, or reactive. Includes pesticides and fertilizers.
Electronics		
54	Computer-related Electronics	Computer CPUs, laptop computers, notebook computers, processors, printers, scanners, keyboards, etc. This category does not include automated typewriters or typesetters, portable handheld calculators, portable digital assistants or other similar devices.
55	Other “Brown Goods”	cell phones, iPods, PDAs, small electronic appliances such as toasters, telephones, stereos, radios, clocks, hair dryers etc.
56	Televisions and Computer Monitors	Stand-alone display system containing a CRT or any other type of display primarily intended to receive video programming via broadcast. Examples also include non-CRT units such as plasma and LCD monitors.

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Other Materials		
57	Tires & Other Rubber	Continuous solid or pneumatic rubber covering intended for use on any type of vehicle (including bicycles), or trailer to be used in tandem with any type vehicle and other rubber products.
58	Textiles	Natural or man-made textile materials such as cottons, wools, silk, nylon, polyester. Includes clothing, curtains, towels and other fabric materials.
59	Mattresses	Mattresses and box springs.
60	Bulky Materials	Products made from multiple materials and large in size, which are meant for extended use. Includes furniture (non-plastic), sinks, toilets, and other non-metal items
61	Restaurant Fats, Oils and Grease	Any fats, oils and grease generated from the food preparation process.
62	Other Miscellaneous	Any other type of waste not listed in any other sort category.





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