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2020 Oregon Material Recovery and Waste Generation Rates Report

By:

Materials Management Program

Land Quality Division

Oregon Department of Environmental Quality



This document was prepared by
The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality
Materials Management Program
700 NE Multnomah Street, Portland Oregon, 97232
Contact: Michelle Shepperd
Phone: 503-229-6724
www.oregon.gov/deq



Acknowledgments

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Michelle Shepperd, Camilla Picollo, Peter Spendelow, Martin Brown, Jaclyn Palermo and Julie Miller Materials Management, DEQ Headquarters

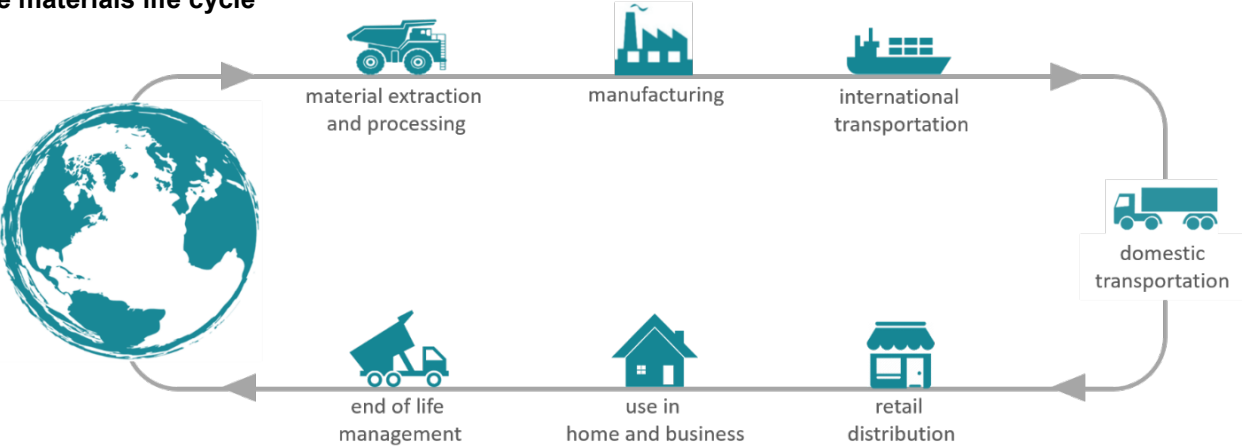
This report provides one of the most complete and accurate collections of state-level disposal and recycling data in the country.

DEQ can provide documents in an alternate format or in a language other than English upon request. Call DEQ at 800-452-4011 or email deqinfo@deq.oregon.gov.

Executive Summary

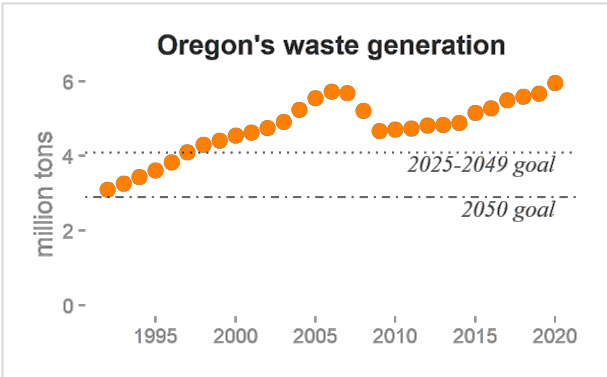
The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality’s Materials Management program takes a holistic view of environmental impacts of materials. It considers the impacts that occur across the full life cycle of materials, including resource extraction, design and production, use, and end-of-life management, including solid waste disposal and recovery.

The materials life cycle



This report focuses on how Oregon manages materials at the end of their useful lives, via disposal and recovery.

- *Disposal* refers to all materials placed in landfills and many materials burned in incinerators.
- *Recovery* refers to recycling, composting and some incineration with energy recovery.
- *Generation* is the sum of disposal and recovery and represents the total tonnage of the waste stream.
- The *recovery rate* is the percentage of generation recovered.



In 2020 people in Oregon:

- Generated 5,960,805 tons of waste, up five percent from 2019;
- Disposed of 3,452,854 tons into landfills and incinerators, up 5.2 percent from 2019; and
- Recovered 2,507,951 tons of material, up 4.4 percent from 2019. The recovery rate is thus 42.1 percent of waste generated, very similar to 2019’s 42.2 percent.

The rise in waste generation in 2020 was interesting given 2020 was the first year of the COVID-19 pandemic. Other Oregon statistics, including use of transportation fuels, appear to show pandemic-related declines in this period. However, waste generation by households and businesses increased more than five percent over 2019, bigger than the last four previous year-over-year increases, which ranged between 1.5 and 4.2 percent. It was also bigger than the likely year-over-year population increase (less than one percent). Something about pandemic or lockdown conditions apparently increased certain types of consumption.

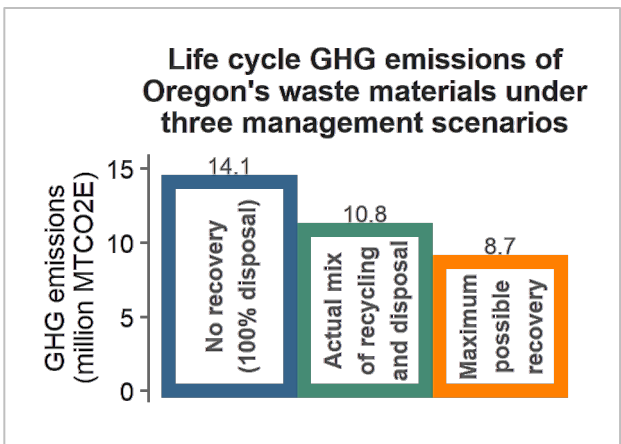
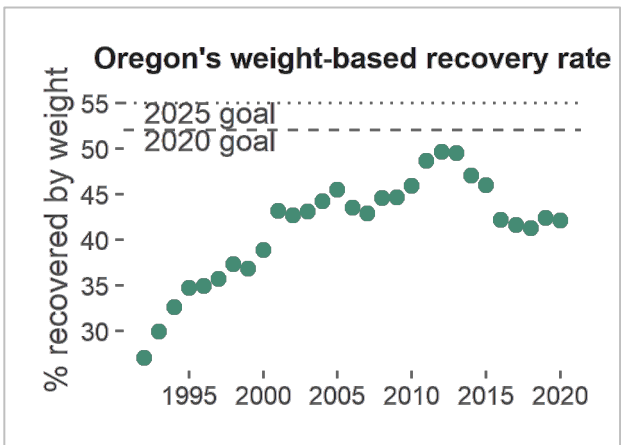
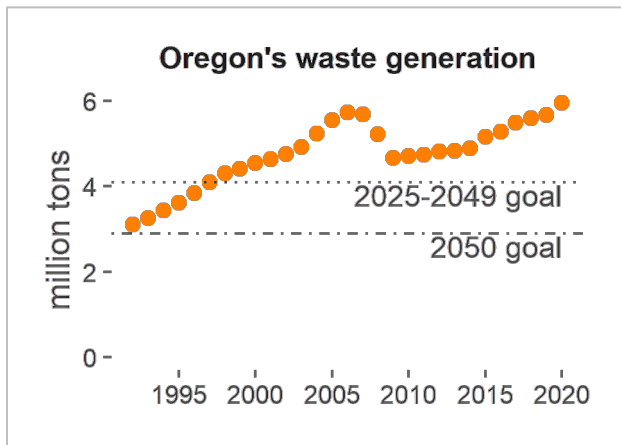
The total recovered tons increased by about 100,000 tons in 2020 when compared to 2019. Materials showing the biggest changes in recovery were yard debris (+75,000 tons) and ferrous scrap metal (+50,000 tons). Meanwhile, container glass and wood waste recovery declined. Cardboard recovery showed an increase of nearly 30,000 tons when compared to 2019, while other grades of paper fiber continued a trend of decline, dropping 14,000 tons, as people used electronic media rather than paper for communication. DEQ was expecting to see an increase in residential recycling recovery when compared to commercial, due to the great reduction in commercial activity due to COVID-19, but surprisingly, the ratio of residential to commercial recovery increase only slightly in 2020 and remained well in the range of the ratio in the past.

State goals for solid waste:

Waste generation remained well above the goal set for 2009-2024 by the Oregon Legislature. Weight-based recovery rates are lower than the legislated goals set for 2020 and 2025.

Recovery and environmental impacts:

Recovery via recycling and other means has environmental value. DEQ estimates that in 2020 (just as in 2019), material recovery reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 3.3 million metric tons of CO₂ equivalents, compared to a scenario where all waste was disposed. Another 2.15 million MTCO₂E in



reductions are possible if recovery rates could be raised in an optimal fashion for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Even with maximized recovery, the GHG impacts of materials in the waste system would be considerable, around 8.7 million MTCO₂E. For context, Oregon's total emissions from all sources exceeded 60 million MTCO₂E in 2018.

Recovery does present an opportunity for environmental impact reductions, but only a limited one. To achieve deeper reductions in the environmental impacts of materials and waste, DEQ and its partners will need to take actions across the entire materials life cycle, for example, by redesigning products and reducing overall materials use.

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Introduction and purpose

This report describes results and methodology for Oregon’s Material Recovery Survey for calendar year 2020. “Material recovery” includes all materials collected for recycling or composting, and for a subset of materials, incineration with energy recovery. Each year, the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality compiles data on municipal post-consumer waste recovery. DEQ sends a survey to all collection service providers and private recycling companies that handle materials for recycling, composting and energy recovery. Survey data is combined with data gathered from

Total Recovered		
2,507,951 tons		
<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>		= Recovery Rate
Total Generated		
(Total Recovered + Total Disposed)		42.1%
5,960,805 tons		

quarterly and annual disposal site reporting forms. Together, recovery and disposal numbers make up the amount of waste generated by people in Oregon each year.

DEQ uses this information to estimate energy savings and greenhouse gas reductions, two important environmental benefits from material recovery; additionally, using it to calculate material recovery rates and waste generation. The recovery rate is the percentage of the total waste generated in Oregon that is recycled, composted, or recovered for energy. Waste generation is the amount of waste recovered plus the amount of waste disposed. Recovery, disposal and generation data, as well as recovery rates, are calculated for the state and for each of Oregon’s 35 individual wastesheds¹.

Individual wastesheds also use this information to implement and improve their waste prevention and material recovery programs.

¹ A "wasteshed" is defined in Oregon law as being an area of the state that shares a common solid waste disposal system, or an appropriate area in which to develop a common recycling system. For the most part, individual Oregon counties are designated as wastesheds. Three exceptions are that:

- The greater Portland tri-county area, consisting of Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington Counties, is designated as the Metro wasteshed.
- Milton-Freewater, a city within Umatilla County, is designated as a separate wasteshed.
- For most cities such as Albany that have populations in two counties, the entire city was included in the wasteshed that included the larger portion of the city population. The exception is Salem, where most of Salem is in the Marion Wasteshed, but West Salem is included in the Polk Wasteshed.

This is the 29th year that DEQ has used the survey to gather this data. The 1991 Oregon Legislature enacted requirements (see [Oregon Revised Statute 459A](#)) for this annual survey and set goals for state and local recovery rates. These recovery goals were amended by the Legislature in 2001, and then again in 2015. Wasteshed goals range from 15 percent (Lake Wasteshed) to 64 percent (Metro and Marion Wastesheds) by 2025. The statewide recovery goals are 52 percent recovery by 2020 and 55 percent recovery by 2025.

In 2001, the Legislature also established statewide goals for reducing waste generation. These goals were revised by the Legislature in 2015. The waste generation goals require that the generation of solid waste in the years 2025 to 2049 be 15 percent below the amount of solid waste generated in 2012, and for 2050 and beyond, the generation goal is 40 percent less than the waste generated in 2012.

Requirement to report

Oregon law requires that all publicly and privately operated recycling and material recovery operations complete a Material Recovery Survey form. This includes landfills, local recycling collectors, private recycling collection companies and depots, transfer stations, material recovery facilities, composters, local governments, and any other operation that handles post-consumer recoverable materials. One exception, due to the difficulty of separating post-consumer scrap metal from commercial and industrial scrap metal, are companies handling only scrap metal. These companies are not required to report on privately obtained post-consumer scrap metal, but many do report on a voluntary basis.

The survey requires that companies report all recyclable materials they handle, including the amount of each material collected, the county of origin, the company they received any transfers from, and where or to whom the materials were marketed.

Oregon law further requires DEQ to keep confidential the information reported by private recyclers. This includes customer lists and specific amounts and types of materials collected or marketed by individual companies. For private recyclers, only aggregated information may be released to the public.

Materials included in the analysis

Oregon's analysis of the environmental benefits from material recovery and the recovery rates includes only post-consumer materials generated in Oregon for recycling, composting or energy recovery. Per Oregon's recycling law (ORS 459A.010 (3)(a)), waste from manufacturing and industrial processes (pre-consumer materials), reconditioned and reused materials, material that can be disposed of as clean fill without being put in a landfill such as brick and concrete, and waste originating out of state (but handled in Oregon) are excluded. Some scrap metals, including discarded vehicles or parts of vehicles and metal derived from major demolition activities handled by scrap metal dealers, are also excluded. Scrap metal collected at disposal

sites by collection service providers, at community recycling depots or through municipally sponsored collections events counts as recovered material.

The first Material Recovery Survey for the 1992 calendar year included 30 types of materials. Since then, some new materials have been added and other materials consolidated, so that the survey now contains 33 types of material. The major materials for 2020 are:

- Yard Debris
- Metals – Tinned cans, aluminum and other scrap metals
- Cardboard
- Wood Waste
- Paper Fiber – Other paper fiber (combined high-grade paper, newsprint and mixed scrap paper) not including cardboard
- Container Glass
- Food Waste – Residential and commercial food waste
- Other – Including tires, used motor oil, antifreeze, batteries of all types, gypsum, asphalt roofing materials, textiles, paint, and animal waste and grease
- Plastic – Rigid plastic containers, plastic film, other plastics and composite plastics (including carpet pad)
- Electronics

A complete list of materials recovered is included in Table 8, at the end of this report.

Recovery and reductions in environmental impacts

Summary of analytical results

Oregon's recovery activity in 2020 can be associated with:

- 3.3 million metric tons CO₂ equivalents of reductions in greenhouse gas emissions; and
- 40 trillion British thermal units of savings in energy demand.

These savings in energy and greenhouse gas impacts are similar to the values reported for 2019 (32 trillion BTU and 3.3 MMTCO₂E). The increase in energy savings is probably mostly due to changes in DEQ's methods (discussed later under "Methodological Details").

If recovery could be increased from its current rate (about 42 percent by weight) to rate corresponding with a maximum reduction in greenhouse gas emissions (about 70 percent by weight), it can be estimated that:

- GHG emissions would decline an additional 2.2 MMTCO₂E; and
- Energy expenditures would decline an additional 45 trillion BTU.

Such savings must be placed within the context of the state's total environmental impacts.

- Oregon's total GHG emissions are more than 60 MMTCO₂E. A recent DEQ report² gives recent yearly totals as 66.2 MMTCO₂E, from a sector-based method, and 88.7 MMTCO₂E, from a consumption-based method.
- Oregon's overall direct energy expenditures are around 1,015 trillion BTU per year, in a recent Oregon Department of Energy report.³

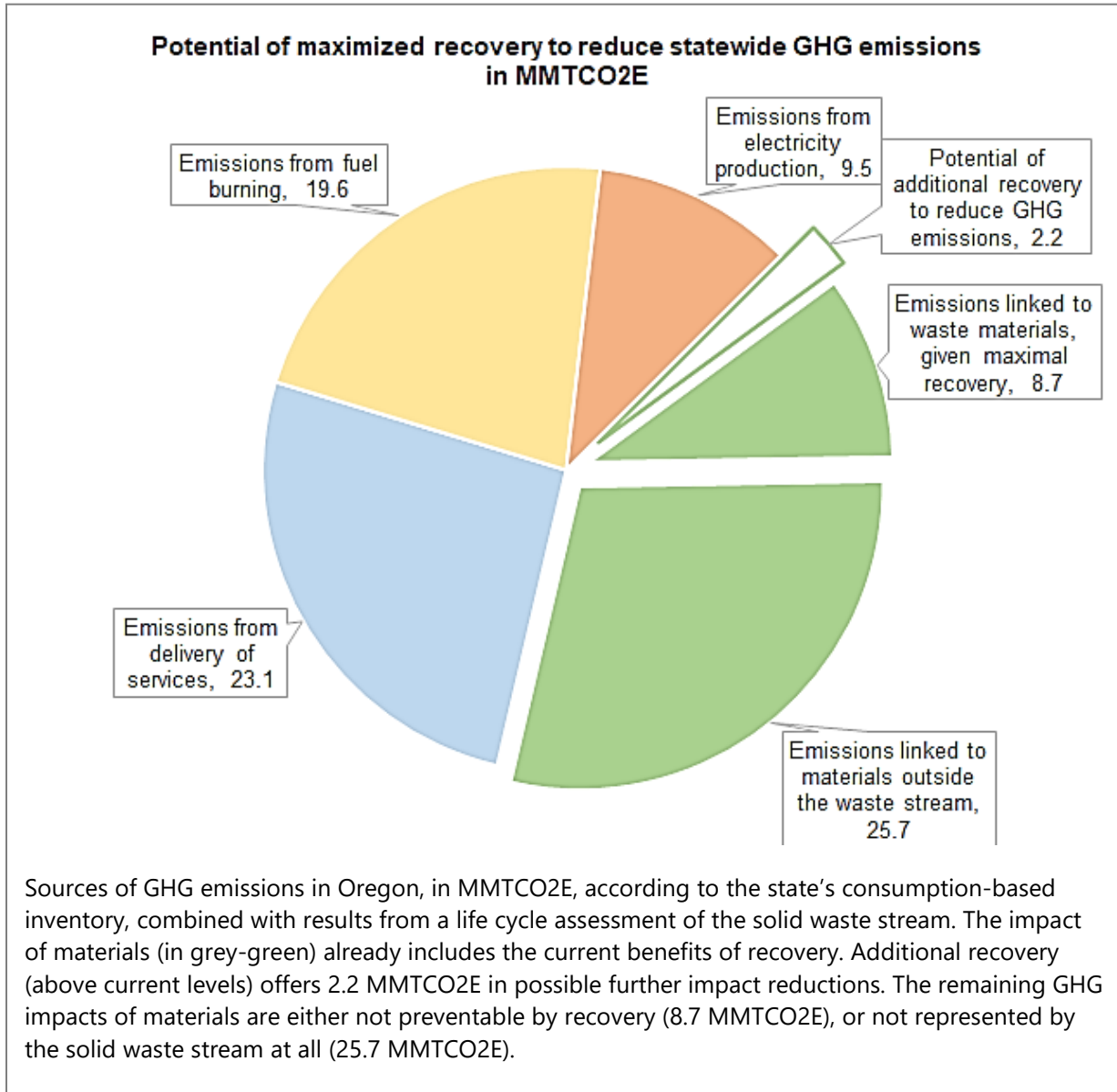
The pie chart below combines results from the consumption-based emissions inventory with estimates of the impacts of waste. It shows that while increased recovery does present an opportunity for environmental impact reductions, the opportunity is limited. Increased recovery, by itself, cannot provide the sizeable decreases in impacts anticipated by the state's greenhouse gas reduction goals (ORS 468A.205), or the *2050 Vision*.⁴ Achieving greater reductions in

² Oregon DEQ, "Oregon's Greenhouse Gas Emissions through 2015: An Assessment of Oregon's Sector-Based and Consumption-Based Greenhouse Gas Emissions," May 2018, www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/OregonGHGreport.pdf.

³ Oregon Department of Energy, "2020 Biennial Energy Report," November 2020, <https://www.oregon.gov/energy/Data-and-Reports/Documents/2020-Biennial-Energy-Report.pdf>

⁴ Oregon DEQ, "Materials Management in Oregon: 2050 Vision and Framework for Action," 2012, www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/MManagementOR.pdf.

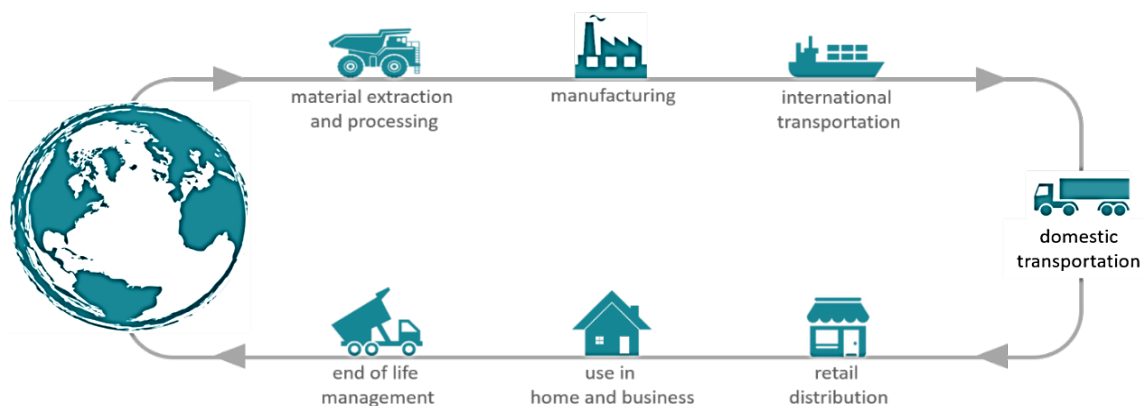
environmental impacts of materials will require other materials management strategies, such as the redesign of products and reduced material use.



Understanding impact reductions

All products and materials can be seen within the context of the materials life cycle. Everything people touch or use has been created somehow – usually via “extraction” from the earth or soil, followed by production, distribution, consumption, and use, and “end of life” processes such as disposal or recycling. Environmental impacts occur at every stage of this life cycle. For example, extracting ore or operating a farm uses machinery that emits GHGs and expends energy. The sum total of impacts associated with the materials life cycle are called the “life cycle impacts.”

The materials life cycle



Recovery activities such as recycling and composting also create impacts. For example, recycling trucks emit GHGs and expend energy as they collect material, as does processing collected recyclables to create new products.

Where, then, do the “impact reductions” or “savings” associated with recovery come from?

DEQ assumes, as is conventional in the field of life cycle assessment, that use of recovered materials prevents production from newly extracted material, or otherwise prevents some undesired environmental impact. For example, production of a metric ton of glass from recycled sources may save about 300 kg of GHG emissions, *compared to the emissions of production from newly extracted material*.⁵ Similarly, while aerobic composting does lead to CO₂ emissions, composting may still represent a savings *compared to the methane emissions that could result from disposal in a landfill*.⁶

⁵ David A. Turner, Ian D. Williams, and Simon Kemp, “Greenhouse Gas Emission Factors for Recycling of Source-Segregated Waste Materials,” *Resources, Conservation and Recycling* 105, Part A (December 2015): 186–97, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.resconrec.2015.10.026>.

⁶ US EPA, “Organic Materials Chapters [Documentation for Greenhouse Gas Emission and Energy Factors Used in the Waste Reduction Model (WARM)],” February 2016, www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2016-03/documents/warm_v14_organic_materials.pdf.

Accordingly, “impact reductions” or “savings” are not direct measurements, but *projections* of how impacts could differ if materials had been managed differently at end-of-life.⁷

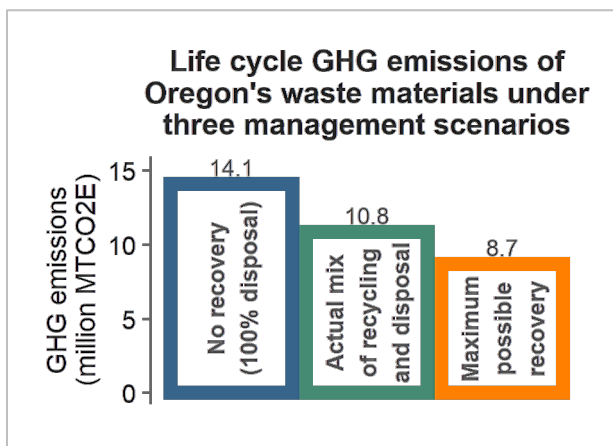
It is important to note that these impacts may occur spread over time instead of in a single year and may occur in areas outside of Oregon. Though we associate the materials in the waste stream with a particular place (Oregon) and time (for example, 2020), the life cycle impacts of those materials are not always so localized. An item recycled in 2020 in Oregon may have been created in another state or country in a different year. An item disposed in 2020 may decay in a landfill, but slowly over a period of many years. Environmental impacts, and “savings,” are spread out over time and space.

Methodological details, in brief

DEQ calculates impact reductions through a multi-step process. First it characterizes Oregon’s solid waste stream, which includes both disposed and recovered materials, by weight and end-of-life disposition (for example, recycling, composting or landfilling). Next it links those weights to “impact factors” that convert weights into environmental impacts for both production processes and end-of-life dispositions. Appropriate credits are given for recovery activities when it can be presumed that recovery has prevented some other, greater environmental impact, as described earlier. Then it sums life cycle impacts for three possible management scenarios:

- *Actual*: the life cycle impact of materials in the solid waste stream, given the current mix of recovery and disposal.
- *No recovery*: the life cycle impact of materials in the solid waste stream if no recovery had taken place and all materials had been disposed.
- *Maximum possible recovery*: the life cycle impact of materials in the solid waste stream, if all materials were recovered in the fashion that reduced total life cycle GHG emissions the most.

Note that in all scenarios, the weights of materials are the same. The scenarios differ only in the end-of-life dispositions of those materials. The *maximum possible recovery* scenario assumes that recovery has been maximized in the way that produces the lowest total life cycle greenhouse gas impacts, which corresponds to a recovery rate of about 70 percent by weight. (The figure is less than 100 percent because some materials have no



⁷ The assumptions behind such projections are important to note. Such calculations, including DEQ’s, presume that demand for materials is unaltered by the presence of recycled materials, and that collected recyclables actually replace newly extracted materials at a high rate, often 1:1. Authors such as Zink and Geyer question both these assumptions – see doi://10.1111/jiec.12545 and doi://10.1111/jiec.12355 .

realistic recycling path, and for others recycling does not reduce greenhouse gas emissions.)

Finally, “impact reductions” or “savings” are calculated as differences between the scenarios. The currently realized savings are the difference between the *no recovery* impact and the *actual* impact. The additional savings, which might be realized by maximizing recovery, are the difference between the *actual* impact and the *maximum possible recovery* impact.

For example, the currently realized GHG savings of 3.3 MMTCO₂E, and the additional potential savings of 2.2 MMTCO₂E (after rounding), were calculated by comparing life cycle emissions for the three scenarios, totaling 14.1, 10.8, and 8.7 MMTCO₂E.

The weight data describing Oregon’s waste stream comes from several sources.

- Quantities and dispositions of recovered materials come from DEQ’s Material Recovery Survey for 2020.
- Quantities of disposed materials are derived by combining the total amount of material disposed in Oregon in 2020, from DEQ’s disposal records, and the Waste Composition Study⁸ for 2016/17, which lists proportions of disposed waste in various material categories.

Impact factors come from Oregon DEQ’s new Waste Impact Calculator model. This is a change from reports representing years up to and including 2019, which drew impact factors from EPA’s WARM model. The Waste Impact Calculator was created by Oregon DEQ specifically to match assumptions appropriate to Oregon and was independently reviewed by Dr. Christoph Koffler of the life cycle consulting firm Sphera. The WIC model, its documentation, and Koffler’s review are available on github.⁹

In general, the switch to WIC has lowered estimates of the total GHG impacts linked to solid waste, but calculations of savings linked to recovery are very similar.

For further information about how DEQ calculates impact reductions contact Martin Brown at 503-229-5502, or martin.brown@deq.oregon.gov.

⁸ Oregon DEQ, “Statewide 2016 Waste Composition Study: Excel Results Files Updated June 20, 2018 [Sheet P16TOT],” 2018, www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/A01-StatewideWCS16.xlsx.

⁹ <https://or-dept-environmental-quality.github.io/wic/>

Recovery rates

The recovery rate is the percentage of total waste generation that is recovered. DEQ calculates both the statewide recovery rate and a recovery rate for each of the 35 individual wastesheds in the state.

2020 statewide recovery rate

In 2020, the state recovered 2,507,951 tons of material. This represented 42.1 percent of the municipal post-consumer waste stream, well below the statewide goal of 52 percent recovery by the year 2020. Recovered tons increased by 4.35 percent from the previous year surveyed, 2019.

From 1992 through 2005, tons of material recovered increased regularly each year. From 2006 through 2009, recovered tons declined even though recovery rates were fairly flat, as declining consumption of newspapers and magazines, followed by a general decline in overall consumption due to the recession, reduced the amount of material available to be recovered. In 2010, Oregon saw an increase in recovery, as the economy gradually recovered from the recession. In 2020 cardboard recovery saw an increase of 28,684 tons and scrap metal increased 49,641 tons over 2019 levels. Paper fibers continue to decrease setting a record low of 179,400 tons recovered and electronics saw a decrease of 2,832 tons.

Oregon State Recovered Tons and Recovery Rates

Year	Tons Recovered	Tons Disposed	Calculated Rate ¹⁰
1992	839,679	2,263,099	27.1
1993	974,685	2,280,513	29.9
1994	1,118,912	2,312,669	32.6
1995	1,257,204	2,362,146	34.7
1996	1,338,259	2,497,170	34.9
1997	1,462,114	2,633,017	35.7
1998	1,604,985	2,695,903	37.3
1999	1,626,271	2,788,699	36.8
2000	1,765,817	2,778,463	38.9
2001	1,999,085	2,635,072	43.1
2002	2,029,261	2,723,365	42.7
2003	2,116,880	2,796,787	43.1
2004	2,317,064	2,923,462	44.2
2005	2,523,367	3,026,457	45.5
2006	2,494,050	3,235,828	43.5
2007	2,437,569	3,248,126	42.9
2008	2,326,146	2,890,503	44.6
2009	2,082,631	2,586,721	44.6
2010	2,163,957	2,523,808	46.2
2011	2,306,124	2,437,767	48.6
2012	2,391,490	2,424,833	49.7
2013	2,390,859	2,513,404	49.5
2014	2,307,269	2,634,653	47.2
2015	2,369,080	2,784,467	46.0
2016	2,225,950 ¹	3,059,745 ¹	42.1 ¹
2017	2,286,969	3,237,214 ¹	41.4 ¹
2018	2,307,545 ¹	3,295,468 ¹	41.2 ¹
2019	2,403,393 ¹	3,286,308 ¹	42.2 ¹
2020	2,507,951	3,452,854	42.1

¹ These tonnage figures are corrected from earlier published values.

¹⁰ Between 2001 and 2015, Oregon’s law specified that “credits” be provided towards the statewide recovery goal for jurisdictions that promoted programs for home composting and for material reuse - programs for which recovery is difficult to measure directly. At the state level, these credits added about 3.6 to 3.8 percent to the statewide recovery rate in those years. Changes in legislation in 2015 eliminated the recovery credits, and so they have been dropped from this table.

A total of 3,452,854 tons of municipal post-consumer waste from Oregon were disposed in 2020. This increase of over five percent from 2019 is a record high since the material recovery survey began in 1992. Per-capita disposal was 1,618 pounds for the year, a nearly seven percent increase above the 1992 figure of 1,513 pounds; however, still below the 2007 per capita disposal peak of 1,734 pounds per year.

Total tons disposed added to total tons recovered equaled an all-time high of 5,960,805 tons of total waste generated in 2020 (see Waste Generation on page 12). Total generation increased five percent, with per-capita generation increasing over four percent from 2019 levels.

Waste recovery increased by 4.35 percent (+104,559 tons) and disposal increased more than five percent (+166,546 tons), resulting in the increase in generation (+271,104 tons). Although waste generation has increased steadily since 2010, moving us away from our waste generation goals, total generation in 2020 reached an all-time high, surpassing its peak in 2006 by 230,927 tons. This is an increase of four percent in waste generation between 2006 and 2020, but on a per-capita basis, the 2020 generation rate was still ten percent less than the 2006 rate.

How DEQ calculates the statewide recovery rate

DEQ combines information about quantities of material collected from privately-operated recycling and material recovery facilities with recovery information from collection service providers and disposal site collections, in a manner that eliminates double counting of material that is passed on from collectors through processors to end-users. This determines the total weight of material recovered.

Next, DEQ adds the total weight of material recovered to the total weight of material disposed, obtained from disposal site reports. This sum is the total weight of material generated. The total weight of material recovered is divided by the total weight generated. This results in the calculated recovery rate.

How DEQ calculates individual watershed recovery rates

The total weight of material recovered is allocated to the watershed of origin. Direct collectors of materials are the primary and best information source for the collected materials' watershed of origin. When information from direct collectors is not available, or when a survey respondent does not know the watershed of origin for the collected materials, DEQ uses information from the companies receiving materials from the collectors in order to allocate material back to watersheds. Material is allocated back to watersheds based on population in rare cases when survey respondents and market information is insufficient.

DEQ also uses information from disposal site reporting forms to determine the total weight of material disposed to the watershed of origin. For each watershed, total weight of material disposed is added to total weight of materials recovered to ascertain the amount of waste

generated in the wasteshed. The total weight of material recovered is divided by the total weight generated to determine the calculated recovery rate for each wasteshed.

Marion County adjustment

As home to the state's only municipal waste-to-energy incinerator, Marion County's recovery and disposal tonnages are revised each year to include certain wastes burned for energy as recovered, as directed by the 2001 Legislature. For 2020, two materials that could be counted toward the recovery rate when burned for energy were wood waste and yard debris. In 2020, 14,885 tons of these materials burned for energy in the county's incinerator were counted as recovered instead of disposed. Marion County also recovered 7,558 tons of scrap metal from the incinerator ash. DEQ subtracted the scrap metal tonnage from the Marion County disposed tons so that the same tons would not be counted as being both disposed and recycled.

Wasteshed recovery rates

Oregon has 35 individual wastesheds, each with its own recovery rate and goal. Based on the new goals established by Senate Bill 263, seven wastesheds are already at or above their goal for 2025.

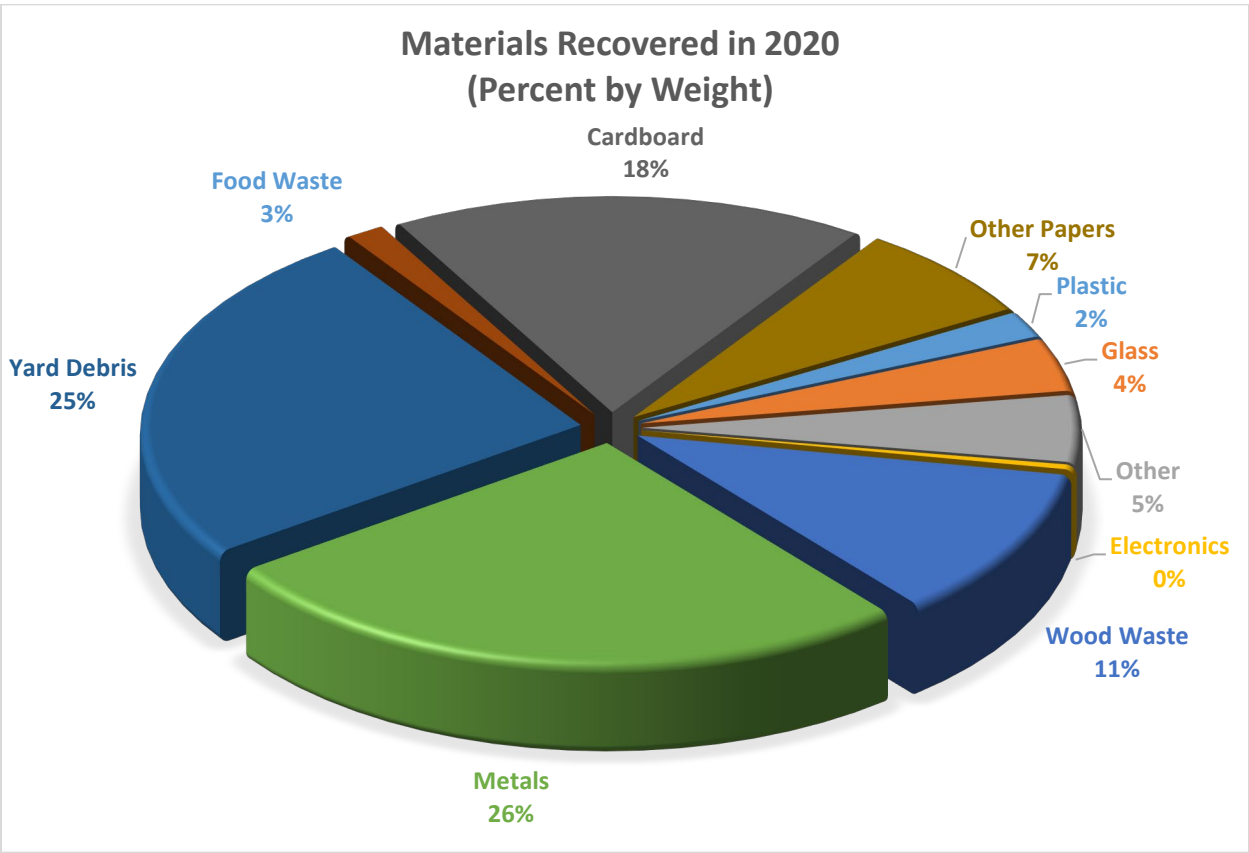
The Survey Report Tables listed on page 21 of this report show 2020 recovery rates for each wasteshed (Table 1), tons of materials recovered in 2020 by wasteshed (Table 2), and tons of solid waste disposed by wasteshed in 2020 (Table 3).

For a historical look at recovery, disposal and generation data in Oregon, see Survey Report Tables 4, 5, 6 and 7, which provide the most recent and updated recovery rates, recovered material tons, disposal tons, and tons of solid waste generated each year since the Material Recovery Survey began in 1992.

Materials recovered

Oregon’s material recovery rate for 2020 includes materials that were recycled, composted (including yard debris, food waste and some wood waste), and burned for energy (including tires, fuels, oil-based paint, used oil, wood waste and some yard debris). Sixty-two percent of the material recovered was recycled, 26 percent was composted, and 12 percent was burned for energy.

The chart below shows major categories of materials recovered in 2020 and the percentage of total recovery (by weight) for each category. Specific materials included in these categories are listed on page four.



Factors affecting material recovery in 2020

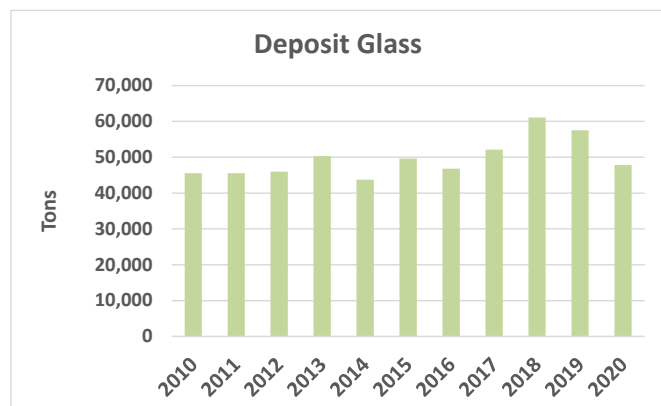
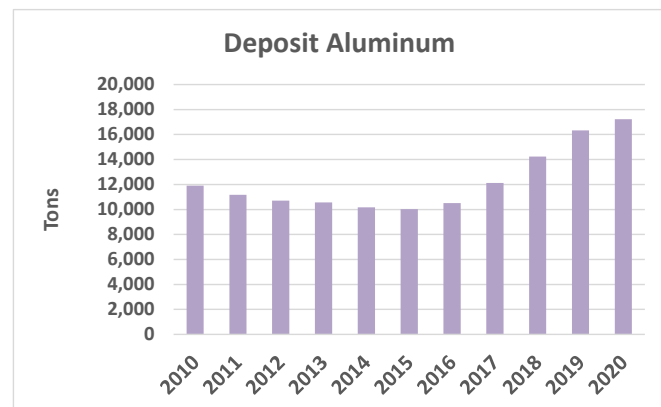
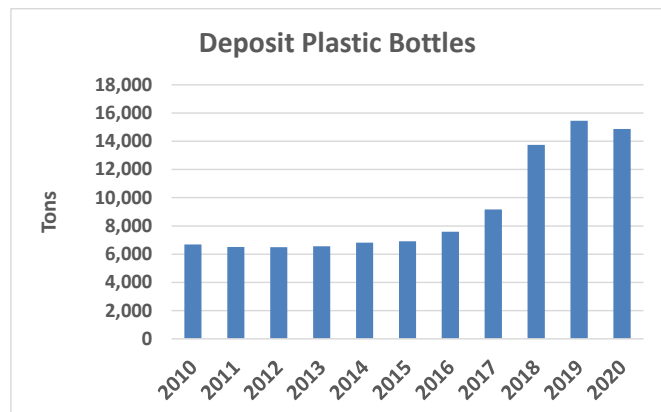
The COVID-19 lockdowns probably had a significant impact on the generation and recovery of materials, although other factors also played a role. Yard debris recovery was up 75,000 tons from the previous high in 2019, and 140,000 tons (28 percent) more than the average for the past 10 years. Possibly this may have resulted from people spending more time at home, and thus having more time for gardening and yard maintenance. Surprisingly, scrap metal (excluding tin cans and aluminum) was up nearly 50,000 tons in 2020 over the previous high in 2019, and

150,000 tons (32.7 percent) over the average for the previous 10 years. This is especially surprising since scrap metal prices were generally lower in 2020 than in previous years, and scrap metal recycling rates are usually positively correlated with metal recycling prices.

The trends for paper recovery continue the recent patterns. Cardboard recycling increased by 28,700 tons or 6.9 percent over 2019, in spite of a likely reduction in commercial activity due to the COVID-19 lockdowns. Increase in e-commerce has led to an increase in cardboard generation in residential settings. On the other hand, the recycling of other paper has continued its long, slow decline since its peak in 2007, as newspaper and magazine sales continue to fall as people switch more to electronic media for communication. Recycling of paper other than cardboard was down 14,200 tons (7.3 percent) compared to 2019, and down 83,500 tons (31.8 percent) compared to the average for the previous 10 years.

COVID-19 definitely impacted the recovery of beverage containers under the Oregon Bottle Bill. Through much of the year, most stores discontinued the redemption of beverage containers, as allowed by the Oregon Liquor and Cannabis Commission due to concerns over COVID-19 transmission. Redemption centers remained open, but large parts of the state are not served by redemption centers. At the same time though, the consumption of beverages at home increased greatly in 2020. So, even though the redemption rate of beverage containers fell from 85.8 percent in 2019 to 77.2 percent in 2020, the absolute number of containers redeemed only fell by one percent. There was also a continued shift in beer sales from glass bottles to aluminum cans, increasing the tons of aluminum recycled while decreasing the glass. The three bar charts to the right show the tons of aluminum, glass and plastic beverage containers recycled under the Bottle Bill since 2010.

The large increase in beverage container redemption starting in 2017 and 2018 resulted from the doubling of the refund value to 10 cents in April 2017 and the addition of juices, teas, and many other beverages to the Bottle Bill in 2018.



Although the redemption rate dipped in 2020 due to COVID-19, preliminary data from the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative show that the redemption rate climbed again in 2021. Increases in recycling tonnage under the Bottle Bill come from two sources:

- More containers being redeemed instead of being disposed or littered, and
- Containers being redeemed instead of being placed out for curbside collection or recycled at depots.

Moving containers from disposal or litter clearly has major environmental benefits. However, even moving containers from depots or on-route collection also results in a greater tonnage of material recycled, as Bottle Bill recycling is much less contaminated than is true for materials collected commingled, resulting in a higher yield of material actually recycled into new products or packaging.

Impact of China's import bans and 2017-18 recycling market disruption

As discussed in the 2018 and 2019 Oregon Material Recovery Surveys, China implemented a ban on importation of mixed recyclables including almost all post-consumer plastics starting in 2018. Many other Asian countries then took similar steps, strongly limiting the markets for plastics and mixed paper. With the disappearance of markets for these materials, the price of plastic and paper for recycling dropped precipitously, and instead of being paid for commingled recyclable materials, on-route collection companies were having to pay to have their materials accepted by the commingled recycling processing facilities. According to data from *RecyclingMarkets.net*, prices for most grades of paper and plastic continued to be very low through the late fall of 2020, although the prices of many recyclables skyrocketed in 2021.

In response to the market disruption, many jurisdictions dropped plastic tubs and pails, and sometimes other materials such as mixed paper, from their collection programs in 2018. Most programs that dropped material in 2018 continued to not collect those materials in 2020, although a few did add back certain items to their on-route programs. Programs in the Portland Metro area, Deschutes County, and Clatsop County did not make any changes to their on-route collection programs in spite of the market disruption and continue to collect the same materials that they have collected for more than a decade.

Plastics recycling tonnage, particularly film plastic, dropped sharply in 2018 due to the market crisis for recycled plastic. Film plastic tonnage increased slightly in 2020, but is still nearly 40 percent lower than the record film plastic recycling tonnage in 2016. Rigid plastic recycled tons has increased back to 2016 levels, but only because the increase in tonnage collected under the Bottle Bill replace the tons of plastic tubs and pails lost when many recycling programs dropped tubs and pails from their collection list.

Year to year changes in material collected

Plastics. A total of 9,736 tons of film plastic were collected for recycling in 2020, compared to 8,170 tons in 2019. Rigid plastic containers increased by 1,307 tons, from 29,857 tons in 2019 to 31,165 tons in 2020.

Paper (including cardboard). Although there was an overall increase in recovery for paper fibers by over two percent in 2020; printing, writing and other papers continued their decline by over seven percent, a decrease of 14,226 tons from 2019. Cardboard recovery increased by 28,684 tons, nearly seven percent up from 2019. The cardboard increase is mainly attributed to the pandemic, as a large portion of the population were sequestered home and conducted their shopping online.

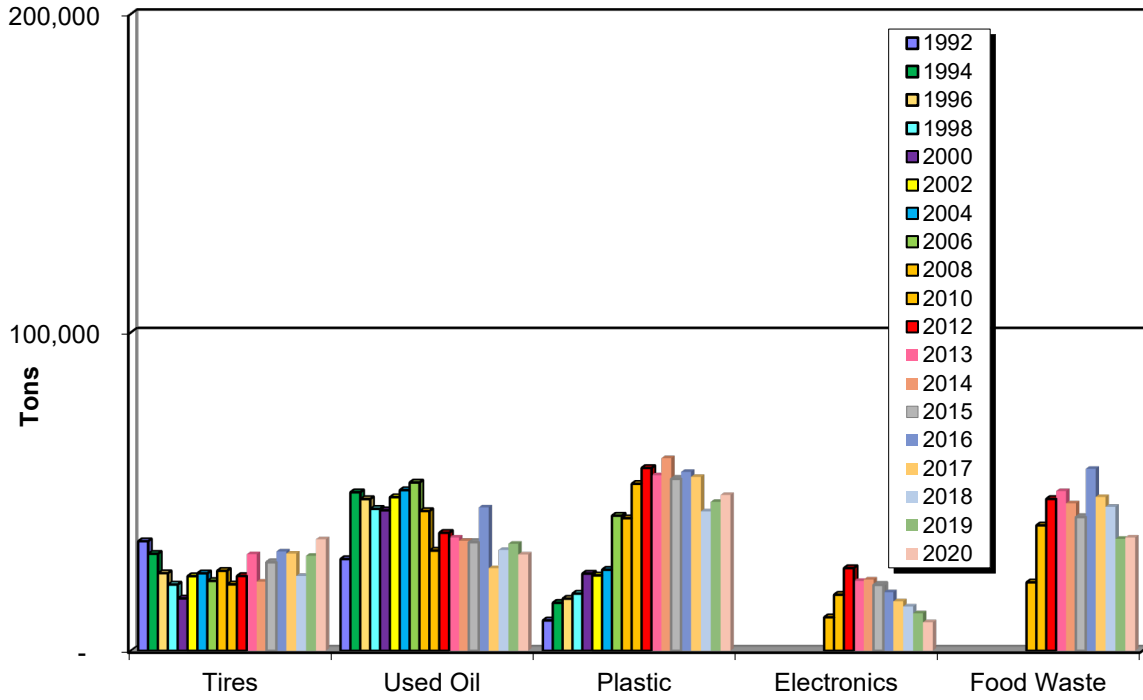
Metals. The total amount of scrap metal increased by over seven percent in 2020 compared to 2019. This increase of 49,641 tons is in spite of the pandemic. Tinned cans saw a decrease of over 33 percent, while aluminum saw a fraction of a percent decrease, only 83 tons.

Electronics. Electronics recovery continued its decline showing a decrease of over 24 percent in 2020 compared to 2019. This is still partially due to the decrease in the number of cathode ray tube monitors and TVs returned for recycling as lighter flat-screen devices replace the heavier CRT devices.

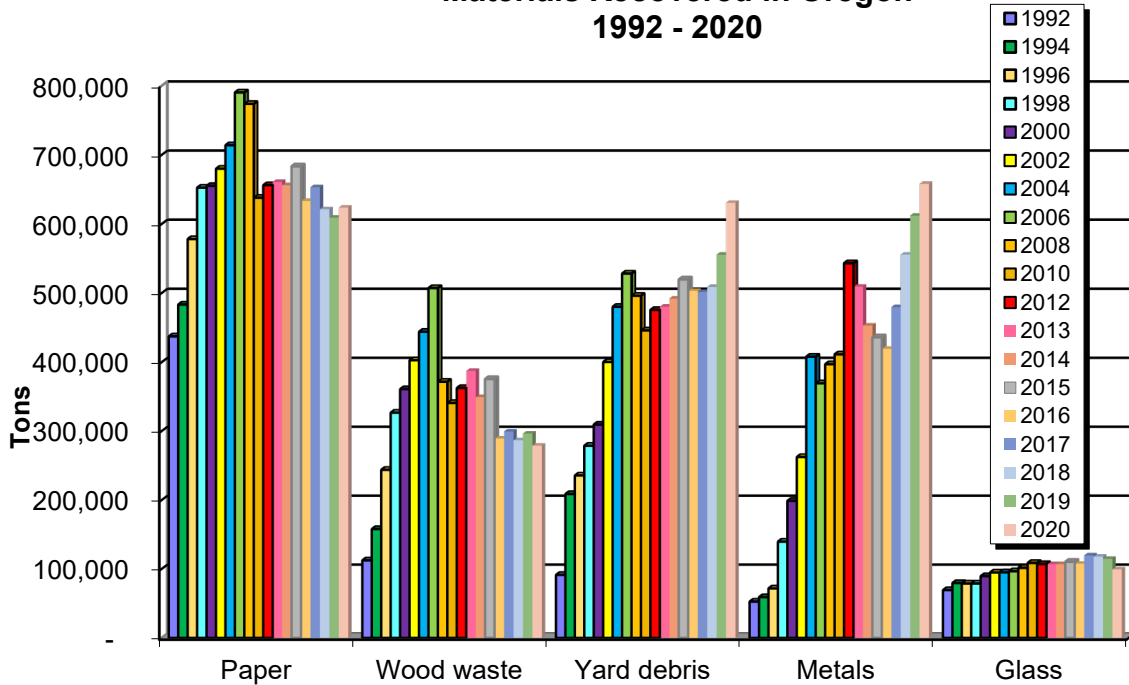
Organics. The total recovery of organics (which includes animal waste/grease, wood waste, yard debris, and food waste) increased over seven percent in 2020. There was an increase of 75,066 tons of yard debris compared to 2019; and a notable increase in animal waste/grease recovered by over 67 percent from 2019.

The following charts compare the materials recovered over the past 29 years.

Materials Recovered in Oregon 1992 - 2020

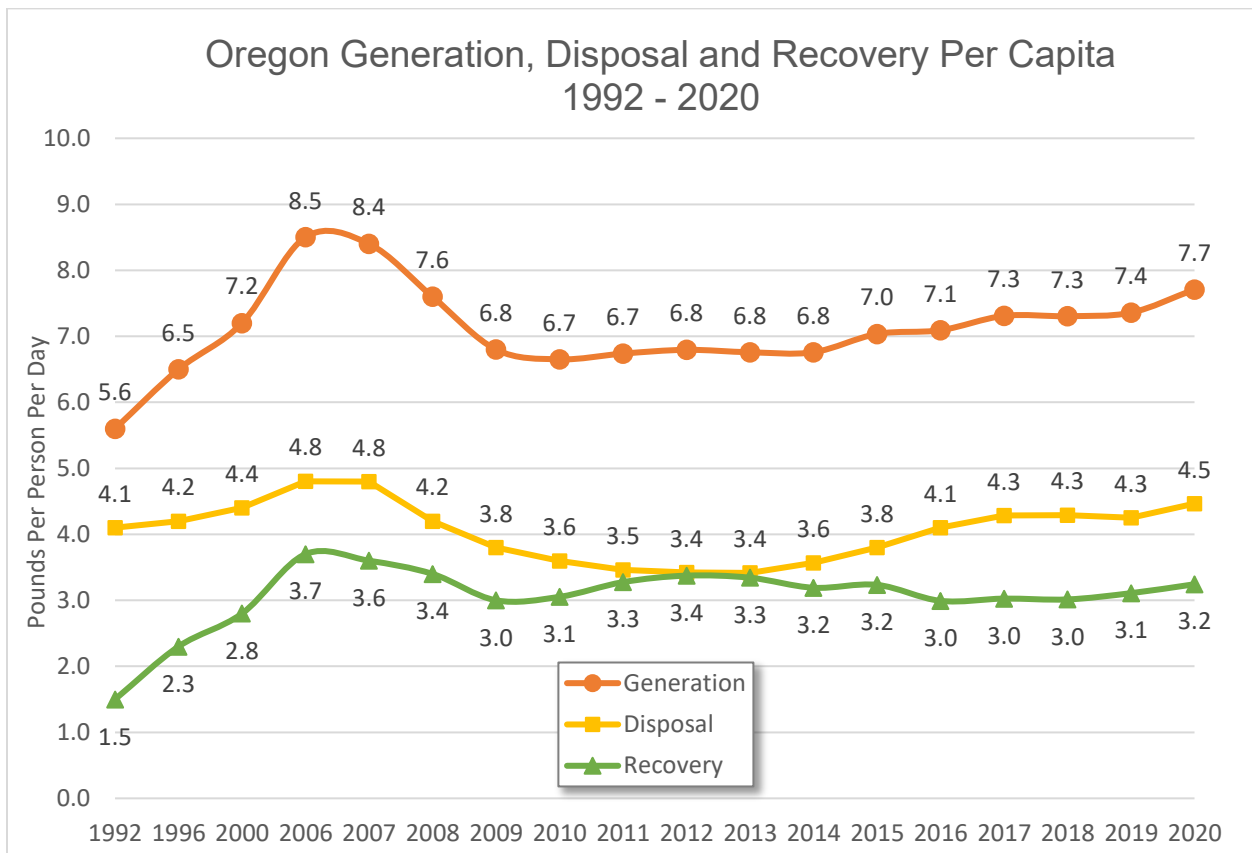


Materials Recovered in Oregon 1992 - 2020



Waste generation

Changes in the total amount of municipal solid waste generated (materials recovered plus waste disposed) in Oregon over time tells an interesting story. From 1992 to 2006, total waste generation increased every year, often steeply. Waste generation then declined slightly in 2007 and sharply in both 2008 and 2009, coinciding with the economic recession. Between 2009 and 2014, waste generation started growing again, but at a very slow pace, averaging less than one percent increase per year. In 2020 Oregon generated 5,960,805 tons of municipal solid waste, an increase of nearly five percent over 2019. This equates to per-capita generation of 2,793 pounds per person (7.7 pounds per day), a four percent increase from 2,686 pounds per person (7.4 pounds per day) in 2019. Total waste generation in 2020 was a new high (230,927 tons over) from its peak in 2006. This is an increase of over four percent in total waste generation between 2006 and 2020, or an over 10 percent increase in the per-capita amount.



Generation can be seen as a crude measure of consumption, and for many materials, the environmental impacts of production (the corollary of consumption) are many times higher than the impacts of disposal. For example, EPA has estimated that roughly 40 percent of the country's

greenhouse gas emissions are associated with the production and transportation of goods¹¹. The leveling off of waste generation in 2006, the sharp decline in 2007 through 2009, and lack of restoration to pre-recession levels since then suggests that some of the changes in waste generation that occurred during the last recession may be long-lasting, and that the reduction in use of materials is not temporary. Reduction in materials use would, in turn, likely result in a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions associated with all stages of the life cycle of materials. Many other adverse environmental impacts associated with materials likely also decreased.

The following table shows the disposition of the municipal solid waste generated in Oregon in 2020. See Table 9 for individual wasteshed dispositions.

Disposition of Waste Generated in Oregon in 2020	
Disposition	Percent by weight
Disposed*	57.9
Recycled	26.2
Composted	10.8
Recovered for Energy*	5.1

*For the Marion County's waste-to-energy facility only the portion of waste that counts toward the county's and state's recovery rates is included here in "recovered for energy" (see Marion County Adjustments on page 15). Other wastes burned at the facility are counted here as disposed.

¹¹ Figure ES-1 of Opportunities to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions through Materials and Land Management Practices. US Environmental Protection Agency, Sept. 2009.

Discussion

In 2015, Oregon adopted new statutory goals of 52 percent recovery by 2020 and 55 percent by 2025. We did not meet the 2020 goal, as our 2020 recovery rate was 42.1 percent. At the time these goals were adopted, we did not anticipate the closure of the paper mill that by far was the largest user of post-consumer wood waste as a fuel, nor the discontinuance of the use of wood by other mills, strongly impacting the ability to recover and use wood. Though much less impactful from the perspective of tonnages of material recycled, we also did not anticipate that Oregon and the world would experience disruptions in the markets for most plastics and for mixed paper, as China, the largest importer of recyclable material in the world, restricted the importation of these materials and has banned the importation of unsorted paper and all unprocessed post-consumer plastics in 2018.

Despite these challenges, in 2020 Oregon recovered 2,507,951 tons of material for recycling, composting and energy recovery, giving a recovery rate of 42.1 percent, just under the 2019 rate of 42.2 percent (corrected). Other anticipated changes in products and packaging are likely to make it even harder to achieve the state's goals in 2020 and 2025, as products and packaging become increasingly difficult to recycle due to such factors as substituting light-weight non-recyclable packaging for heavier recyclable packaging. Although these changes may make achieving a weight-based recovery goal more difficult, they may lead to environmental benefits since less material is needed for the packaging, resulting in less energy use and greenhouse gases produced and even less solid waste generated and disposed.

The energy savings and greenhouse gas reductions associated with materials recovered for recycling, composting and energy recovery in 2020 were similar to the values reported for 2019. Energy savings were 40 trillion BTUs, and reductions in GHGs continue to be 3.3 MMTCO₂E. If recovery were increased to the maximum possible level using current technology, another 45 trillion BTUs and 2.2 MMTCO₂E in savings might be realized.

These numbers should be viewed in the context of Oregon's total environmental impacts. Oregon's total yearly energy expenditure is around 1,000 trillion BTUs, and Oregon's total yearly GHG emissions are around 66 or 89 million metric tons, depending on analytical method. Recovery can reduce impacts, but it cannot reduce them on the scale of the changes anticipated by state goals such as the *2050 Vision*.

Greater impact reductions should be achievable by other materials management strategies, such as reducing the generation of waste in the first place. Unfortunately, waste generation in 2020 reached a new high, about 230,000 tons higher than Oregon's previous peak of generation in 2006. Though per capita waste generation was lower in 2020 than 2006, the state's overall increase in generation is concerning, since every ton of waste represents environmental impacts from across the materials life cycle.

Adjustments to reports from previous years

DEQ continues to review and use survey data even after publishing the final report each year. Occasionally, we encounter and correct errors in previously reported results. Thus, tonnages published in this report for previous years may not match the tonnages originally reported for that year.

DEQ made the following adjustments for the 2020 report:

- A correction to food waste reported in 2019 as recovered was revised to “reuse,” removing those tons from the total recovered for 2019.
- A correction to disposal tonnage, the non-reporting of some disposal tons going out-of-state and the misreporting of counting solid waste tons was made to the 2019 survey period.

DEQ corrected data in previous years, for the following reasons:

- A correction to disposal tonnage, the non-reporting of some disposal tons going out-of-state – was made to the 2018 survey period.
- A correction to recovered tonnage of some materials reported by a recycler was made to the 2017 survey period, due to some double counts discovered.
- Based on the recyclers reporting in 2018, some materials were not reported due to unknown markets. These materials will be revised during the 2019 reporting period.
- A correction to recovered tonnage of cardboard was made to the 2017 survey period, due to a double count discovered.
- A revision was made to the breakdown of food waste and yard debris mix from the curbside tons collected and composted. Prior to 2018 reporting, the breakdown was 90 percent yard debris and 10 percent food waste; the revised breakdown is split between metro area collections (89.3 percent yard debris, 9.5 percent food waste and 1.2 percent solid waste) and non-metro area collections (94.1 percent yard debris, 4.8 percent food waste and 1.2 percent solid waste). This breakdown revision resulted in an overall increase of yard debris and an overall decrease in food waste; as well as a slight decrease in overall organic tons by accounting for the 1.2 percent solid waste.
- A significant correction to disposal for several wastesheds, increased the total tons disposed in Oregon and dropped the recovery rate from 42.8 percent to 42.1 percent for 2017. This also resulted in the publishing of a revised 2017 report in March 2019.
- A correction to recovered tonnage of yard debris was made to the 2015 and 2016 survey period, due to a double count discovered.

- A correction was made to some asphalt roofing tons that were found to be used as alternative daily cover at a local landfill but that had been reported as recovered. "Alternative daily cover" - material used to cover garbage daily at a landfill instead of using soil, is considered to be a form of disposal rather than recovery. This correction was made to 2015 and 2016 data.
- The yard debris and asphalt roofing corrections resulted in adjustments to the previous year's recovery rates; the recovery rate for 2015 dropped from 46.2 to 46.0 percent, the recovery rate for 2016 dropped from 42.6 to 42.2 percent.
- A correction to recovered tonnage of yard waste was made to the 2015 survey period, a reporting facility for 2016 sent in a missing 2015 report.
- In 2016 a correction was made to some "plastic other" and "plastic film" incorrectly converted to tons from pounds, this increased the total recovered for both materials.
- A couple of 2015 disposal reports were revised. This adjustment increased disposal tonnage for 2015; which dropped the state recovery rate from 46.5 percent to 46.2 percent for 2015.
- A correction to recovered tonnage of wood waste in two wastesheds was made to survey years 2014 and 2013, as some tonnage was determined to be pre-consumer material.
- Adjustments were made to 2014 and 2013 animal waste/grease collection amounts, as well as correctly identifying wastesheds of origin, based on revised reporting by an end-user.
- Disposal tonnage was reported for the wrong wasteshed. This adjustment increased disposal tonnage for 2014 for one wasteshed; which changed the wasteshed rate of the two wastesheds involved. This did not affect the state's recovery rate.
- An error in reporting was discovered by one of the recycling processors; a large amount of newspaper was double counted in the previously published 2004 results. The paper was counted both at the processing facility and at the paper mill.
- An enforcement action carried out by Metro showed that most of the brick reported as being recycled by one facility was falsely reported. DEQ subsequently decided that brick more closely resembled other inert materials such as cement and asphalt. Since these are not counted toward the recovery rate, brick was removed from all previous recovery tonnages.
- New information showed that corrections needed to be made to tonnages for roofing and non-container glass in 2003 and 2004, as well as other minor adjustments in other categories.
- Field visits showed that some plastic for 2005 had been reported as 'Plastic Other' and that this material was actually 'Rigid Plastic Containers.' The 2005 numbers have been adjusted for this change, along with a few other minor adjustments.
- Field visits and continued investigation showed that previously reported 'Wood Waste' collections for 2006 were actually collected in three years – 2004, 2005 and 2006. These years are now correct.
- The 2006 and 2007 plastics numbers were adjusted between grades of "Rigid Plastic Containers," "Plastic Other," and "Plastic Film." This may have led to small changes in the recovered tonnages for these materials.
- Investigation of disposal numbers at two landfills led to deductions in the amount of SW disposed – these were really Industrial Waste, non-counting for the purposes of this survey.

- Some changes were made in 2006 and 2007 to disposition of materials. Changes were made to composted, burned for energy recovery and disposed amounts.
- Adjustments were made to the 2007 collection amounts, correctly identifying the watershed of origin.
- For 2006 and 2007, some non-counting slaughterhouse material was deleted from the recovered tonnage.
- Sawdust material from manufacturing was deleted for 2006 and 2007.
- Beginning with 2006, material previously identified as "CD – Construction and Demolition" was separated out into individual materials.
- Textiles previously counted were determined to be re-used, which does not count for recovery. 2006, 2007, 2010 and 2011 recovered tonnage was decreased.
- Some gypsum sent for disposal was included in the 2006 and 2007 tonnage – this was removed.
- Bottle Bill materials, container glass and aluminum had better reporting for 2009, and DEQ made some adjustments to those materials for 2008.
- Municipal solid wastes from another landfill were determined to be industrial and were deleted from the 2007 and 2008 counting tonnages.
- Minor disposal adjustments were made to two watersheds for 2006 data with incorrectly reported county of origin.
- Yard debris numbers contained a large double counting for the Metro region – the correction caused a decrease in recovered tons
- Some roofing material was deleted - it was determined to be industrial material.
- Added in disposal tonnages for 2009 and 2010 for material sent out of state for disposal.
- Corrected the disposition methods for food waste and yard debris in 2011.
- Fixed the disposal tonnages originally recorded for the incorrect watershed in 2011.
- An error in food waste reporting discovered by DEQ showed a large amount of food waste was double counted in the 2011 and 2012 reports. The food waste was counted both by the composting facility and by the recycling collectors.
- More accurate reporting identified corrections needed in tonnages for used oil, antifreeze, solvents and used oil filters in 2011 and 2012.
- Adjustments were made to 2013 and 2012 collection amounts, as well as correctly identifying watersheds of origin.
- Municipal solid waste from one landfill was reported incorrectly as out-of-state waste, this adjustment increased the "counting" disposal tonnage for 2013. This in turn adjusted the state recovery rate from 54 percent for 2013 to 53.4 percent.

2020 survey report tables

List of data tables one through nine used for this report.

Table 1: Wasteshed Recovery Rates, 2020

Table 2: Amount Recovered in 2020 by Wasteshed

Table 3: Solid Waste Disposed in 2020 by Wasteshed

Table 4: Oregon Calculated Recovery Rates by Wasteshed, 1992-2020

Table 5: Oregon Amount Recovered by Wasteshed, 1992-2020

Table 6: Oregon Solid Waste Disposed by Wasteshed, 1992-2020

Table 7: Oregon Solid Waste Generated by Wasteshed, 1992-2020

Table 8: Oregon Materials Recovered, 1992-2020

Table 9: Disposition of Recovered Materials, 2020

2020 Material Recovery and Waste Generation Rates Report

Table 1: Wasteshed Recovery Rates, 2020

Wasteshed				Calculated Recovery Rate ¹	SB 263
	Tons Disposed	Tons Recovered	Tons Generated		Goal ³ 2025
Baker	13,940	3,386	17,326	19.5%	25%
Benton	60,967	39,466	100,433	39.3%	44%
Clatsop	35,328	24,262	59,590	40.7%	53%
Columbia	34,174	11,059	45,233	24.4%	45%
Coos	55,189	14,750	69,940	21.1%	30%
Crook	25,800	7,342	33,143	22.2%	20%
Curry	20,176	6,473	26,649	24.3%	30%
Deschutes	197,979	98,491	296,470	33.2%	45%
Douglas	94,378	41,787	136,166	30.7%	34%
Gilliam	2,214	353	2,568	13.8%	25%
Grant	4,490	946	5,436	17.4%	25%
Harney	5,046	1,131	6,178	18.3%	25%
Hood River	23,184	7,562	30,746	24.6%	35%
Jackson	222,250	115,701	337,951	34.2%	25%
Jefferson	16,816	4,140	20,956	19.8%	32%
Josephine	87,625	46,828	134,454	34.8%	20%
Klamath	67,802	18,985	86,787	21.9%	20%
Lake	5,954	425	6,379	6.7%	15%
Lane	283,634	331,183	614,817	53.9%	63%
Lincoln	54,591	18,455	73,047	25.3%	37%
Linn	109,434	93,426	202,860	46.1%	45%
Malheur	26,438	5,333	31,771	16.8%	25%
Marion ²	287,947	270,824	558,771	48.5%	64%
Metro	1,357,591	1,179,812	2,537,404	46.5%	64%
Milton-Freewater	4,985	1,519	6,504	23.4%	25%
Morrow	36,961	5,847	42,808	13.7%	20%
Polk	51,685	44,596	96,281	46.3%	48%
Sherman	1,246	142	1,387	10.2%	20%
Tillamook	30,550	14,000	44,550	31.4%	37%
Umatilla	92,834	36,670	129,504	28.3%	20%
Union	19,300	7,086	26,385	26.9%	25%
Wallowa	6,150	1,304	7,453	17.5%	25%
Wasco	28,872	5,026	33,898	14.8%	35%
Wheeler	387	76	463	16.5%	20%
Yamhill	86,938	49,561	136,499	36.3%	45%
OR Totals	3,452,854	2,507,951	5,960,805	42.1%	

¹ The recovery rate is calculated using the following formula:

1) Tons Disposed + Tons Recovered = Total Tons Generated

2) Tons Recovered / Total Generated = Calculated Recovery Rate

² The Marion County disposal and recovery rates reflect 22,443 tons of recyclable materials burned for energy in 2020 (per ORS 459A.010(3)(f)(B)).

³ ORS 459A.010(6).

2020 Material Recovery and Waste Generation Rates Report

Table 2: Amount Recovered in 2020 by Wasteshed

Wasteshed	2020 Tons Recovered	2020 Pounds Per Capita	2020 Wasteshed Population
Baker	3,386	400	16,910
Benton	39,466	914	86,365
Clatsop	24,262	1,230	39,455
Columbia	11,059	415	53,280
Coos	14,750	466	63,315
Crook	7,342	626	23,440
Curry	6,473	563	23,005
Deschutes	98,491	1,000	197,015
Douglas	41,787	743	112,530
Gilliam	353	355	1,990
Grant	946	259	7,315
Harney	1,131	311	7,280
Hood River	7,562	590	25,640
Jackson	115,701	1,037	223,240
Jefferson	4,140	343	24,105
Josephine	46,828	1,082	86,560
Klamath	18,985	558	68,075
Lake	425	105	8,075
Lane	331,183	1,737	381,365
Lincoln	18,455	764	48,305
Linn	93,426	1,376	135,820
Malheur	5,333	332	32,105
Marion*	270,824	1,552	348,920
Metro	1,179,812	1,258	1,876,155
Milton-Freewater	1,519	373	8,150
Morrow	5,847	912	12,825
Polk	44,596	1,076	82,910
Sherman	142	158	1,795
Tillamook	14,000	1,055	26,530
Umatilla	36,670	1,000	73,346
Union	7,086	528	26,840
Wallowa	1,304	364	7,160
Wasco	5,026	368	27,295
Wheeler	76	106	1,440
Yamhill	49,561	905	109,500
OREGON TOTALS	2,507,951	1,175	4,268,055

Source for population data is the Center for Population Research and Census, Portland State University, published April 2020. Wastesheds populations are not the same as County populations for the Wastesheds of Benton, Linn, Marion, Metro, Milton-Freewater, Polk, Umatilla, and Yamhill (see OAR 340-090-0050).

*Includes certain Marion County recyclable materials burned for energy (per ORS 459A.010(3)(f)(B)).

2020 Material Recovery and Waste Generation Rates Report

Table 3: Solid Waste Disposed in 2020 by Wasteshed

Wasteshed	2020 Tons Disposed	2020 Pounds Per Capita	2020 Wasteshed Population
Baker	13,940	1,649	16,910
Benton	60,967	1,412	86,365
Clatsop	35,328	1,791	39,455
Columbia	34,174	1,283	53,280
Coos	55,189	1,743	63,315
Crook	25,800	2,201	23,440
Curry	20,176	1,754	23,005
Deschutes	197,979	2,010	197,015
Douglas	94,378	1,677	112,530
Gilliam	2,214	2,225	1,990
Grant	4,490	1,228	7,315
Harney	5,046	1,386	7,280
Hood River	23,184	1,808	25,640
Jackson	222,250	1,991	223,240
Jefferson	16,816	1,395	24,105
Josephine	87,625	2,025	86,560
Klamath	67,802	1,992	68,075
Lake	5,954	1,475	8,075
Lane	283,634	1,487	381,365
Lincoln	54,591	2,260	48,305
Linn	109,434	1,611	135,820
Malheur	26,438	1,647	32,105
Marion*	287,947	1,651	348,920
Metro	1,357,591	1,447	1,876,155
Milton-Freewater	4,985	1,223	8,150
Morrow	36,961	5,764	12,825
Polk	51,685	1,247	82,910
Sherman	1,246	1,388	1,795
Tillamook	30,550	2,303	26,530
Umatilla	92,834	2,531	73,346
Union	19,300	1,438	26,840
Wallowa	6,150	1,718	7,160
Wasco	28,872	2,116	27,295
Wheeler	387	537	1,440
Yamhill	86,938	1,588	109,500
OREGON TOTALS	3,452,854	1,618	4,268,055

Source for population data is the Center for Population Research and Census, Portland State University, published April 2019. Wastesheds populations are not the same as County populations for the Wastesheds of Benton, Linn, Marion, Metro, Milton-Freewater, Polk, Umatilla, and Yamhill (see OAR 340-090-0050).

*Excludes certain Marion County recyclable materials burned for energy recovery (per ORS 459A.010(3)(f)(B)).

2020 Material Recovery and Waste Generation Rates Report

Table 4: Oregon Calculated Recovery Rates by Wasteshed, 1992-2020

Wasteshed	1992 Rate	1996 Rate	2000 Calc. Rate*	2002 Calc. Rate*	2004 Calc. Rate*	2006 Calc. Rate*	2007 Calc. Rate*	2008 Calc. Rate*	2009 Calc. Rate*	2010 Calc. Rate*	2011 Calc. Rate*	2012 Calc. Rate*	2013 Calc. Rate*	2014 Calc. Rate*	2015 Calc. Rate*	2016 Calc. Rate*	2017 Calc. Rate*	2018 Calc. Rate*	2019 Calc. Rate*	2020 Calc. Rate*
Baker	10%	25%	18%	20.5%	19.9%	16.8%	21.9%	20.6%	26.3%	21.7%	22.4%	23.2%	22.7%	28.4%	26.2%	20.0%	17.4%	16.4%	16.2%	19.5%
Benton	27%	37%	35%	41.0%	43.0%	36.2%	38.9%	41.1%	37.9%	38.4%	38.3%	41.4%	41.5%	37.3%	35.3%	35.5%	34.0%	35.1%	35.5%	39.3%
Clatsop	19%	20%	25%	25.2%	30.6%	33.9%	34.0%	36.5%	36.0%	36.0%	38.7%	39.9%	44.3%	37.8%	39.5%	37.8%	41.8%	41.5%	35.9%	40.7%
Columbia	34%	22%	31%	33.8%	30.9%	30.5%	28.5%	29.9%	32.1%	35.8%	35.3%	33.3%	34.7%	28.6%	31.0%	32.5%	23.8%	24.4%	25.3%	24.4%
Coos	21%	29%	23%	25.5%	21.2%	20.8%	19.7%	22.3%	23.0%	35.0%	47.7%	43.7%	40.3%	38.3%	23.5%	22.5%	22.4%	19.8%	23.2%	21.1%
Crook	16%	23%	27%	26.8%	21.4%	25.6%	25.1%	33.2%	31.6%	33.6%	31.5%	34.6%	30.5%	26.1%	20.9%	20.6%	23.1%	19.7%	22.1%	22.2%
Curry	21%	35%	41%	36.0%	25.2%	18.1%	23.7%	21.0%	19.8%	20.4%	27.2%	25.3%	22.8%	26.6%	24.1%	26.6%	21.4%	24.2%	22.9%	24.3%
Deschutes	15%	23%	31%	26.6%	26.8%	27.0%	29.8%	31.1%	39.1%	35.1%	39.3%	38.8%	38.2%	35.8%	36.6%	33.0%	31.7%	31.6%	31.5%	33.2%
Douglas	26%	26%	26%	29.0%	31.2%	23.7%	25.8%	34.4%	28.7%	35.9%	42.9%	41.0%	37.4%	32.8%	30.3%	27.0%	28.6%	28.2%	25.8%	30.7%
Gilliam	17%	19%	14%	19.7%	11.3%	8.5%	12.9%	14.4%	27.0%	20.9%	18.0%	44.2%	41.8%	17.6%	35.4%	13.7%	14.8%	7.1%	10.4%	13.8%
Grant	18%	16%	19%	18.0%	19.3%	21.2%	24.2%	25.1%	22.4%	22.1%	25.0%	21.5%	28.8%	18.4%	24.5%	27.4%	17.2%	16.3%	16.5%	17.4%
Harney	18%	24%	20%	27.6%	21.3%	28.0%	25.2%	33.8%	23.6%	26.2%	31.1%	28.4%	27.3%	27.6%	21.8%	22.3%	23.7%	18.7%	15.3%	18.3%
Hood River	16%	17%	18%	33.7%	37.2%	33.1%	29.5%	28.2%	29.3%	26.5%	34.4%	31.4%	32.2%	28.1%	29.5%	26.9%	21.9%	23.9%	24.4%	24.6%
Jackson	15%	34%	28%	36.4%	31.3%	33.7%	30.4%	32.3%	35.6%	42.0%	41.6%	43.3%	43.1%	40.9%	37.2%	38.6%	35.0%	33.0%	38.3%	34.2%
Jefferson	21%	24%	27%	20.7%	34.0%	27.7%	36.2%	33.7%	30.7%	41.3%	47.2%	44.8%	41.6%	33.2%	24.6%	31.6%	25.9%	22.3%	17.1%	19.8%
Josephine	14%	38%	33%	36.8%	37.4%	38.9%	34.3%	38.9%	37.6%	40.1%	49.0%	49.9%	46.0%	40.3%	34.5%	35.4%	35.2%	31.7%	28.7%	34.8%
Klamath	13%	15%	18%	30.4%	31.0%	33.6%	34.8%	45.4%	32.9%	29.2%	28.1%	33.1%	29.9%	30.9%	22.3%	25.6%	23.4%	20.5%	20.6%	21.9%
Lake	6%	7%	8%	10.8%	25.0%	19.4%	21.8%	34.5%	25.1%	27.2%	28.5%	26.8%	26.3%	16.7%	12.5%	12.1%	8.6%	10.7%	6.4%	6.7%
Lane	19%	39%	46%	43.9%	45.0%	46.9%	46.3%	46.4%	46.1%	51.2%	55.5%	54.7%	50.9%	53.1%	50.4%	50.0%	52.4%	53.8%	55.1%	53.9%
Lincoln	20%	16%	23%	27.2%	29.1%	26.3%	27.6%	30.8%	29.4%	32.6%	32.4%	35.9%	29.2%	32.1%	31.2%	26.3%	22.6%	24.1%	27.2%	25.3%
Linn	15%	32%	29%	38.5%	44.0%	40.5%	37.4%	41.3%	40.5%	43.8%	49.2%	45.0%	44.0%	42.4%	39.3%	38.0%	36.9%	40.1%	42.2%	46.1%
Malheur	19%	20%	25%	26.9%	26.7%	22.8%	22.6%	21.9%	18.9%	23.3%	20.9%	27.3%	27.8%	24.7%	24.2%	26.4%	22.6%	16.5%	18.5%	16.8%
Marion	26%	28%	38%	**50.9%	**47.4%	**51.9%	**50.4%	**52.4%	**52.2%	**50.1%	**54.7%	**54.4%	**55.2%	**53.8%	**52.2%	**49.4%	**48.3%	**49.7%	**47.7%	**48.5%
Metro	35%	41%	45%	47.5%	51.0%	49.6%	48.9%	50.2%	50.4%	51.9%	53.3%	56.3%	57.0%	53.6%	53.0%	46.9%	46.1%	45.4%	46.8%	46.5%
Milton-Freewater	16%	21%	21%	23.9%	24.2%	32.8%	30.8%	43.0%	34.9%	35.3%	37.9%	27.0%	41.2%	39.0%	40.1%	28.8%	35.2%	17.6%	14.4%	23.4%
Morrow	11%	13%	15%	15.7%	19.7%	21.5%	26.4%	24.8%	23.2%	22.0%	23.2%	25.1%	18.3%	20.9%	21.1%	24.4%	21.4%	22.0%	15.6%	13.7%
Polk	20%	19%	33%	38.4%	44.1%	47.9%	46.4%	47.0%	45.9%	45.6%	47.7%	44.2%	43.6%	46.0%	45.1%	45.9%	47.3%	41.5%	47.3%	46.3%
Sherman	24%	21%	17%	13.5%	25.8%	18.5%	16.4%	14.8%	14.3%	11.5%	13.9%	21.9%	14.2%	15.9%	15.9%	11.8%	11.1%	13.5%	6.6%	10.2%
Tillamook	31%	26%	26%	27.7%	38.8%	33.4%	30.6%	31.5%	29.1%	31.2%	33.7%	33.0%	31.9%	29.6%	28.9%	26.1%	27.8%	27.8%	25.7%	31.4%
Umatilla	14%	20%	26%	35.3%	35.9%	35.0%	36.5%	37.9%	31.7%	29.3%	29.3%	31.1%	28.6%	28.1%	29.5%	25.0%	26.9%	29.7%	36.2%	28.3%
Union	16%	26%	22%	27.6%	27.4%	33.7%	31.5%	29.8%	29.3%	28.6%	30.7%	30.5%	30.4%	25.2%	24.8%	25.1%	22.0%	26.9%	27.2%	26.9%
Wallowa	6%	11%	21%	19.3%	18.4%	22.2%	27.4%	24.1%	23.5%	19.4%	23.5%	22.4%	23.7%	26.6%	22.4%	27.0%	24.3%	21.4%	21.8%	17.5%
Wasco	25%	30%	34%	28.3%	24.6%	18.8%	23.0%	23.4%	32.7%	28.0%	31.3%	27.8%	32.0%	28.0%	28.1%	26.6%	19.6%	19.2%	16.6%	14.8%
Wheeler	7%	20%	14%	25.2%	15.8%	23.9%	26.9%	27.1%	20.0%	8.1%	12.9%	8.8%	8.7%	7.3%	15.6%	12.8%	17.5%	26.0%	15.3%	16.5%
Yamhill	19%	35%	44%	54.4%	50.2%	39.0%	35.7%	35.6%	39.7%	34.2%	40.2%	32.8%	38.1%	37.1%	38.3%	29.9%	28.7%	29.9%	35.3%	36.3%
OREGON TOTALS	27.1%	34.9%	38.9%	42.7%	44.2%	43.5%	42.9%	44.6%	44.6%	45.9%	48.6%	49.7%	49.5%	47.2%	46.0%	42.1%	41.4%	41.2%	42.2%	42.1%

*does not include 2% credits

**does include certain Marion County recyclable materials burned for energy

Table 8: Oregon Materials Recovered, 1992-2020

Material Type	1992 Tons	1996 Tons	1999 Tons	2000 Tons	2006 Tons	2010 Tons	2012 Tons	2014 Tons	2016 Tons	2017 Tons	2018 Tons	2019 Tons	2020 Tons
Container glass	69,284	77,231	80,194	87,889	95,946	107,830	107,042	106,853	107,238	119,561	117,825	113,052	98,590
Other glass	41	1,557	1,476	1,578	673	867	21	32	232	1	-	1,531	661
Total glass	69,325	78,788	81,670	89,467	96,619	108,697	107,062	106,885	107,470	119,562	117,825	114,583	99,251
Aluminum	18,245	17,815	21,046	18,209	21,521	38,495	23,733	21,318	21,566	25,499	30,583	33,861	33,778
Scrap metal	26,927	45,271	141,653	165,728	339,723	363,805	511,026	422,845	389,347	444,487	516,129	567,617	617,258
Tinned cans/aluminum				14,779	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tinned cans	7,400	8,635	8,407	-	8,399	8,890	8,398	8,747	8,363	9,611	8,844	10,450	6,963
Aerosol cans	0	0	7	-	1	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	-
Total metals	52,572	71,722	171,114	198,716	369,644	411,190	543,158	452,912	419,276	479,599	555,556	611,929	658,000
Cardboard/kraft paper	204,729	304,093	305,138	310,776	440,813	368,604	356,906	375,097	365,903	403,392	403,136	415,560	444,244
Paper Fiber ⁶	-	-	-	-	-	269,353	299,224	280,888	267,205	249,753	218,052	193,626	179,400
High-grade paper ⁶	67,077	49,298	56,035	54,358	47,324	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Magazines	11,246	17,250	13,988	8,375	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Phone books ¹	-	3,103	2,841	2,881	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixed waste paper ⁶	24,012	53,771	75,764	91,559	39,347	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Newspaper ⁶	130,181	141,412	183,710	187,108	263,193	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fiber-based fuel		9,235	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total papers	437,245	578,161	637,476	655,057	790,677	637,957	656,130	655,985	633,109	653,145	621,189	609,186	623,644
#1 PET beverage	3,329	5,803	4,840	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#1 other	58	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#2 milk jugs	1,940	3,049	1,088	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#2 other	1,841	1,331	852	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#3 PVC	25	144	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#4 LDPE	1,196	2,501	1,418	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#5	360	283	1,093	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
#6	471	430	227	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Composite plastic	-	1,077	1,357	863	2,004	1,964	2,311	2,426	2,369	1,305	1,182	715	685
Mixed plastic	300	1,708	7,344	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other plastic (P7)	-	12	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plastic bottles ²				-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Plastic film				3,969	11,594	12,839	14,886	14,831	15,873	14,755	9,025	8,170	9,736
Plastic other				3,718	9,426	9,019	10,720	12,507	13,232	8,761	7,691	8,010	7,327
Rigid plastic containers				15,672	19,439	28,599	29,485	30,692	24,697	29,773	25,856	29,857	31,165
Total plastic	9,520	16,338	18,222	24,222	42,463	52,421	57,401	60,455	56,171	54,593	43,754	46,752	48,913
Antifreeze	5	52	317	424	3,085	6,762	2,598	2,719	2,472	2,545	2,676	2,366	2,480
C & D -- roofing ⁷			6,933	25,162	10,072	15,803	18,223	18,568	19,769	18,661	14,047	9,219	25
Carpeting -- used			361	919	-	1,641	1,837	1,355	0	-	-	-	-
Diesel					151	33	33	33	33	-	-	-	-
Electronics				617	6,345	17,587	25,957	22,344	18,349	15,513	13,881	11,752	8,920
Fluorescent lamps	-	7	22	21	453	620	662	422	364	343	374	311	278
Gypsum wallboard	3,695	9,419	8,345	5,300	4,174	2,138	5,025	3,819	4,225	3,862	5,823	8,460	6,185
Household Haz Waste				14	143	452	338	246	326	273	264	276	289

2020 Material Recovery and Waste Generation Rates Report

Material Type	1992 Tons	1996 Tons	1999 Tons	2000 Tons	2006 Tons	2010 Tons	2012 Tons	2014 Tons	2016 Tons	2017 Tons	2018 Tons	2019 Tons	2020 Tons
Alkaline batteries					-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mixed batteries					120	247	436	301	333	172	265	360	254
Lead acid batteries ³	176	559	974	1,184	15,509	15,305	14,036	12,562	17,537	16,758	14,674	19,667	22,052
NiCad batteries			13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Paint ⁵	120	489	556	555	1,434	1,931	3,396	3,826	4,263	4,201	4,623	3,506	3,483
Porcelain	-	5	9	-	307	327	551	1,071	366	85	258	201	565
Rubber tire buffings ⁴	-	2,935	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scrap film (X-ray)	42	68	19	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Solvents ⁵	16	110	227	188	261	312	444	480	457	475	450	280	111
Textiles		508	2,661	4,033	1,819	216	872	1,157	1,054	681	811	317	207
Tires ⁵	34,392	24,360	22,804	16,420	21,931	20,834	23,470	21,711	31,175	30,504	23,471	29,820	34,995
Used Motor Oil ⁵	28,796	47,632	33,664	44,114	52,837	31,443	37,032	34,516	45,015	25,916	31,644	33,582	30,216
Total other	67,243	86,145	76,903	98,969	118,640	115,648	134,909	125,129	145,739	119,989	113,260	120,117	110,060
Animal waste/grease	-	22,957	19,315	25,670	15,928	11,942	7,148	10,491	15,002	10,923	15,541	13,862	23,198
Food waste	-	5,000	2,458	3,486	12,430	39,367	47,665	46,289	57,118	48,276	45,174	35,157	35,558
Wood waste ⁵	112,425	243,773	335,861	360,819	503,967	340,794	362,448	349,139	289,022	299,359	286,561	296,312	278,841
Yard debris ⁵	91,348	235,562	283,440	309,407	543,683	445,944	475,578	492,035	503,171	501,528	508,709	555,494	630,560
Total organics	203,773	507,292	641,074	699,382	1,076,008	838,047	892,839	897,954	864,312	860,086	855,985	900,825	968,157
Adj. rounding/unspecified		2		1									
OREGON TOTALS	839,678	1,338,446	1,626,458	1,765,814	2,494,050	2,163,959	2,391,499	2,299,320	2,226,077	2,286,974	2,307,569	2,403,393	2,508,025

¹Phone books included in mixed waste paper in 1992, 1993 and 2001 and subsequent years.

²About 900 tons of plastic bottles was included with mixed plastics in the 1995 survey.

³Includes only batteries collected at household hazardous waste collection events until 2001.

⁴From 1998 rubber tire buffings were included with tires.

⁵Includes Marion Co. materials in 2001 and subsequent years burned for energy.

⁶In 2007 and subsequent years, Mixed Waste Paper, Hi Grade & Newspaper was combined into Paper Fiber

⁷Asphalt Roofing was included as burned for energy only in years 2001-2006

Data from some years is not shown due to page formatting. Please contact DEQ directly for data from these years.

Table 9: Disposition of Recovered Materials, 2020

Wasteshed	Total Recovered	Recycled	% of Total	Energy Recovery	% of Total	Compost	% of Total	Stock
Baker	3,386	2,389	71%	105	3%	885	26%	7
Benton	39,466	24,323	62%	535	1%	14,609	37%	0
Clatsop	24,262	14,652	60%	8,897	37%	713	3%	0
Columbia	11,059	7,804	71%	185	2%	3,071	28%	0
Coos	14,750	14,425	98%	256	2%	69	0%	0
Crook	7,342	6,273	85%	675	9%	395	5%	0
Curry	6,473	6,413	99%	45	1%	16	0%	0
Deschutes	98,491	61,709	63%	11,493	12%	25,290	26%	0
Douglas	41,787	27,341	65%	14,446	35%	-	0%	0
Gilliam	353	298	84%	54	15%	-	0%	2
Grant	946	898	95%	46	5%	2	0%	0
Harney	1,131	855	76%	57	5%	211	19%	9
Hood River	7,562	5,363	71%	206	3%	1,973	26%	20
Jackson	115,701	61,030	53%	22,368	19%	32,303	28%	0
Jefferson	4,140	4,003	97%	74	2%	63	2%	0
Josephine	46,828	31,141	67%	5,380	11%	10,307	22%	0
Klamath	18,985	15,410	81%	2,352	12%	1,220	6%	3
Lake	425	393	92%	22	5%	-	0%	10
Lane	331,183	201,958	61%	42,405	13%	86,819	26%	0
Lincoln	18,454	12,059	65%	2,173	12%	4,222	23%	0
Linn	93,426	75,577	81%	1,654	2%	16,195	17%	0
Malheur	5,333	4,880	92%	34	1%	419	8%	0
Marion	270,824	142,835	53%	63,294	23%	64,695	24%	0
Metro	1,179,799	730,442	62%	110,918	9%	338,439	29%	0
Milton-Freewater	1,519	1,334	88%	11	1%	175	12%	0
Morrow	5,847	5,468	94%	372	6%	-	0%	7
Polk	44,596	21,916	49%	11,296	25%	11,384	26%	0
Sherman	142	123	86%	18	13%	-	0%	1
Tillamook	14,000	11,617	83%	378	3%	1,960	14%	46
Umatilla	36,670	32,551	89%	2,761	8%	1,313	4%	44
Union	7,086	4,702	66%	197	3%	2,186	31%	0
Wallowa	1,304	593	45%	11	1%	700	54%	0
Wasco	5,026	3,946	79%	300	6%	760	15%	21
Wheeler	76	74	98%	1	1%	-	0%	1
Yamhill	49,561	24,421	49%	716	1%	24,424	49%	0
Total	2,507,937	1,559,215	62%	303,735	12%	644,817	26%	170