Recycling in the U.S.
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## Table of Contents

## 01 Overview

Global municipal waste recycling rate 2021, by select country
Market value of waste recycling services worldwide 2020-2030
Municipal solid waste generation in the U.S. 1960-2018
U.S. municipal waste stream: materials generation 1960-2018
U.S. households with access to curbside recycling services 2019, by type

02 Generation
Recycling of municipal solid waste in the U.S. 1960-2018
U.S. composting of municipal solid waste generated 1990-2018
U.S. municipal solid waste recycling per person 1960-2018

Recycled municipal solid waste in the U.S. 1960-2018, by material
Breakdown of curbside recyclable trash generation per U.S. household 2019, by type
03 Segments
Breakdown of MSW recycled in the U.S. 2018, by material
Recycling of paper and paperboard from U.S. municipal solid waste 2018, by type Volume of plastic MSW recycled in the U.S. 2018, by type
U.S. sourced post-consumer plastic recovered for recycling 2019-2020, by category

Share of recycled-non bottle rigid plastic in the U.S. 2020, by source
Plastic containers and packaging MSW recycled in the U.S. 1980-2018

Plastic packaging MSW recycled in the U.S. 1980-2018, by product
04 Recycling rates
Recycling rate of municipal solid waste in the United States 1960-2018 $\underline{23}$
Recycling rates in the U.S. by select product $2018 \quad \underline{24}$
Recycling rate of paper in the United States 1990-2021 $\underline{25}$
Share of containers and packaging MSW recycled in U.S. 1960-2018 $\underline{26}$
Recycled rate of metals in the US. 2019, by type -
Recycling rate of plastic municipal solid waste in the U.S. 1960-2018 $\underline{28}$
Plastic packaging MSW recycling rates in the U.S. 1980-2018, by product $\underline{29}$

## 05 Companies

Leading waste management companies in the United States 2022, by revenue 31
Waste Management Inc's recycling revenue 2015-2022 $\underline{32}$
Waste Management Inc.'s recycled materials 2021, by type 33
Recycling revenue of Waste Connections, Inc. 2015-2021 34
Revenue of Republic Services' recycling processing and commodity sales 2016-2021 35
U.S. sourced post-consumer plastic purchased by U.S. and Canada 2019, by category $\underline{36}$

## CHAPTER 01

Overview

## Municipal solid waste recycling rates in selected countries worldwide in 2021

Global municipal waste recycling rate 2021, by select country


3 Description: Slovenia and Germany had the highest municipal solid waste recycling rates among OECD countries in 2021 , at 58.5 and 46.3 percent, respectively. Meanwhile, South Korea boasted a recycling rate above 56 percent in 2020 . Of the 10 highest ranked Decycring rates within $O E C D$, nine were European countries. In contrast, the recycling rate in Costa Rica was below four percent. Read more recyclingrates within
Note(s):Worldwide; 2021 (or latest available, as indicated)
Source(s): OECD

Global waste recycling services market size in 2020 and a forecast to 2030 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Market value of waste recycling services worldwide 2020-2030


4 Description: The global waste recycling services market was valued at 55.1 billion U.S. dollars in 2020 , and was estimated at 57.69 billion U.S. dollars in 2021 . The market is expected to grow considerably in the coming years as consumer awareness about the Description: The global owsterecyccingservices marketwas valued at s5.1
environmental impacts of waste increases. By 2028 , it is forecast that the goblars in waste recycling services marketwill have reached a value of almost 90 billion U .S. dollars, registering a CAGR of 4.8 percent during the forecast period 2021 to 2030 . Read more

statista 5 Source(s): Precedence Research

Municipal solid waste generation in the United States from 1960 to 2018 (in million tons)

Municipal solid waste generation in the U.S. 1960-2018


5 Description: The generation of municipal solid waste in the United States has increased significantly over the past 60 years. In 1960 , the North American country produced approximately 88 million tons of MSW, and by 2018 that figure had more than tripled,
statista 5 amounting to 292 million tons. Read mor Source(s): Environmental Protection Agenc

## Generation of selected materials in the U.S. municipal waste stream between 1960 and 2018 (in 1,000 tons)

U.S. municipal waste stream: materials generation 1960-2018

| $\rightarrow$ - Paper and paperboard | $\rightarrow$ Food** | $\simeq$ Plastics |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\rightarrow$ - Yard trimmings | $\rightarrow$ Metals | - Wood |
| $\longrightarrow$-Textiles | $\sim$-Glass | $\bigcirc$ - Rubber |
| - Other materials* | $\bigcirc$ Miscella |  |



## Estimated breakdown of U.S. households with access to curbside recycling services as of 2019, by type*

U.S. households with access to curbside recycling services 2019, by type


Generation

Volume of materials recycled in municipal solid waste in the United States from 1960 to 2018* (in million tons)

Recycling of municipal solid waste in the U.S. 1960-2018


9 Description: One of the first mass recycling programs in the United States was implemented in 1970 in Hawaii. Since then, the recovery of municipal solid waste (MSW) for recycling has increased, reaching 69 million tons in 2018 .Read more Descris)
Note(s): United States; 1960 to 2018 ; *including composting Read more Source(s): Environmental Protection Agency
statista

Volume of municipal solid waste (MSW) composted in the United States from 1990 to 2018 (in million tons)
U.S. composting of municipal solid waste generated 1990-2018


[^0] Source(s): Environmental Protection Agen

Volume of municipal solid waste recycled per capita in the United States from 1960 to 2018 (in pounds per person per day)
U.S. municipal solid waste recycling per person 1960-2018

■ Recycled ■ Composted*


1 Description: On average, 1.16 pounds of municipal solid waste was recycled per person in the United States in 2018 . This was a slight increase from the previous year. Overall, the volume of per capita recycled MSW in the U.S. has increased considerably over the past
statista厂
 Source(s): Environmental Protection Agency

Volume of recycled municipal solid waste in the U.S. from 1960 and 2018, by material (in 1,000 tons)

Recycled municipal solid waste in the U.S. 1960-2018, by material


## Distribution of annual curbside recyclable material generation per single family household* in the United States as of 2019, by type

Breakdown of curbside recyclable trash generation per U.S. household 2019, by type

- HDPE natural bottle \& jars 1.4\% $\qquad$ - Non-bottle PET 1.4\% - Aseptics \& cartons 0.8\%
$\qquad$ -HDPE colored bottles \& jars - Aluminum cans 2.7\% red bottles \& jars


CHAPTER 03
Segments

## Distribution of municipal solid waste recycled in the U.S. in 2018, by material

 Breakdown of MSW recycled in the U.S. 2018, by material

15 Description: The United States recycled 69.1 million tons of municipal solid waste in 2018 . Of this total, plastics accounted for 4.4 percent. The material that represented the largest share of recycling was paper and paperboard, at 66.6 percent. Read more on 69.1 million tons of recycled MSW
Source(s): Environmental Protection Agency

## Recycling of paper and paperboard from U.S. municipal solid waste in 2018,

 by type (in 1,000 tons)Recycling of paper and paperboard from U.S. municipal solid waste 2018, by type


[^1] statista

## Total plastic municipal solid waste recycled in the United States in 2018, by resin (in 1,000 tons)

Volume of plastic MSW recycled in the U.S. 2018, by type


## Volume of post-consumer plastic material sourced in the United States recovered for recycling in 2019 and 2020, by category (in million pounds)

U.S. sourced post-consumer plastic recovered for recycling 2019-2020, by category


## Distribution of post-consumer non-bottle rigid plastic recovered for Recycling sourced in the United States in 2020, by source

Share of recycled-non bottle rigid plastic in the U.S. 2020, by source

■ Electronic scrap 3.9\%

- Further segregated from commmingled other collectio 17.6\%


Total volume of plastic containers and packaging municipal solid waste recycled in the United States from 1980 to 2018* (in 1,000 tons)

Plastic containers and packaging MSW recycled in the U.S. 1980-2018


Total volume of plastic containers and packaging MSW recycled in the United States from 1980 to 2018, by product (in 1,000 tons)

Plastic packaging MSW recycled in the U.S. 1980-2018, by product


CHAPTER 04
Recycling rates

Municipal solid waste recycling rate in the United States from 1960 to 2018*
Recycling rate of municipal solid waste in the United States 1960-2018


## Recycling and composting rate as a percent of generation of selected products in the United States in 2018

Recycling rates in the U.S. by select product 2018


Paper recycling rate in the United States from 1990 to 2021*
Recycling rate of paper in the United States 1990-2021


Share of containers and packaging recycled in the U.S. municipal solid waste stream from 1960 to 2018*

Share of containers and packaging MSW recycled in U.S. 1960-2018


[^2]statista 5

Recycling rates of selected metals in the United States in 2019, by type
Recycled rate of metals in the U.S. 2019, by type


Recycling rate of plastic municipal solid waste (MSW) in the United States from 1960 to 2018*

Recycling rate of plastic municipal solid waste in the U.S. 1960-2018


[^3] Nosters): United States: *Recycling as a percentage of municipal solid waste generation
Source(s): American Chemistry Council; Environmental Protection Agency; NAPCOR

## Recycling rate of plastic containers and packaging MSW in the United States from 1980 to 2018, by product*

Plastic packaging MSW recycling rates in the U.S. 1980-2018, by product


CHAPTER 05
Companies

## Revenue of leading waste management companies in the United States in 2022 (in billion U.S. dollars)

Leading waste management companies in the United States 2022, by revenue


[^4]Operating revenue of Waste Management Inc's recycling services from 2015 to 2022 (in million U.S. dollars)

Waste Management Inc's recycling revenue 2015-2022


[^5] Note(s): United States; FY 2015 to FY 2022 Source(s): Waste Management

## Amount of recycled materials by the Waste Management Inc. in 2021, by material (in tons) <br> Waste Management Inc.'s recycled materials 2021, by type



## Waste Connections' recycling revenue from 2015 to 2021 (in million U.S. dollars)

Recycling revenue of Waste Connections, Inc. 2015-2021


Republic Services Inc.'s revenue from recycling processing and commodity sales from 2016 to 2021 (in million U.S. dollars)

Revenue of Republic Services' recycling processing and commodity sales 2016-2021


[^6]statista

## Share of U.S. sourced post-consumer plastic acquired by U.S. and Canadian reclaimers in 2019, by category (in million pounds)

U.S. sourced post-consumer plastic purchased by U.S. and Canada 2019, by category


## Sources

## American Chemistry Council

Association of Plastic Recyclers
Environmental Protection Agency
Financial Times
NAPCOR
OECD
Paper Recycles
Precedence Research
Recycling Partnership
Republic Services
Stina
Thomson Reuters
US Geological Survey
Various sources (Company data)
Waste Connections
Waste Management


[^0]:    10 Description: Around 25 million tons of U.S. municipal solid waste (MSW) was composted in 2018 , the majority of which was from yard trimmings. The volume of composted MSW in the U.S. has increased considerably in the past three decades. Read more

[^1]:    Description: This statistic shows the rate of recycling of paper and paperboard from U.S. municipal solid waste in 2018 , by management type. Inthat year, around 67.4 million tons of paper and paperboard products were generated in municipal solid waste.Read

[^2]:    26 Description: Of the 82.2 million tons of containers and packaging municipal solid waste generated in the U.S. in $2018,53.9$ percent was recycled. This is a notable increase compared with the recycling rate of containers and packaging in 1990 , which was 26 percent.

[^3]:    28 Description: In 2018, 8.7 percent of plastic waste generated in the United States' municipal solid waste stream was recycled. The amount of plastic waste recycled in the United States as a share of generation has remained low since 1960 's, despite the volume of plastic waste generated in the U.S. increasing massively. In 1970, some 2.9 million tons of plastic waste was generated, but in recent years the U.S. generates more than 30 million tons of plastic each year. From less than one percent of plastic $[. . .1$ Read more

[^4]:    31 Description: The leading waste management company in the United States is Waste Management Inc. In 2022, the Texas-based company reported a revenue of 19.7 billion U.S. dollars. This was followed by Republic Services \&\#8211; headquartered in Arizona Description: The leading waste management with a revenue amounting to 13.5 billion U.S. dollars. Read more
    Note(s): United States; 2022
    Source(s): Financial Times; Thomson Reuters; Various sources (Company data)

[^5]:    32 Description: Waste Management Inc's recycling services generated an operating revenue of over 1.7 billion U.S. dollars in 2022 . This was an increase of 20 million U.S. dollars from the previous year. The recycling segment accounted for approximately seven percent Description: Waste Management Inc's recycling services generated an
    of Waste Management Inc's total operating revenue in 2022. Read more

[^6]:    35 Description: Republic Services Inc's recycling processing and commodity sales segment reported revenue of 420.5 million U.S. dollars for the year ended December 31, 2021. This was an increase of 41.5 percent from the previous year. Read more Note(s): United Source(s):

