

**Table 373. Municipal Solid Waste Generation, Materials Recovery, Combustion With Energy Recovery, and Discards: 1980 to 2008**

[In millions of tons (151.6 represents 151,600,000), except as indicated. Covers post-consumer residential and commercial solid wastes which comprise the major portion of typical municipal collections. Excludes mining, agricultural and industrial processing, demolition and construction wastes, sewage sludge and junked autos and obsolete equipment wastes. Based on material-flows estimating procedure and wet weight as generated]

Item and material	1980	1990	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008
Waste generated . . . . .	151.6	205.2	239.1	249.7	254.2	254.6	249.6
Per person per day (lb.) . . . . .	3.7	4.5	4.7	4.6	4.7	4.6	4.5
Total materials recovery . . . . .	14.5	33.2	69.4	79.2	82.2	84.2	82.9
Per person per day (lb.) . . . . .	0.4	0.7	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5
Recovery for recycling . . . . .	14.5	29.0	52.9	58.6	61.4	62.5	60.8
Per person per day (pounds) . . . . .	0.35	0.64	1.03	1.08	1.08	1.14	1.10
Recovery for composting <sup>1</sup> . . . . .	(Z)	4.2	16.5	20.6	20.8	21.7	22.1
Per person per day (pounds) . . . . .	(Z)	0.09	0.32	0.38	0.38	0.39	0.40
Combustion with energy recovery . . . . .	2.7	29.7	33.7	31.6	31.9	32.0	31.6
Per person per day (lb.) . . . . .	0.07	0.70	0.66	0.58	0.60	0.58	0.57
Discards to landfill, other disposal . . . . .	134.4	142.3	136.0	138.9	140.1	138.4	135.1
Per person per day (lb.) . . . . .	3.2	3.1	2.6	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.4
PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF GENERATION							
Percent of total generation . . . . .	71.8	71.4	74.5	73.5	73.6	73.3	72.6
Paper and paperboard . . . . .	36.4	35.4	36.7	34.0	33.6	32.4	31.0
Glass . . . . .	10.0	6.4	5.3	5.0	5.3	4.9	4.9
Metals . . . . .	10.2	8.1	7.9	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.4
Plastics . . . . .	4.5	8.3	10.7	11.7	11.7	12.1	12.0
Rubber and leather . . . . .	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9	2.9	3.0	3.0
Textiles . . . . .	1.7	2.8	3.9	4.6	4.7	4.7	5.0
Wood . . . . .	4.6	6.0	5.5	5.6	5.5	6.3	6.6
Other . . . . .	1.7	1.6	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.8
Total other waste . . . . .	28.2	28.6	25.5	26.3	26.4	26.7	27.4
Food scraps . . . . .	8.6	10.1	11.2	12.1	12.2	12.4	12.4
Yard trimmings . . . . .	18.1	17.1	12.8	12.8	12.7	12.8	13.2
Miscellaneous organic wastes . . . . .	1.5	1.4	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.5

Z Less than 5,000 tons or 0.05 percent. <sup>1</sup> Composting of yard trimmings, food scraps, and other municipal solid waste.

Source: Franklin Associates, a Division of ERG, Prairie Village, KS, *Municipal Solid Waste in the United States: 2008 Facts and Figures*. Prepared for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. See also <[www.epa.gov/osw/nonhaz/municipal/msw99.htm](http://www.epa.gov/osw/nonhaz/municipal/msw99.htm)>.

**Table 374. Generation and Recovery of Selected Materials in Municipal Solid Waste: 1980 to 2008**

[In millions of tons (151.6 represents 151,600,000), except as indicated. Covers post-consumer residential and commercial solid wastes which comprise the major portion of typical municipal collections. Excludes mining, agricultural and industrial processing, demolition and construction wastes, sewage sludge, and junked autos and obsolete equipment wastes. Based on material-flows estimating procedure and wet weight as generated]

Item and material	1980	1990	2000	2005	2006	2007	2008
<b>Waste generated, total<sup>1</sup></b> . . . . .	<b>151.6</b>	<b>205.2</b>	<b>239.0</b>	<b>249.7</b>	<b>254.2</b>	<b>254.6</b>	<b>249.6</b>
Paper and paperboard . . . . .	55.2	72.7	87.7	84.8	83.4	82.5	77.4
Glass . . . . .	15.1	13.1	12.8	12.5	13.5	12.5	12.2
Metals: Ferrous . . . . .	12.6	12.6	14.1	15.0	15.5	15.6	15.7
Aluminum . . . . .	1.7	2.8	3.2	3.3	3.4	3.4	3.4
Other nonferrous . . . . .	1.2	1.1	1.6	1.7	1.8	1.8	1.8
Plastics . . . . .	6.8	17.1	25.5	29.2	29.8	30.7	30.1
Food scraps . . . . .	13.0	20.8	26.8	30.2	31.0	31.7	31.8
Yard trimmings . . . . .	27.5	35.0	30.5	32.1	32.4	32.6	32.9
<b>Materials recovered, total<sup>1</sup></b> . . . . .	<b>14.5</b>	<b>33.2</b>	<b>69.3</b>	<b>79.2</b>	<b>82.2</b>	<b>84.2</b>	<b>82.9</b>
Paper and paperboard . . . . .	11.7	20.2	37.6	42.0	43.9	44.5	42.9
Glass . . . . .	0.8	2.6	2.9	2.6	2.9	2.9	2.8
Metals: Ferrous . . . . .	0.4	2.2	4.7	5.0	5.3	5.3	5.3
Aluminum . . . . .	0.3	1.0	0.9	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.7
Other nonferrous . . . . .	0.5	0.7	1.1	1.2	1.2	1.2	1.2
Plastics . . . . .	0.2	0.4	1.5	1.8	2.1	2.1	2.1
Food scraps . . . . .	(Z)	(Z)	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.8	0.8
Yard trimmings . . . . .	(Z)	4.2	15.8	19.9	20.1	20.9	21.3
<b>Percent of generation recovered, total<sup>1</sup></b> . . . . .	<b>9.6</b>	<b>16.2</b>	<b>29.0</b>	<b>31.7</b>	<b>32.3</b>	<b>33.1</b>	<b>33.2</b>
Paper and paperboard . . . . .	21.3	27.8	42.8	49.5	51.4	53.9	55.5
Glass . . . . .	5.0	20.1	22.6	20.7	21.3	23.0	23.1
Metals: Ferrous . . . . .	2.9	17.6	33.2	33.6	33.9	33.8	33.7
Aluminum . . . . .	17.9	35.9	26.9	20.7	20.3	21.7	21.1
Other nonferrous . . . . .	46.6	66.4	66.3	69.0	69.3	69.7	68.8
Plastics . . . . .	0.3	2.2	5.8	6.0	6.9	6.8	7.1
Food scraps . . . . .	(Z)	(Z)	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.6	2.5
Yard trimmings . . . . .	(Z)	12.0	51.7	61.9	62.0	64.1	64.7

Z Less than 5,000 tons or 0.05 percent. <sup>1</sup> Includes products not shown separately.

Source: Franklin Associates, a Division of ERG, Prairie Village, KS, *Municipal Solid Waste in the United States: 2008 Facts and Figures*. Prepared for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. See also <[www.epa.gov/osw/nonhaz/municipal/msw99.htm](http://www.epa.gov/osw/nonhaz/municipal/msw99.htm)>.