



# FINAL REPORT

2026 Waste Characterization Study

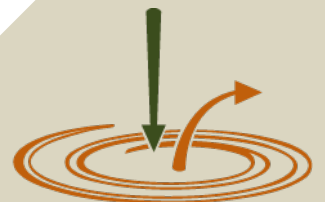
April  
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**PREPARED FOR**

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# Section 1

## Introduction

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### 1.1 Study Objectives

Wake County (County) contracted Kessler Consulting, Inc. (KCI), partnered with SCS Engineers (SCS), to conduct a waste characterization study (WCS) to characterize waste disposed within the County. The purpose of the WCS was to provide useful information regarding the types and percentages of materials currently disposed to compare with previous WCS data and to assist in developing future solid waste and resource management programs. In addition to assessing waste composition for all residential waste, the WCS also specifically assessed waste generated from the Town of Cary (Cary) and County Convenience Centers.

### 1.2 Background

Wake County is located in the Research Triangle of the Piedmont region of North Carolina and is home to North Carolina state capital, the City of Raleigh (Raleigh). Besides Raleigh, the County includes eleven other municipalities, the largest of which is Cary. The County has a population of nearly 1.1 million, approximately 470,000 of which live within Raleigh, while an additional 450,000 live within the towns. With its proximity to several large universities and Research Triangle Park, the research and technology industries are major facets of the County's economy.

Each municipality is responsible for providing or contracting for residential curbside collection services for waste, recyclables, and yard waste. In the unincorporated county, residential curbside collection is provided by private haulers. Commercial waste collection is provided by public or private haulers in an open market setting.

The County's Solid Waste Management Division owns and operates 11 staffed Convenience Centers where County residents can bring their waste, recyclables, food waste, and other materials for recovery. Three of these locations also include a multi-material recycling facility that also accepts material from residents and businesses that is banned from disposal, including household hazardous waste, electronics, and tires. The County also owns and contracts for the operation of the East Wake Transfer Station (EWTS) and the South Wake Landfill (SWLF). Materials collected at the EWTS are transferred to the SWLF for disposal. In FY 2025, these facilities received over 516,109 tons of waste, about 65 percent was received at the EWTS.

### 1.3 Acknowledgements

KCI would like to acknowledge and thank the County, Town of Cary, and GFL staff members who assisted with the planning and logistics of this WCS. KCI specifically thanks John Roberson, Roy Baldwin, Matt Wuester, George Metcalf, Pat Gates, Srijana Guilford, Brian Burgess and Jesse Troublefield for their assistance and support throughout this project. KCI would also like to thank the haulers that participated in the WCS. The cooperation and positive attitudes of all team members were essential to the success of this study.

# Section 2

## Methodology

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### 2.1 Location, Equipment and Labor

The WCS was conducted over 5-consecutive days from February 9 – February 13, 2026. All sampling and sorting occurred at SWLF located at 6300 Old Smithfield Road in Apex.

KCI provided all sorting equipment; safety gear; a primary and backup scale calibrated to 0.02 pounds; and a Field Manager to oversee all sampling, sorting, weighing, and data recording. The County and GFL landfill operators coordinated to remove sorted waste material. Sorting labor was provided or contracted by KCI.

KCI prepared and County/Cary staff reviewed and approved a site safety plan that was followed throughout the sorting event. KCI worked closely with County staff to coordinate and set up a sort location at the transfer station that would ensure worker safety. Each morning of the event, sorters were given thorough safety instructions by KCI's Field Manager to ensure worker safety and proper sorting. No injuries occurred during the sorting event.

### 2.2 Generator Sectors and Sorting Event

The WCS assessed waste generated from two generator sectors, as follows:

- **Single-family residential:** Waste that is collected from residential dwellings within the County receiving curbside collection service.
  - Town of Cary waste is included in single-family results and has been broken out for additional individual analysis.
- **Convenience Centers:** Waste that is collected at the County's Convenience Centers.

### 2.3 Material Categories

Waste was sorted into 51 material categories defined in Appendix A. KCI reviewed the County's recycling program and discussed with County and Cary staff to develop and define these material categories and ensure they met the objectives of the WCS.

### 2.4 Sampling and Sorting Procedures

Throughout the WCS, KCI followed the Sampling and Sorting Protocol that was reviewed and approved prior to the event.

During the five-day sorting event, representative samples were pulled from 40 loads of waste. KCI reviewed tonnage data and coordinated with County officials to determine the number of samples to pull from each generator sector and hauler and represent the overall breakdown of waste disposed in the County.

With the help of the County, KCI developed the weeklong sampling schedule based on the collection schedules of each program. Table 2-1 provides the annual tonnages from each major hauler received at the SWLF that was part of the Study. Table 2-2 provides the daily sample schedule/samples pulled during the WCS.

**Table 2-1: Annual Tonnages By Hauler**

Hauler/Source	Description	Tonnage
Stafford Transport Of NC, Inc.	Transfer trailers from EWTS. Includes routes from City of Raleigh and other towns depending on route location.	334,706.24
Waste Industries, Inc. (GFL)	Includes routes for Holly Springs, Rolesville, Apex, Wendell, Knightdale, and Zebulon	58,524.47
Town Of Cary	Only Town of Cary	36,438.54
Wake County Solid Waste Management	Only Convenience Centers	18,776.18
Town Of Fuquay-Varina	Only Town of Fuquay-Varina	15,265.28
Waste Industries-Durham	Only Town of Morrisville	5,091.2
All Star Waste Services	Only Town of Garner	5,039.3
Republic Waste Service	Only Town of Wake Forest	3,695.02
<b>Total<sup>1</sup></b>		<b>477,536.23</b>

<sup>1</sup>This total represents over 93% of the total YTD tonnage received at both SWLF and EWTS.

**Table 2-2: Daily Waste Sampling Schedule**

	Hauler	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Total
Town of Cary		1	2	2	2	-	<b>7</b>
City of Raleigh		-	4	-	-	-	<b>4</b>
Town of Fuquay-Varina		1	-	-	-	1	<b>2</b>
Town of Holly Springs		1	-	-	-	-	<b>1</b>
Town of Apex		-	-	2	2	-	<b>4</b>
Town of Garner		2	-	-	1	-	<b>3</b>
Town of Morrisville		1	-	-	1	-	<b>2</b>
Town of Wake Forest		1	-	-	-	-	<b>1</b>
Town of Rolesville		-	1	-	-	-	<b>1</b>
Town of Zebulon		-	-	-	-	1	<b>1</b>
Town of Wendell		-	-	1	-	-	<b>1</b>
Town of Knightdale		-	-	1	1	-	<b>2</b>
Wake Co. Convenience Centers		3	2	3	2	1	<b>11</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>10</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>40</b>

Note: Sampling schedule adjusted during sorting event due to confusion on number of trucks for Apex and Garner.

Once the desired number of samples from each hauler and generator sector was determined, KCI coordinated with the haulers to select routes that represented a cross section of their service areas. For routes that haulers typically delivered to the EWTS, they were asked to reroute them to the SWLF. Placards were sent to each hauler detailing type of route and area for each sample. The haulers distributed the placards to the drivers of the selected route each day. These placards enabled County scalehouse staff to identify selected vehicles as they entered the scale at the SWLF and direct them to the study site.

To obtain a representative sample the load was visually divided into six sections and, based on a die roll, one of the six sections was selected for sampling. A representative sample of at least 200 pounds was pulled, placed on a tarp at the sorting area, labeled, and stored until sorted.

All samples were hand-sorted into the previously defined material categories. After the entire sample was sorted, the KCI Field Manager weighed and recorded the net weights of each material category in a tablet-based data log.

## 2.5 Analytical Procedures

After fieldwork was completed, KCI calculated the average composition of each material category for each generator sector. Under typical circumstances, results are calculated as a weighted average using the annual tons generated by each sector to ensure that the results proportionally reflect the County's overall waste stream. However, annual tonnage data by generator sector are not recorded by the County and therefore were not available for this study. As a result, weighted averages could not be applied, and KCI instead calculated results using a simple average of the sample compositions within each sector.

Data analysis followed industry-accepted standards for statistical sampling, as outlined in the ASTM Standard Test Method for Determination of the Composition of Unprocessed Municipal Solid Waste (D5231-92; reapproved 2024). Where appropriate, 90 percent confidence intervals were calculated using a standard statistical t-test for each material category.

Wherever possible, the results of the present WCS were compared to the results of the 2011 and 2019 WCS.

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# Section 3

## Results

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### 3.1 Introduction to Results

Results are organized by generator sector, followed by the residential aggregate results. All single-family waste results are presented in subsection 3.2.1, Convenience Center results are located in subsection 3.2.2, and separated Town of Cary results are in 3.2.3. Aggregated Residential results for all samples are presented in subsection 3.2.4. The previous Countywide results in 2011 and 2019 included commercial waste and sample from NC State University. This 2026 study excluded non-residential waste due to the County's recommendation and low commercial tonnages received at the landfill. For that reason, this report does not contain direct comparison of past and current Countywide Aggregate data.

Unless otherwise stated, all results presented in this section are expressed in percentage by weight. The percentages included in the tables and figures are the mean values for each material category. Where appropriate, the tables also provide the 90 percent confidence intervals for each material category.<sup>1</sup>

For the purposes of discussion and analysis, materials were organized into six broad material groups based on diversion potential:

- **Recyclable Paper:** Paper materials currently accepted in curbside single stream recycling program in the County and at the County's Convenience Centers.
  - Newspaper
  - Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)
  - Office Paper
  - Mixed Recyclable Paper
  - Bagged Shredded Paper<sup>2</sup>
- **Recyclable Containers:** Containers currently accepted in curbside single stream recycling program in the County and at the County's Convenience Centers.
  - Aseptic Containers/Cartons
  - PET Bottles (#1)
  - HDPE Bottles (#2)
  - Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7
  - Tin/Steel Cans<sup>3</sup>
  - Aluminum Cans<sup>4</sup>
  - Aluminum Foil and Trays
  - Glass Containers
- **Other Accepted Recoverables:** Materials that are not accepted in the curbside single stream recyclable program but are accepted for recovery at the County's Convenience Centers and/or Multi-material Recycling Facilities.

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<sup>1</sup> The confidence interval indicates that, with a 90% level of confidence, the actual arithmetic mean is within the upper and lower limits shown. This provides an understanding of how much variation occurred in the quantity of that material category found in the samples sorted. Generally, the more homogeneous the waste stream and the greater the number of samples sorted, the higher the level of accuracy achieved and the narrower the margin between the upper and lower bounds of the confidence interval. Because this is a statistical analysis, the lower end of the confidence interval may be a negative number.

<sup>2</sup> Bagged shredded paper was previously accepted as a recyclable in some municipalities during the 2019 study. For direct comparison it has been included in the same category, though it is not accepted in curbside programs.

<sup>3</sup> Includes empty aerosol cans.

<sup>4</sup> Includes empty aerosol cans.

- Hard Cover Books
- Bulky Rigid Plastics
- Other Ferrous Metals
- Other Non-ferrous Metals
- Textiles and Leather
- Hazardous/Special Wastes
- Electronics
- Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices
- Vehicle Tires
- Potential Compostables: Materials that potentially could be composted in a commercial composting facility. This may require proper source-separation or preprocessing to remove inorganic material.
  - Food Waste
  - Yard Waste
  - Other Organics
  - Pizza Boxes
  - Compostable Paper
  - PLA (#7) Plastic Containers
  - Clean Wood Waste
- Other Potential Recoverables: Materials that have the potential to be recovered or recycled but are not currently collected for recycling in the County's single stream recycling program. Some of these materials would require source-separation and/or additional processing to recover. Other materials are ones that may be accepted in curbside programs in other municipalities.
  - Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)
  - Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)
  - All Plastic Drink Cups
  - Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers
  - Packaging EPS
  - Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam
  - Recyclable Plastic Film
  - Other C&D Debris
  - Furniture and Mattresses
  - Rubber
- Other Materials: Materials not classified above and not feasible to recover with traditional programs or technology.
  - Paper Cups
  - Non-compostable Paper
  - All Other Plastics
  - Non-recyclable Plastic Film
  - Non-recyclable Glass
  - Treated Wood Waste
  - Batteries
  - Lithium Batteries
  - Diapers
  - Composite Materials
  - Liquids
  - Grit

When feasible, the results of the present study were compared to the County’s 2019 and 2011 studies. Due to the evolution of material streams and processing technologies, the categories across the three studies were not exactly the same. KCI has aligned the categories as best as possible to allow comparison between the two studies. Exact tonnages by municipality were not available, which required individual samples to be weighted evenly when determining averages.

## 3.2 Waste Composition Results

### 3.2.1 Single-Family Residential Waste

Figure 3-1 depicts the average composition of single-family residential waste. Table 3-1 provides the average with a 90 percent confidence interval for each material category measured in the single-family residential waste. Table 3-2 compares the composition of single-family residential waste from the current WCS to the 2019 WCS and 2011 WCS. Individual sample results are included in Appendix B.

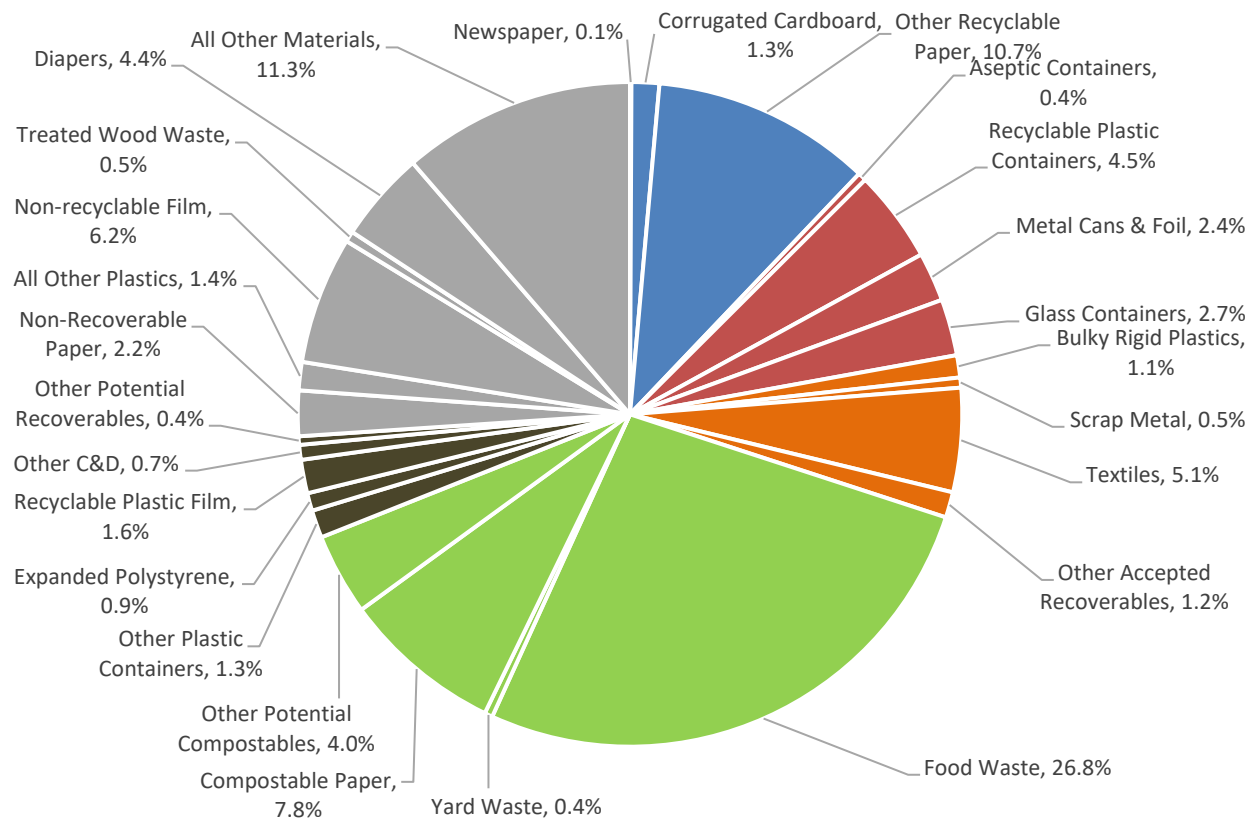
Key findings from the single-family residential results are as follows:

- Recyclable paper and containers: About 22 percent of the waste was recyclables currently accepted in curbside single stream collection programs.
  - Recyclable paper categories comprised approximately 12 percent of the waste stream, with the largest category being Mixed Recyclable Paper (10 percent). The percentage of recyclable paper categories decreased from the 2011 WCS (18 percent) and the 2019 WCS (14 percent). This appears to be primarily due to decreases in the percentage of Newspaper, likely due to reductions in print newspaper, and in the percentage of Corrugated Cardboard, possibly due to changes in packaging materials and increased recycling.
  - Recyclable container categories comprised about 10 percent of the waste stream and showed minimal change from the previous WCSs. Recyclable plastic container categories comprised about 4.5 percent of the waste stream, and Glass Containers accounted for about 2.7 percent.
- Other accepted recoverables: Nearly 8 percent of waste consisted of materials accepted at drop-off centers for recycling or recovery. The largest portion came from Textiles (5 percent), followed by Bulky Rigid Plastics and Small Appliances/Other Electronic Devices (each accounting for about 1 percent of the waste stream). Minimal change was observed from the previous WCSs, with the exception of Other Ferrous Metals, which appears to have decreased.
- Potential compostables: Materials that could potentially be composted constituted roughly 39 percent of the waste stream. Food Waste (27 percent) accounted for the vast majority of these materials, with Compostable Paper (8 percent) as the next largest category. A slight drop in potentially compostable materials was observed since the 2019 WCS, where they represented 41 percent of waste stream. This appears to be due primarily to a substantial decrease in the percentage of Yard Waste (6.5 percent in 2019 versus 0.4 percent in 2026). This variation is likely influenced by the timing of each study (February 2026 versus April 2019) and corresponding seasonal differences in yard work activity.

- Other potential recoverables: Materials not accepted for recycling in existing County programs but which have the potential to be recovered if the necessary infrastructure were established comprised approximately 5 percent of the waste stream, with the largest material category being Recyclable Plastic Film (1.6 percent). Minimal change was observed from the 2019 WCS.
- Other materials: All other materials accounted for about 26 percent of the waste stream. The highest percentage of these were Non-recyclable Plastic Film (6.2 percent), Composite Materials (5.8 percent), and Diapers (4.4 percent). No appreciable changes were observed from the 2019 WCS.

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**Figure 3-1: Annual Composition of Single-Family Residential Waste (% by weight)**



Note: For this figure, the following categories have been combined:

- Other Recyclable Paper includes the categories of Office Paper, Mixed Recyclable Paper, and Bagged Shredded Paper.
- Recyclable Plastic Containers include the categories of PET Bottles (#1), HDPE Bottles (#2), Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7.
- Metal Cans & Foil includes the categories of Tin/Steel Cans, Aluminum Cans, Aluminum Foil and Trays.
- Scrap Metal includes the categories of Other Ferrous Metals and Other Non-ferrous Metals.
- Other Accepted Recoverables includes the categories of Hard Cover Books, Hazardous/Special Wastes, Electronics, Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices, and Vehicle Tires.
- Other Potential Compostables include the categories of Other Organics, Pizza Boxes, PLA (#7) Plastic Containers, and Clean Wood Waste.
- Other Plastic Containers includes the categories of Non-bottle PET Containers (#1), Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2), All Plastic Drink Cups, and Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers.
- Expanded Polystyrene includes the categories of Packaging EPS and Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam.
- Other Potential Recoverables includes the categories of Furniture and Mattresses and Rubber.
- Non-recoverable Paper includes the categories of Paper Cups and Non-compostable Paper.
- All Other Materials include the categories of Non-recyclable Glass, Batteries, Lithium Batteries, Composite Materials, Liquids, and Grit.

**Table 3-1: Composition of Single-Family Residential Waste (% by weight)**

	Average	90% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
<b>Recyclable Paper</b>			
Newspaper	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	1.3%	0.8%	1.9%
Office Paper	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	10.0%	8.9%	11.1%
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.4%	0.0%	0.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.1%</b>		

<b>Recyclable Containers</b>			
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%
PET Bottles (#1)	1.9%	1.4%	2.4%
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.7%	0.5%	0.9%
Rec. Plastic Containers #3-7	1.9%	1.6%	2.2%
Tin/Steel Cans	0.8%	0.6%	1.1%
Aluminum Cans	0.9%	0.6%	1.1%
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.7%	0.5%	0.8%
Glass Containers	2.7%	1.9%	3.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0%</b>		

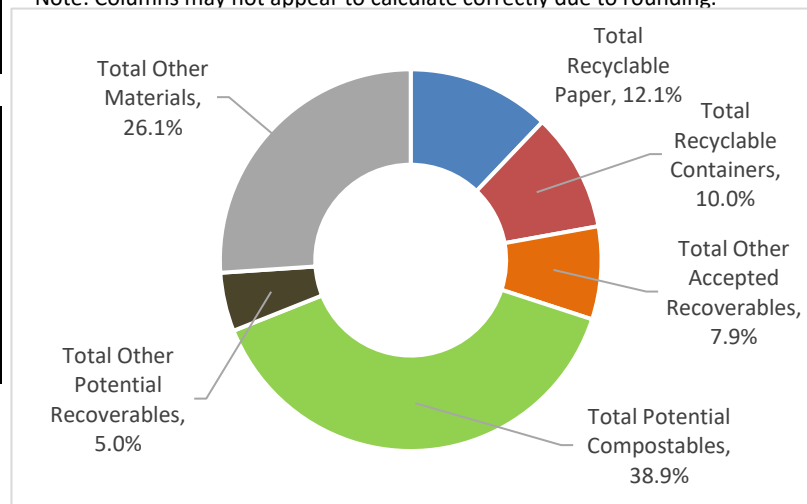
<b>Other Accepted Recoverables</b>			
Hard Cover Books	0.2%	-0.1%	0.5%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	1.1%	-0.1%	2.3%
Other Ferrous Metals	0.3%	0.1%	0.5%
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.2%	-0.2%	0.5%
Textiles and Leather	5.1%	1.9%	8.2%
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.1%	-0.1%	0.2%
Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Small Appl. & Other Elec. Dev.	1.0%	0.1%	1.8%
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.9%</b>		

<b>Potential Compostables</b>			
Food Waste	26.8%	23.7%	29.9%
Yard Waste	0.4%	0.0%	0.8%
Other Organics	3.2%	1.4%	5.1%
Pizza Boxes	0.3%	0.1%	0.5%
Compostable Paper	7.8%	6.8%	8.8%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clean Wood Waste	0.4%	-0.2%	1.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.9%</b>		

	Average	90% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
<b>Other Potential Recoverables</b>			
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.8%	0.6%	0.9%
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%
Other Non-rec. Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Packaging EPS	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
Food-container EPS Foam	0.7%	0.5%	0.9%
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.6%	1.4%	1.9%
Other C&D Debris	0.7%	0.0%	1.4%
Furniture and Mattresses	0.3%	-0.2%	0.7%
Rubber	0.1%	-0.1%	0.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.0%</b>		

<b>Other Materials</b>			
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
Non-compostable Paper	2.0%	1.5%	2.5%
All Other Plastics	1.4%	1.1%	1.7%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	6.2%	5.5%	6.9%
Non-recyclable Glass	0.4%	0.1%	0.7%
Treated Wood Waste	0.5%	-0.1%	1.1%
Batteries	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Diapers	4.4%	2.5%	6.3%
Composite Materials	5.8%	4.3%	7.3%
Liquids	1.4%	0.7%	2.1%
Grit	3.7%	3.1%	4.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.1%</b>		

Note: Columns may not appear to calculate correctly due to rounding.



**Table 3-2: Comparison of Single-Family Residential Waste to 2019 & 2011 WCS (% by weight)**

	2026 Average	90% Confidence Interval		2019 Average	2011 Average
		Lower	Upper		
<b>Recyclable Paper</b>					
Newspaper	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%	2.6%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	1.3%	0.8%	1.9%	3.3%	2.8%
Office Paper	0.3%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	1.4%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	10.0%	8.9%	11.1%	10.3%	11.4%
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.4%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.1%</b>			<b>13.9%</b>	<b>18.2%</b>
<b>Recyclable Containers</b>					
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.3%	0.5%
PET Bottles (#1)	1.9%	1.4%	2.4%	1.9%	1.7%
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.7%	0.5%	0.9%	0.7%	0.9%
Rec. Plastic Containers #3-7	1.9%	1.6%	2.2%	1.4%	1.9%
Tin/Steel Cans	0.8%	0.6%	1.1%	0.9%	1.5%
Aluminum Cans	0.9%	0.6%	1.1%	0.6%	0.4%
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.7%	0.5%	0.8%	0.5%	0.5%
Glass Containers	2.7%	1.9%	3.6%	1.9%	2.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0%</b>			<b>8.1%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>
<b>Other Accepted Recoverables</b>					
Hard Cover Books	0.2%	-0.1%	0.5%	0.2%	0.6%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	1.1%	-0.1%	2.3%	0.3%	2.4%
Other Ferrous Metals	0.3%	0.1%	0.5%	0.9%	1.3%
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.2%	-0.2%	0.5%	0.1%	0.4%
Textiles and Leather	5.1%	1.9%	8.2%	4.3%	6.9%
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.1%	-0.1%	0.2%	0.0%	<0.1%
Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	<0.1%
Small Appl. & Other Elec. Dev.	1.0%	0.1%	1.8%	0.7%	1.0%
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.9%</b>			<b>6.8%</b>	<b>12.6%</b>
<b>Potential Compostables</b>					
Food Waste	26.8%	23.7%	29.9%	24.8%	12.9%
Yard Waste	0.4%	0.0%	0.8%	6.5%	2.5%
Other Organics	3.2%	1.4%	5.1%	2.3%	8.7%
Pizza Boxes	0.3%	0.1%	0.5%	0.4%	-
Compostable Paper	7.8%	6.8%	8.8%	7.4%	6.5%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-
Clean Wood Waste	0.4%	-0.2%	1.1%	0.0%	2.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.9%</b>			<b>41.4%</b>	<b>32.7%</b>

**Table 3-2: Comparison of Single-Family Residential Waste to 2019 & 2011 WCS (% by weight)  
(continued)**

	2026 Average	90% Confidence Interval		2019 Average	2011 Average
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound		
<b>Other Potential Recoverables</b>					
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.8%	0.6%	0.9%	0.7%	-
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	-
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.4%	0.2%	0.5%	0.4%	-
Other Non-rec. Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%
Packaging EPS	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	1.7%
Food-container EPS Foam	0.7%	0.5%	0.9%	1.0%	
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.6%	1.4%	1.9%	2.2%	1.9%
Other C&D Debris	0.7%	0.0%	1.4%	1.0%	1.1%
Furniture and Mattresses	0.3%	-0.2%	0.7%	0.0%	2.1%
Rubber	0.1%	-0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.0%</b>			<b>5.9%</b>	<b>7.0%</b>
<b>Other Materials</b>					
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%
Non-compostable Paper	2.0%	1.5%	2.5%	2.2%	0.5%
All Other Plastics	1.4%	1.1%	1.7%	1.8%	<0.1%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	6.2%	5.5%	6.9%	8.0%	6.0%
Non-recyclable Glass	0.4%	0.1%	0.7%	0.7%	<0.1%
Treated Wood Waste	0.5%	-0.1%	1.1%	0.7%	1.0%
Batteries	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%	<0.1%
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-	-
Diapers	4.4%	2.5%	6.3%	5.4%	4.7%
Composite Materials	5.8%	4.3%	7.3%	3.9%	3.1%
Liquids	1.4%	0.7%	2.1%	0.2%	-
Grit	3.7%	3.1%	4.3%	0.6%	3.5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.1%</b>			<b>23.9%</b>	<b>18.9%</b>

Note: Columns may not appear to calculate correctly due to rounding.

**Category Notes:**

- Mixed Recyclable Paper includes the 2011 categories: Magazines, Kraft Paper, Paperboard, Phone Books, Mixed Office Paper, File Folders, Paper Packaging.
- Recyclable Plastic Containers includes the 2011 categories: Other #3-#7 Bottles and Plastic Cups and Tubs.
- Tin/Steel Cans includes the 2011 categories: Steel/Bi Metal Food Cans and Aerosol Cans.
- Glass Containers includes the 2011 categories: Clear, Brown, and Green Glass Bottles/Jars.
- Textiles and Leather includes the 2011 categories: Textiles, Other Textiles, Leather.
- Hazardous/Special Wastes includes the 2011 categories: Infectious Waste, Household Hazardous Waste, Oil Filters, Lead-acid Batteries.
- Electronics includes the 2011 categories: Computers, VCRs, Printers, Cell Phones, Televisions, MP3 Players.
- Small Appliances & Other Electronic Devices includes the 2011 categories: Printer Ink Cartridges, DVDs/ CDs, Other Electronic Waste.
- Yard Waste includes the 2011 categories: Yard Waste and Stumps.
- Clean Wood Waste includes the 2011 categories: Untreated Wood and Pallets.
- Other C&D Debris includes the 2011 categories: Concrete, Brick, Drywall, Roofing Material, Vinyl Siding.
- Non-recyclable Glass includes the 2011 categories: Ceramic Glass and Other Glass.

## 3.2.2 County Convenience Centers

Figure 3-2 depicts the average composition of Convenience Center (CC) waste. Table 3-3 provides the average with a 90 percent confidence interval for each material category measured in the Convenience Center waste. Table 3-4 compares the composition of Convenience Center waste from the current WCS to the 2019 WCS.<sup>5</sup> Individual sample results are included in Appendix B.

Key findings from the Convenience Center results are as follows:

- **Recyclable paper and containers:** These recyclables make up roughly 20 percent of CC waste.
  - Recyclable paper categories comprised nearly 13 percent of CC waste, with Mixed Recyclable Paper (7.6 percent) and Corrugated Cardboard (4.7) accounting for the vast majority. Essentially no change was observed compared to the 2019 WCS.
  - Recyclable container categories comprised nearly 8 percent of CC waste. Recyclable plastic container categories (3.7 percent) and Glass Containers (2.2 percent) made up more than half of these materials. A slight decrease in the percentage of Glass Containers as compared to the 2019 WCS was observed.
- **Other accepted recoverables:** Materials accepted for drop-off recycling or recovery accounted for nearly 16 percent of CC waste. Textiles and Leather (7 percent), Bulky Rigid Plastics (2.4 percent), and Small Appliances/Other Electric devices (2.1 percent) accounted for more than half of these materials.
  - Convenience Center samples contained almost twice the percentage of other accepted recoverables as in single-family waste. Some residents may choose to take certain items, such as Bulky Rigid Plastics, Small Appliances/Electronic Devices to drop-off locations rather than dispose of them curbside.
  - A slight decrease in the percentage of other accepted recoverables was observed when compared to the 2019 WCS (21 percent). Slight reductions were seen in Bulky Rigid Plastics and Textiles and Leather.
- **Potential Compostables:** Potentially compostable material comprised nearly 25 percent of CC waste, with Food Waste (15 percent) accounting for the majority.
  - The percentage of compostable materials in Convenience Center waste (25 percent) was substantially lower than in single-family residential waste (39 percent). The main difference was the amount of Food Waste (15 percent versus 27 percent).
  - The percentage of compostable materials slightly increased compared to the 2019 WCS (20 percent). The greatest increase was observed in Compostable Paper (2.7 percent in 2019 versus 5.7 percent in 2026).
- **Other potential recoverables:** Materials not accepted for recycling in existing County programs but which have the potential to be recovered if the necessary infrastructure were established comprised approximately 12.5 percent of CC waste. The largest

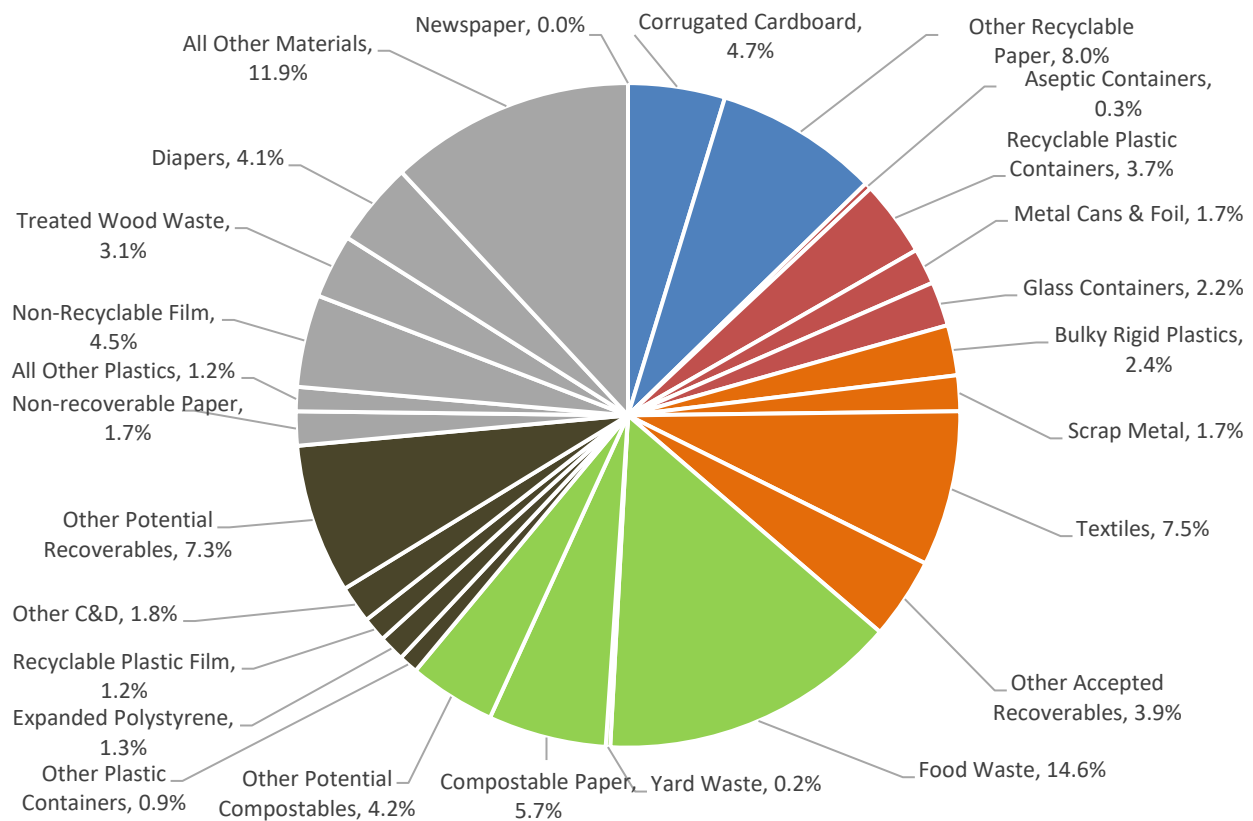
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<sup>5</sup> The 2011 WCS did not include Convenience Center waste as a generator sector.

material categories were Furniture and Mattresses (6.5 percent) and Other C&D Debris (1.8 percent).

- CC waste contained a substantially higher percentage of potential recoverables (12.5 percent) than the single-family residential stream (5.0 percent). This was mainly due to the prevalence of bulky items such as Furniture and Mattresses, and Other C&D Debris, which are more likely to be taken to Convenience Centers than placed curbside.
- Although the percentage of other potential recoverables in CC waste appears to have increased since the 2019 WCS (9.4 percent), the confidence intervals of individual material categories overlap, indicating no significant changes.
- Other materials: Other materials comprised approximately 26.5 percent of CC waste. The main contributors were Composite Materials (6.7 percent), Non-recyclable Plastic Film (4.5 percent), and Diapers (4.1 percent).

**Figure 3-2: Composition of County Convenience Center Waste (% by weight)**



Note: For this figure, the following categories have been combined:

- Other Recyclable Paper includes the categories of Office Paper, Mixed Recyclable Paper, and Bagged Shredded Paper.
- Recyclable Plastic Containers include the categories of PET Bottles (#1), HDPE Bottles (#2), Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7.
- Metal Cans & Foil includes the categories of Tin/Steel Cans, Aluminum Cans, Aluminum Foil and Trays.
- Scrap Metal includes the categories of Other Ferrous Metals and Other Non-ferrous Metals.

- Other Accepted Recoverables includes the categories of Hard Cover Books, Hazardous/Special Wastes, Electronics, Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices, and Vehicle Tires.
- Other Potential Compostables include the categories of Other Organics, Pizza Boxes, PLA (#7) Plastic Containers, and Clean Wood Waste.
- Other Plastic Containers includes the categories of Non-bottle PET Containers (#1), Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2), All Plastic Drink Cups, and Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers.
- Expanded Polystyrene includes the categories of Packaging EPS and Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam.
- Other Potential Recoverables includes the categories of Furniture and Mattresses and Rubber.
- Non-recoverable Paper includes the categories of Paper Cups and Non-compostable Paper.
- All Other Materials include the categories of Non-recyclable Glass, Batteries, Lithium Batteries, Composite Materials, Liquids, and Grit.

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**Table 3-3: Composition of County Convenience Center Waste (% by weight)**

	Average	90% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
<b>Recyclable Paper</b>			
Newspaper	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	4.7%	1.6%	7.8%
Office Paper	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	7.6%	6.1%	9.0%
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.3%	-0.1%	0.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.7%</b>		

<b>Recyclable Containers</b>			
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%
PET Bottles (#1)	1.6%	1.1%	2.1%
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.8%	0.5%	1.1%
Rec. Plastic Containers #3-7	1.3%	1.0%	1.6%
Tin/Steel Cans	0.8%	0.6%	1.0%
Aluminum Cans	0.5%	0.4%	0.7%
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%
Glass Containers	2.2%	0.9%	3.4%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.9%</b>		

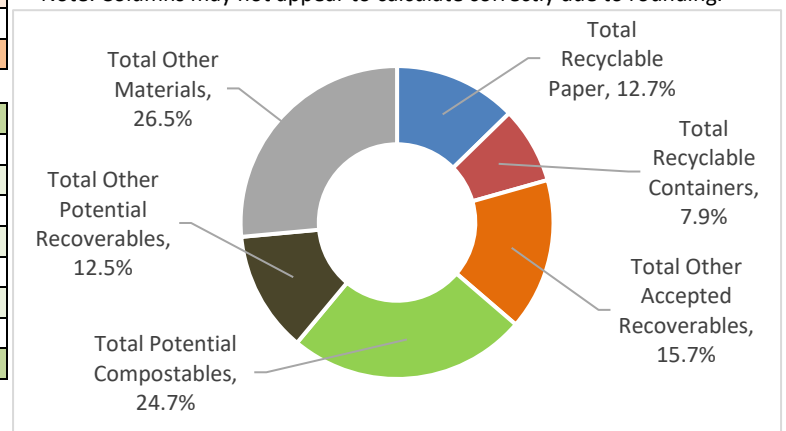
<b>Other Accepted Recoverables</b>			
Hard Cover Books	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	2.4%	1.1%	3.8%
Other Ferrous Metals	1.6%	0.3%	3.0%
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
Textiles and Leather	7.5%	3.4%	11.7%
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
Electronics	1.7%	-0.3%	3.6%
Small Appl. & Other Elec. Dev.	2.1%	0.1%	4.1%
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.7%</b>		

<b>Potential Compostables</b>			
Food Waste	14.6%	10.8%	18.3%
Yard Waste	0.2%	-0.1%	0.5%
Other Organics	2.5%	0.5%	4.4%
Pizza Boxes	0.6%	0.3%	0.9%
Compostable Paper	5.7%	3.8%	7.7%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clean Wood Waste	1.2%	0.1%	2.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>24.7%</b>		

	Average	90% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
<b>Other Potential Recoverables</b>			
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.4%	0.2%	0.6%
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%
Other Non-rec. Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Packaging EPS	0.5%	0.2%	0.9%
Food-container EPS Foam	0.7%	0.3%	1.1%
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.2%	0.9%	1.5%
Other C&D Debris	1.8%	0.0%	3.6%
Furniture and Mattresses	6.5%	0.7%	12.3%
Rubber	0.8%	-0.3%	1.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.5%</b>		

<b>Other Materials</b>			
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
Non-compostable Paper	1.4%	1.0%	1.9%
All Other Plastics	1.2%	0.8%	1.5%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	4.5%	3.7%	5.3%
Non-recyclable Glass	0.8%	0.3%	1.4%
Treated Wood Waste	3.1%	0.3%	5.9%
Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Diapers	4.1%	1.7%	6.4%
Composite Materials	6.7%	5.2%	8.2%
Liquids	1.1%	0.5%	1.8%
Grit	3.2%	2.5%	3.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.5%</b>		

Note: Columns may not appear to calculate correctly due to rounding.



**Table 3-4: Comparison of County Convenience Center Waste to 2019 WCS (% by weight)**

	2026 Average	90% Confidence Interval		2019 Average
		Lower	Upper	
<b>Recyclable Paper</b>				
Newspaper	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	4.7%	1.6%	7.8%	3.5%
Office Paper	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.7%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	7.6%	6.1%	9.0%	8.6%
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.3%	-0.1%	0.7%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.7%</b>			<b>12.8%</b>
<b>Recyclable Containers</b>				
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%
PET Bottles (#1)	1.6%	1.1%	2.1%	2.2%
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.8%	0.5%	1.1%	0.5%
Rec. Plastic Containers #3-7	1.3%	1.0%	1.6%	0.9%
Tin/Steel Cans	0.8%	0.6%	1.0%	0.9%
Aluminum Cans	0.5%	0.4%	0.7%	0.6%
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.4%	0.3%	0.6%	0.3%
Glass Containers	2.2%	0.9%	3.4%	3.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.9%</b>			<b>9.2%</b>
<b>Other Accepted Recoverables</b>				
Hard Cover Books	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	2.4%	1.1%	3.8%	3.9%
Other Ferrous Metals	1.6%	0.3%	3.0%	1.7%
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.3%
Textiles and Leather	7.5%	3.4%	11.7%	10.6%
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%
Electronics	1.7%	-0.3%	3.6%	1.1%
Small Appl. & Other Elec. Dev.	2.1%	0.1%	4.1%	3.0%
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15.7%</b>			<b>21.1%</b>
<b>Potential Compostables</b>				
Food Waste	14.6%	10.8%	18.3%	12.0%
Yard Waste	0.2%	-0.1%	0.5%	2.0%
Other Organics	2.5%	0.5%	4.4%	2.2%
Pizza Boxes	0.6%	0.3%	0.9%	0.0%
Compostable Paper	5.7%	3.8%	7.7%	2.7%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clean Wood Waste	1.2%	0.1%	2.3%	1.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>24.7%</b>			<b>20.0%</b>

**Table 3-4: Comparison of County Convenience Center Waste to 2019 WCS (% by weight)  
(continued)**

	2026 Average	90% Confidence Interval		2019 Average
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound	
<b>Other Potential Recoverables</b>				
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.4%	0.2%	0.6%	0.2%
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%	0.1%
Other Non-rec. Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Packaging EPS	0.5%	0.2%	0.9%	0.6%
Food-container EPS Foam	0.7%	0.3%	1.1%	0.7%
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.2%	0.9%	1.5%	0.8%
Other C&D Debris	1.8%	0.0%	3.6%	4.2%
Furniture and Mattresses	6.5%	0.7%	12.3%	2.6%
Rubber	0.8%	-0.3%	1.9%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.5%</b>			<b>9.4%</b>
<b>Other Materials</b>				
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.1%
Non-compostable Paper	1.4%	1.0%	1.9%	0.6%
All Other Plastics	1.2%	0.8%	1.5%	1.6%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	4.5%	3.7%	5.3%	7.9%
Non-recyclable Glass	0.8%	0.3%	1.4%	1.3%
Treated Wood Waste	3.1%	0.3%	5.9%	6.2%
Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-
Diapers	4.1%	1.7%	6.4%	1.4%
Composite Materials	6.7%	5.2%	8.2%	5.2%
Liquids	1.1%	0.5%	1.8%	0.4%
Grit	3.2%	2.5%	3.9%	2.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.5%</b>			<b>27.6%</b>

Category Notes:

- Mixed Recyclable Paper includes the 2011 categories: Magazines, Kraft Paper, Paperboard, Phone Books, Mixed Office Paper, File Folders, Paper Packaging.
- Recyclable Plastic Containers includes the 2011 categories: Other #3-#7 Bottles and Plastic Cups and Tubs.
- Tin/Steel Cans includes the 2011 categories: Steel/Bi Metal Food Cans and Aerosol Cans.
- Glass Containers includes the 2011 categories: Clear, Brown, and Green Glass Bottles/Jars.
- Textiles and Leather includes the 2011 categories: Textiles, Other Textiles, Leather.
- Hazardous/Special Wastes includes the 2011 categories: Infectious Waste, Household Hazardous Waste, Oil Filters, Lead-acid Batteries.
- Electronics includes the 2011 categories: Computers, VCRs, Printers, Cell Phones, Televisions, MP3 Players.
- Small Appliances & Other Electronic Devices includes the 2011 categories: Printer Ink Cartridges, DVDs/ CDs, Other Electronic Waste.
- Yard Waste includes the 2011 categories: Yard Waste and Stumps.
- Clean Wood Waste includes the 2011 categories: Untreated Wood and Pallets.
- Other C&D Debris includes the 2011 categories: Concrete, Brick, Drywall, Roofing Material, Vinyl Siding.
- Non-recyclable Glass includes the 2011 categories: Ceramic Glass and Other Glass.

### 3.2.3 Town of Cary Waste

Figure 3-3 depicts the average composition of Town of Cary (Cary) waste. Table 3-5 provides the average with a 90 percent confidence interval for each material category measured in Town of Cary waste. Table 3-6 compares the composition of Cary waste from the current WCS to the 2019 WCS.<sup>6</sup> Individual sample results are included in Appendix B.

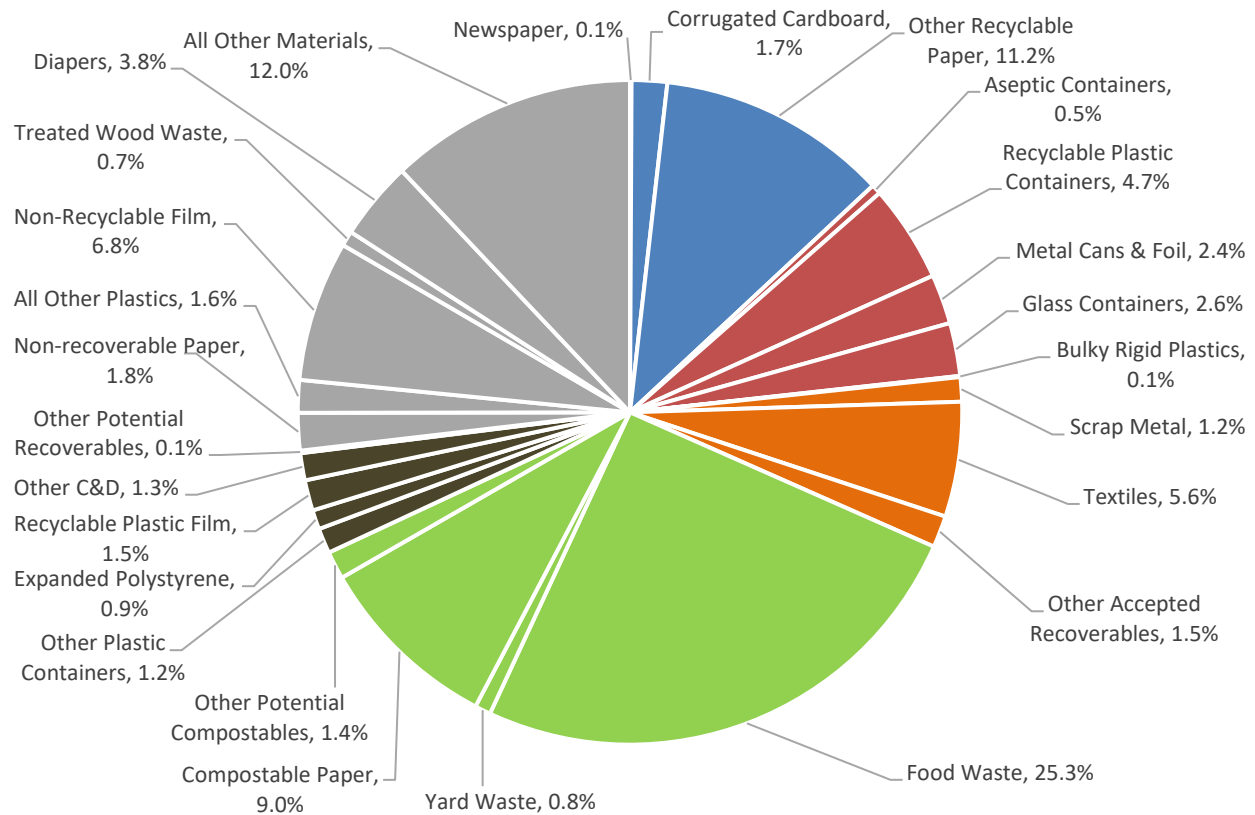
Key findings from the Town of Cary results are as follows:

- **Recyclable paper and containers:** Recyclable paper and containers comprised more than 23 percent of the Cary's waste stream. This is consistent with the percentage of these materials found in the overall single-family residential waste stream.
  - Recyclable paper accounted for over 13 percent of the Cary waste stream, with the majority being Mixed Recyclable Paper (10.5 percent). This is a slight increase from the percentage of recyclable paper observed in the 2019 WCS (10 percent), primarily because of an increase in the amount of Mixed Recyclable Paper (7.6 percent in 2019 versus 10.5 percent in 2026).
  - Recyclable containers constituted approximately 10 percent of the Cary waste stream, with plastic recyclable container categories (4.8 percent) and Glass Containers (2.6 percent) making up the majority. This is only a slight increase over the 2019 WCS percentage for recyclable containers (9 percent).
- **Other accepted recyclables:** Approximately 8.4 percent of Cary waste consisted of other accepted recoverables, with Textiles and Leather (5.6 percent) making up the largest portion. This is consistent with the overall single-family residential waste stream. The percentage of other accepted recoverables was slightly lower in the 2019 WCS (7.3 percent); however, the material category averages are within the confidence intervals of the current study, indicating no significant change.
- **Potential compostables:** Potentially compostable material categories accounted for approximately 36 percent of the Cary waste stream, with Food Waste (25 percent) making up the vast majority followed by Compostable Paper (9 percent). This is consistent with the composition of the single-family residential waste stream. However, it represents a decrease when compared to the percentage of potential compostables in the 2019 WCS (44 percent). As with single-family residential waste, this is primarily because of a reduction in the percentage of Yard Waste (4.5 percent in 2019 versus 0.8 percent in 2026). As mentioned above, this is likely a result of seasonality.
- **Other potential recoverables:** Other potential recoverables made up approximately 5 percent of the Cary waste stream. This is consistent with the single-family residential waste stream.
- **Other materials:** Nearly 27 percent of the Cary waste stream consisted of other non-recoverable materials. The highest percentage of these in order of prevalence were Composite Materials (6.9 percent), Non-recyclable Plastic Film (6.8 percent), Grit (4.0 percent), and Diapers (3.8 percent). This is also consistent with single-family residential waste.

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<sup>6</sup> The 2011 WCS did not include the Town of Cary waste as a separate generator sector.

**Figure 3-3: Composition of Town of Cary Waste (% by weight)**



Note: For this figure, the following categories have been combined:

- Other Recyclable Paper includes the categories of Office Paper, Mixed Recyclable Paper, and Bagged Shredded Paper.
- Recyclable Plastic Containers include the categories of PET Bottles (#1), HDPE Bottles (#2), Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7.
- Metal Cans & Foil includes the categories of Tin/Steel Cans, Aluminum Cans, Aluminum Foil and Trays.
- Scrap Metal includes the categories of Other Ferrous Metals and Other Non-ferrous Metals.
- Other Accepted Recoverables includes the categories of Hard Cover Books, Hazardous/Special Wastes, Electronics, Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices, and Vehicle Tires.
- Other Potential Compostables include the categories of Other Organics, Pizza Boxes, PLA (#7) Plastic Containers, and Clean Wood Waste.
- Other Plastic Containers includes the categories of Non-bottle PET Containers (#1), Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2), All Plastic Drink Cups, and Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers.
- Expanded Polystyrene includes the categories of Packaging EPS and Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam.
- Other Potential Recoverables includes the categories of Furniture and Mattresses and Rubber.
- Non-recoverable Paper includes the categories of Paper Cups and Non-compostable Paper.
- All Other Materials include the categories of Non-recyclable Glass, Batteries, Lithium Batteries, Composite Materials, Liquids, and Grit.

**Table 3-5: Composition of Town of Cary Waste (% by weight)**

	Average	90% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
<b>Recyclable Paper</b>			
Newspaper	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	1.7%	0.7%	2.8%
Office Paper	0.3%	-0.2%	0.8%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	10.5%	8.9%	12.1%
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.5%	-0.3%	1.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.1%</b>		

<b>Recyclable Containers</b>			
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.5%	0.3%	0.6%
PET Bottles (#1)	1.7%	1.1%	2.3%
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.7%	0.3%	1.0%
Rec. Plastic Containers #3-7	2.4%	2.1%	2.7%
Tin/Steel Cans	0.7%	0.4%	0.9%
Aluminum Cans	0.9%	0.6%	1.2%
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.8%	0.6%	1.1%
Glass Containers	2.6%	0.9%	4.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.2%</b>		

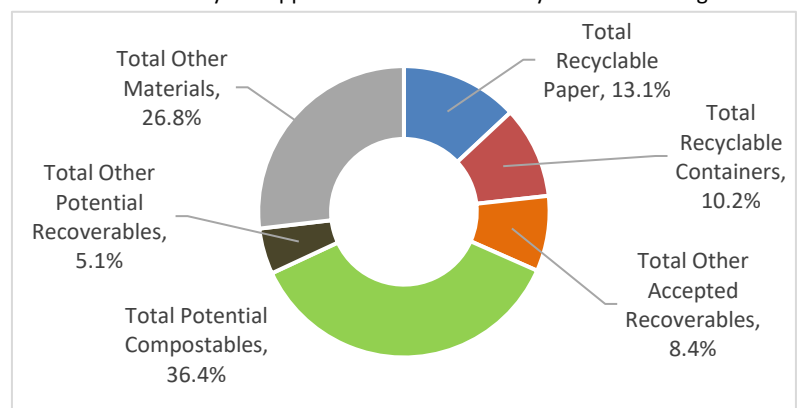
<b>Other Accepted Recoverables</b>			
Hard Cover Books	0.6%	-0.3%	1.4%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Other Ferrous Metals	0.6%	-0.1%	1.2%
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.6%	-0.5%	1.7%
Textiles and Leather	5.6%	3.5%	7.7%
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Small Appl. & Other Elec. Dev.	0.9%	-0.8%	2.6%
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.4%</b>		

<b>Potential Compostables</b>			
Food Waste	25.3%	21.3%	29.3%
Yard Waste	0.8%	-0.5%	2.0%
Other Organics	1.2%	0.4%	2.0%
Pizza Boxes	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
Compostable Paper	9.0%	7.7%	10.4%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clean Wood Waste	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.4%</b>		

	Average	90% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
<b>Other Potential Recoverables</b>			
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.8%	0.6%	1.0%
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%
Other Non-rec. Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Packaging EPS	0.3%	0.1%	0.4%
Food-container EPS Foam	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.5%	1.3%	1.6%
Other C&D Debris	1.3%	-0.6%	3.2%
Furniture and Mattresses	0.1%	-0.1%	0.4%
Rubber	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.1%</b>		

<b>Other Materials</b>			
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%
Non-compostable Paper	1.6%	1.1%	2.1%
All Other Plastics	1.6%	1.0%	2.2%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	6.8%	5.7%	7.9%
Non-recyclable Glass	0.7%	-0.1%	1.5%
Treated Wood Waste	0.7%	-0.3%	1.8%
Batteries	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Diapers	3.8%	1.5%	6.1%
Composite Materials	6.9%	4.1%	9.7%
Liquids	0.4%	0.2%	0.7%
Grit	4.0%	3.2%	4.7%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.8%</b>		

Note: Columns may not appear to calculate correctly due to rounding.



**Table 3-6: Comparison of Town of Cary Waste to 2019 WCS (% by weight)**

	2026 Average	90% Confidence Interval		2019 Average
		Lower	Upper	
<b>Recyclable Paper</b>				
Newspaper	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	1.7%	0.7%	2.8%	2.1%
Office Paper	0.3%	-0.2%	0.8%	0.0%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	10.5%	8.9%	12.1%	7.6%
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.5%	-0.3%	1.2%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13.1%</b>			<b>10.0%</b>
<b>Recyclable Containers</b>				
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.5%	0.3%	0.6%	0.4%
PET Bottles (#1)	1.7%	1.1%	2.3%	1.8%
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.7%	0.3%	1.0%	1.1%
Rec. Plastic Containers #3-7	2.4%	2.1%	2.7%	1.4%
Tin/Steel Cans	0.7%	0.4%	0.9%	0.8%
Aluminum Cans	0.9%	0.6%	1.2%	0.4%
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.8%	0.6%	1.1%	0.5%
Glass Containers	2.6%	0.9%	4.2%	2.8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.2%</b>			<b>9.2%</b>
<b>Other Accepted Recoverables</b>				
Hard Cover Books	0.6%	-0.3%	1.4%	0.1%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.1%
Other Ferrous Metals	0.6%	-0.1%	1.2%	0.8%
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.6%	-0.5%	1.7%	0.0%
Textiles and Leather	5.6%	3.5%	7.7%	4.9%
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%
Small Appl. & Other Elec. Dev.	0.9%	-0.8%	2.6%	1.1%
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>8.4%</b>			<b>7.3%</b>
<b>Potential Compostables</b>				
Food Waste	25.3%	21.3%	29.3%	27.4%
Yard Waste	0.8%	-0.5%	2.0%	4.5%
Other Organics	1.2%	0.4%	2.0%	3.5%
Pizza Boxes	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%
Compostable Paper	9.0%	7.7%	10.4%	8.2%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clean Wood Waste	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>36.4%</b>			<b>44.1%</b>

**Table 3-6: Comparison of Town of Cary Waste to 2019 WCS (% by weight) (continued)**

	2026 Average	90% Confidence Interval		2019 Weighted Average
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound	
<b>Other Potential Recoverables</b>				
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.8%	0.6%	1.0%	0.8%
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%
Other Non-rec. Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%
Packaging EPS	0.3%	0.1%	0.4%	0.1%
Food-container EPS Foam	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%	0.8%
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.5%	1.3%	1.6%	3.3%
Other C&D Debris	1.3%	-0.6%	3.2%	3.0%
Furniture and Mattresses	0.1%	-0.1%	0.4%	0.0%
Rubber	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5.1%</b>			<b>8.8%</b>
<b>Other Materials</b>				
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%
Non-compostable Paper	1.6%	1.1%	2.1%	2.8%
All Other Plastics	1.6%	1.0%	2.2%	1.7%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	6.8%	5.7%	7.9%	5.0%
Non-recyclable Glass	0.7%	-0.1%	1.5%	0.8%
Treated Wood Waste	0.7%	-0.3%	1.8%	0.4%
Batteries	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	-
Diapers	3.8%	1.5%	6.1%	6.5%
Composite Materials	6.9%	4.1%	9.7%	2.6%
Liquids	0.4%	0.2%	0.7%	0.2%
Grit	4.0%	3.2%	4.7%	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.8%</b>			<b>20.6%</b>

**Category Notes:**

- Mixed Recyclable Paper includes the 2011 categories: Magazines, Kraft Paper, Paperboard, Phone Books, Mixed Office Paper, File Folders, Paper Packaging.
- Recyclable Plastic Containers includes the 2011 categories: Other #3-#7 Bottles and Plastic Cups and Tubs.
- Tin/Steel Cans includes the 2011 categories: Steel/Bi Metal Food Cans and Aerosol Cans.
- Glass Containers includes the 2011 categories: Clear, Brown, and Green Glass Bottles/Jars.
- Textiles and Leather includes the 2011 categories: Textiles, Other Textiles, Leather.
- Hazardous/Special Wastes includes the 2011 categories: Infectious Waste, Household Hazardous Waste, Oil Filters, Lead-acid Batteries.
- Electronics includes the 2011 categories: Computers, VCRs, Printers, Cell Phones, Televisions, MP3 Players.
- Small Appliances & Other Electronic Devices includes the 2011 categories: Printer Ink Cartridges, DVDs/ CDs, Other Electronic Waste.
- Yard Waste includes the 2011 categories: Yard Waste and Stumps.
- Clean Wood Waste includes the 2011 categories: Untreated Wood and Pallets.
- Other C&D Debris includes the 2011 categories: Concrete, Brick, Drywall, Roofing Material, Vinyl Siding.
- Non-recyclable Glass includes the 2011 categories: Ceramic Glass and Other Glass.

### 3.2.4 Residential Aggregate Waste

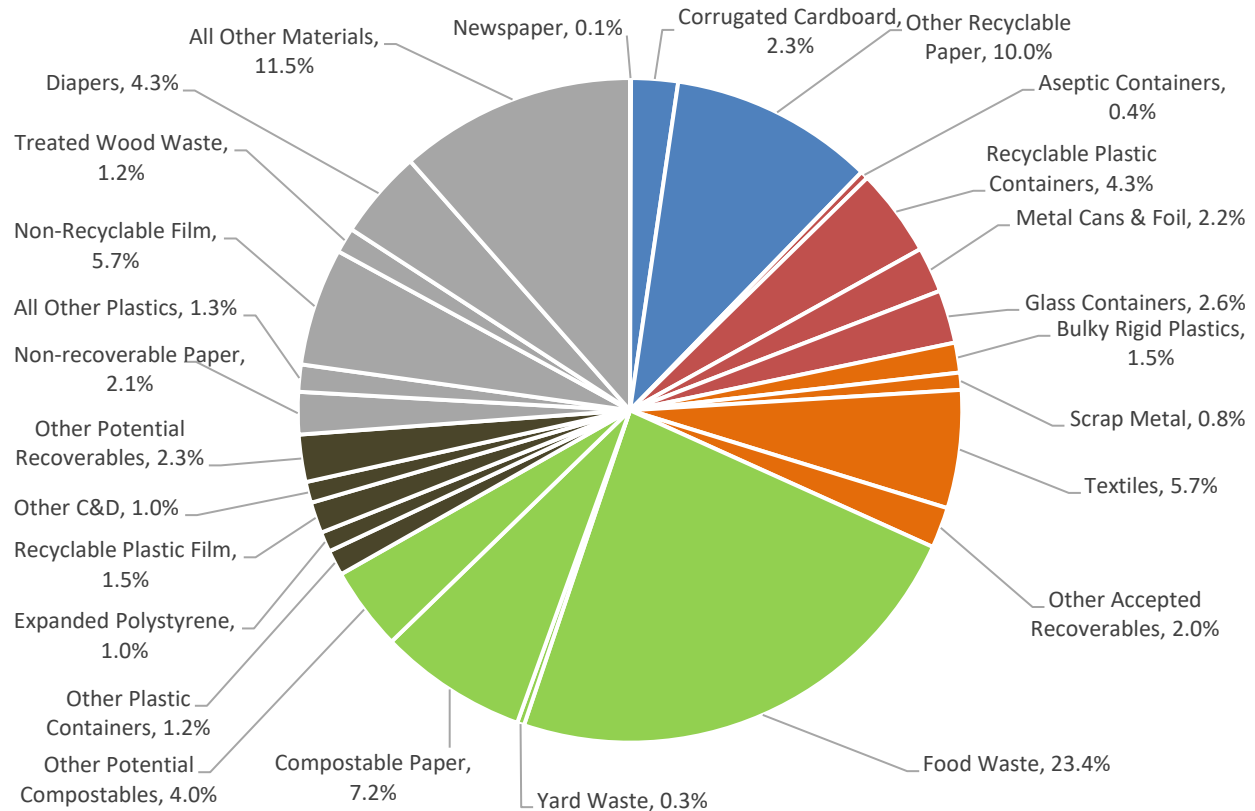
Figure 3-4 depicts the average composition of aggregated residential waste in the County, accounting for all samples taken during the WCS. Due to a lack of commercial waste, direct comparisons with countywide data from previous studies are not valid and generally discouraged. Table 3-7 provides the average with a 90 percent confidence interval for each material category measured in the residential aggregate waste. Table 3-8 compares the composition of residential aggregate waste from the current WCS to the 2011 WCS. Individual sample results are included in Appendix C.

Key findings from the residential aggregate results are as follows:

- Recyclable paper accounts for over 12 percent of the waste stream. Mixed Recycled Paper counts for over 9 percent, and Corrugated Cardboard (OCC) makes up roughly 2 percent.
- Recyclable containers make up 9.5 percent of the stream. Glass Containers account for the largest portion at 2.5 percent. PET Bottles (#1) and Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7 both account for roughly 2 percent of the total stream.
- Other acceptable recyclables constitute 10 percent of the countywide waste stream. Textiles and Leather account for over half this percentage.
- Potentially compostable material comprised 35 percent of countywide material. Food Waste counts for over 23 percent of the total stream, with Compostable Paper as the next highest category at roughly 7 percent. Other Organics (pet waste, hair) account for 3 percent.
- Potential recoverables account for 7 percent of the total stream. The largest single contributor is Furniture and Mattresses at 2 percent.
- Other materials make up over 26 percent of the countywide stream. Composite Materials, Non-recyclable Film and Diapers were the three most common types of material.

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**Figure 3-4: Composition of Residential Aggregate Waste (% by weight)**



Note: For this figure, the following categories have been combined:

- Other Recyclable Paper includes the categories of Office Paper, Mixed Recyclable Paper, and Bagged Shredded Paper.
- Recyclable Plastic Containers include the categories of PET Bottles (#1), HDPE Bottles (#2), Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7.
- Metal Cans & Foil includes the categories of Tin/Steel Cans, Aluminum Cans, Aluminum Foil and Trays.
- Scrap Metal includes the categories of Other Ferrous Metals and Other Non-ferrous Metals.
- Other Accepted Recoverables includes the categories of Hard Cover Books, Hazardous/Special Wastes, Electronics, Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices, and Vehicle Tires.
- Other Potential Compostables include the categories of Other Organics, Pizza Boxes, PLA (#7) Plastic Containers, and Clean Wood Waste.
- Other Plastic Containers includes the categories of Non-bottle PET Containers (#1), Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2), All Plastic Drink Cups, and Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers.
- Expanded Polystyrene includes the categories of Packaging EPS and Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam.
- Other Potential Recoverables includes the categories of Furniture and Mattresses and Rubber.
- Non-recoverable Paper includes the categories of Paper Cups and Non-compostable Paper.
- All Other Materials include the categories of Non-recyclable Glass, Batteries, Lithium Batteries, Composite Materials, Liquids, and Grit.

**Table 3-7: Composition of Residential Aggregate Waste (% by weight)**

	Average	90% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
<b>Recyclable Paper</b>			
Newspaper	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	2.3%	1.4%	3.2%
Office Paper	0.2%	0.1%	0.4%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	9.3%	8.6%	10.1%
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.4%	0.2%	0.6%
<b>Total</b>	<b>12.3%</b>		

<b>Recyclable Containers</b>			
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%
PET Bottles (#1)	1.8%	1.6%	2.1%
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%
Rec. Plastic Containers #3-7	1.7%	1.5%	1.9%
Tin/Steel Cans	0.8%	0.7%	0.9%
Aluminum Cans	0.8%	0.7%	0.9%
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.6%	0.5%	0.7%
Glass Containers	2.6%	2.1%	3.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.5%</b>		

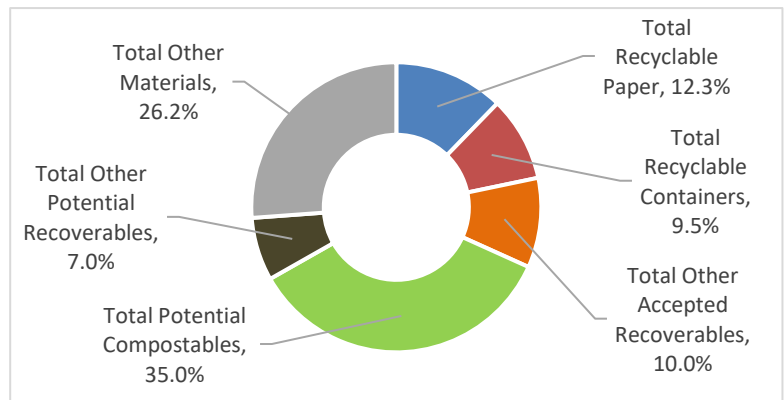
<b>Other Accepted Recoverables</b>			
Hard Cover Books	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	1.5%	0.8%	2.1%
Other Ferrous Metals	0.7%	0.3%	1.0%
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%
Textiles and Leather	5.7%	3.9%	7.6%
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%
Electronics	0.5%	0.0%	1.0%
Small Appl. & Other Elec. Dev.	1.3%	0.6%	2.0%
Vehicle Tires	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10.0%</b>		

<b>Potential Compostables</b>			
Food Waste	23.4%	21.1%	25.7%
Yard Waste	0.3%	0.1%	0.6%
Other Organics	3.0%	2.0%	4.0%
Pizza Boxes	0.4%	0.3%	0.5%
Compostable Paper	7.2%	6.5%	7.9%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Clean Wood Waste	0.6%	0.2%	1.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>35.0%</b>		

	Average	90% Confidence Interval	
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound
<b>Other Potential Recoverables</b>			
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.7%	0.6%	0.7%
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%
Other Non-rec. Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Packaging EPS	0.3%	0.2%	0.4%
Food-container EPS Foam	0.7%	0.6%	0.8%
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.5%	1.4%	1.6%
Other C&D Debris	1.0%	1.0%	0.5%
Furniture and Mattresses	2.0%	0.3%	3.6%
Rubber	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7.0%</b>		

<b>Other Materials</b>			
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.2%	0.3%
Non-able Paper	1.8%	1.6%	2.1%
All Other Plastics	1.3%	1.1%	1.5%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	5.7%	5.3%	6.2%
Non-recyclable Glass	0.5%	0.3%	0.7%
Treated Wood Waste	1.2%	1.2%	0.4%
Batteries	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Diapers	4.3%	3.2%	5.4%
Composite Materials	6.1%	5.2%	6.9%
Liquids	1.3%	0.9%	1.7%
Grit	3.6%	3.2%	3.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>26.2%</b>		

Note: Columns may not appear to calculate correctly due to rounding.



## Section 4

# Findings

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As outlined in this report and summarized in Table 4-1, substantial opportunities exist to increase waste diversion and recycling.

More than 22 percent of single-family residential waste consists of materials currently accepted in curbside single-stream recycling programs. An additional 43 percent consists of compostable materials or materials accepted at convenience centers or multi-material recovery facilities.

Approximately 20 percent of convenience center waste consists of materials accepted for curbside recycling, while an additional 36 percent is recoverable or compostable through convenience centers or multi-material recovery facilities.

Results from the Town of Cary waste samples were generally consistent with the broader single-family residential findings. Curbside recyclable materials accounted for approximately 23 percent of the waste stream, while materials accepted for recovery or composting at convenience centers comprised approximately 43 percent.

Overall, the results of the Waste Characterization Study (WCS) indicate that a substantial portion of disposed materials—particularly recyclables and compostable materials—could be diverted through increased recycling participation, expanded organics recovery, and improved public education regarding existing diversion programs.

The findings of this study provide valuable insight into the composition of materials currently disposed within Wake County and highlight key opportunities to increase diversion through recycling, composting, and other recovery programs. KCI appreciates the opportunity to work again with Wake County and the Town of Cary and looks forward to supporting future solid waste and recycling initiatives.

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**Table 4-1: Recyclable or Compostable Materials in Waste Disposed (% by weight)**

Material Categories	SF Residential			Conv. Centers		Cary	
	2011	2019	2026	2019	2026	2019	2026
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	2.8%	3.3%	1.3%	3.5%	4.7%	2.1%	1.7%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	11.4%	10.3%	10.0%	8.6%	7.6%	7.6%	10.5%
Other Recyclable Paper	4.0%	0.3%	0.80%	0.8%	0.4%	0.2%	0.9%
<b>TOTAL RECYCLABLE PAPER</b>	<b>18.2%</b>	<b>13.9%</b>	<b>12.1%</b>	<b>12.9%</b>	<b>12.7%</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.5%	0.3%	0.4%	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%
Recyclable Plastic Containers	4.5%	4.0%	4.5%	3.6%	3.7%	4.3%	4.8%
Recyclable Metal Containers	2.4%	2.0%	2.4%	1.8%	1.7%	1.7%	2.4%
Glass Containers	2.5%	1.9%	2.7%	3.6%	2.2%	2.8%	2.6%
<b>TOTAL RECYCLABLE CONTAINERS</b>	<b>9.9%</b>	<b>8.2%</b>	<b>10.0%</b>	<b>9.1%</b>	<b>7.9%</b>	<b>9.2%</b>	<b>10.3%</b>
<b>TOTAL CURBSIDE RECYCLABLES</b>	<b>28.1%</b>	<b>22.1%</b>	<b>22.1%</b>	<b>22.0%</b>	<b>20.6%</b>	<b>19.1%</b>	<b>23.4%</b>
Accepted at Conv. Centers <sup>1</sup>	9.2%	5.5%	5.8%	12.6%	9.2%	5.8%	7.4%
Accepted at Multi-Mat. Facilities <sup>2</sup>	3.6%	1.3%	2.2%	8.4%	6.3%	1.4%	1.0%
<b>TOTAL OTHER RECOVERABLES</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>6.8%</b>	<b>8.0%</b>	<b>21.0%</b>	<b>15.5%</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>8.4%</b>
Conv. Center Compostables <sup>3</sup>	19.4%	32.6%	34.9%	14.7%	20.9%	36.0%	34.4%
Yard Waste	2.5%	6.5%	0.4%	2.0%	0.2%	4.5%	0.8%
<b>TOTAL ACCEPTED COMPOSTABLES</b>	<b>21.9%</b>	<b>39.1%</b>	<b>35.3%</b>	<b>16.7%</b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>40.5%</b>	<b>35.2%</b>
<b>TOTAL ACCEPTED MATERIALS</b>	<b>62.8%</b>	<b>68.0%</b>	<b>65.4%</b>	<b>59.7%</b>	<b>57.2%</b>	<b>66.8%</b>	<b>67.0%</b>
Other Potential Recoverables <sup>4</sup>	7.0%	5.9%	5.0%	9.4%	12.5%	8.8%	5.1%
Other Potential Compostables <sup>5</sup>	10.8%	2.3%	3.6%	3.2%	3.7%	3.5%	1.2%
<b>COMBINED TOTAL</b>	<b>79.9%</b>	<b>76.2%</b>	<b>74.0%</b>	<b>72.3%</b>	<b>73.4%</b>	<b>79.1%</b>	<b>73.3%</b>

Category Notes:

1. Accepted at Convenience Centers includes the categories: Hard Cover Books, Other Ferrous Metals, Other Non-ferrous Metals, and Textiles and Leather.
2. Accepted at Multi-Material Facilities includes the categories: Bulky Rigid Plastics, Hazardous/Special Wastes, Electronics, Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices, and Vehicle Tires.
3. Convenience Center Compostables includes the categories: Food Waste, Pizza Boxes, and Compostable Paper.
4. Other Potential Recoverables include the categories: Non-bottle PET Containers (#1), Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2), All Plastic Drink Cups, Other Non-accepted Plastic Containers, Packaging Expanded Polystyrene Foam, Food-container Expanded Polystyrene Foam, Recyclable Plastic Film, Other C&D Debris, Furniture and Mattresses, and Rubber.
5. Other Potential Compostables include the categories: Other Organics, PLA (#7) Plastic Containers, and Clean Wood Waste.

Note: Categories underwent change between each study. This table aggregates categories as closely as possible to the 2026 categories.

# Appendix A: Waste Characterization Study Material Categories

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**Table A: Waste Characterization Study Material Categories**

#	Material Categories	Description of Categories
1	<b>Newspaper</b>	Newspaper (loose or tied) including other paper normally distributed inside newspaper such as ads, flyers, etc. and other items made from newsprint such as advertising guides.
2	<b>Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)</b>	Uncoated cardboard boxes with a wavy core (no plastic liners, waxy coatings) Examples include shipping and moving boxes, packing boxes. <i>Does not include pizza boxes, OCC within shrink wrap plastic, such as that from a case of bottled water, waxy, or contaminated cardboard.</i>
3	<b>Pizza Boxes</b>	All pizza boxes regardless of level of contamination by grease or food.
4	<b>Office Paper</b>	White or colored writing and printing paper.
5	<b>Mixed Recyclable Paper</b>	Other printed or unprinted recyclable paper including white, colored, coated and uncoated papers, envelopes, index cards, file folders, magazines, telephone books, catalogs, paperboard, chipboard, mail, paperback books, blueprints, Kraft paper, brown paper bags, cardboard tubes and other printed material on glossy and non-glossy paper. <i>Includes loose shredded paper. Does not include office, bagged shredded, contaminated, waxy, or metallic paper.</i>
6	<b>Hard Cover Books</b>	All books with a hard cover.
7	<b>Bagged Shredded Paper</b>	Shredded paper in clear plastic or paper bags.
8	<b>Paper Cups</b>	Non-compostable paper coffee or other drink cups.
9	<b>Aseptic Containers/Cartons</b>	Gable-top cartons, aseptic juice boxes, and other similar containers made of coated paperboard.
10	<b>Compostable Paper</b>	Generally, low-grade, non-recyclable paper without a heavy plastic coating, including napkins, tissues, paper towels, uncoated paper plates, and other compostable service ware. Includes food-contaminated paper.
11	<b>Non-compostable Paper</b>	Non-compostable, non-recyclable paper products with a heavy plastic coating (e.g., waxy or plastic-coated OCC, french fry containers, coated paper plates, fast-food wrappers, wax and parchment paper, and ice cream tubs). Includes paper covered with paint, motor oil, or other non-food contamination.
12	<b>PET Bottles (#1)</b>	Clear and colored bottles and jars coded polyethylene terephthalate (PET #1). Examples include soda bottles, water bottles, food jars, etc. <i>Does not include loose caps and lids.</i>
13	<b>HDPE Bottles (#2)</b>	Clear/natural and opaque, pigmented bottles made of high-density polyethylene (HDPE #2). Examples include milk jugs, detergent bottles, etc. <i>Does not include loose caps and lids. Does not include bottles that held toxic materials, such as motor oil or pesticides.</i>
14	<b>Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)</b>	Clear and colored plastic non-bottle, non-jar containers coded PET #1. Examples include clamshell containers, lidded salad containers, and fruit or vegetable platters.
15	<b>Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)</b>	Wide-mouthed tubs and containers coded HDPE #2. Examples include large plastic coffee containers and plastic chip tubes, including lids.

#	Material Categories	Description of Categories
16	<b>Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7</b>	All other plastic tubs and bottles, regardless of color, coded #3-7. Examples include butter, yogurt and other dairy tubs, and some medicine bottles.
17	<b>All Plastic Drink Cups</b>	All single-use plastic drinking cups labeled #1-7. <i>Does not include PLA #7 cups.</i>
18	<b>PLA (#7) Plastic Containers</b>	Compostable rigid plastic containers (cups, clamshells, etc.) labeled PLA #7.
19	<b>Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers</b>	All other non-recyclable containers including #6 clamshells, frozen food trays, and flower pots.
20	<b>Bulky Rigid Plastics</b>	Non-container rigid plastic items such as, plastic drums, crates, buckets, baskets, toys, refuse totes, lawn furniture, laundry baskets, and other large plastic items. Items must be free of metal, e.g., bucket handles, wheels, or hinges. <i>Does not include electronic or electric toys.</i>
21	<b>Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam</b>	Container materials made of expanded polystyrene, which are typically white but may be pigmented. Examples include egg cartons, meat and produce trays, clam-shell containers, and disposable cups and plates.
22	<b>Packaging EPS</b>	EPS related to packaging including packing peanuts and coolers.
23	<b>All Other Plastics</b>	All rigid non-container plastics not elsewhere categorized, including straws, utensils, plastic packaging, plastic clothes hangers, plastic plates, tooth brushes, deodorant cases, loose plastic caps and lids, etc.
24	<b>Recyclable Plastic Film</b>	Loose and bagged plastic retail and grocery bags, point-of-sale bags, newspaper bags, toilet paper overwrap, dry cleaning bags, air pillows and bubble wrap, resealable bags, and plastic stretch film.
25	<b>Non-recyclable Plastic Film</b>	All other non-recyclable plastic film including garbage bags, potato chip bags, mylar bags, floral wraps, nitrile or vinyl gloves, and balloons.
26	<b>Tin/Steel Cans</b>	Tin-plated steel cans, usually food containers and empty aerosol cans, including labels. Includes steel caps.
27	<b>Other Ferrous Metals</b>	Non-container ferrous materials. Examples include metal clothes hangers, sheet metal products, pipes, full aerosol cans, miscellaneous metal scraps, pots and pans, and other magnetic metal items.
28	<b>Aluminum Cans</b>	Aluminum soft drink, beer, and food cans. Includes empty aluminum aerosol cans.
29	<b>Aluminum Foil and Trays</b>	Aluminum foil and food trays, such as disposable pie plates and catering trays.
30	<b>Other Non-ferrous Metals</b>	Non-container, non-foil, non-ferrous metals, such as aluminum cooking pans, copper wiring and tubing, full aerosol cans, and brass fixtures.
31	<b>Glass Containers</b>	All Clear, Green, and Amber glass bottles and jars as well as broken container glass pieces.
32	<b>Non-recyclable Glass</b>	Window panes, mirrors, ceramics, Pyrex, drinking glasses, non-fluorescent light bulbs, and glass containers other than clear, green, blue, or amber.
33	<b>Food Waste</b>	Packaged or loose meat and vegetable waste (includes coffee grounds and tea bags). Includes single-use coffee pods (i.e., K-cups®).

#	Material Categories	Description of Categories
34	<b>Yard Waste</b>	Shrub and brush prunings, household bedding plants, weeds, leaves, grass clippings, and other landscaping and gardening wastes. Includes planting media (soil, compost, peat moss, etc.).
35	<b>Other Organics</b>	Other organic material such as pet waste (e.g., bagged dog waste and cat litter), natural fiber or wicker products, corks, lint, and hair.
36	<b>Textiles and Leather</b>	Clothing apparel, rags, leather, blankets, reusable bags, curtains, shoes, wallets, purses, belts, and scrap leather.
37	<b>Clean Wood Waste</b>	Untreated and unpainted lumber, pallets, and dimensional lumber. Also includes untreated/unpainted wood furniture including chairs, cabinets, dressers, etc.
38	<b>Treated Wood Waste</b>	Treated and painted lumber, pallets, and dimensional lumber, including treated/painted wood furniture. Also includes engineered wood such as plywood, particle board, oriented strand board, fiberboard, and laminate.
39	<b>Other C&amp;D Debris</b>	Construction and demolition debris including concrete and other inert debris (brick, rocks, sand), carpet and padding, drywall, insulation, full and empty caulk tubes, paint supplies, and roofing materials.
40	<b>Furniture and Mattresses</b>	All furniture and mattresses.
41	<b>Vehicle Tires</b>	Small and large tires.
42	<b>Rubber</b>	All other items made of rubber.
43	<b>Hazardous/Special Wastes</b>	All hazardous or other waste that would require special disposal, including motor oil and oil filters, fluorescent lights; paints; solvents; pesticides; and medical wastes. Also includes bottles that held toxic materials.
44	<b>Batteries</b>	All small household batteries including single-use alkaline, button cell, or coin cell batteries and rechargeable Ni-MH, and Ni-Cd. Does not include lithium-ion batteries.
45	<b>Lithium Batteries</b>	Only batteries clearly labeled lithium.
46	<b>Electronics</b>	All electronics with a circuit board, such as televisions, computers, DVD/VHS players, and cell phones. Also includes printer/toner cartridges.
47	<b>Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices</b>	Household appliances and electronics, such as coffee makers, microwaves, lamps, fans, irons, hair driers, and electrical kitchen ware. Also includes Christmas lights, electric extension cords, cables, and electronic media such as CDs and VHS tapes.
48	<b>Diapers</b>	All child and adult diapers and incontinence aids. Includes feminine hygiene products.
49	<b>Composite Materials</b>	Materials not included in the other categories, including interlocked/multi-material products that cannot be separated.
50	<b>Liquids</b>	All liquids found within containers. Containers will be sorted into their appropriate category.
51	<b>Grit</b>	Any grit or fines remaining on the sort table that cannot be defined in the other categories.

# **Appendix B: Waste Characterization Study Individual Sample Results**

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**Table B-1: Town of Cary Residential Sample Results**

	Cary, Monday, 641	Cary, Tuesday, 782	Cary, Tuesday, 950	Cary, Wednesday, 905	Cary, Wednesday, 1320	Cary, Thursday, 905	Cary, Thursday, 782	
<b>Material Categories</b>	<b>sample #</b>	8	16	18	22	23	29	35
Newspaper	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.4%	0.0%	
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	0.4%	2.6%	0.8%	2.5%	1.0%	0.6%	4.3%	
Pizza Boxes	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	
Office Paper	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Mixed Recyclable Paper	12.1%	8.7%	14.2%	10.9%	9.7%	9.9%	8.0%	
Hard Cover Books	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.6%	3.2%	0.0%	
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.8%	0.0%	0.7%	
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.4%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.9%	0.6%	0.4%	
Compostable Paper	7.5%	9.8%	8.3%	6.9%	10.1%	12.3%	8.3%	
Non-compostable Paper	1.4%	1.0%	1.5%	1.3%	1.4%	3.0%	1.5%	
PET Bottles (#1)	1.6%	1.7%	0.5%	1.2%	1.5%	2.6%	2.8%	
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.4%	0.8%	1.0%	0.0%	0.3%	1.3%	0.8%	
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.8%	1.1%	0.9%	0.8%	0.4%	1.0%	0.6%	
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	
Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7	2.0%	2.1%	2.5%	2.3%	1.9%	2.6%	3.1%	
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.3%	0.1%	0.5%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	0.2%	
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	
Bulky Rigid Plastics	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	
Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam	0.8%	0.6%	0.7%	0.5%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	
Packaging EPS	0.4%	0.5%	0.0%	0.5%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	
All Other Plastics	0.8%	1.3%	1.0%	1.1%	2.3%	3.2%	1.4%	
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.5%	1.2%	1.5%	1.6%	1.2%	1.6%	1.8%	
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	6.0%	4.7%	8.8%	6.7%	8.5%	5.7%	7.5%	
Tin/Steel Cans	0.6%	1.1%	0.1%	0.7%	0.7%	0.8%	0.6%	
Other Ferrous Metals	0.1%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	1.7%	0.0%	2.0%	
Aluminum Cans	0.4%	0.7%	0.7%	1.3%	1.5%	1.1%	0.7%	
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.5%	0.6%	1.0%	1.0%	1.3%	0.5%	0.9%	
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	4.0%	
Glass Containers	7.5%	2.7%	0.8%	1.7%	1.8%	1.0%	2.5%	
Non-recyclable Glass	0.7%	0.1%	0.1%	0.6%	0.0%	0.2%	3.1%	
Food Waste	33.5%	30.2%	23.3%	18.7%	26.5%	25.7%	19.1%	
Yard Waste	0.0%	0.0%	4.7%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	
Other Organics	3.1%	0.7%	1.3%	1.3%	2.0%	0.0%	0.3%	
Textiles and Leather	3.1%	1.5%	4.4%	10.1%	7.2%	6.0%	6.9%	
Clean Wood Waste	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Treated Wood Waste	0.1%	4.0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	
Other C&D Debris	0.4%	0.6%	0.0%	7.1%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	
Furniture and Mattresses	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Rubber	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Batteries	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	
Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices	0.0%	0.0%	6.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Diapers	1.1%	0.4%	1.9%	5.5%	4.3%	4.0%	9.6%	
Composite Materials	4.3%	13.9%	7.9%	9.4%	4.1%	6.1%	2.8%	
Grit	5.1%	5.2%	3.5%	3.8%	2.7%	4.5%	3.0%	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
Sample Weights (lbs)	212.90	229.00	206.75	206.45	201.35	295.10	160.90	
Load Weights (lbs)	21760	17920	23540	22240	22300	12200	21400	

**Table B-2: Other Single-Family Residential Sample Results**

	Raleigh, Tuesday, 1207	Raleigh, Tuesday, 1209	Raleigh, Tuesday, 1185	Raleigh, Tuesday, 1137	Garner, Monday, 2156	Garner, Monday, 834149	Garner, Thursday, 2164	
<b>Material Categories</b>	<b>sample #</b>	12	13	14	15	1	10	31
Newspaper	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	0.5%	1.6%	1.5%	0.6%	0.5%	2.9%	0.3%	
Pizza Boxes	0.0%	1.1%	0.0%	0.7%	0.1%	0.6%	1.4%	
Office Paper	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	0.5%	0.0%	
Mixed Recyclable Paper	11.1%	8.0%	11.5%	6.7%	10.4%	15.3%	8.7%	
Hard Cover Books	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.0%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Paper Cups	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.3%	0.6%	0.2%	
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.2%	0.4%	0.4%	0.2%	0.7%	1.1%	0.5%	
Compostable Paper	5.6%	6.0%	6.0%	5.6%	6.6%	8.2%	8.6%	
Non-compostable Paper	1.1%	0.8%	0.9%	2.1%	1.9%	2.3%	2.6%	
PET Bottles (#1)	2.8%	1.1%	1.3%	1.6%	2.5%	5.7%	2.2%	
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.6%	0.1%	0.5%	0.7%	1.4%	1.2%	0.4%	
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.7%	1.0%	0.5%	0.7%	1.0%	0.7%	1.0%	
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	
Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7	1.8%	2.1%	2.2%	0.5%	1.6%	1.2%	2.7%	
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%	0.6%	0.6%	0.1%	0.3%	
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other Non-Recyclable Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	
Bulky Rigid Plastics	0.6%	0.4%	0.3%	2.4%	2.4%	4.5%	0.7%	
Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam	0.3%	0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	1.1%	1.5%	0.8%	
Packaging EPS	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	
All Other Plastics	0.9%	0.6%	0.5%	0.9%	2.1%	1.3%	0.8%	
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.1%	1.0%	1.7%	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	1.5%	
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	5.0%	5.1%	8.5%	3.6%	6.3%	6.1%	5.5%	
Tin/Steel Cans	0.3%	0.4%	1.9%	1.3%	1.3%	1.7%	0.5%	
Other Ferrous Metals	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	
Aluminum Cans	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.4%	1.9%	1.4%	
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.3%	1.2%	0.6%	0.4%	0.4%	0.0%	0.8%	
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Glass Containers	5.7%	5.2%	2.8%	2.5%	1.3%	5.2%	5.0%	
Non-recyclable Glass	0.0%	0.5%	0.2%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	
Food Waste	30.7%	24.7%	26.6%	26.7%	22.9%	19.9%	17.8%	
Yard Waste	0.3%	1.3%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	
Other Organics	3.9%	13.3%	3.6%	12.8%	11.3%	0.5%	1.4%	
Textiles and Leather	0.6%	1.9%	7.7%	11.3%	4.0%	7.0%	6.3%	
Clean Wood Waste	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.1%	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	
Treated Wood Waste	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other C&D Debris	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	1.1%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%	
Furniture and Mattresses	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Rubber	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Batteries	0.1%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices	1.0%	0.4%	0.7%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	
Diapers	5.6%	1.9%	3.3%	0.2%	3.5%	2.0%	20.8%	
Composite Materials	8.2%	11.0%	8.0%	6.8%	5.3%	3.7%	3.2%	
Grit	3.6%	3.3%	3.4%	5.4%	6.4%	0.3%	2.5%	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
Sample Weights (lbs)	182.80	204.80	191.65	208.80	187.85	217.20	209.20	
Load Weights (lbs)	14980	8240	8880	11260	22620	12600	19600	

**Table B-2: Other Single-Family Residential Sample Results (cont.)**

	Apex, Wednesday, 810015	Apex, Wednesday, 812006	Apex, Thursday, 810015	Apex, Thursday, 835010	Fuquay- Varina, Monday, 27	Fuquay- Varina, Friday, 20	Wake Forest, Monday, 2454	
<b>Material Categories</b>	<b>sample #</b>	21	24	32	33	2	39	5
Newspaper	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	3.2%	3.1%	0.0%	0.1%	1.3%	0.0%	0.7%	
Pizza Boxes	0.2%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	1.3%	
Office Paper	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.8%	
Mixed Recyclable Paper	12.2%	10.5%	5.2%	6.7%	11.7%	9.2%	9.1%	
Hard Cover Books	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.0%	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	0.0%	
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.1%	0.5%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.2%	0.3%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	
Compostable Paper	7.7%	7.3%	6.6%	6.6%	6.5%	8.9%	10.5%	
Non-compostable Paper	2.2%	3.2%	1.0%	1.1%	5.1%	2.2%	2.4%	
PET Bottles (#1)	1.0%	2.1%	1.5%	1.5%	1.4%	1.1%	1.9%	
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.5%	0.5%	0.5%	0.9%	0.7%	0.3%	1.4%	
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.7%	1.4%	0.6%	1.1%	0.7%	0.7%	1.3%	
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	0.3%	0.3%	
Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7	1.9%	2.0%	2.0%	1.3%	1.7%	2.5%	2.2%	
All Plastic Drink Cups	1.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%	0.9%	
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Bulky Rigid Plastics	0.0%	0.8%	0.9%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	
Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam	0.5%	0.8%	0.4%	0.7%	0.6%	0.9%	0.5%	
Packaging EPS	0.5%	0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.1%	0.2%	0.1%	
All Other Plastics	1.9%	1.1%	2.0%	1.6%	0.9%	2.1%	2.6%	
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.4%	1.4%	1.5%	3.2%	1.7%	1.4%	2.6%	
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	7.9%	8.5%	6.4%	6.0%	6.2%	7.6%	5.0%	
Tin/Steel Cans	1.4%	0.8%	0.4%	0.1%	0.8%	0.6%	1.6%	
Other Ferrous Metals	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.5%	0.7%	0.7%	0.0%	
Aluminum Cans	0.5%	0.5%	0.2%	1.0%	0.4%	0.5%	0.7%	
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.4%	0.8%	0.8%	0.9%	0.8%	1.5%	0.2%	
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	
Glass Containers	0.5%	2.0%	1.9%	4.9%	1.8%	3.3%	2.1%	
Non-recyclable Glass	1.2%	0.4%	0.2%	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%	0.0%	
Food Waste	24.0%	19.9%	38.2%	27.8%	24.5%	29.3%	36.9%	
Yard Waste	0.0%	0.7%	0.3%	0.2%	1.9%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other Organics	10.2%	0.0%	0.2%	3.6%	2.0%	2.1%	1.1%	
Textiles and Leather	1.0%	2.9%	1.4%	3.8%	2.8%	1.9%	1.8%	
Clean Wood Waste	0.0%	0.0%	7.3%	2.8%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	
Treated Wood Waste	0.0%	1.5%	2.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	
Other C&D Debris	0.7%	0.2%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	
Furniture and Mattresses	0.0%	4.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Rubber	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.0%	2.7%	0.0%	0.0%	
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Batteries	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	
Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices	0.4%	0.6%	3.4%	3.2%	0.0%	0.5%	0.2%	
Diapers	6.7%	0.4%	5.8%	3.0%	8.2%	0.6%	2.1%	
Composite Materials	3.5%	11.8%	3.4%	2.2%	5.8%	12.0%	3.9%	
Grit	4.1%	3.1%	3.7%	6.7%	3.9%	2.9%	3.3%	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
Sample Weights (lbs)	181.93	201.90	232.25	178.30	218.25	208.30	190.00	
Load Weights (lbs)	14660	18900	19200	17160	18140	16400	14600	

**Table B-2: Other Single-Family Residential Sample Results (cont.)**

	Morrisville, Monday, 847009	Morrisville, Thursday, 847009	Knightdale, Wednesday, 835174	Knightdale, Thursday, 835175	Holly Springs, Monday, 847017	Rolesville, Tuesday, 847015	Wendell, Wednesday, 844021	Zebulon, Friday, 845011	
<b>Material Categories</b>	<b>sample #</b>	7	36	27	34	9	19	26	40
Newspaper	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	1.8%	0.9%	2.5%	1.5%	3.3%	0.5%	0.0%	0.3%	
Pizza Boxes	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.7%	0.4%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	
Office Paper	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	2.5%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	
Mixed Recyclable Paper	8.7%	12.1%	10.0%	13.7%	11.7%	9.3%	7.3%	7.6%	
Hard Cover Books	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.0%	0.0%	1.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Paper Cups	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.2%	
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.5%	0.6%	0.1%	0.3%	0.4%	0.6%	0.3%	0.5%	
Compostable Paper	6.1%	10.0%	4.5%	4.5%	7.7%	8.4%	8.0%	12.9%	
Non-compostable Paper	3.2%	0.5%	2.1%	0.4%	1.7%	4.3%	2.8%	2.7%	
PET Bottles (#1)	1.3%	4.0%	1.8%	1.2%	1.1%	2.4%	1.8%	2.0%	
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.1%	1.5%	0.4%	0.6%	0.9%	1.5%	0.7%	0.0%	
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%	0.4%	0.6%	0.8%	
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.1%	0.3%	0.2%	0.5%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	1.1%	
Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7	1.2%	2.4%	0.7%	0.6%	1.9%	2.0%	1.8%	2.1%	
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.1%	0.6%	0.4%	0.6%	0.0%	0.5%	1.0%	0.3%	
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Bulky Rigid Plastics	0.7%	0.4%	13.4%	0.0%	0.9%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam	0.3%	0.9%	0.4%	0.9%	0.4%	0.5%	1.6%	0.9%	
Packaging EPS	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
All Other Plastics	0.4%	0.9%	1.9%	1.0%	1.8%	1.8%	0.9%	0.9%	
Recyclable Plastic Film	2.1%	2.4%	2.1%	1.1%	1.1%	1.7%	1.6%	1.9%	
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	3.9%	8.0%	3.8%	3.4%	5.7%	6.9%	5.5%	7.2%	
Tin/Steel Cans	0.4%	0.9%	0.6%	0.5%	1.5%	0.8%	0.6%	1.4%	
Other Ferrous Metals	0.2%	0.0%	0.3%	0.7%	0.2%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	
Aluminum Cans	0.3%	1.2%	1.8%	1.8%	0.5%	0.8%	1.0%	0.9%	
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.7%	0.5%	0.7%	0.4%	0.2%	1.0%	0.8%	0.6%	
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Glass Containers	0.0%	2.2%	0.5%	0.7%	5.5%	4.1%	2.2%	2.1%	
Non-recyclable Glass	0.1%	1.0%	0.3%	0.5%	0.6%	0.1%	0.6%	0.0%	
Food Waste	32.8%	30.2%	26.8%	10.2%	28.2%	29.1%	32.9%	39.8%	
Yard Waste	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.6%	
Other Organics	2.9%	1.0%	4.7%	1.1%	0.5%	1.5%	7.8%	0.1%	
Textiles and Leather	4.4%	2.9%	2.5%	36.8%	1.1%	2.0%	2.2%	1.1%	
Clean Wood Waste	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Treated Wood Waste	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	5.7%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Other C&D Debris	3.0%	0.0%	3.1%	0.0%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	
Furniture and Mattresses	0.0%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Rubber	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Batteries	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Electronics	0.0%	0.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	
Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices	7.1%	0.2%	0.0%	0.7%	0.4%	0.5%	2.7%	0.0%	
Diapers	3.8%	2.2%	3.1%	2.8%	7.2%	7.9%	7.0%	3.0%	
Composite Materials	5.2%	3.4%	6.0%	3.2%	2.9%	5.7%	2.9%	2.0%	
Grit	3.4%	3.9%	2.1%	2.4%	3.9%	3.0%	3.5%	4.0%	
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	
Sample Weights (lbs)	219.05	184.65	202.30	217.90	167.15	200.70	205.45	206.85	
Load Weights (lbs)	18560	20000	18380	16060	14160	10640	12320	16280	

**Table B-3: County Convenience Center Sample Results**

	Convenience Center #3, Monday, 436043	Convenience Center #1, Monday, 436039	Convenience Center #4, Monday, 436043	Convenience Center #6, Tuesday, 424117	Convenience Center #2, Tuesday, 412019	Convenience Center #7, Wednesday, 413030	Convenience Center #5, Wednesday, 445001
Material Categories	sample # 3	4	6	11	17	20	25
Newspaper	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)	11.9%	2.0%	2.7%	3.9%	19.1%	4.6%	2.5%
Pizza Boxes	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%	0.8%	0.7%	0.0%	0.4%
Office Paper	0.9%	0.0%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Mixed Recyclable Paper	11.1%	5.5%	6.9%	9.1%	4.1%	4.1%	4.6%
Hard Cover Books	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Bagged Shredded Paper	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Paper Cups	0.1%	0.4%	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.1%	0.2%
Aseptic Containers/Cartons	0.3%	0.6%	0.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.1%	0.2%
Compostable Paper	4.0%	8.0%	3.1%	3.7%	2.8%	1.3%	9.5%
Non-compostable Paper	0.6%	1.5%	1.1%	1.2%	0.4%	0.0%	2.7%
PET Bottles (#1)	1.0%	2.4%	0.9%	0.9%	1.0%	0.0%	2.4%
HDPE Bottles (#2)	0.4%	0.7%	0.3%	0.9%	1.7%	0.2%	1.3%
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)	0.3%	0.7%	0.7%	0.0%	0.5%	0.1%	0.2%
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%
Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7	0.8%	1.2%	1.0%	1.1%	0.8%	0.3%	1.7%
All Plastic Drink Cups	0.2%	0.6%	0.1%	0.4%	0.6%	0.2%	0.2%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers	0.0%	0.3%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Bulky Rigid Plastics	4.6%	1.2%	0.1%	0.0%	7.8%	4.7%	2.7%
Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam	0.3%	0.7%	0.2%	0.3%	0.3%	2.7%	0.2%
Packaging EPS	1.8%	0.3%	0.1%	0.3%	1.7%	0.3%	0.2%
All Other Plastics	1.5%	1.9%	0.6%	0.5%	0.6%	0.3%	0.8%
Recyclable Plastic Film	1.3%	0.9%	1.3%	1.2%	1.5%	0.2%	0.9%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film	4.5%	3.4%	3.1%	5.1%	5.3%	1.8%	4.3%
Tin/Steel Cans	0.4%	0.5%	0.8%	1.0%	0.5%	0.1%	1.3%
Other Ferrous Metals	2.1%	0.2%	0.6%	0.1%	4.3%	7.9%	0.4%
Aluminum Cans	0.1%	0.4%	0.1%	0.7%	0.5%	0.4%	0.6%
Aluminum Foil and Trays	0.4%	0.2%	0.2%	0.4%	0.9%	0.1%	0.4%
Other Non-ferrous Metals	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.4%	0.0%
Glass Containers	1.4%	4.2%	0.0%	1.3%	0.9%	0.3%	2.3%
Non-recyclable Glass	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	1.1%	0.5%	0.9%	0.0%
Food Waste	6.8%	9.3%	19.6%	8.8%	14.5%	2.3%	21.5%
Yard Waste	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Organics	0.2%	0.0%	9.8%	8.1%	4.1%	0.0%	0.2%
Textiles and Leather	8.5%	24.8%	1.5%	9.4%	9.5%	6.2%	17.1%
Clean Wood Waste	5.7%	0.7%	4.8%	0.1%	0.9%	0.4%	0.0%
Treated Wood Waste	7.1%	0.9%	13.6%	11.1%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%
Other C&D Debris	0.0%	0.1%	2.3%	0.2%	0.0%	4.2%	0.6%
Furniture and Mattresses	2.5%	10.5%	10.9%	4.5%	0.3%	36.2%	0.0%
Vehicle Tires	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Rubber	0.1%	0.1%	1.3%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.8%
Hazardous/Special Wastes	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.6%	0.0%	0.8%
Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Lithium Batteries	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Electronics	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices	2.4%	2.6%	0.0%	0.0%	0.4%	12.6%	2.6%
Diapers	1.8%	2.3%	1.7%	3.4%	0.0%	0.4%	9.8%
Composite Materials	11.0%	7.4%	6.1%	8.3%	10.5%	5.0%	3.6%
Grit	3.4%	2.6%	3.9%	3.1%	1.7%	1.2%	2.5%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Sample Weights (lbs)	193.60	258.60	196.40	188.35	197.80	221.75	234.30
Load Weights (lbs)	18280	18180	23940	22480	17440	15500	21800

**Table B-3: County Convenience Center Sample Results (cont.)**

	Convenience Center #9, Wednesday, 446008	Convenience Center #11, Thursday, 412019	Convenience Center #8, Thursday, 424117	Convenience Center #10, Friday, 412019	
<b>Material Categories</b>	<b>sample #</b>	28	30	37	38
Newspaper		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Corrugated Cardboard (OCC)		1.2%	1.5%	1.3%	1.3%
Pizza Boxes		1.7%	1.1%	0.0%	0.7%
Office Paper		0.4%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Mixed Recyclable Paper		9.7%	11.4%	8.0%	8.6%
Hard Cover Books		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Bagged Shredded Paper		0.0%	0.0%	1.8%	1.4%
Paper Cups		0.3%	0.0%	0.2%	0.7%
Aseptic Containers/Cartons		0.5%	0.4%	0.4%	0.6%
Compostable Paper		11.8%	4.8%	3.7%	10.6%
Non-compostable Paper		2.5%	1.8%	1.6%	2.2%
PET Bottles (#1)		2.2%	2.5%	1.6%	2.9%
HDPE Bottles (#2)		1.2%	0.9%	0.3%	0.9%
Non-bottle PET Containers (#1)		1.0%	0.3%	0.3%	0.3%
Non-bottle HDPE Containers (#2)		0.4%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Recyclable Plastic Containers #3-7		2.1%	1.9%	1.3%	1.7%
All Plastic Drink Cups		0.8%	0.4%	0.4%	0.5%
PLA (#7) Plastic Containers		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Other Non-recyclable Plastic Containers		0.1%	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%
Bulky Rigid Plastics		0.8%	2.9%	2.2%	0.0%
Food-container Expanded Polystyrene (EPS) Foam		0.7%	0.8%	0.9%	1.1%
Packaging EPS		0.1%	0.7%	0.0%	0.4%
All Other Plastics		1.4%	1.7%	2.3%	1.3%
Recyclable Plastic Film		1.9%	1.3%	0.7%	1.9%
Non-recyclable Plastic Film		5.0%	7.2%	4.3%	5.4%
Tin/Steel Cans		0.9%	0.7%	1.4%	0.7%
Other Ferrous Metals		0.3%	0.2%	1.5%	0.2%
Aluminum Cans		0.7%	0.9%	0.7%	0.8%
Aluminum Foil and Trays		1.2%	0.4%	0.3%	0.4%
Other Non-ferrous Metals		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Glass Containers		0.0%	0.9%	5.8%	6.6%
Non-recyclable Glass		3.1%	0.6%	0.9%	2.1%
Food Waste		24.6%	15.5%	18.3%	18.8%
Yard Waste		0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	1.9%
Other Organics		3.8%	0.0%	0.1%	0.9%
Textiles and Leather		1.4%	2.9%	1.1%	0.7%
Clean Wood Waste		0.0%	0.4%	0.0%	0.0%
Treated Wood Waste		0.0%	1.3%	0.0%	0.0%
Other C&D Debris		1.1%	0.6%	10.9%	0.0%
Furniture and Mattresses		0.0%	2.2%	4.0%	0.0%
Vehicle Tires		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Rubber		0.0%	6.5%	0.0%	0.0%
Hazardous/Special Wastes		0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Batteries		0.0%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%
Lithium Batteries		0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Electronics		0.1%	0.0%	10.9%	1.1%
Small Appliances and Other Electric Devices		0.0%	0.4%	2.3%	0.0%
Diapers		6.0%	6.3%	0.1%	13.3%
Composite Materials		5.5%	8.6%	4.7%	3.0%
Grit		3.6%	5.7%	3.0%	4.7%
<b>Totals</b>		100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Sample Weights (lbs)		179.80	223.85	175.85	170.15
Load Weights (lbs)		18760	19640	22620	21980