

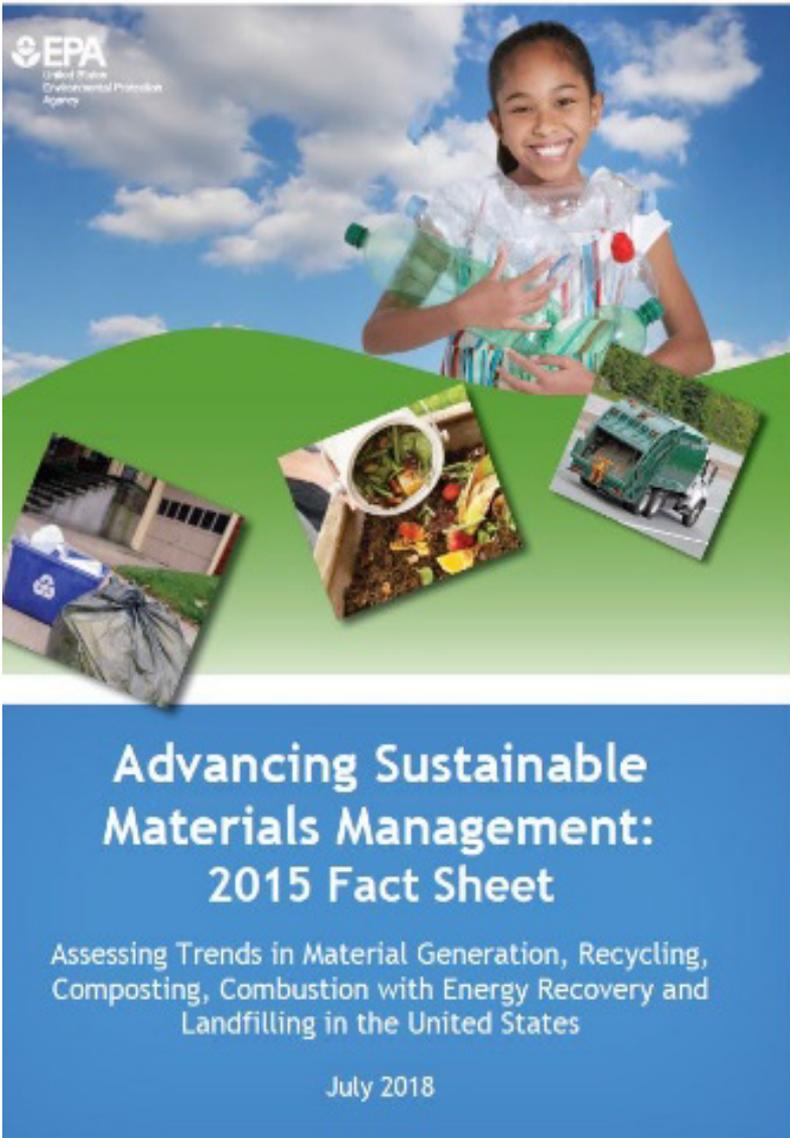
Advancing Sustainable Materials Management 2015 Facts and Figures

Landfill Methane Outreach Program Special Session SWANApalooza 2019 Boston, MA

Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Outline

- Advancing Sustainable Materials Management: 2015 Facts and Figures
 - Web demonstration
 - Overview and trends
 - Key municipal solid waste (MSW) data
 - Environmental benefits
 - Economics data
 - Construction and demolition (C&D) debris generation data



EPA Facts & Figures

Data on generation, recycling, composting, combustion with energy recovery and landfilling

- For municipal solid waste (MSW)
- Construction and demolition debris data provided starting with 2013 data year

Report issued every year for over two decades

- Data tables go back to 1960

New for 2015 report

- Transition to a web-based approach
- Graph of recycled commodity values by year

Facts and Figures about Materials, Waste and Recycling

CONTACT US

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Our Latest Facts and Figures Data is Available

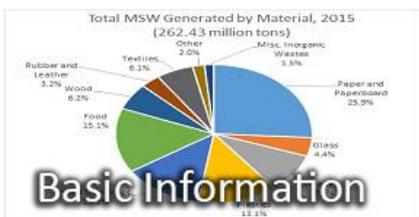
We've published our 2015 data.

- Check out the different [Materials](#) and [Products](#)
- Read about the [Current National Picture](#)

NOTE:

Current statistics reflect data from 2015. Data is only representative of the United States.

The Facts and Figures data looks at generation, recycling, composting, combustion with energy recovery, and landfilling for a variety of materials and products. Check out our [A to Z Directory](#) for terms and keywords for which our web visitors frequently search.



Basic Information

- [What's Included and Key Definitions](#)
- [Frequent Questions about This Data](#)
- [Report and Data Tables](#)
- [State and Local Data](#)
- [Recycling Economic Information Report](#)



National Overview

- [The Current National Picture](#)
- [Generation](#)
- [Recycling/Composting](#)
- [Combustion with Energy](#)
- [Landfilling](#)



Common Materials and Products

- [Containers and Packaging](#)
- [Electronics](#)
- [Food](#)
- [Construction and Demolition Debris](#)
- [All Materials and Products](#)



Facts and Figures Home

Learn about the Facts and Figures

[Material-Specific Data](#)

[Product-Specific Data](#)

[National Overview](#)

[A to Z Directory](#)

[Frequent Questions about the Data](#)

[Full Report and Data Tables](#)

Guide to the Facts and Figures Report about Materials, Waste and Recycling

EPA began analyzing data on waste and materials recycling more than two decades ago, and the Agency has data tables that go back to the 1960s. [The Facts and Figures Report](#) looks at generation, recycling, composting, combustion with energy recovery, and landfilling for a variety of materials and products. The most recent data is from 2015.

On this page:

- [Sections of this Report and Our Terminology](#)
 - [National Overview](#)
 - [Materials and Products](#)
- [Materials](#)
- [Products](#)

Related Links

- [Read the report methodology](#)
- [Advancing SMM Facts and Figures](#)
- [Looking for data on HW? Check out our RCRAInfo page](#)
- [Check out the Toxics Release Inventory \(TRI\) National Analysis web area](#)

Sections of this Report and our Terminology

Looking for something specific? The [A to Z guide](#) is a great place to begin your search.

Overview of the Methodology

Scope

- Municipal solid waste (MSW), or trash
- For example, packaging, food, yard trimmings, furniture, electronics, tires and appliances
- Also includes C&D debris generation

Sources of MSW

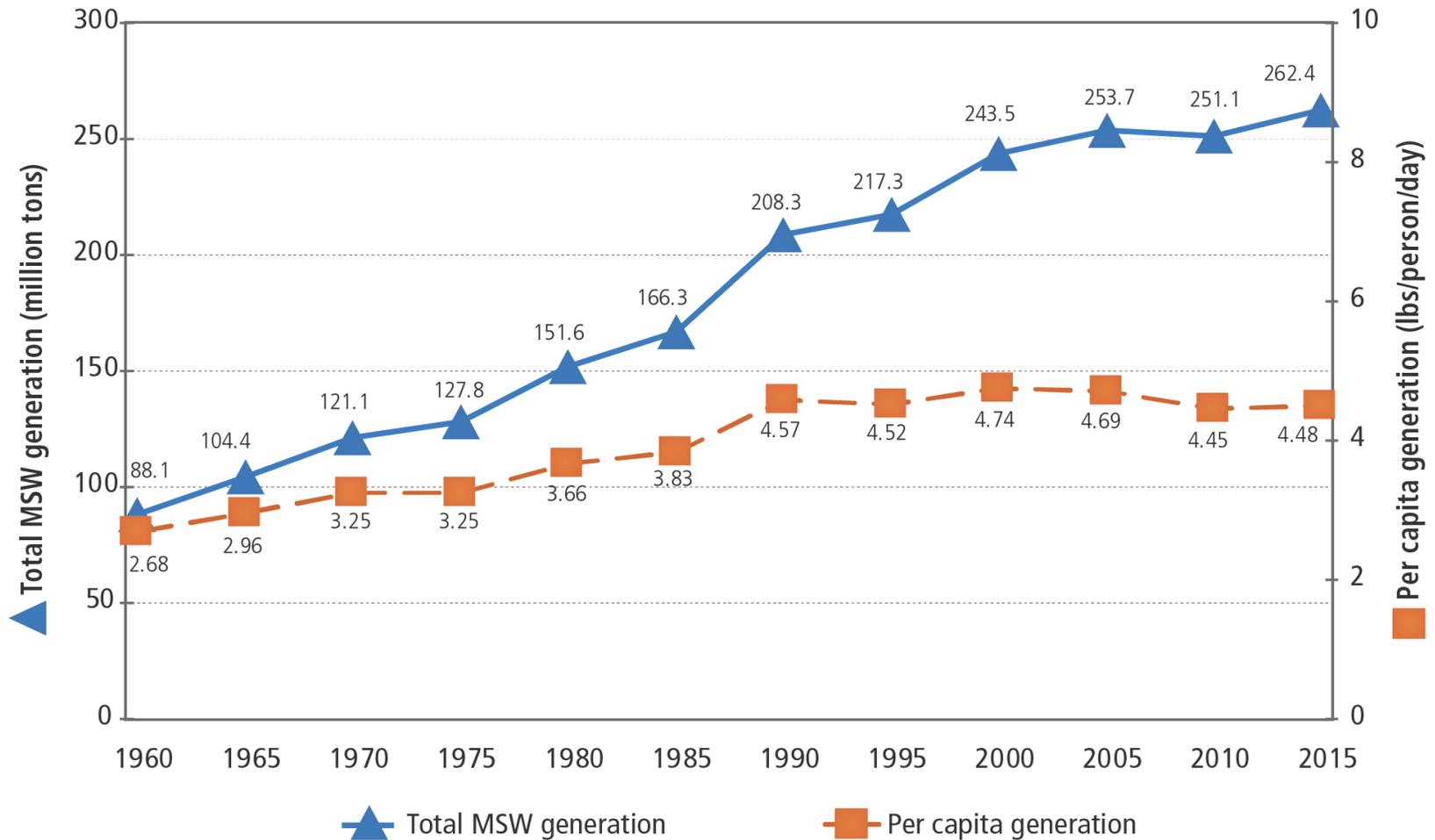
- Residential waste
- Institutions such as schools, hospitals and prisons
- Commercial sources such as restaurants, office buildings and retail establishments



Key MSW Data

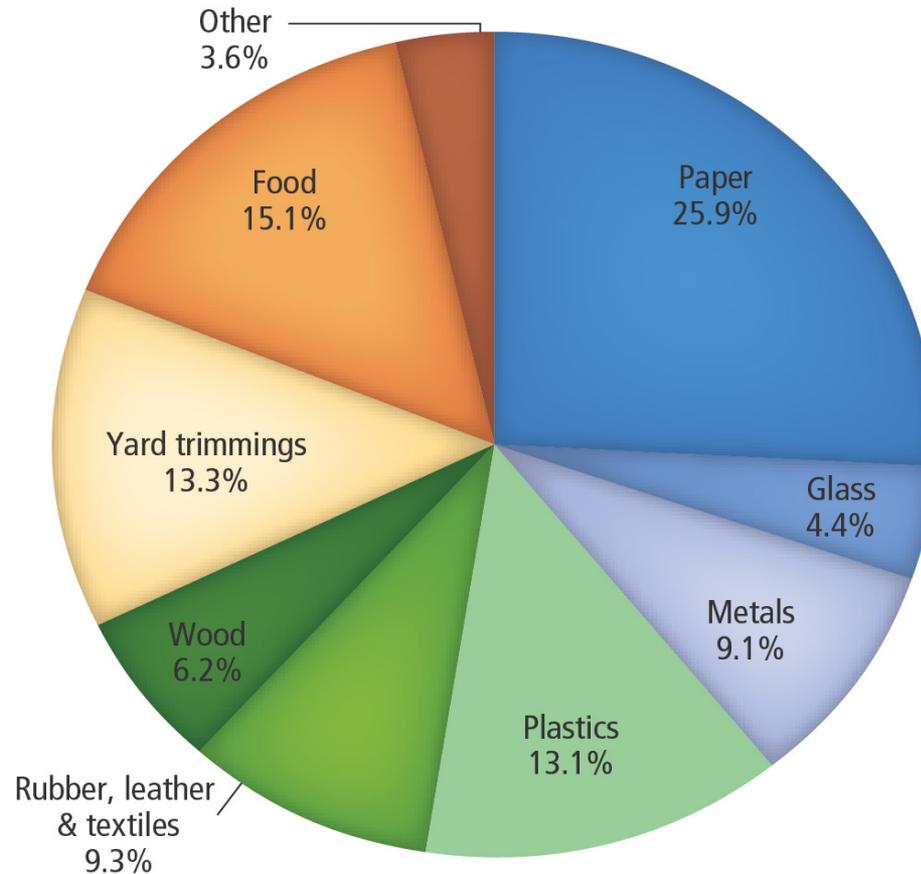
MSW Generation and Management	2014	2015
Million tons MSW generated	259.0	262.4
Per capita generation rate in pounds per person per day	4.45	4.48
Million tons recycled plus composted	89.6	91.2
Recycling plus composting rate	34.6%	34.7%
Million tons combusted with energy recovery	33.2	33.6
Million tons landfilled	136.2	137.7

MSW Generation Rates 1960 to 2015

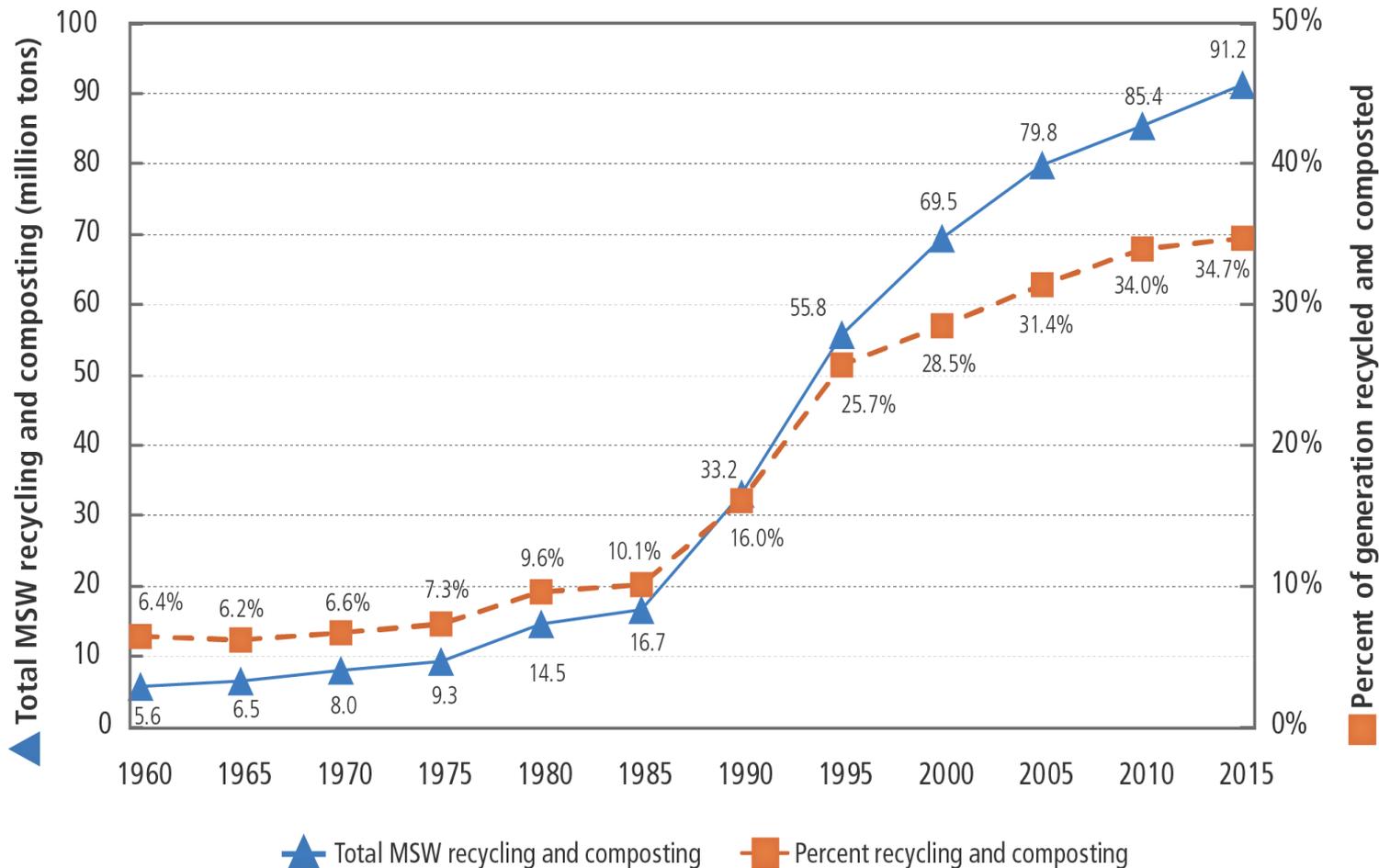


MSW Generation in 2015

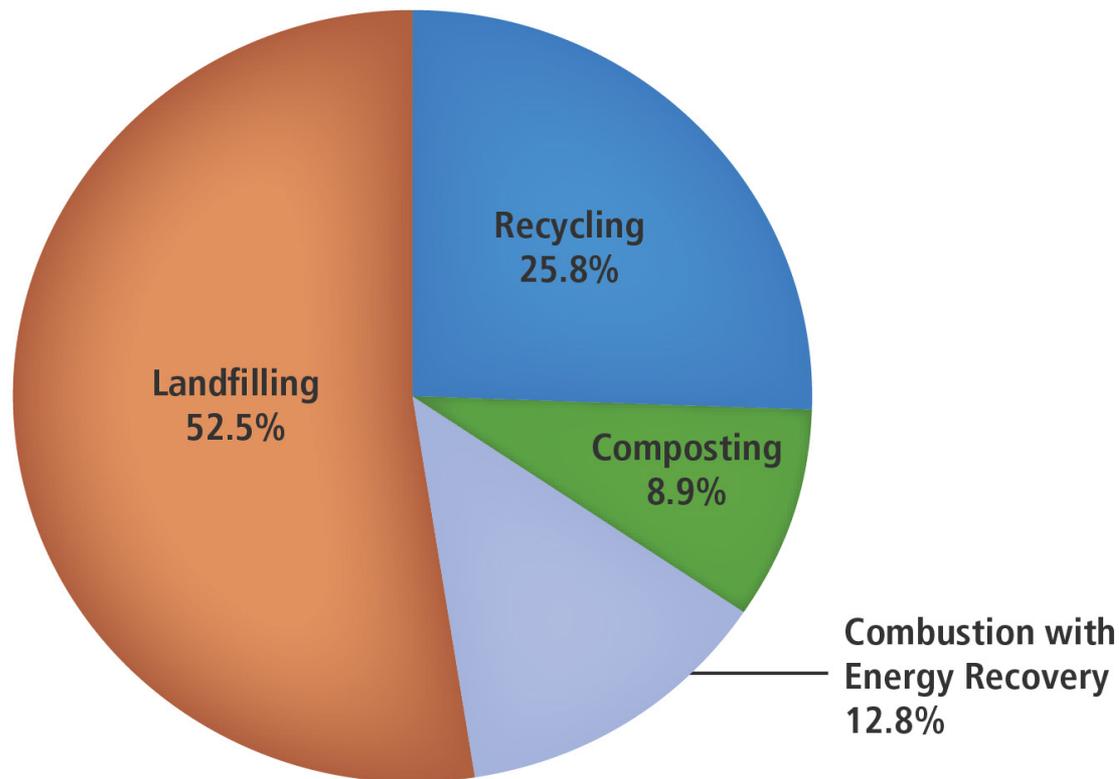
262.4 Million Tons



MSW Recycling and Composting Rates 1960 to 2015

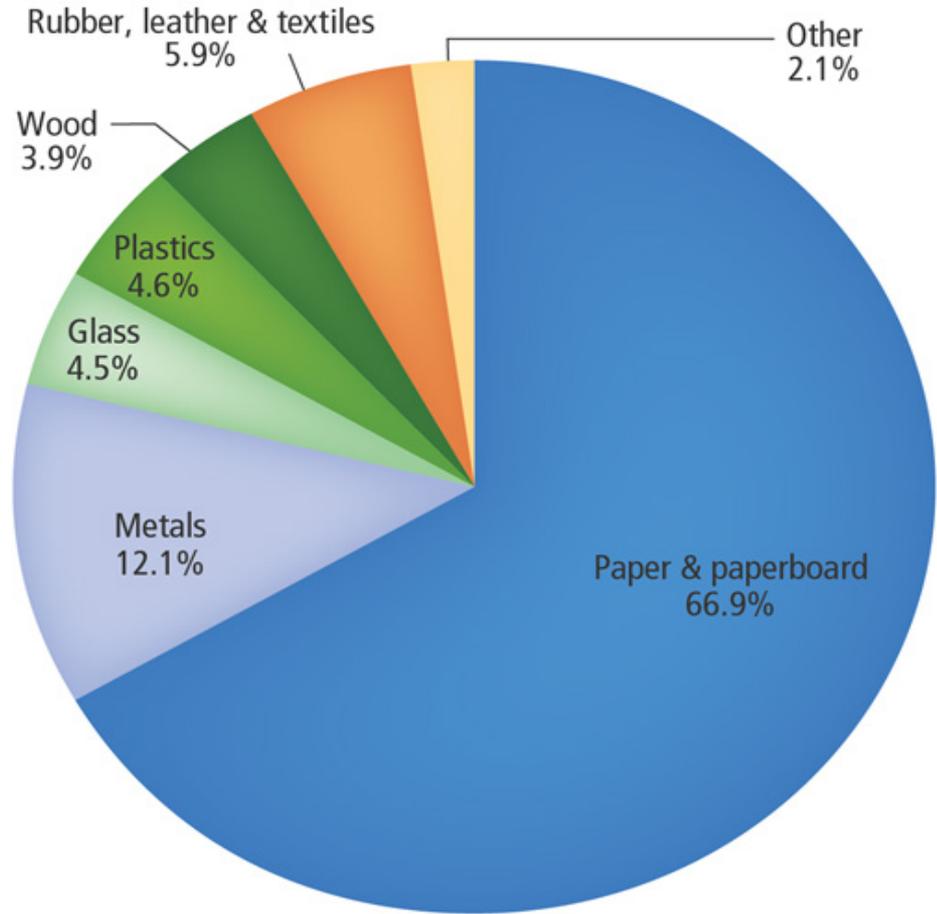


MSW Management in the United States in 2015 (262 million tons)



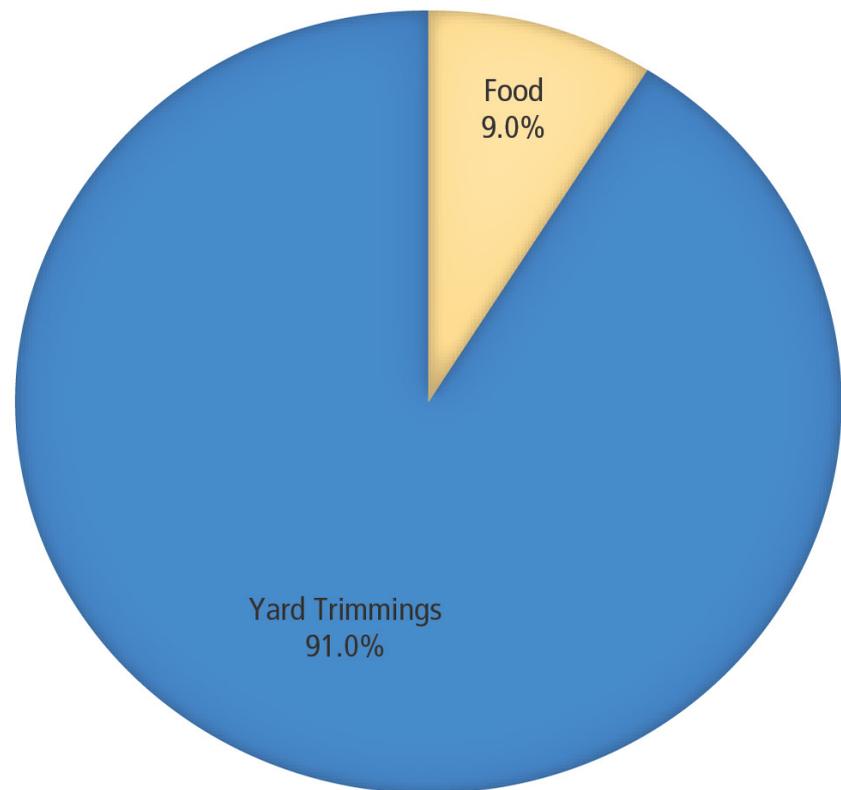
MSW Recycling in 2015

68 million tons

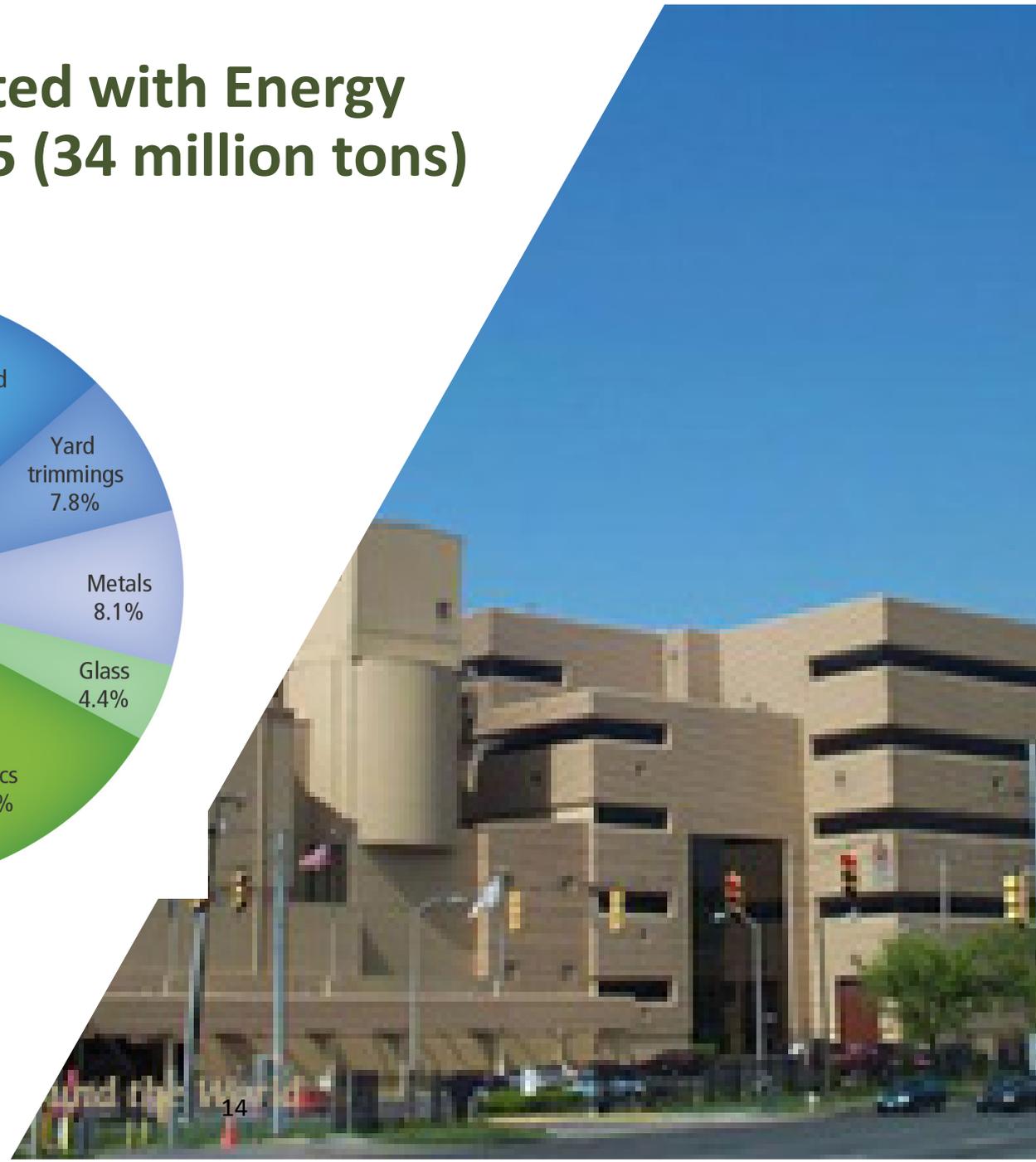
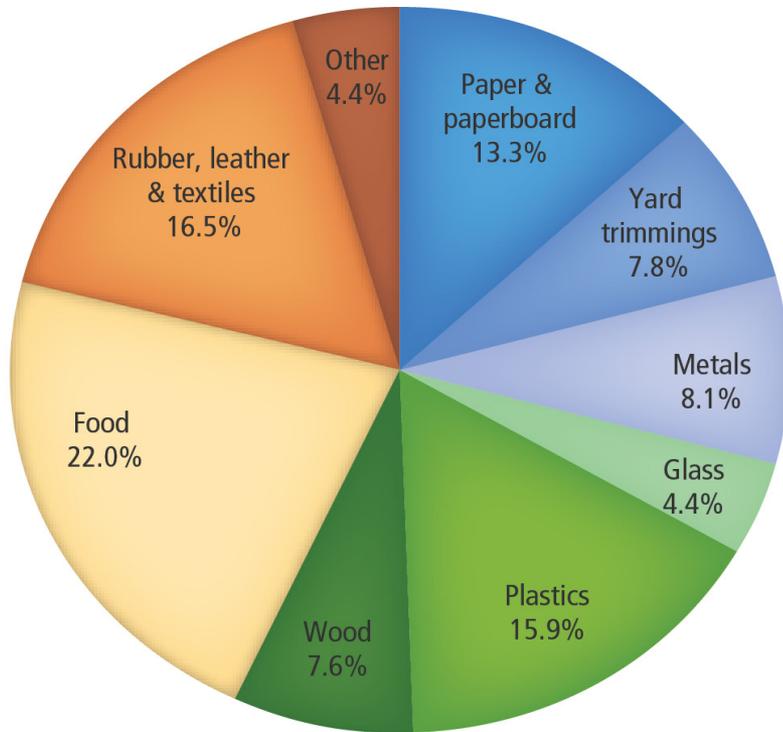


MSW Composting in 2015

23 million tons

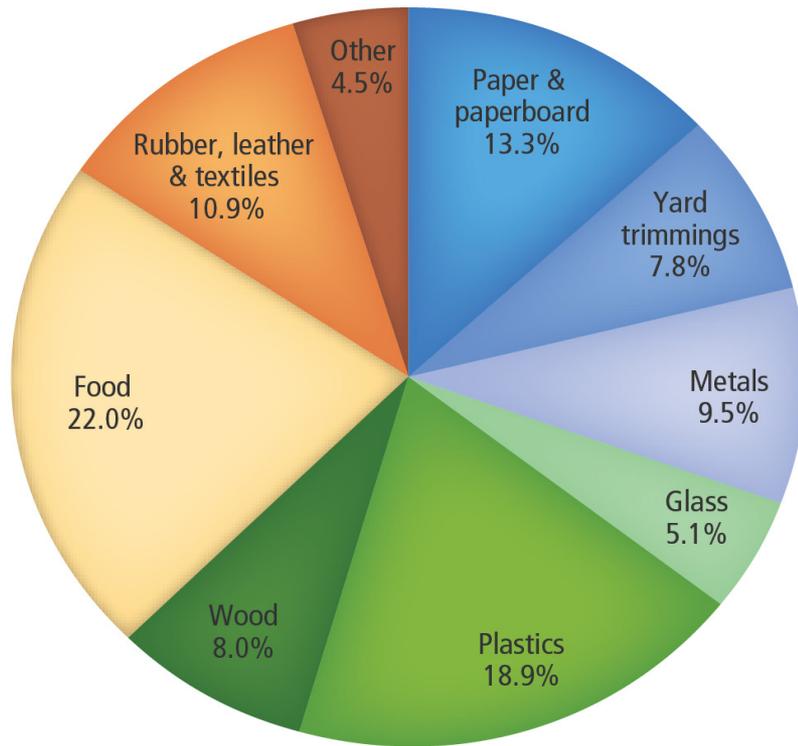


MSW Combusted with Energy Recovery in 2015 (34 million tons)



MSW Landfilled in 2015

138 million tons

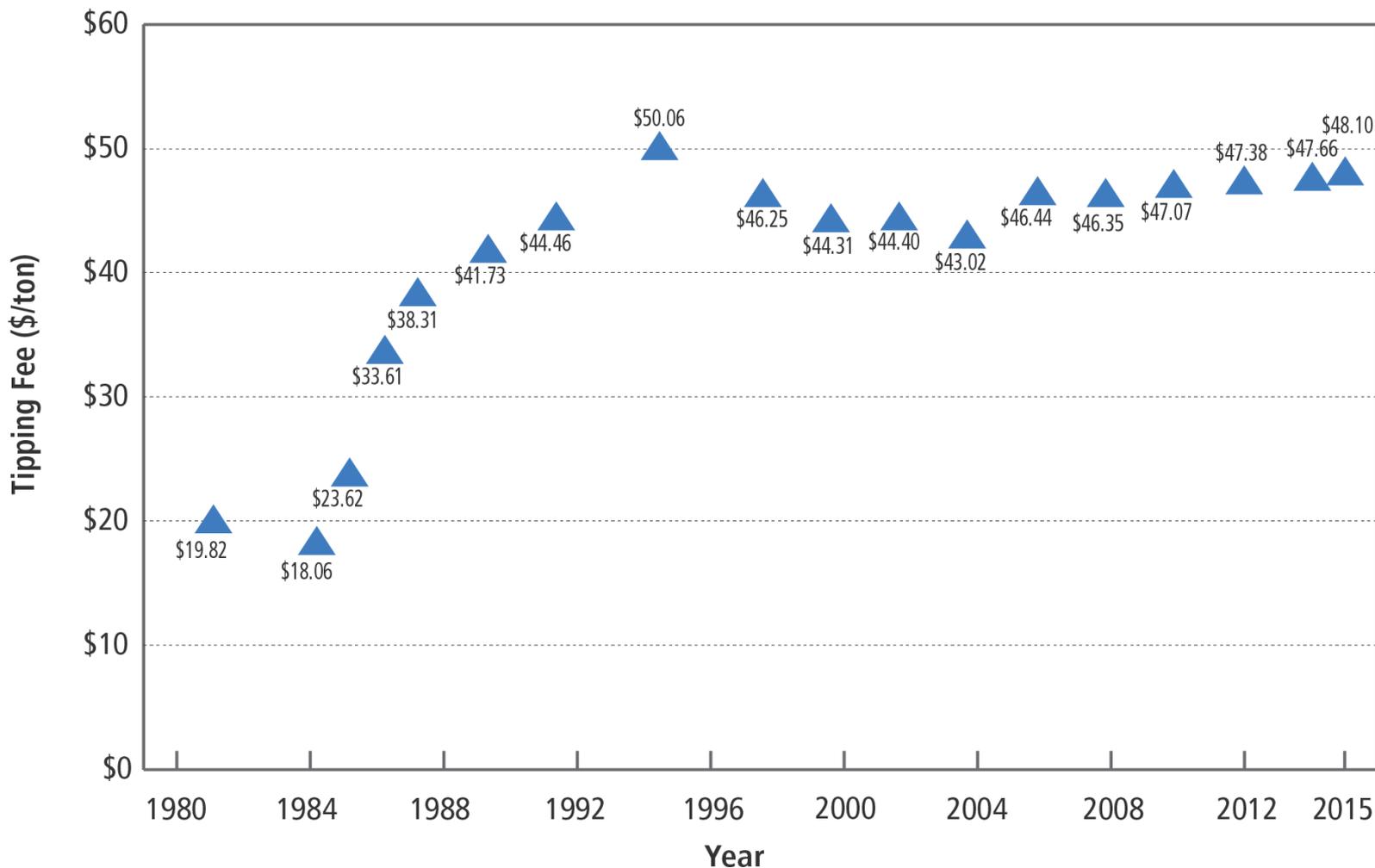


Environmental Benefits

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

- In 2015, management of MSW prevented over 181.5 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent of GHG emissions.
- These reductions are comparable to the annual emissions from over 38.8 million passenger vehicles.
- These estimates are calculated using EPA's WARM (Waste Reduction Model) methodology.

National Landfill Tipping Fees 1982-2015



Thank you

For further information visit us at:

<https://www.epa.gov/facts-and-figures-about-materials-waste-and-recycling>

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