


## Project Introduction



## Study Background

- In 2015, the 84th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 2763, which directed the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) to conduct a study on the economic impacts of recycling in Texas
- The Study on the Economic Impacts of Recycling (Study) meets the requirements of the law by building on the efforts of prior recycling studies and providing information on the following:
- Current recycling efforts
- Methods to increase recycling, such as the development of new markets for recycled materials and new businesses that may result from increased recycling
- Funding methods to increase recycling
- Job creation from recycling, as well as potential job creation that will result from increased recycling
- Infrastructure needs and opportunities for rural and underserved areas


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## Building on Prior Studies

- As directed by House Bill 2763, methodology to develop the Study was based on the efforts of prior recycling studies conducted in Texas
- Builds on the 2013 Texas Recycling Data Initiative (TRDI), which established a methodology for measuring recycling and presenting limited economic and jobs information
- Builds on regional studies completed for the Houston-Galveston Area Council (H-GAC) and the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG)


## Recycling Industry Committee

- American Forest and Paper Association (AF\&PA)
- Carton Council
- Construction and Demolition Recycling Association (CDRA)
- Cooperative Teamwork and Recycling Assistance (CTRA)
- Glass Packaging Institute (GPI)
- Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries Inc. (ISRI)
- National Association for Polyethylene Terephthalate (PET) Container Resources (NAPCOR)
- National Waste and Recycling Association (NWRA)
- North American Hazardous Materials Management Association (NAHMMA)
- Recycling Council of Texas (RCOT)
- Society of the Plastics Industry (SPI)
- Solid Waste Association of North America - Lone Star Chapter (TxSWANA)
- STAR - Electronic Resource Recovery Council (ERRC)
- STAR - Texas Compost Council (TCC)
- STAR - Texas Product Stewardship Council (TxPSC)
- Texas Association of Business (TAB)
- Texas Association of Regional Councils (TARC)
- Texas Commission of Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Municipal Solid Waste Management and Resource Recovery Advisory Council (MSWRRAC)
- Texas Retailers Association (TRA)
- United States Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6 (U.S. EPA)
- Representative Ed Thompson (ex-officio)
- Senator José Rodriguez (ex-officio)



## Points to Consider When Comparing Statewide Recycling Rate and <br> Economic Data

- A number of states report recycling quantities, rates, and economic data
- Comparing this information across states is notoriously challenging and can be misleading
- Important to keep the points on the following two slides in mind when comparing the Study's recycling measurement and economic results to other studies
- Analysis is intentionally conservative, which likely understates recycling quantities and economic impacts


## Statevide Recycling Rate and Economic Points to Consider (Table 1-1)

| Issue |
| :--- | :--- |
| Definition of |
| Recycling |
| Voluntary or |
| Mandatory |
| Double Counting |
| Addressing Data |
| Gaps/ Extrapolation |

Study on the Economic Impacts of Recycling Approach

## Approach for Some Other Statewide Studies

Developed a methodology based on collecting data on municipal solid waste (MSW) as defined in Texas statute. Though not defined in Texas statute, the study also excluded source reduction, energy recovery, and reuse.

Approach was strictly voluntary.

Systematically focused on specific points in the material value chain to minimize double counting.

Did not extrapolate; employed
conservative estimates only in a few key areas where essential to produce consistent results.

Some states may include reuse, energy recovery, certain source reduction activities, other conversion technologies or non-MSW material.

States that mandate local agencies and certain businesses to submit recycling data may have a higher response rate.

## Double Counting

## Addressing Data <br> Gaps/ Extrapolation

While some states take a similar approach, other approaches may not address double counting.

States may use any number of approaches to derive estimates where needed to address data gaps.

## Statevide Recycling Rate and Economic Points to Consider (Table 1-1 continued)

| Issue | Study on the Economic Impacts of <br> Recycling Approach | Approach for Some Other <br> Statewide Studies |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Accounting for | Did not count residuals at materials <br> recovery facilities (MRFs) and end-use <br> facilities. | Some states may not account for <br> residuals disposed at MRFs and/or at <br> end-use facilities. |
| Residuals | Included all types of MSW generators, <br> such as residential homes, commercial <br> businesses and institutions. | Some states report only residentially <br> generated material, and some include <br> certain industrial generators. |
| Generators Included | Some states count certain high-volume <br> industrial materials such as metals, pre- <br> consumer paper or plastic <br> manufacturing scrap. |  |
| Counting Certain | Intentionally excluded industrial material <br> from MSW statistics, but separately <br> reported data on select industrial streams <br> (e.g., metals). |  |



## Methodology



## Survey Focused on Processors and End Users/Manufacturers

In Texas


Out of Texas
Out of Texas

## Material Categories

| TYPICAL |
| :--- |
| RECYCLABLES |
| Glass |
| Containers, Other Glass |
| Metals |
| Ferrous, Non-Ferrous |
| Paper |
| Mixed, Old Corrugated |
| Containers, Other Paper |
| Plastics |
| PET \#1, HDPE \#2, Plastics \#3-7 |

## ORGANIC MATERIALS

## Biosolids (i.e. sludge)

Food \& Beverage Materials

Yard Trimmings
Brush \& Green Waste

## OTHER MATERIALS

## Construction and Demolition (C\&D) Materials

## Electronic Materials

Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)

## Textiles

Tires
Other


## Recycled Tons and Recycling Rate Overview

- Individual material summary example
- Material by material response
- Summary of survey results for all categories, including comparison to 2013 TRDI survey
- Recycling rate calculation


## Material Summary Example: Glass




The Project Team obtained data from 22 MRFs in Texas (as not all of the MRFs surveyed accept glass). Large commercial MRFs process material via long-term processing agreements with municipalities as well as commercial accounts. Therefore, they handle a large portion of Texas recycled glass. Additional quantities may also be recovered directly from auto shops and contractors. The Project Team believes the glass survey data presented above, which has been adjusted to eliminate double counting and residuals left over after processing, represents the vast majority of Texas glass that was recycled through MRFs in 2015. Of the 165,527 total tons, 88,470 tons are glass containers and the remaining 77,057 tons are other glass.

## Supplemental Data

Third Party Data
The Freject Toam raliodentine survey to collect all data related to glass and did not identify available supplemental sources of statewide data covering Texas. However, information from the Glass Packaging Institute was used to confirm the list of Texasbased recycled alass end-use facilities.

## Tonnage ComparIson to TRDI

The 2010 estmote ctudy rocult for reegciea glass is 21 percent higher than the 2013 estimate study result of $1 \$ 7,222$ tons. The Project Team believes this is probably a result of a more complete survey response rather than an actual increase in Texas glass recycling.

Comparison to TRDI Survey Data

## Material Recycled from MSW Sources (Tons) (Table 3-1)

|  | Material | 2013 Study (TRDI) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Typical Recyclables | Glass | 137,222 |
|  | Metals - Ferrous 1 | 386,876 |
|  | Metals - Non-Ferrous 1 | 157,709 |
|  | Paper | 1,444,632 |
|  | Plastics | 169,216 |
| Organic Materials | Biosolids | 95,291 |
|  | Food and Beverage Materials | 19,768 |
|  | Yard Trimmings, Brush, and Green Waste | 970,233 |
| Other Materials | Construction and Demolition Materials | 2,253,598 |
|  | Electronic Material | 47,271 |
|  | Household Hazardous Waste | 2,308 |
|  | Textiles | 16,852 |
|  | Tires | 48,290 |
| Uncategorized |  | 393,527 |
|  | TOTAL | 6,142,793 |



## Comparing Results (Tons)

## Recycling Rate Calculation

> Total Recycled / (Total Recycled + Total Disposed) $=\%$ Recycling Rate
$9,171,707$ tons / ( $9,171,707$ tons $+31,049,545$ tons )
= 22.7\% Recycling Rate


## Estimated Annual Gross Value of Recycled Material in Texas (FY 2015) (Table 4-7)

| Recycled Material | Annual Tonnage | Rounded Value | Basis |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| TYPICAL RECYCLABLES |  |  |  |
| Glass | 165,527 | \$10,760,000 | \$65/ton |
| Metals - Ferrous | 447,207 | \$47,400,000 | \$106/ton |
| Metals - Non-Ferrous | 196,383 | \$281,220,000 | \$1,432/ton |
| Paper | 2,212,562 | \$196,920,000 | \$89/ton |
| Plastics | 107,851 | \$38,610,000 | \$358/ton |
| ORGANICS | 2,390,012 | \$108,270,000 | \$30/CY for compost |
| C\&D MATERIALS | 3,136,727 | \$18,820,000 | \$6/ton |
| Total | 8,656,269 | \$702,000,000 |  |



Estimated Amount of Recyclable Materials that Could be Recycled, but are Disposed

## Approach

- In 2015, an estimated 31,049,545 tons of solid waste, including recyclable material, was generated and disposed in Texas
- Compared annual disposal quantities to waste characterization studies for MSW, C\&D and Other (e.g. solid waste other than from MSW and C\&D) (Figure 5-1)


## Aggregate Composition by Waste Type by Recyclable or Non-recyclable (2015) (Figure 5-5)



## Aggregate Composition of Disposed Material by Waste Type by Recyclable Material Category (2015) (Table 5-6)

| Waste Type | Recyclable Material Category | Assumed Recovery Rate |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  |  | Total Tonnage Disposed | 20\% | 40\% | 60\% |
| MSW | Glass | 657,577 | 131,515 | 263,031 | 394,546 |
|  | Metals -Ferrous | 338,010 | 67,602 | 135,204 | 202,806 |
|  | Metals -Non-Ferrous | 285,869 | 57,174 | 114,348 | 171,521 |
|  | Paper | 4,085,648 | 817,130 | 1,634,259 | 2,451,389 |
|  | Plastics | 810,902 | 162,180 | 324,361 | 486,541 |
|  | Organic Materials | 4,096,225 | 819,245 | 1,638,490 | 2,457,735 |
|  | Clean/Unpainted C\&D Aggregates | 12,763 | 2,553 | 5,105 | 7,658 |
|  | Subtotal | 10,286,994 | 2,057,399 | 4,114,798 | 6,172,196 |
| C\&D <br> Materials | Concrete/Cement | 1,812,331 | 362,466 | 724,932 | 1,087,399 |
|  | Paper | 375,184 | 75,037 | 150,074 | 225,110 |
|  | Ferrous | 317,953 | 63,591 | 127,181 | 190,772 |
|  | Brush | 209,849 | 41,970 | 83,940 | 125,909 |
|  | Subtotal | 2,715,317 | 543,064 | 1,086,127 | 1,629,190 |
| Other | Brush | 427,989 | 85,598 | 171,196 | 256,793 |
|  | Subtotal | 427,989 | 85,598 | 171,196 | 256,793 |
| TOTAL |  | 13,430,300 | 2,686,060 | 5,372,120 | 8,058,180 |

## Respondent Expectations for the Amount of Recyclable Materials Their Operations Will Handle Over the Next One to Three Years (Figure 6-1)



RESULTS FROM KEY SEGMENTS

PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS:
88\% EXPECT GROWTH

PRIVATE COMPANIES:
67\% EXPECT GROWTH

GLASS RECYCLING: 80\% EXPECT FLAT

ORGANICS RECYCLING: 90\% EXPECT GROWTH

## Barriers Constraining Expansion of Recycling Business Activity as Reported in Surveys (Figure 6-2)



## Recycling Expansion Opportunities as Reported in Surveys (Figure 6-3)



## Advancing the Opportunities

## STRENGTHEN EXISTING PROGRAMS

ADOPTION OF STRONG MUNICIPAL CONTRACTING PRACTICES

ADOPTION OF SUSTAINABLE LOCAL FUNDING MECHANISMS

IMPROVED AND EXPANDED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

ADOPTION OF BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IN COLLECTION AND PROCESSING SYSTEMS


## Grants and Other Funding Sources

Funding Sources: Identifies potential funding from State of Texas, Federal and private sources
For each source, included:

- program description
- example of applicability
- website

Public-Private Partnerships: Describes multiple models to increase recycling without the full financial risk falling on either the local government or the private business


The Statevide Economic Impacts of Recycling

## Recycling Direct Employment (2015)



## Estimated Employment by Material and Activity (2015)



## Estimated Wages and Benefits in the Recycling Industry (2015)



## Summary of Total Economic Impact of Recycling on the Texas Economy (Table 8-6)

| Measure | Direct | Indirect | Induced | Total |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Employment | 7,868 |  | 5,040 | 4,129 | 17,037 |
| Labor Income | $\$ 342,862,641$ | $\$ 314,883,480$ | $\$ 199,242,509$ | $\$ 856,988,630$ |  |
| Value Added | $\$ 793,557,644$ | $\$ 490,200,422$ | $\$ 343,903,017$ | $\$ 1,627,661,083$ |  |
| Output | $\$ 1,894,943,170$ | $\$ 875,280,989$ | $\$ 606,533,341$ | $\$ 3,376,757,500$ |  |

## Economic Impacts of Recycling on the Texas

## Economy

With more than $\$ 3.3$ billion of economic output and 17,037 jobs, the recycling sector is similar in size to:


# Paper <br> Manufacturing 

16,843


Pipeline
Transportation
18,831

Broadcasting
18,721

## Recycling Growth Scenarios Direct Employment (2015)



EMPLOYMENT BY RECYCLING GROWTH SCENARIO

## Interest in Further Information?

-2018 article in Resource
Recycling
-Report available at:
https://www.tceq.texas.gov/p2
/recycle/study-on-the-
economic-impacts-of-
recycling

## Questions



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