

Worksheet re Calculation of Residential Solid Waste Generated Per Capita for Cities and Towns with Populations of 5,000 or more*

*Towns with a population of fewer than 5,000 may calculate their residential solid waste generated per capita using similar methodology but adapted to their needs. For additional support, please contact info@sustainablect.org.

Fiscal Year Being Calculated**: 15/16

**Please complete a separate worksheet for each fiscal year for which residential solid waste generated per capita is being calculated.

1. Determine the total residential solid waste generated for your municipality or town, in pounds, for the fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th): 14,210,000 lbs _____ (A)*
*For towns and cities that use a subscription service, gather data from each hauler that holds a permit to collect waste in your community. If you have a transfer station that collects residential waste then add any waste that is collected at the transfer station to the total collected from the haulers. To convert tons to pounds, multiply by 2000.
2. Go to the United States Census Bureau's Quick Facts website:
<https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/>
3. In the search box on the top left, type in the name of your town. If more than one entry comes up, please select the one with the county name included.
4. Under the "Family & Living Arrangements" section, determine your town or city's average "Persons per household": 2.18 (B)
5. Scroll to the top of the page. At the top of the data column, click the magnifying glass icon next to your city or town's name. Under the "American Community Survey" subheading, click "Housing Characteristics." Under "Housing Occupancy," determine the percent of "Occupied Housing Units for your municipality" and record the number as a decimal (e.g., record 95.6% as 0.956): 90.7 (C)
6. Scroll down a little further to the "Units in Structure" section. Look at the estimated number of units for each of the following:
1-unit, detached: 6412 (i)
1-unit, attached: 947 (ii)
2 units: 822 (iii)
3 or 4 units: 1672 (iv)
Total: 11247 (D)*** includes condos and 6units and less
***This number represents the total number of homes where residential (vs. commercial) trash is collected from. In some larger cities, residential pick-up may also occur in 5-9-unit structures. If so, then add this number to the total (D).
7. Multiply the decimal version of the percent occupied housing units (C) by the total number of housing structures from which residential trash is collected (D): 10201 (E)
8. Multiply that number (E) by the average persons per household (B):
22238.24 (F)
9. Divide the waste total (A) by the number in (F). 639 lbs per capita