



Part 175, Recycling Reporting, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, was passed by the Michigan Legislature in 2016 as part of the initiative to increase recycling in Michigan. While this law does provide a glimpse into recycling volumes in Michigan, it is not intended to identify the statewide recycling rate. The law applies to only a portion of the materials that should be counted to calculate a statewide recycling rate. This is a summary of what was reported into the system during the first year of the program.

The law focuses on the data of waste diversion and recycling collection for seven commonly recycled materials: paper, plastic, glass, ferrous and nonferrous metals, textiles, and single stream recyclables. The law requires specific facilities to register and report on their waste diversion activities.

To introduce the program and encourage reporting, the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) implemented a robust education and outreach system. Outreach was completed through various partnerships, e-mail blasts, GovDelivery listservs, phone calls, individual visits, and training webinars.

At the end of the first year (November 2017), 73 companies had registered through the online Michigan Recycling Reporting module. Registering with the program allows a company to identify themselves as a recycling establishment and provides them access to reporting forms.

Currently 55 of the 73 registered companies are reporting data through the system. Those companies include:

- Landfills
- Local government
- Non-profit environmental groups
- Material recovery facilities
- Waste haulers

The implementation of Part 175 has provided the DEQ and its partners with a greater understanding of recycling networks in Michigan. However, three issues impacting the effectiveness of the law have emerged. These include lack of partnerships with sustainably-minded companies, the need to acknowledge the efforts of reporting partners, and the complexities of maintaining cooperative efforts with stakeholders. To address some of these issues, going forward the DEQ plans to:

- Establish a recognition program
- Develop strategic partnerships with industry to encourage reporting
- Emphasize outreach through industry partners
- Recommend updates to the law

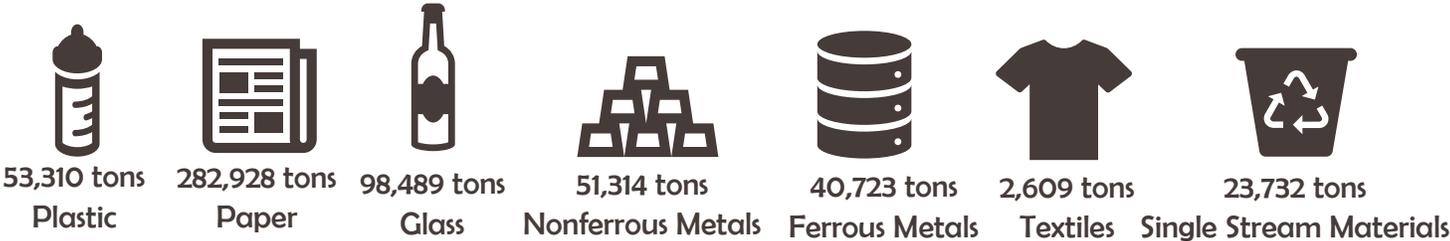
These efforts aim to clarify law requirements, increase efficiency of the program, and further recycling market development efforts in conjunction with Michigan's five recycling initiatives.

The following page is a summary of data collected during the first year of the program.



Recycling

In fiscal year 2017, establishments reported recycling:



For a total of 553,105 tons!



Registering and Reporting

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------------|
| 55 total Reporters | 30 Materials Recovery Facilities |
| 30 Mandatory | 20 Drop-Off Locations |
| 25 Voluntary | 5 Third-Party Reporters |

Reaching Out



and multiple other materials such as banners, pamphlets, frequently asked questions, logos, summaries, and more were created to assist with recycling reporting program efforts.

www.michigan.gov/recyclingreporting