

North Carolina County Recycling Program Performance for Fiscal Year 2016-17

The N.C. Division of Environmental Assistance and Customer Service (DEACS) uses data from the Division of Waste Management Consolidated Annual Report completed by each local government in the state to assess the public recycling efforts conducted by municipalities and counties.

Public recycling data for the past several years illustrates that many new recycling programs target non-traditional materials such as asphalt shingles, construction debris, scrap metal, electronics and wood wastes. As these programs have expanded, North Carolina's total annual per capita recycling has increased by 58 pounds over the past decade.

In addition to handling these non-traditional materials, North Carolina municipal and county recycling programs have improved their recovery of common household recyclables or traditional materials, including items like cans, bottles and paper. During FY 2016-17, public recycling systems in North Carolina recycled more common household recyclables than ever before. North Carolina experienced a 5.3 percent increase in traditional recyclables compared to the previous year.

Each year, DEACS uses public recycling program data to produce per-capita recycling rates for counties across the state. This analysis combines municipal and county recycling efforts, and then ranks counties based on program performance. Counties are ranked in two ways: overall recycling rate, and recycling rate for common household materials such as cans, bottles and paper.

The per-capita recovery rate for traditional materials helps to compare the relative effectiveness of residential recycling programs, while total public recovery includes efforts to manage other materials such as concrete, shingles and wood wastes, plus special and hazardous wastes like televisions, used motor oil and used cooking oil. Communities at the top of both lists have strong and well-rounded public recycling systems.

Total Public Recycling Per Capita Recovery			Common Household Recyclables Per Capita Recovery		
Rank	County	Lbs./person	Rank	County	Lbs./person
1	IREDELL COUNTY	488.95	1	CATAWBA COUNTY	269.44
2	CATAWBA COUNTY	482.55	2	DARE COUNTY	226.31
3	PITT COUNTY	389.65	3	ORANGE COUNTY	220.74
4	ORANGE COUNTY	323.83	4	PITT COUNTY	196.61
5	MACON COUNTY	320.98	5	CURRITUCK COUNTY	188.60
6	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	303.78	6	WATAUGA COUNTY	177.00
7	DARE COUNTY	263.64	7	CABARRUS COUNTY	165.43
8	CUMBERLAND COUNTY	260.08	8	GUILFORD COUNTY	162.60
9	NEW HANOVER COUNTY	253.71	9	PAMLICO COUNTY	158.54
10	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	238.75	10	MECKLENBURG COUNTY	149.49

11	CURRITUCK COUNTY	238.56
12	WATAUGA COUNTY	201.22
13	FORSYTH COUNTY	194.97
14	ALEXANDER COUNTY	192.29
15	MECKLENBURG COUNTY	183.29
16	SWAIN COUNTY	182.03
17	PAMLICO COUNTY	180.00
18	CABARRUS COUNTY	174.89
19	GUILFORD COUNTY	170.93
20	BUNCOMBE COUNTY	161.50
21	HAYWOOD COUNTY	161.48
22	CRAVEN COUNTY	155.04
23	MCDOWELL COUNTY	153.03
24	JACKSON COUNTY	150.37
25	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	148.84
26	GRANVILLE COUNTY	146.77
27	DURHAM COUNTY	146.04
28	MOORE COUNTY	144.62
29	WAKE COUNTY	143.09
30	ALLEGHANY COUNTY	139.38
31	ONSLOW COUNTY	135.12
32	CAMDEN COUNTY	132.61
33	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	130.63
34	MADISON COUNTY	128.65
35	HENDERSON COUNTY	124.74
36	WILSON COUNTY	124.01
37	ASHE COUNTY	122.94
38	CHOWAN COUNTY	122.32
39	POLK COUNTY	120.88
40	LEE COUNTY	120.56
41	LINCOLN COUNTY	113.73
42	DAVIE COUNTY	109.29
43	CARTERET COUNTY	108.29
44	PENDER COUNTY	105.40
45	ALAMANCE COUNTY	104.65
46	MARTIN COUNTY	104.08
47	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	101.01
48	GASTON COUNTY	99.21
49	MITCHELL COUNTY	98.35
50	CHATHAM COUNTY	96.47
51	HYDE COUNTY	93.67
52	CLEVELAND COUNTY	93.29
53	NASH COUNTY	91.66
54	TYRRELL COUNTY	91.25
55	AVERY COUNTY	90.79
56	WAYNE COUNTY	90.56
57	UNION COUNTY	86.76
58	PERSON COUNTY	83.31
59	SURRY COUNTY	81.40
60	RUTHERFORD COUNTY	80.92

11	MACON COUNTY	145.10
12	MCDOWELL COUNTY	143.41
13	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	138.40
14	DURHAM COUNTY	137.28
15	CRAVEN COUNTY	136.49
16	BUNCOMBE COUNTY	134.82
17	HAYWOOD COUNTY	128.53
18	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	128.32
19	ONSLOW COUNTY	124.37
20	WAKE COUNTY	121.84
21	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	121.48
22	ALLEGHANY COUNTY	120.65
23	MOORE COUNTY	120.59
24	SWAIN COUNTY	113.95
25	JACKSON COUNTY	109.62
26	FORSYTH COUNTY	109.23
27	NEW HANOVER COUNTY	107.33
28	POLK COUNTY	104.23
29	DAVIE COUNTY	101.41
30	LEE COUNTY	97.81
31	CHOWAN COUNTY	97.41
32	HENDERSON COUNTY	92.64
33	ALAMANCE COUNTY	90.93
34	PENDER COUNTY	90.44
35	GASTON COUNTY	89.52
36	TYRRELL COUNTY	86.43
37	ALEXANDER COUNTY	85.98
38	MADISON COUNTY	85.65
39	CARTERET COUNTY	80.38
40	UNION COUNTY	79.96
41	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	79.59
42	NASH COUNTY	76.65
43	CUMBERLAND COUNTY	73.06
44	MARTIN COUNTY	69.95
45	SURRY COUNTY	67.93
46	CAMDEN COUNTY	67.66
47	CHATHAM COUNTY	67.09
48	GRANVILLE COUNTY	66.40
49	WILSON COUNTY	65.86
50	PERSON COUNTY	65.11
51	ASHE COUNTY	64.63
52	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	64.55
53	YADKIN COUNTY	63.89
54	IREDELL COUNTY	61.61
55	MITCHELL COUNTY	61.25
56	SCOTLAND COUNTY	61.09
57	HYDE COUNTY	60.13
58	DAVIDSON COUNTY	59.63
59	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	57.85
60	CLEVELAND COUNTY	57.67

61	CLAY COUNTY	78.91
62	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	77.78
63	YADKIN COUNTY	76.18
64	CALDWELL COUNTY	75.70
65	DAVIDSON COUNTY	75.18
66	FRANKLIN COUNTY	74.23
67	SCOTLAND COUNTY	72.33
68	HERTFORD COUNTY	70.26
69	YANCEY COUNTY	68.54
70	STANLY COUNTY	67.46
71	BLADEN COUNTY	64.88
72	LENOIR COUNTY	64.01
73	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	62.12
74	WARREN COUNTY	61.79
75	GATES COUNTY	59.56
76	BEAUFORT COUNTY	59.18
77	SAMPSON COUNTY	57.62
78	JOHNSTON COUNTY	56.45
79	RANDOLPH COUNTY	53.42
80	WILKES COUNTY	52.46
81	ROWAN COUNTY	50.53
82	DUPLIN COUNTY	49.90
83	BURKE COUNTY	47.91
84	HARNETT COUNTY	46.47
85	STOKES COUNTY	43.67
86	CHEROKEE COUNTY	41.55
87	HALIFAX COUNTY	41.25
88	VANCE COUNTY	40.08
89	GRAHAM COUNTY	39.55
90	HOKE COUNTY	35.65
91	ROBESON COUNTY	33.75
92	EDGEcombe COUNTY	32.24
93	RICHMOND COUNTY	29.89
94	COLUMBUS COUNTY	27.61
95	WASHINGTON COUNTY	22.12
96	GREENE COUNTY	19.69
97	ANSON COUNTY	19.00
98	CASWELL COUNTY	14.12
99	BERTIE COUNTY	11.95
100	JONES COUNTY	10.84

61	WARREN COUNTY	57.66
62	RUTHERFORD COUNTY	56.19
63	FRANKLIN COUNTY	54.16
64	CALDWELL COUNTY	52.06
65	WILKES COUNTY	49.32
66	ROWAN COUNTY	47.71
67	WAYNE COUNTY	47.57
68	RANDOLPH COUNTY	46.99
69	SAMPSON COUNTY	45.37
70	STANLY COUNTY	42.94
71	BEAUFORT COUNTY	42.90
72	YANCEY COUNTY	40.59
73	AVERY COUNTY	39.86
74	CLAY COUNTY	39.22
75	LINCOLN COUNTY	38.28
76	HALIFAX COUNTY	37.04
77	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	36.57
78	JOHNSTON COUNTY	36.52
79	GATES COUNTY	35.15
80	HERTFORD COUNTY	32.86
81	LENOIR COUNTY	32.32
82	STOKES COUNTY	31.42
83	CHEROKEE COUNTY	31.22
84	BLADEN COUNTY	30.08
85	EDGEcombe COUNTY	28.14
86	DUPLIN COUNTY	28.03
87	VANCE COUNTY	27.94
88	BURKE COUNTY	27.30
89	GRAHAM COUNTY	22.37
90	HARNETT COUNTY	21.46
91	HOKE COUNTY	20.44
92	ROBESON COUNTY	19.65
93	GREENE COUNTY	16.27
94	WASHINGTON COUNTY	14.71
95	COLUMBUS COUNTY	14.48
96	RICHMOND COUNTY	9.68
97	JONES COUNTY	8.62
98	CASWELL COUNTY	8.01
99	BERTIE COUNTY	6.98
100	ANSON COUNTY	5.38