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

DEACS uses this 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 and the municipalities within them are ranked in two ways: overall recycling rate and recycling rate for common household materials.

The per-capita recovery rate for common household materials compares the effectiveness of programs recovering cans, bottles, paper and cardboard. The 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.

Common Household Recyclables Per Capita Recovery			Total Public Recycling Per Capita Recovery			
Rank	Community	Lbs. / Person		Rank	Community	Lbs. / Person
1	CATAWBA COUNTY	265		1	ORANGE COUNTY	564
2	DARE COUNTY	218		2	CATAWBA COUNTY	464
3	ORANGE COUNTY	209		3	PITT COUNTY	358
4	ONSLOW COUNTY	186		4	MACON COUNTY	334
5	PITT COUNTY	182		5	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	325
6	WATAUGA COUNTY	172		6	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	299
7	DAVIE COUNTY	164		7	NEW HANOVER COUNTY	284
8	CAMDEN COUNTY	155		8	DARE COUNTY	252
9	CURRITUCK COUNTY	153		9	IREDELL COUNTY	230
10	JONES COUNTY	150		10	FORSYTH COUNTY	219
11	MACON COUNTY	148		11	CURRITUCK COUNTY	216
12	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	148		12	WATAUGA COUNTY	208
13	BUNCOMBE COUNTY	145		13	ALEXANDER COUNTY	203
14	GUILFORD COUNTY	142		14	ONSLOW COUNTY	200
15	HAYWOOD COUNTY	141		15	SWAIN COUNTY	192
16	MECKLENBURG COUNTY	141		16	MECKLENBURG COUNTY	190
17	DURHAM COUNTY	137		17	CAMDEN COUNTY	179
18	SWAIN COUNTY	130		18	DAVIE COUNTY	175
19	ALLEGHANY COUNTY	129		19	HAYWOOD COUNTY	167
20	MOORE COUNTY	129		20	BUNCOMBE COUNTY	162
21	CRAVEN COUNTY	127		21	MOORE COUNTY	158
22	CABARRUS COUNTY	123		22	HENDERSON COUNTY	155
23	HENDERSON COUNTY	118		23	JONES COUNTY	152
24	WAKE COUNTY	114		24	GUILFORD COUNTY	150
25	JACKSON COUNTY	107		25	ALLEGHANY COUNTY	148
26	FORSYTH COUNTY	106		26	CRAVEN COUNTY	148
27	NEW HANOVER COUNTY	105		27	DURHAM COUNTY	147
28	GRANVILLE COUNTY	102		28	CARTERET COUNTY	142
29	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	102		29	JACKSON COUNTY	141
30	CARTERET COUNTY	101		30	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	140
31	LEE COUNTY	93		31	GRANVILLE COUNTY	140
32	GASTON COUNTY	92		32	HYDE COUNTY	139

33	POLK COUNTY	90		33	CUMBERLAND COUNTY	139
34	ALEXANDER COUNTY	90		34	WAKE COUNTY	135
35	CHOWAN COUNTY	88		35	MARTIN COUNTY	134
36	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	87		36	CABARRUS COUNTY	130
37	TYRRELL COUNTY	87		37	ASHE COUNTY	124
38	ALAMANCE COUNTY	85		38	WILSON COUNTY	123
39	CHATHAM COUNTY	85		39	CHOWAN COUNTY	119
40	HYDE COUNTY	84		40	LEE COUNTY	117
40	PENDER COUNTY	80		41	LINCOLN COUNTY	114
42	MCDOWELL COUNTY	80		42	MADISON COUNTY	114
43	NASH COUNTY	77		43	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	113
44	MADISON COUNTY	76		44	CHATHAM COUNTY	113
45	SURRY COUNTY	73		45	GASTON COUNTY	108
46	UNION COUNTY	72		46	POLK COUNTY	100
40	WILSON COUNTY	72		47	MCDOWELL COUNTY	100
	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	72		48	CLEVELAND COUNTY	105
48 49	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	72		40	TYRRELL COUNTY	105
49 50	PAMLICO COUNTY	70		49 50	ALAMANCE COUNTY	99
50	ASHE COUNTY	67		51	PENDER COUNTY	99
51	YADKIN COUNTY	66		52	MITCHELL COUNTY	98
	SCOTLAND COUNTY	66	-	53	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	97
53	PERSON COUNTY		_	54	PAMLICO COUNTY	97
54		64		55		95
55	CUMBERLAND COUNTY	63		55	NASH COUNTY HERTFORD COUNTY	95
56	STANLY COUNTY	63		57		88
57	RUTHERFORD COUNTY ROWAN COUNTY	62		57	SURRY COUNTY AVERY COUNTY	86
58	MARTIN COUNTY	62	_	59	ROWAN COUNTY	84
59 60	CLEVELAND COUNTY	62 61	-	60	UNION COUNTY	80
	MITCHELL COUNTY		-	61	PERSON COUNTY	80
61	IREDELL COUNTY	60	-	62	CALDWELL COUNTY	80
62	WARREN COUNTY	57	_	63	YADKIN COUNTY	80
63		57		64		77
64	CALDWELL COUNTY	56			WAYNE COUNTY	
65	FRANKLIN COUNTY	55		65	SCOTLAND COUNTY	77
66		53		66	STANLY COUNTY	76
67		53		67	RUTHERFORD COUNTY	73
68		52	_	68	YANCEY COUNTY	70 69
69	WILKES COUNTY	51		69	CLAY COUNTY	
70		46	-	70	FRANKLIN COUNTY	69 67
71		45	-	71	GATES COUNTY	
72	LENOIR COUNTY	45	-	72	DAVIDSON COUNTY	65
73	BEAUFORT COUNTY	45	-	73	BEAUFORT COUNTY	64
74	SAMPSON COUNTY	40		74	WARREN COUNTY	60 F0
75		38		75	RANDOLPH COUNTY	59
76	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	37		76		58
77	GATES COUNTY	37		77	JOHNSTON COUNTY	57
78	YANCEY COUNTY	36		78	WILKES COUNTY	56
79		35		79	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	54
80		34		80	BURKE COUNTY	50
81	STOKES COUNTY	33	_	81	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	49
82	CHEROKEE COUNTY	30	_	82	BLADEN COUNTY	49
83	HALIFAX COUNTY	30		83	WASHINGTON COUNTY	48

84	EDGECOMBE COUNTY	28	84	SAMPSON COUNTY	48
85	HERTFORD COUNTY	28	85	STOKES COUNTY	45
86	BURKE COUNTY	28	86	GRAHAM COUNTY	44
87	BLADEN COUNTY	27	87	DUPLIN COUNTY	43
88	VANCE COUNTY	25	88	CHEROKEE COUNTY	40
89	DUPLIN COUNTY	23	89	EDGECOMBE COUNTY	40
90	HARNETT COUNTY	21	90	VANCE COUNTY	38
91	GRAHAM COUNTY	21	91	HARNETT COUNTY	36
92	ROBESON COUNTY	21	92	HALIFAX COUNTY	34
93	WASHINGTON COUNTY	14	93	ROBESON COUNTY	34
94	GREENE COUNTY	13	94	RICHMOND COUNTY	32
95	RICHMOND COUNTY	11	95	COLUMBUS COUNTY	25
96	COLUMBUS COUNTY	9	96	HOKE COUNTY	23
97	HOKE COUNTY	9	97	GREENE COUNTY	16
98	BERTIE COUNTY	8	98	BERTIE COUNTY	15
99	CASWELL COUNTY	7	99	ANSON COUNTY	13
100	ANSON COUNTY	5	100	CASWELL COUNTY	13