

2010 Residential Waste Stream Composition Study Results

Seattle Public Utilities and
Neighborhoods Committee

March 8, 2011

Presentation Overview

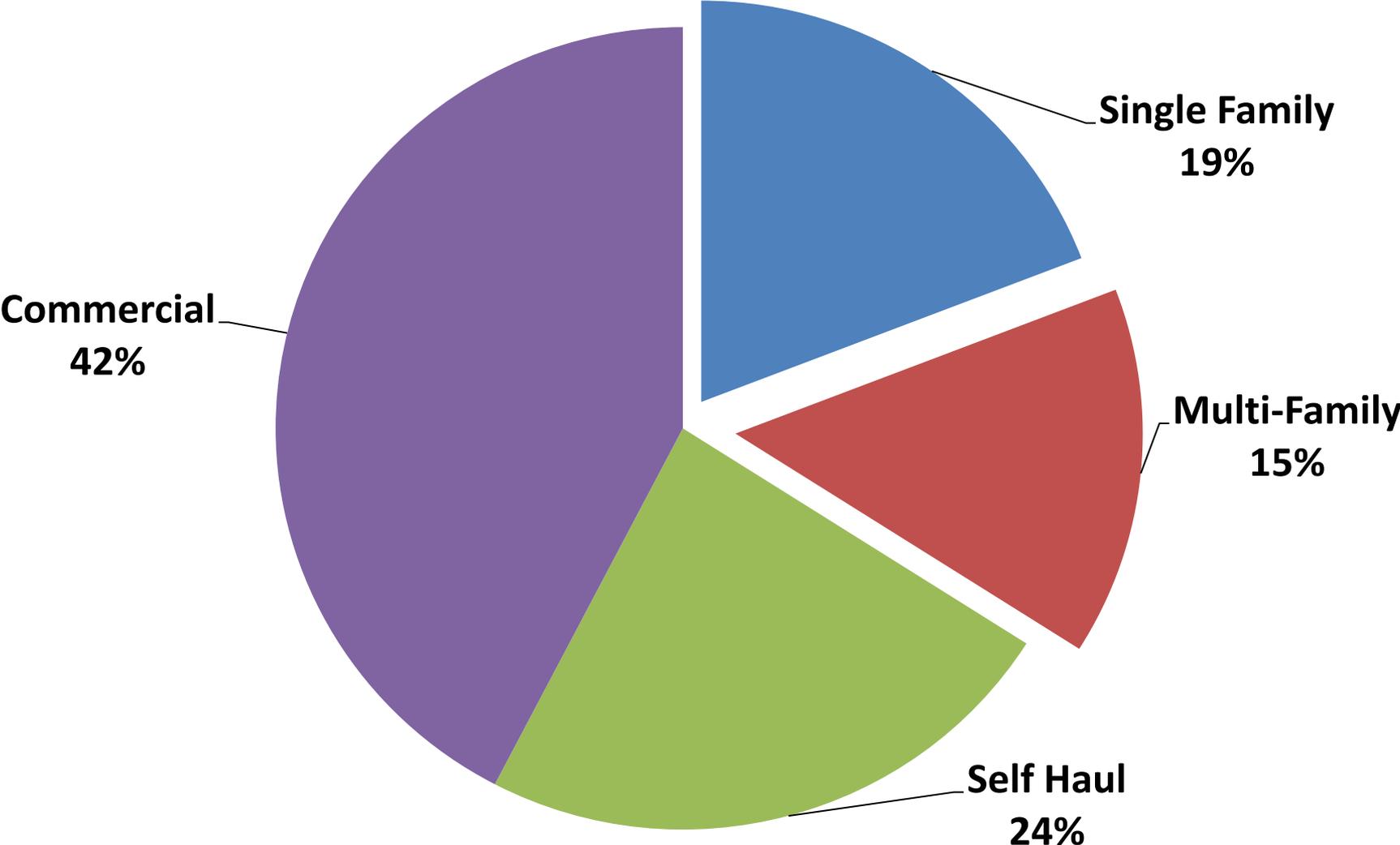
- Overview of Seattle waste stream
- Waste Composition Study methodology
- Detailed tables and material category definitions
- Summary study results
 - Single Family Houses
 - Multi Family Houses

Seattle Recycling Rate 2009

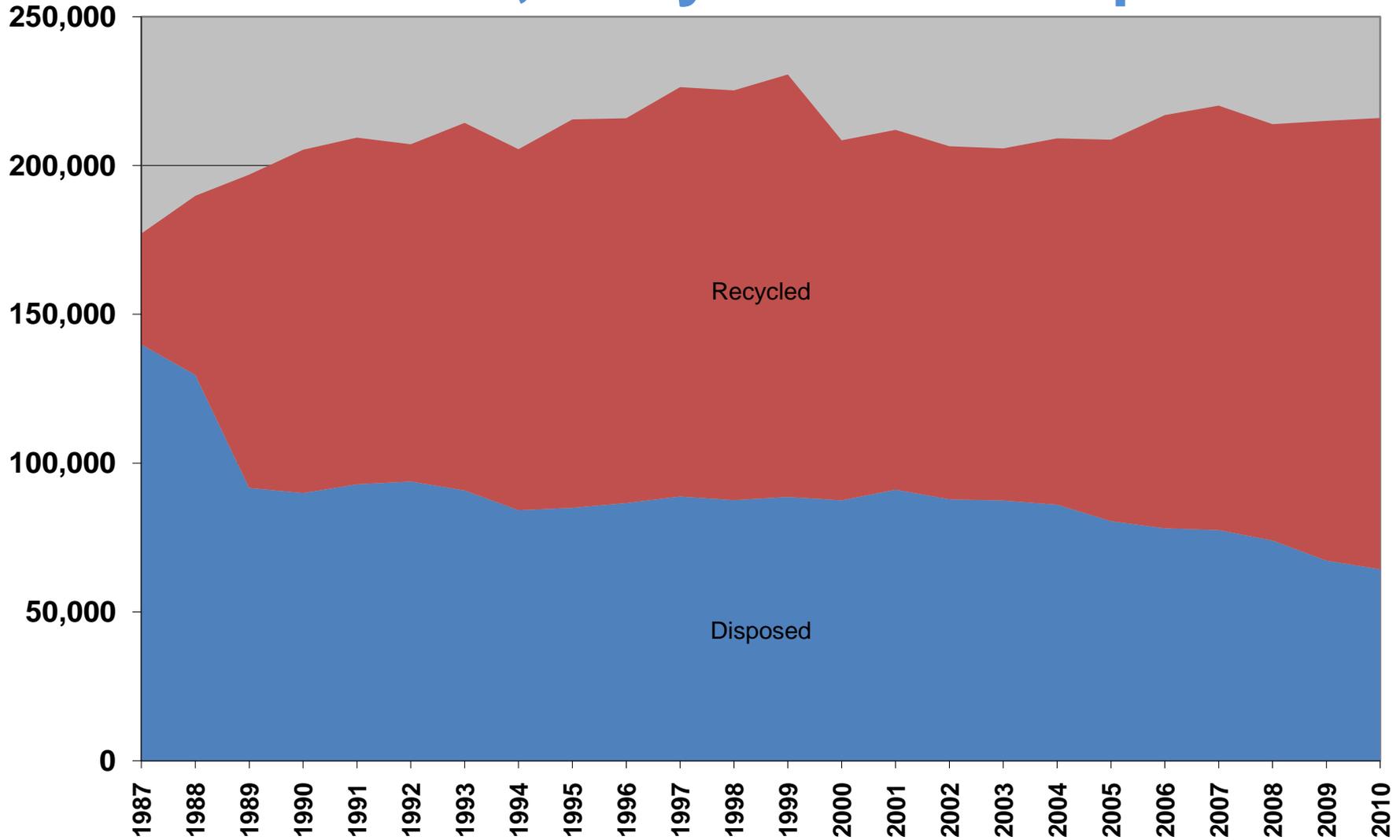
	Recycle Rate
Sector	
Total Seattle	51.1%
Residential Total	58.4%
Single Family	68.7%
Multi-Family	27.0%
Commercial	54.9%
Self Haul	16.7%

Seattle Waste Disposed 2010

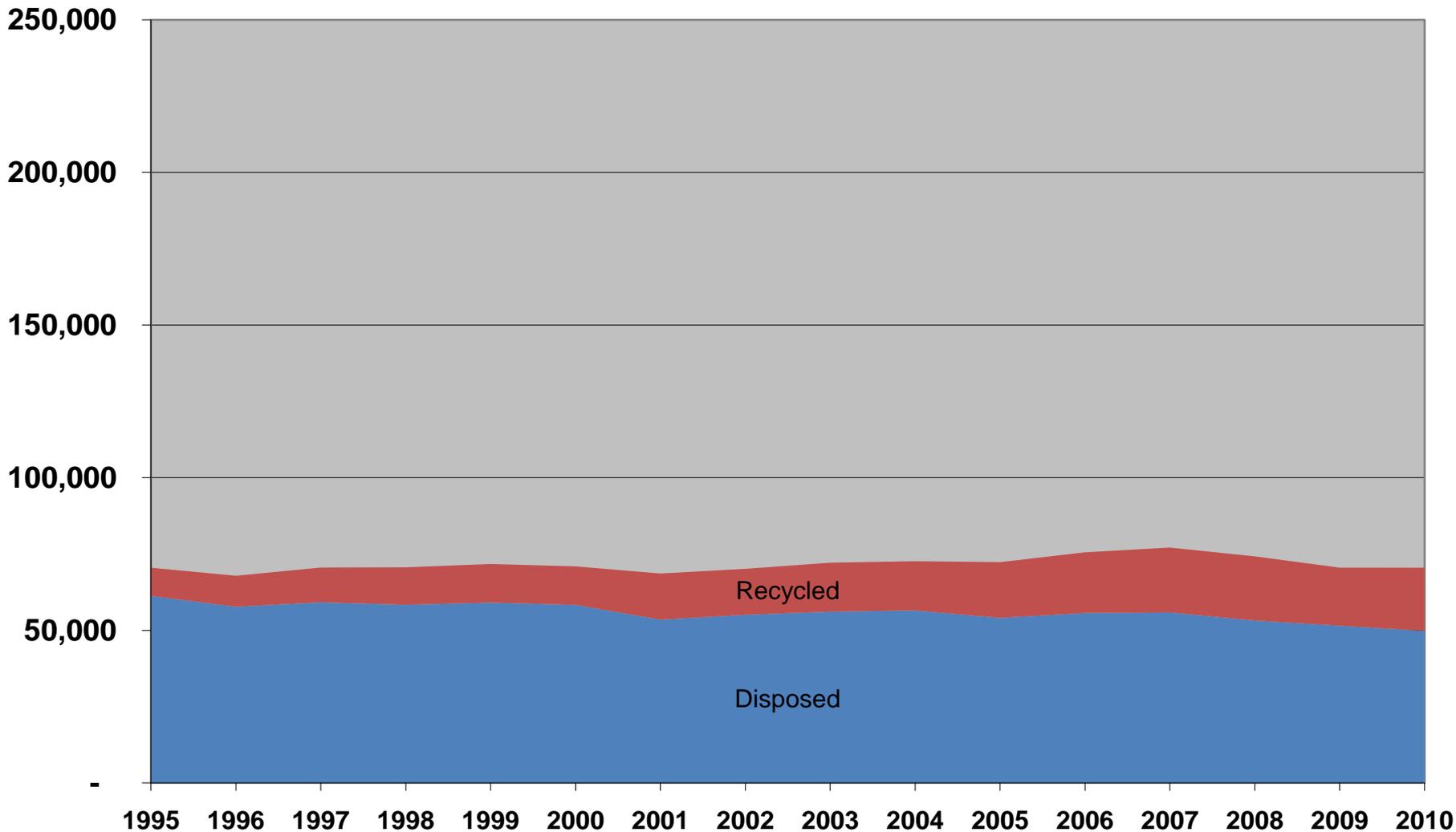
335,600



Single Family Generated, Recycled and Disposed



Multi-Family Tons Generated, Recycled and Disposed



Waste Composition Study

Methodology

- Sampling done every 4 years (1988, 1990, 1994, 1998, 2002, 2006 and now 2010)
- Pick days of week each month throughout year, then randomly pick routes by contractor
- As truck enters station to dump, we pull it aside, have it dump load in pit, pull 250 pound sample
- Sort to 102 categories (first sort in 1988 was 52 categories)
- Sample 2-3 days per month for a year, 12 samples per day

Other Waste Composition Studies

- The Commercial and Self Haul waste streams were last sampled in 2008 (and also in 1988, 1992, 1996, 2000, 2004)
- We are moving up slightly the schedule for the next study, should be completed fall 2012



Residential truck, samples taken from these trucks after they collect from their route

Operator and Lead Sampler discussing selecting a sample from load



Garbage Truck Dumping Load into Pit, Sample will be taken from dumped load



Example of a 250 pound residential sample ready to be sorted



Sorter at
work,
materials
sorted into
baskets



Each sorter
specializes in
a group of
materials



CLOTHING



CLOTH

SHARPS

STOP

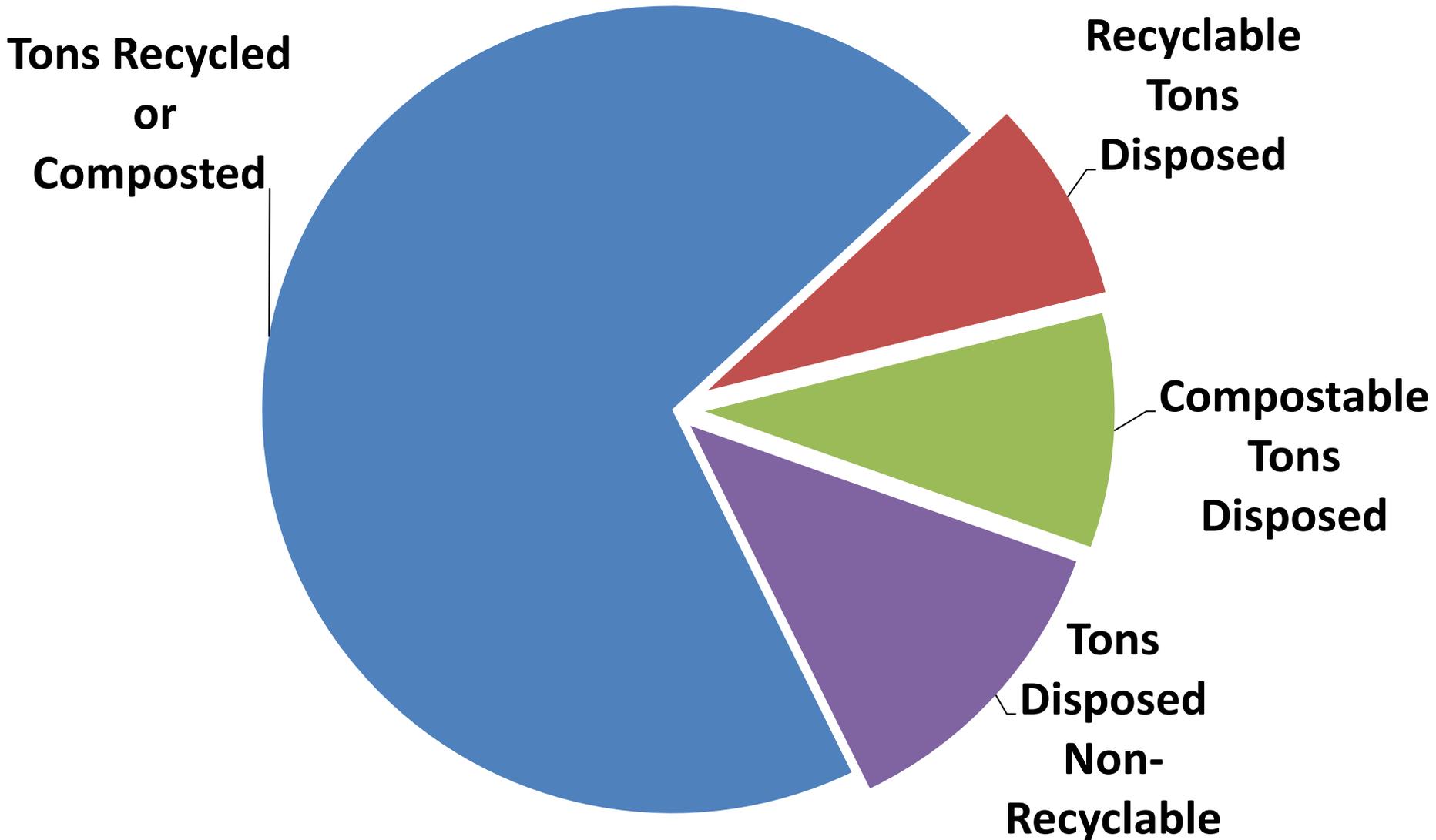
NO ENTRY

Overall Results

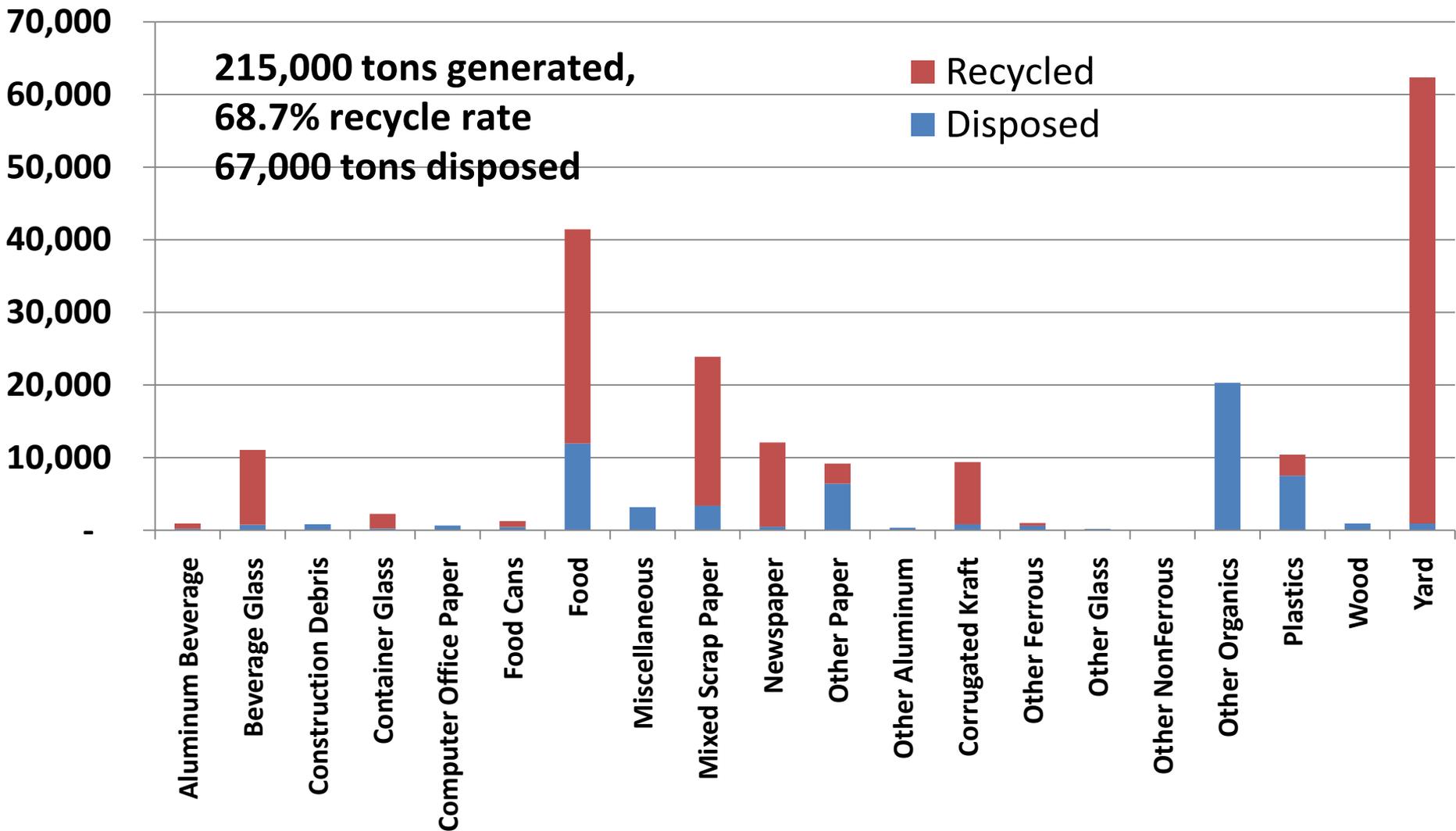
- See handouts for the detailed single family and multi family results
- Definition of categories is useful, refer to these if you have a question about which category a particular item is sorted into for example:
 - *WAXED OCC/KRAFT PAPER*: Old waxed/coated corrugated container boxes and Kraft paper, and brown paper bags

Single Family Waste Generated 2010

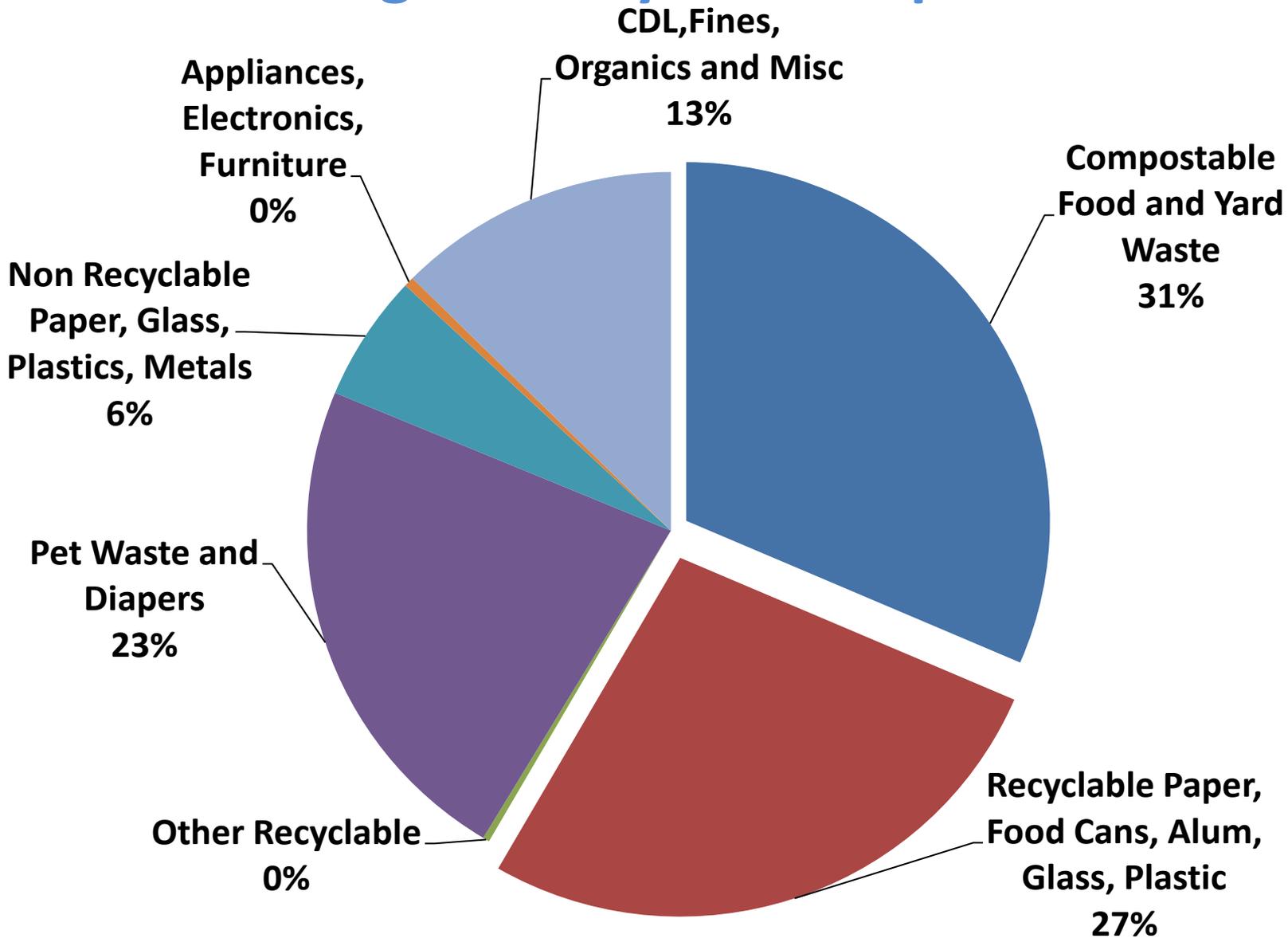
215,000 Tons



Single Family Waste Recycled and Disposed by Material 2009



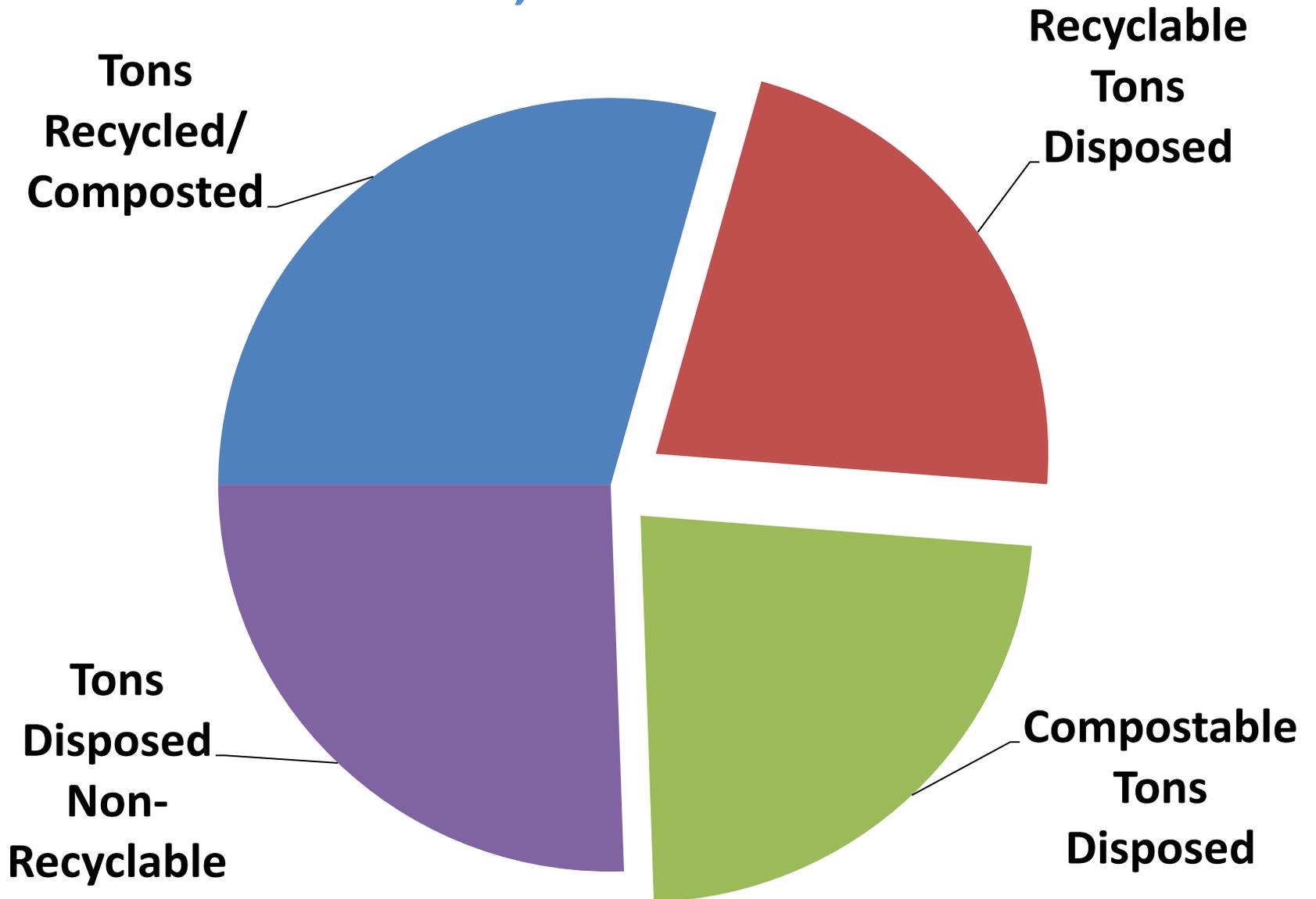
Single Family Tons Disposed



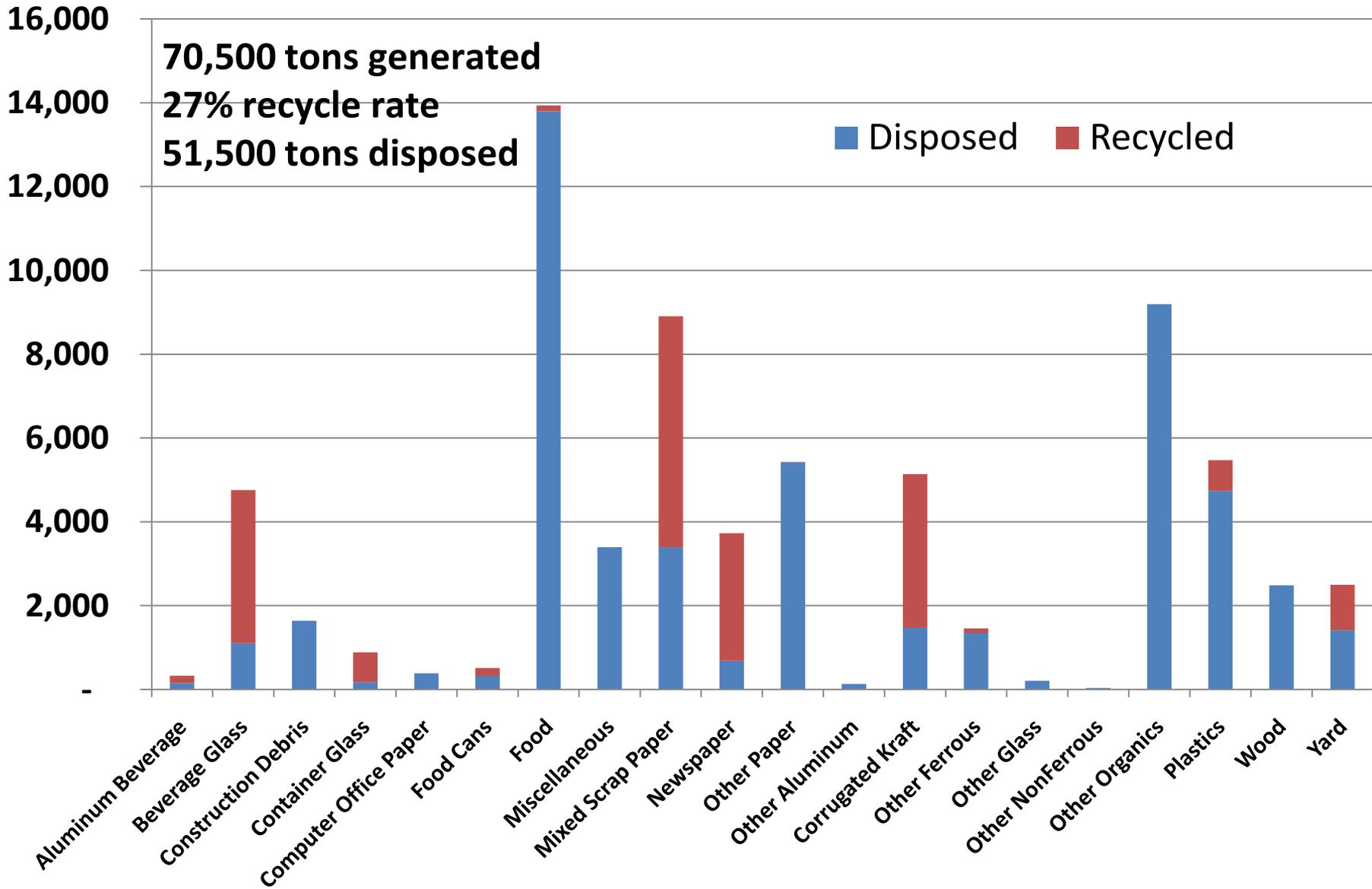
64,315 Tons Disposed in 2010

Multi Family Waste Generated 2010

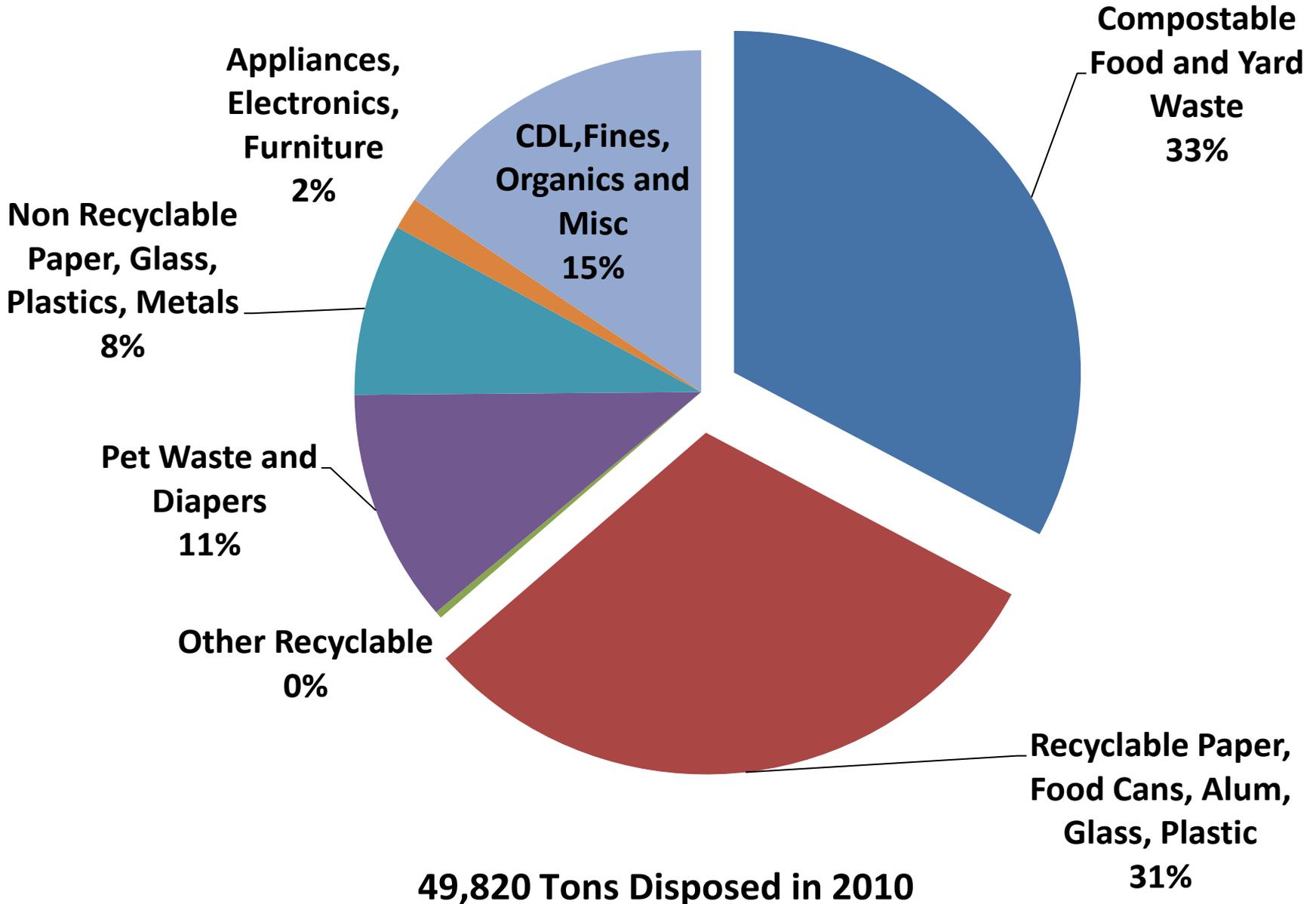
70,500 Tons



Multi Family Waste Recycled and Disposed by Material 2009



Multi Family Tons Disposed



How is Data Used

- Performance Measures
 - Informs recycling rate
 - Calculate % of waste disposed that is recyclable
- Evaluation
 - Critical component of our evaluation of existing programs
- Analysis around planning for the future
 - Comprehensive Plan and Recycling Potential Assessment

Next Steps

- We are currently working on the Solid Waste Comprehensive Plan
 - Briefing of SPUN later this month
- Part of Comprehensive Plan is our Recycling Potential Assessment
 - Looks at what is left in waste stream at very detailed level
 - Analyzes recycling programs to estimate the diversion potential of each and the cost and benefits
 - The Plan will include several “packages” of programs and the cost and resulting recycling rate

Questions