



**CENTER FOR LOCAL, STATE,
AND URBAN POLICY**

Comparing Attitudes toward Recycling Programs and Issues among Michigan Residents and Local Government Officials

Data from the

Spring 2023 State of the State Survey (SOSS)

and

Fall 2021 Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS)

Prepared for the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy

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Background

This report presents the opinions of Michigan residents in communities across the state of Michigan from Spring 2023 regarding a variety of issues related to recycling programs and policies. It also, where possible, compares them to the views of Michigan’s local government leaders from a Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS) in Fall 2021.

Topics include availability of recycling services, recycling services used within the past 12 months, satisfaction with current recycling services and interest in new services, level of participation in available recycling programs, willingness to drive to drop-off facilities, interest in food waste reduction programs, preferences for receiving information about recycling programs and for how recycling is paid for, attitudes toward bottle return policies, and attitudes towards recycling as a general policy goal and sustainability.

The report examines the opinions and experiences of residents statewide and breaks out the data in several ways:

- 1) By self-identified **community type** (rural community, small city or town/village, suburb, or urban community)
- 2) By **primary residence** (single-family home, apartment building or condominium, or “other,” including manufactured or mobile homes)
- 3) By self-identified level of **participation in recycling programs** (all of the time, most of the time, some of the time, or rarely/never)
- 4) By respondent **income**
- 5) By **region** of the state
- 6) By respondent self-identified **partisan identification**

Where available, comparisons to the views of Michigan local government officials are made considering partisan self-identification and community type.

Significant differences are discussed in the text in each section, but all breakouts of the data are available in the Appendix tables.

Key Findings

- Most Michigan residents statewide have positive views on recycling and agree that recycling programs are beneficial in a variety of ways.
 - A significant majority of both Michigan residents and local officials believe that recycling can help decrease local pollution and litter and protect clean water, and a slight majority also believe it can address global climate change. Positive sentiments regarding the effects of recycling are found all across partisan lines.
 - Two-thirds (66%-68%) of residents and local officials agree that recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has.
- Nearly half (47%) of Michigan residents wish they had more recycling options than they currently feel they do, while another 36% say they are satisfied with the current amount of recycling services they receive.
 - Among local officials, 59% believe their residents are satisfied with local recycling.
 - There are only slight differences in satisfaction among residents along the rural-urban spectrum. However, there are significant differences in local government leaders' perceptions, with just under half (49%) of rural local officials saying their residents are satisfied with their current recycling compared with 85% of officials in urban communities.
- Statewide, 79% of residents say they have access to one or more types of recycling. Half (53%) report access to curbside recycling at their primary residence, 40% have residential yard waste collection, and 39% have access to a drop-off recycling site.
 - Meanwhile, 15% say they have no recycling services available through their primary residence, and 6% are unsure what services are available to them.
 - Participation in curbside recycling is highest in Southeast Michigan, while participation in drop-off recycling is most common in the Northern Lower Peninsula. Participation in household hazardous waste collection and household electronic equipment collection are most common in the Upper Peninsula.
- About half (48%) of Michigan residents say they recycle all (25%) or most (23%) of the time, 18% say they have access to recycling but participate rarely (10%) or never (8%).
 - Residents in rural (29%) and urban (23%) communities are more likely to say they rarely or never participate in the available recycling programs compared with residents of suburban communities (16%), and small towns or villages (18%). Residents in the Northern Lower Peninsula are more likely to say they rarely or never participate (30%) than in other regions of the state.
- Only 40% of residents say they would drive more than 10 minutes to a recycling drop-off facility. Meanwhile, 10% would only drive up to 5 minutes to use a drop-off recycling site, while 11% would not drive any distance for recycling.

- Responses regarding food waste programs were very positive. Currently, 16% of residents say they currently have access to such a program, and 14% say they have used one in the last 12 months. Among those who do not currently have or use a food waste recycling service, 57% say they would be somewhat or very likely to participate in food waste reduction or food composting programs, if it were available to them.
 - People who currently say they recycle most or all of the time are much more likely to say they would participate. Yet, even among those who rarely or never use available recycling services, 40% say they are somewhat or very likely to use a food waste recycling program.
- Almost half of Michigan residents would prefer to receive information about recycling programs (from their community or recycling service provider) through emails (48%) and letters and flyers via postal mail (47%). Another quarter would like to receive information through websites (25%) and social media (24%). Texting (16%), apps for mobile devices (13%), and notes stuck on recycling containers (10%) are the least popular forms of communication on recycling issues.
- When it comes to options for funding recycling, the highest levels of support are for funding by the companies that produce and/or package products that produce waste (56%) and through trash disposal fees (53%).
 - When asked to pick their single most preferred option, 33% prefer funding by companies that produce or package the products. Fewer prefer paying through taxes on residents (22%), trash disposal fees (18%), or recycling service fees (13%).
- Michigan residents generally have positive perspectives on the state's bottle return recycling program. Statewide, 70% would like the bottle deposit program to be expanded to include additional container types, such as water bottles, and 41% would like to be able to return bottles and cans curbside rather than take them back to the store.
- When residents were asked what recycling services they don't currently have available but would like to have access to, 33% expressed interest in having access to recycling collection for hard-to-recycle or bulky items, and 19-23% want food waste collection, household hazardous waste recycling, and household electronic equipment recycling.
 - Local government leaders' perceptions of what new or expanded services their residents want are generally similar.
- More broadly, almost two-thirds of Michigan residents (63%) and local government leaders (64%) say that promoting sustainability is an important aspect of local government leadership.

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Comparison with Michigan local leaders

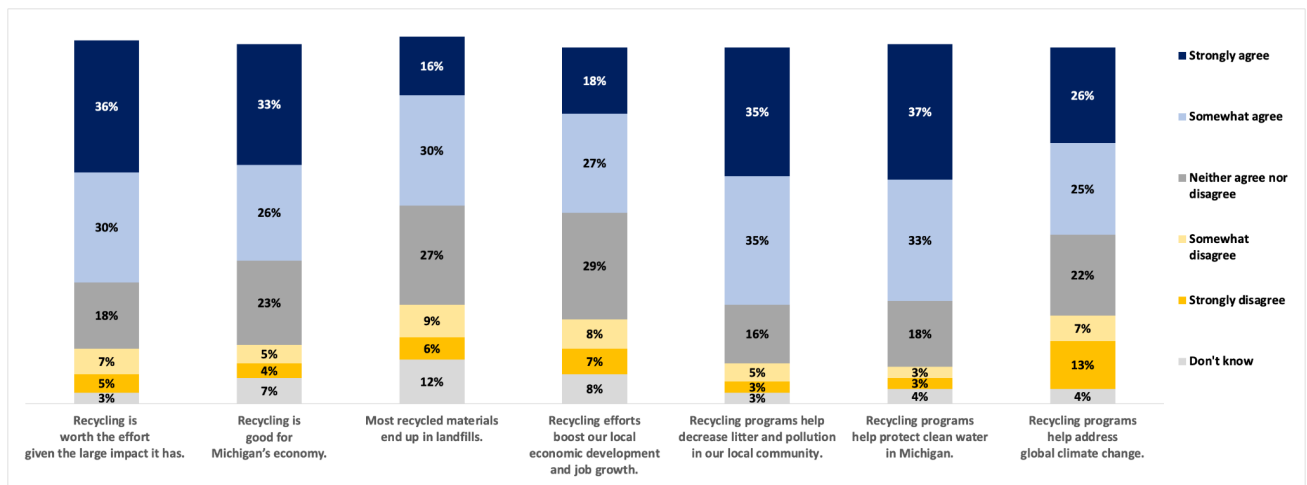
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Recycling opinions of Michigan residents and Michigan Local Government Leaders

Section I - Attitudes towards recycling as a general policy goal

In spring 2023, the MSU State of the State Survey (SOSS) asked residents of Michigan across the state for their assessments of current recycling programs, policies, and issues in their local communities. Most Michigan residents statewide have positive views on recycling and agree that recycling programs are beneficial in a variety of ways, from the global to the local level. For example, 70% believe that recycling can help protect Michigan's clean water and decrease local pollution, and two-thirds (66%) of residents statewide say recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has.

Figure 1a: Michigan residents' agreement or disagreement on statements regarding recycling, statewide

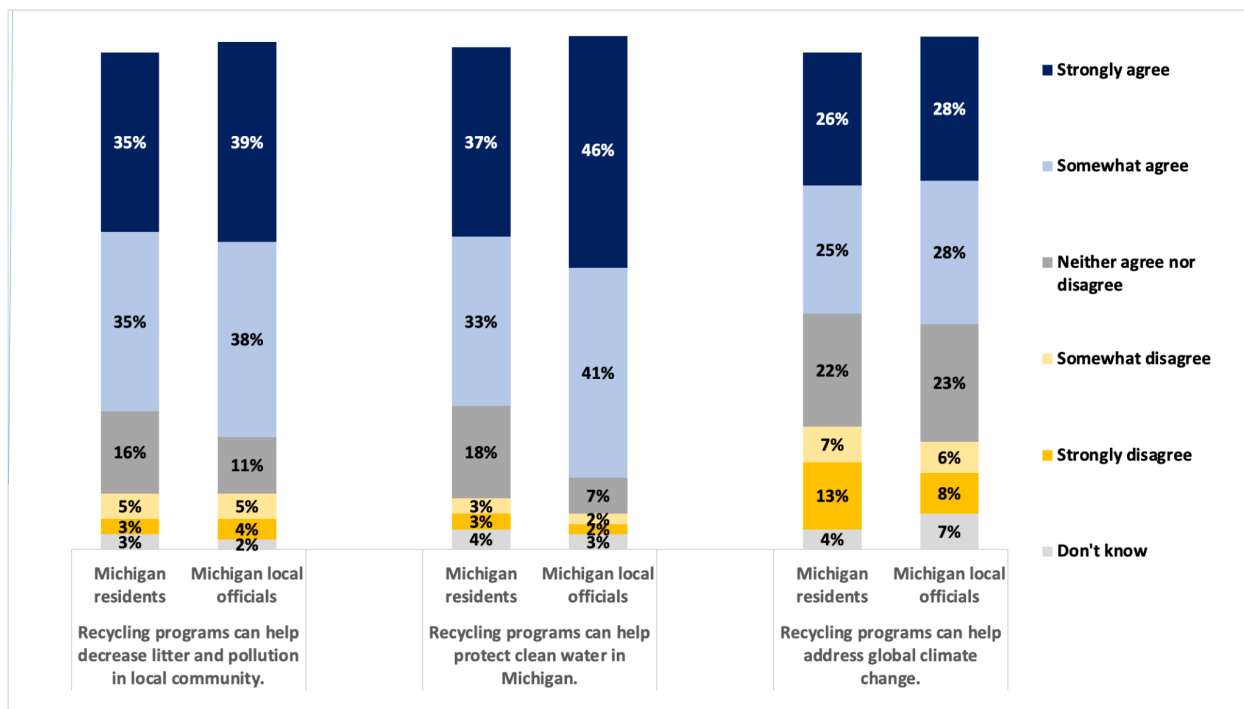


For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 1](#) - [Table A- 4](#)

Some of the questions asked of Michigan residents on the Spring 2023 SOSS mirrored those asked of Michigan local government officials on CLOSUP's Fall 2021 wave of the Michigan Public Policy Survey (please see the Methodology section below for details on both sets of respondents). The figure below shows the comparison of the attitudes on the impacts of recycling on the environment among residents compared with those of local leaders.

A significant majority of both Michigan residents and local officials believe that recycling can help decrease local pollution and litter and protect clean water, and a slight majority also believe it can address global climate change. For each of these issues, local leaders are more likely to agree than the general public. For example, among local leaders, 77% agree that recycling can decrease litter and pollution in their local community's environment, higher than the 70% of Michigan residents statewide who say the same. Fewer than 10% of either group disagree. An even larger percentage (87%) of local officials say recycling can protect clean water, with again a smaller percentage of residents (70%) agreeing. Fewer respondents from both groups believe recycling can help address global climate change (56% and 51%).

Figure 1b: Attitudes on the environmental effects of recycling, residents compared with local government officials



Positive sentiments regarding the effects of recycling are found all across partisan lines, with majorities of Republican, Independent, and Democratic residents and local leaders agreeing that recycling can help local pollution and Michigan clean water. However, when it comes to recycling's help with global warming, less than half of Republican residents (30%) and officials (47%) and Independent residents (46%) agree.

Figure 1c: Percentage who agree that recycling programs can help decrease litter and pollution in the local community, by partisan identification

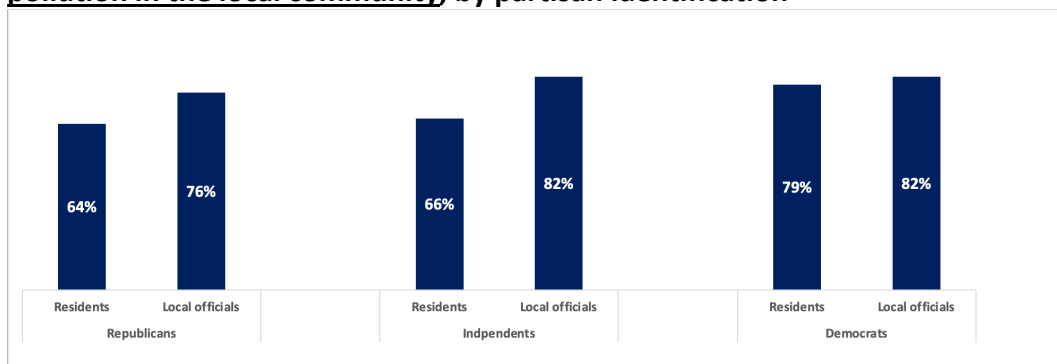


Figure 1d: Percentage who agree that recycling programs can help protect clean water in Michigan, by partisan identification

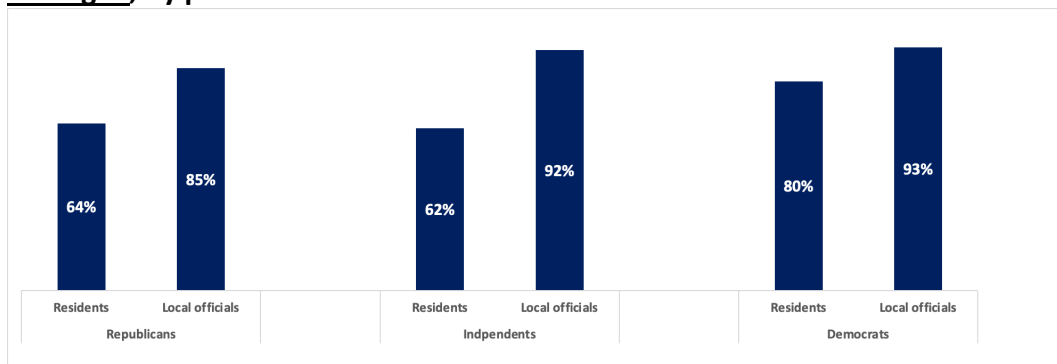
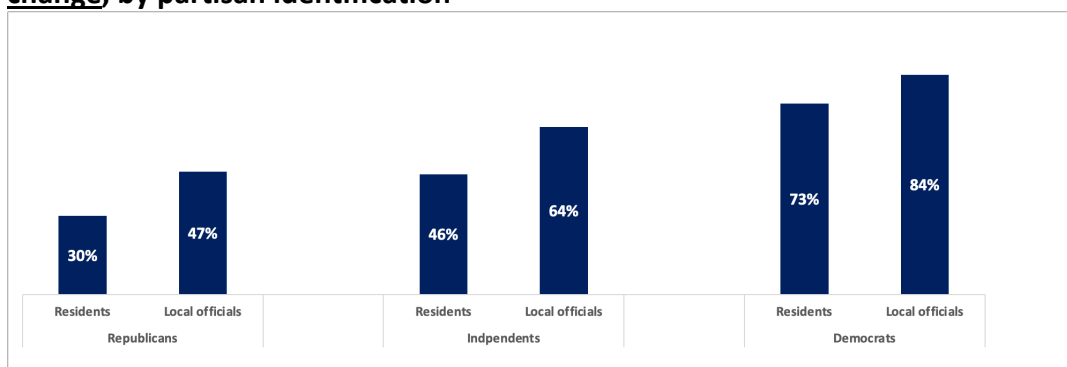


Figure 1e: Percentage who agree that recycling programs can help address global climate change, by partisan identification



At the statewide level, there is almost no difference in the perceptions of Michigan residents and local leaders on the benefits of recycling on their local communities' economies. Looking at the full sample, just under half (45%) of residents agree that recycling efforts boost local economic development and growth, and 47% of local leaders statewide say the same, while only 14%-15% among both groups disagree.

However, because the partisan division is more evenly split among Michigan residents (where 42% self-identify as Democrats vs. 40% as Republicans in the 2023 SOSS survey) than it is among local government leaders (25% Democrats vs. 56% Republicans in the 2021 MPPS), looking at the partisan breakdowns reveals that, across all parties, local government leaders are more optimistic that recycling can help their local economy and job growth than residents.

Figure 1f: Attitudes on the economic effects of recycling, residents compared with local government officials

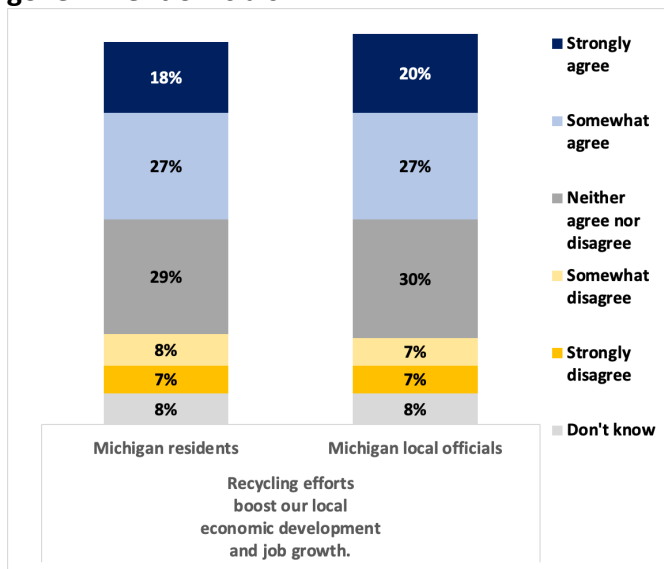
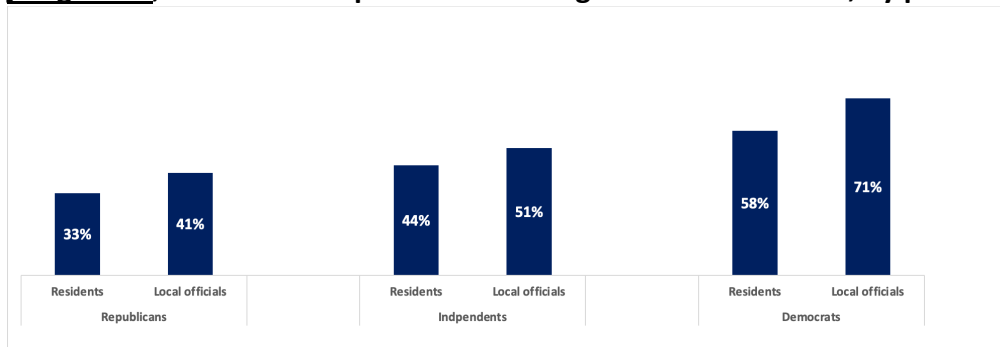
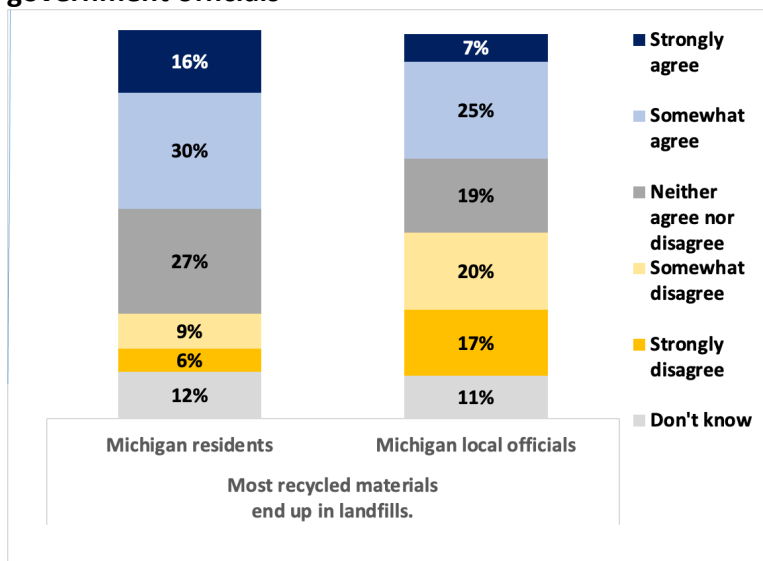


Figure 1g: Percentage who agree that recycling efforts boost local economic development and job growth, residents compared with local government officials, by partisan identification



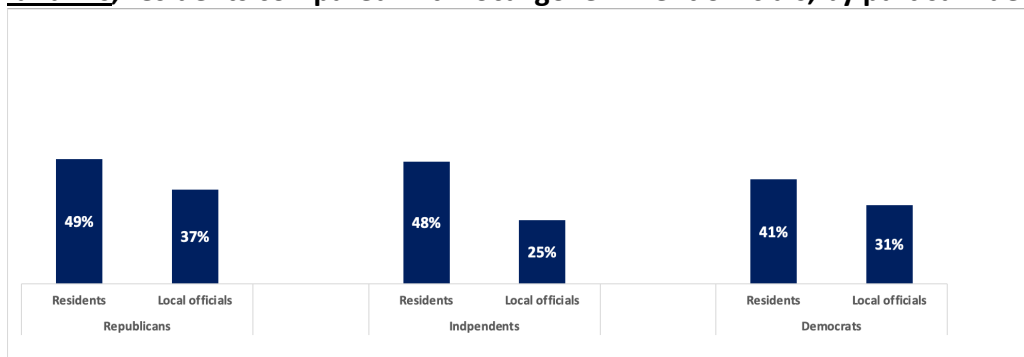
Opinions are more mixed among both Michigan residents and local officials regarding the concern that most recycling materials simply end up in landfills. Residents are more likely to believe that statement, with nearly half (46%) saying they agree. By contrast, 32% of local leaders believe that most recycling goes to the landfill. On the other hand, 15% of residents and 37% of local officials disagree with the statement.

Figure 1h: Skepticism regarding the efficacy of recycling, residents compared with local government officials



The pattern of residents being more skeptical about the end results of recycling holds true across party lines. Among residents, those who identify as Democrats (41%) are slightly less likely to say that most recycling goes to landfills, compared with Republicans (49%) or Independents (48%). Meanwhile, among local government officials, self-identified Independents (25%) are least likely to agree, compared with 31% of Democrats and 37% of Republicans.

Figure 1i: Percentage who agree that most materials collected in recycling programs end up in landfills, residents compared with local government officials, by partisan identification



Finally, both Michigan residents and Michigan local government officials were asked about a general assessment of whether recycling is worth the effort. However, the survey of residents phrased the question differently from how it was worded in the local government survey. On the SOSS, residents were asked whether they agreed or disagreed that recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has. Conversely, the MPPS asked local government officials whether they felt recycling is not worth the effort given the small impact it actually has. For ease of analysis, in the figure below, the scale for local leaders has been “flipped” to parallel the positive phrasing in the residents’ question.

Despite the difference in how the questions were worded, most respondents on both surveys overall believe recycling has a large enough impact to be worth the effort. Among government officials, 68% of respondents *disagree* that recycling has too small of an impact to be worth the effort. Similarly, 66% of residents *agree* that recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has. Republican local officials are slightly more likely to believe recycling is worthwhile than Republican residents; Independent officials are significantly more likely than Independent residents. Meanwhile, similarly high levels of Democratic officials and residents believe recycling is worth the effort.

Figure 1j: Attitudes on how worthwhile recycling is, residents compared with local government officials

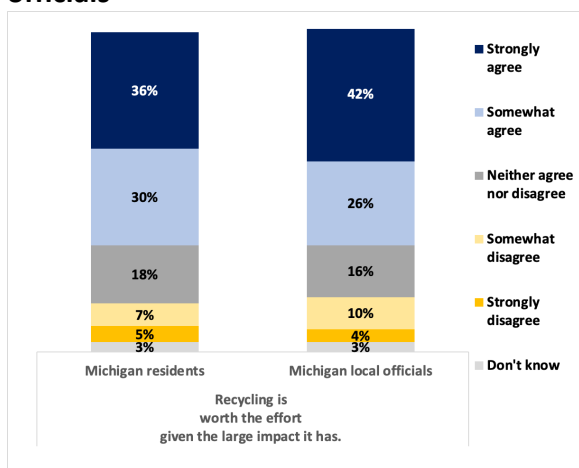
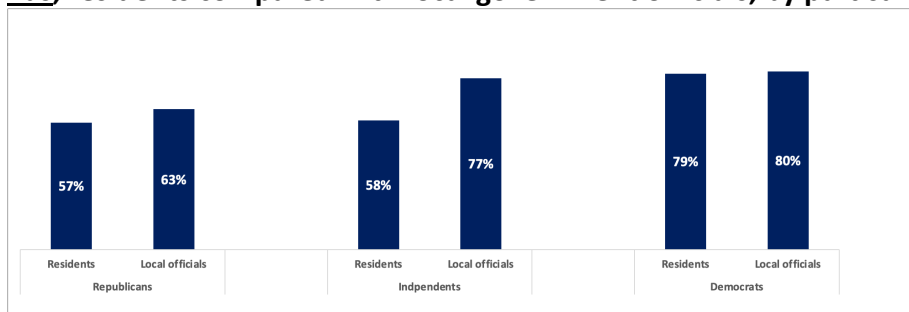


Figure 1k: Percentage who agree that recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has, residents compared with local government officials, by partisan identification



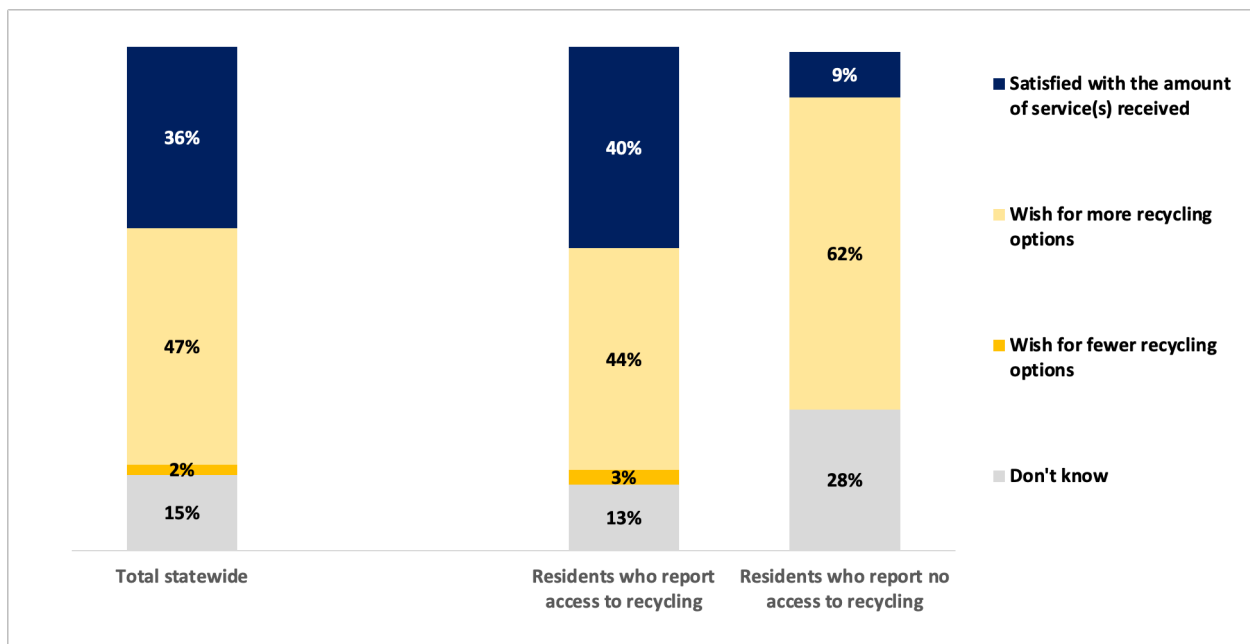
For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 1](#) - [Table A- 4](#)

Section II - Satisfaction with current services

Turning to assessments of residents' own experiences with recycling, nearly half (47%) of Michigan residents wish they had more recycling options than they currently feel they do, while another 36% are satisfied with the current amount of recycling services they receive. Only a tiny fraction (2%) wish they had fewer recycling options, while 15% are unsure.

Among residents who do not currently have access to recycling services, nearly two-thirds (62%) wish they had access to more, while only 9% are satisfied with their current options. However, 28% of those who report having no current recycling services are unsure of how they feel about their lack of access to recycling.

Figure 2a: Michigan residents' satisfaction with available recycling services, by access to local recycling



On the MPPS, local government leaders were asked whether they believe their residents are satisfied with their local government’s current approach (or lack thereof) to recycling and whether they themselves as local leaders are satisfied. Although the framing of this question (approach to recycling) does not directly parallel the SOSS question (amount of services), it is still interesting to compare the responses between residents and local officials. Although just over a third of Michigan residents say they are satisfied with the amount of recycling services they receive, officials from 59% of Michigan’s local governments think their residents are satisfied with local recycling, and 58% are themselves satisfied.

Although there are some minor differences among residents from rural (30%), small town (35%), suburban (40%), and urban (37%) communities who say they are satisfied with the amount of recycling services they have available, there are much larger differences among local leaders, with around half (49%) in rural communities who believe their residents are satisfied with their current recycling, compared with 85% of officials in urban communities.

Figure 2b: Satisfaction with available recycling services, residents compared with local government officials

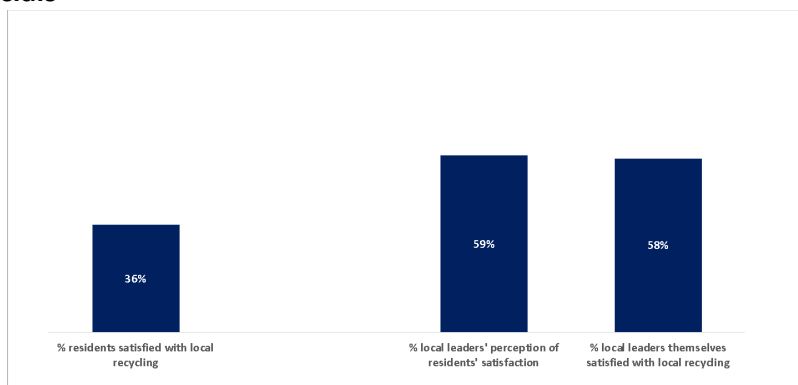
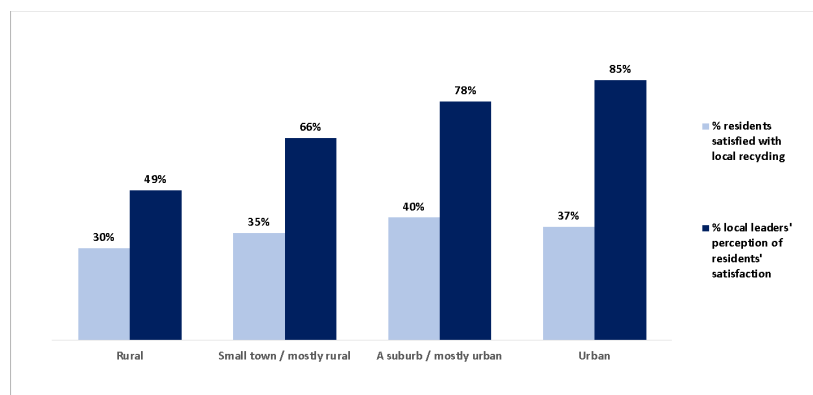


Figure 2c: Satisfaction with available recycling services, residents compared with local government officials' assessments of residents, by community type



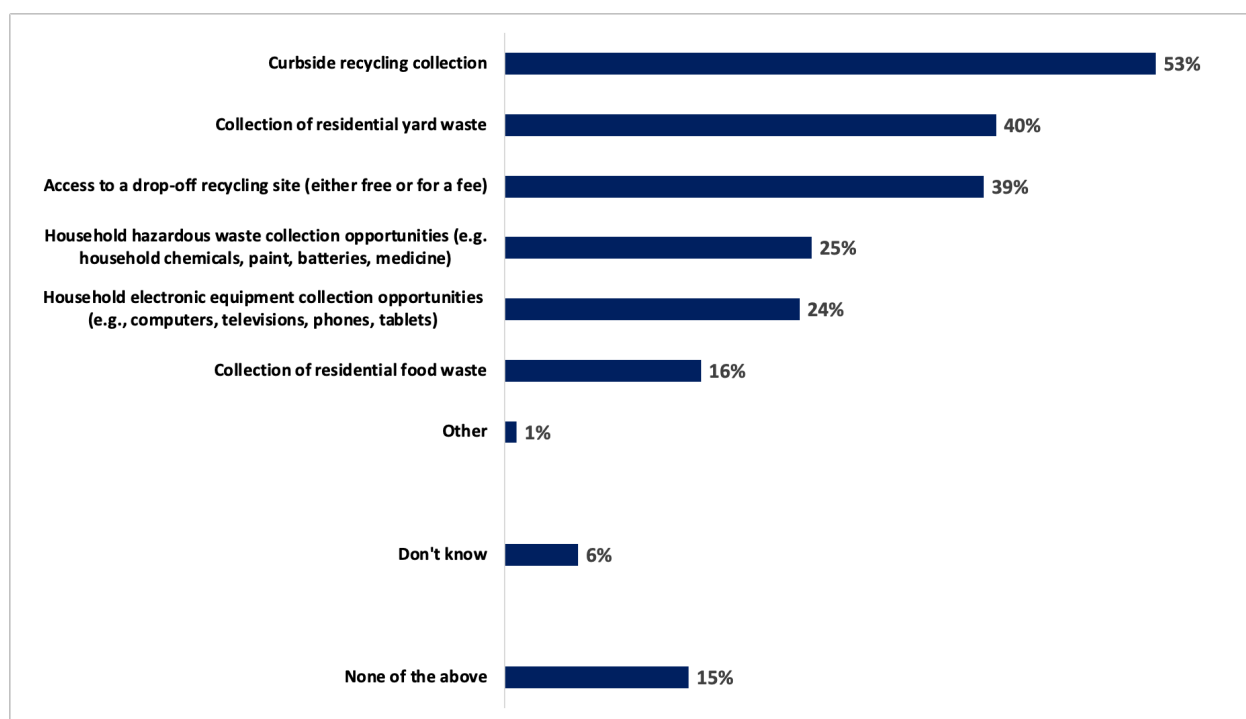
For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 5](#) - [Table A- 8](#)

Analysis among all Michigan residents

Section III - Reported availability of recycling services

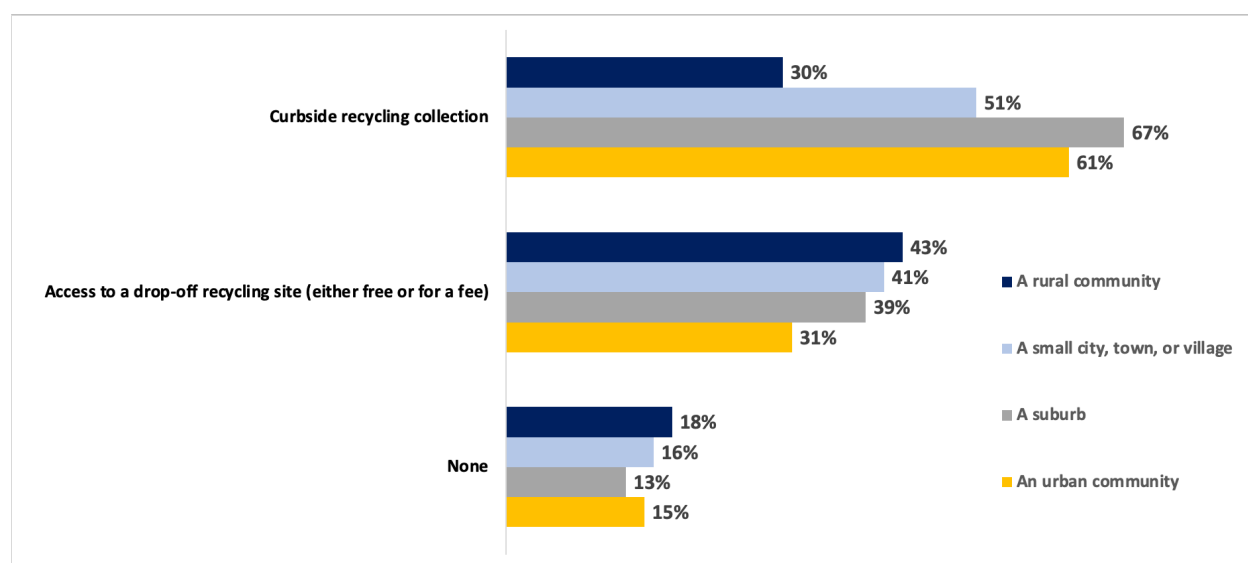
Some questions on the SOSS survey were only asked of local residents, without comparisons to local government leaders. When it comes to basic access to recycling, 79% of Michigan residents statewide say they have access to one or more types of recycling. Half (53%) report the availability of curbside recycling at their primary residence, 40% have residential yard waste collection, and 39% have access to a drop-off recycling site. Approximately a quarter statewide say they have opportunities available for their primary residence for recycling household hazardous waste and electronic equipment, and 16% say they have recycling of residential food waste. Meanwhile, 15% say they have none of these recycling services available through their primary residence, and 6% are unsure what - if any - recycling services are available to them.

Figure 3a: Percentage of Michigan residents that report various recycling services are available at their primary residence, statewide



Urban-rural differences: Across the urban-rural spectrum, self-identified suburban residents are most likely to report having access to a wide range of recycling services, and least likely to report having access to no recycling services (13%), whereas rural residents are least likely to report having access to most recycling services, and 18% say they have access to none. Suburban (67%) and urban (61%) residents are significantly more likely to report having curbside recycling available to them, whereas rural (43%) and small-town (41%) residents are slightly more likely to report access to a drop-off facility.

Figure 3b: Percentage of Michigan residents that report various recycling services are available at their primary residence, by community type



Regional differences: Residents of the Upper Peninsula are the least likely to report no access to recycling services (10%), while Southwest Michigan residents are the most likely (21%). The types of recycling available vary regionally as well. In both the Upper Peninsula and the Northern Lower Peninsula, residents are more likely to have access to drop-off centers than to curbside recycling. In all other regions, curbside is more common than drop-off.

Other differences: Residents living in apartments and condominiums (44%) are much more likely to say they have no access to recycling than those living in single-family homes (10%) or other housing types (14%). Additionally, 19% of households with annual income under \$30,000 and 17% of households with income between \$30,000-\$80,000 have no recycling, compared to 10% of residents with household income over \$80,000.

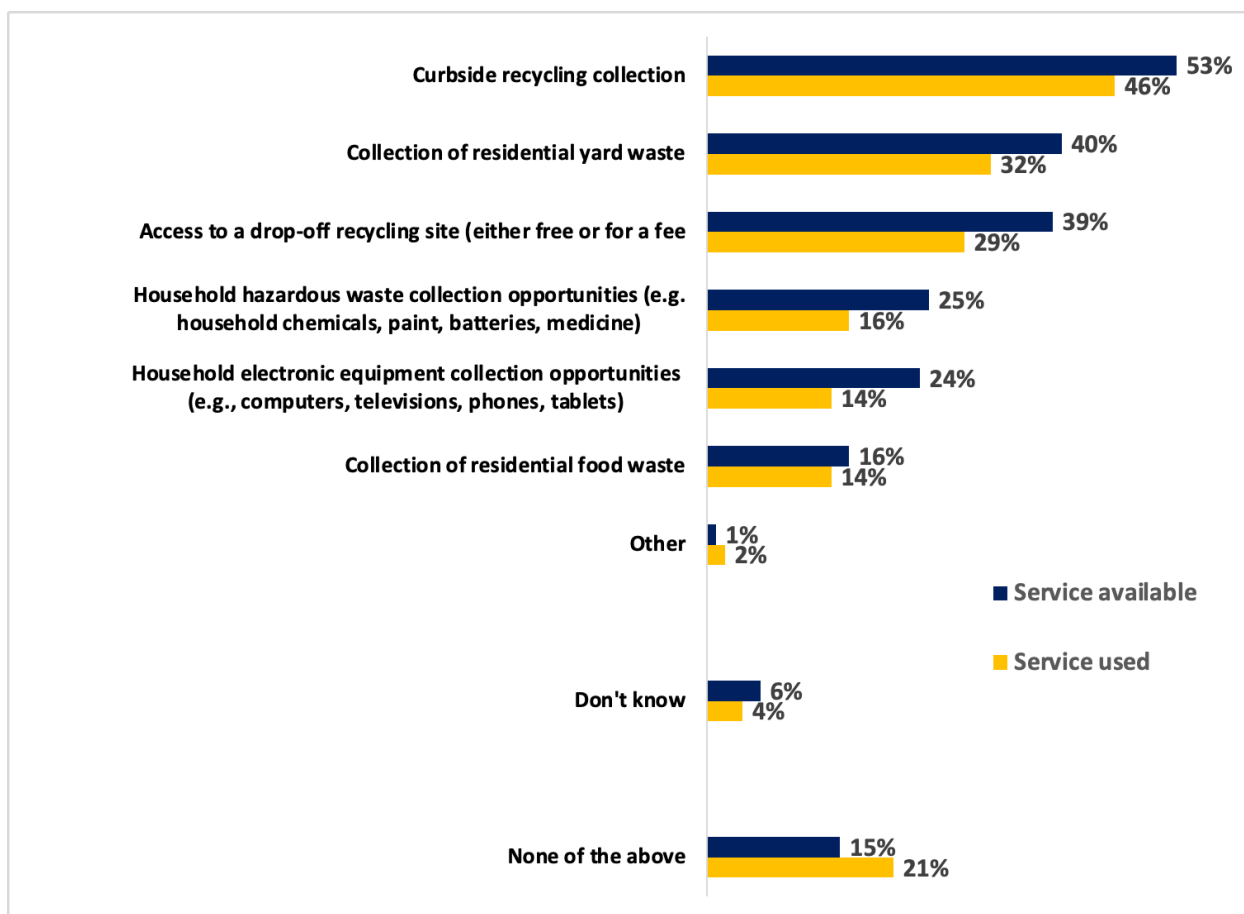
For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 9](#) - [Table A- 12](#)

Section IV - Recycling services used within the past 12 months

When it comes to personal use of recycling services, 75% of Michigan residents report using at least one type of recycling service in the past 12 months. Almost half (46%) have used curbside recycling at their primary residence (compared to 53% who say they have access), and another third (32%) have used their residential yard waste collection in the past year (compared to 40% who have it).

In addition, 29% report having made use of a drop-off recycling site, while 14-16% have taken advantage of hazardous waste or electronic recycling opportunities. Meanwhile, one in five Michigan residents (21%) have not used any recycling programs in the past year.

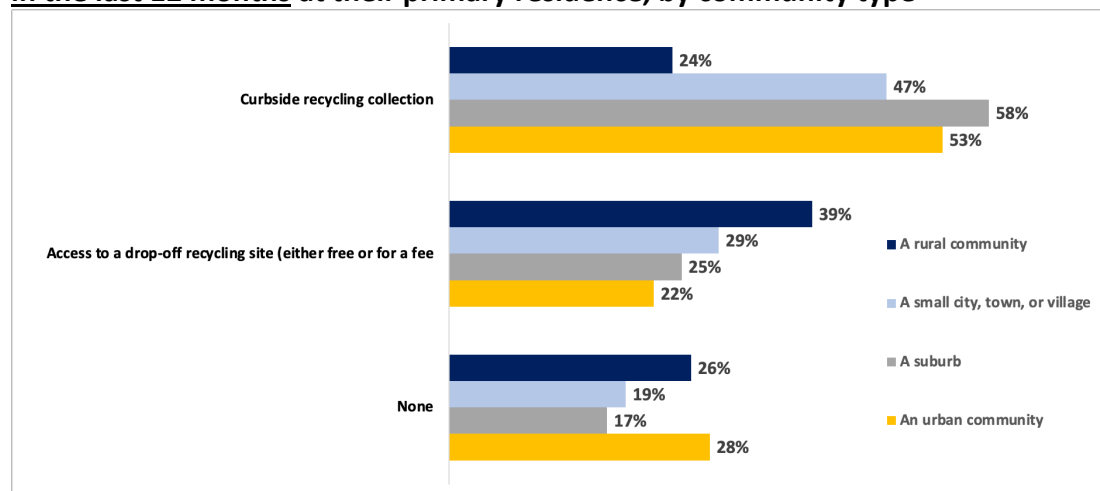
Figure 4a: Percentage of Michigan residents that report various recycling services are available and used in the last 12 months at their primary residence, statewide



Urban-rural differences: Suburban residents (58%) are most likely to report using curbside recycling services in the last year, closely followed by urban (53%) and small town (47%) residents. In rural communities, where residents are significantly more likely to have access to

drop-off facilities (43%) than to curbside recycling services (29%), 39% have used drop-off recycling facilities in the past 12 months, while 24% report using curbside. While some differences parallel differing recycling access, urban residents (28%) are the most likely to report using no recycling services in the last 12 months.

Figure 4b: Percentage of Michigan residents that report various recycling services were used in the last 12 months at their primary residence, by community type



Regional differences: Participation in curbside recycling is highest in Southeast Michigan, while participation in drop-off recycling is most common in the Northern Lower Peninsula. In contrast, participation in household hazardous waste collection and household electronic equipment collection is most common in the Upper Peninsula.

Other differences: Apartment and condominium residents have less access to recycling services than residents living in single-family homes or other housing types. However, among those who do have access to recycling services, the share using them is very high. For example, while only 25% have access to curbside recycling collection, 24% have used curbside recycling services in the last 12 months.

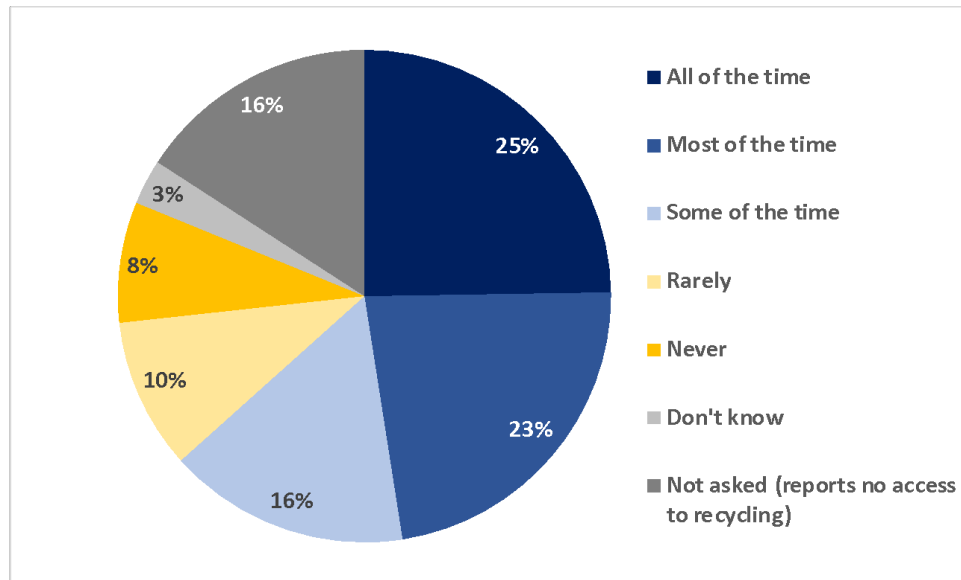
Lower-income households are less likely to report using recycling services than residents with higher incomes, except for household hazardous waste. Although some of these differences may be due to lower availability of services, for curbside recycling, 34% of residents with income under \$30,000 report using the service in the last 12 months compared to 47% of residents with incomes between \$30,000-\$80,000, even though the difference in access is significantly smaller (see above).

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 13](#) - [Table A- 16](#)

Section V - Level of participation in available recycling programs

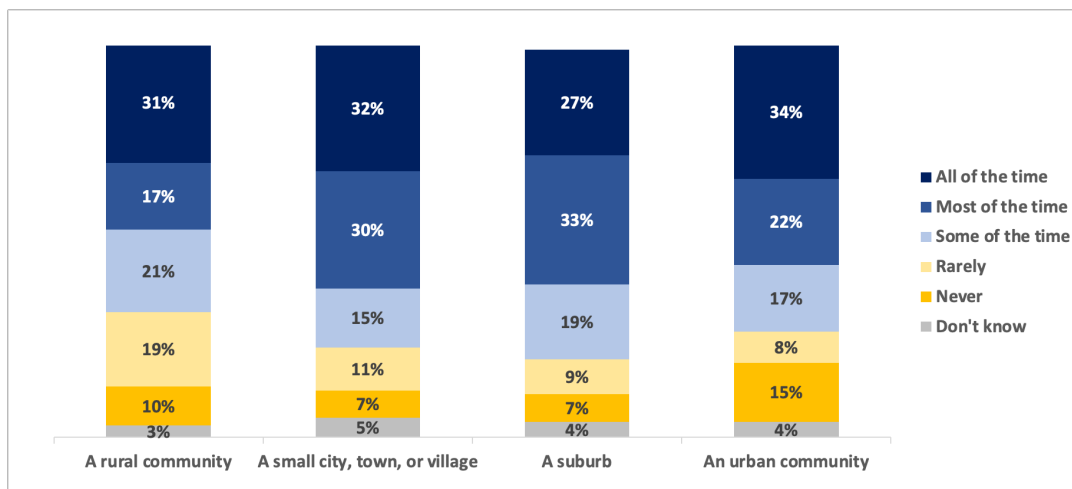
Considering all types of recycling services (except for Michigan's bottle deposit program), about half (48%) of Michigan residents report recycling all (25%) or most (23%) of the time, while 16% recycle some of the time. Meanwhile, 18% say they have access to recycling but participate rarely (10%) or never (8%), and 15% report no access to recycling.

Figure 5a: Michigan residents' self-assessments of their participation in recycling programs (not including bottle return), statewide



Urban-rural differences: Among residents with some access to recycling, a majority living in small cities, towns, or villages (62%), suburban communities (60%), and urban communities (56%) say they recycle all or most of the time, along with almost half (48%) of rural residents. On the other hand, residents in rural (29%) and urban (23%) communities are more likely to say they rarely or never participate in the available recycling programs compared with residents of suburban communities (16%) and small cities, towns, or villages (18%).

Figure 5b: Michigan residents' self-assessments of their participation in recycling programs (not including bottle return), by community type (among residents with access to at least some recycling services)



Regional differences: Almost two-thirds of residents with access to recycling in the Upper Peninsula (62%) and Southeast Michigan (62%) say they recycle all or most of the time, a higher participation rate than in other regions of the state. Residents in the Northern Lower Peninsula are more likely to say they rarely or never participate (30%) compared to other regions of the state.

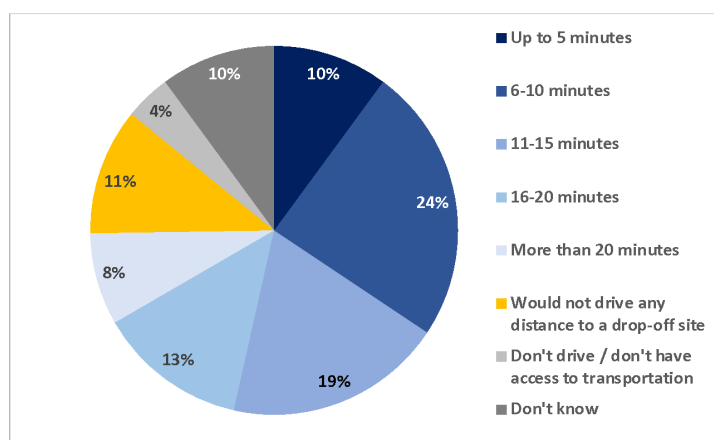
Other differences: Among residents with access to some recycling, those living in single-family homes are more likely to recycle all or most of the time (62%) than residents in apartments or condominiums (44%) or other housing types (39%). Residents with family incomes under \$30,000 are less likely to recycle frequently than those with higher incomes. Some of these differences may be related to the fact that residents with access to curbside recycling are significantly more likely to report recycling all or most of the time (72%) compared to those with access to a drop-off facility but no curbside recycling (40%).

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 17](#) - [Table A- 19](#)

Section VI - Willingness to drive to drop-off facilities

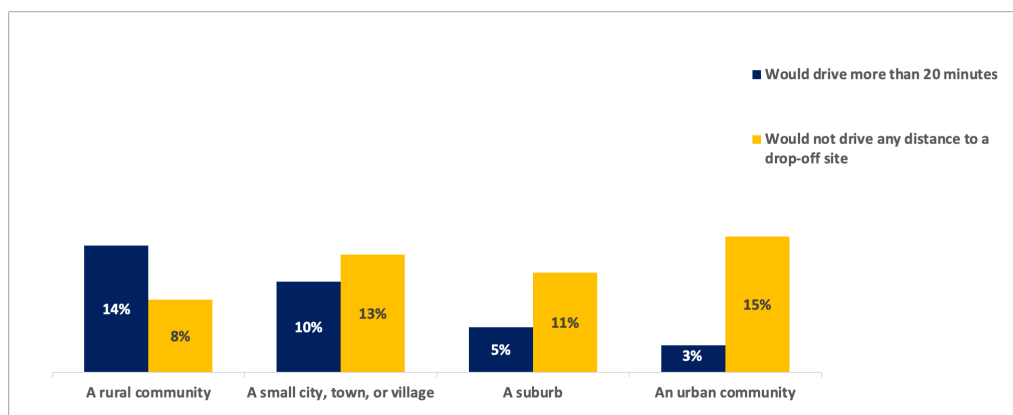
One obstacle to recycling participation may be a lack of willingness or ability to drive to a drop-off facility. Fewer than half (40%) of all Michigan residents say they would drive more than 10 minutes to a drop-off site, including only 8% who are willing to drive more than 20 minutes. Meanwhile, 10% would only drive up to 5 minutes to use a drop-off recycling site, while 15% would not drive any distance for recycling (11%) or do not have access to transportation (4%).

Figure 6a: Michigan residents' estimates of time willing to drive to drop-off facilities, statewide



Urban-rural differences: Residents in rural areas show the highest willingness to drive more than 20 minutes to a drop-off site, compared to urban residents who are the least willing to drive those distances. Urban residents are the most likely to be unwilling to drive any distance at all (15%) or do not have access to transportation (9%).

Figure 6b: Michigan residents' estimates of time willing to drive to drop-off facilities, by community type



Regional differences: Upper Peninsula residents are more likely to be willing to drive 20 minutes or more (24%) compared to all other regions of the state, while 21% of residents in

East Central Michigan say they would not be willing to drive at all or don't drive or have access to transportation.

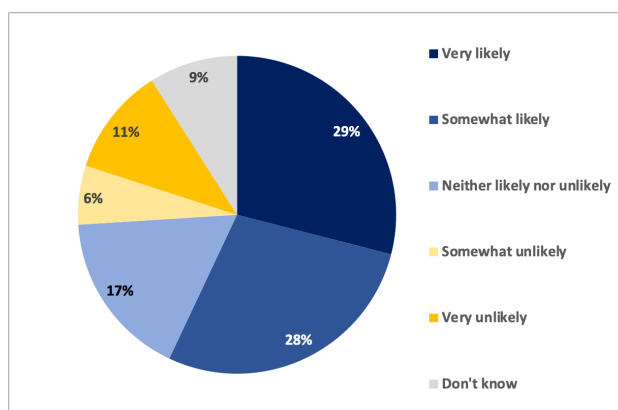
Other differences: Residents of apartments and condominiums are somewhat less likely to be willing to drive longer distances than residents of single-family homes or other types of residences. Those with income under \$30,000 are more likely to be unwilling or unable to drive at all.

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 20](#) - [Table A- 23](#)

Section VII - Interest in food waste reduction programs

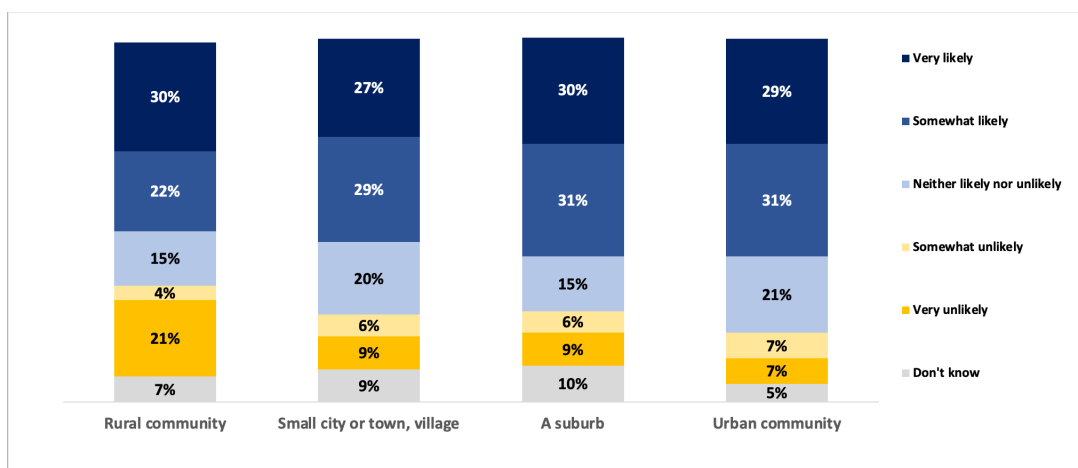
Food waste recycling programs are potentially popular among residents statewide. Currently, 16% of residents say they currently have access to such a program, and 14% say they have used one in the last 12 months. Among those who do not currently have or use a food waste recycling service, 57% would be somewhat likely (28%) or very likely (29%) to participate in food waste reduction or food composting programs, if it were available to them. Conversely, only a small percentage of individuals (17%) are unlikely to participate in a food waste reduction program if made available to them, while 9% are unsure.

Figure 7a: Michigan residents' likelihood of using food waste reduction program, among those who do not currently have or use food waste recycling programs



Urban-rural differences: Residents living in rural communities are less likely than other Michigan residents to say they would use food waste reduction or food composting programs if available. One-quarter of rural residents (25%) are unlikely to use one if it was available, compared to small towns (15%), suburbs (15%), and urban communities (7%).

Figure 7b: Michigan residents' likelihood of using food waste reduction program (among those who do not currently have or use food waste recycling programs), by community type



Regional differences: Two-thirds (65%) of Upper Peninsula residents report they would be likely to use a food waste recycling program, the highest in any region; however, 22% say it would be unlikely. Interest is lowest in East Central Michigan, where 44% say they would be likely to use a program and 22% are unlikely.

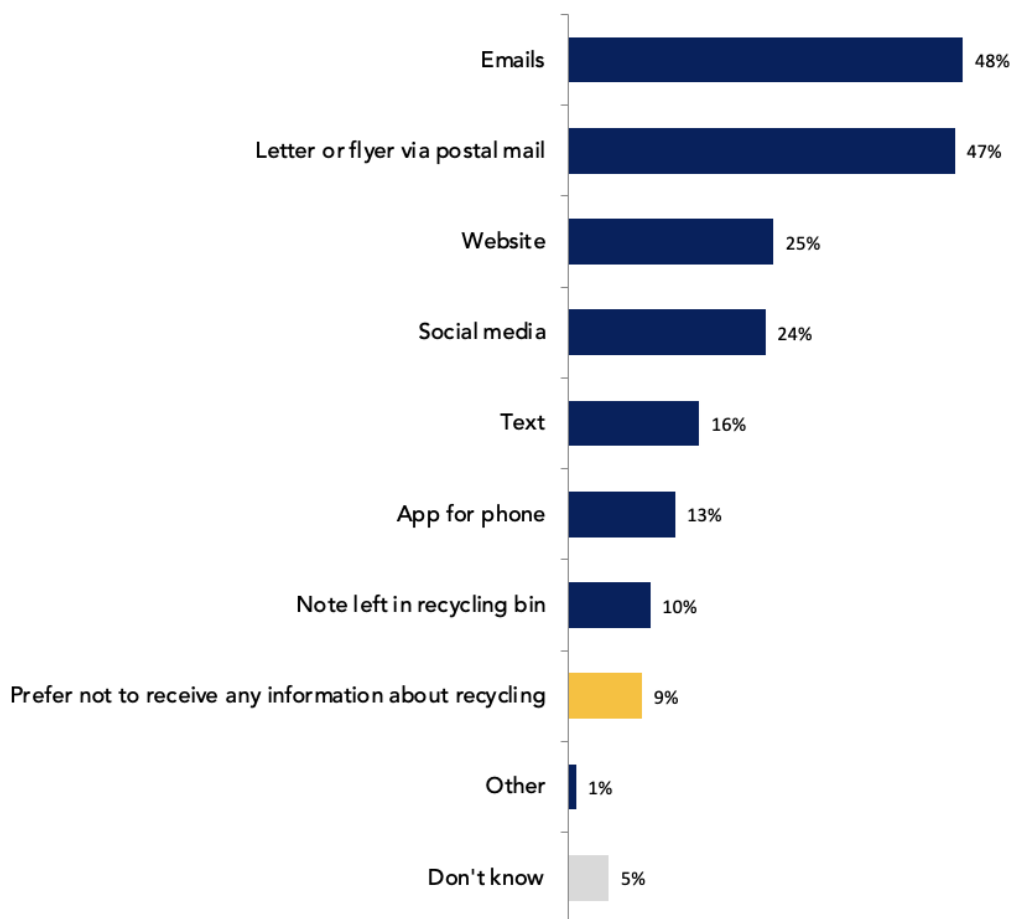
Other differences: Residents who currently recycle most or all of the time are much more likely to say they would participate. Yet, even among those who rarely or never use available recycling services, 40% say they are at least somewhat likely to use a food waste recycling program. There are relatively few differences by income, although 25% of those with family income over \$80,000 are unlikely to participate, significantly higher than for lower-income residents.

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 24](#) - [Table A- 27](#)

Section VIII - Preferences for receiving information about recycling programs

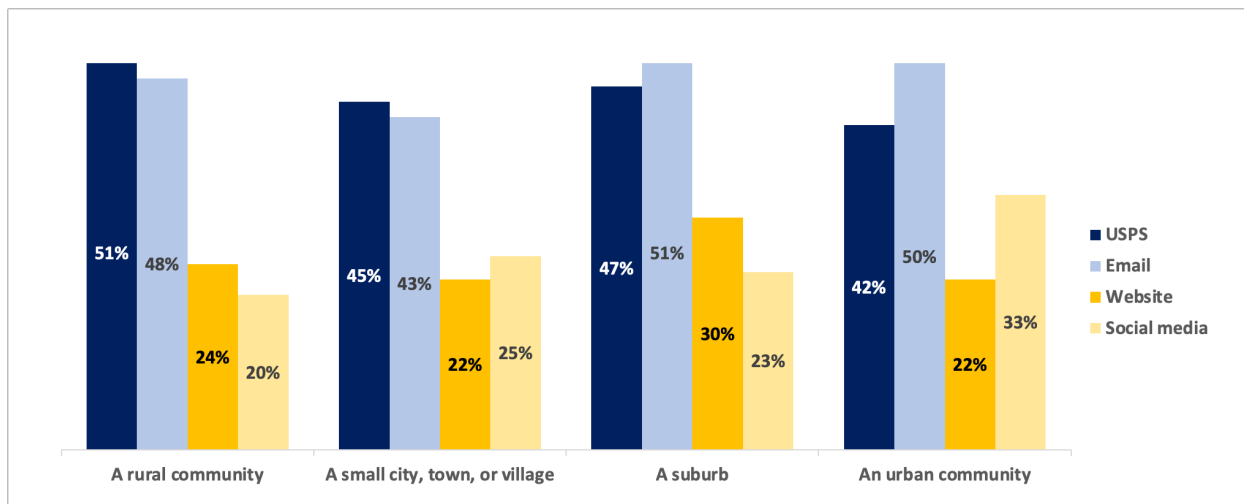
Almost half of Michigan residents would prefer to receive information about recycling programs (from their community or recycling service provider) through emails (48%) and letters and flyers via postal mail (47%). Another quarter would like to receive information through websites (25%) and social media (24%). Texting (16%), apps for mobile devices (13%), and notes stuck on recycling containers (10%) were the least popular forms of communication. Statewide, 9% do not wish to be contacted at all with recycling information.

Figure 8a: Michigan residents' preferences for how to receive recycling information, statewide



Urban-rural differences: Residents of rural communities are slightly more likely to prefer to receive information by mail (51%) compared to towns (45%), suburbs (47%), and urban areas (42%). On the other hand, residents of suburban and urban areas are somewhat more likely to prefer to receive information online, such as by email, website, social media, or through an app, compared to residents of rural communities.

Figure 8b: Michigan residents’ preferences for how to receive recycling information, by community type



Regional differences: A majority of residents in the Upper Peninsula (67%), East Central Lower Peninsula (53%), and West Central Lower Peninsula (51%) would prefer to receive information by postal mail, while email is more popular in Southwest and Southeast Michigan. Social media is more commonly preferred among Upper Peninsula and Southwest Michigan residents, while mobile apps are most popular in Southwest and Southeast Michigan.

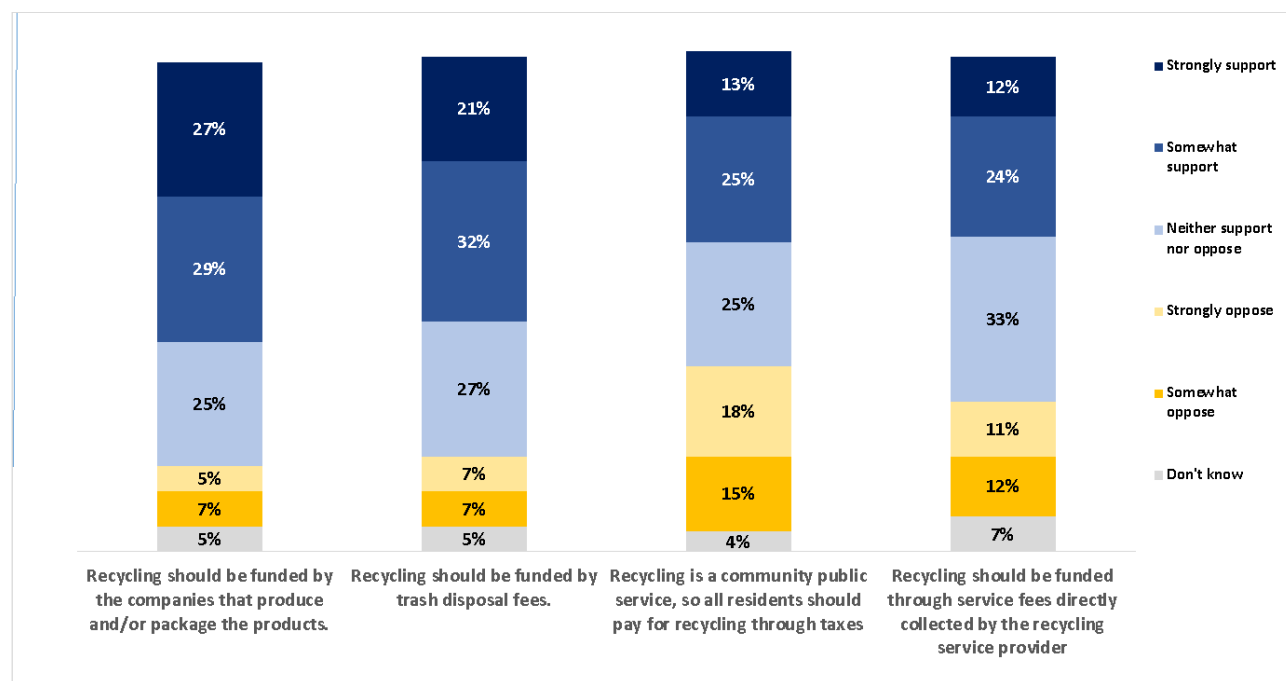
Other differences: Apartment or condominium residents are somewhat more likely to prefer electronic communication such as email (52%), website (29%), and apps (22%) than residents of single-family homes or other types of residences, and significantly less likely to prefer postal mail.

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 28](#) - [Table A- 31](#)

Section IX - Preferences for how recycling is paid for

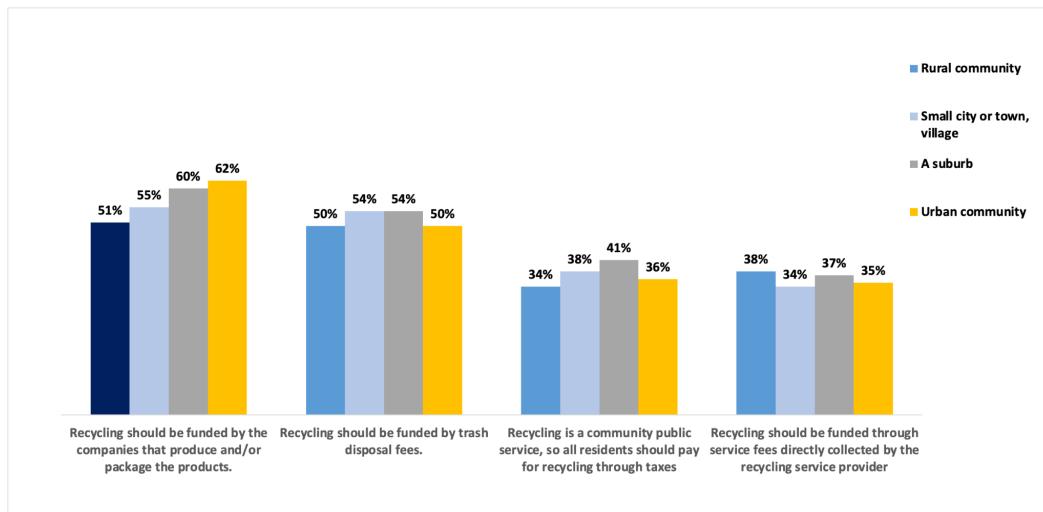
When it comes to funding recycling, survey respondents were asked about their attitudes regarding four different possible options: a community tax, trash disposal fees, payment by companies that produce waste, or recycling service fees. Statewide, the highest support is for companies that produce waste to fund recycling (56%) and for funding via trash disposal fees (53%).

Figure 9a: Michigan residents' support for or opposition to various options for funding recycling, statewide



Urban-rural differences: There are relatively small differences in support for methods to pay for recycling based on community type. Suburban (62%) and urban (60%) residents are somewhat more likely to support recycling being paid for by companies that produce waste compared to rural and small-town residents. Additionally, both rural (34%) and urban (36%) residents are slightly less likely to support the statement that recycling is a community service and should be funded through taxes compared to small town (38%) and suburban (41%) residents.

Figure 9b: Percentage of Michigan residents who somewhat or strongly support various options for funding recycling, by community type



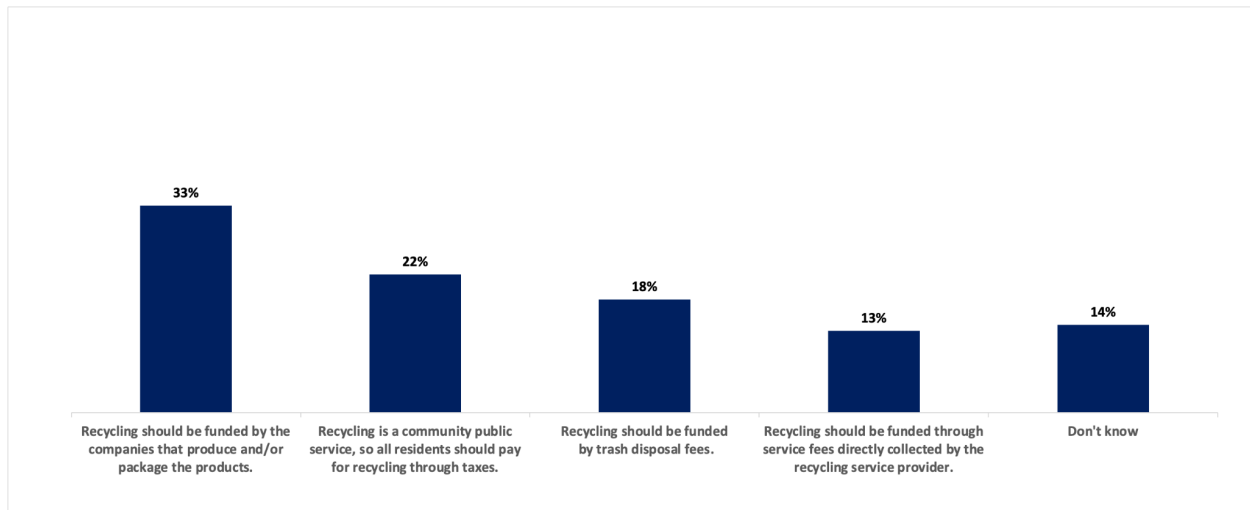
Regional differences: Residents from the Upper Peninsula (44%) and the Northern Lower Peninsula (43%) are more likely to support the approach that recycling should be paid for by residents through taxes, while residents of the West Central Lower Peninsula (61%) are more likely to support trash disposal fees (compared with 53% statewide). Residents from the Southeast Lower Peninsula are more likely to support the approach that recycling should be funded by companies that package and produce materials (63% compared to 56% statewide).

Other differences: Residents who participate in recycling all the time and most of the time are significantly more likely to support recycling being paid as a community-wide tax compared to less frequent recyclers. Lower-income residents are less likely to support taxes or user fees and more likely to support companies funding recycling programs

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 32](#) - [Table A- 35](#)

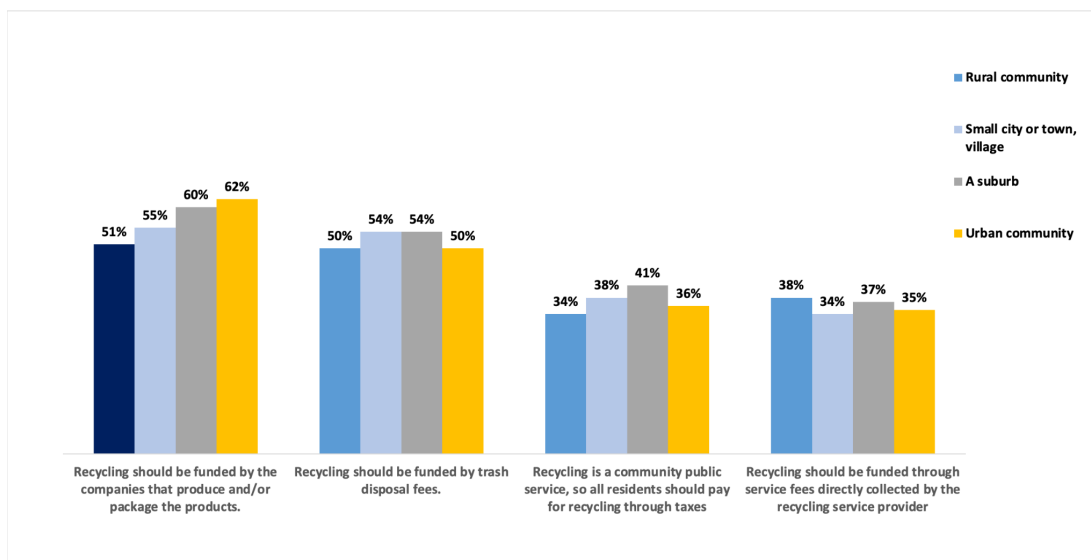
While many residents support multiple options for funding recycling, when asked to pick their single most preferred option, 33% prefer recycling to be funded by companies that produce or package the products. Fewer prefer paying through taxes on residents (22%), trash disposal fees (18%), or recycling service fees (13%).

Figure 9c: Michigan residents' top preference for funding recycling, statewide



Urban-rural differences: Across community types, the most popular option is to fund recycling by companies that produce waste. However, rural residents are more likely to prefer trash disposal fees to taxes, whereas in all other community types, a resident tax is more commonly preferred than trash disposal fees.

Figure 9d: Michigan residents' top preference for funding recycling, by community type



Regional differences: Support for funding recycling through a general tax is highest in the Northern Lower Peninsula (28%) and the Southwest region (28%), and lowest in the Upper Peninsula (19%). The Southwest region is the only one where more residents prefer a general recycling tax (28%) than prefer companies paying for recycling (20%).

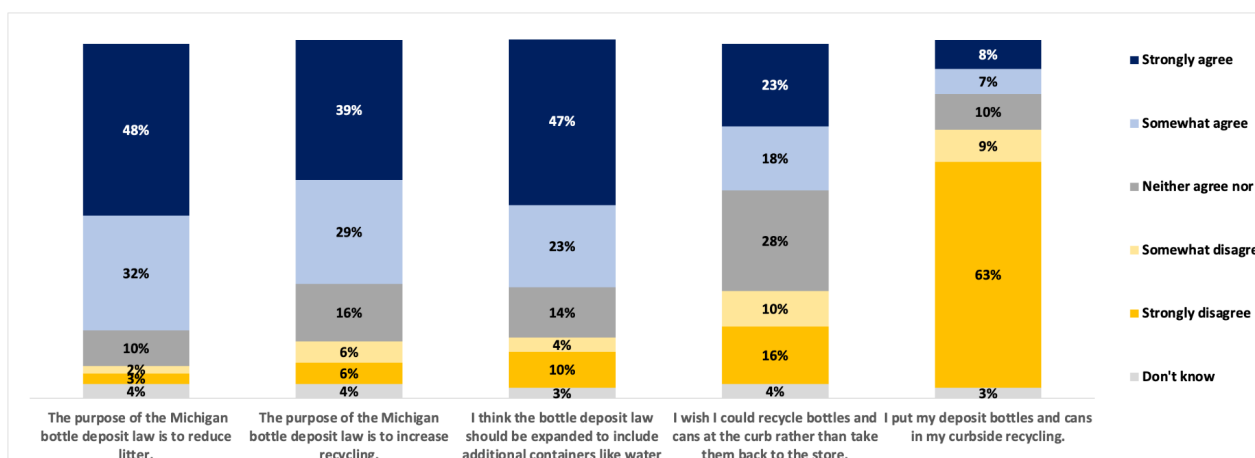
Other differences: Residents living in apartments or condominiums are significantly more likely to prefer a general recycling tax than residents of single-family homes or other housing types, and significantly less likely to prefer that companies pay for recycling. Meanwhile, lower-income residents are less likely to prefer a recycling tax or direct payments to the recycling provider compared to higher-income residents and are more likely to prefer that companies pay for recycling. Additionally, residents who recycle all or most of the time are more likely to prefer a recycling tax than less frequent recyclers, who are more likely to support funding through a trash disposal fee.

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 36](#) - [Table A- 39](#)

Section X - Attitudes toward bottle return policies

Beyond local recycling programs, Michigan residents generally have positive perspectives on the state's bottle return recycling program. Large majorities say the purpose of the program is to reduce litter (80%) and to increase recycling (68%), and a significant majority favors expansion of the program (70%). Meanwhile, less than half would prefer to recycle bottles and cans curbside (41%), and just 15% say they are putting bottles and cans in their existing curbside recycling.

Figure 10a: Michigan residents' attitudes toward bottle return policies, statewide



Section Xa - Perceived purpose of bottle deposit law

A large majority of Michigan residents say the purpose of Michigan's bottle deposit law is to reduce litter (81%), and two-thirds (68%) believe that the purpose of the law is to increase recycling. Meanwhile, 12% do not say that either of these goals is the purpose of the bottle return program (that is, they responded "neither" or "disagree" to both statements).

Urban-rural differences: While there is not a sizeable urban-rural divide on this issue, residents of urban communities are somewhat less likely to say the purpose is to reduce litter than residents of other community types, while urban and suburban residents are somewhat more likely to say the purpose is to increase recycling compared to rural and small-town residents.

Other differences: Differences across other subgroups are also generally fairly small. However, Democrats (73%) are much more likely to say the purpose of the bottle deposit law is to increase recycling, compared to Republicans (62%) and Independents (63%).

Section Xb - Support for revisions to the bottle deposit law

Statewide, almost three-quarters (70%) of Michigan residents would like the bottle deposit program to be expanded to include additional container types, such as water bottles. In addition, 41% of residents statewide would like to be able to return bottles and cans curbside rather than take them back to the store.

Urban-rural differences: An interest in expansion of the bottle deposit program is significant across the urban-rural spectrum. Three-quarters (74%) of residents in urban communities would like bottle deposits expanded to other containers, as do 68% of suburban residents. The desire for alternative curbside return is lowest among rural community residents (31%), likely because so many fewer rural residents have access to curbside services at their primary residence.

Other differences: There is some regional variation, with residents in the Northern Lower Peninsula as well as those in the West Central and East Central regions somewhat more likely to support expanding the program than those in other parts of the state. There are also some differences across partisanship, with Democrats (77%) more likely to say the program should be expanded than Republicans (68%) and Independents (57%). Those who recycle rarely or never are significantly less likely to say the program should be expanded than more frequent recyclers. Regionally, desire for curbside bottle return is lowest in West Central (34%) and East Central (30%) Michigan; it is highest among apartment and condominium residents (50%) compared with people in single-family homes (40%). Interestingly, there is not a significant difference between those with and those without current access to curbside recycling at their home.

Section Xc - Habit of putting bottles and cans in curbside recycling

Few (15%) Michigan residents say they put bottles & cans in curbside recycling. Among those who have access to curbside recycling, 17% say they put bottles and cans in their curbside recycling.

Urban-rural differences: Putting bottles and cans into curbside recycling is most common in urban communities (24%) and least common in rural areas (7%). When looking only among those with access to curbside recycling, the habit is also more commonly reported among residents in small cities or towns.

Other differences: Regionally, putting bottles and cans in curbside recycling is most common in the Upper Peninsula and Southeast Michigan, even when looking only at those with access. Residents with incomes over \$80,000 are slightly more likely to report this behavior than those with a lower income.

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 40](#) - [Table A- 43](#)

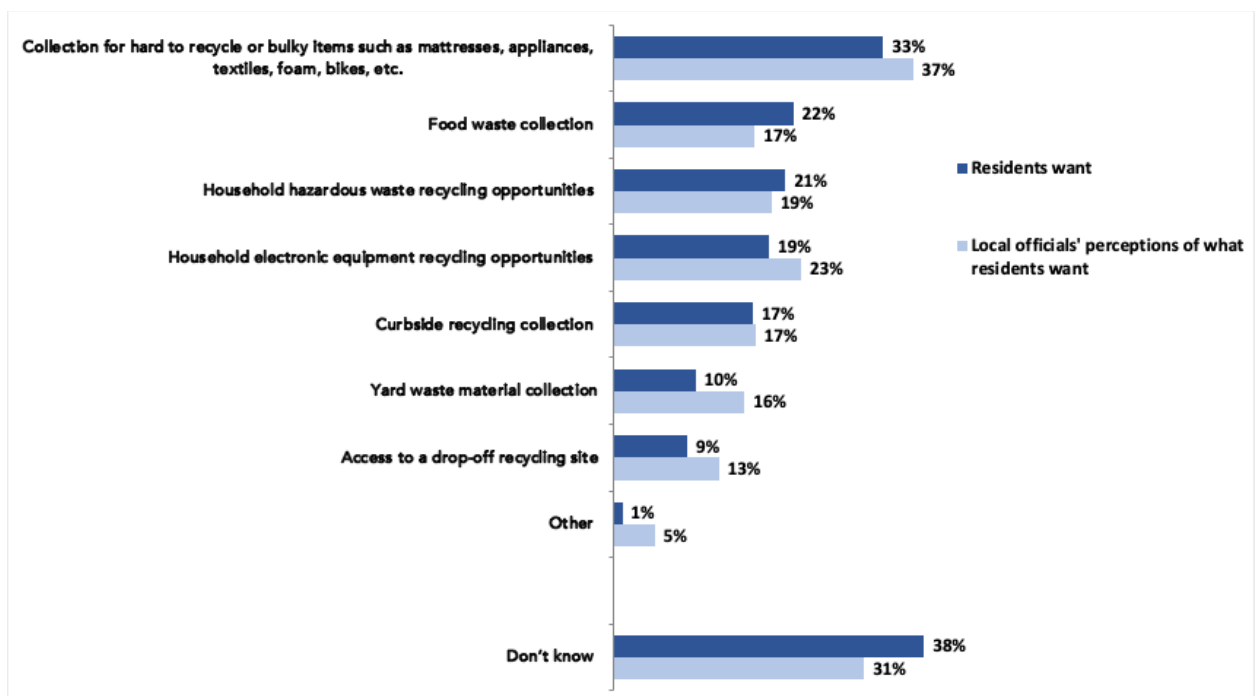
Recycling opinions of Michigan residents and Michigan Local Government Leaders

Section XI - Interest in additional services

Both the Fall 2021 MPPS and Spring 2023 SOSS asked about interest in additional services. Residents were asked what services are not currently available to them and what they would like to have access to. Local government leaders were asked what services are not currently available to which their residents would like to have access. Statewide, 33% of residents are interested in having access to recycling collection for hard-to-recycle or bulky items (such as mattresses, appliances, textiles, foam, bikes, etc.), and local government leaders from 37% of Michigan jurisdictions believe their residents would like access to this service.

Additionally, among residents who do not currently have access to the various services, one in five want food waste collection (22%), household hazardous waste recycling (21%), and household electronic equipment recycling (19%) services. Local leaders' assessments are generally very similar to those of residents. There is a high level of uncertainty among both groups, with 38% of residents and 31% of local governments uncertain about interest in additional services.

Figure 11a: Recycling services not currently available that residents would like to have access to (among those who currently do not have the service), residents compared with local government officials



Urban-rural differences: Across the urban-rural spectrum, resident interest is highest in recycling collection for bulky or hard-to-recycle materials. In urban and suburban communities, the next most common service of interest is residential food waste collection, whereas in rural communities there is more interest in curbside recycling, and in small towns there is more interest in hazardous waste and electronics recycling.

Other differences: Across all regions, resident interest is highest in recycling collection for bulky or hard-to-recycle materials. Interest in a variety of services is higher in the Upper Peninsula compared to other regions, including household hazardous waste, residential food waste, electronics, drop-off recycling facilities, and residential yard waste.

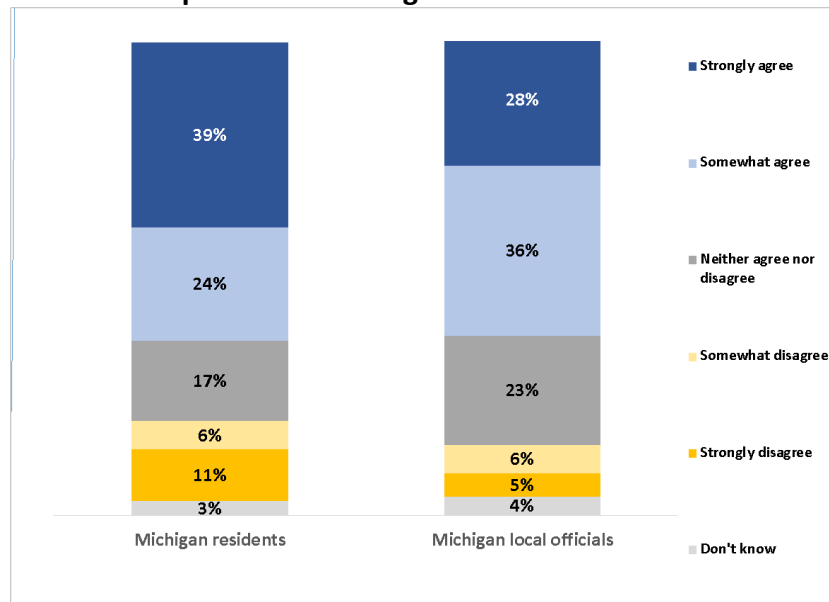
Among those who currently have no available recycling, interest is highest in curbside recycling (46%), followed by bulky or hard-to-recycle materials (29%), household hazardous waste (28%), electronics (27%), and residential food waste (26%).

For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 44](#) - [Table A- 47](#)

Section XII - Local government leadership on sustainability

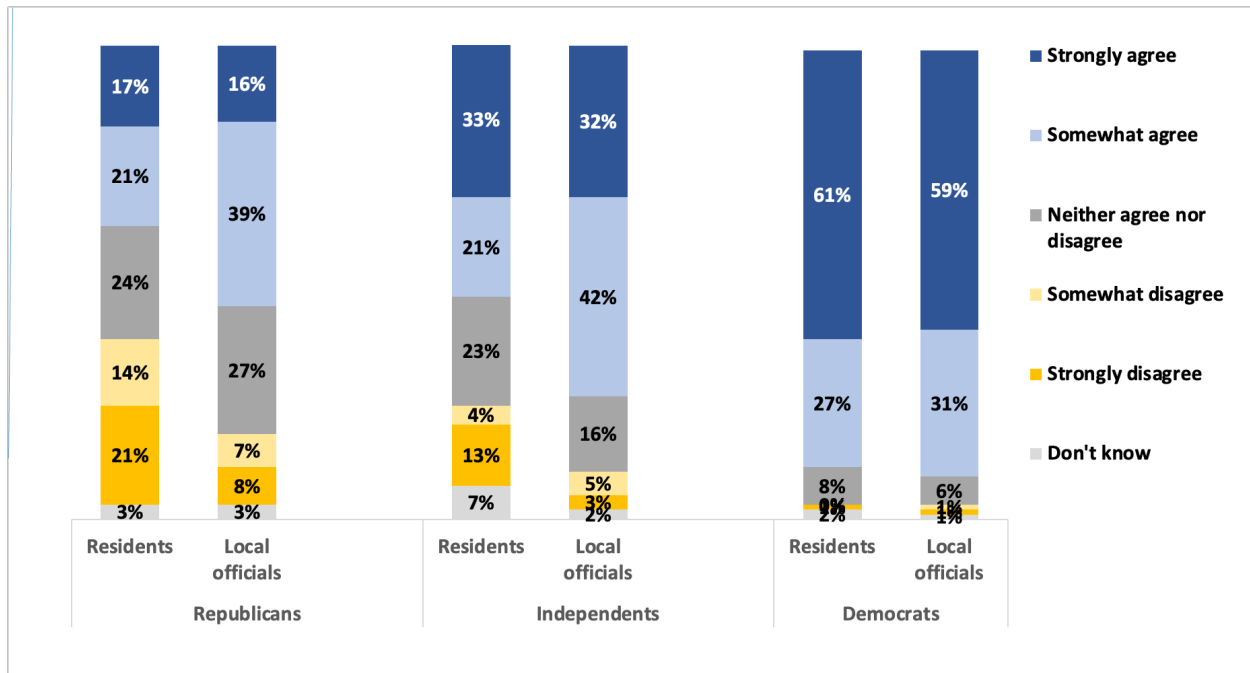
Finally, both the SOSS and MPPS asked for an overall assessment of the importance of sustainability as a local government goal. A majority of Michigan residents (63%) and local government leaders (64%) say that promoting sustainability is an important aspect of local government leadership.

Figure 12a: Attitudes on promoting environmental sustainability as an important local government goal, residents compared with local government officials



Because the residents' sample contains a higher percentage of Democrats, while local leaders are more likely to identify as Republicans, it's important to compare within partisan groups. Residents and local officials who are Democrats tend to share very similar views on sustainability as a local government goal. But among both Republicans and Independents, local government leaders are significantly more likely to agree than are their co-partisans in the general population.

Figure 12b: Attitudes on promoting environmental sustainability as an important local government goal, residents compared with local government officials, by partisan identification



For appendix tables with regional and other differences, see [Table A- 48](#) - [Table A- 51](#)

Methodology

MPPS

The MPPS is an ongoing survey research program that interviews the leaders of Michigan's 1,856 units of general-purpose local government, conducted by the Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy (CLOSUP) at the University of Michigan. In the Fall 2021 iteration, surveys were sent by CLOSUP via the internet and hardcopy to top elected and appointed officials (including county administrators and board chairs; city mayors and managers; village presidents, clerks, and managers; and township supervisors, clerks, and managers) from all 83 counties, 280 cities, 253 villages, and 1,240 townships in the state of Michigan.

The Fall 2021 wave was conducted from October 4 – December 6, 2021. A total of 1,356 jurisdictions in the Fall 2021 wave returned valid surveys (62 counties, 209 cities, 171 villages, and 914 townships), resulting in a 73% response rate by unit.

The margin of error for the Fall 2021 MPPS as a whole is +/- 1.37%. The key relationships discussed in the above report are statistically significant at the $p < .05$ level or below, unless otherwise specified. Missing responses are not included in the tabulations, unless otherwise specified. Some report figures may not add to 100% due to rounding within response categories. Quantitative data are weighted to account for non-response. Contact CLOSUP staff for more information.

Note that because the unit of analysis in the MPPS survey is the jurisdiction, the findings reflect the percentage of local officials who feel a certain way. That is, the response of the County Board Chair in a very populous county is treated on an even footing with the response of the Village President of a small village. As a result, MPPS has more representation from these small, often rural areas than would a survey that was representative of the entire state population (for example, the SOSS).

SOSS

The 87th round of the Michigan State University State of the State Survey (SOSS) was administered by MSU's Institute for Public Policy and Social Research (IPPSR) and conducted as a YouGov panel survey from March 16-27, 2023. The survey is administered by IPPSR's Office for Survey Research. Invitations were sent to 5,303 adult Michigan residents from which 1,323 interviews were completed. The response rate for this round of SOSS was 26.5%.

The respondents were matched to a sampling frame on gender, age, race, and education. The frame was constructed by stratified sampling from the full 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 1-year sample with selection within strata by weighted sampling with replacements (using the person weights on the public use file). The matched cases were weighted to the sampling frame using propensity scores. The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame. The propensity score function included age, gender, race/ethnicity, years of education, and region. The propensity scores were grouped into deciles of the estimated propensity score in the frame and post-stratified according to these deciles. The weights were then post-stratified on the 2016 and the 2020 Presidential vote choice, and a four-way stratification of gender, age (4 categories), race (4 categories), and education (4 categories), to produce the final weight. After calibrating the data to assign weights, the final dataset consisted of 1,000 cases.

The survey responses presented here are those of Michigan residents and local Michigan officials, while further analysis represents the views of the authors. Neither necessarily reflects the views of the University of Michigan or Michigan State University, the Department of the Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), or other partners in the MPPS or SOSS.

Acknowledgment and Disclaimer

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Appendix A – Data Tables

Table A- 1: Percent of Michigan residents who agree with statements about recycling, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has.	64%	64%	67%	75%	65%	73%	70%
Recycling is good for Michigan's economy.	56%	57%	59%	67%	57%	66%	61%
Most materials collected in recycling programs end up in landfills.	43%	50%	46%	43%	46%	42%	49%
Recycling programs help decrease litter and pollution in our local community's environment.	67%	68%	71%	76%	70%	75%	72%
Recycling programs help protect clean water in Michigan.	68%	71%	74%	65%	68%	77%	75%
Recycling programs help address global climate change.	48%	48%	54%	57%	49%	58%	54%
Recycling efforts boost our local economic development and job growth.	45%	41%	48%	54%	43%	56%	44%

Table A- 2: Percent of Michigan residents who agree with statements about recycling, by recycling participation and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has.	80%	72%	56%	55%	68%	67%	64%
Recycling is good for Michigan's economy.	70%	65%	56%	46%	67%	56%	56%
Most materials collected in recycling programs end up in landfills.	41%	53%	41%	49%	45%	43%	52%
Recycling programs help decrease litter and pollution in our local community's environment.	82%	72%	63%	66%	70%	71%	71%
Recycling programs help protect clean water in Michigan.	78%	76%	69%	60%	72%	72%	66%
Recycling programs help address global climate change.	59%	58%	46%	43%	57%	48%	51%
Recycling efforts boost our local economic development and job growth.	53%	50%	39%	37%	53%	43%	43%

Table A- 3: Percent of Michigan residents who agree with statements about recycling, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has.	59%	76%	70%	63%	64%	66%
Recycling is good for Michigan's economy.	51%	63%	62%	48%	61%	59%
Most materials collected in recycling programs end up in landfills.	46%	38%	46%	42%	47%	47%
Recycling programs help decrease litter and pollution in our local community's environment.	74%	88%	69%	61%	69%	71%
Recycling programs help protect clean water in Michigan.	64%	88%	71%	56%	73%	71%
Recycling programs help address global climate change.	46%	60%	51%	40%	48%	54%
Recycling efforts boost our local economic development and job growth.	51%	41%	46%	32%	51%	46%

Table A- 4: Percent of Michigan residents who agree with statements about recycling, by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has.	57%	58%	79%	66%	66%
Recycling is good for Michigan's economy.	50%	51%	72%	59%	59%
Most materials collected in recycling programs end up in landfills.	49%	48%	41%	45%	46%
Recycling programs help decrease litter and pollution in our local community's environment.	64%	66%	79%	67%	71%
Recycling programs help protect clean water in Michigan.	64%	62%	80%	70%	70%
Recycling programs help address global climate change.	30%	46%	73%	48%	52%
Recycling efforts boost our local economic development and job growth.	33%	44%	58%	50%	45%

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Table A- 5: Michigan residents' satisfaction with amount of recycling services at their primary residence, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Satisfied with the amount of service(s) received	30%	35%	40%	37%	41%	23%	22%
Wish I had more recycling options	48%	45%	47%	45%	43%	60%	50%
Wish I had fewer recycling options	1%	4%	3%	1%	2%	4%	3%
Don't know	21%	17%	10%	17%	14%	13%	26%

Table A- 6: Michigan residents' satisfaction with amount of recycling services at their primary residence, by recycling participation and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Satisfied with the amount of service(s) received	56%	47%	27%	23%	25%	40%	38%
Wish I had more recycling options	39%	50%	52%	41%	50%	45%	48%
Wish I had fewer recycling options	2%	1%	8%	3%	5%	2%	2%
Don't know	3%	3%	13%	33%	20%	14%	12%

Table A- 7: Michigan residents' satisfaction with amount of recycling services at their primary residence, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Satisfied with the amount of service(s) received	37%	35%	28%	37%	33%	40%
Wish I had more recycling options	52%	49%	49%	41%	51%	44%
Wish I had fewer recycling options	2%	0%	2%	3%	3%	3%
Don't know	9%	16%	21%	19%	14%	13%

Table A- 8: Michigan residents' satisfaction with amount of recycling services at their primary residence, by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Satisfied with the amount of service(s) received	45%	34%	28%	9%	40%
Wish I had more recycling options	35%	46%	58%	63%	44%
Wish I had fewer recycling options	2%	4%	2%	0%	3%
Don't know	18%	15%	13%	28%	13%

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Table A- 9: Percent of Michigan residents reporting types of recycling services currently available at their primary residence, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary Residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Curbside recycling collection	30%	51%	67%	61%	64%	25%	28%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	43%	41%	39%	31%	42%	27%	41%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	18%	25%	31%	24%	29%	12%	20%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	18%	22%	29%	22%	27%	9%	21%
Collection of residential yard waste	19%	39%	51%	46%	47%	14%	29%
Collection of residential food waste	10%	17%	17%	23%	17%	8%	21%
None of the above	18%	16%	13%	15%	10%	44%	14%
Don't know	9%	9%	3%	4%	6%	3%	10%

Table A- 10: Percent of Michigan residents reporting types of recycling services currently available at their primary residence, by participation in recycling programs and family annual income

	Participation in Recycling Programs				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Curbside recycling collection	80%	79%	50%	34%	46%	51%	64%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	51%	47%	46%	42%	32%	39%	47%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	40%	38%	27%	11%	14%	25%	37%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	38%	33%	24%	13%	17%	22%	33%
Collection of residential yard waste	57%	54%	34%	36%	29%	39%	51%
Collection of residential food waste	27%	15%	15%	18%	15%	17%	15%
None of the above	NA	NA	NA	NA	19%	17%	10%
Don't know	1%	1%	9%	18%	5%	7%	6%

Table A- 11: Percent of Michigan residents reporting types of recycling services currently available at their primary residence, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Curbside recycling collection	40%	27%	42%	48%	52%	64%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	57%	66%	40%	33%	39%	35%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	19%	30%	21%	22%	19%	29%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	21%	23%	20%	26%	22%	26%
Collection of residential yard waste	30%	22%	35%	32%	28%	50%
Collection of residential food waste	8%	6%	19%	16%	13%	18%
None of the above	10%	16%	16%	12%	21%	14%
Don't know	3%	1%	11%	12%	6%	4%

Table A- 12: Percent of Michigan residents reporting types of recycling services currently available at their primary residence, by partisan self-identification

	Republican	Independent	Democrat
Curbside recycling collection	52%	54%	54%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	39%	38%	40%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	28%	15%	28%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	27%	19%	22%
Collection of residential yard waste	37%	38%	43%
Collection of residential food waste	15%	15%	17%
None of the above	15%	18%	14%
Don't know	6%	7%	7%

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Table A- 13: Percent of Michigan residents reporting types of recycling services used in the past 12 months at their primary residence, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary Residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Curbside recycling collection	24%	47%	58%	53%	55%	24%	26%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	39%	29%	25%	22%	29%	28%	27%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	16%	18%	17%	10%	18%	11%	9%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	16%	12%	16%	12%	17%	9%	6%
Collection of residential yard waste	11%	32%	43%	38%	38%	12%	22%
Collection of residential food waste	9%	15%	15%	19%	15%	7%	16%
None of the above	26%	19%	17%	28%	16%	36%	31%
Don't know	5%	3%	3%	2%	4%	2%	3%

Table A- 14: Percent of Michigan residents reporting types of recycling services used in the past 12 months at their primary residence, by participation in recycling programs and family annual income

	Participation in Recycling Programs				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Curbside recycling collection	79%	78%	36%	9%	34%	47%	57%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	37%	33%	34%	14%	23%	29%	32%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	28%	19%	20%	4%	12%	15%	22%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	22%	20%	15%	5%	8%	16%	20%
Collection of residential yard waste	47%	47%	26%	21%	26%	31%	41%
Collection of residential food waste	25%	13%	10%	14%	13%	15%	14%
None of the above	3%	2%	8%	47%	29%	21%	14%
Don't know	0%	1%	9%	5%	7%	2%	3%

Table A- 15: Percent of Michigan residents reporting types of recycling services used in the past 12 months at their primary residence, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Curbside recycling collection	34%	24%	36%	37%	42%	57%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	46%	52%	34%	25%	32%	22%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	22%	19%	16%	12%	14%	16%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	19%	15%	15%	17%	16%	13%
Collection of residential yard waste	19%	16%	23%	26%	21%	43%
Collection of residential food waste	12%	11%	16%	14%	9%	16%
None of the above	17%	18%	23%	23%	25%	20%
Don't know	1%	1%	8%	7%	4%	2%

Table A- 16: Percent of Michigan residents reporting types of recycling services used in the past 12 months at their primary residence, by partisan self-identification

	Republican	Independent	Democrat
Curbside recycling collection	43%	45%	50%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	28%	28%	29%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	17%	13%	17%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	14%	8%	17%
Collection of residential yard waste	27%	33%	36%
Collection of residential food waste	13%	17%	14%
None of the above	22%	24%	19%
Don't know	3%	6%	3%

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Table A- 17: Michigan residents’ frequency of participation in recycling services at their primary residence (among those with access to any type(s) of recycling), by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
All of the time	31%	32%	27%	34%	33%	18%	21%
Most of the time	17%	30%	33%	22%	29%	26%	18%
Some of the time	21%	15%	19%	17%	17%	23%	22%
Rarely	19%	11%	9%	8%	10%	18%	18%
Never	10%	7%	7%	15%	6%	13%	19%
Don't know	3%	5%	4%	4%	4%	2%	1%

Table A- 18: Michigan residents’ frequency of participation in recycling services at their primary residence (among those with access to any type(s) of recycling), by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
All of the time	31%	30%	29%	31%	29%	31%
Most of the time	31%	26%	20%	21%	26%	31%
Some of the time	15%	14%	22%	18%	24%	16%
Rarely	14%	24%	10%	10%	10%	12%
Never	6%	6%	14%	12%	6%	8%
Don't know	4%	1%	5%	9%	4%	3%

Table A- 19: Michigan residents’ frequency of participation in recycling services at their primary residence (among those with access to any type(s) of recycling), by family annual income and partisan self-identification

	Family annual income			Partisan self-identification		
	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+	Republican	Independent	Democrat
All of the time	31%	30%	28%	28%	31%	32%
Most of the time	17%	29%	33%	28%	27%	27%
Some of the time	19%	16%	22%	20%	16%	18%
Rarely	14%	13%	7%	12%	12%	12%
Never	13%	7%	7%	9%	11%	8%
Don't know	5%	5%	2%	4%	4%	3%

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Table A- 20: Michigan residents' reports of how far they would drive to use a drop-off recycling site, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Up to 5 minutes	12%	7%	10%	13%	10%	15%	5%
6-10 minutes	18%	27%	26%	22%	24%	27%	19%
11-15 minutes	21%	18%	20%	15%	19%	17%	23%
16-20 minutes	16%	11%	14%	10%	15%	10%	9%
More than 20 minutes	14%	10%	5%	3%	8%	6%	10%
Don't drive/don't have access to transportation	1%	4%	4%	9%	4%	6%	8%
Don't know	9%	10%	10%	13%	10%	10%	12%
Would not drive any distance to a drop-off site	8%	13%	11%	15%	11%	10%	14%

Table A- 21: Michigan residents' reports of how far they would drive to use a drop-off recycling site, by participation in recycling programs and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Up to 5 minutes	9%	10%	8%	10%	11%	9%	10%
6-10 minutes	20%	26%	30%	22%	23%	22%	27%
11-15 minutes	25%	19%	21%	16%	15%	20%	22%
16-20 minutes	13%	20%	17%	5%	7%	15%	16%
More than 20 minutes	14%	7%	9%	2%	6%	8%	10%
Don't drive/don't have access to transportation	5%	4%	1%	6%	11%	3%	1%
Don't know	7%	8%	7%	12%	12%	12%	4%
Would not drive any distance to a drop-off site	7%	6%	8%	27%	15%	11%	9%

Table A- 22: Michigan residents' reports of how far they would drive to use a drop-off recycling site, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Up to 5 minutes	3%	12%	13%	9%	9%	10%
6-10 minutes	15%	20%	27%	27%	21%	24%
11-15 minutes	16%	26%	16%	17%	20%	20%
16-20 minutes	21%	12%	13%	6%	16%	13%
More than 20 minutes	24%	11%	8%	5%	11%	6%
Don't drive/don't have access to transportation	1%	5%	3%	3%	5%	5%
Don't know	6%	11%	9%	15%	11%	10%
Would not drive any distance to a drop-off site	13%	2%	11%	18%	8%	12%

Table A- 23: Michigan residents' reports of how far they would drive to use a drop-off recycling site at their primary residence, by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Up to 5 minutes	10%	10%	10%	13%	9%
6-10 minutes	25%	22%	24%	21%	24%
11-15 minutes	19%	15%	21%	16%	20%
16-20 minutes	12%	11%	15%	11%	14%
More than 20 minutes	7%	11%	7%	6%	8%
Don't drive/don't have access to transportation	2%	6%	6%	5%	4%
Don't know	9%	12%	10%	13%	10%
Would not drive any distance to a drop-off site	16%	13%	7%	14%	11%

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Table A- 24: Michigan residents' likelihood of using a food waste reduction or food composting program (among those who do not currently have access to such a program), by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Very likely	30%	27%	30%	29%	29%	32%	30%
Somewhat likely	22%	29%	31%	31%	28%	32%	24%
Neither likely nor unlikely	15%	20%	15%	21%	16%	15%	28%
Somewhat unlikely	4%	6%	6%	7%	5%	8%	3%
Very unlikely	21%	9%	9%	7%	13%	6%	12%
Don't know	7%	9%	10%	5%	9%	7%	6%

Table A- 25: Michigan residents' likelihood of using a food waste reduction or food composting program (among those who do not currently have access to such a program), by participation in recycling programs and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Very likely	51%	31%	23%	10%	30%	30%	28%
Somewhat likely	23%	36%	28%	30%	24%	29%	31%
Neither likely nor unlikely	12%	14%	28%	20%	24%	16%	12%
Somewhat unlikely	3%	4%	5%	11%	4%	6%	7%
Very unlikely	6%	7%	10%	24%	10%	9%	18%
Don't know	5%	7%	6%	6%	8%	11%	5%

Table A- 26: Michigan residents' likelihood of using a food waste reduction or food composting program (among those who do not currently have access to such a program), by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Very likely	39%	42%	31%	19%	22%	30%
Somewhat likely	26%	19%	29%	25%	28%	29%
Neither likely nor unlikely	12%	12%	13%	17%	23%	18%
Somewhat unlikely	2%	7%	5%	6%	5%	6%
Very unlikely	20%	16%	15%	16%	8%	9%
Don't know	1%	4%	6%	16%	15%	7%

Table A- 27: Michigan residents’ likelihood of using a food waste reduction or food composting program (among those who do not currently have access to such a program), by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Very likely	19%	34%	37%	27%	30%
Somewhat likely	27%	18%	32%	25%	29%
Neither likely nor unlikely	20%	15%	15%	17%	17%
Somewhat unlikely	6%	6%	5%	7%	5%
Very unlikely	18%	14%	4%	13%	11%
Don't know	9%	13%	6%	10%	8%

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Table A- 28: Percent of Michigan residents who prefer ways to receive information from local community or recycling service provider, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Email	48%	43%	51%	50%	49%	52%	43%
Letter or flyer via postal mail	51%	45%	47%	42%	49%	37%	48%
Website	24%	22%	30%	22%	25%	29%	18%
Social media	20%	25%	23%	33%	24%	24%	24%
Texting on mobile phone	12%	18%	18%	18%	15%	20%	17%
An app for your mobile device (e.g., Waste Wizard, Recollect, Recycle Coach)	5%	13%	15%	16%	11%	22%	8%
A note left in or stuck on my home recycling container	6%	10%	13%	8%	10%	9%	14%
Other	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%
I prefer not to receive any information about recycling	12%	9%	7%	10%	9%	6%	16%
Don't know	3%	7%	5%	3%	5%	6%	2%

Table A- 29: Percent of Michigan residents who prefer ways to receive information from local community or recycling service provider, by recycling participation and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Email	59%	52%	43%	35%	42%	51%	48%
Letter or flyer via postal mail	56%	53%	36%	46%	47%	46%	46%
Website	28%	29%	31%	18%	19%	26%	30%
Social media	24%	25%	33%	18%	22%	23%	31%
Texting on mobile phone	21%	16%	12%	16%	19%	17%	14%
An app for your mobile device (e.g., Waste Wizard, Recollect, Recycle Coach)	12%	16%	11%	8%	14%	12%	13%
A note left in or stuck on my home recycling container	13%	14%	8%	6%	9%	9%	12%
Other	1%	0%	0%	1%	0%	1%	0%
I prefer not to receive any information about recycling	5%	6%	7%	18%	11%	9%	7%
Don't know	2%	2%	5%	4%	5%	5%	4%

Table A- 30: Percent of Michigan residents who prefer ways to receive information from local community or recycling service provider, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Email	40%	49%	45%	31%	52%	51%
Letter or flyer via postal mail	67%	49%	51%	53%	37%	44%
Website	19%	15%	23%	22%	23%	29%
Social media	32%	25%	21%	10%	31%	25%
Texting on mobile phone	11%	14%	16%	11%	20%	17%
An app for your mobile device (e.g., Waste Wizard, Recollect, Recycle Coach)	1%	5%	10%	11%	15%	15%
A note left in or stuck on my home recycling container	9%	7%	10%	9%	6%	12%
Other	2%	1%	0%	2%	2%	0%
I prefer not to receive any information about recycling	8%	10%	9%	16%	6%	9%
Don't know	3%	7%	6%	5%	8%	3%

Table A- 31: Percent of Michigan residents who prefer ways to receive information from local community or recycling service provider, by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Email	39%	42%	58%	49%	48%
Letter or flyer via postal mail	47%	39%	50%	35%	49%
Website	25%	24%	25%	19%	26%
Social media	20%	24%	29%	25%	24%
Texting on mobile phone	12%	18%	20%	17%	16%
An app for your mobile device (e.g., Waste Wizard, Recollect, Recycle Coach)	10%	11%	15%	15%	12%
A note left in or stuck on my home recycling container	6%	10%	14%	8%	10%
Other	1%	0%	0%	1%	1%
I prefer not to receive any information about recycling	14%	12%	4%	14%	8%
Don't know	2%	11%	5%	7%	4%

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Table A- 32: Percent of Michigan residents who support recycling funding options, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.	34%	38%	41%	36%	36%	42%	43%
Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.	50%	54%	54%	50%	52%	51%	58%
Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.	51%	55%	60%	62%	55%	57%	63%
Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.	38%	34%	37%	35%	37%	35%	33%

Table A- 33: Percent of Michigan residents who support recycling funding options, by recycling participation and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/ Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.	49%	48%	33%	26%	33%	37%	44%
Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.	57%	55%	53%	52%	47%	55%	55%
Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.	66%	59%	54%	51%	61%	58%	50%
Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.	35%	40%	39%	36%	32%	37%	43%

Table A- 34: Percent of Michigan residents who support recycling funding options, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.	44%	43%	37%	36%	31%	39%
Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.	54%	43%	61%	45%	51%	52%
Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.	53%	50%	58%	46%	49%	62%
Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.	48%	23%	39%	27%	35%	38%

Table A- 35: Percent of Michigan residents who support recycling funding options, by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.	27%	28%	52%	26%	39%
Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.	50%	49%	57%	46%	53%
Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.	46%	52%	68%	50%	58%
Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.	41%	32%	34%	30%	37%

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Table A- 36: Michigan residents’ preferred way to fund recycling services, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.	19%	22%	24%	22%	22%	28%	14%
Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.	21%	18%	16%	20%	17%	17%	29%
Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.	27%	36%	33%	35%	32%	29%	40%
Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.	18%	12%	13%	11%	14%	14%	6%
Don’t know	15%	12%	14%	12%	14%	12%	11%

Table A- 37: Michigan residents’ preferred way to fund recycling services, by recycling participation and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.	28%	30%	18%	14%	16%	23%	28%
Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.	15%	15%	20%	30%	17%	21%	14%
Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.	37%	31%	37%	26%	40%	30%	29%
Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.	11%	12%	15%	14%	9%	13%	19%
Don’t know	9%	12%	10%	16%	18%	14%	9%

Table A- 38: Michigan residents’ preferred way to fund recycling services, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.	19%	28%	20%	20%	28%	21%
Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.	14%	18%	16%	14%	20%	20%
Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.	35%	36%	37%	33%	20%	34%
Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.	16%	5%	15%	10%	15%	13%
Don’t know	17%	14%	12%	23%	17%	11%

Table A- 39: Michigan residents’ preferred way to fund recycling services, by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.	22%	16%	25%	18%	23%
Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.	20%	15%	19%	15%	19%
Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.	26%	35%	38%	33%	33%
Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.	18%	11%	9%	14%	13%
Don’t know	14%	23%	9%	20%	13%

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Table A- 40: Percent of Michigan residents who agree with statements on Michigan’s bottle deposit law, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
I wish I could recycle bottles and cans at the curb rather than take them back to the store.	31%	43%	45%	44%	40%	50%	36%
I think the bottle deposit law should be expanded to include additional containers like water bottles.	70%	70%	68%	74%	67%	75%	76%
I put my deposit bottles and cans in my curbside recycling.	7%	14%	17%	24%	14%	16%	9%
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to reduce litter.	82%	82%	80%	74%	80%	83%	76%
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to increase recycling.	63%	63%	71%	70%	67%	69%	67%

Table A- 41: Percent of Michigan residents who agree with statements on Michigan’s bottle deposit law, by recycling participation and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
I wish I could recycle bottles and cans at the curb rather than take them back to the store.	40%	45%	39%	40%	42%	38%	45%
I think the bottle deposit law should be expanded to include additional containers like water bottles.	74%	69%	74%	59%	71%	69%	71%
I put my deposit bottles and cans in my curbside recycling.	15%	20%	17%	11%	15%	13%	18%
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to reduce litter.	85%	83%	75%	77%	74%	83%	82%
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to increase recycling.	69%	72%	68%	63%	63%	67%	71%

Table A- 42: Percent of Michigan residents who agree with statements on Michigan’s bottle deposit law, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
I wish I could recycle bottles and cans at the curb rather than take them back to the store.	43%	42%	34%	30%	42%	46%
I think the bottle deposit law should be expanded to include additional containers like water bottles.	65%	74%	74%	73%	66%	68%
I put my deposit bottles and cans in my curbside recycling.	19%	7%	10%	6%	16%	19%
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to reduce litter.	82%	86%	81%	76%	80%	80%
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to increase recycling.	60%	66%	68%	60%	71%	68%

Table A- 43: Percent of Michigan residents who agree with statements on Michigan’s bottle deposit law, by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
I wish I could recycle bottles and cans at the curb rather than take them back to the store.	37%	36%	47%	43%	41%
I think the bottle deposit law should be expanded to include additional containers like water bottles.	68%	57%	77%	71%	69%
I put my deposit bottles and cans in my curbside recycling.	11%	17%	17%	5%	17%
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to reduce litter.	82%	74%	81%	81%	80%
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to increase recycling.	62%	63%	73%	65%	67%

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Table A- 44: Percent of Michigan residents who desire additional types of recycling services at their primary residence (among those who do not currently have access to the specific type of service), by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Curbside recycling collection	24%	18%	15%	12%	11%	33%	31%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	9%	11%	8%	10%	8%	11%	13%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	22%	23%	18%	22%	20%	25%	23%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	20%	22%	18%	19%	19%	21%	21%
Collection of residential yard waste	14%	12%	9%	6%	10%	10%	17%
Collection of residential food waste	18%	19%	26%	25%	21%	27%	23%
Collection for hard to recycle or bulky items such as mattresses, appliances, textiles, foam, bikes, etc.	36%	32%	33%	28%	31%	35%	42%
Other	2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Don't know	38%	39%	36%	39%	40%	26%	41%

Table A- 45: Percent of Michigan residents who desire additional types of recycling services at their primary residence (among those who do not currently have access to the specific type of service), by participation in recycling programs and family annual income

	Participation in Recycling Programs				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Curbside recycling collection	6%	8%	15%	24%	16%	19%	15%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	6%	6%	4%	10%	11%	8%	9%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	21%	21%	18%	17%	20%	23%	19%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	23%	18%	16%	15%	21%	19%	19%
Collection of residential yard waste	11%	6%	12%	8%	12%	9%	12%
Collection of residential food waste	26%	28%	14%	15%	19%	21%	27%
Collection for hard to recycle or bulky items such as mattresses, appliances, textiles, foam, bikes, etc.	32%	40%	29%	32%	28%	33%	37%
Other	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Don't know	32%	31%	44%	47%	41%	38%	34%

Table A- 46: Percent of Michigan residents who desire additional types of recycling services at their primary residence (among those who do not currently have access to the specific type of service), by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Curbside recycling collection	23%	34%	21%	13%	16%	14%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	20%	5%	13%	3%	7%	9%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	37%	26%	19%	18%	22%	20%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	27%	26%	19%	18%	15%	20%
Collection of residential yard waste	19%	14%	15%	10%	10%	7%
Collection of residential food waste	31%	11%	22%	16%	16%	26%
Collection for hard to recycle or bulky items such as mattresses, appliances, textiles, foam, bikes, etc.	36%	51%	35%	24%	35%	30%
Other	1%	0%	0%	2%	4%	1%
Don't know	34%	35%	41%	45%	39%	36%

Table A- 47: Percent of Michigan residents who desire additional types of recycling services at their primary residence (among those who do not currently have access to the specific type of service), by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Curbside recycling collection	16%	15%	19%	46%	12%
Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)	7%	11%	10%	24%	6%
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)	17%	27%	22%	28%	19%
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)	15%	25%	22%	27%	18%
Collection of residential yard waste	9%	15%	10%	18%	9%
Collection of residential food waste	16%	21%	28%	26%	22%
Collection for hard to recycle or bulky items such as mattresses, appliances, textiles, foam, bikes, etc.	30%	34%	34%	29%	33%
Other	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Don't know	42%	41%	34%	34%	39%

[Back to text](#)

Table A- 48: Michigan residents’ stance on if promoting environmental sustainability should be an important goal for local government, by community type and primary residence type

	Community				Primary residence		
	Rural community	Small city or town, village	A suburb	Urban community	Single-family home	Apartment building or condominium	Other
Strongly agree	33%	39%	41%	45%	37%	50%	37%
Somewhat agree	23%	24%	23%	24%	22%	26%	29%
Neither agree nor disagree	18%	19%	14%	18%	19%	13%	11%
Somewhat disagree	9%	5%	6%	6%	6%	5%	8%
Strongly disagree	15%	10%	13%	5%	13%	5%	10%
Don’t know	2%	3%	4%	2%	3%	1%	6%

Table A- 49: Michigan residents’ stance on if promoting environmental sustainability should be an important goal for local government, by recycling participation and family annual income

	Recycling participation				Family annual income		
	All of the time	Most of the time	Some of the time	Rarely/Never	<\$30,000	\$30,001-\$79,999	\$80,000+
Strongly agree	52%	44%	29%	24%	41%	38%	38%
Somewhat agree	16%	24%	32%	30%	22%	24%	26%
Neither agree nor disagree	16%	14%	23%	16%	21%	14%	19%
Somewhat disagree	2%	5%	9%	13%	4%	8%	4%
Strongly disagree	11%	11%	6%	15%	7%	13%	12%
Don’t know	2%	3%	1%	3%	5%	3%	2%

Table A- 50: Michigan residents’ stance on if promoting environmental sustainability should be an important goal for local government, by region

	Upper Peninsula	Northern Lower Peninsula	West Central	East Central	Southwest	Southeast
Strongly agree	38%	45%	35%	40%	34%	40%
Somewhat agree	14%	32%	28%	17%	28%	22%
Neither agree nor disagree	14%	12%	17%	24%	17%	17%
Somewhat disagree	12%	2%	11%	4%	5%	5%
Strongly disagree	23%	6%	8%	13%	11%	12%
Don’t know	0%	2%	1%	2%	4%	4%

Table A- 51: Michigan residents’ stance on if promoting environmental sustainability should be an important goal for local government, by partisan self-identification and availability of any recycling services

	Partisan self-identification			Availability of recycling services	
	Republican	Independent	Democrat	No recycling	Some recycling
Strongly agree	17%	33%	61%	40%	38%
Somewhat agree	21%	21%	27%	21%	24%
Neither agree nor disagree	24%	23%	8%	17%	17%
Somewhat disagree	14%	4%	0%	6%	6%
Strongly disagree	21%	13%	1%	14%	11%
Don’t know	3%	7%	2%	2%	3%

[Back to text](#)

Recycling questions asked of Michigan residents statewide on the State of the State Survey (SOSS) - Winter/Spring 2023

1. What type of housing is your primary residence?

- A single-family home
- A townhome or duplex
- An apartment building or condominium
- A manufactured/mobile home
- Other (*please specify*) _____
- Don't know

2. Which of the following recycling services are currently available for your primary residence? (*check all that apply*)

- Curbside recycling collection
- Access to a drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)
- Household hazardous waste collection opportunities (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)
- Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)
- Collection of residential yard waste
- Collection of residential food waste
- Other (*please specify*) _____
- None of the above
- Don't know

3. Which of the following recycling services have you used in the past 12 months for your primary residence? (*check all that apply*)

- Curbside recycling collection
- A drop-off recycling site (either free or for a fee)
- Household hazardous waste recycling (e.g., household chemicals, paint, batteries, medicine)
- Household electronic equipment recycling (e.g., computers, televisions, phones, tablets)
- Collection of residential yard waste
- Collection of residential food waste
- Other (*please specify*) _____
- None of the above
- Don't know

4. **Are there any recycling services that are not currently available in your community that you would like to have access to?** *(check all that apply, responses seeded from Q2)*

Curbside recycling collection
Access to a drop-off recycling site
Household hazardous waste recycling opportunities
Household electronic equipment recycling opportunities
Yard waste material collection
Food waste collection
Collection for hard to recycle or bulky items such as mattresses, appliances, textiles, foam, bikes, etc.
Other (please specify) _____
Don't know

5. *(excluding those who checked "none of the above" in Q2)* **Not counting deposit-return bottles or cans, how would you describe your participation in the recycling programs available in your community? Would you say you recycle all of the time, most of the time, some of the time, rarely or never?**

All of the time
Most of the time
Some of the time
Rarely
Never
Don't know

6. **How many minutes would you drive to use a drop-off recycling site?**

Up to 5 minutes
6-10 minutes
11-15 minutes
16-20 minutes
More than 20 minutes
Don't drive / don't have access to transportation
Would not drive any distance to a drop-off site
Don't know

7. (skip if answered “yes” to food waste collection in Q2 and/or Q3) **A large portion of the waste Michigan residents send to the landfill is food waste. How likely would you be to use a food waste reduction or food composting program if it were available to you?**

Very likely
Somewhat likely
Neither likely nor unlikely
Somewhat unlikely
Very unlikely
Don't know

8. **What would be the best ways for you to receive information about recycling services from your local community or recycling service provider? (check all that apply)**

Email
Letter or flyer via postal mail
Website
Social media
Texting on mobile phone
An app for your mobile device (e.g., Waste Wizard, Recollect, Recycle Coach)
A note left in or stuck on my home recycling container
Other (please specify) _____
I prefer not to receive any information about recycling
Don't know

9. **In terms of recycling services, are you...?**

Satisfied with the amount of service(s) received
Wish I had more recycling options
Wish I had fewer recycling options
Don't know

10. In terms of who pays for recycling, would you support or oppose the following options? *(this will be in a grid with the scale of strongly support, somewhat support, neither support nor oppose, strongly oppose, somewhat oppose, don't know)*

Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.

Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.

Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.

Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider

Don't know

11. If you had options for how to pay for recycling, which one of the following would you choose? *(this will be a "radio button" with only one answer allowed)*

Recycling is a community public service, so all residents should pay for recycling through taxes.

Recycling should be funded by trash disposal fees.

Recycling should be funded by the companies that produce and/or package the products.

Recycling should be funded through service fees directly collected by the recycling service provider.

Don't know

12. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? *(scale is strongly agree, somewhat agree, neither agree nor disagree, somewhat disagree, strongly disagree, don't know)*

Recycling is worth the effort given the large impact it has.

Recycling is good for Michigan's economy.

Most materials collected in recycling programs end up in landfills.

Recycling programs help decrease litter and pollution in our local community's environment.

Recycling programs help protect clean water in Michigan.

Recycling programs help address global climate change.

Recycling efforts boost our local economic development and job growth.

13. Companies that produce and/or package should help fund the system to ensure all residents have access to recycling options for product packaging.

Strongly agree
Somewhat agree
Neither agree nor disagree
Somewhat disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know



14. Michigan's bottle deposit law requires consumers to pay a 10-cent deposit on specific beverage containers at time of purchase which is refunded when they are returned at the grocery store or other retailer. When it comes to this program, would you agree or disagree with the following statements? (scale is Strongly agree, Somewhat agree, Neither agree nor disagree, Somewhat disagree, Strongly Disagree, Don't know)

I wish I could recycle bottles and cans at the curb rather than take them back to the store.
I think the bottle deposit law should be expanded to include additional containers like water bottles.
I put my deposit bottles and cans in my curbside recycling.
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to reduce litter.
The purpose of the Michigan bottle deposit law is to increase recycling.

15. Thinking more generally about local government programs and services, do you agree or disagree that promoting environmental sustainability and the concept of "being green" should be important goals for your local government?

Strongly agree
Somewhat agree
Neither agree nor disagree
Somewhat disagree
Strongly Disagree
Don't know

Recycling questions asked of Michigan local government leaders statewide on the Michigan Public Policy Survey (MPPS) Fall 2021

 <small>MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY</small>	 <small>Center for Local, State, and Urban Policy Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy</small>	MICHIGAN PUBLIC POLICY SURVEY (MPPS) Michigan Local Recycling Policy Project Fall 2021																														
<p>To start, please select:</p> <p>Q1. What type of jurisdiction do you represent?</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 40%;"> <input type="checkbox"/> County <input type="checkbox"/> Township <input type="checkbox"/> City <input type="checkbox"/> Village </div> <div style="width: 55%;"> <p>What is the jurisdiction's name? _____</p> <p><i>(If not a county) In what county is it located?</i> _____</p> <p>What position do you hold? _____</p> </div> </div>																																
<p>If you have any questions, please contact: clousup@umich.edu (734) 615-5315</p>																																
<p>In this survey, we're interested in your opinions and any activities in your jurisdiction related to materials management, waste collection, and recycling. Even if you feel that some of these topics are not applicable for your own jurisdiction's government operations, we still hope you will respond so we can understand local materials management and recycling issues from a statewide perspective.</p>																																
<p>Q2. Some Michigan communities invest significant resources in recycling and waste management services. Others play little or no role and aren't particularly interested in these topics. Thinking overall about issues around waste collection and recycling, how important, if at all, would you say these topics are to members of <u>your</u> community?</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Not at all important</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Not very important</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Somewhat important</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Very important</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Don't know</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">Waste collection</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Recycling</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Not at all important	Not very important	Somewhat important	Very important	Don't know	Waste collection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>												
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Recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																											
<p>Q3. Are the following types of waste collection services or programs currently provided within your jurisdiction, either by your own government or through joint agreements or by other providers (including private providers)? (check all that apply)</p> <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Curbside waste collection for residents <input type="checkbox"/> On-site waste collection for local businesses (e.g., curbside, dumpsters, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Access to a drop-off waste collection facility (for residents and/or businesses, either free or for a fee) <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know </div>																																
<p>Q4. As far as you know, are the following types of recycling services or programs currently provided within your jurisdiction, either by your own government or through joint agreements or by other providers (including private providers)? (check all that apply)</p> <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Curbside recycling collection for residents <input type="checkbox"/> On-site recycling collection for local businesses (e.g., curbside, dumpsters, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Access to a drop-off recycling facility (for residents and/or businesses, either free or for a fee) <input type="checkbox"/> Household hazardous waste collection opportunities <input type="checkbox"/> Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (i.e., e-waste) <input type="checkbox"/> Collection of yard waste material for composting <input type="checkbox"/> None of the above <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know </div>																																
<p>Q5. Whether or not there are currently recycling services or programs available to residents and/or businesses in your jurisdiction, how much support for local access to recycling, if any, would you say there is among the following groups?</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Strong support</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Some support</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Little support</th> <th style="text-align: center;">No support at all</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Don't know</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">The majority of your jurisdiction's residents</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">The majority of businesses in your jurisdiction (e.g., commercial, industrial, or agricultural operations, etc.)</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">The majority of your jurisdiction's Board or Council</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #e0f2f1;">You personally as a local official</td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Strong support	Some support	Little support	No support at all	Don't know	The majority of your jurisdiction's residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The majority of businesses in your jurisdiction (e.g., commercial, industrial, or agricultural operations, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	The majority of your jurisdiction's Board or Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	You personally as a local official	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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The majority of your jurisdiction's residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																											
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The majority of your jurisdiction's Board or Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																											
You personally as a local official	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																											
<p>Q6. Again, whether or not there are currently recycling services or programs available to residents and/or businesses in your jurisdiction, we'd like to know about changes in recycling in your community in the recent past. Over the past two years, have recycling services been reduced or expanded within your jurisdiction?</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">No substantial change</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Significant reduction or elimination</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Some reduction</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Mixed</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Some expansion</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Significant expansion or new introduction</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Don't know</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><input type="checkbox"/></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			No substantial change	Significant reduction or elimination	Some reduction	Mixed	Some expansion	Significant expansion or new introduction	Don't know	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																
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<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>																										

Q7. (if you selected "significant" or "some reduction or elimination" or "mixed" in Q6) What are the reasons that recycling efforts in your jurisdiction have recently been reduced or even eliminated? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic
- ☐ Financial issues (e.g., cost increases from service providers, expired grant funding, etc.)
- ☐ Lack of demand or participation by the community
- ☐ Lack of service providers
- ☐ Service cuts by the county or other partners
- ☐ Other (please specify) _____
- ☐ Don't know

PLEASE NOTE: THE FOLLOWING SECTION IS FOR RESPONDENTS WHO INDICATED IN Q4 ABOVE THAT SOME RECYCLING SERVICES ARE PROVIDED IN THE JURISDICTION.

ALL OTHERS SHOULD NOW SKIP TO QUESTION 21 ON PAGE 5 OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE →

You may have indicated that members of your community have access to collection of hazardous waste/electronics/yard waste/etc. For this survey, we are considering these activities as "recycling." Questions below may address them as well.

Q8a. (only answer here if you are a township, city, or village official) Please tell us more about the services or programs you checked in Questions 3 and 4 above. For the services you said are available to members of your community, thinking about the primary service provider, which of the following options best describes how the services below are currently provided in your jurisdiction?

	Run by our jurisdiction itself	Our jurisdiction contracts directly with a private contractor or hauler	Run jointly with other local governments or regional arrangements	Run only by our County government	Users contract directly with private contractors or haulers	Not applicable	Don't know
Curbside <u>waste</u> collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-site <u>waste</u> collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a drop-off <u>waste</u> collection facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curbside <u>recycling</u> collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-site <u>recycling</u> collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a drop-off <u>recycling</u> facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (i.e., e-waste)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collection of yard waste material for composting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q8b. (only answer here if you are a county official) Please tell us more about the services or programs you checked in Questions 3 and 4 above. For the services you said are available to members of your community, thinking about the primary service provider, which of the following options best describes how the services below are currently provided in your jurisdiction?

	Run by our County itself	Our County contracts directly with a private contractor or hauler	Run jointly with other local governments or regional arrangements	Run only by some local governments in the county	Users contract directly with private contractors or haulers	Not applicable	Don't know
Curbside <u>waste</u> collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-site <u>waste</u> collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a drop-off <u>waste</u> collection facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curbside <u>recycling</u> collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-site <u>recycling</u> collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a drop-off <u>recycling</u> facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (i.e., e-waste)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collection of yard waste material for composting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q9. (only answer here if you are a township, city, or village official) Thinking again about the services or programs you checked in Questions 3 and 4 above, are the following programs automatically provided to residents or businesses in your jurisdiction (that is, everyone gets the service unless they "opt-out")? Or must users specifically subscribe to a service, pay a per-use fee, or otherwise opt-in?

	Automatically provided	Subscription-based, per-use fee, or opt-in	Not applicable	Don't know
Curbside <u>waste</u> collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-site <u>waste</u> collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a drop-off <u>waste</u> collection facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curbside <u>recycling</u> collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-site <u>recycling</u> collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a drop-off <u>recycling</u> facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (i.e., e-waste)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collection of yard waste material for composting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q10. Thinking once more about the services or programs you checked in Questions 3 and 4 above, how satisfied are you, in your role as a jurisdiction official, with the current provision of these programs within your jurisdiction?

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Not applicable	Don't know
Curbside <u>waste</u> collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-site <u>waste</u> collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a drop-off <u>waste</u> collection facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Curbside <u>recycling</u> collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
On-site <u>recycling</u> collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Access to a drop-off <u>recycling</u> facility	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household hazardous waste collection opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (i.e., e-waste)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Collection of yard waste material for composting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q11. As far as you know, are there any recycling services that are not currently available to residents and/or businesses in your jurisdiction that those groups would like to have access to? (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Curbside recycling collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/> Food waste collection for residents and/or businesses
<input type="checkbox"/> On-site recycling collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/> Access to food waste drop-off facility
<input type="checkbox"/> Access to a drop-off recycling facility	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs for hard to recycle or bulky items such as mattresses, appliances, textiles, foam, bikes, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Household hazardous waste collection opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper shredding opportunities
<input type="checkbox"/> Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (i.e., e-waste)	<input type="checkbox"/> Upgrading curbside collection from bins to carts
<input type="checkbox"/> Collection of yard waste material for composting	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know

Q12. Regardless of whether your jurisdiction's government provides any funding support for local recycling services and/or to pay for private service provision, do you feel your jurisdiction itself currently spends too much, about the right amount, or too little on recycling programs and efforts?

☐ We spend too much ☐ We spend about the right amount ☐ We spend too little ☐ Don't know

Q13. If your jurisdiction's government provides any funding support for local recycling services and/or to pay for private service provision, which of the following approaches are used? (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> We do not use any jurisdiction funding for local recycling efforts	
<input type="checkbox"/> General fund contributions	<input type="checkbox"/> Private grants
<input type="checkbox"/> Special assessments	<input type="checkbox"/> Community Host Agreement (e.g., when a facility is allowed in the community in exchange for providing some additional specific benefit)
<input type="checkbox"/> User fees	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated millage	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/> Federal and/or state grants	

Q14. (if you selected any funding source in Q13) Overall, how satisfied are you with your jurisdiction's current approach to funding local recycling services or programs?

Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q15. In terms of trade-offs between costs and benefits of your recycling services, do you think the following groups would be more likely to choose higher taxes or fees for more (or improved) services, or would they choose lower taxes or fees and have fewer (or no) recycling services?

	Would choose higher taxes or fees for more services	Would choose lower taxes or fees for fewer services	Don't know
The majority of your jurisdiction's residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The majority of businesses in your jurisdiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The majority of your jurisdiction's Board or Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You personally as a local official	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q16. As far as you know, which of the following factors, if any, are challenges for recycling within your jurisdiction? (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Current costs of recycling programs and services	<input type="checkbox"/> 9. Lack of recycling processing infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Lack of end markets for recycled materials	<input type="checkbox"/> 10. Outdated County Solid Waste Management Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Cheap landfill rates (that make it less expensive to throw trash out than recycle)	<input type="checkbox"/> 11. Gathering and analysis of waste and recycling data
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Lack of support from our Board/Council	<input type="checkbox"/> 12. Meeting state or other mandates/regulations
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Lack of support from the community	<input type="checkbox"/> 13. Other (please specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. Lack of public awareness/participation in recycling efforts	<input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Improper recycling practices by users (e.g., contamination, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Staffing for waste and recycling services	

Q17. While many of these challenges may be significant, we're interested in the ones you believe are most critical. Looking at the factors listed above in Q16 that you indicated were challenges to recycling efforts in your jurisdiction, please rank up to three in order of their significance. (Please use the numbers above in Q16 corresponding to your selections. If you do not have any particular challenges, please skip to Q18.)

Most significant challenge _____

Second most significant challenge _____

Third most significant challenge _____

Q18. Does your jurisdiction's government have a person or persons who are specifically responsible for addressing recycling issues? (check all that apply)

☐ No, no one in the jurisdiction is specifically responsible for recycling issues

☐ Yes, we have jurisdiction staff whose sole job responsibility is recycling issues

☐ Yes, we have jurisdiction staff who have other job responsibilities in addition to handling recycling issues

☐ Yes, we have elected official(s) who have taken ownership of recycling issues or are recycling "champions"

☐ Yes, we have formal local government committees/boards engaged on recycling issues (e.g., Materials Management Committee, citizen advisory committees, etc.)

☐ Don't know

Q19. If the following resources were available, would your jurisdiction's government be more likely to expand or improve recycling services, or would it not make a difference?

	Much more likely to expand or improve recycling	Somewhat likely to make a difference	Somewhat unlikely to make a difference	It would not make any difference at all	Don't know
Additional funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional local and/or regional partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical assistance (e.g., customized advising on funding, partnerships, contracts, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Higher revenues from the sale of recycled materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State-funded outreach and educational efforts aimed at residents and/or businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q20. Please share what, if anything, you feel is working particularly well in your community's recycling efforts, or anything else you'd like to tell us about your experiences with local recycling.

PLEASE NOTE:
RESPONDENTS WHO COMPLETED THE PREVIOUS 3 PAGES SHOULD NOW SKIP TO QUESTION 27 OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE →
RESPONDENTS WHOSE JURISDICTIONS HAVE NO RECYCLING SERVICE PROVISION SHOULD CONTINUE WITH QUESTION 21

Q21. Some Michigan jurisdictions are not interested in developing local recycling programs. Others would, except for barriers that keep them from doing so. What about your jurisdiction? Which of the following factors, if any, would you say are reasons your jurisdiction is not engaged in recycling efforts (including services by private providers)? (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Total lack of interest among the jurisdiction's government and the wider community	<input type="checkbox"/> 9. Staffing for waste and recycling services
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Current costs of recycling programs and services	<input type="checkbox"/> 10. Lack of recycling processing infrastructure
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Lack of end markets for recycled materials	<input type="checkbox"/> 11. Outdated County Solid Waste Management Plan
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Cheap landfill rates (that make it less expensive to throw trash out than recycle)	<input type="checkbox"/> 12. Gathering and analysis of waste and recycling data
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Lack of support from our Board/Council	<input type="checkbox"/> 13. Meeting state or other mandates/regulations
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. Lack of support from the community	<input type="checkbox"/> 14. Other (please specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Lack of public awareness/participation in recycling efforts	<input type="checkbox"/> None of the above
<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Improper recycling practices by users (e.g., contamination, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know

Q22. (skip if selected "total lack of interest" in Q21) While many of these factors may be significant, we're interested in the ones you believe are most important. Looking at the factors listed above in Q21 that you indicated were reasons your jurisdiction is not engaged in recycling efforts, please rank up to three in order of their significance. (Please use the numbers above in Q16 corresponding to your selections. If you do not have any particular challenges, please skip to Q23)

Most significant factor _____

Second most significant factor _____

Third most significant factor _____

Q23. (skip if selected "total lack of interest" in Q21) As far as you know, are there any recycling services that are not currently available to residents and/or businesses in your jurisdiction that those groups would like to have access to? (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Food waste collection for residents and/or businesses
<input type="checkbox"/> Curbside recycling collection for residents	<input type="checkbox"/> Access to food waste drop-off facility
<input type="checkbox"/> On-site recycling collection for local businesses	<input type="checkbox"/> Programs for hard to recycle or bulky items such as mattresses, appliances, textiles, foam, bikes, etc.
<input type="checkbox"/> Access to a drop-off recycling facility	<input type="checkbox"/> Paper shredding opportunities
<input type="checkbox"/> Household hazardous waste collection opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Household electronic equipment collection opportunities (i.e., e-waste)	<input type="checkbox"/> Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/> Collection of yard waste material for composting	

Q24. (skip if selected "total lack of interest" in Q21) Thinking about potential development of local recycling efforts, do you think the following groups would support or oppose paying higher taxes or fees for recycling services in the community?

	Strongly support	Somewhat support	Neither support nor oppose	Somewhat oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
The majority of your jurisdiction's residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The majority of businesses in your jurisdiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The majority of your jurisdiction's Board or Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You personally as a local official	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q25. If the following resources were available, would your jurisdiction's government be more likely to introduce recycling services, or would it not make a difference?

	Much more likely to introduce recycling	Somewhat likely to make a difference	Somewhat unlikely to make a difference	It would not make any difference at all	Don't know
Additional funding	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Additional local and/or regional partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Technical assistance (e.g., customized advising on funding, partnerships, contracts, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Higher revenues from the sale of recycled materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State-funded outreach and educational efforts aimed at residents and/or businesses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q26. (If you selected "very" or "somewhat likely" in Q25) Please briefly describe which resources or assistance might make your jurisdiction most likely to introduce recycling services.

PLEASE NOTE: ALL RESPONDENTS SHOULD PLEASE PROCEED WITH THESE FINAL 2 PAGES OF THE QUESTIONNAIRE

Q27. Whether or not your jurisdiction is currently engaged in recycling efforts, which of the following sources of information are or would likely be influential in your decision making? (if a source is not available to your jurisdiction, please select "not influential at all")

	Very influential	Somewhat influential	Not very influential	Not influential at all	Don't know
Federal government agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State government agencies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Local, regional, or national environmental groups (e.g., local non-profits, the Michigan Recycling Coalition, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Private-sector recycling providers or groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National or state organizations supporting local governments (e.g., ICMA, MML/MTA/MAC, MSU Extension office)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Examples from other municipalities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resident commissions or advisory boards	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Articles in professional magazines and websites	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q28. Overall, how satisfied would you say the following groups or individuals in the community are with your jurisdiction's current approach—or lack thereof—to recycling?

	Very satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied	Somewhat dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Don't know
The majority of your jurisdiction's residents	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The majority of businesses in your jurisdiction	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The majority of your jurisdiction's Board or Council	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
You personally as a local official	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q29. Now, just a couple of questions about recycling efforts in general. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Recycling is not worth the effort given the small impact it actually has.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Most materials collected in recycling programs simply end up in landfills anyway.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling programs can help decrease litter and pollution in our local community's environment.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling programs can help protect clean water in Michigan.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling programs can help address global climate change.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
New state and regional recycling efforts could boost our local economic development and job growth.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q30. Do you agree or disagree that promoting environmental sustainability and the concept of "being green" are important aspects of local government leadership?

Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q31. Finally, we are interested in learning more about policy issues according to whether communities are rural, urban, or somewhere in between. How would you characterize your jurisdiction?

☐ Rural ☐ Mostly rural ☐ Mostly urban ☐ Urban ☐ Don't know

Q32. We are committed to protecting the confidentiality of all of your responses to this survey. None of your answers above will be shared with anyone in a way that would identify you personally or your jurisdiction. However, if you are interested in being contacted—for example, by the University of Michigan or by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE)—about resources or information regarding any of the following topics, please check the relevant ones below, and then be sure to provide your contact information below so you can be contacted directly.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Purchasing policies that support greater use of recycled content | <input type="checkbox"/> Michigan Green Communities program (hearing from peer communities about their approaches to recycling) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recycling grant opportunities | <input type="checkbox"/> Help with resident educational outreach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information on regional recycling collaboration | <input type="checkbox"/> NextCycle Michigan local government accelerator program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Help with resident surveys on recycling interest/participation | <input type="checkbox"/> Local economic development opportunities related to recycling |

Q33. CLOSUP will protect your privacy and anonymity to the full extent provided by law. We need to confirm your personal information such as name and email address for tracking and administrative purposes only, or if you indicated you would like to be contacted on a particular issue. As with all of the questions in this survey, these are optional.

Your name _____ Your email address _____

Today's date ____ / ____ / 2021

We would like to ask some demographic questions. As with all of the questions in this survey, these are optional. Responses will be reported in aggregate form only so that your individual responses will remain confidential.

Q34. What is your gender? ☐ Male ☐ Female ☐ Self-describe _____

Q35. In what year were you born? _____

Q36. How many years have you served in your current position? _____

Q37. Are you of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino descent? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Q38. Please check one or more categories below to indicate what race(s) you consider yourself to be. (check all that apply)

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> White | <input type="checkbox"/> Asian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Black or African American | <input type="checkbox"/> Multiracial |
| <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian or Alaskan Native | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |

Q39. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed?

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 12 th grade or less/no diploma | <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High school graduate or GED | <input type="checkbox"/> Master's degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Some college, no degree | <input type="checkbox"/> Professional/Doctorate degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate's degree | |

Q40. Generally speaking, do you think of yourself as a... ?

☐ Republican ☐ Independent ☐ Democrat ☐ Something else (please specify) _____

Q41. (if Republican or Democrat) Would you consider yourself a strong or not very strong Republican/Democrat?

☐ Very strong ☐ Not very strong ☐ Don't know

Q42. (if Independent or something else) Would you consider yourself closer to... ?

☐ the Democratic Party ☐ the Republican Party ☐ Neither