

November 2005

2004 Out-of-State Waste

In 2004, approximately 14.6 percent (3,157,614 tons) of all solid waste disposed in Ohio was from out-of-state. This amount includes 1.9 tons of waste that was imported and treated at Ohio's only remaining publicly-available incinerator, Stericycle, Inc., in Lucas County. Approximately 10,000 tons were also received at American Tire Monofill (Stark County), Liberty Tire Monofill (Stark County) and Envirosafe Services HW and Industrial Landfill (Lucas County). Envirosafe is a publicly-available hazardous waste landfill licensed to accept a small amount of industrial waste.

Ohio is now 550,000 tons away from reaching peak imports in 1989. Two factors that influence the amount of waste exported to Ohio include a large disposal capacity and low tipping fees.

What types of waste are coming into Ohio?

A majority of the solid waste imported into Ohio in 2004 was general solid waste (1,514,356 tons). The next largest amount of waste imported was industrial solid waste (1,007,724 tons), as seen in Figure 1.

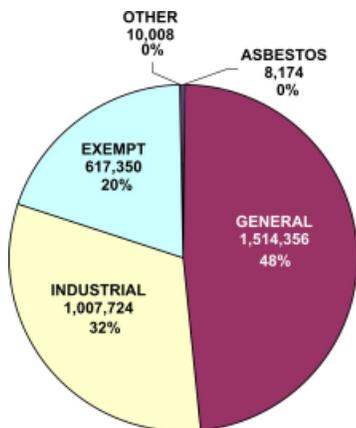


Figure 1: Imports by Waste Type

How much waste is imported?

Solid waste imports peaked in 1989, when Ohio received 3.7 million tons - 20 percent of all solid waste disposed that year. Between 1990 and 1993, imports remained fairly level at 1.7 to 1.9 million tons per year. In 1994, 1995 and 1996, the total amount of waste received at Ohio landfills and incinerators increased while the amount of waste received from out-of state sources decreased to 1.5 million, 1.2 million and 1.1 million tons, respectively. Since 1996, the amount of waste imported has gradually risen each year, totaling six percent of all landfill disposal in 1996, and reaching nearly 14 percent of total landfill disposal in 2004.

Where is the waste coming from?

In 2004, 25 percent of imported waste came from five neighboring states while the remaining 75 percent was long-haul waste that came from Eastern Pennsylvania and states that do not border Ohio. Figure 2 shows a breakdown of waste origin and amounts. Since 1997, 34 percent of all waste imported into Ohio has originated in New York, 27 percent from New Jersey and 23 percent from Pennsylvania.

Where is the waste going?

Landfills in the northeast region of Ohio received 62 percent of the solid waste imported in 2004. Approximately 29 percent was disposed of in landfills located in the northwest region of the state while the remaining nine percent was divided among the southwest, southeast and central regions.

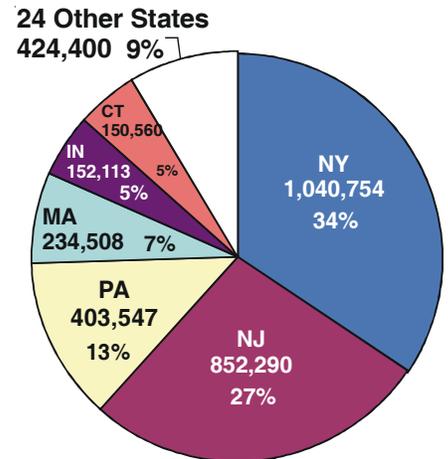


Figure 2: Solid Waste Imports by State 2004

The central region of Ohio received 1.3 percent of imported waste, as seen in Figure 3 on page 2.

In 2004, 23 municipal landfills, two scrap tire monofills, one incinerator and one hazardous waste treatment facility that is licensed to treat a very small amount of municipal solid waste received imported waste. The majority of out-of-state waste (83 percent) was disposed of at the top five facilities as shown in Figure 4 on page 2. These facilities combined have received 87 percent of all out-of-state waste imported into Ohio during the past five years.

More than 30 percent of all solid waste imported into Ohio in 2004 was disposed of at the BFI Carbon Limestone Sanitary Landfill. This facility received 971,186 tons of out-of-state waste, representing 65 percent of all waste disposed there. Another 27 percent of all waste imported into Ohio was disposed at American Landfill, accounting for 45 percent of their total waste volume.

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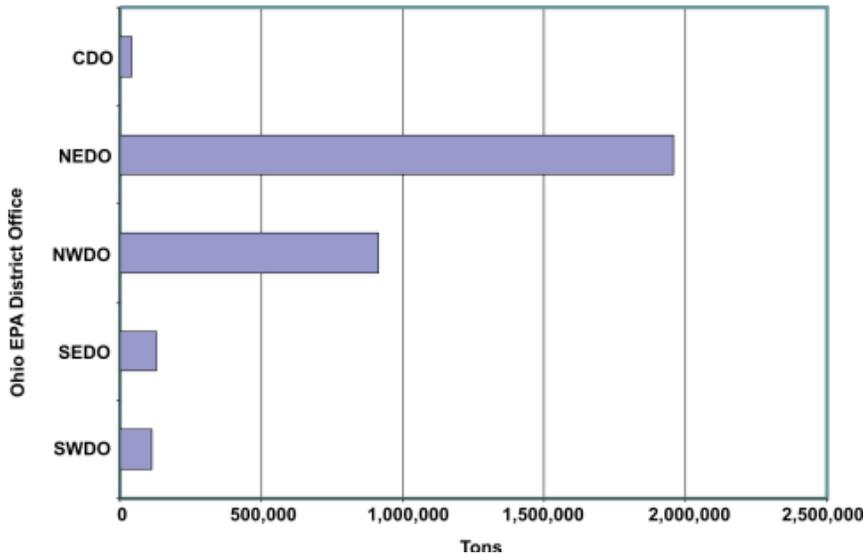


Figure 3: Waste Imports by Ohio EPA District Office, 2004

Why are we accepting out-of-state waste?

Federal courts have held that shipments of waste are protected under the interstate commerce clause of the Constitution. As a result, state and local governments may not prohibit private landfills from accepting out-of-state waste, nor may they impose fees on waste disposal that discriminates on the basis of origin.

Before anything can be done to address the issue at the state level, the U.S. Congress must pass legislation to grant states the right to restrict the amount of out-of-state waste they import. The Governor and Ohio EPA have advocated this type of legislation for many years.

Why is out-of-state waste a concern?

It is difficult or sometimes impossible for state and local inspectors to verify that hazardous or untreated infectious waste has not been included in solid waste shipments that are shredded or heavily compacted before being shipped long distances.

Citizen opposition to landfills that are perceived to serve primarily out-of-state waste hinders siting the facilities necessary to provide disposal capacity for Ohio's waste. In addition, citizens are reluctant to reduce or recycle waste when they believe their efforts will only serve to make room for trash from other states.

With the passage of Ohio's comprehensive solid waste law, H.B. 592, Ohio took a step toward responsibly managing Ohio's waste by assuring in-state capacity for solid waste generated in Ohio and by setting state recycling goals. However, while Ohio takes the necessary steps to manage its own waste responsibly,

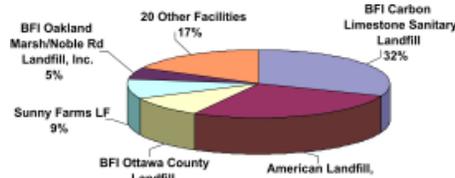


Figure 4: Facilities Accepting Out-of-State Waste

there is some concern that it will become a destination of choice for waste from other states not making the same effort.

Is Ohio exporting waste?

In addition to importing waste from other states, Ohio also exports waste to Michigan, Kentucky, West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Indiana. In 2004, 1,200,904 tons of waste received at Ohio's solid waste facilities was shipped to facilities in contiguous states, as seen in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Ohio Solid Waste Imports and Exports for 2004

Waste Received at Solid Waste Facilities in Ohio and Sent to Facilities in Contiguous States

Imports (in tons)	
New York	1,090,755
New Jersey	852,290
Pennsylvania	403,547
Massachusetts	234,509
Indiana	152,113
Connecticut	150,560
West Virginia	115,578
Michigan	63,075
Kentucky	57,538
New Hampshire	17,273
Delaware	3,237
Washington	1,976
Maryland	1,804
17 Other States	13,359
Total Imports	3,157,614¹

Exports (in tons)	
Ohio to Michigan	432,683
Ohio to Kentucky	346,117
Ohio to West Virginia	232,634
Ohio to Indiana	151,855
Ohio to Pennsylvania	37,616
Total Exports	1,200,905

1. Includes 9,649 tons received at Liberty Tire that is of unknown origin and potentially subject to change.

Import amounts are from an annual summary of the daily log at municipal solid waste landfills accepting solid waste for disposal in Ohio. Export amounts are based on information provided by Ohio EPA's analogous agencies in contiguous states and Ohio's SWMDs.

OHIO SOLID WASTE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR 2004

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Massachusetts 234,509 tons	Ohio to Indiana 151,855 tons
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West Virginia 115,578 tons	
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