






## Limited Recycling



 POPULATION	318,069
 RECYCLING RATE	10%
 RECYCLING PROGRAMS	Citywide Single-Family Curbside Recycling
 MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	Single-Family Residential: Municipal Multi-Family/Commercial: Open-Market
 HIGH-ROAD ECONOMIC POLICIES	Some City Haulers: Collective Bargaining Agreement

**Although St. Louis reports a recycling rate of just 10%**, there is potential to build on existing programs. Perhaps most promising is the recognition that recycling is more cost effective than disposal and could help relieve the strain on a budget that is in the middle of a fiscal crisis. St. Louis rolled out a curbside recycling over the last two years that is now a citywide program. The city has limited involvement with commercial trash or construction and demolition waste, which is collected by private companies. Private haulers provide collection services to businesses and an ordinance recently passed allowing residents to opt out of city collection services and go with a private hauler. Under this system the city has limited ability to set any standards for private haulers including service requirements, customer rate standards or job quality standards. There is also an opportunity to build a high road recycling sector by applying the existing living wage and first source hiring policies to jobs throughout the waste stream.

**Sources:**

*Interview with St. Louis Streets Department Refuse Division  
2012 Draft City Sustainability Plan  
Missouri Solid Waste Plan*