Limited Recycling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POPULATION</th>
<th>758,738</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RECYCLING RATE</td>
<td>20% (residential only)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| RECYCLING PROGRAMS | Some Single-Family Curbside Recycling  
Some Yard Waste Composting |
| MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS | Single-Family Residential:  
Municipal (Recycling: Contract)  
Multi-Family/Commercial:  
Open Market |
| HIGH-ROAD ECONOMIC POLICY | Green Purchasing Policy |

**Columbus is in the early-stages of building a recycling system.** Although the state established a 50% recycling goal for cities, the mayor’s office has set a lower goal of reaching a 35% recycling rate by 2015. Efforts to expand recycling focus primarily on single-family residences. The city collects trash from single-family homes, while recycling collection is contracted to private companies. Currently, about 68% of single-family homes have access to recycling collection services. Commercial and multi-family trash and recycling is largely unregulated under the open-market system. In order to capture the economic and job creation potential of a sustainable recycling system, Columbus will first need to develop concrete recycling programs that are supported by strong management systems that empower the city to set environmental, job quality, and operational standards.

**Sources:**
Department of Public Service: Refuse Collection Division  
Columbus Get Green 2011 Progress Report  
SWACO Solid Waste Management Plan