

August 2006

# 2005 Out-of-State Waste

In 2005, approximately 13.8 percent (3,024,452 tons) of all solid waste disposed in Ohio was from out-of-state. This amount includes 10 tons of waste that was imported and treated at Ohio's only remaining publicly-available incinerator, Stericycle, Inc., in Trumbull County.

Approximately 11,119 tons were also received at American 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 approximately 700,000 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. Imports decreased 115,162 tons from 2004.

### What types of waste are coming into Ohio?

A majority of the solid waste imported into Ohio in 2005 was general solid waste (1,689,460 tons). The next largest amount of waste imported (577,547 tons) was construction and demolition debris (CD&D) as seen in Figure 1.

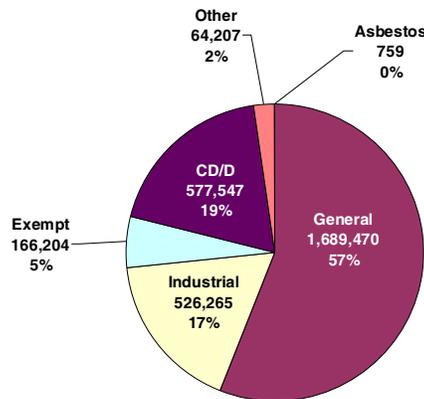


Figure 1: Imports by Waste Type

### 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 and 2005.

### Where is the waste coming from?

In 2005, 28 percent of imported waste came from five neighboring states while the remaining 72 percent was long-haul waste that came from Eastern Pennsylvania and states that do not border Ohio. Figure 2 shows a breakdown of waste by 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. Since 1997, 70 percent of all waste imported originated in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. The largest single importer of waste since 1997 (34%) is New York.

### Where is the waste going?

Landfills in the northeast region of Ohio received 53 percent of the solid waste imported in 2005. Approximately 34 percent was disposed of in landfills located in the northwest region of the state while the remaining 13 percent was divided among the southwest, southeast and central regions.

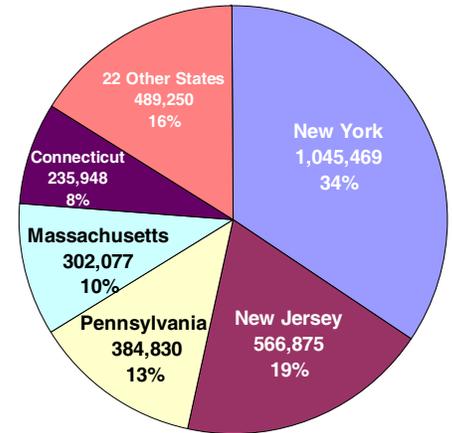


Figure 2: Solid Waste Imports by State 2005

The central region of Ohio received less than one percent of imported waste, as seen in Figure 3.

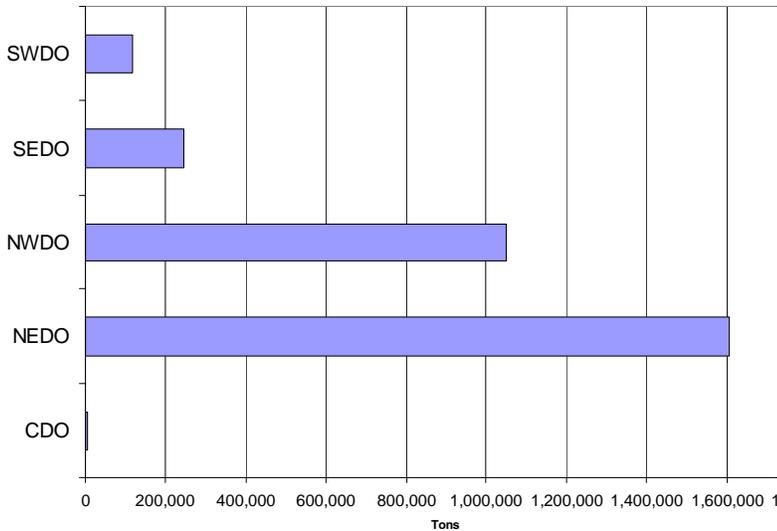
In 2005, the following facilities received imported waste: 23 municipal landfills; one scrap tire monofill; one incinerator; and one hazardous waste treatment facility that is licensed to treat a very small amount of municipal solid waste.

The majority of out-of-state waste (82 percent) was disposed of at the top five facilities as shown in Figure 4. These facilities combined have received 75 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 2005 was disposed of at the BFI Carbon Limestone Sanitary Landfill. This facility received 983,586 tons of out-of-state waste, representing 65 percent of all waste disposed there. Another 20 percent of all waste imported into Ohio was disposed at Sunny Farms in Seneca County, accounting for 84 percent of their total waste volume. Eighteen percent of all imported waste went to American Landfill in Stark County – a total of 34 percent of their total waste volume.

# 2005 Out-of-State Waste

**Figure 3:**  
Waste Imports by Ohio EPA District Office, 2005



## 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, 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 2005, 1,096,987 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 2005

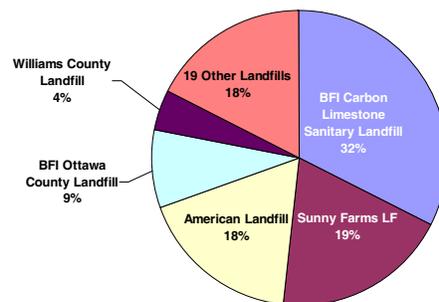
Waste Received at Solid Waste Facilities in Ohio and Sent to Facilities in Contiguous States

Imports	
New York	1,045,469 tons
New Jersey	566,875 tons
Pennsylvania	384,803 tons
Massachusetts	302,077 tons
Indiana	174,576 tons
Connecticut	235,948 tons
West Virginia	133,013 tons
Kentucky	105,047 tons
Michigan	56,464 tons
New Hampshire	7,145 tons
17 Other States	13,002 tons
<b>Total Imports</b>	<b>3,024,452 tons</b>

Exports	
Ohio to Michigan	404,592 tons
Ohio to Kentucky	358,353 tons
Ohio to West Virginia	145,733 tons
Ohio to Indiana	148,701 tons
Ohio to Pennsylvania	39,606 tons
<b>Total Exports</b>	<b>1,096,987 tons</b>

<sup>1</sup> Includes 10 tons incinerated at Stericycle, Inc in Trumbull County.

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.



**Figure 4:**  
Facilities Accepting Out-of-State Waste

## OHIO SOLID WASTE IMPORTS AND EXPORTS FOR 2005

Waste received at solid waste facilities in Ohio and sent to facilities in contiguous states  
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<u>Imports</u>	<u>Exports</u>
New York ..... 1,045,469 tons	Ohio to Michigan ..... 404,592 tons
New Jersey ..... 566,875 tons	Ohio to Kentucky ..... 358,353 tons
Pennsylvania ..... 384,803 tons	Ohio to West Virginia ..... 145,733 tons
Massachusetts ..... 302,077 tons	Ohio to Indiana ..... 148,701 tons
Indiana ..... 174,576 tons	Ohio to Pennsylvania ..... 39,606 tons
Connecticut ..... 235,948 tons	
West Virginia ..... 133,013 tons	
Kentucky ..... 105,047 tons	
Michigan ..... 56,464 tons	
New Hampshire ..... 7,145 tons	
17 Other States ..... 13,002 tons	
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<b>Total Imports</b> ..... 3,024,452 tons <sup>1</sup>	<b>Total Exports</b> ..... 1,096,987 tons

<sup>1</sup> Includes 10 tons incinerated at Stericycle, Inc in Trumbull County.

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.