

## **Saving Dollars with Diversion: A Financial Narrative of Campus Waste Streams**

Saving Dollars with Diversion opens with three big-picture metrics—Total Savings, Actual Cost, and Hypothetical Cost—so that from the moment you land on the page, you understand what’s at stake. The Total Savings figure distills all downstream impacts of waste-diversion initiatives into a single dollar number, while Actual Cost and Hypothetical Cost sit side by side to show what you did spend versus what you might have spent if 100 percent of your waste had gone to landfill. By front-loading these summary KPIs, we immediately anchor the story in real, tangible outcomes and invite the reader to ask: “How did we turn diversion into dollars saved?”

Beneath the KPI panel, an interactive chart plots monthly and cumulative savings over time. The teal “Monthly Savings” line shows direct benefits of diversion, with spikes coinciding with campus move-outs or targeted recycling drives, and dips prompting a closer look at collection or processing gaps. The gray “Cumulative Savings” view shows how small, consistent gains become substantial long-term value. A date slider and legend allow you to pan and zoom any period, making it easy to correlate actions like a dining hall compost pilot with financial outcomes.

The second chart breaks down your overall waste management cost into four colored streams—Landfill (gray), Recycling (blue), Compost (green), and Reuse (orange)—stacked monthly, with a dashed red line representing the hypothetical cost of all landfills. When your actual streams fall below this line, diversion pays for itself and more. Clicking on any legend item reveals the impact of each stream, for instance, hiding “Reuse” shows how recycling and composting compare to a landfill only scenario. Consistent hues reinforce the data’s story.

The third plot turns the cost gap into a single cumulative net benefit curve shaded in purple. This “Net Benefit Over Time” view distills savings and cost breakdown into an easy-to-understand metric. The steeper the slope, the faster you recoup costs and save money. Users can zoom or pan to quantify net benefit over any custom window, whether it’s the first six months of a new diversion program or year-over-year comparisons.

A bright apricot to peach gradient backdrop and alternating lightly tinted section bands create visual rhythm without distracting from the data. A compact hero banner in cardinal red frames the title and sets a confident tone. White “cards” with subtle shadows house KPIs and each chart, creating a clean, modular layout that translates smoothly to mobile. Cardinal accent bars atop the KPI cards tie back to the brand color, while CSS variable waste stream colors ensure perfect consistency.

Together, these elements guide the reader from summary metrics to detailed mechanics to overarching outcomes. The progression—Snapshot → Detail → Outcome—is a proven approach in data storytelling. Interactive controls empower stakeholders to probe, explore, and make data-informed decisions about further diversion strategies.

**Link:** <https://suhaas15.github.io/SavingDollarsWithDiversion/>