# Residence Halls Recycling Study



An insight into the freshmen residence halls recycling and trash patterns

#### About the Study

Several students took pictures each day of what was in the recycling bins in the bathrooms of the freshmen residence halls. This study took place over two weeks. Students took their pictures



of the recycling bins during week one. At the end of week one, a poster that distinguishes different objects as trash or recycling was posted above the recycling bins. This was posted up for week two. Students again took pictures.

### Hypothesis

 There would be less trash in the recycling bins during the second week compared to the first week.

- Overall, the second week seems to show an increase in amount of items in the recycling bin.
- Both weeks show a lot of paper towels in the recycling bin.
- Overall, there were more pictures in week one that would be qualified as contaminated than week two. Yay!

#### Examples of week one to week two

Week one







Week two









#### Examples of week one to week two con't

Something to notice between the first and second week is the amount of things recycled. The first week shows things in the recycling bin that should be recycled. But, the second week shows a lot of things that were represented on the poster that should be recycled. This is Bernhardt 1st floor (gender neutral floor).

#### Examples of week one to week two con't



Week

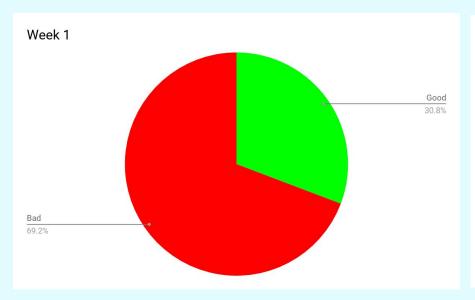
one

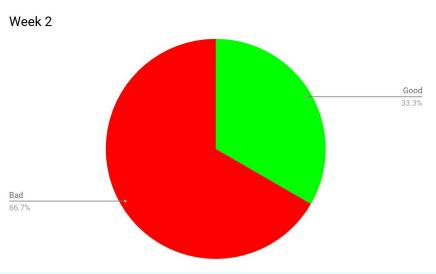


Week two

#### Examples of week one to week two con't

This is one of the many examples that show a difference between week one and week two. Again, the amount of things in the recycling bin has increased. This is from Wilhelm 3rd floor (girls' floor). The entire first week, pictures show paper towels in the recycling bin. The entire second week, barely any paper towels are visible, and there is an extreme increase in the amount of things recycled. Almost everything in the recycling bin throughout the second week were things that should've been recycled. However, some things belonged in the trash.





Good: 30.8% Bad: 69.2%

Good: 33.3% Bad: 66.7%

#### Conclusions

- The pie charts show that there was a slight increase in 100% contamination free recycling bins based off of the pictures.
- Hypothesis is supported by data and observations.