

# Commonwealth of Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

## Statistics on Recycling in Kentucky

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on the Environment  
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# Kentucky's Recycling Advantages

- Kentucky offers several advantages to firms in the recycling industry including: low utility cost, central location, quality workforce, ports along the Ohio and Mississippi rivers and the automotive industry's significant presence.
- Kentucky is nearly equidistant from the Great Lakes, the Gulf of Mexico and the Atlantic Seaboard, which makes the state an excellent distribution point for the aluminum, steel, plastics and electronic components industries.
- Kentucky's location allows recycling companies to ship to customers in both northern and southern regions of the United States.



# Highlights of Kentucky's Recycling Industry

- Kentuckians recycled 34.6 percent of common household recyclables (aluminum, cardboard, steel, plastic, newspaper, glass, and paper) in 2008.
- Kentuckians recycled 39 percent of all municipal solid waste in 2008, which included sludge, concrete, compost and asphalt.
- There are 86 recycling reclamation facilities with 7,418 employees in Kentucky.
- Companies producing aluminum, steel and plastics products using recycled materials account for 59,336 Kentucky jobs and over \$2.3 billion in payroll.



# Highlights of Kentucky's Recycling Industry

- The Novelis facility in Berea is the world's largest fully dedicated aluminum can recycling plant.
- The Owensboro Riverport is one of the leading ports in the handling and storage of primary and secondary aluminum. It is the only site in the United States to handle aluminum for both the New York Mercantile Exchange and the London Metal Exchange.
- Kentucky ranks as the number one state in the primary aluminum industry when measured by value of shipments.
- In 2007, Kentucky exported over \$1.22 billion primary and fabricated metals to foreign countries.
- Kentucky is one of the top twenty metal product exporting states.



# Highlights of Kentucky's Recycling Industry

- Kentucky's plastic exports have grown from \$212,411,176 in 2002 to \$345,262,174 in 2006 or over 62% in four years for an average growth of over 15% a year.
- Kentucky has a strong and competitive plastics industry which consists primarily of companies engaged in processing new and recycled plastics resins into intermediate or final products using such processes as compression molding, extrusion molding, injection molding, blow molding and film & sheet extrusion.



# Common Recyclables Tons Collected in Kentucky 2008

Cardboard	211,700.87
Glass	3,719.84
Metals Ferrous (steel)	1,822,769.45
Metals Non-Ferrous	163,804.51
Mixed Residential Paper	45,541.69
Newsprint	20,614.09
Office Paper Mixed	45,561.74
Office Paper White	11,884.44
Plastic (2 liter bottles, PET)	1,773.45
Plastic (milk jugs, HDPE)	691.03
Plastic (nonspecific)	13,098.35
Steel Cans (tin cans)	1,329.38
Telephone Books	664.98
Used Beverage Cans	47,133.84
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,390,287.66</b>

