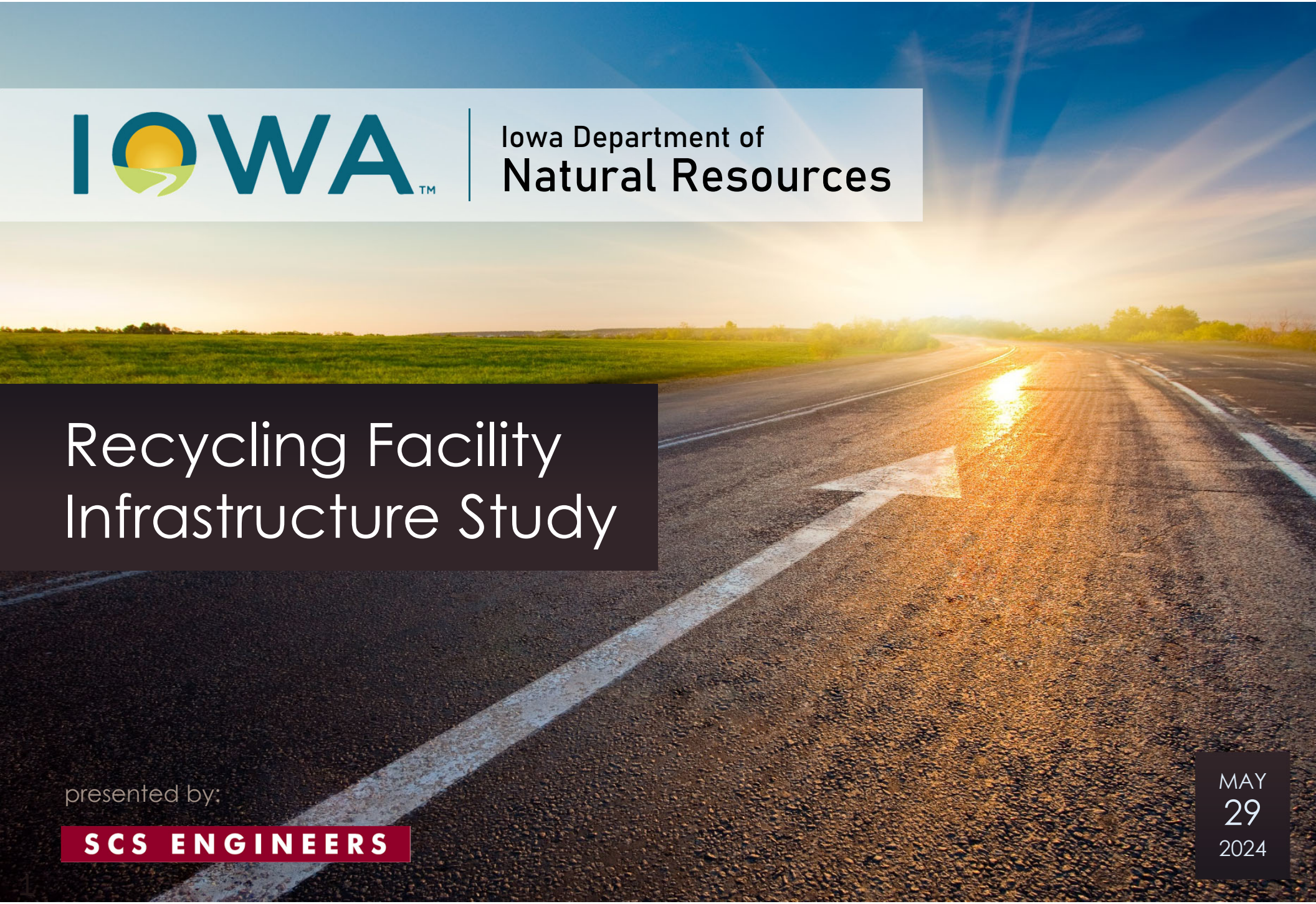
IOWA™ | DNR

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Leading Iowans in Caring For Our Natural Resources


IOWA
Iowa Department of
Natural Resources
Recycling Facility
Infrastructure Study
presented by:
SCS ENGINEERS
MAY
29
2024

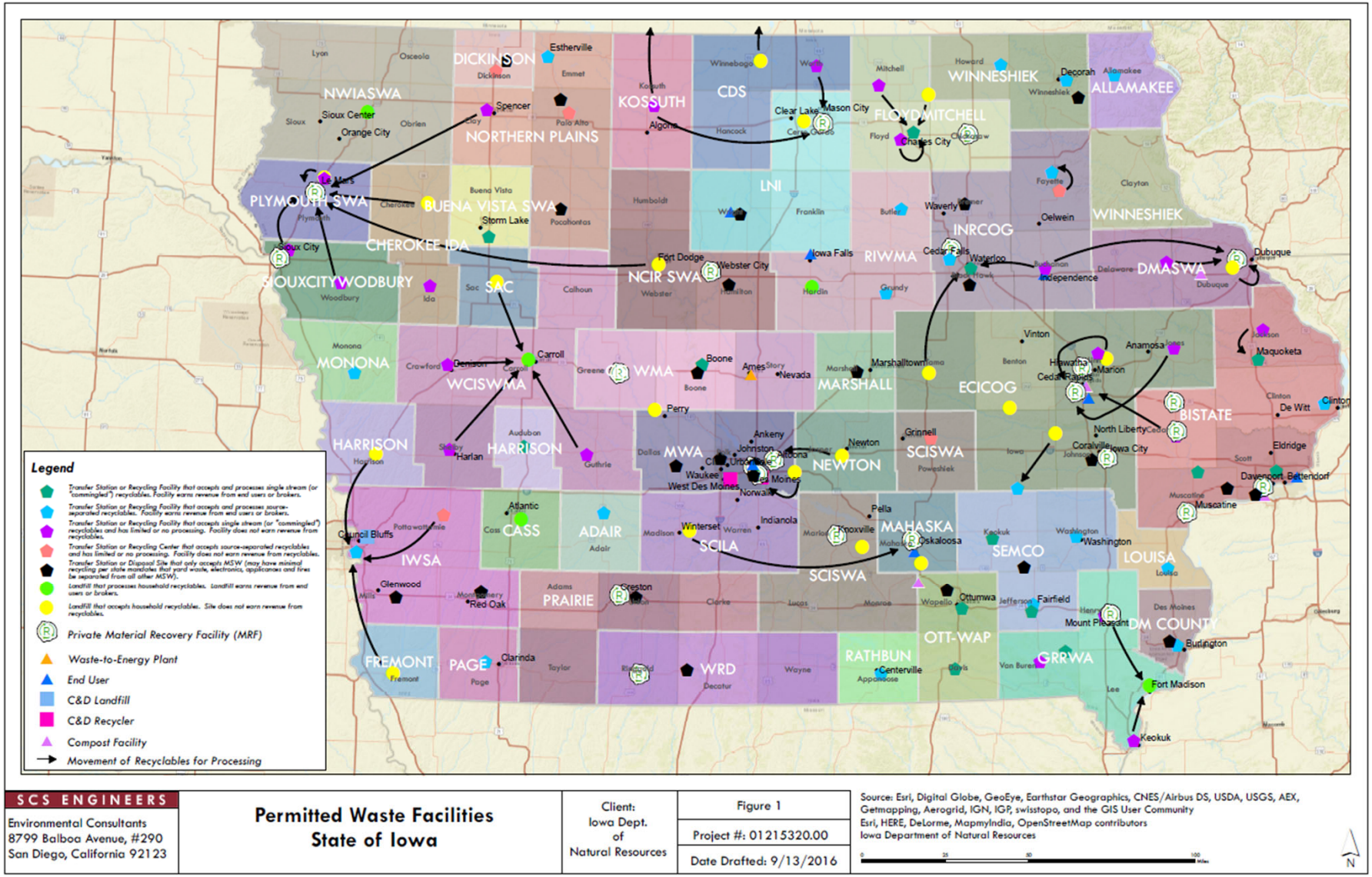
Agenda

- Background and Purpose
- Methodology
- Results
- Q&A

Background and Purpose

- Recycling Hub & Spoke Study in 2017 identified existing recycling operations within Iowa
  - Assessed feasibility of creating a hub and spoke system through rural partnerships
  - Found significant processing infrastructure in the state

Recycling Hub & Spoke - 2017



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Project Background and Purpose

1. Identify accumulators and processors of traditional recyclables and obtain data
2. Determine the movement of traditional recyclables throughout Iowa
3. Research textile reuse and recycling
4. Update the 2017 Hub & Spoke to static and interactive maps

Methodology

Process

MAY-JUN 2023
- Collaborate with DNR and stakeholders to develop survey contents

JUN – JUL 2023
- Involve public and private stakeholders in survey development

JUN – JUL 2023
- Identify survey contacts for Planning Area Survey and Recycling Facility Survey

JUL – DEC 2023
- Contact facilities/entities to take the surveys

AUG – OCT 2023
- Promote surveys through the DNR, conferences, IRA, and ISOSWO

Survey and Audience Development

- Collaboration with the DNR and stakeholders to develop first drafts of two surveys:
  - Planning Area Member Survey
    - To identify facilities that accumulate and/or process traditional recyclables and/or textiles
  - Recycling Facility Survey
    - To obtain information regarding the accumulation or processing of traditional recyclables and/or textiles

Survey and Audience Development

- Engaged public and private stakeholders to review survey draft:
  - Review survey language
  - Scale back questions to avoid survey fatigue
  - Ensure data is tangible and accessible
  - Allow participation from both public and private entities

Recycling Facility Survey

Contact Information	Type of Facility	Generator Type	Percent by Material
Material Types	Quantities	Revenue Generated by Recyclables	Methods of Paying for Program
Contamination Rates	Collection Method	Processes with Materials	Locations Material Sent to

Survey and Audience Development

- Identify survey contacts for surveys:
  - Planning Area Member Survey
    - Comprehensive Planning Area Contacts
    - DNR provided contacts
  - Recycling Facility Survey
    - Previous contact list from 2017
    - DNR provided contacts
    - Facilities identified through Planning Area Member Survey
    - New contacts identified through survey results

Survey Collection

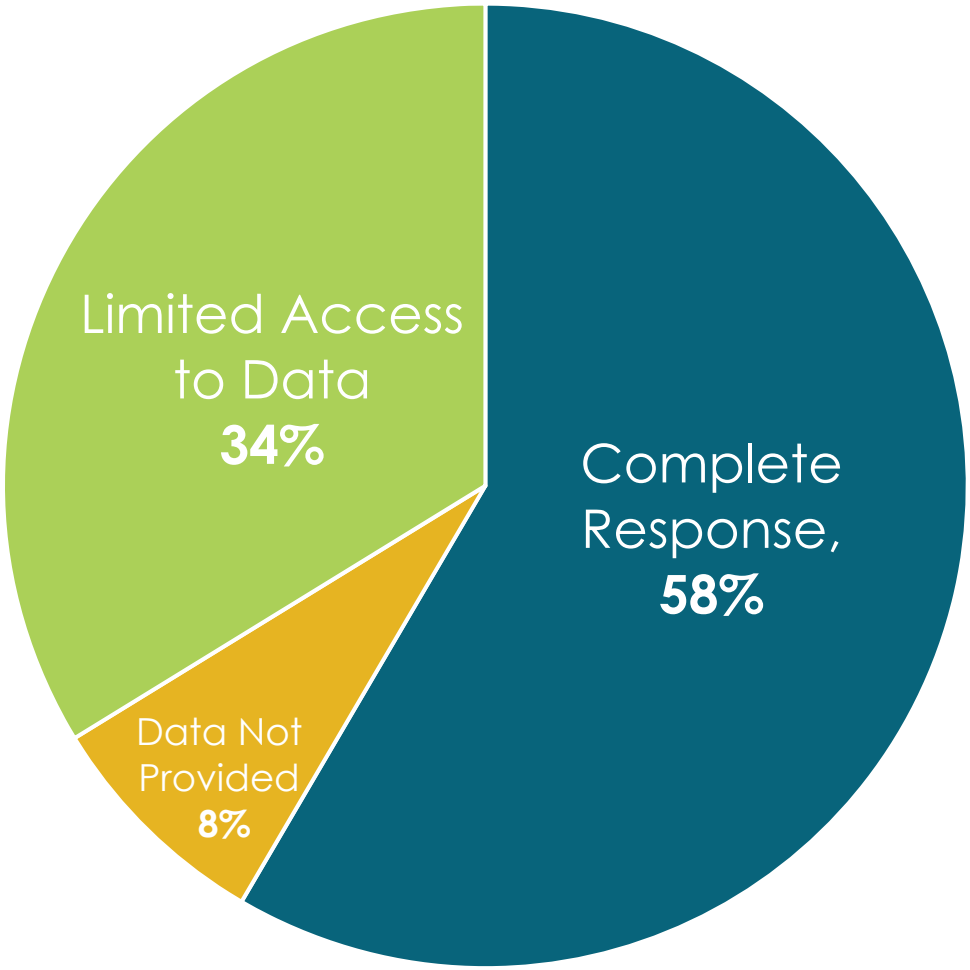
	Planning Area Member Survey	Recycling Facility Survey
Contacts	58	105
Emails	142	589
Phone calls	0	78
In-Person	0	12
Response Rate	48%	73%

Results

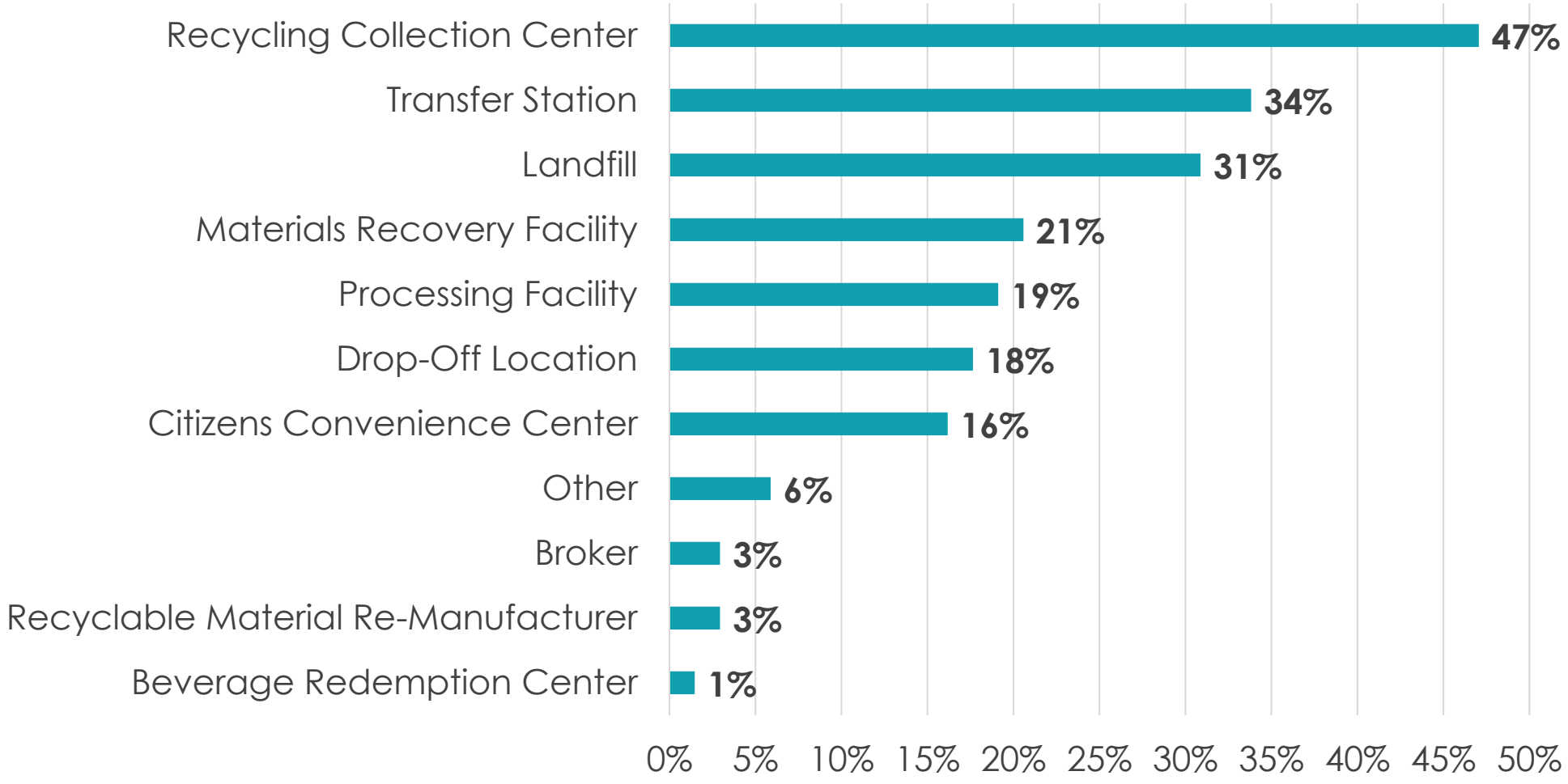
Results | Completion

Classifying Survey Responses

- Complete response
  - All information provided
- Limited Access to Data
  - Facilities/entities with limited data
- Data Not Provided
  - Various information not provided



Results - Classifications



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Results | Recycled Tonnage Processed

	Plastic	Paper	Metal	Glass	Total
In-State	7,271	23,138	3,317	613	34,338
Out of State	4,109	27,245	1,836	4,953	38,143
Unknown	9,684	35,016	5,821	2,200	52,722
Total	21,064	85,399	10,957	10,974	**125,203**

Results | Accumulators and Processors

Accumulators

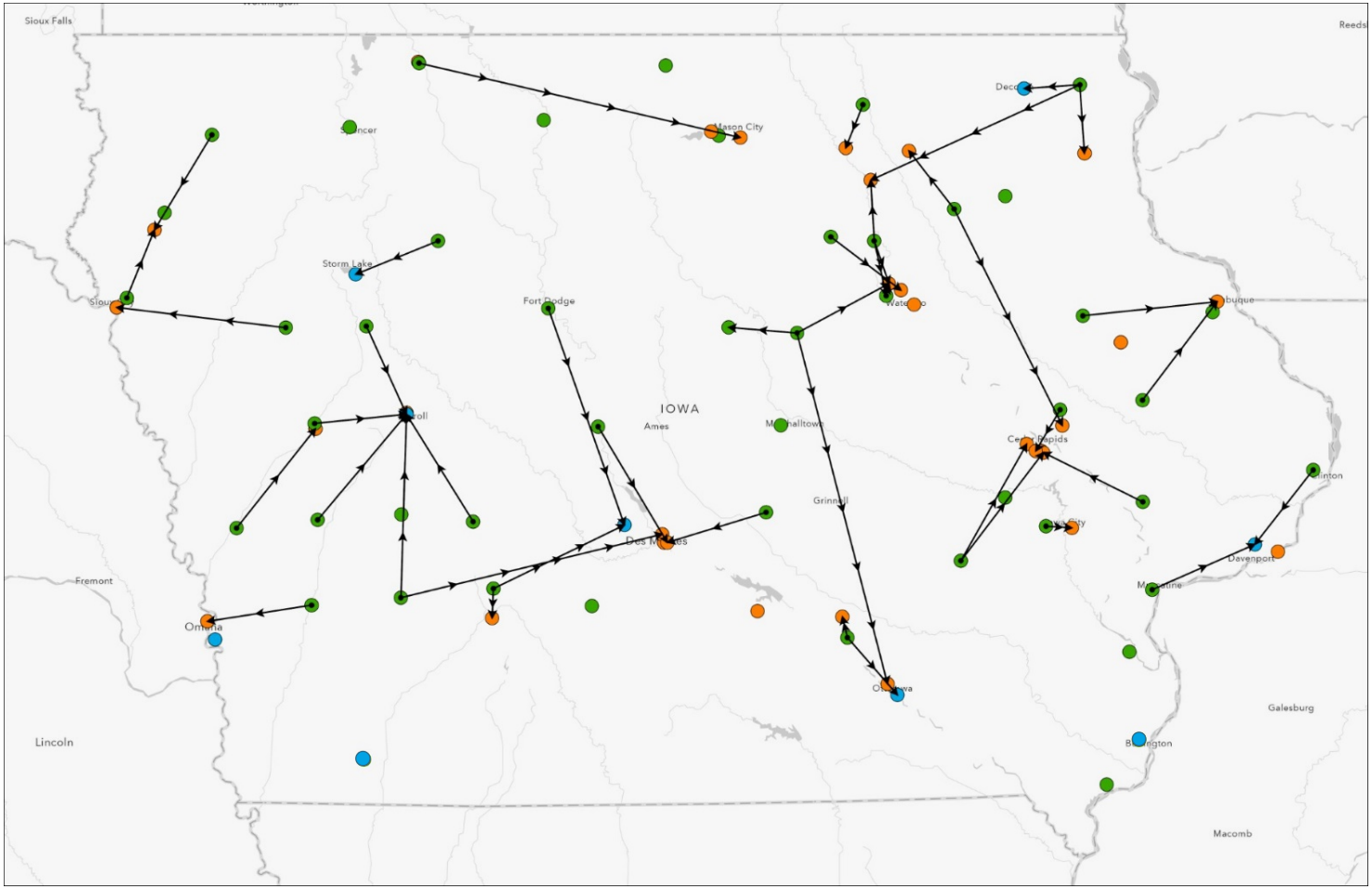
- Facilities who receive material from consumers/hauling and store material for transport to a processor.
  - May process few material categories (i.e. cardboard) on the side.
  - Examples: transfer station or drop-off location.

Processors

- Facilities who receive material from accumulators or consumers/hauling and sort, bale, clean, and prepare materials for remanufacturing.
  - Examples: material recovery facility or remanufacturer.

Results | GIS Map

- DNR will be finalizing a similar interactive map to be posted on the website
- Provides data of facilities and total tonnages for the state



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Title | Subtitle

Iowa Recycling Facilities

data being displayed is as voluntarily reported by facilities at time of survey

Find an Accumulator
Select to Highlight

Find a Processor
Select to Highlight

Estimated Tons Recycled

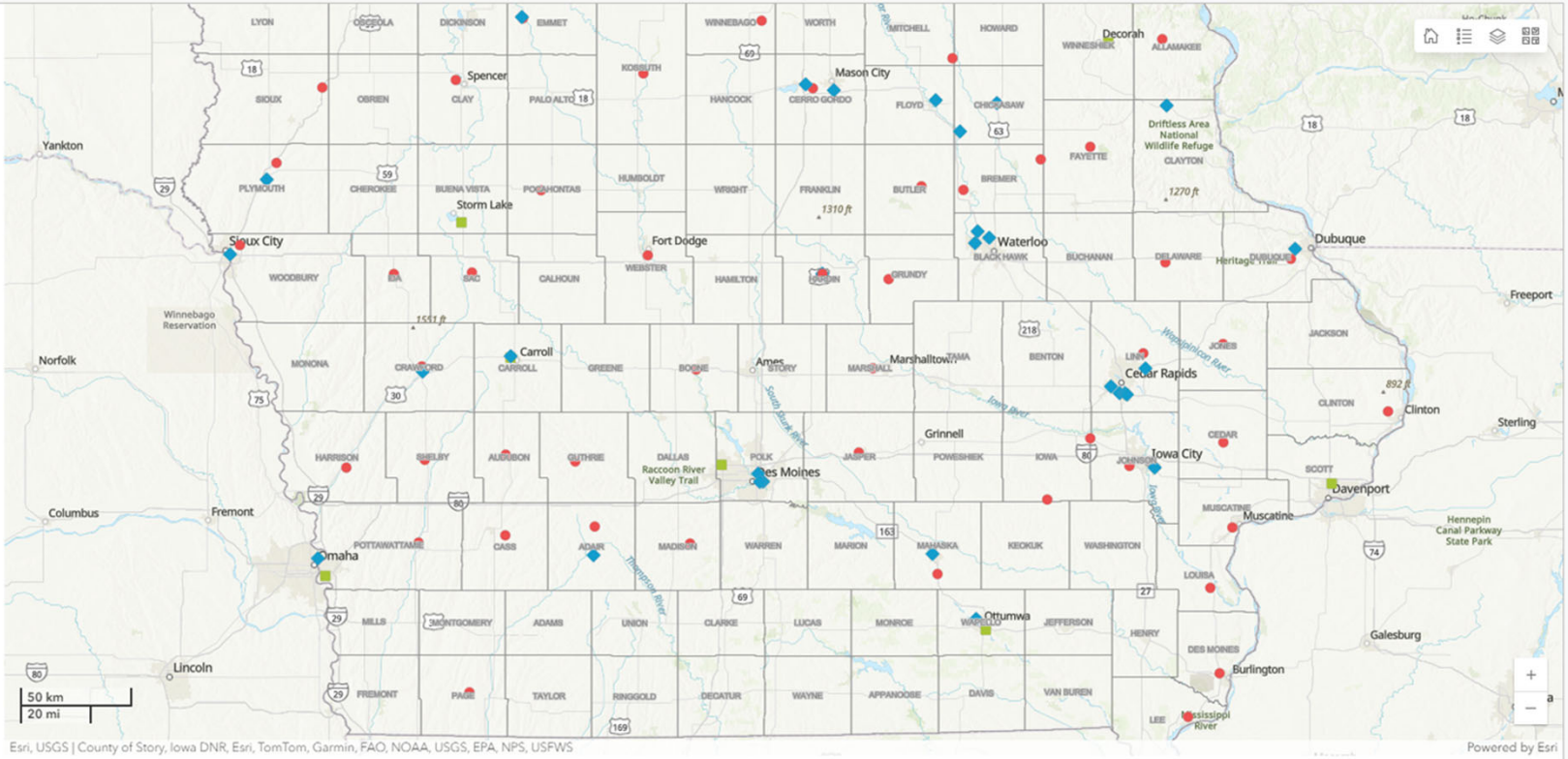
81.8k

per year

	Glass	Metal	Paper	Plastic
Destination Unknown	204 Tons	319 Tons	3.2k Tons	1.5k Tons
Destination Out of State	776 Tons	447 Tons	5.3k Tons	1.1k Tons
Destination In-State	620 Tons	2.6k Tons	16k Tons	5.4k Tons

select a red or green point on the map

to view recycling details



data collection conducted by SCS Engineers.

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Title | Subtitle

Iowa Recycling Facilities
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Find an Accumulator
Select to Highlight

Find a Processor
Select to Highlight

Estimated Tons Recycled

435

per year

	Glass	Metal	Paper	Plastic
Destination Unknown	--	--	--	--
Destination Out of State	--	--	--	--
Destination In-State	--	39 Tons	357 Tons	39 Tons

Cass County Transfer Station

65928 Jackson Road
Atlantic, IA 50022

Estimated Recycled Tons/Year: 435 Tons

- **0% Glass**

1. Destination Unknown: --
2. Destination Out of State: --
3. Destination In-State: --

- **10% Metal**

1. Destination Unknown: --
2. Destination Out of State: --
3. Destination In-State: 39 Tons

In-State Processor:
Quandt Auto Salvage, Inc.

- **82% Paper**

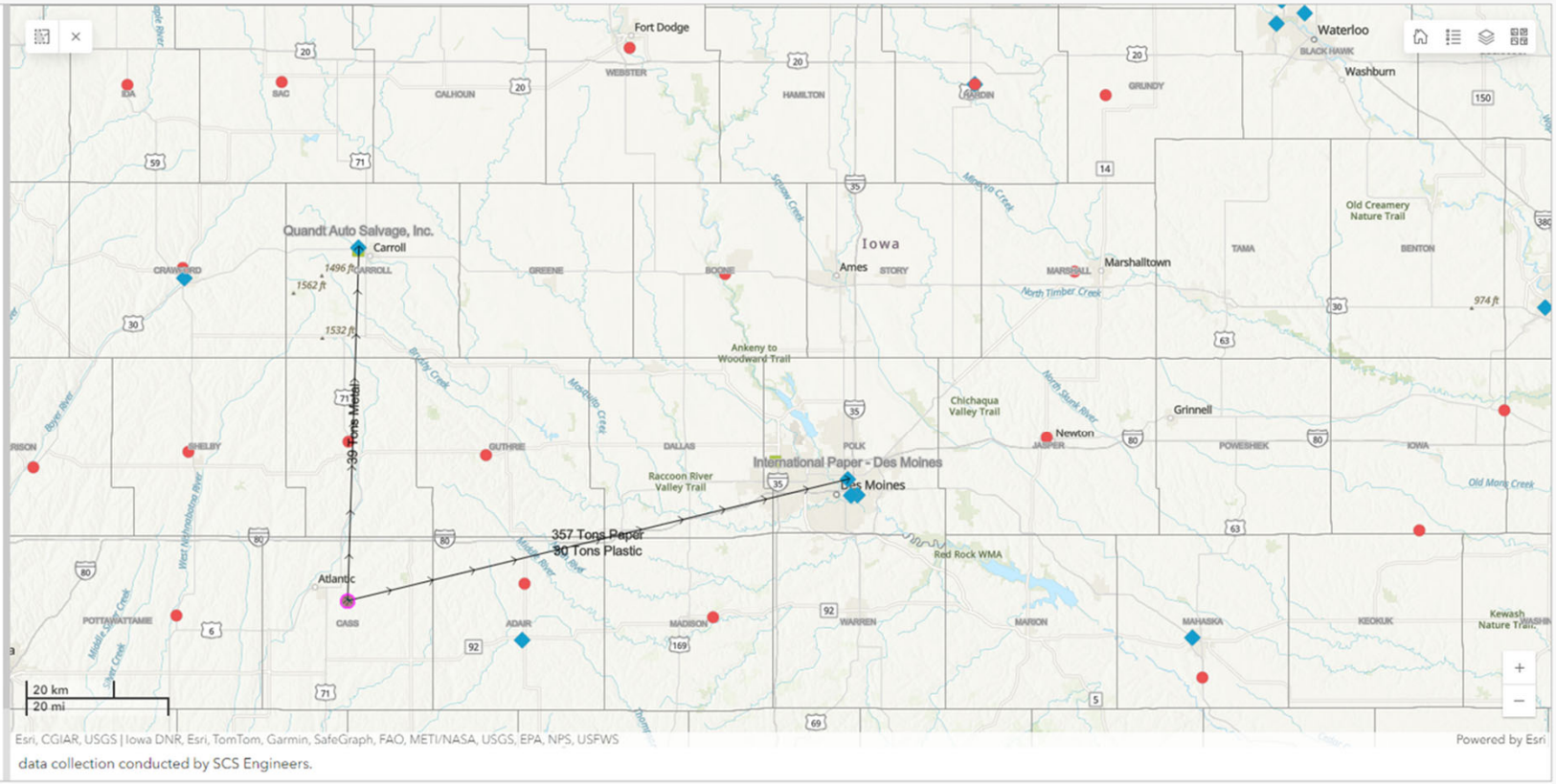
1. Destination Unknown: --
2. Destination Out of State: --
3. Destination In-State: 357 Tons

In-State Processor:
International Paper - Des Moines

- **8% Plastic**

1. Destination Unknown: --
2. Destination Out of State: --
3. Destination In-State: 39 Tons

In-State Processor:
International Paper - Des Moines



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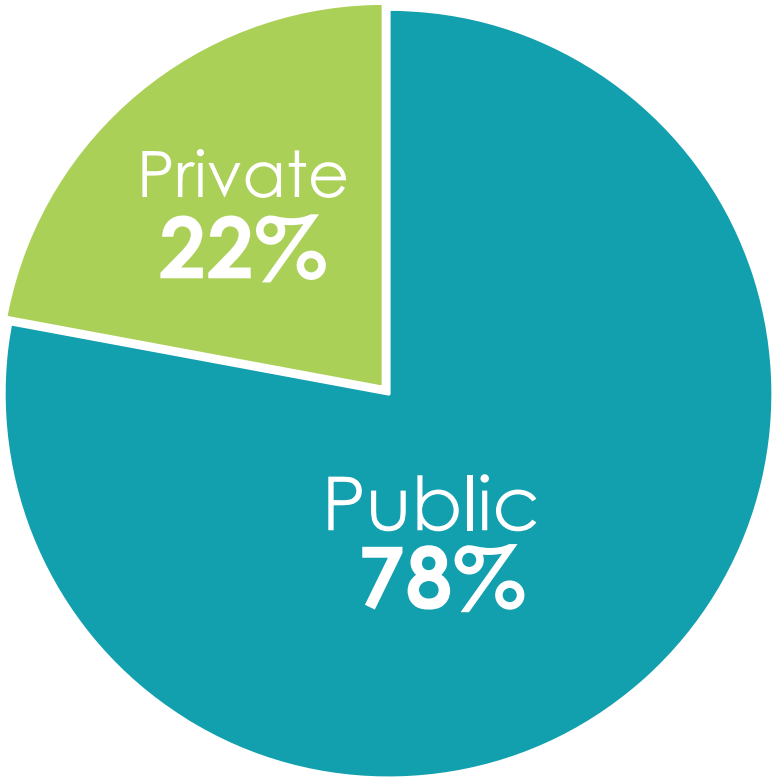
Results | General Information

Public/Private Responses



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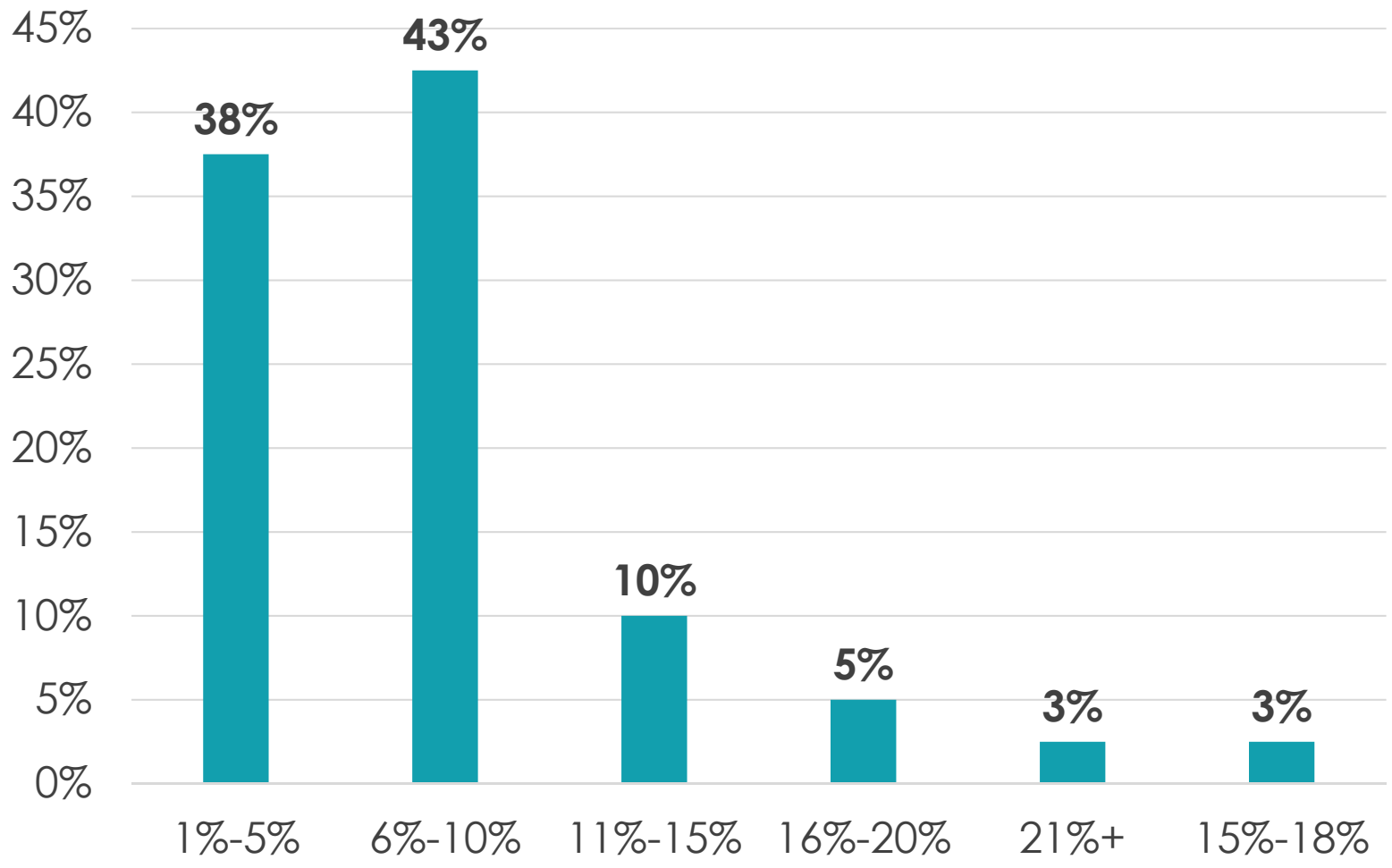
Results | Residuals

- **Average residual is 8%**
- **Estimated 10,818 tons**



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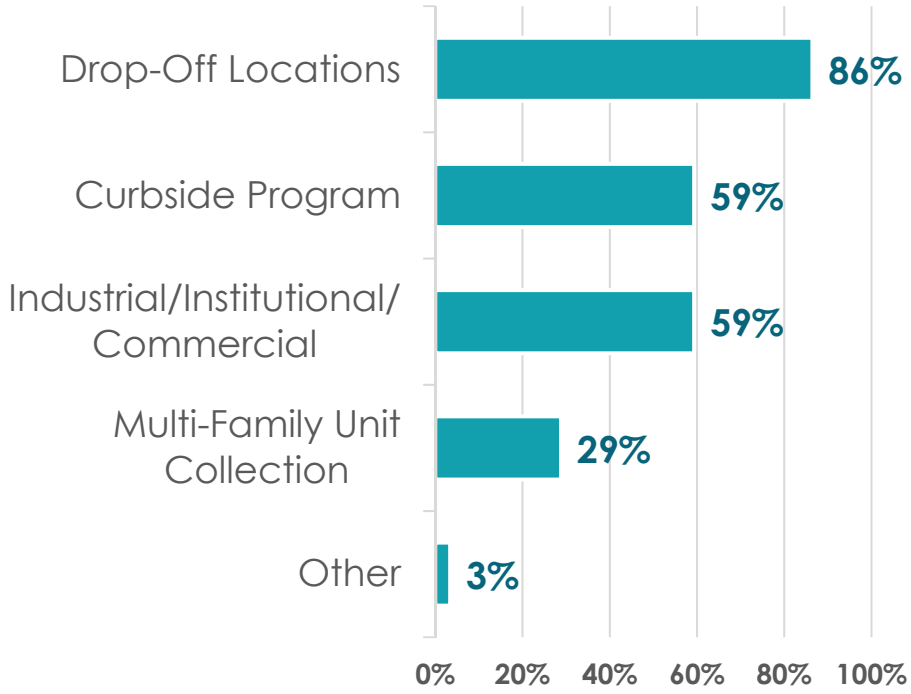
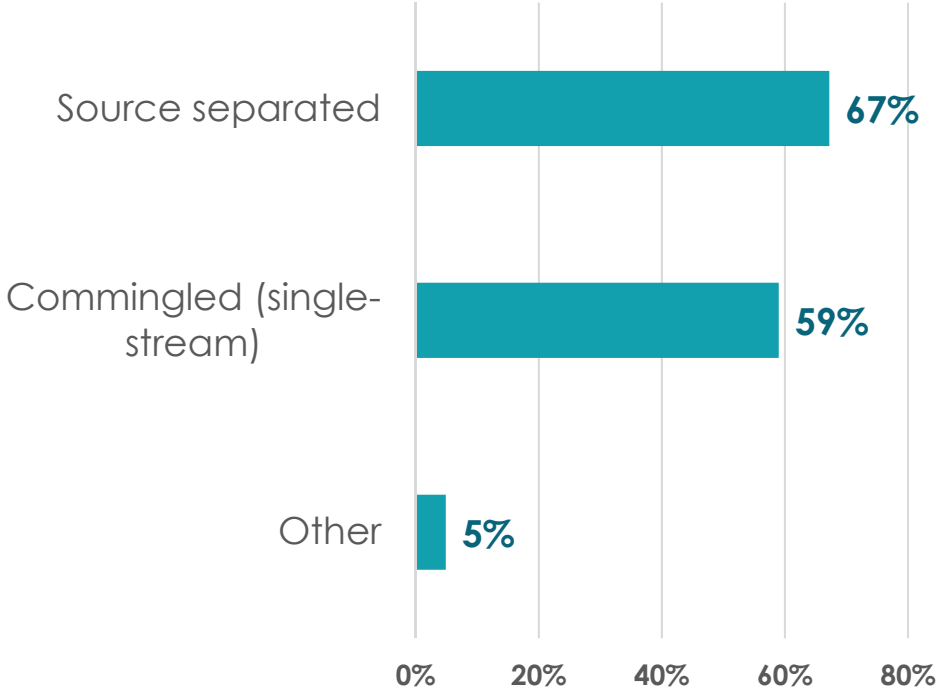
Results | General Information

Programs Material is Collected Through



Method of Materials Collected



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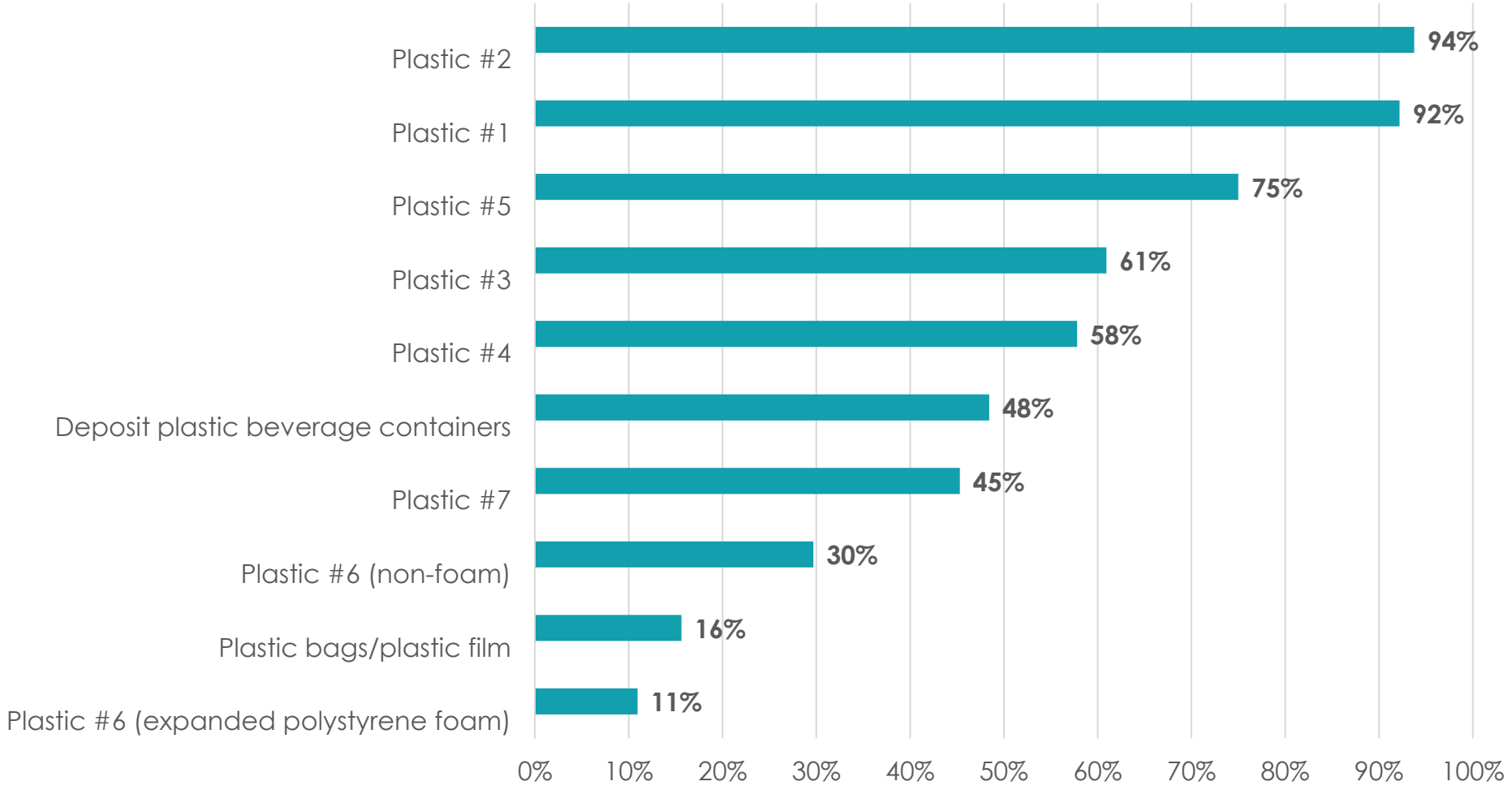
Results | Facilities Accepting Plastic



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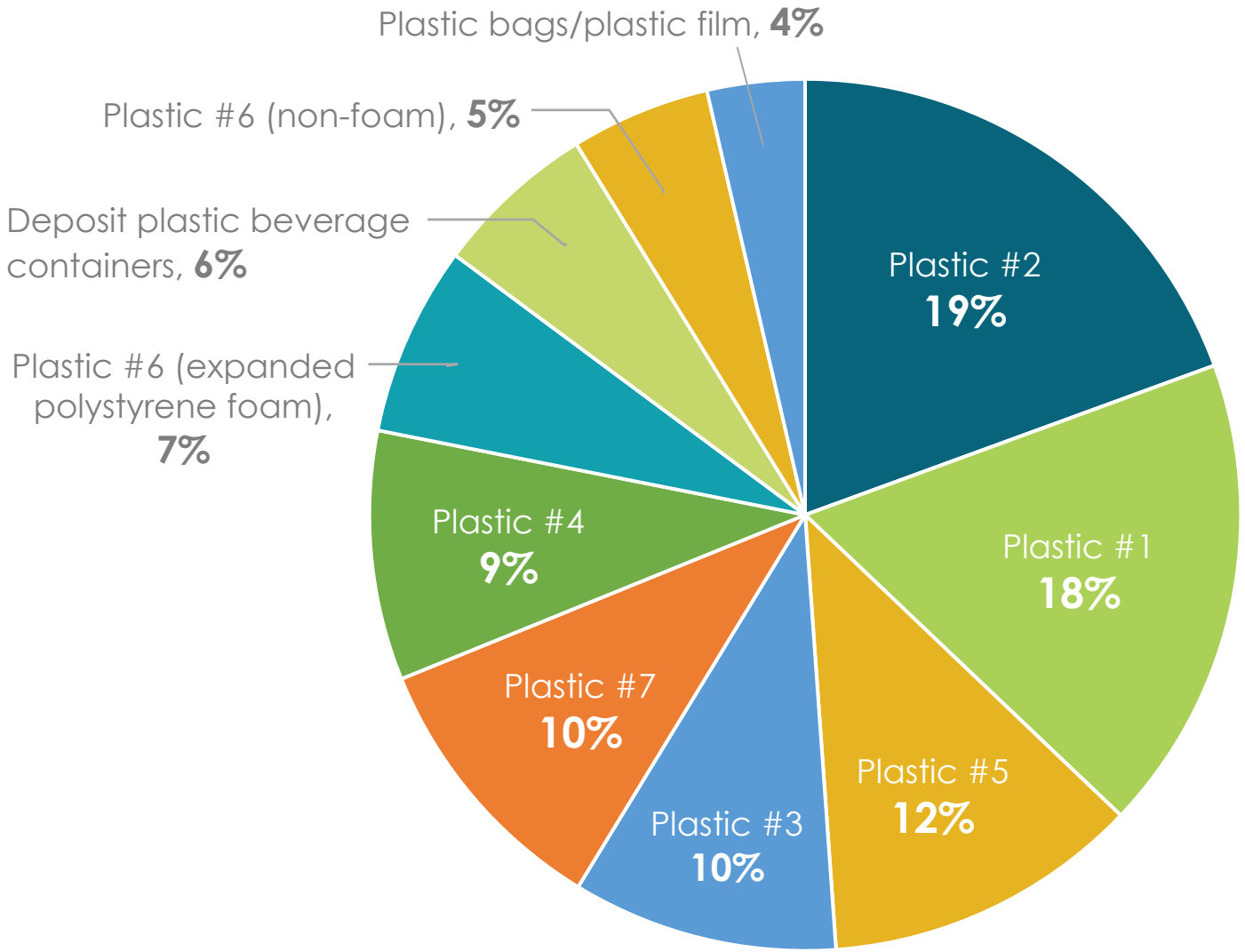
Results | Plastic Recycling Stream



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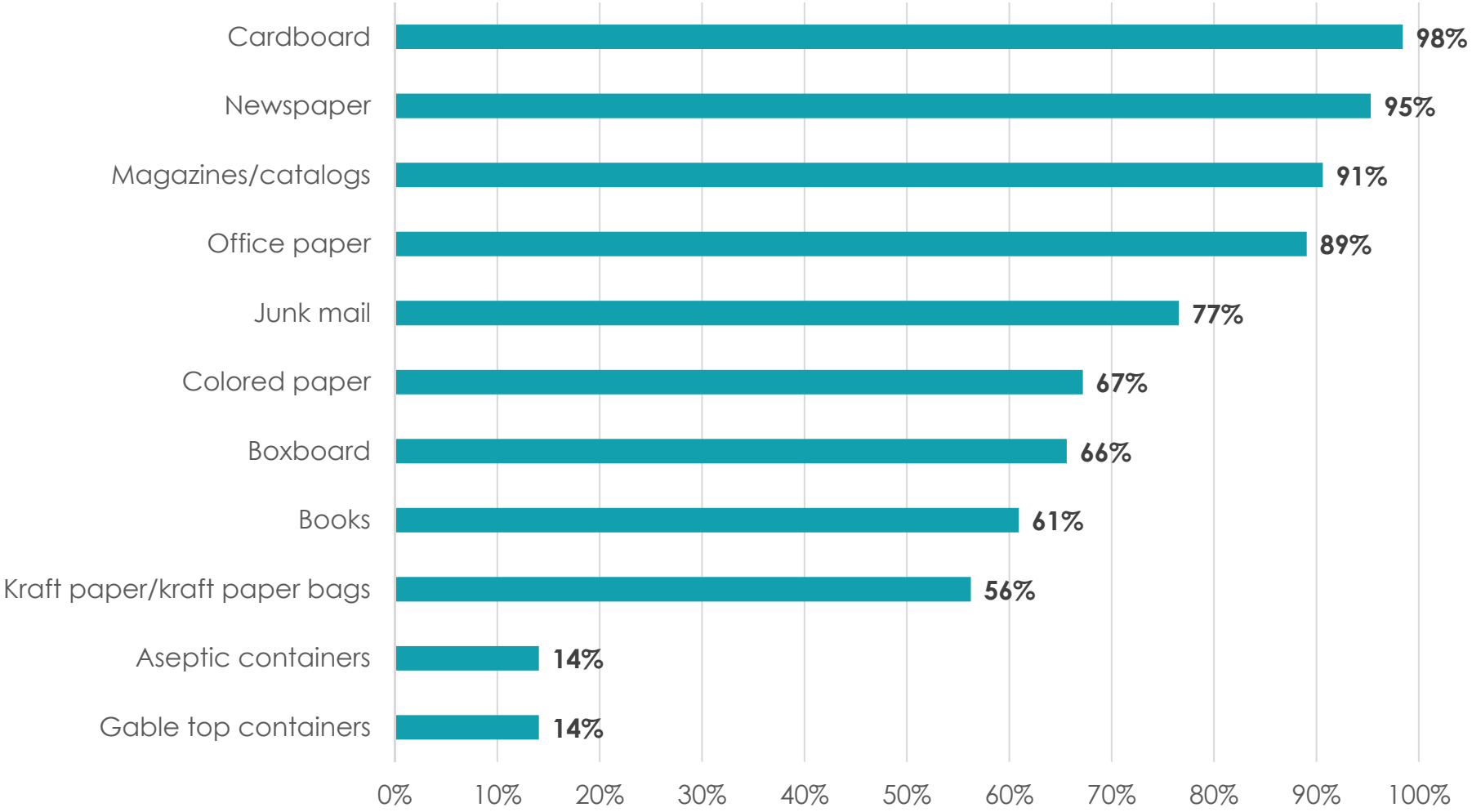
Results | Facilities Accepting Paper



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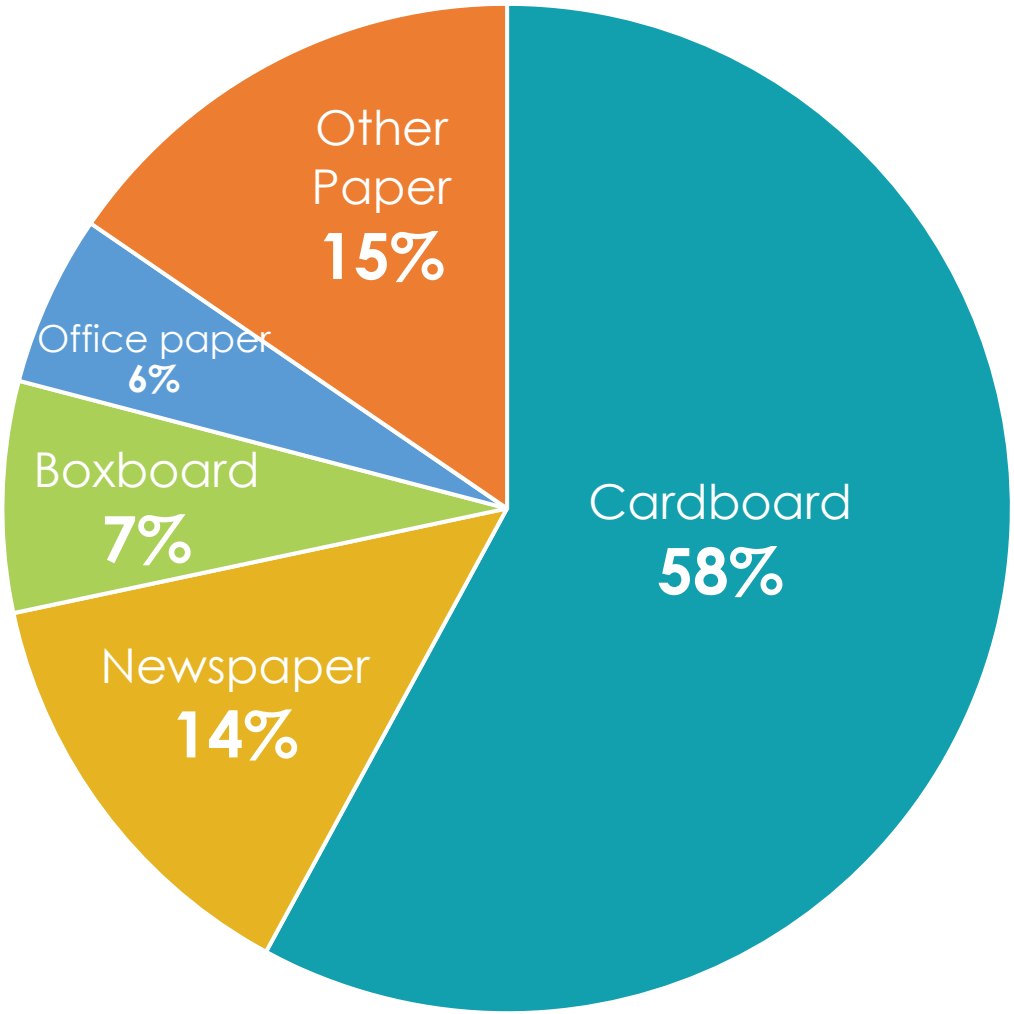
Results | Paper Recycling Stream



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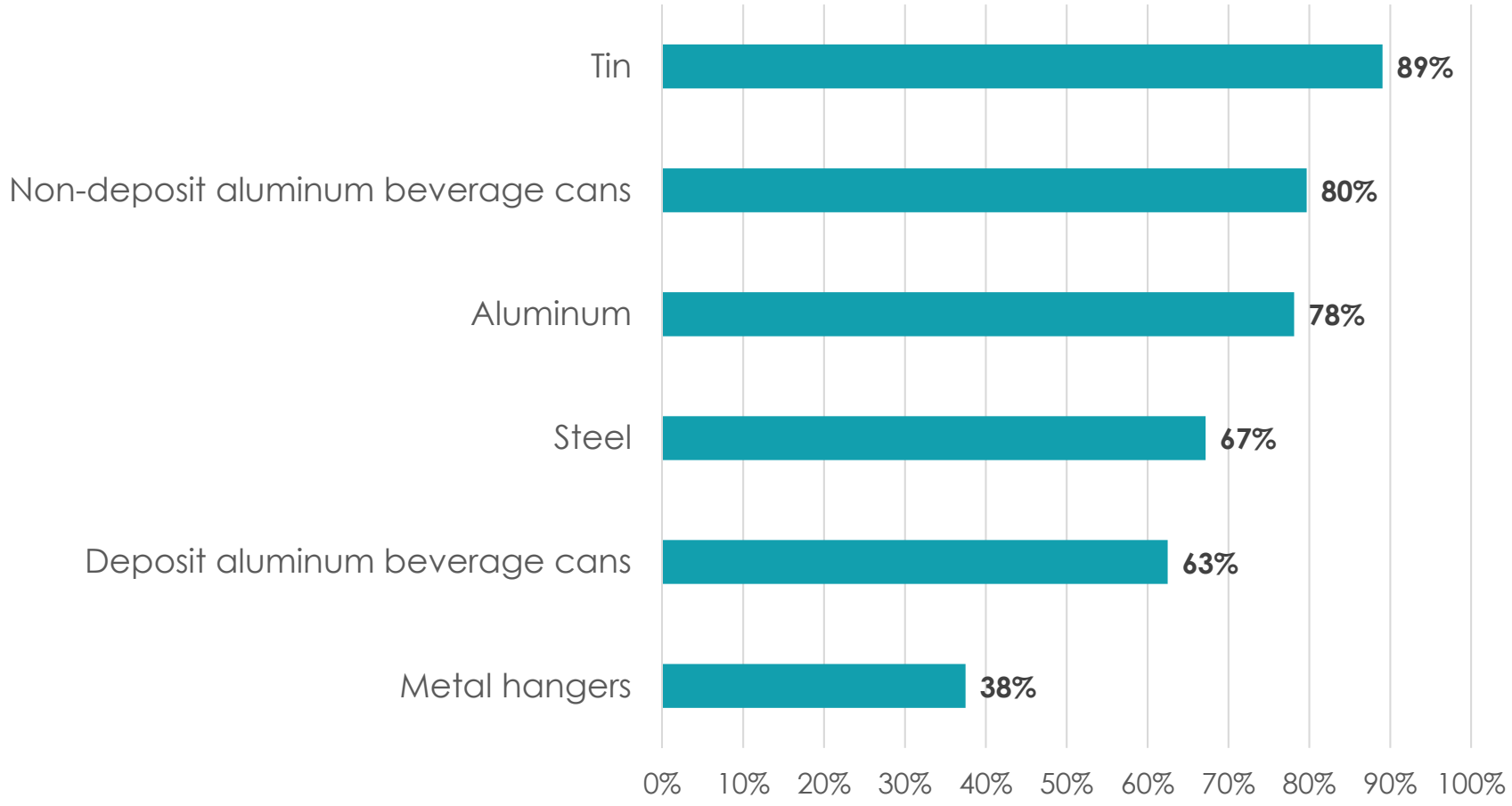
Results | Facilities Accepting Metal



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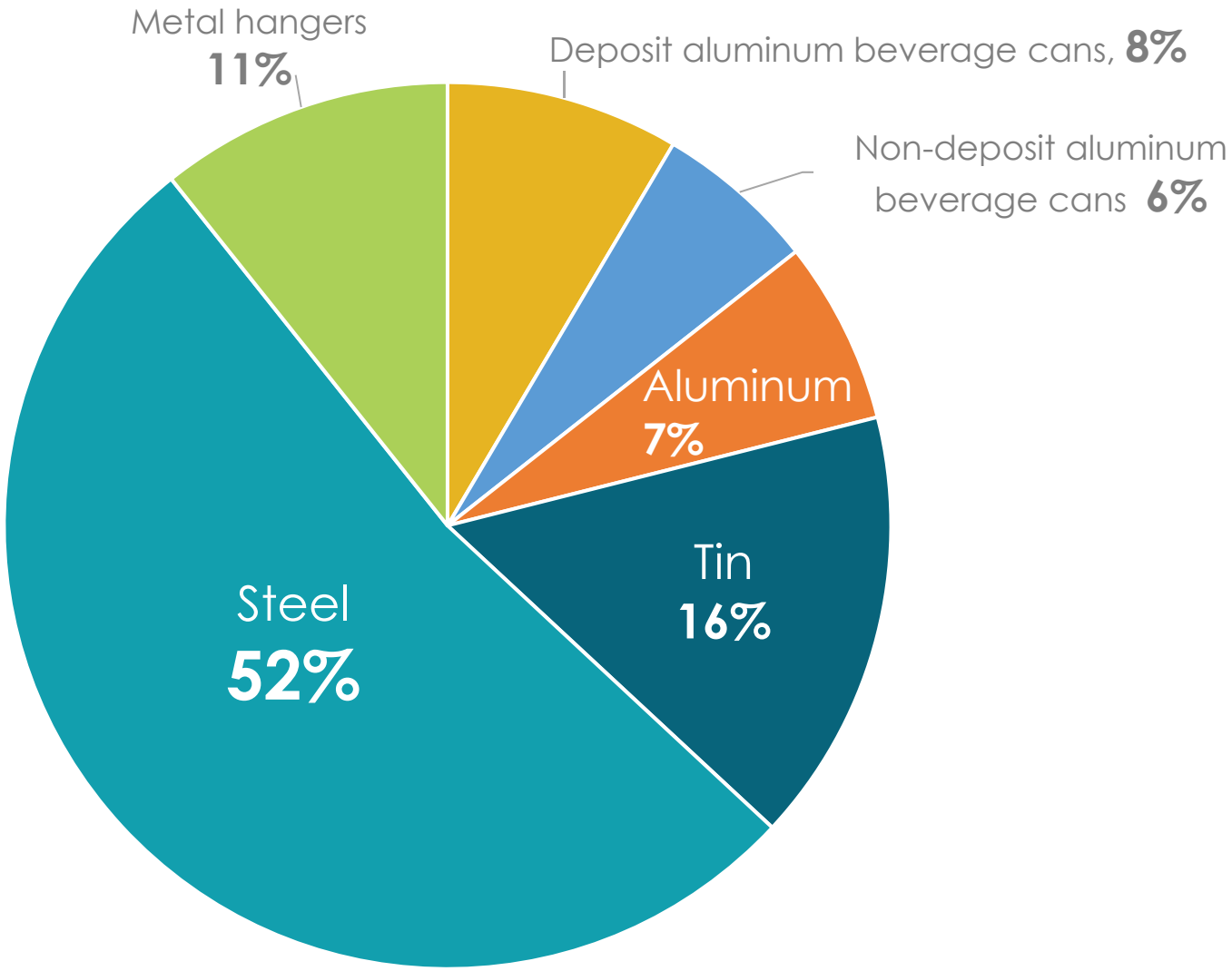
Results | Metal Recycling Stream



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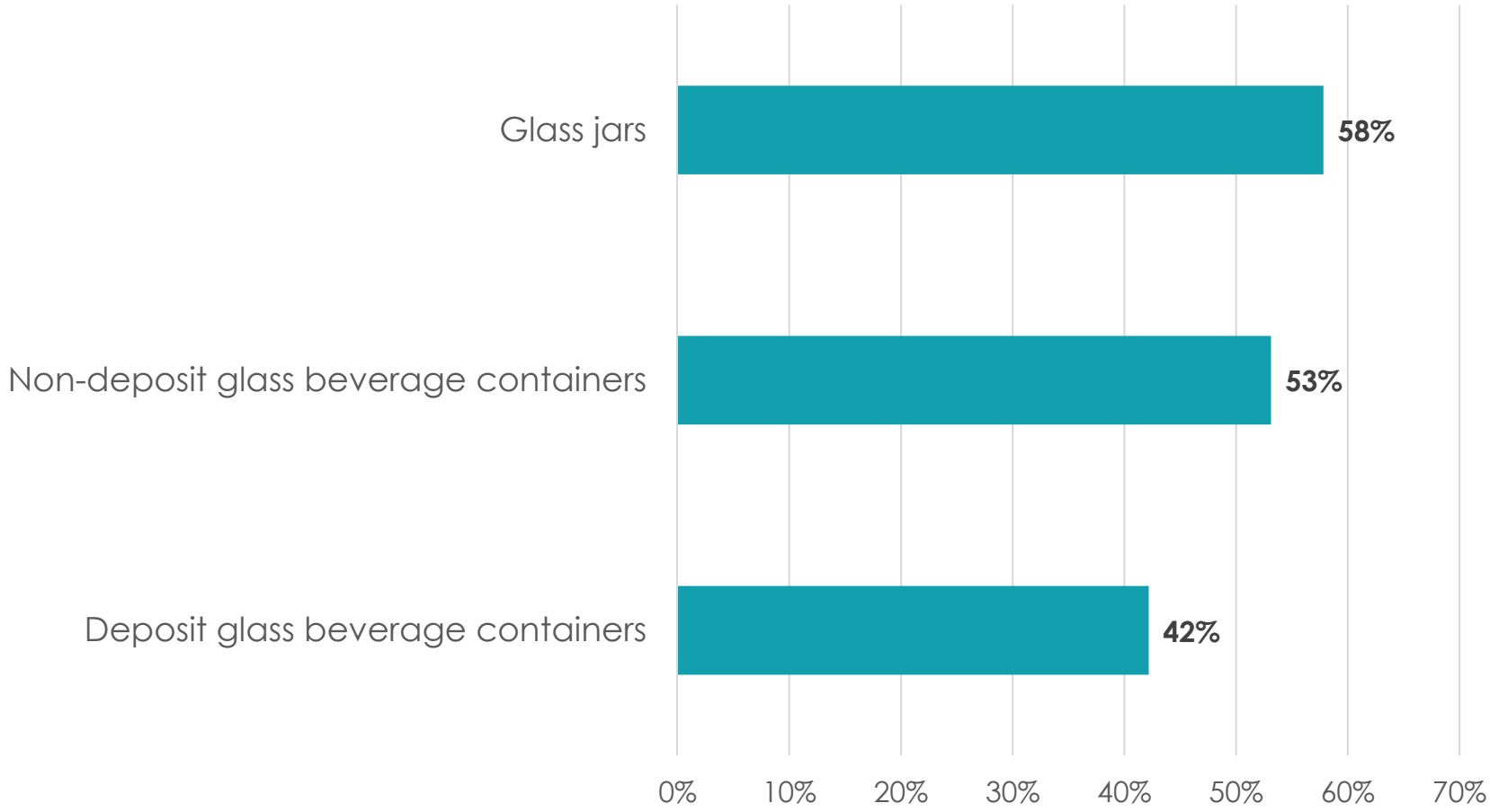
Results | Facilities Accepting Glass



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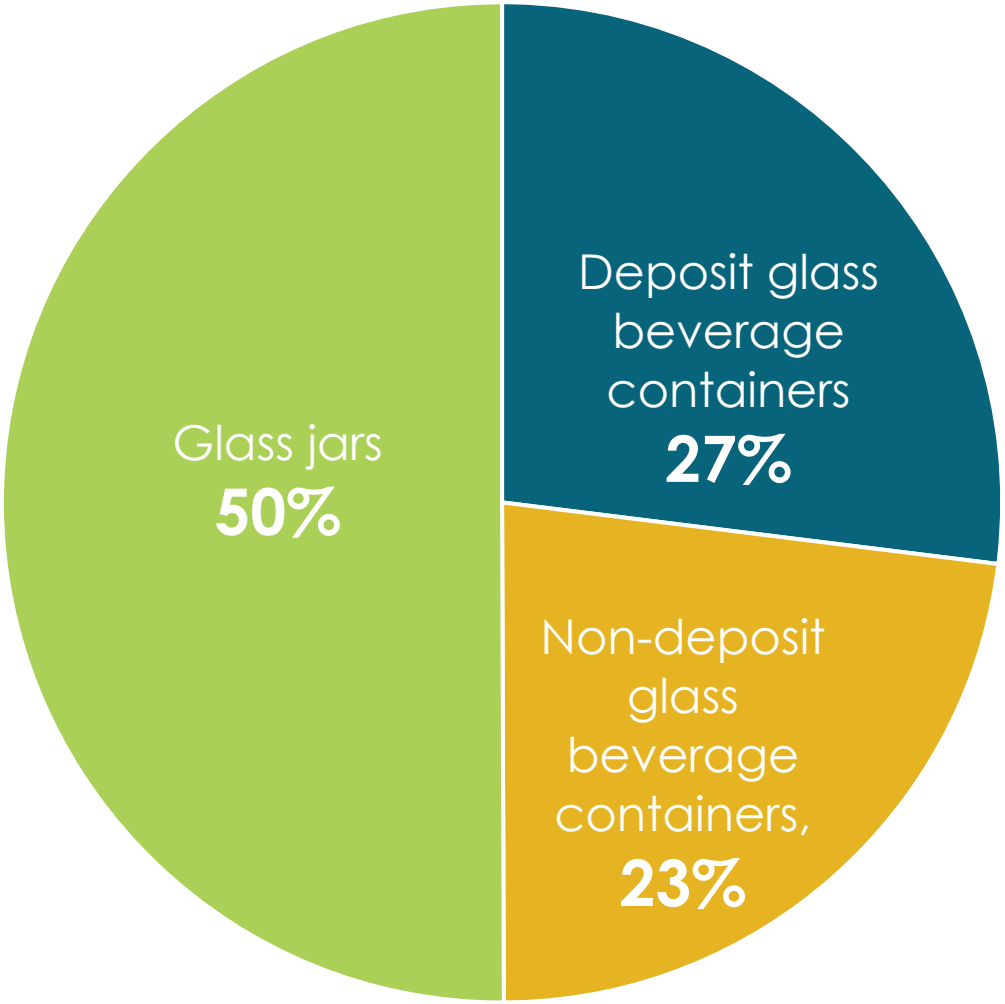
Results | Glass Recycling Stream



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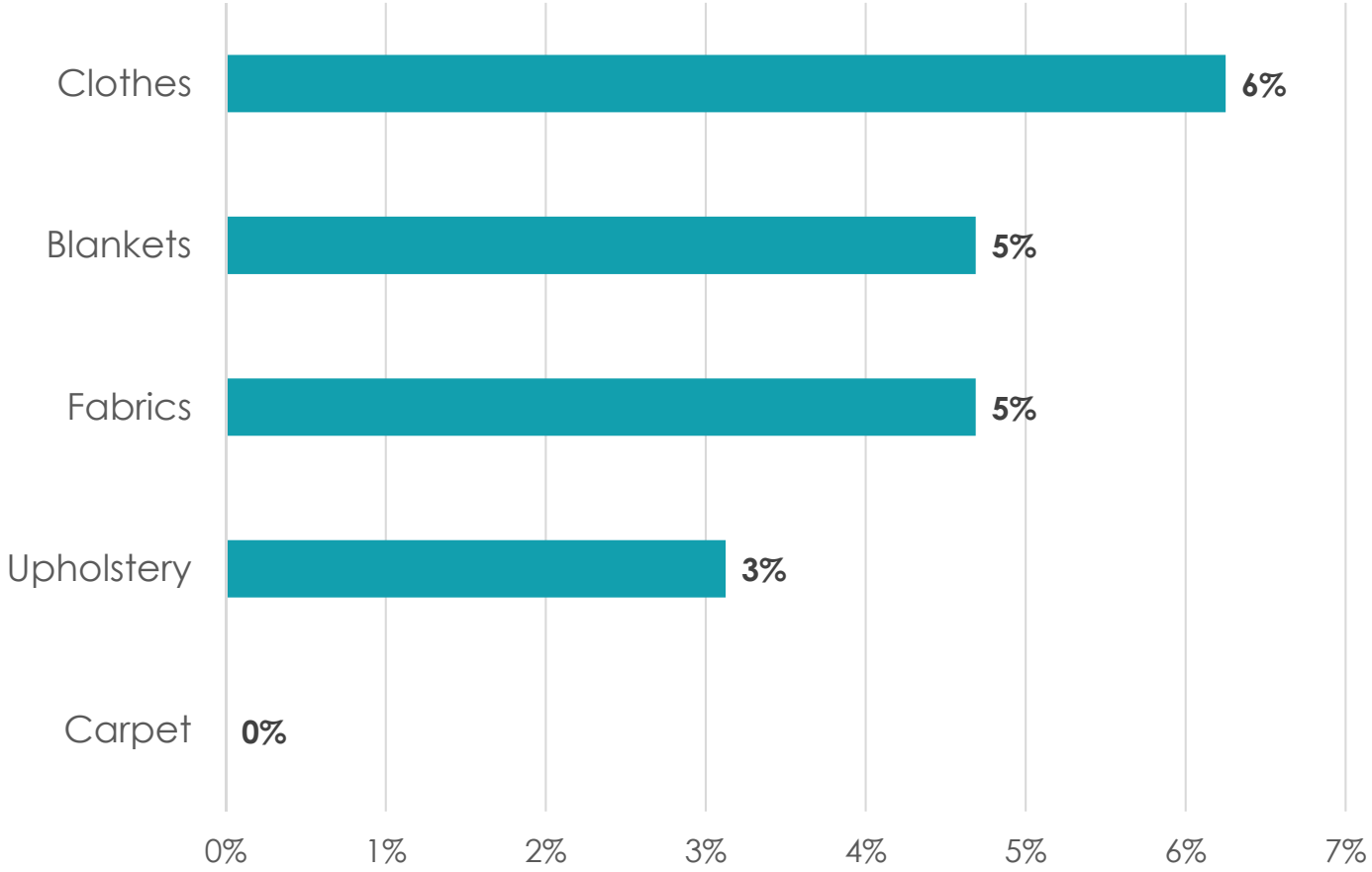
Results | Facilities Accepting Textiles



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Thank You

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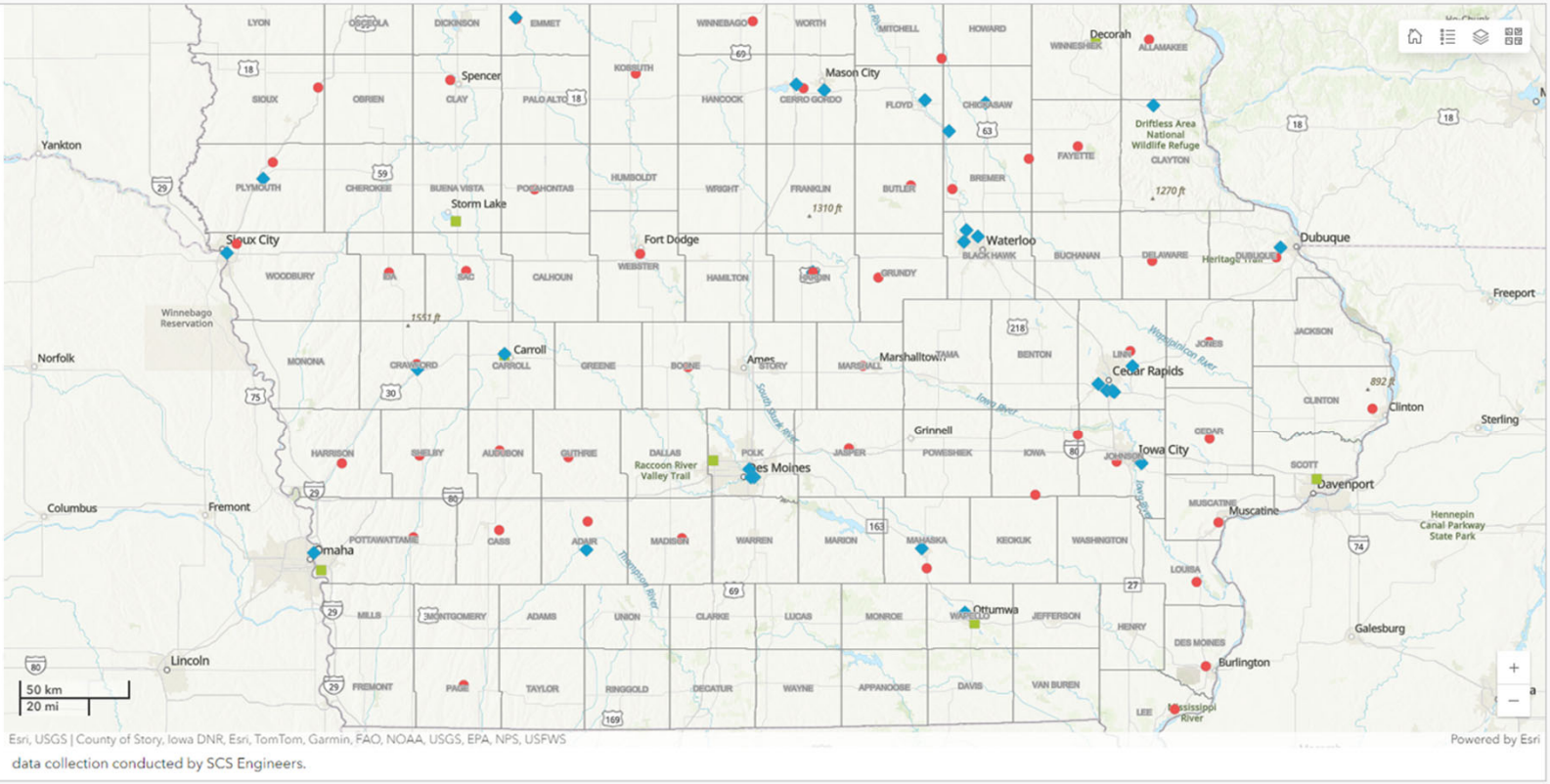

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Thank You

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Hannah Sperfslage
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Resources

- **Sustainable Materials Management (SMM) webpage**
  https://www.iowadnr.gov/Environmental-Protection/Land-Quality/Waste-Planning-Recycling/Sustainable-Materials-Management