North Carolina County Recycling Program Performance for Fiscal Year 2021-22

DEACS uses data from the [Solid Waste and Materials Management Annual Reports](#) completed by each local government in the state to assess county and municipal public recycling efforts.

DEACS uses this public recycling program data to produce per capita recycling rates for counties across the state. This analysis combines municipal _and_ county recycling tons and then ranks counties based on total recycling tons per capita. Counties, including the municipalities within them, are ranked in two ways: the recycling rate for common household materials and the overall recycling rate.

The per capita recovery rate for common household materials compares the effectiveness of programs recovering cans, bottles, paper, and cardboard. The total public recovery includes additional materials such as food waste, concrete, shingles, scrap metal, white goods, wood wastes (excluding yard waste), televisions, computer equipment, used oil, and household hazardous waste.

Although these metrics represent one of many ways to measure the effectiveness of recycling programs, local governments regularly at the top of both lists are assumed to have strong and well-rounded public recycling systems.

Common Household Recyclables Per Capita				Total Public Recycling Per Capita		
Rank	County	Pounds per Person		Rank	County	Pounds per Person
1	Wilson County	285		1	Wilson County	334
2	Catawba County	252		2	Brunswick County	321
3	Watauga County	188		3	Catawba County	320
4	Orange County	184		4	Macon County	319
5	Guilford County	168		5	New Hanover County	228
6	Dare County	157		6	Watauga County	220
7	Haywood County	155		7	Currituck County	216
8	Currituck County	149		8	Orange County	216
9	Craven County	145		9	Pitt County	207
10	Onslow County	143		10	Dare County	204
11	Brunswick County	142		11	Alexander County	195
12	Durham County	141		12	Haywood County	191
13	Mecklenburg County	137		13	Forsyth County	190
14	Transylvania County	135		14	Pasquotank County	188
15	Macon County	135		15	Guilford County	181
16	Alexander County	135		16	Mecklenburg County	181
17	Tyrrell County	134		17	Transylvania County	177
18	Rutherford County	127		18	Craven County	168
19	Buncombe County	126		19	Hyde County	161
20	Cabarrus County	122		20	Onslow County	158
21	Henderson County	109		21	Buncombe County	154
22	Davie County	109		22	Durham County	151

23	New Hanover County	106		23	Tyrrell County	151
24	Granville County	106		24	Jackson County	150
25	Jackson County	105		25	Ashe County	138
26	Lee County	100		26	Granville County	137
27	Moore County	100		27	Wayne County	135
28	Wake County	98		28	Henderson County	134
29	Forsyth County	95		29	Perquimans County	133
30	Pamlico County	89		30	Madison County	133
31	Polk County	89		31	Pender County	132
32	Carteret County	86		32	Rutherford County	129
33	Nash County	85		33	Camden County	128
34	Madison County	81		34	Moore County	128
35	McDowell County	80		35	Cabarrus County	127
36	Pender County	79		36	Carteret County	126
37	Alamance County	78		37	Lee County	123
38	Ashe County	75		38	Polk County	122
39	Surry County	74		39	McDowell County	121
40	Mitchell County	71		40	Wake County	120
41	Hyde County	69		41	Gates County	118
42	Burke County	68		42	Davie County	118
43	Rockingham County	68		43	Swain County	110
44	Union County	68		44	Clay County	107
45	Camden County	68		45	Chatham County	106
46	Chatham County	67		46	Mitchell County	105
47	Perquimans County	67		47	Surry County	100
48	Swain County	63		48	Nash County	99
49	Stanly County	61		49	Iredell County	99
50	Vance County	56		50	Pamlico County	95
51	Caldwell County	56		51	Burke County	94
52	Halifax County	55		52	Cumberland County	93
53	Hertford County	55		53	Alamance County	90
54	Martin County	54		54	Bladen County	90
55	Cumberland County	54		55	Cleveland County	84
56	Warren County	53		56	Chowan County	77
57	Pasquotank County	53		57	Lincoln County	77
58	Iredell County	51		58	Avery County	77
59	Columbus County	50		59	Union County	75
60	Northampton County	47		60	Stanly County	75
61	Clay County	47		61	Northampton County	74
62	Wilkes County	45		62	Rockingham County	73
63	Cherokee County	45		63	Caldwell County	72
64	Pitt County	45		64	Vance County	71
65	Davidson County	44		65	Martin County	71

66	Montgomery County	43		66	Hertford County	65
67	Bladen County	43		67	Halifax County	65
68	Person County	42		68	Yancey County	64
69	Greene County	38		69	Cherokee County	62
70	Lenoir County	38		70	Warren County	62
71	Scotland County	37		71	Duplin County	61
72	Chowan County	36		72	Columbus County	61
73	Stokes County	36		73	Graham County	55
74	Gates County	35		74	Johnston County	53
75	Rowan County	35		75	Wilkes County	52
76	Johnston County	34		76	Stokes County	52
77	Avery County	34		77	Davidson County	52
78	Franklin County	34		78	Yadkin County	52
79	Wayne County	33		79	Montgomery County	48
80	Gaston County	32		80	Person County	48
81	Lincoln County	32		81	Franklin County	47
82	Sampson County	30		82	Lenoir County	46
83	Duplin County	27		83	Greene County	45
84	Yadkin County	27		84	Gaston County	43
85	Randolph County	25		85	Rowan County	42
86	Harnett County	25		86	Scotland County	41
87	Yancey County	25		87	Beaufort County	37
88	Cleveland County	20		88	Sampson County	36
89	Beaufort County	18		89	Harnett County	33
90	Washington County	16		90	Richmond County	33
91	Graham County	10		91	Randolph County	32
92	Robeson County	9		92	Robeson County	23
93	Edgecombe County	9		93	Alleghany County	23
94	Richmond County	9		94	Anson County	20
95	Caswell County	8		95	Edgecombe County	18
96	Alleghany County	7		96	Hoke County	18
97	Anson County	6		97	Washington County	16
98	Bertie County	4		98	Caswell County	16
99	Jones County	4		99	Jones County	12
100	Hoke County	1		100	Bertie County	5