

North Carolina County Recycling Program Performance for Fiscal Year 2022-23

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	Area Name	Pounds per Person	Rank	Area Name	Pounds per Person
1	ORANGE COUNTY	170.6	1	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	374.1
2	CRAVEN COUNTY	167.6	2	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	366.9
3	CATAWBA COUNTY	167.4	3	MACON COUNTY	289.3
4	WATAUGA COUNTY	163.2	4	CATAWBA COUNTY	249.3
5	BUNCOMBE COUNTY	154.7	5	CURRITUCK COUNTY	214.7
6	HAYWOOD COUNTY	149.4	6	PITT COUNTY	204.3
7	GUILFORD COUNTY	145.2	7	ALEXANDER COUNTY	203.8
8	DARE COUNTY	144.7	8	ORANGE COUNTY	201.7
9	MACON COUNTY	142.1	9	NEW HANOVER COUNTY	197.8
10	ALEXANDER COUNTY	134.2	10	WATAUGA COUNTY	189.9
11	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	131.2	11	CRAVEN COUNTY	188.6
12	GRANVILLE COUNTY	128.9	12	DARE COUNTY	188.5
13	MECKLENBURG COUNTY	128.7	13	BUNCOMBE COUNTY	186.1
14	CABARRUS COUNTY	126.9	14	HAYWOOD COUNTY	185.0
15	CURRITUCK COUNTY	122.9	15	FORSYTH COUNTY	183.0
16	RUTHERFORD COUNTY	122.6	16	WILSON COUNTY	168.1
17	BRUNSWICK COUNTY	119.1	17	GRANVILLE COUNTY	165.4
18	ONSLow COUNTY	116.7	18	HENDERSON COUNTY	164.8
19	DURHAM COUNTY	114.4	19	TRANSYLVANIA COUNTY	160.8
20	TYRRELL COUNTY	112.4	20	RUTHERFORD COUNTY	159.6

21	HENDERSON COUNTY	110.8
22	DAVIE COUNTY	109.8
23	WILSON COUNTY	107.8
24	PITT COUNTY	100.8
25	JACKSON COUNTY	98.1
26	NEW HANOVER COUNTY	97.3
27	LEE COUNTY	93.4
28	WAKE COUNTY	93.4
29	MOORE COUNTY	91.9
30	FORSYTH COUNTY	90.0
31	MCDOWELL COUNTY	85.8
32	CARTERET COUNTY	79.9
33	PENDER COUNTY	79.7
34	MADISON COUNTY	77.7
35	ALAMANCE COUNTY	77.2
36	UNION COUNTY	76.7
37	NASH COUNTY	75.7
38	CHATHAM COUNTY	75.1
39	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	70.0
40	POLK COUNTY	69.2
41	ASHE COUNTY	68.1
42	CUMBERLAND COUNTY	67.5
43	BURKE COUNTY	65.6
44	SURRY COUNTY	65.2
45	HERTFORD COUNTY	63.5
46	STANLY COUNTY	61.0
47	PAMLICO COUNTY	60.1
48	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	58.3
49	SWAIN COUNTY	57.8
50	COLUMBUS COUNTY	57.3
51	CALDWELL COUNTY	55.1
52	IREDELL COUNTY	54.5
53	PASQUOTANK COUNTY	53.8
54	HALIFAX COUNTY	53.1
55	CLAY COUNTY	48.3
56	MITCHELL COUNTY	45.0
57	CHEROKEE COUNTY	44.0
58	DAVIDSON COUNTY	42.9
59	WILKES COUNTY	42.9
60	WARREN COUNTY	42.7
61	BLADEN COUNTY	42.6

21	GUILFORD COUNTY	157.5
22	MECKLENBURG COUNTY	148.2
23	HYDE COUNTY	148.1
24	MCDOWELL COUNTY	145.1
25	JACKSON COUNTY	138.7
26	ONSLOW COUNTY	135.2
27	CABARRUS COUNTY	132.4
28	WAYNE COUNTY	128.3
29	ASHE COUNTY	127.1
30	MADISON COUNTY	126.7
31	DURHAM COUNTY	126.7
32	MOORE COUNTY	123.7
33	CHATHAM COUNTY	123.6
34	PERQUIMANS COUNTY	122.9
35	PENDER COUNTY	122.4
36	TYRRELL COUNTY	120.4
37	DAVIE COUNTY	117.8
38	WAKE COUNTY	117.6
39	LEE COUNTY	113.9
40	CLAY COUNTY	111.5
41	CARTERET COUNTY	109.1
42	IREDELL COUNTY	105.1
43	SWAIN COUNTY	104.6
44	POLK COUNTY	99.6
45	BURKE COUNTY	98.0
46	GATES COUNTY	94.0
47	NASH COUNTY	88.3
48	ALAMANCE COUNTY	87.5
49	BLADEN COUNTY	86.3
50	UNION COUNTY	84.6
51	SURRY COUNTY	83.4
52	LINCOLN COUNTY	83.3
53	CLEVELAND COUNTY	83.2
54	AVERY COUNTY	82.5
55	MITCHELL COUNTY	80.7
56	CUMBERLAND COUNTY	78.2
57	ROCKINGHAM COUNTY	77.2
58	STANLY COUNTY	75.4
59	HERTFORD COUNTY	74.4
60	YANCEY COUNTY	73.1
61	CALDWELL COUNTY	72.3

62	AVERY COUNTY	42.5
63	PERSON COUNTY	42.4
64	WAYNE COUNTY	41.2
65	FRANKLIN COUNTY	41.1
66	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	38.6
67	LENOIR COUNTY	37.0
68	YADKIN COUNTY	35.9
69	MARTIN COUNTY	35.5
70	LINCOLN COUNTY	35.4
71	GREENE COUNTY	34.0
72	MONTGOMERY COUNTY	33.6
73	CHOWAN COUNTY	33.1
74	ROWAN COUNTY	32.3
75	GATES COUNTY	32.1
76	HYDE COUNTY	30.2
77	VANCE COUNTY	29.3
78	GASTON COUNTY	29.2
79	YANCEY COUNTY	28.4
80	DUPLIN COUNTY	27.7
81	HARNETT COUNTY	27.1
82	SAMPSON COUNTY	27.0
83	STOKES COUNTY	25.9
84	RANDOLPH COUNTY	25.2
85	JOHNSTON COUNTY	23.7
86	SCOTLAND COUNTY	20.8
87	BEAUFORT COUNTY	18.7
88	CLEVELAND COUNTY	16.6
89	CASWELL COUNTY	13.4
90	ALLEGHANY COUNTY	12.8
91	ROBESON COUNTY	9.8
92	HOKE COUNTY	9.2
93	GRAHAM COUNTY	8.8
94	ANSON COUNTY	6.5
95	EDGECOMBE COUNTY	6.5
96	WASHINGTON COUNTY	6.3
97	BERTIE COUNTY	5.0
98	RICHMOND COUNTY	4.8
99	JONES COUNTY	4.7
100	CAMDEN COUNTY	0.0

62	COLUMBUS COUNTY	68.0
63	CHOWAN COUNTY	66.7
64	PAMLICO COUNTY	64.8
65	HALIFAX COUNTY	60.5
66	CHEROKEE COUNTY	59.9
67	GRAHAM COUNTY	57.6
68	FRANKLIN COUNTY	54.6
69	DUPLIN COUNTY	54.4
70	WILKES COUNTY	54.3
71	WARREN COUNTY	52.3
72	DAVIDSON COUNTY	51.7
73	LENOIR COUNTY	51.2
74	PERSON COUNTY	51.0
75	YADKIN COUNTY	49.0
76	NORTHAMPTON COUNTY	48.8
77	VANCE COUNTY	47.7
78	ALLEGHANY COUNTY	44.7
79	MARTIN COUNTY	43.8
80	JOHNSTON COUNTY	42.8
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84	HARNETT COUNTY	38.4
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88	RANDOLPH COUNTY	31.6
89	SAMPSON COUNTY	30.2
90	EDGECOMBE COUNTY	28.2
91	ROBESON COUNTY	27.5
92	SCOTLAND COUNTY	27.0
93	HOKE COUNTY	26.0
94	RICHMOND COUNTY	24.7
95	CASWELL COUNTY	22.7
96	ANSON COUNTY	10.3
97	WASHINGTON COUNTY	8.8
98	JONES COUNTY	6.4
99	BERTIE COUNTY	5.4
100	CAMDEN COUNTY	0.0