

# Municipal Solid Waste Quarterly Report

Research, Analytics, and Insights Team  
Solid Waste Planning & Program Management Division  
SPU\_SW\_Reports@seattle.gov

## Municipal Solid Waste Quarterly Report - City Contracted and Self-haul Tonnage

Q3  
2022

Select Report Quarter

Q3

Select Report Year

2022



About the Data



Help



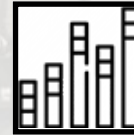
Summary



Compare Residential  
Subsectors



Average Annual Changes  
in Tonnage



Residential Garbage and  
Recycling Material Classes



Estimated MSW Tons  
Over Time

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Help

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## How to use this Tableau report

### Interactivity:

- \* All tables/figures are interactive
- \* Click or hover on a data point or any part of a figure for more information
- \* To narrow results, use filters on the left-hand side of each tab or sheet (called a "dashboard" in Tableau)
- \* Click on sections of figures or tables to "highlight" that section. Click again to remove the highlight.

Note that actions can be reset and will not affect the dashboard for other viewers.

### Navigation:

- \* Tableau reports are organized into dashboards, which are individual sheets or tabs. This report has 8 dashboards.
- \* To return to the home page dashboard, click the home button in the top right corner located on every dashboard
- \* The homepage has links to all dashboards

### Downloading Data, Plots, or Tables:

- \* Data, plots, and tables can be downloaded using the Download button in the top right corner of each dashboard
- \* Only the data used to create the displayed table or plot will be downloaded. This means downloaded data will reflect user choices, including which dashboard is open and the choices made to filter the table/plot.

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## About the Data

Q3  
2022



### Data

#### Critical Note:

The data in this report include estimated City contracted and self-haul tonnage plus some garbage and organics data from private stations. The data presented are not a full account of the municipal solid waste (MSW) in the City and do not include estimates of non-contracted commercial recycling and composting or activities such as home composting. In addition, this report does not exclude estimated tons of contaminants. For these reasons, the data in this report may differ from other reports published by SPU.

**The data in this report are estimated and are subject to change.**

#### Obtaining Data/Plots/Tables:

Plots, tables, and the data used to generate any tables or plot in this report can be downloaded by pressing the Download button in the top right corner of each dashboard. Note that the full data table will not be downloaded. Data will be subset based on the selections made to filter the data, such as sector and year, and the report dashboard open.

### Data Sources

- Contracted tonnage data is uploaded weekly by vendors under contract with SPU to the Solid Waste Data Integration (SWDI) database. Data undergoes a QA/QC process weekly to identify errors and missing data. Corrections are submitted, on average, within a week.
- Commercial non-contracted tonnage data come from:
  - Garbage: Vendor monthly Excel reports  
"Mid-Month Report" from Waste Management and "Flow Control Report" from Republic/Lander.
  - Organics: Waste Management monthly online report (ENSPIRE) and Cedar Grove quarterly PDF report.
- Material estimate percentages come from the [SPU Waste Composition Studies](#) for the Residential Sector.
  - Garbage: [2010](#), [2014](#), [2020](#)
  - Recycling: [2010](#), [2015](#), [2020](#)

### Terms

- **Municipal Solid Waste (MSW):** Includes all garbage, recycling, and organics (food and yard waste) material that Seattle customers set out for collection or haul to a City transfer station.
- **Contracted Tonnage:** Number of tons collected by vendors under contract with SPU
- **Non-contracted Tonnage:**
  - Self-haul includes only material transported by customers to SPU's transfer stations
  - Commercial garbage and organics include both contracted and non-contracted tonnage. Commercial recycling includes only the contracted portion.
- **Sector:** Residential, Commercial, Self-haul
  - **Residential:** Single family + Multifamily subsectors
    - **Single family:** Dwellings with no more than four units
    - **Multifamily:** Apartments and condominiums with five or more units
- **Contaminant:** Items that did not meet the requirements of Seattle's recycling program (as of 2014-15)
- **Stream:** Waste stream including garbage, recycling, and organics (food and yard waste)

# Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) Quarterly Report

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## Estimated City Contracted and Self-haul MSW Tonnage

Q3  
 2022



Percent difference Q3 2022 and previous quarter

Single family	Multifamily	Commercial	Self-haul
-12.42%	1.42%	3.06%	1.52%

Percent difference Q3 2022 and Q3 2021

Single family	Multifamily	Commercial	Self-haul
-2.67%	1.71%	2.08%	7.52%

Estimated Single family Tons by Waste Stream (Q1-Q3)

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
<b>Garbage</b>	44,752	39,166	40,743	40,766	43,133	43,466	49,314	51,240	51,380
<b>Recycling</b>	44,276	44,389	44,770	45,634	44,428	41,987	44,952	43,724	41,508
<b>Organics</b>	56,629	61,340	64,074	62,664	61,634	62,165	70,462	60,071	61,281
<b>Estimated Total</b>	<b>145,657</b>	<b>144,895</b>	<b>149,587</b>	<b>149,064</b>	<b>149,196</b>	<b>147,617</b>	<b>164,729</b>	<b>155,035</b>	<b>154,169</b>

### Make Selections

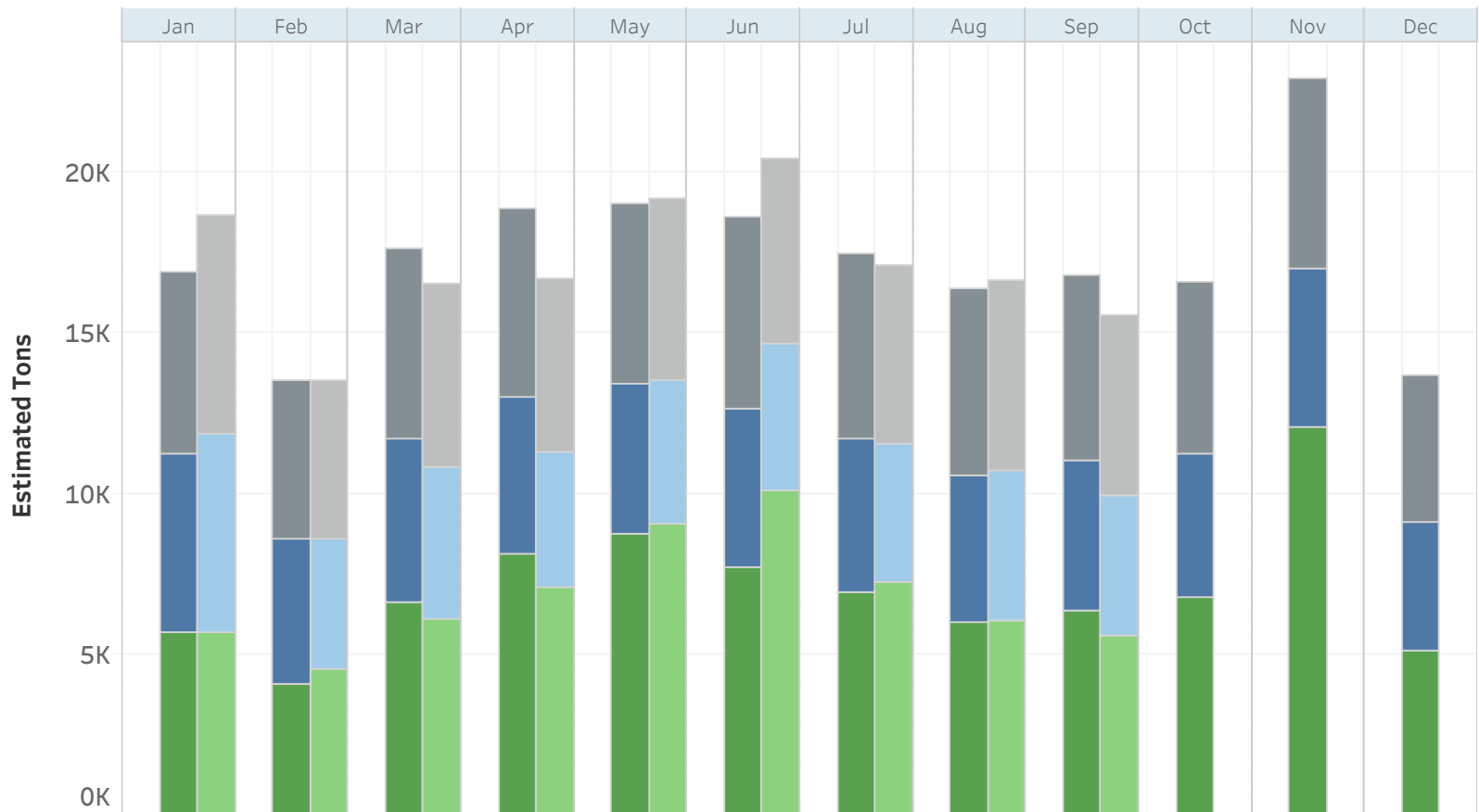
Select Plot  
 Estimated tons

- Stream
- Garbage
  - Recycling
  - Organics

- Sector
- Commercial
  - Multifamily
  - Self-haul
  - Single family

### Legend

- Garbage, 2021
- Garbage, 2022
- Recycling, 2021
- Recycling, 2022
- Organics, 2021
- Organics, 2022



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## Estimated City Contracted and Self-haul MSW Tons Over Time

Q3  
2022



### Estimated City contracted and self-haul MSW tons by Sector

#### Make Selections

##### Select Plot

Sector

##### Date (Year, Quarter, Month)

Quarter

##### Sector

- Commercial
- Multifamily
- Self-haul
- Single family

##### Waste Stream

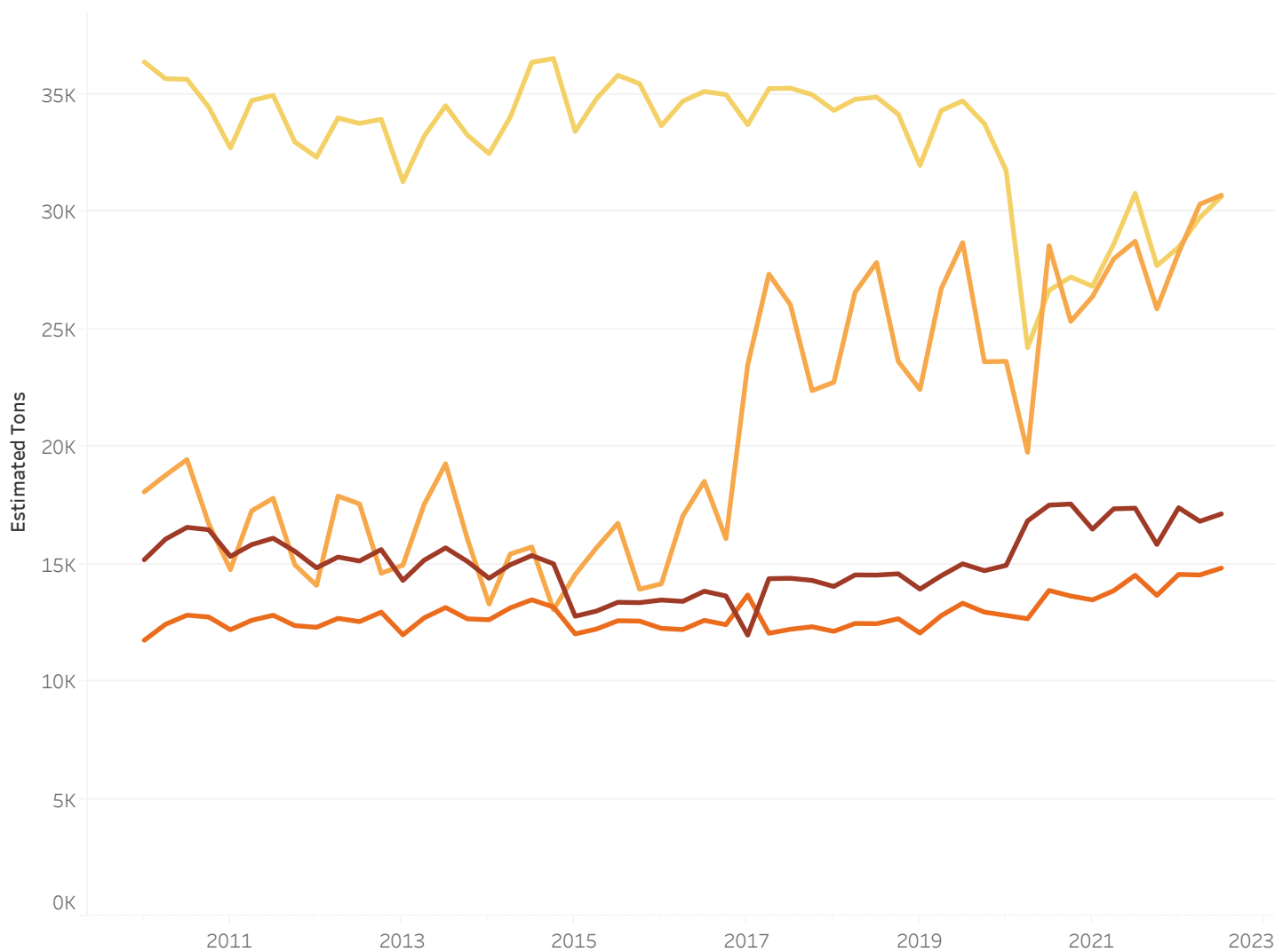
- Garbage
- Recycling
- Organics

##### Year

All

#### Figure Legend

- Single family
- Multifamily
- Self-haul
- Commercial



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## Difference in Estimated Annual City Contracted and Self-haul MSW Tonnage from the 2014-2021 Mean

Q3  
 2022



Difference in estimated annual MSW tons from the 2014-2021 mean. Means calculated for each sector/stream combination.

	Single family			Multifamily			Commercial			Self-haul		
	Garbage	Recycling	Organics	Garbage	Recycling	Organics	Garbage	Recycling	Organics	Garbage	Recycling	Organics
2015	-6,426	1,102	-1,515	-1,961	-1,910	719	7,840	640	-8,567	-25,599	-282	-1,489
2016	-4,565	1,002	827	-1,884	217	1,037	6,828	840	-1,146	-20,698	-112	-1,262
2017	-3,879	1,739	1,244	-1,089	354	-464	7,547	817	13,368	12,753	81	470
2018	-1,230	24	-613	-1,645	206	-450	6,487	482	19,205	14,288	209	471
2019	-765	-3,399	-753	-228	524	-165	3,100	-259	19,242	14,968	278	1,300
2020	7,922	1,750	10,432	1,621	2,840	-592	-21,822	-1,326	-11,348	10,782	45	1,123
2021	8,127	-2,472	-1,638	4,150	1,863	-647	-17,720	-1,414	-13,854	22,508	203	857

### Make Selections

#### Stream

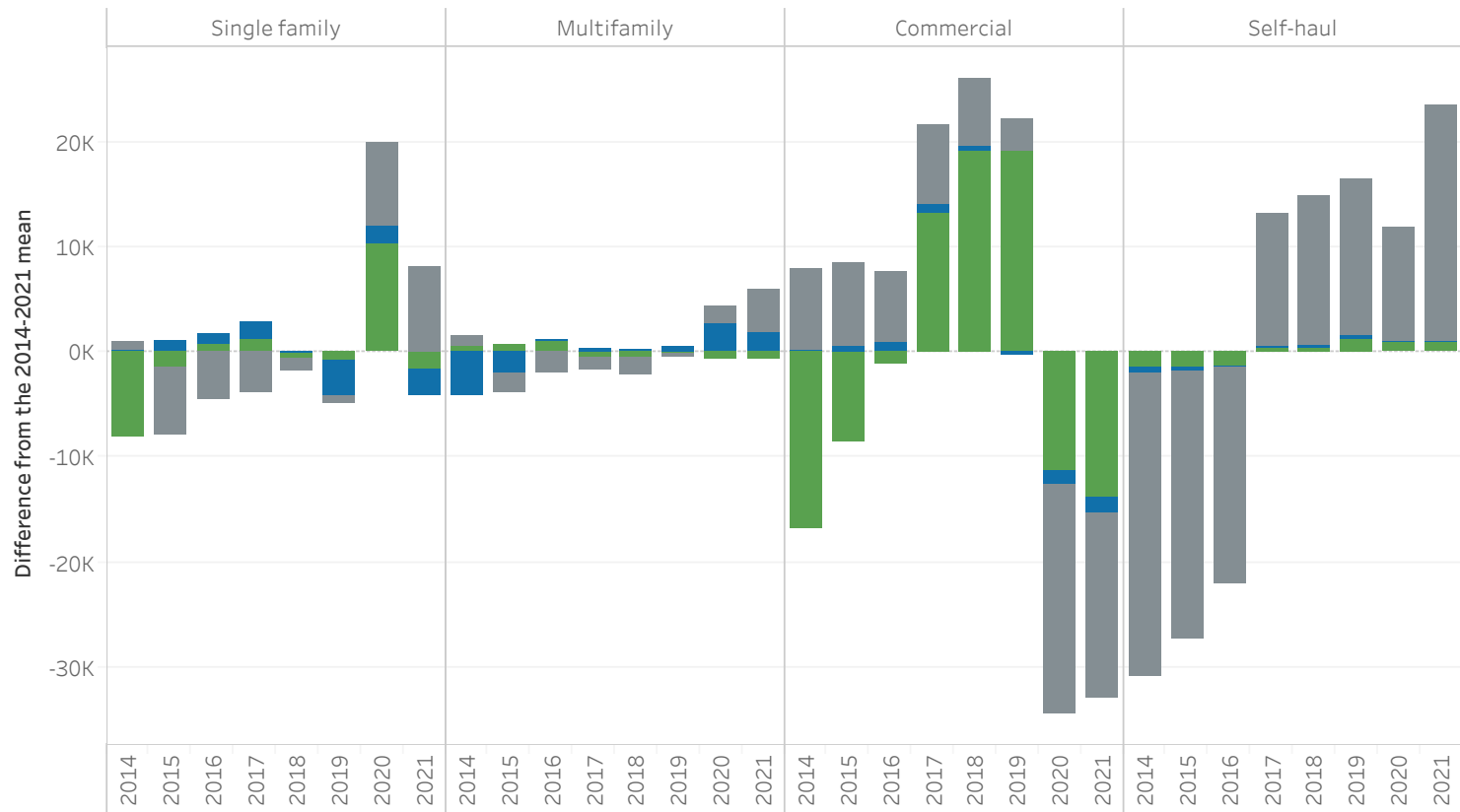
- Garbage
- Recycling
- Organics

#### Sector

- Commercial
- Multifamily
- Self-haul
- Single family

### Figure Legend

- Garbage
- Recycling
- Organics



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## Estimated Composition of City Contracted MSW Tonnages for Residential Subsectors using Waste Composition Study Material Proportions

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Waste Composition study years

\* Garbage (2010,2014,2020)

\* Recycling (2010, 2015, 2020)

		2010	2015	2020
Recycling	Multifamily	15,296	18,699	22,292
	Single family	45,091	44,389	44,966
Total		60,387	63,088	67,258

Estimated tons of Recycling material classes for single family and multifamily subsectors in Q1 through Q3

### Make Selections

#### Commodity

- Garbage
- Recycling

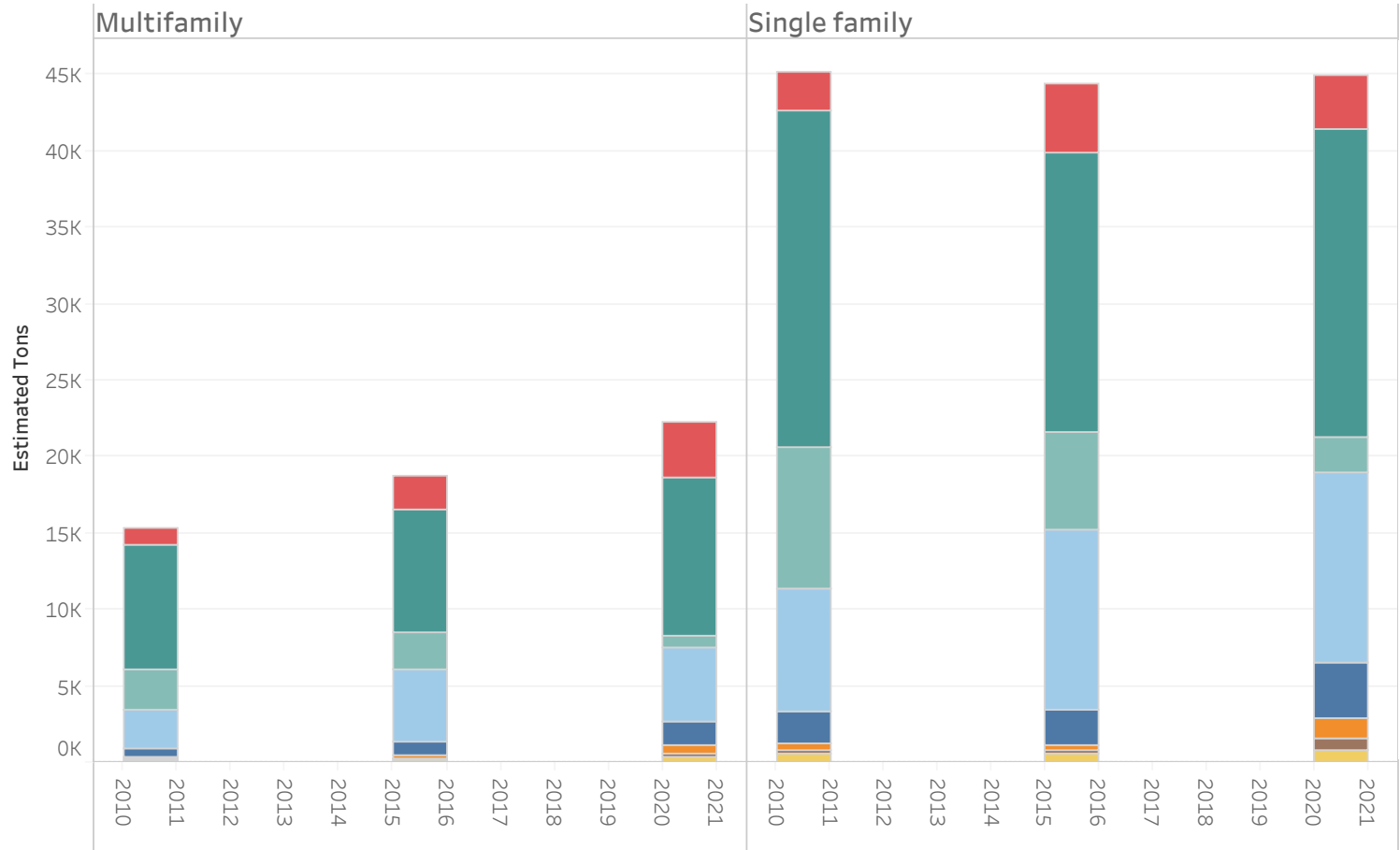
#### Materials

All

### Figure Legend

#### Material

- Contaminants
- Mixed Paper
- Newspaper
- Glass
- Plastic
- Aluminum
- Ferrous Metal
- Tin



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# Estimated City Contracted MSW Tonnages for Material Classes in the Residential Garbage and Recycling Streams using Waste Composition Study Material Proportions

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Estimated collected tons for material classes in the Garbage stream in 2020

	C&D	Curbside Recycla..	Food	Hazardous	Other Curbside C..	Other Material	Total Tons*
Garbage	2,801	13,982	10,552	1,001	6,237	18,163	<b>52,736</b>

\*Total Tons excludes estimated tons of contaminants (Total tons Without Contaminants)

\*\* Only years with relevant waste composition studies are provided

\*\*\* Material proportions are calculated for each study year and applied to monthly estimated City contracted MSW tons. Proportions do not change between months.

### Make Selections

#### Sector

- Multifamily
- Single family

#### Stream

- Garbage
- Recycling

#### Year\*\*

- 2010
- 2014
- 2020

#### Material Class

All

### Figure Legend

#### Material

- C&D
- Food
- Other Curbside Compostable
- Curbside Recyclable
- Hazardous
- Other Material

