

Plastics Recycling: American Chemistry Council Statistics



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07/11/2017

The American Chemistry Council (“ACC”) issued a news release titled:

Plastics Recycling: Two and a Half Decades of Growth & Momentum

The news release provides a number of statistics regarding the development of plastics recycling over the past 25 years.

The statistics cited include:

- Consumer access
- Ninety-four percent access (to plastic bottle recycling)
- Ninety percent access (to plastic wraps/bags[film] recycling)
- Sixty percent access (to other rigid plastics recycling)
- Plastic bottles
- More than three billion pounds collected for recycling in 2014
- Recycling rate nearly 32 percent in 2014
- Rigid Plastics
- Nearly 1.3 billion pounds collected for recycling in 2014
- Four times the amount collected in 2007
- Plastic wraps and bags
- Nearly 1.2 billion pounds of plastic wraps and bags collected for recycling in 2014
- Recycling rate of nearly 17 percent in 2014
- Plastic wraps and bags collected at more than 18,000 storefront locations across the United States

The American Chemistry Council states that when plastics recycling is combined with energy recovery of non-recycled plastics (stated to be typically at facilities that convert such plastics into energy, fuels, or chemical feedstocks) 27 percent of all plastics generated were diverted from landfills in 2013.

The American Chemistry Council describes itself as representing a diverse set of companies engaged in the business of chemistry.

[A copy of the news release can be downloaded here.](#)