



# THE PALMETTO STATE RECYCLING INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT

More than **300**  
Recycling Businesses in  
South Carolina

**\$13.6B**  
Annual Industry  
Economic Impact  
(2022 Economic Impact Study)



From 2019 to 2023, the recycling industry in South Carolina announced **\$6.6 billion in capital investment, representing 5,008 new jobs in the state.**

YEAR >	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	TOTALS
<b>CAPITAL &gt;</b>	\$50M	\$119M	\$523M	\$4.2B	\$1.75B	<b>\$6.6B</b>
<b>NEW JOBS &gt;</b>	238	204	536	1,852	2,178	<b>5,008</b>
<b>COMPANIES &gt;</b>	5	7	6	10	10	<b>38</b>

In FY2023, **1,135,905 tons** of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) was recycled in South Carolina. That is the equivalent of **4,106 Boeing 787 planes**, loaded at maximum take-off weight.



South Carolina's MSW recycling rate was **20.9%** in FY2023.

The above economic data is from the South Carolina Department of Commerce's internal records. The MSW data is from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control.

S.C. Commerce's Recycling Market Development Advisory Council supports the recycling industry's economic growth by building recycling markets, promoting the recycling value chain and increasing material recovery.



The Recycling Markets Directory helps manufacturers keep materials in motion by reducing waste. Visit [RecyclingInSC.com](https://www.RecyclingInSC.com).



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From 2018 to 2022, the recycling industry in South Carolina announced **\$5.4 billion in capital investment, representing 3,785 new jobs in the state.**

YEAR >	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	TOTALS
CAPITAL >	\$511M	\$50M	\$119M	\$523M	\$4.2B	<b>\$5.4B</b>
NEW JOBS >	955	238	204	536	1,852	<b>3,785</b>
COMPANIES >	8	5	7	6	10	<b>36</b>

In FY2022, **1,161,924 tons** of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) was recycled in South Carolina. That is the equivalent of **4,201 Boeing 787 planes**, loaded at maximum take-off weight.



South Carolina's MSW recycling rate was **22.7%** in FY2022.

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