

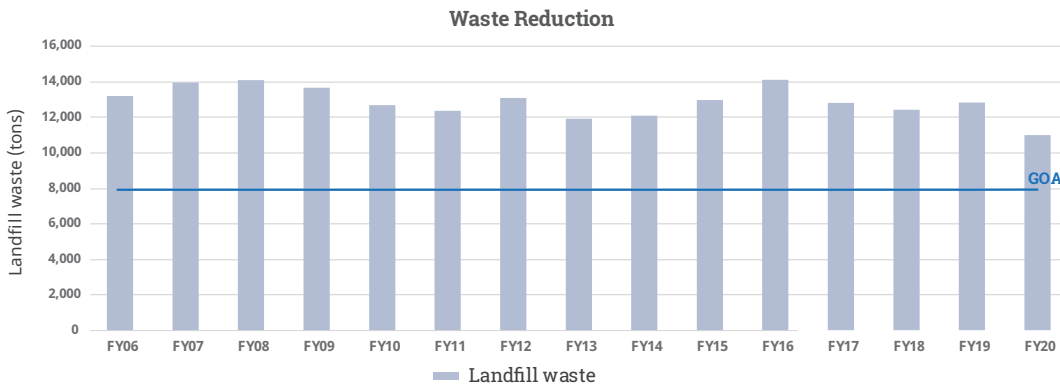


# FY20 SUSTAINABILITY GOAL FACT SHEET

## Waste Reduction

**GOAL:** REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF WASTE SENT TO LANDFILLS 40% BY 2025

**STATUS:** 17% REDUCTION



**DIVERSION RATE**  
 WASTE DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL BY COMPOSTING AND RECYCLING  
**45%**

Landfill waste has decreased by 17% despite a 31% increase in campus population since FY06.

## COVID-19 IMPACT

Reductions in campus operations in the fourth quarter significantly reduced waste collected. Also, due to pandemic limitations, the U-M Health System paused compost collection and recycling of construction and demolition waste for two months.

## KEY INITIATIVES

- Completed bin standardization
- Launched **Where to Throw** search tool and accompanying education campaign.
- **Compost service expansion**
  - Added nearly 50 buildings, bringing the total to 150 buildings.
  - Staff kitchens with compost now total 650.
  - Added 300+ compost bins to the waste closets of each residential hall, which appears to be unprecedented among peer institutions of U-M's size.
- **Zero waste events**
  - Supported over 1,200 staff and student zero waste events—a 100% increase over the prior year despite ending 3 months early due to COVID.
- In the 2019 season, Michigan Stadium composted 30.2 tons and recycled 43.9 tons.
- **University of Michigan Health System (UMHS)**
  - Began the unique process of collecting post-consumer compost (leftover food from patient trays).
  - Partnered with a new recycling vendor, to expand into single-stream recycling on the medical campus.
  - Began recycling construction and demolition waste from the main medical campus.
  - Blue wrap (a polypropylene-based sterilization wrap used in operating rooms) recycling began in C.S. Mott Children's and Von Voigtlander Women's Hospital and the Cardiovascular Center Hospital.

## NEXT STEPS

### OCS

- Continue to expand compost service to new spaces and remaining staff kitchens. Work with staff and students to pilot additional public-facing compost bins.
- Strengthen feedback mechanisms about contamination to ensure continued high-quality recyclables and compost.

### UMHS

- Look for other recycling opportunities with their new recycling vendor.
- Planning to expand existing recycling efforts, including expanding blue wrap recycling into University Hospital operating rooms by the end of 2021.