

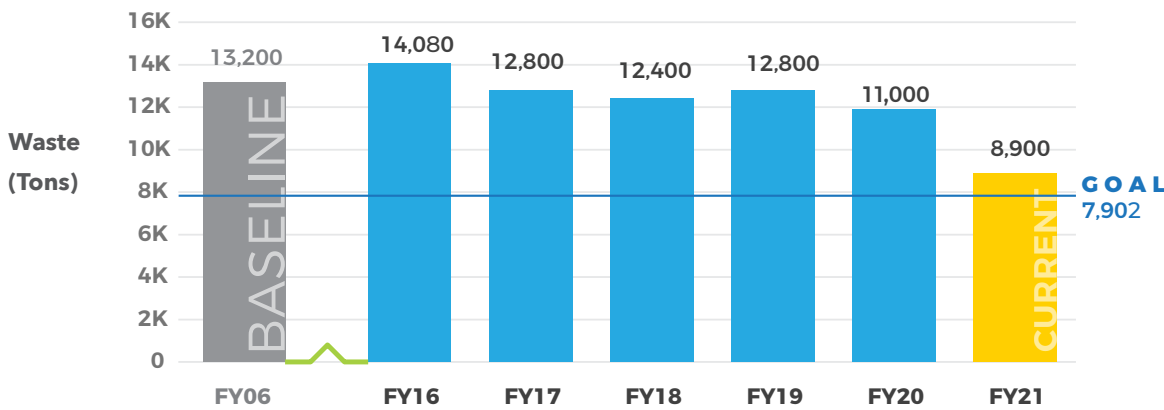


FY21 SUSTAINABILITY GOAL FACT SHEET

Waste Reduction

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

STATUS: 32% REDUCTION



DIVERSION RATE

WASTE DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL BY COMPOSTING AND RECYCLING

42%

COVID-19 IMPACT

Overall waste decreased, as expected. The diversion rate stayed roughly the same despite expectations that the proportion of landfill waste would increase. COVID-related waste was less than expected and those who remained on campus continued to prioritize recycling and composting.

At University of Michigan Health, a trend toward single-use devices due to increased infection concerns has been detrimental to waste reduction goals.

KEY INITIATIVES

Office of Campus Sustainability

- Launched "Adopt a Compost Bin" pilots to expand public-facing compost bins.
- With Athletics and other campus partners, improved zero waste efforts at football games.
- Implemented measures to reduce contamination at zero waste events.

University of Michigan Health

- Won Environmental Excellence Award from Practice Greenhealth (international organization recognized as a leader in health care sustainability).
- Composted more than ever before (124 tons) in first full year of collecting post-consumer compost (leftover food from patient trays).

NEXT STEPS

Office of Campus Sustainability

- Run a compost awareness campaign to encourage more use of existing infrastructure and decrease contamination.
- Hold focus groups to engage students in fine-tuning compost program.
- Conduct waste sorts for three major building types to inform future priorities.
- Enhance opportunities to reduce waste through purchasing.

University of Michigan Health

- Begin a unique medical plastics recycling pilot in FY22 and explore a long-term solution for expansion of medical plastics recycling.
- Pilot reusable sharps containers and transitioning away from foam drinking cups on patient floors.