

County and Municipal Solid Waste Programs in Colorado



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County Level Research

- Researched landfill tipping fees? (what are they used for?)
- Are there County tipping fee surcharges? (what are they used for?)
- Are there County Solid Waste programs, and how are they funded?

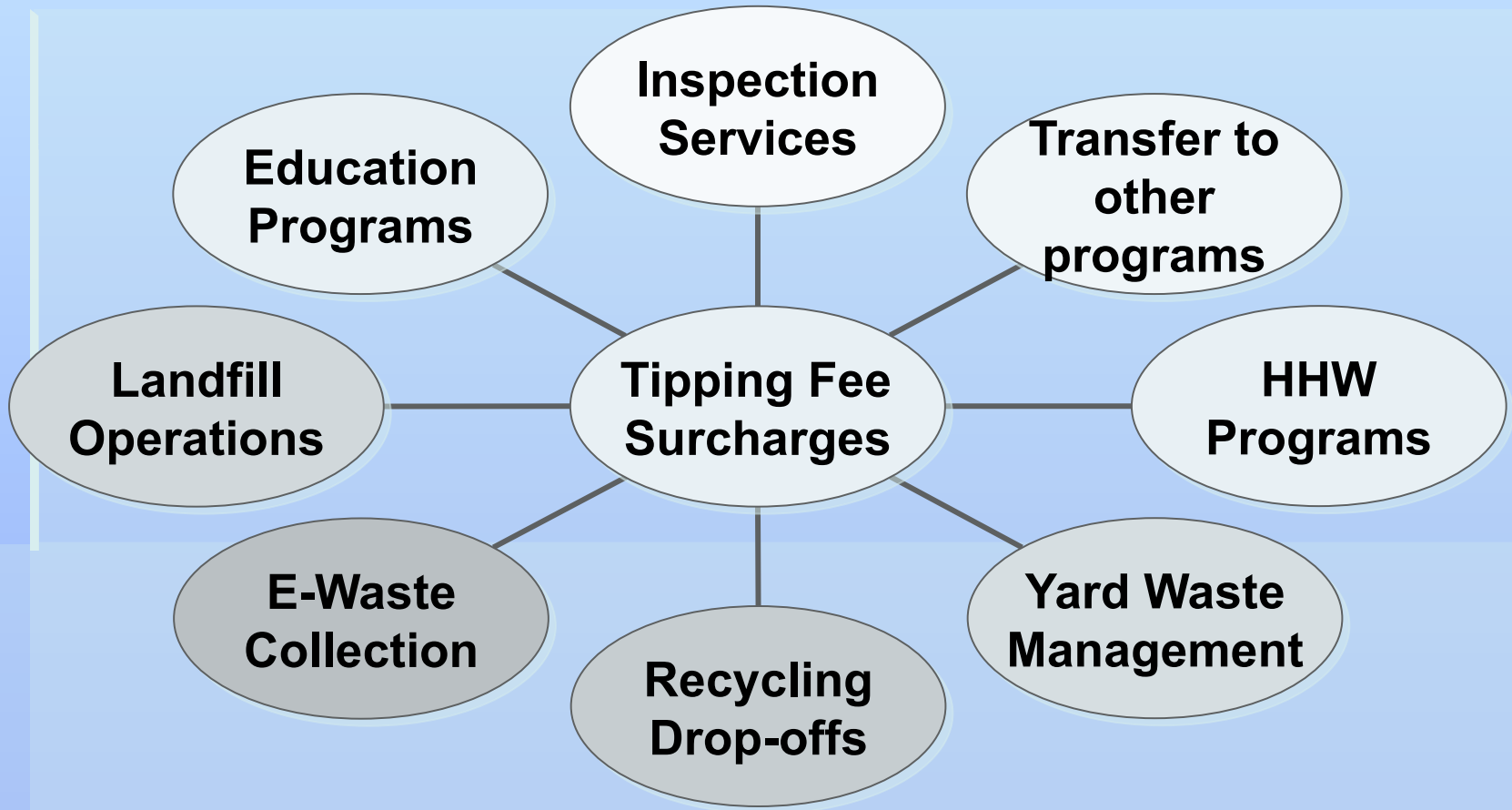
County Owned Landfills

- 9 of 64 Counties have a [*County*] surcharge on tipping fees
- 2 Counties provide free landfill drop-off for residents with the operational costs paid through their general funds

Tipping Fees

- Tipping fees range from \$4.00yd³ to \$24.00yd³ (Average: \$11.03yd³)
- Surcharges range from \$0.25 per yd³ to 10% of all tipping fees

Tipping Fee Surcharges



One example: Clear Creek

- Offset the cost of landfill disposal through the sale of recyclables
- By recycling, they have less to landfill=*lower tipping fees*
- Diversion of yard waste

County Conclusions:

- Counties can offset costs of operations by passing it on to users
 - Tipping fees
 - Tipping fee surcharges
 - Sale of recyclables
- Divert waste to extend landfill life

The Basics of Solid Waste Collection

Municipal Research

- We were able to research and/or directly contact 258 incorporated municipalities
 - City/town clerks
 - City managers
 - City administrators
 - Municipal codes
- Estimated population covered under our research: 3,372,983

**Solid Waste
Collection**

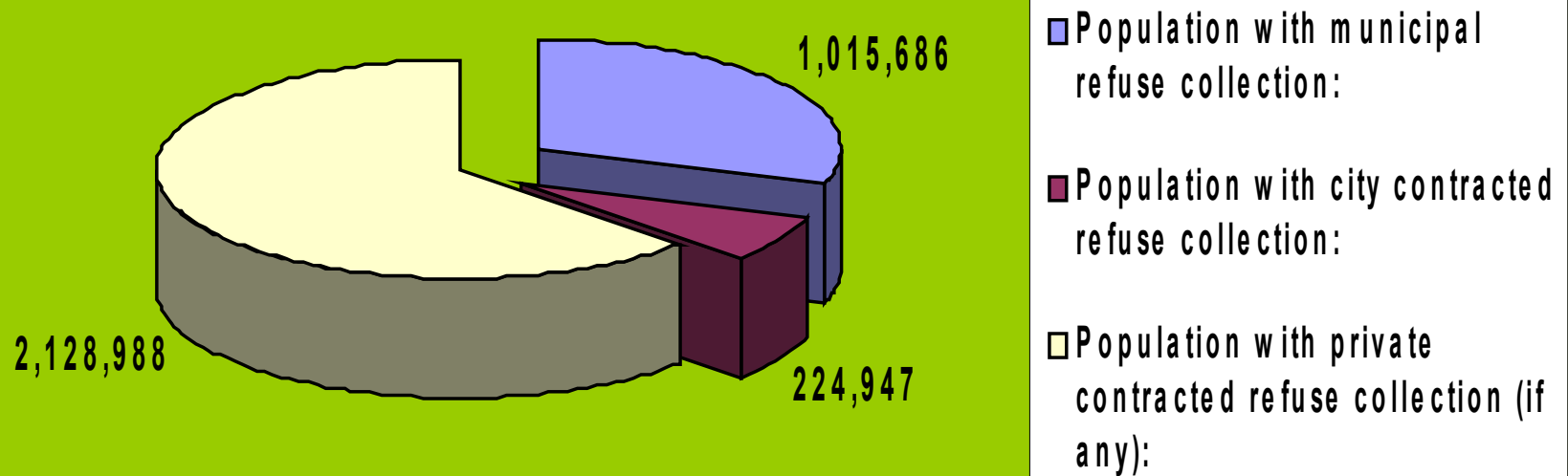
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graph TD; A[Solid Waste Collection] --- B[Municipal Service]; A --- C[Private Service]; A --- D[City Contracted/Third Party]
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**Municipal
Service**

**Private
Service**

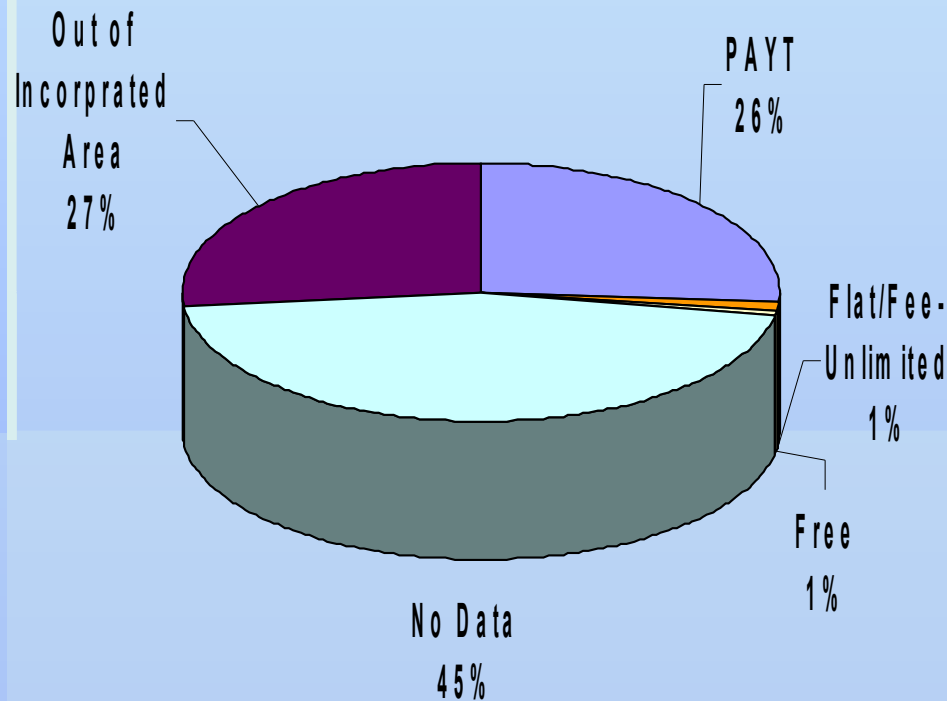
**City
Contracted/
Third
Party**

Type of Household Waste Collection by Population (Incorporated Municipalities)



Pay Structures

Pay Structure for State of Colorado Residents



- PAYT-Volume Based Fees
- Flat Fee/Unlimited
- Free

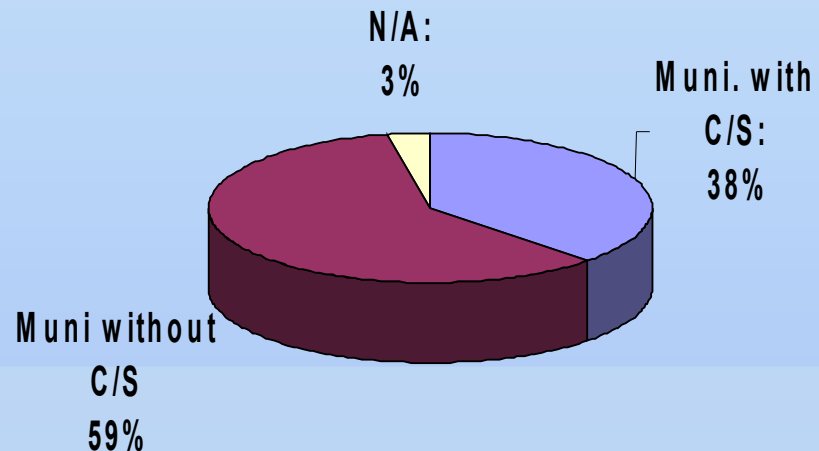
Municipal Ordinance:

- Cites/towns can adopt:
 - PAYT
 - Equal Space
 - Curbside recycling
 - City contract
 - Municipal service
 - Reporting of recyclables
 - Trash tax

MSW Stats

- 38% of municipalities (63% of residents) have curbside recycling available
- At least 2,965,200 residents have curbside recycling available

Percentage of Municipalities with Curbside Recycling Available

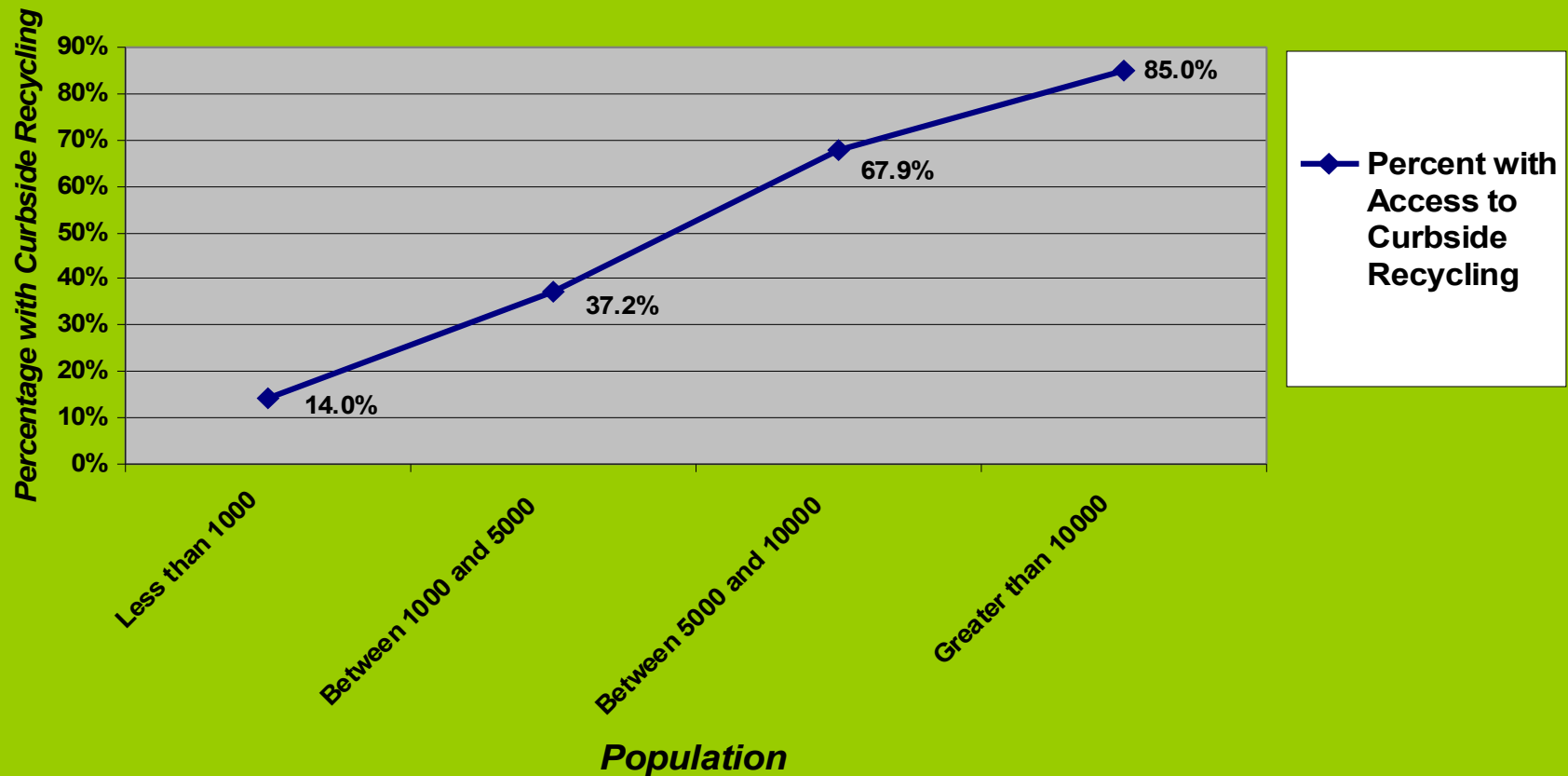


MSW Stats

- 30,692 is the average population for a municipality with curbside recycling available
- 5,573 is the median population for municipalities with curbside recycling available

Population correlation:

Population Size and Percentage of Municipalities with Curbside Recycling





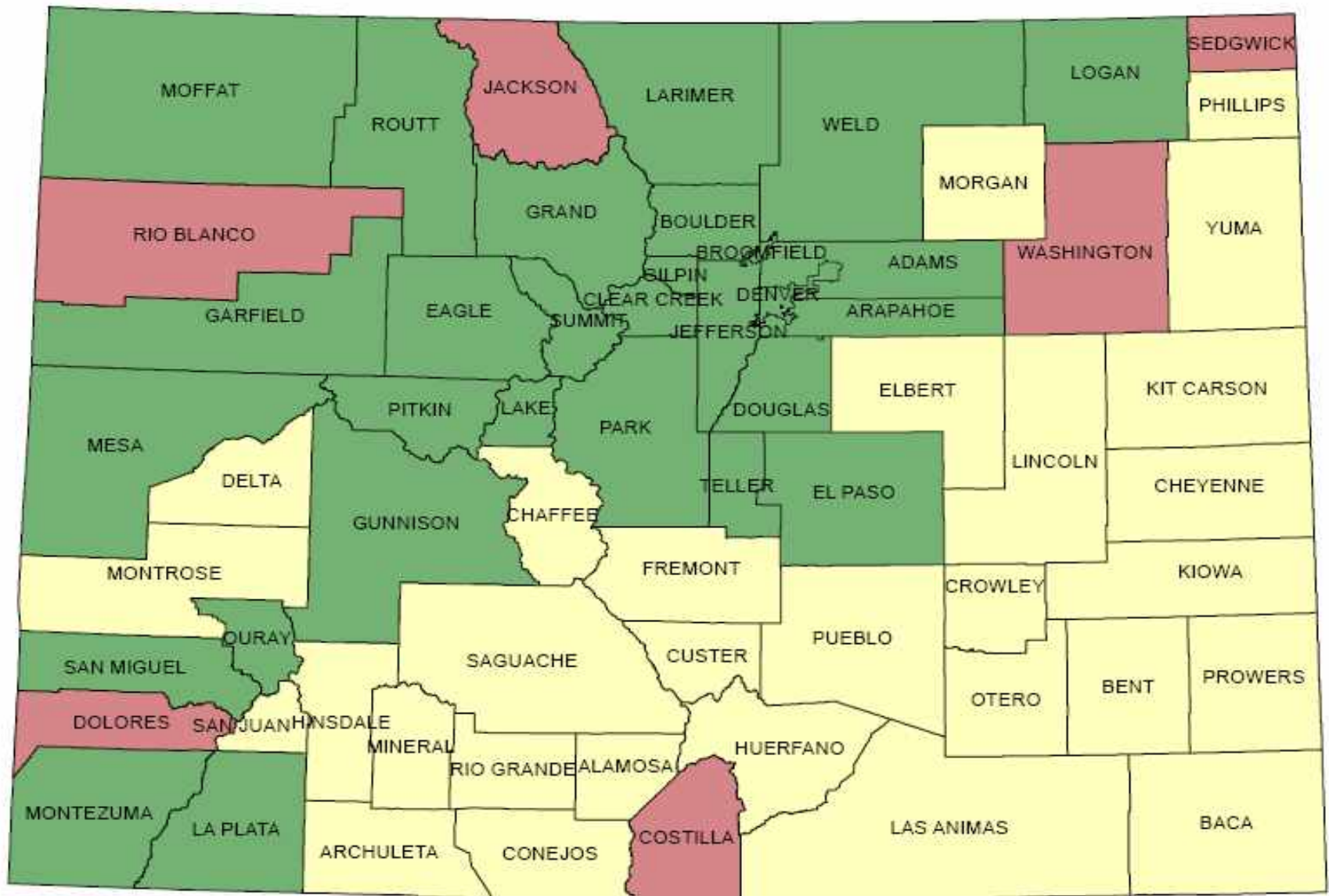
Curbside



Drop off only



No Recycling



What next?

- Figure out which areas have infrastructure to support recycling and are not taking advantage
- Advocate recycling and composting as alternative disposal methods
- Education
- Develop Beneficial Use Framework as another means to increase diversion

Questions?

- Feel free to e-mail me at:

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