

Middlebury Institute of International Studies
2022 Waste Audit Findings

A Note on Data

The 2022 Waste Audit was conducted by Liz Hofius and Brianna Kennedy. During the audit, the team found materials that were incorrectly sorted. Where possible, the team then placed those materials in the correct bin -- thereby “diverting” the material. According to the MIIS Climate Action Plan (CAP), MIIS aims to divert 65% of waste from landfill by 2024. The process of diversion, as referenced in the CAP, is **not** the same as the “diversion” that the waste audit team did.

The waste audit’s “diversion” was a tool by which the team was able to see how accurately the MIIS community sorts its waste. Diversion in this context, then, indicates the percentage of waste that was incorrectly sorted *and still met the requirements necessary for its proper container*.^{*} General diversion goals that are outlined in the CAP refer to the percentage of waste correctly sorted *in comparison to previous years*. For example, if 50% of what was found in the trash bins should have been recycled in 2021, but only 25% of what was found in the trash bins should have been recycled in 2022, that would be a 50% diversion from landfill. Definitions of the following terms, used throughout the document, can be found on the following page.

^{*} Monterey, as with many counties in the country, has specific requirements for its recyclables, namely that they are clean (no food) and dry.

Legend

Landfill Initial: Waste pulled from the landfill/trash container, without any intervention or sorting.

Landfill Actual: Once sorted, the materials that were correctly placed, and therefore remained in the landfill bin

Recycling Diverted: waste from Landfill Initial that was incorrectly sorted and met the requirements for recycling (clean and dry), and was therefore diverted from the Landfill pile into the Recycling pile.

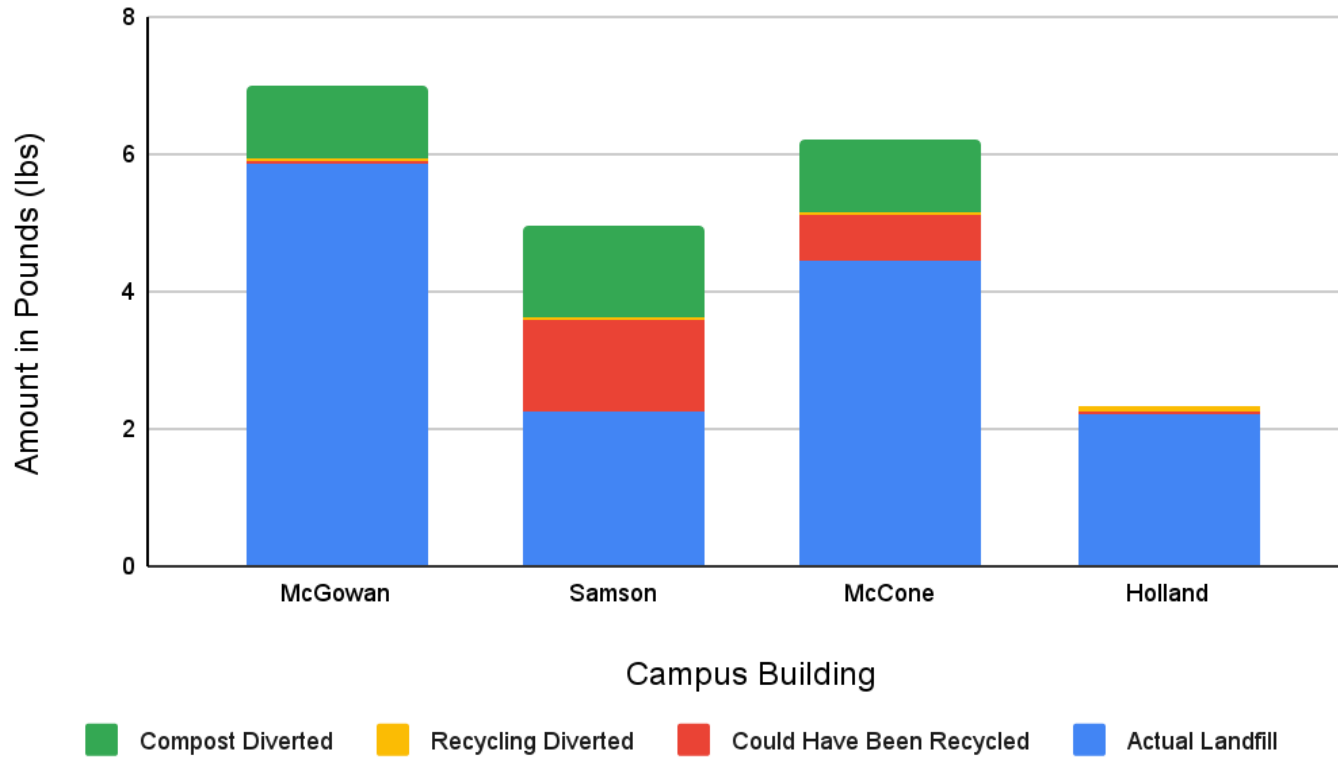
Could Have Been Recycled: Materials in the Landfill Initial (or Recycling Initial) are technically recyclable but did not meet the requirements for recycling (i.e. had too much food on them)

Compost Diverted: Waste found in Landfill Initial or Recycling Initial that was compostable

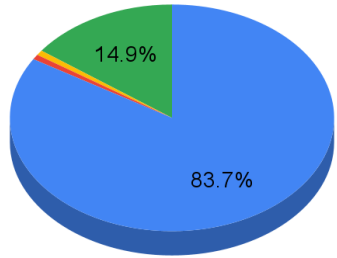
Actual Compost: correctly composted materials

Landfill

Campus Landfill Composition

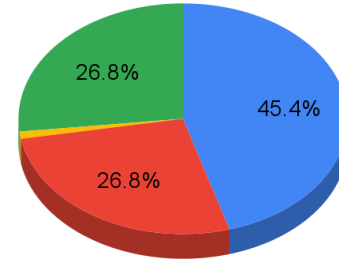


McGowan Landfill Composition



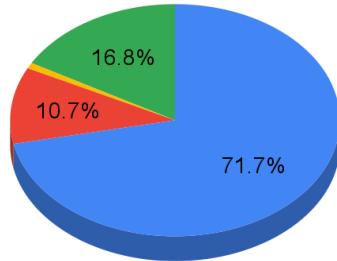
● Actual Landfill ● Could Have Been Recycled ● Recycling Diverted ● Compost Diverted

Samson Landfill Composition



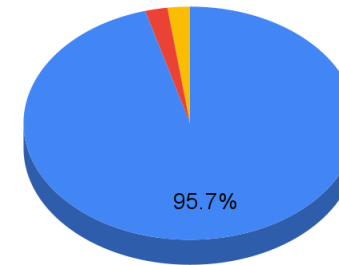
● Actual Landfill ● Could Have Been Recycled ● Recycling Diverted ● Compost Diverted

McCone Landfill Composition



● Actual Landfill ● Could Have Been Recycled ● Recycling Diverted ● Compost Diverted

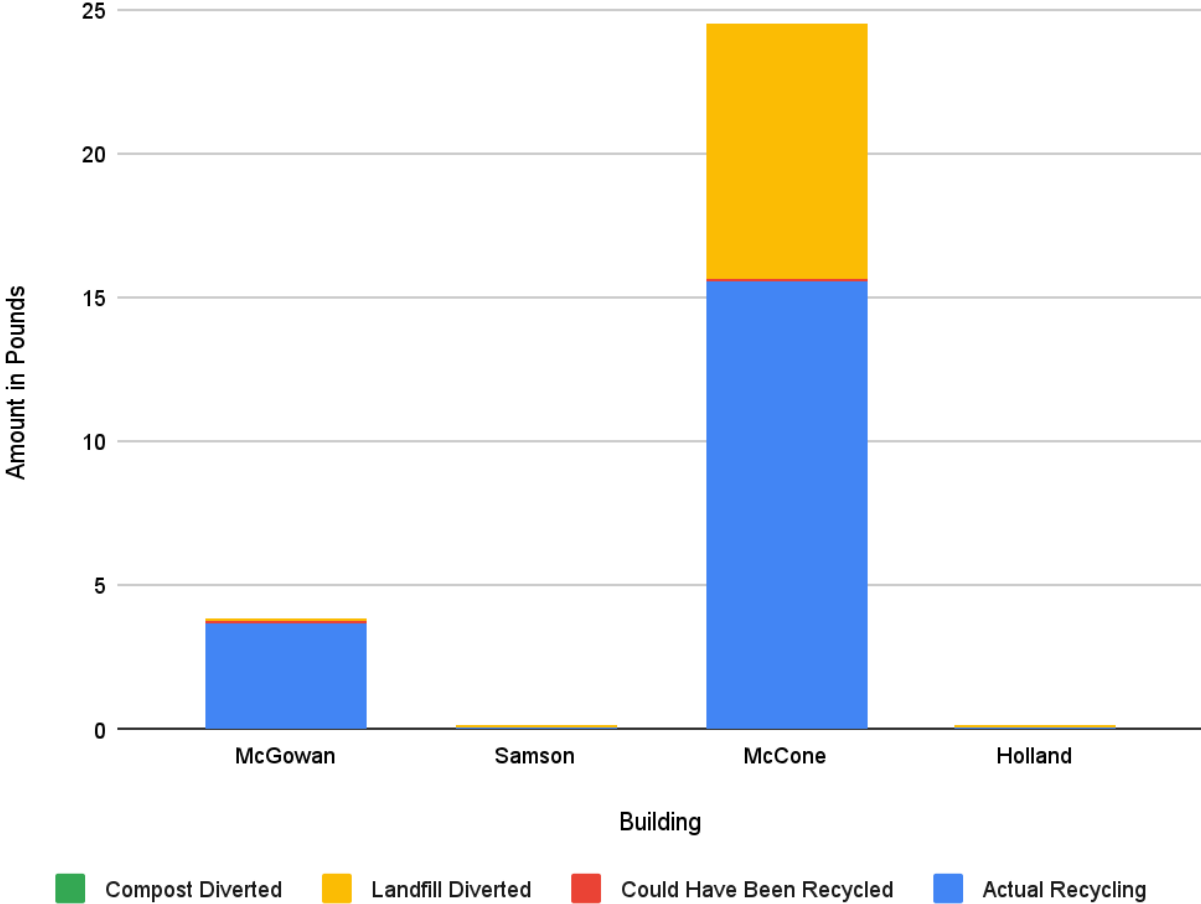
Holland Landfill Composition



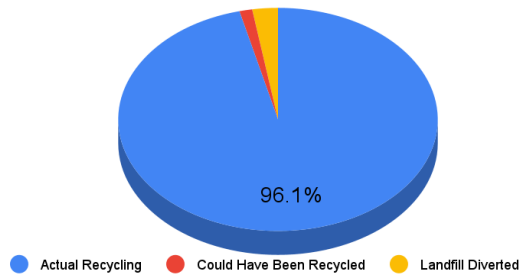
● Actual Landfill ● Could Have Been Recycled ● Recycling Diverted

Recycling

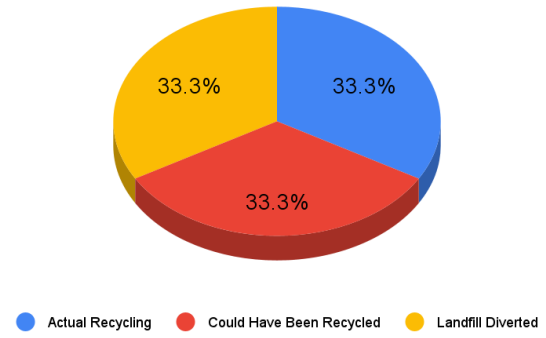
Campus Recycling Composition



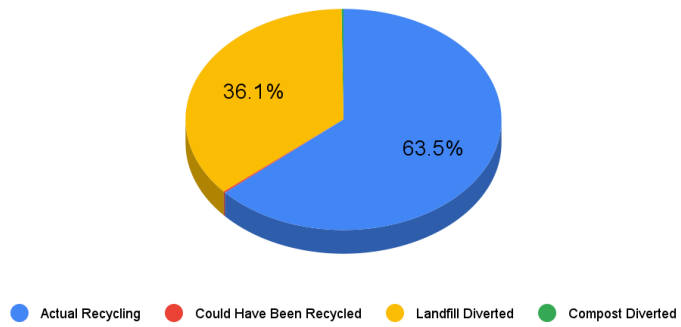
McGowan Recycling Composition



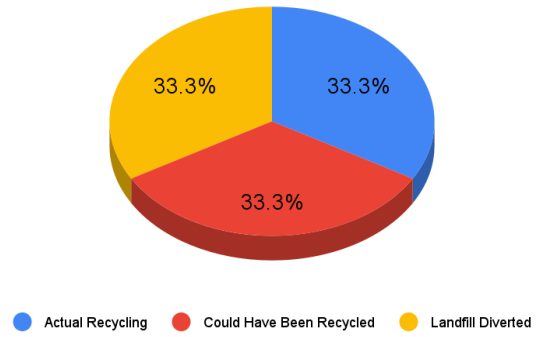
Samson Recycling Composition



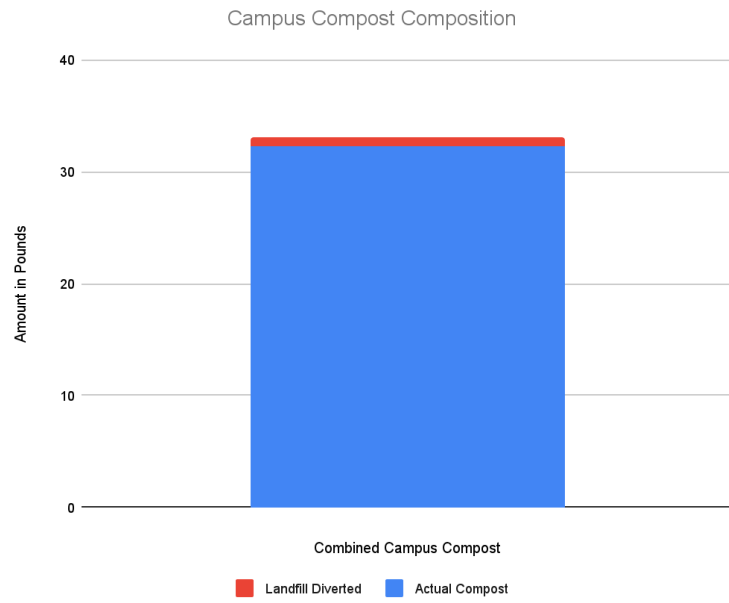
McCone Recycling Composition



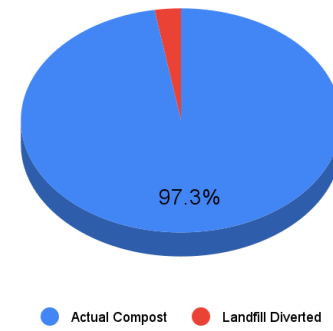
Holland Recycling Composition



Compost

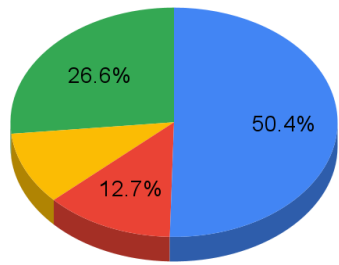


Campus Compost Composition



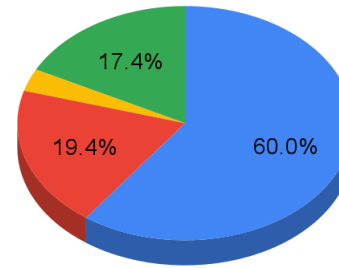
Dorms

Dorms Landfill Composition



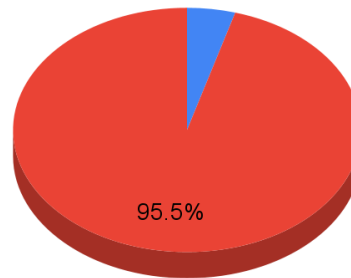
● Actual Landfill ● Could Have Been Recycled ● Diverted Recycling ● Diverted Compost

Dorms Recycling Composition



● Actual Recycling ● Diverted Landfill ● Diverted Compost ● Could Have Been Recycled

Dorms Compost Composition



● Landfill ● Actual Compost