



## **The New Hampshire Hospitals for a Healthy Environment**

The New Hampshire Hospitals for a Healthy Environment (NH3E) is a network of hospitals working to reduce the volume and toxicity of hospital waste.

It was established by the New Hampshire Hospital Association in September 2001 in response to the ongoing interest expressed by New Hampshire's hospitals around issues such as recycling, waste minimization, mercury reduction, environmentally preferable purchasing, and other concerns related to environmental improvement and sustainability.

The group has met quarterly since 2001 and continues to closely collaborate with the NH Department of Environmental Services and EPA Region I to advance its efforts.

Working together, hospitals have explored and, in many cases, enhanced or implemented the following programs at their facilities:

Recycling, including paper, plastics, cardboard, aluminum, batteries, glass, electronics, textiles, and more. It continues to explore viable ways to recycle sterilization/blue wrap, a large percentage of hospital waste – U.S. hospitals produce more than 255 million pounds of blue wrap annually.

Pollution prevention

Mercury reduction/elimination

Medical (red bag) waste reduction

Pharmaceutical waste management

Greener cleaning

Chemical minimization and proper disposal

Food waste reduction and composting

Climate Change preparedness and resiliency measures

Energy conservation/efficiency

Medical equipment and supplies donations



# Hospital Recycling Survey

October 2019

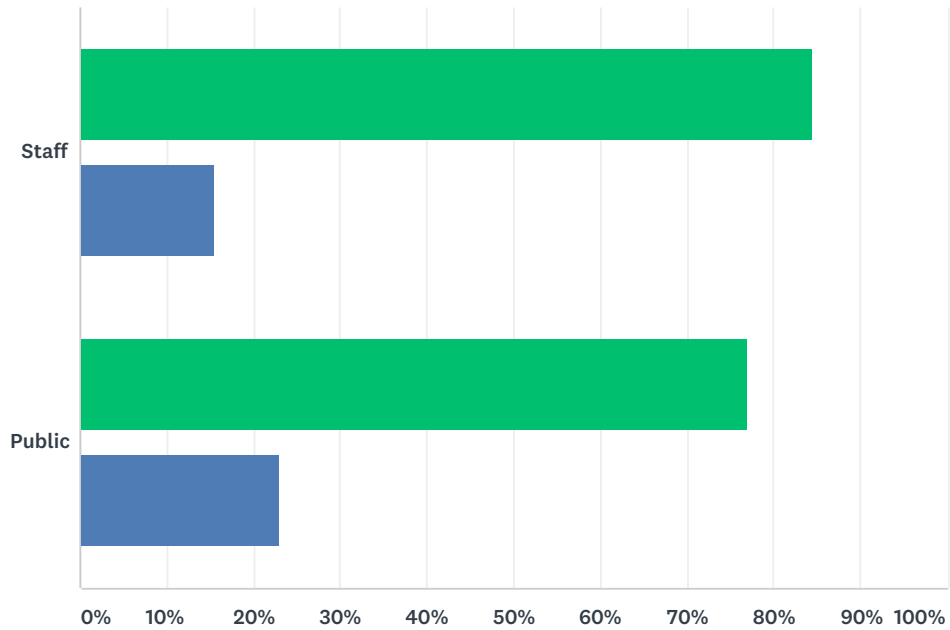
## Participating Hospitals

Androscoggin Valley Hospital  
Cheshire Medical Center  
Cottage Hospital  
Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center  
Elliot Hospital  
Encompass Health Rehabilitation Hospital of Concord  
Littleton Regional Healthcare  
New Hampshire Hospital  
New London Hospital  
Manchester VA Medical Center  
Speare Memorial Hospital  
St. Joseph Hospital  
Wentworth-Douglass Hospital

## Hospital Recycling Survey

### Q2 Does your hospital provide recycling bins for the public and/or staff?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



■ Yes    ■ No

	YES	NO	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Staff	84.62% 11	15.38% 2	13	1.15
Public	76.92% 10	23.08% 3	13	1.23

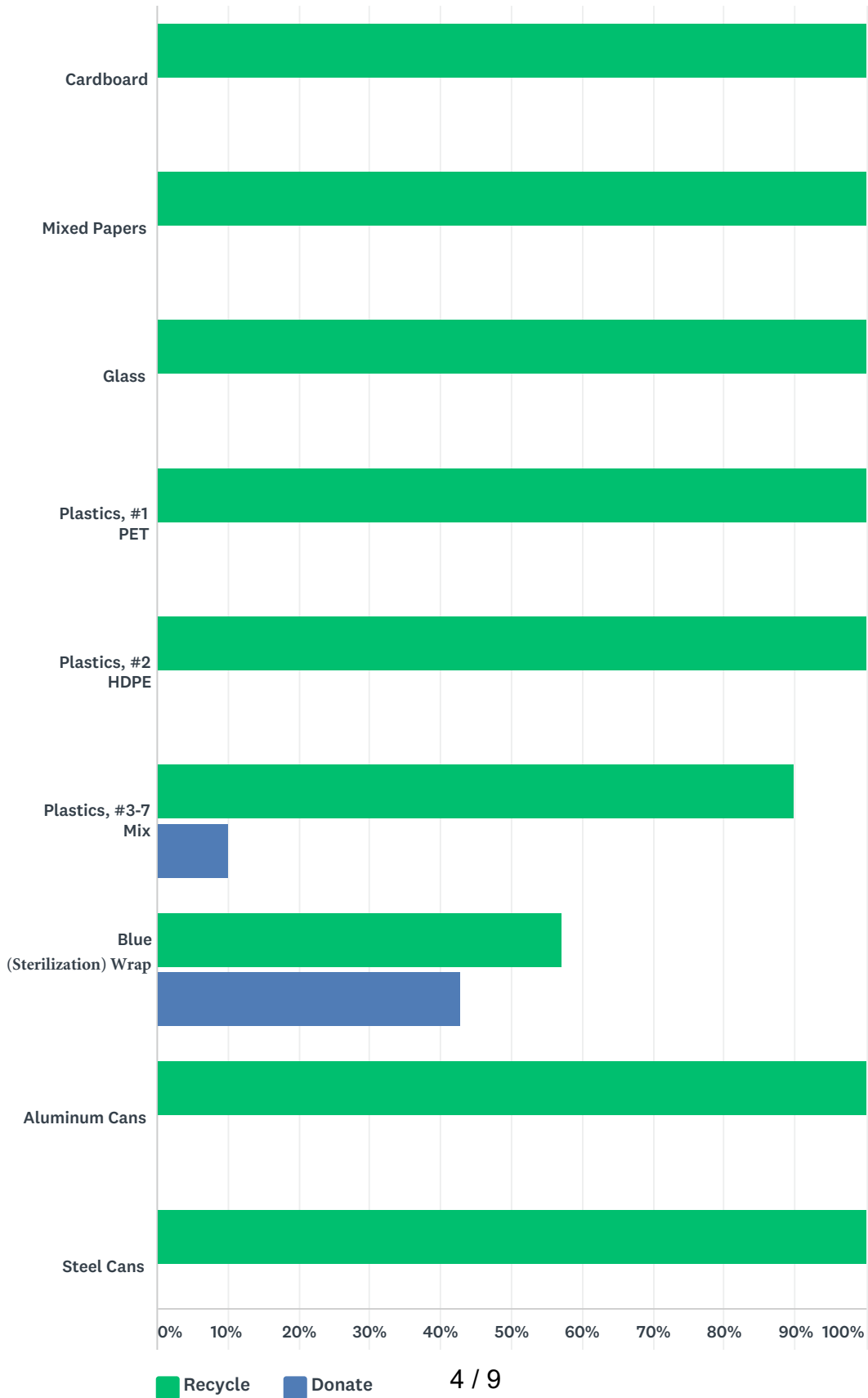
  

#	COMMENT:	DATE
1	Limited recycling bins for the public.	10/14/2019 5:04 AM
2	There are some departments that recycle cans We recycle all the plastic wraps and bags from the laundry through the laundry company.	10/9/2019 10:56 AM

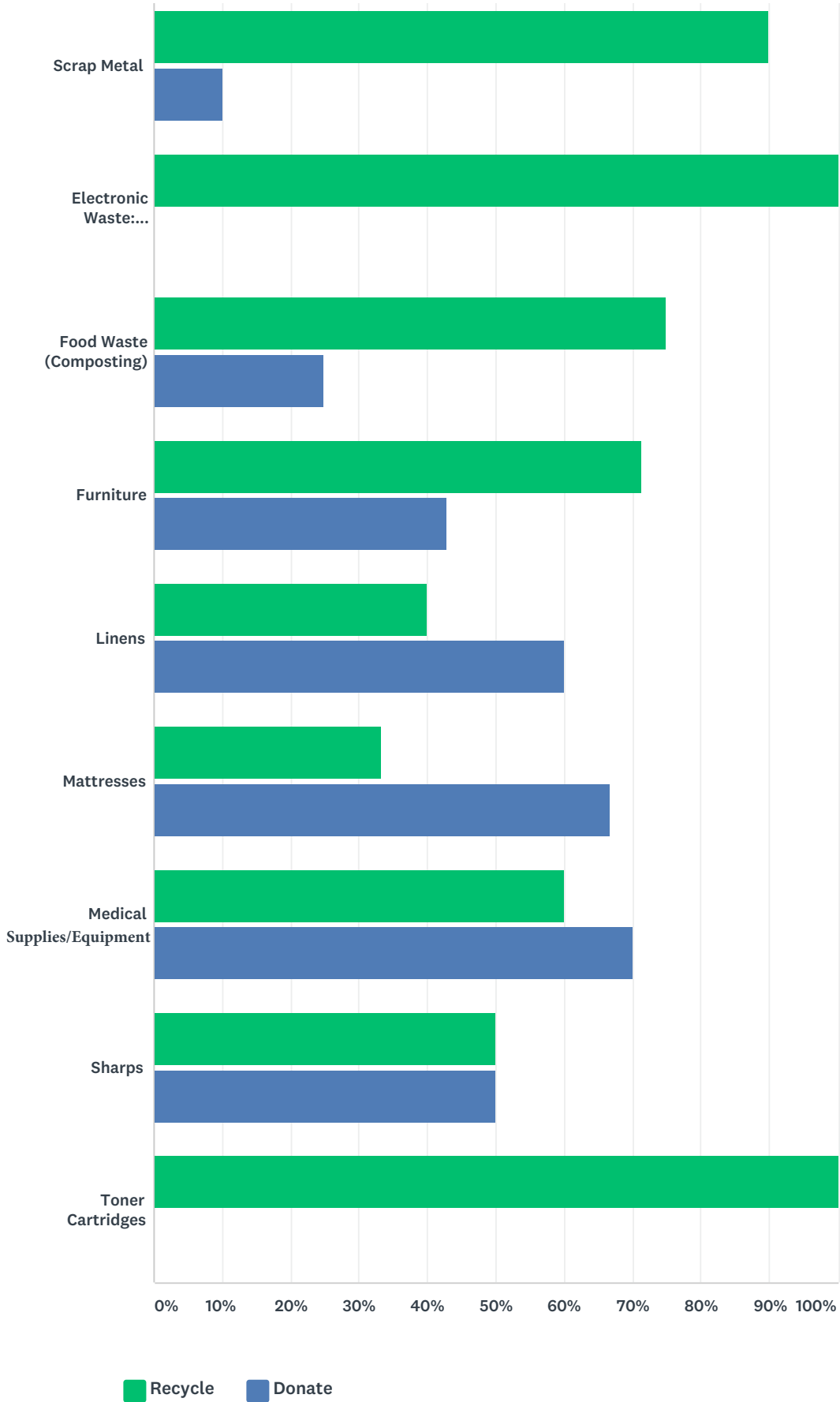
# Hospital Recycling Survey

Q3 Does your hospital recycle or donate the following materials? (Please put a check mark under each applicable option.)

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



# Hospital Recycling Survey

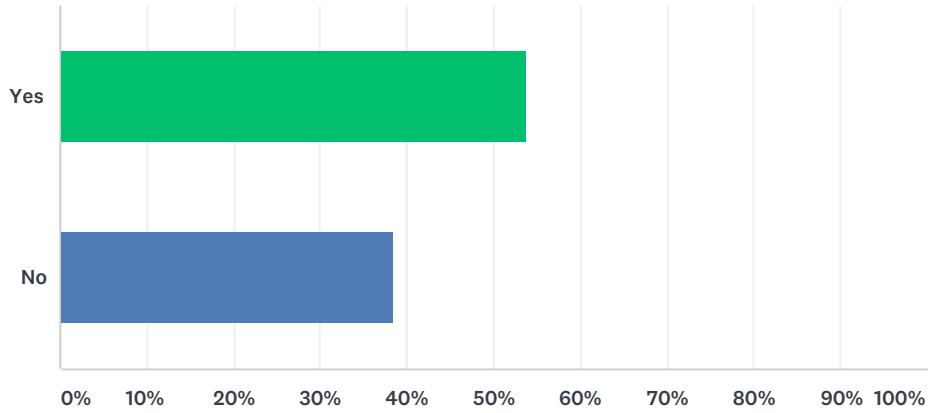


## Hospital Recycling Survey

	RECYCLE	DONATE	TOTAL RESPONDENTS
Cardboard	100.00% 11	0.00% 0	11
Mixed Papers	100.00% 11	0.00% 0	11
Glass	100.00% 10	0.00% 0	10
Plastics, #1 PET	100.00% 11	0.00% 0	11
Plastics, #2 HDPE	100.00% 11	0.00% 0	11
Plastics, #3-7 Mix	90.00% 9	10.00% 1	10
Blue (Sterilization) Wrap	57.14% 4	42.86% 3	7
Aluminum Cans	100.00% 11	0.00% 0	11
Steel Cans	100.00% 7	0.00% 0	7
Scrap Metal	90.00% 9	10.00% 1	10
Electronic Waste: Computers, Tablets, T.V.s, etc.	100.00% 9	0.00% 0	9
Food Waste (Composting)	75.00% 6	25.00% 2	8
Furniture	71.43% 5	42.86% 3	7
Linens	40.00% 2	60.00% 3	5
Mattresses	33.33% 1	66.67% 2	3
Medical Supplies/Equipment	60.00% 6	70.00% 7	10
Sharps	50.00% 2	50.00% 2	4
Toner Cartridges	100.00% 12	0.00% 0	12

**Q4 Has recycling items such as paper, cardboard, glass, and plastics become more challenging due to changes in global recycling policies/markets? (i.e. cost increases, specification changes, etc.?)**

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0

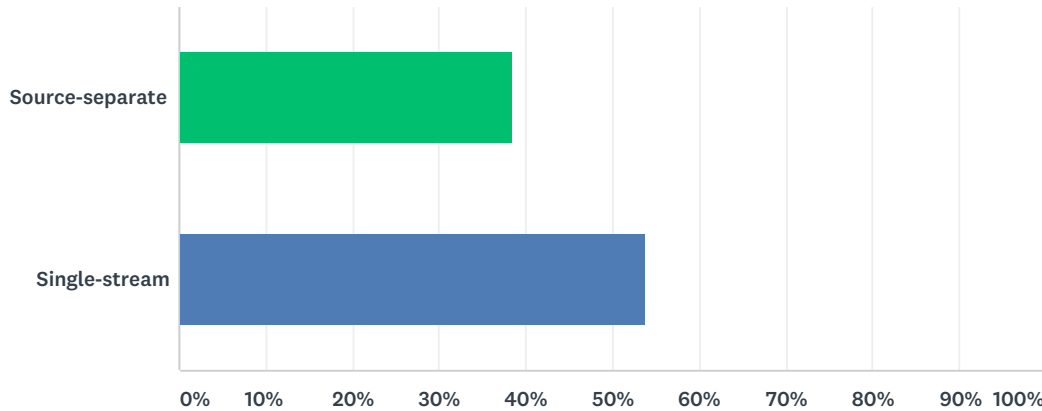


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	53.85%	7
No	38.46%	5
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>13</b>

#	IF YES, PLEASE EXPLAIN:	DATE
1	Cost increases, loss of applicable rebate	10/14/2019 8:06 AM
2	There is no market for cardboard anymore. Not sure if our single stream is actually being recycled by our vendor.	10/14/2019 5:04 AM
3	More expensive and less willingness to accept various items	10/11/2019 3:27 AM
4	Waste hauler has gotten more strict on what can be collected in single stream recycling.	10/10/2019 4:05 AM
5	we need recycling disposal facilities to take the recyclable products too	10/9/2019 10:56 AM
6	the area we live in does not take all the plastics anymore due to the transfer station not taking them.	10/9/2019 7:24 AM
7	After a recent visit to the Casella recycling facility in Rutland I realized a lot of our plastics put into our zero sort stream are actually going into the landfill because they are not actually recyclable.	10/4/2019 7:01 AM
8	Not Applicable	10/4/2019 6:43 AM

### Q5 Does your hospital source-separate the materials referred to in Question #4, or do you collect them as single-stream (zero sort)?

Answered: 13 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Source-separate	38.46%	5
Single-stream	53.85%	7
TOTAL		13

#	ADDITIONAL INFO:	DATE
1	We have a combination depending on commodity.	10/14/2019 8:06 AM
2	Paper is collected as confidential, shredded and recycled. Bottles and cans and papers are single stream. skids are held for recycling and / or heating fuel.	10/14/2019 5:04 AM
3	paper and cardboard and some of our plastics and other items get put in one giant cardboard bin because Waste Management takes it all and separates it on site at their facility.	10/9/2019 7:24 AM
4	All paper except hard bound books are single sourced, we separate our cardboard, and recycle glass and plastics together	10/7/2019 11:12 AM
5	We separate our cardboard and paper out from the rest of our zero sort stream.	10/4/2019 7:01 AM
6	Not Applicable	10/4/2019 6:43 AM



## Hospital Recycling Survey

Q6 If you have any additional information and/or concerns, please include here:

Answered: 2 Skipped: 11

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	Only generating a small amount of some recyclable items makes finding a waste hauler/recycler more difficult. Contractors typically want a large volume to make pickup and transport more profitable.	10/10/2019 4:05 AM
2	rural communities need recycling opportunities ,we need recycling disposal facilities to take the recyclable products	10/9/2019 10:56 AM