

Illinois Electronics Recycling Program



Illinois Environmental
Protection Agency

Introduction

The Illinois Statewide Electronics Recycling Program began on January 1, 2012 under the Electronics Products Recycling & Reuse Act (EPRRA). On January 1, 2019, the Consumer Electronics Recycling Act (CERA) replaced EPRRA as the statutory framework for the statewide electronics recycling program. CERA incorporated many of the lessons learned from the historic program administration, including replacing numerical annual collection goals with minimum collection site requirements for participating Illinois counties.

The statewide program offers an environmentally sound outlet for residential electronics and reduces the occurrence of open dumping which can be an environmental and economic burden for Illinois taxpayers. CERA requires manufacturers of covered electronic devices (CEDs), listed in Table 1, to register with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Agency) the brands they offer for sale at retail to Illinois residents. These manufacturers are required to fund packaging, transportation, and the subsequent recycling of CEDs collected at participating collection locations. The list of registered manufacturers can be found on the Agency's [website](#).

Table 1. List of Covered Electronic Devices

- Computers
- Computer Monitors
- Keyboards & Mice
- Printers
- Scanners
- Fax Machines
- Small-Scale Servers
- Televisions
- DVD Players|
- DVD Recorders
- VCRs
- Cable Receivers
- Satellite Receivers
- Digital Converter Boxes
- Video Game Consoles
- Portable Music Players (with memory capabilities)

Program Participation

Illinois county participation plays an important role in program success. In total, 54 counties opted into the 2021 statewide program. Of those counties, 44 were able to run collection sites or hold collection events despite many of the limitations imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Figure 1 displays a visual depiction of county participation. Approximately 84.6% of the Illinois population had the opportunity to use a CERA collection site or event during calendar year 2021.

Collectors and recyclers are also vital components of the statewide program. Collectors involved in the program must register each program year with the Agency. In many cases, the participating county acts as their own designated collector. A county may also designate a third party to act as their collector. Collectors must register the collection sites and events with the Agency. These sites and events are published on the Agency's website and added to our [Beyond the Bin Map](#) for public access.

Recyclers involved in the statewide program are selected and assigned to participating counties by the manufacturers. In 2021, eight recyclers were selected to participate. Registered collectors and recyclers are responsible for handling CEDs in an environmentally safe manner in accordance with state law. CERA contemplates allowing additional collectors and recyclers

maintaining independent collection and recycling networks, which may not be funded by manufacturers.

Collection Totals and Analysis

CERA requires manufacturers to annually report to the Agency the amount of CEDs collected and recycled from participating collection sites and events by device category. The eight device categories are:

1. Computers and small-scale servers
2. Computer monitors
3. Televisions
4. Printers, scanners, fax machines
5. DVD players/recorders, video players/recorders
6. Video game consoles
7. Digital converter boxes, cable and satellite receivers
8. Keyboards, mice, portable digital music players

Manufacturers reported that approximately ~12.7 million pounds of CEDs were collected from collection sites and events established under CERA in 2021.

Figure 2 illustrates the total weight amount collected by CED category. A majority of the weight collected can be attributed to televisions and accounts for 51.6% of the total weight collected. Although televisions continue to become slimmer and lighter, they remain the heaviest consumer electronic. Additionally, tube televisions persist in Illinois homes despite their phaseout in the mid to late 2000s. Television collection numbers are expected to remain high for the future due to their size, weight, and abundance.

The remaining device categories collected include: Printers/Scanners/Fax (10.63%), DVD and VCR Players/Recorders (11.48%), Computers and Small-Scale Servers (7.46%), Computer Peripherals (2.74%), Computer Monitors (4.3%), Cable/Satellite Equipment (1.39%), and Game Consoles (0.38%).

In addition, the Agency is provided with a breakdown of CED weight collected by each county. A full breakdown of collection weight by county can be found in Table 2. The top four counties by collected weight are Lake County, Cook County, DuPage County, and Will County. These counties represent the four largest Illinois counties by population size.

CERA is a unique statute and is currently the only electronics recycling statute of its kind enacted in the United States. Analysis of program effectiveness is on-going as more data is collected each year. Ten counties that had opted into the program were ultimately unable to provide collection services during 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, some collection sites were temporarily closed, and many collection events were either postponed or cancelled all together. Therefore, the 2021 program was significantly impacted. Program year 2021 brought in 440,713 more pounds when compared to program year 2020. Local governments and recyclers worked diligently to re-open collection sites and hold collection events throughout the program year.

This was largely achieved by taking additional measures to protect the health and safety of employees and residents so that this important program could continue to benefit local communities and the environment.

Please contact Jessica Miller at (217) 524-7948 or email EPA.Recycling@illinois.gov if you have any questions related to this report or the Illinois Statewide Electronics Recycling Program.

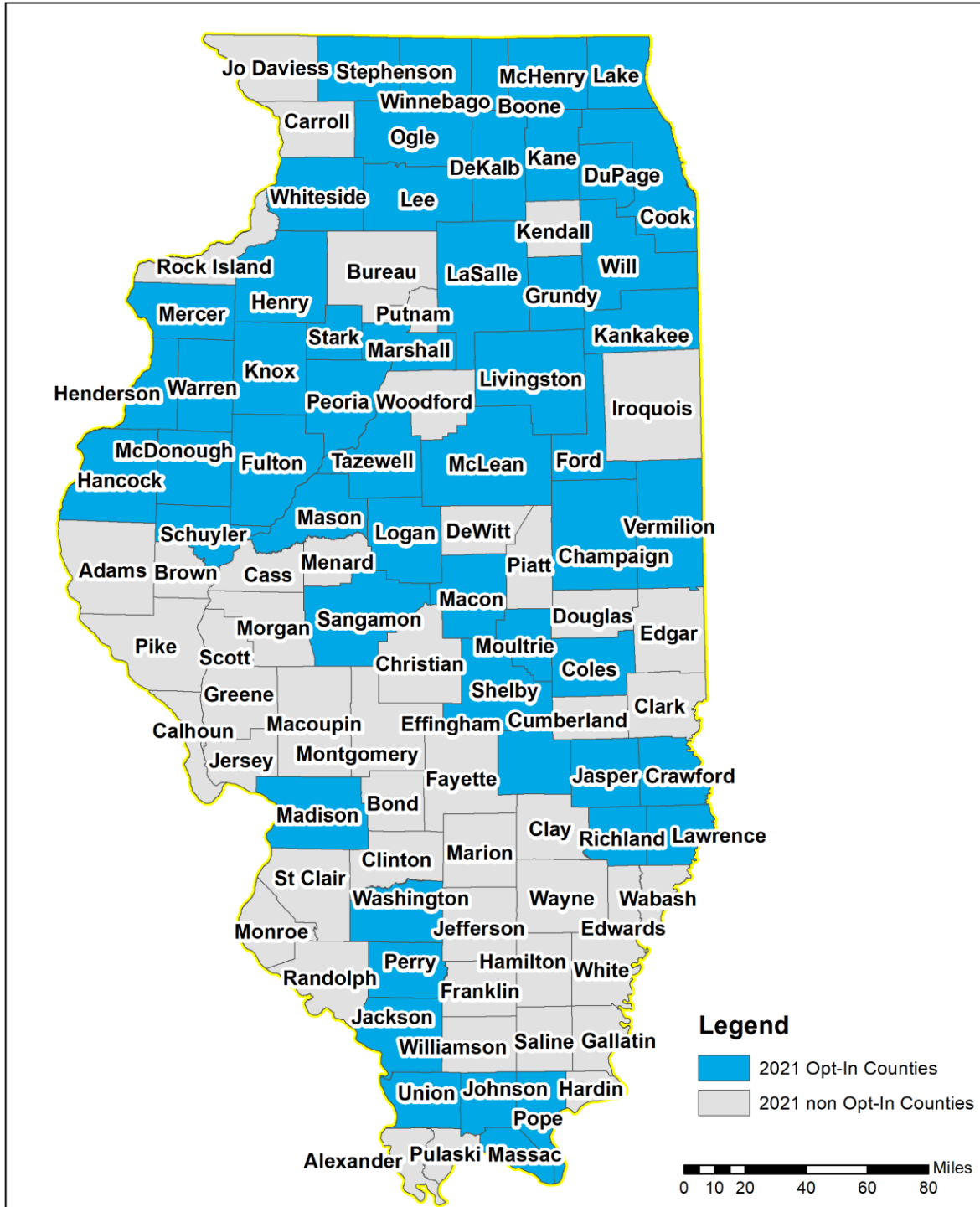
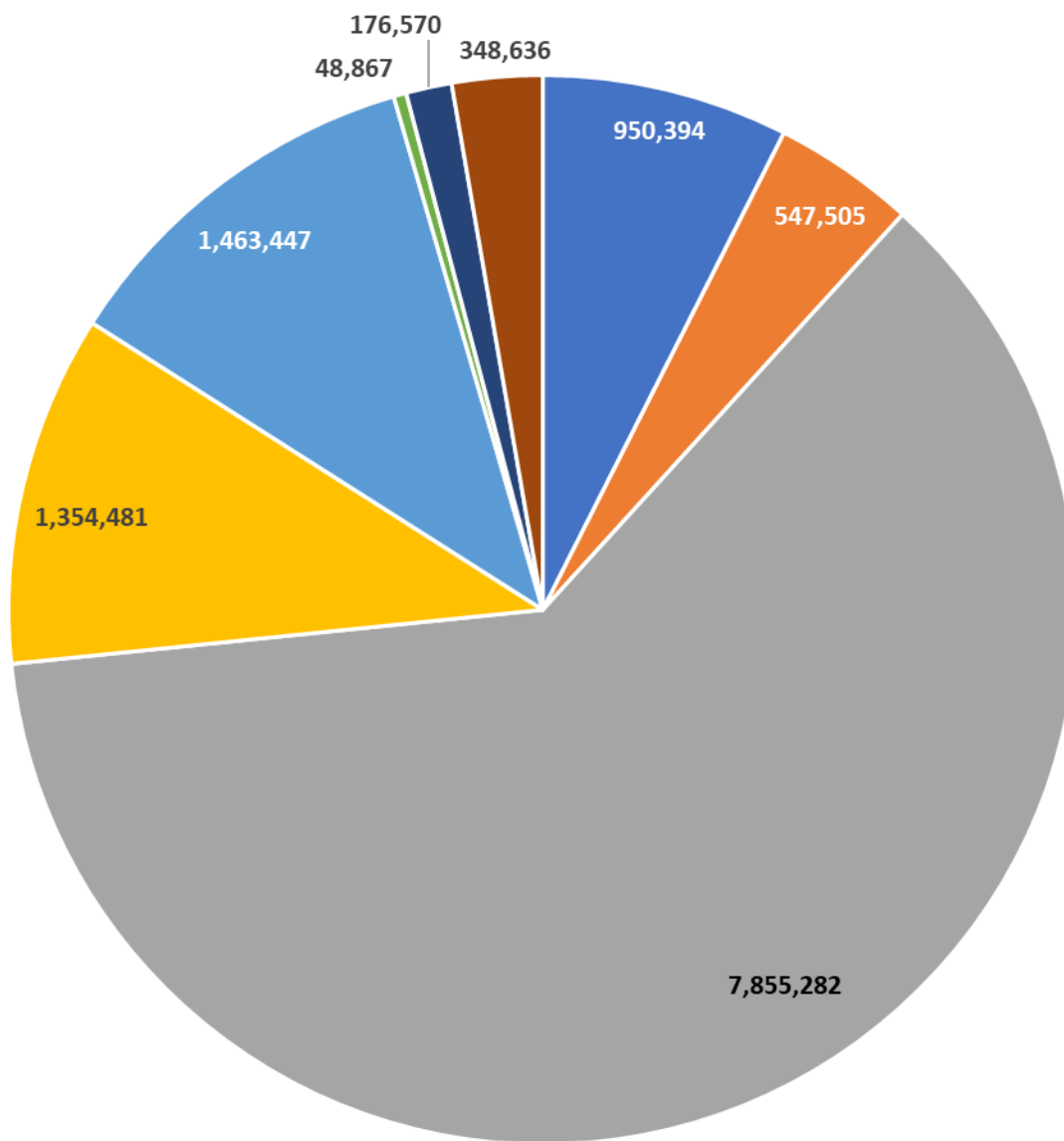


Figure 1. Illinois County Participation in 2021 under CERA

Figure 2. Total CED Weight (lbs.) Collected in 2021 Under CERA



- Computers and Small-scale servers
- TVs
- DVD players, DVD recorders, VCRs
- Digital converter boxes, cable receivers, satellite receivers
- Computer Monitors
- Printers, Fax machines, Scanners
- Video game consoles
- Keyboards, mice, portable digital music players

Table 2. CED weight (lbs.) Collected by Illinois Counties in 2021 Under CERA

County	Collected by County (2021)	Computers and Small-scale servers	Computer Monitors	TVs	Printers, Fax machines, Scanners	DVD players, DVD recorders, VCRs	Video game consoles	Digital converter boxes, cable receivers, satellite receivers	Keyboards, mice, portable digital music players
Boone	187708	12,143	-	129,094	13,810	1,168	-	-	31,493
Champaign	158423	4,291	10,592	114,564	26,389	1,109	370	739	370
Coles	35416	4,427	4,427	4,427	4,427	4,427	4,427	4,427	4,427
Cook	1516284	194,825	126,134	856,703	194,782	110,278	808	12,451	20,303
DeKalb	58557	3,048	1,399	54,110	-	-	-	-	-
Dupage	1444861	261,504	192,873	600,257	120,972	248,898	-	9,733	10,624
Effingham	5676	-	-	2,602	486	1,109	370	739	370
Ford	78706	7,059	408	59,325	6,073	3,180	130	1,038	1,493
Fulton	92591	5,074	5,122	75,198	4,041	1,581	213	688	674
Grundy	27427	1,714	508	20,737	3,332	619	25	202	290
Hancock	32737	1,796	1,806	26,585	1,434	559	75	243	238
Henderson	9189	480	569	7,488	345	150	24	70	62
Henry	74648	3,150	2,662	60,057	878	4,302	176	1,405	2,018
Jackson	404335	28,829	2,248	308,048	45,128	10,933	447	3,570	5,132
Jasper	34801	1,198	376	27,568	567	2,773	113	905	1,301
Kane	750113	144,245	98,465	308,181	66,435	122,999	-	4,849	4,939
Kankakee	117688	-	-	98,954	13,079	3,078	126	1,005	1,446
Knox	30250	2,007	762	24,178	2,170	617	25	201	290
Knox	158927	8,736	8,724	129,044	6,999	2,721	361	1,179	1,161
Lake	2639108	2,128	11,752	1,365,906	467,673	640,858	12,565	25,133	113,093
LaSalle	180607	3,975	3,846	152,165	15,270	2,913	119	951	1,368
Lee	80899	-	501	62,406	5,907	6,580	269	2,148	3,089
Livingston	134759	435	-	129,861	444	2,188	90	714	1,027
Logan	122533	-	456	122,077	-	-	-	-	-
Macon	74884	1,503	-	64,883	851	4,163	170	1,359	1,955
Madison	149948	7,310	5,486	122,758	2,494	6,479	265	2,116	3,040
Marshall	73560	5,656	3,368	55,137	2,810	3,587	147	1,171	1,684
McDonough	79403	4,352	4,391	64,487	3,468	1,356	182	590	577
McHenry	220089	15,430	5,162	168,354	21,727	5,068	270	1,726	2,352
McLean	667370	8,452	9,228	439,703	42,323	89,505	11,069	35,412	31,678
Mercer	47445	2,602	2,621	38,531	2,075	810	109	352	345
Ogle	166552	14,624	8,441	118,628	14,583	5,595	227	1,828	2,626
Peoria	905939	53,590	1,741	554,900	40,595	124,936	11,487	41,226	77,464
Perry	30586	2,661	-	19,846	808	3,959	162	1,293	1,858
Schuyler	25843	1,392	1,494	21,016	1,068	434	62	194	183
Stark	19169	831	-	15,532	281	1,375	56	449	645
Stephenson	30779	-	2,902	25,116	2,296	465	-	-	-
Union	16153	2,457	3,167	7,139	1,456	1,053	43	344	494
Vermilion	103913	5,188	-	90,514	2,528	3,094	127	1,010	1,452
Warren	61140	3,352	3,379	49,654	2,672	1,044	140	454	445
Washington	53126	5,662	-	39,363	4,781	1,808	74	590	848
Whiteside	78311	-	753	66,347	1,878	5,081	207	1,659	2,386
Will	1150158	92,601	15,538	824,326	169,346	24,901	2,556	9,913	10,977
Winnebago	414571	31,667	6,204	329,513	35,800	5,693	781	2,494	2,419
Total	12,745,182	950,394	547,505	7,855,282	1,354,481	1,463,447	48,867	176,570	348,636

*Collection numbers do not include non-opt-in counties, municipal programs outside of CERA, private programs, retailers, for profit businesses or non-profits.