

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, 52 counties opted into the 2024 statewide program. Of those counties, 41 were able to run collection sites or hold collection events. Figure 1 displays a visual depiction of county participation. Approximately 87% of the Illinois population had the opportunity to use a CERA collection site or event during calendar year 2024.

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 2024, five 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 ~9.7 million pounds of CEDs were collected from collection sites and events established under CERA in 2024.

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 45.7% 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. Computer monitor and Peripherals collection numbers are also expected to increase for the future due to the technology operational shift in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The remaining device categories collected include: Printers/Scanners/Fax (14.9%), DVD and VCR Players/Recorders (10.4%), Computers and Small-Scale Servers (7%), Computer Peripherals (10.3%), Computer Monitors (7.2%), Cable/Satellite Equipment (3.3%), and Game Consoles (1.2%).

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

CERA is among the first of several electronic recycling statutes enacted in the United States. Analysis of program effectiveness is on-going as more data is collected each year. Eleven counties that had opt-ed into the program were ultimately unable to provide collection services during 2024 due to the budgeting, infrastructure, and staffing restraints. Program year 2024 brought in 237,915 fewer pounds when compared to program year 2023. A decrease in total weight collected was anticipated. Despite these challenges, local governments and recyclers

worked diligently to operate 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 EPA.Recycling@illinois.gov if you have any questions related to this report or the Illinois Statewide Electronics Recycling Program.

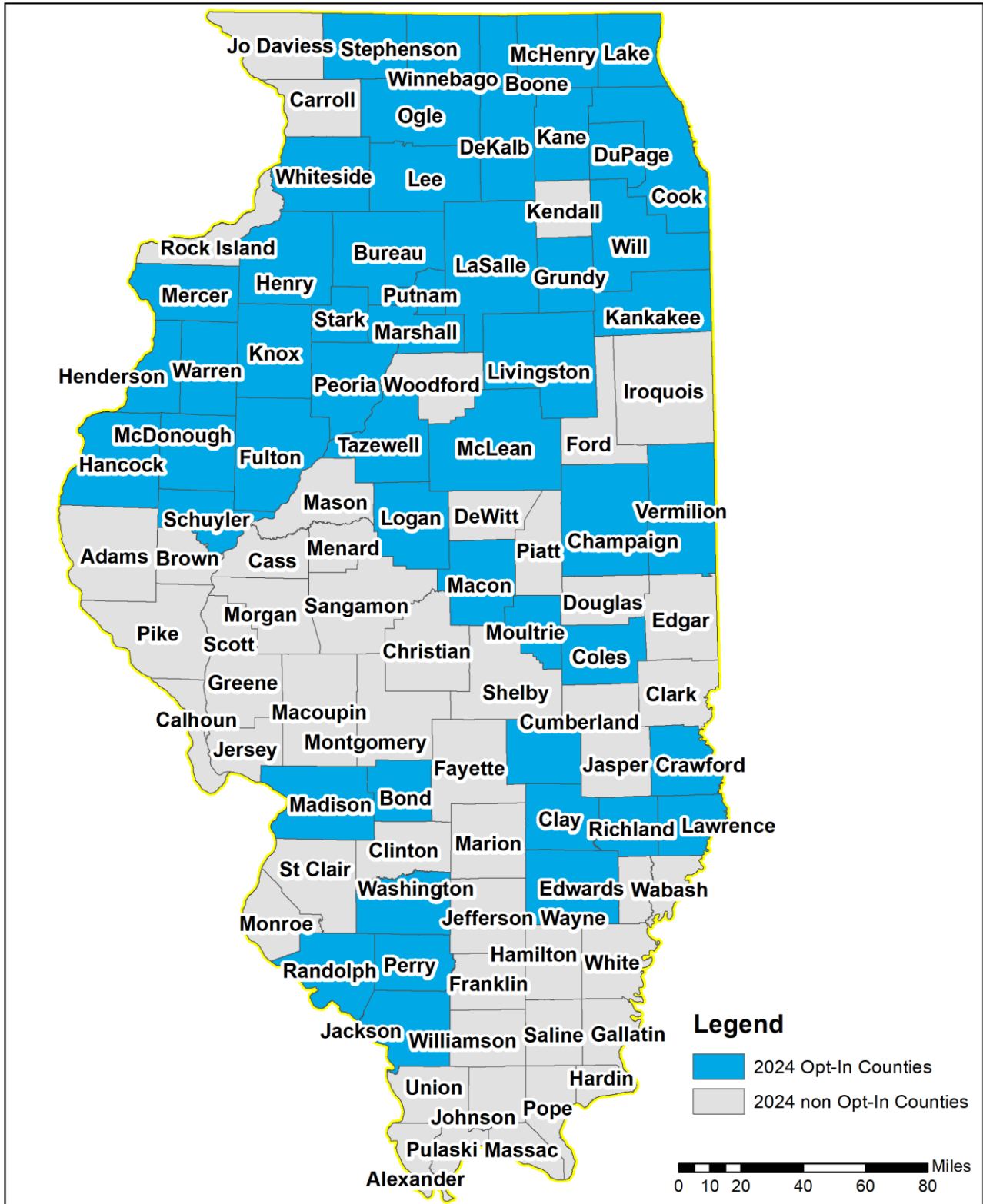
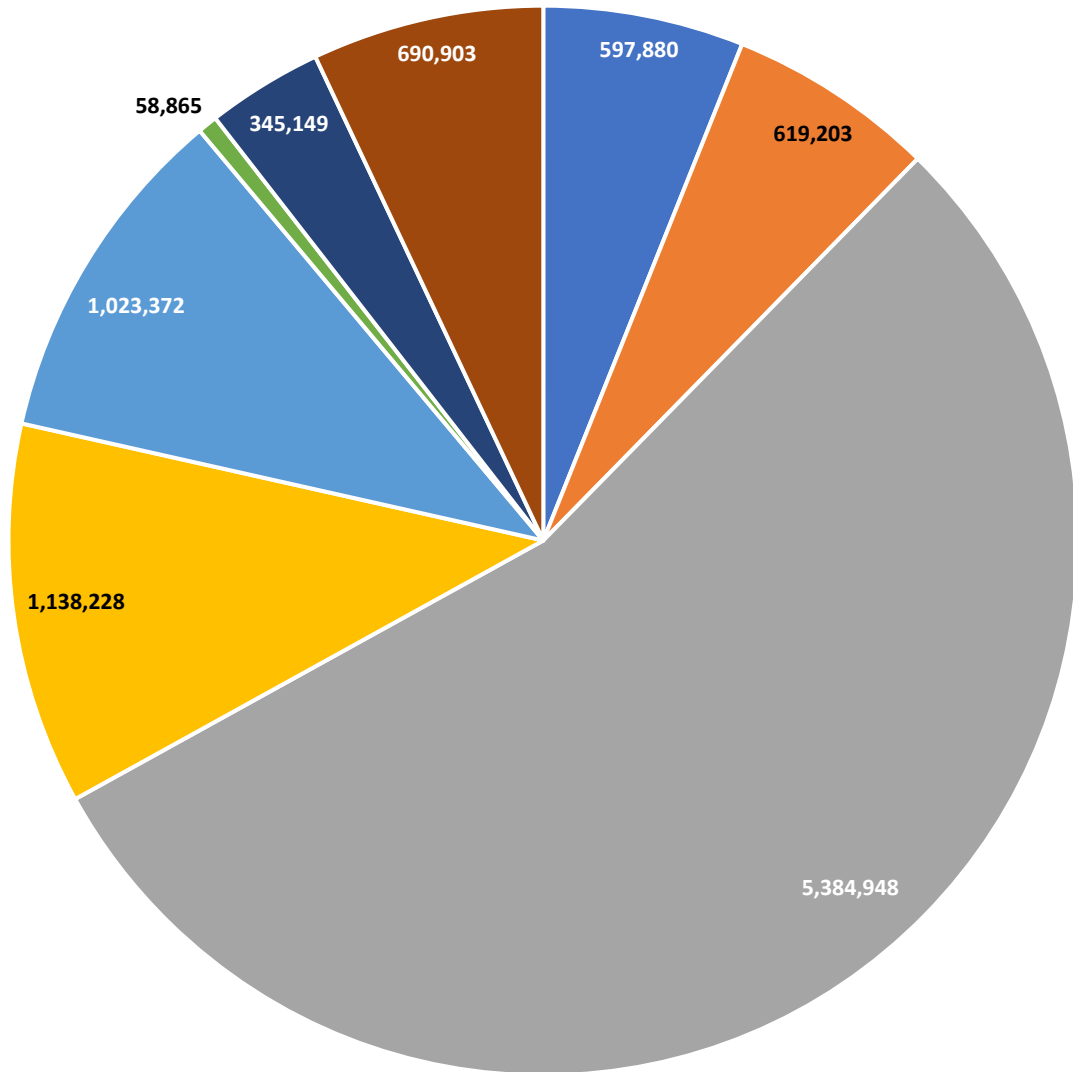


Figure 1. Illinois County Participation in 2024 under CERA

Figure 2. Total CED Weight (lbs.) Collected in 2024 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 2024 Under CERA

County	Weight (lbs.) Collected By County (2024)
Bond	32,306
Boone	100,657
Bureau	33,842
Champaign	155,289
Coles	21,406
Cook	372,015
DeKalb	72,577
DuPage	1,359,414
Fulton	43,219
Grundy	40,066
Hancock	15,200
Henderson	5,223
Henry	38,455
Jackson	335,353
Kane	792,617
Kankakee	132,589
Knox	73,142
Lake	1,711,584
LaSalle	98,714
Lee	71,621
Livingston	86,099
Logan	46,861
Macon	100,141
Madison	86,659
Marshall	25,841
McDonough	37,046
McHenry	481,251
McLean	461,740
Mercer	22,084
Ogle	116,511
Peoria	747,704
Perry	16,096
Schuyler	13,061
Stark	18,964
Tazewell	27,511
SWANCC	678,524
Vermillion	80,148
Warren	28,496
Washington	33,489
Wayne	15,084
Whiteside	150,622
Will	827,472
Winnebago	251,855
Total	9,858,548

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