

The Scrap Recycling Industry:

Kids Recycling Facts:

1. Recycling one ton of steel conserves 2,500 lbs. of iron ore, 1,400 lbs. of coal, and 120 lbs. of limestone.
2. A used aluminum can is recycled and back on the grocery shelf within just 60 days.
3. The United States annually recycles enough copper to provide the copper content of more than 25,000 Statues of Liberty.
4. On average, the United States processes enough ferrous scrap daily, by weight, to build 25 Eiffel Towers every day of the year.
5. Glass bottles and jars are 100 percent recyclable and can be recycled endlessly without any loss in purity and quality.
6. Recycling one glass bottle saves enough energy to light a 100-watt bulb for four hours, power a computer for 30 minutes, or a television for 20 minutes.
7. Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a 55" HDTV to watch your favorite movie.
8. The United States annually processes nearly 290 billion lbs. of scrap material — the weight of more than 70 million cars.
9. The Gateway Arch in St. Louis used 900 tons of stainless steel in construction — at the time, more stainless steel than any project in history. Enough stainless steel is recycled in the United States each year to build nearly 1,500 Gateway Arches.
10. In 2017, the amount of paper recovered for recycling averaged 315 lbs. for each man, woman, and child in the United States.
11. One metric ton of electronic scrap from personal computers contains more gold than that recovered from 17 tons of gold ore.
12. The United States annually recycles enough ferrous scrap, by weight, to build more than 900 Golden Gate Bridges — a bridge stretching nearly 9,000 feet.

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*Sources: BIR, USGS, SRI, AF&PA, ISRI, KAB, Golden Gate Bridge Highway
and Transportation District, American Chemistry Council.*



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Voice of the Recycling Industry

