

Washington's New Solid Waste Metrics



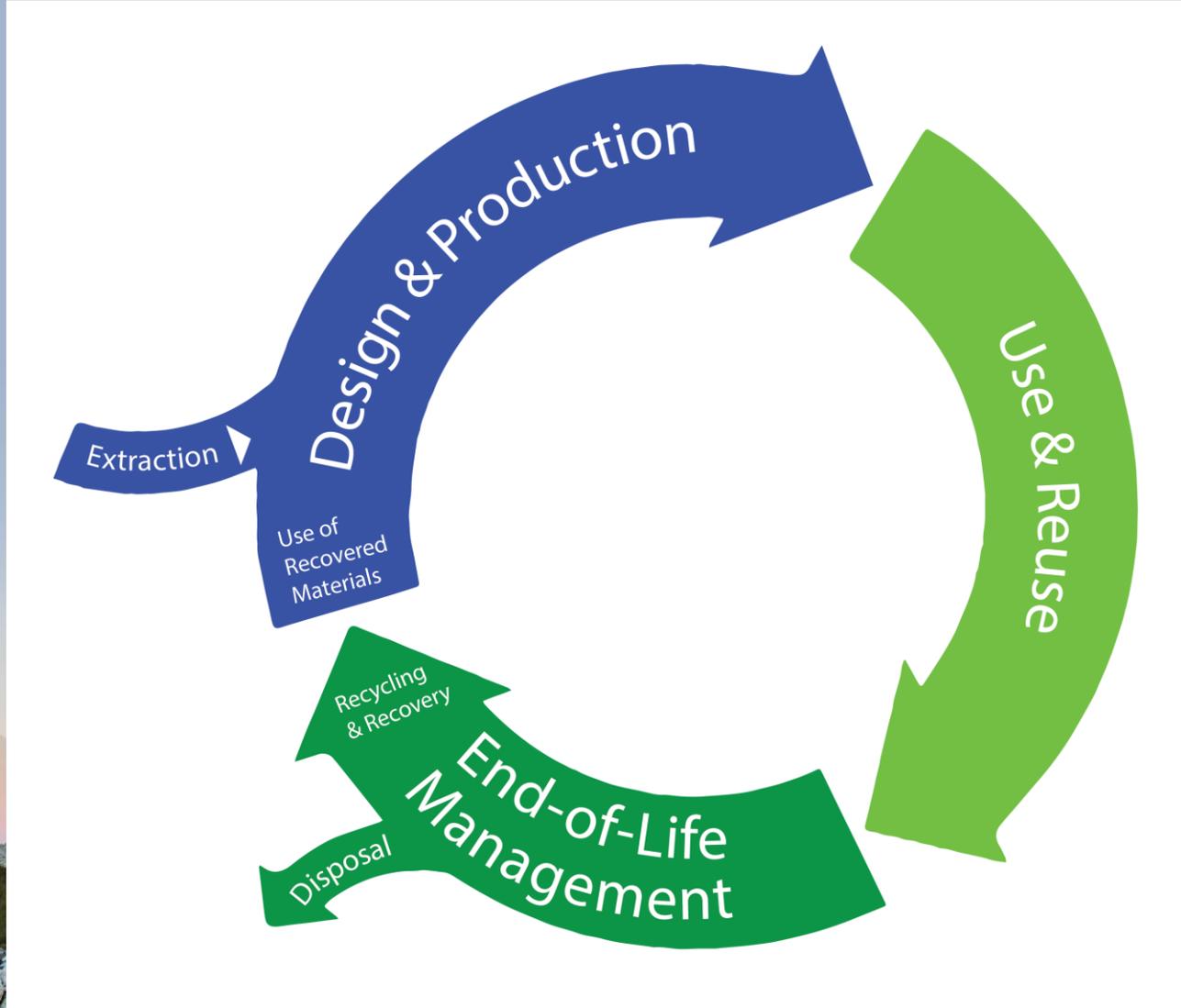
GRETCHEN NEWMAN

STATE SWAC

MAY 15, 2019

THE STATE SOLID AND HAZARDOUS WASTE PLAN

Moving Washington Beyond Waste and Toxics



Food & Compost

All Food Waste



Food-Soiled Paper (without shiny coating)



Approved Compostable Packaging & Bags



Yard Waste, Plants, Untreated Wood



No Plastic. No Glass. No Metal. No Plastic Bags.
No Animal Waste. No Rocks.

Recycle

Clean Paper & Cardboard



Clean Plastics



Clean Glass & Metal



Clean Recyclables Only.
No Food. No Liquid. No Single Plastic Bags.

Garbage

Non-Recyclable Paper & Plastic



Foam Trays & Containers



Kitchen Grease



Non-Recyclable Glass and Other Garbage



No Food. No Yard Waste. No Recyclables.
No Hazardous Waste.



'Single-Use' Is The 2018 Word Of The Year, Collins Dictionary Says

November 6, 2018 · 10:10 PM ET



RICHARD GONZALES



What's after banning straws? Going after rising plastic production

BY STEVEN T. JONES, OPINION CONTRIBUTOR — 01/03/19 08:30 AM EST
THE VIEWS EXPRESSED BY CONTRIBUTORS ARE THEIR OWN AND NOT THE VIEW OF THE HILL

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886 SHARES

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The answer to plastic pollution is to not create waste in the first place

Monica Wilson

With China refusing foreign waste under its new policy, countries are forced to handle their own plastic pollution



▲ Plastic waste is more likely than ever to end up in a landfill or incinerator. Photograph: S Meddle/ITV/REX/Shutterstock/S Meddle/ITV/Rex/Shutterstock

As holiday shopping ramps up, so do the dizzying varieties of plastic packaging tossed in recycling bins. And while we wish a Christmas miracle would transform this old garbage into something new, the



RESET



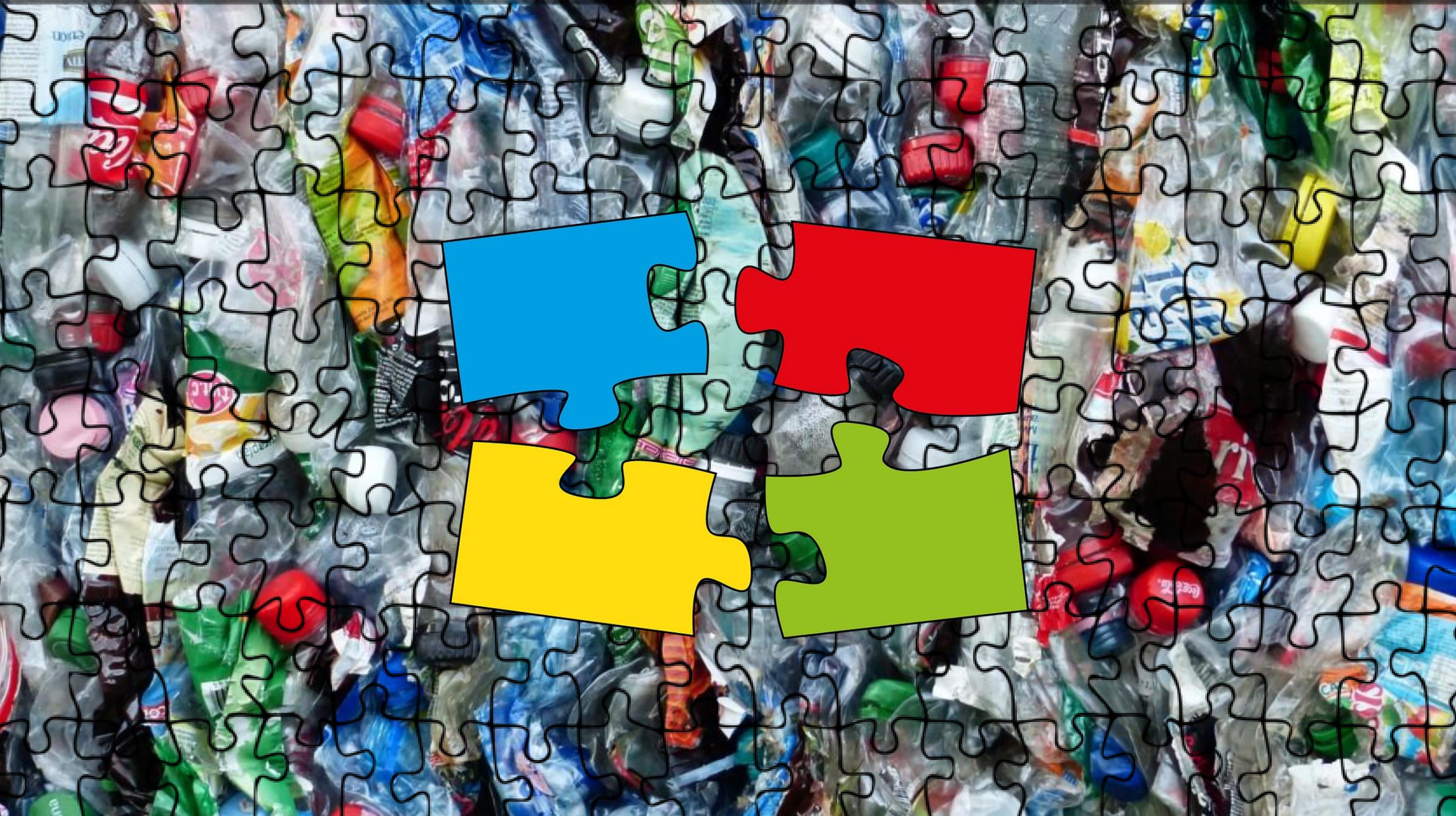
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(to reduce waste)

Washington's New Solid Waste Metrics

Increase focus on **Waste Generation per capita**

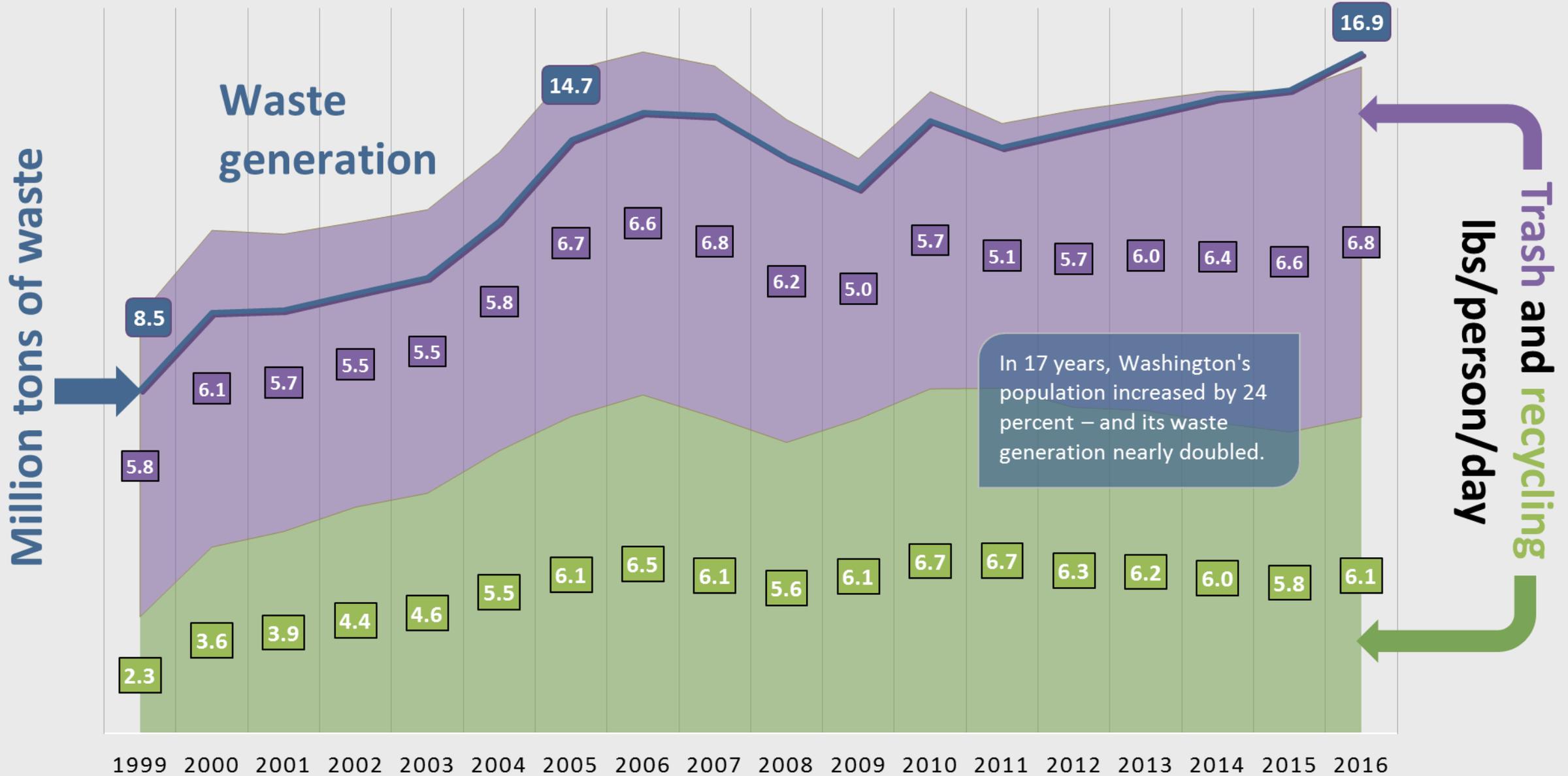
Also publish a **Recovery rate**

Drop the ~~MSW Recycling rate~~





WASTE GENERATION IN WASHINGTON 1999 – 2016





Exclude Reuse from Waste Generation

Clothing reused/resold

Household items reused/resold

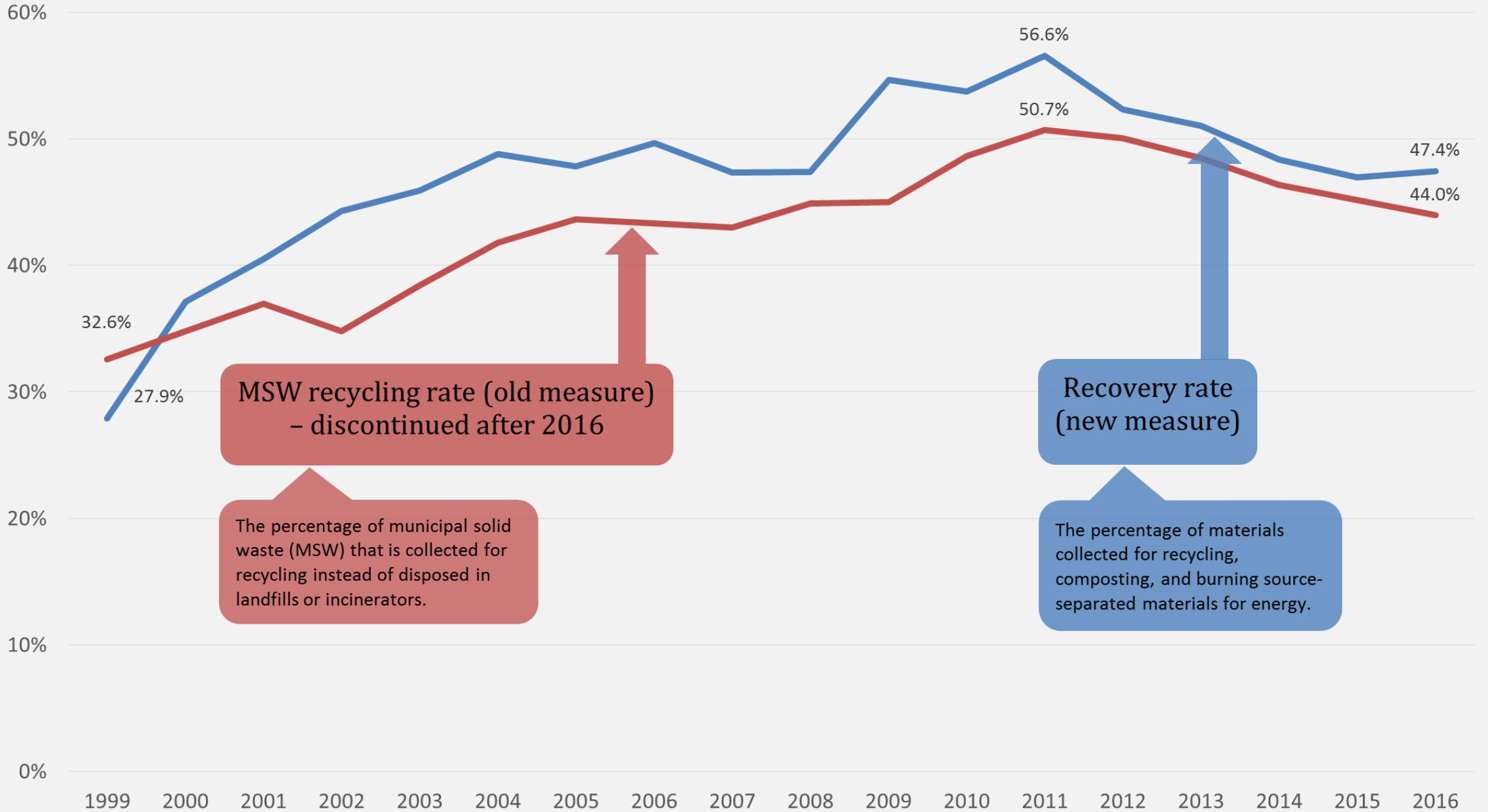
Tires retreaded/resold

Construction and demolition materials reused/resold

Edible food recovered to feed people



Recovery rate (new) vs. Municipal solid waste recycling rate (old)



MSW recycling rate (old measure)
– discontinued after 2016

The percentage of municipal solid waste (MSW) that is collected for recycling instead of disposed in landfills or incinerators.

Recovery rate (new measure)

The percentage of materials collected for recycling, composting, and burning source-separated materials for energy.

Washington's New Solid Waste Metrics



Ecology is changing the key solid waste management metric from the recycling rate to overall waste generation to **encourage waste reduction**.

Focusing on the recycling rate is not helping reach waste reduction goals.

While recycling has many environmental benefits and remains a key part of any waste management strategy, **waste reduction**, or not producing waste in the first place, **is far more impactful**.

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