

Global Waste Management Facts

Waste Management · Practice Test · 20 Questions

1. In what year was the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and Their Disposal adopted?

- A) 1989
- B) 1992
- C) 1995
- D) 2001

2. According to the World Bank's 'What a Waste 2.0' report, approximately how many billion tonnes of municipal solid waste are generated annually worldwide?

- A) 1.01
- B) 2.01
- C) 3.01
- D) 4.01

3. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA), which governs the disposal of solid and hazardous waste, was enacted by the U.S. Congress in which year?

- A) 1970
- B) 1976
- C) 1980
- D) 1984

4. What percentage of plastic waste is estimated to have been recycled globally as of 2015, according to studies published in Science Advances?

- A) 9%
- B) 15%
- C) 22%
- D) 31%

5. The 'Great Pacific Garbage Patch' is estimated to cover an area of approximately how many square kilometers?

- A) 800,000
- B) 1,600,000
- C) 2,400,000
- D) 3,200,000

6. Which country, as of 2020, held the highest municipal solid waste recycling rate in the world at approximately 60%?

- A) Germany
- B) South Korea
- C) Japan
- D) Sweden

7. The Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) entered into force in which year?

- A) 2001
- B) 2004
- C) 2008
- D) 2010

8. Approximately how many years does it take for a standard plastic bottle to decompose in a landfill?

- A) 50 years
- B) 150 years
- C) 450 years
- D) 1000 years

9. In 1999, which European Union Directive was adopted to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfills?

- A) 1999/31/EC
- B) 2000/53/EC
- C) 2002/96/EC
- D) 2008/98/EC

10. What is the approximate average weight in kilograms of electronic waste (e-waste) generated per capita globally as of 2019?

- A) 3.3 kg
- B) 7.3 kg
- C) 12.3 kg
- D) 17.3 kg

11. The Montreal Protocol, which influences waste management of ozone-depleting substances, was signed in what year?

- A) 1985
- B) 1987
- C) 1989
- D) 1991

12. By weight, what is the largest component of municipal solid waste in the United States according to EPA data?

- A) Plastics
- B) Paper and paperboard
- C) Food waste
- D) Metals

13. Which organization released the 'Global Waste Management Outlook' report in 2015?

- A) WHO
- B) UNEP
- C) OECD
- D) Greenpeace

14. As of 2021, what is the approximate number of years the United States has been operating the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant (WIPP) for nuclear waste?

- A) 15 years
- B) 22 years
- C) 32 years
- D) 42 years

15. What fraction of the total food produced for human consumption is estimated by the FAO to be lost or wasted globally each year?

- A) One-sixth
- B) One-third
- C) One-half
- D) Two-thirds

16. The Plastic Pollution Coalition was founded in which year to advocate for a world free of plastic pollution?

- A) 2005
- B) 2009
- C) 2013
- D) 2017

17. In landfill gas recovery, methane typically makes up what percentage of the total gas produced?

- A) 10-20%
- B) 30-40%
- C) 45-60%
- D) 70-85%

18. The first city in the world to implement a modern 'pay-as-you-throw' waste system in 1975 was located in which country?

- A) United States
- B) Switzerland
- C) Japan
- D) Germany

19. The Minamata Convention on Mercury, which regulates waste containing mercury, was adopted in what year?

- A) 2009
- B) 2013
- C) 2015
- D) 2017

20. Roughly how many kilograms of waste does the average person in high-income countries generate per day?

- A) 0.5 kg
- B) 1.5 kg
- C) 2.5 kg
- D) 3.5 kg