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Hazardous Waste Management in Idaho

Introduction

This report presents an annual overview of Idaho's hazardous waste management activities from January 1 through December 31, 2025. This report describes the types and amounts of hazardous waste generated in Idaho, how this waste was managed, and any waste remaining on site. It also discusses the types and amounts of hazardous waste received in Idaho from other states and countries. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) compiled this information from the Idaho Hazardous Waste Generator Annual Reports submitted by large quantity hazardous waste generators (LQGs) and small quantity hazardous waste generators (SQGs), as required by Idaho Code § 39-4411(4) of the Idaho Hazardous Waste Management Act (HWMA), and from reports submitted by commercial hazardous waste disposal facilities, as required by Idaho Code § 39-4411(5). This report is distributed to the governor, legislature, and made available to the public through *DEQ's website*.

DEQ contributes to the national overview of hazardous waste management activities through federal biennial reporting and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information System (RCRAInfo). The biennial report describes national hazardous waste activities as reported by LQGs and treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facilities every other year. RCRAInfo assigns hazardous waste facility identification numbers and tracks hazardous waste permitting, enforcement, and corrective action at hazardous waste generation facilities. Biennial reporting and RCRAInfo are used by the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to track and report national hazardous waste activities to the president, US Congress, and the public. Access this information at *RCRAInfo Web*.

Hazardous Waste Rules

Idaho incorporates the federal hazardous waste regulations by reference. This year, DEQ recommended incorporation of changes to the electronic manifest (e-Manifest) regulations concerning the e-Manifest program and system implemented by the EPA to track hazardous waste shipments from generation to disposal. If approved by the State Legislature, the changes would take effect on July 1, 2026. DEQ provides information on the rules, updates, and Idaho's adoption at *Hazardous Waste in Idaho*.

Hazardous Waste Types and Amounts in Idaho

Idaho's LQGs and SQGs generated 7,273 tons of hazardous waste in 2025. Figure 1 depicts the trend in statewide hazardous waste generation in recent years.

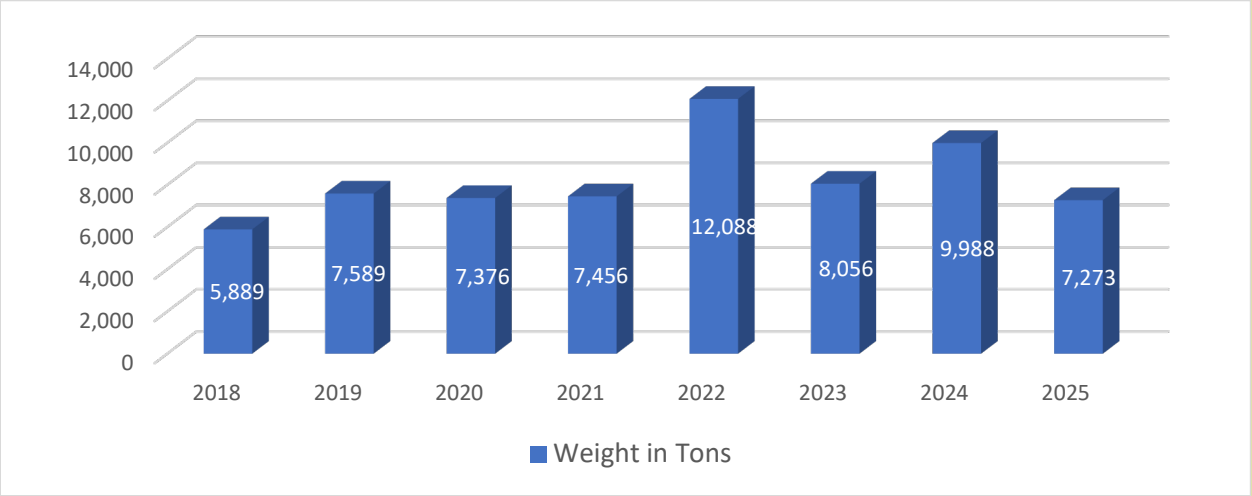

Figure 1. Statewide hazardous waste generated from 2018 to 2025.

The wastes are identified by the following categories:

- Characteristic Wastes—2,676 tons
  This waste is hazardous because it contains one or more characteristics of ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity.
- Mixed Wastes—40 tons
  This waste is both hazardous and radioactive. For 2025, most mixed waste was generated and stored at the Idaho National Laboratory, a US Department of Energy site.
- Other Wastes—1,894 tons
  This waste includes discarded commercial chemicals and miscellaneous listed wastes.
- Treatment, Storage, and Disposal (TSD) Wastes—1,024 tons
  This hazardous waste is generated from residuals and collection systems at permitted TSD facilities and hazardous waste landfills.
- Solvent Wastes—1,639 tons
  Spent solvents are generated by various industry and business activities such as parts degreasing, painting, various manufacturing processes, and dry cleaning.
- Remediation Wastes—0 tons
  Most remediation wastes are generated from the cleanup of contaminated sites, performing corrective action, and/or removing and upgrading underground storage tanks.

Trends in Idaho Hazardous Waste Generation

The amount of hazardous waste generated in Idaho, as reported by Idaho LQGs and SQGs, decreased from 9,988 tons in 2024 to 7,273 tons in 2025, a decrease of 31%.

Five hazardous waste categories decreased in 2025: Characteristic, Mixed, Other, TSD, and Remediation Wastes. The majority of ongoing, recurrent hazardous waste generators continue to find ways to decrease the amounts of hazardous waste they typically generate, which benefits public health and Idaho's environment.

One category experienced an increase in 2025: Solvent Wastes were elevated due to an increase in production, primarily within the area of manufacturing.

Waste Sent to Idaho in 2025

The only commercial hazardous waste landfill operating in Idaho is US Ecology Idaho, Inc. (USEI) in Owyhee County near Grand View. Traditionally, waste received at USEI has been reported in three categories: waste regulated under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA); waste regulated under the Toxic Substance Control Act (TSCA)/polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB); and nonhazardous waste.

1. RCRA—This waste is defined by RCRA and HWMA as hazardous. It is regulated by Idaho and the federal government.

2. PCB/TSCA—This waste is defined as a toxic substance by the TSCA. Currently, this waste (primarily PCB materials) is regulated in Idaho only by the federal government.

3. Nonhazardous[1]—This category includes both nonhazardous waste and waste regulated as manifested state hazardous wastes by other states, including Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program/Naturally Occurring Radioactive Material (FUSRAP/NORM wastes), and must be disposed in a permitted RCRA hazardous waste disposal facility when shipped to Idaho.

In 2025, USEI received 108,040 tons of waste, an increase of 8% compared to 2024. Most of the waste (85,373 tons or 79%) received at USEI came from other states and countries (Figure 2). Missouri sent the most waste (17,142 tons) to USEI for disposal in 2025. Idaho generators sent 22,667 tons (21%) of waste to USEI in 2025. Table 1 lists the totals for waste shipped to USEI by type in 2025. The map in Figure 3 depicts the various states and amounts of waste shipped to USEI in 2025. USEI received 2,127 tons of waste from Canada in 2025. The US Territory, Guam shipped 707 tons of waste to USEI in 2025.

Table 1. Waste shipped to USEI by category in 2025 (tons).

RCRA	TSCA	Nonhazardous	2025 Total
23,574	4,829	79,637	108,040

[1] This category was previously identified as the State Waste category. However, due to changes in waste disposal options, DEQ determined that this category should be designated as the nonhazardous category. It does still contain small amounts of waste regulated as manifested state hazardous waste by other states.

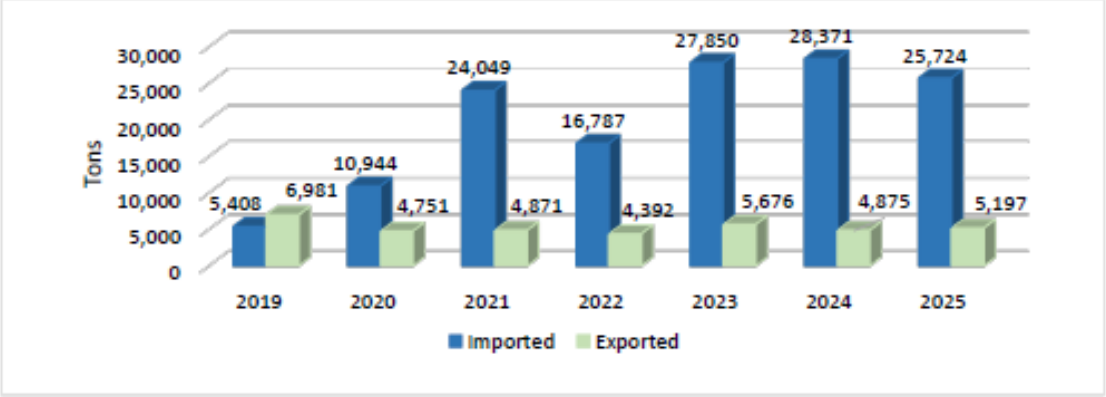

Figure 2. Idaho hazardous waste imports and exports (tons).

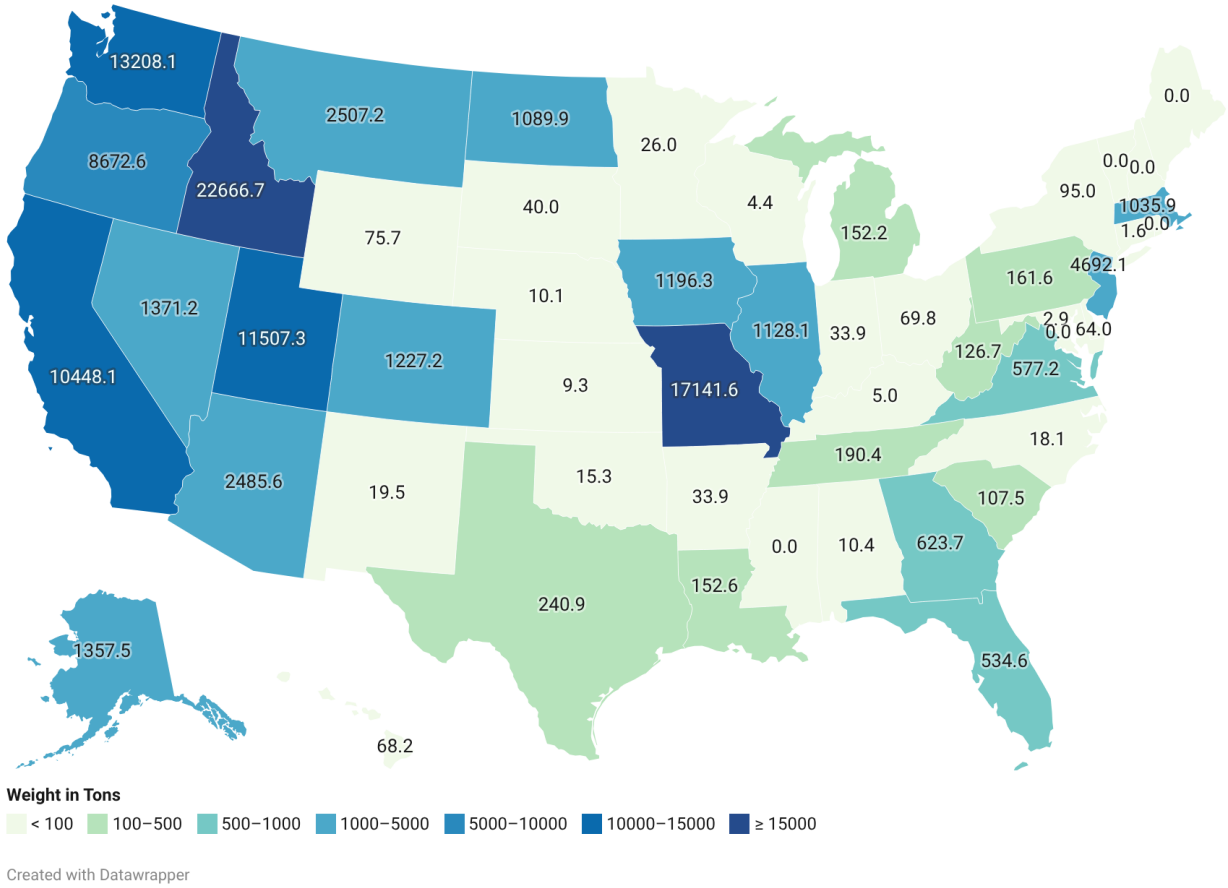

Figure 3. States totals of waste sent to USEI in 2025 (tons).

Hazardous Waste Management Methods

In 2025, a reported 8,747 tons of hazardous waste were managed via a landfill, treatment, reuse/recycle, incineration, or some other method (Table 2 and Figure 4). The amount of waste managed during 2025 includes most of the reported 7,273 tons generated in 2025, as well as waste generated in previous years, but kept in storage by the generator.

The management method of “other” has decreased significantly due to EPA phasing out the use of the H141 management method code. This code reflects waste kept in permitted storage units awaiting further treatment and disposal by a terminating facility. The code is being replaced by a new set of codes that reflect the final management method including landfill, treatment, reuse/recycle, and incineration.

Table 2. Hazardous waste managed in Idaho in 2025 (tons).

Management Method	Total Tons	Managed In-State	Managed Out-of-State
Landfill	4,932	2,202	2,730
Treatment	1,568	1,337	231
Reuse/Recycle	1,401	11	1390
Incineration	812	0	812
Other	34	0	34

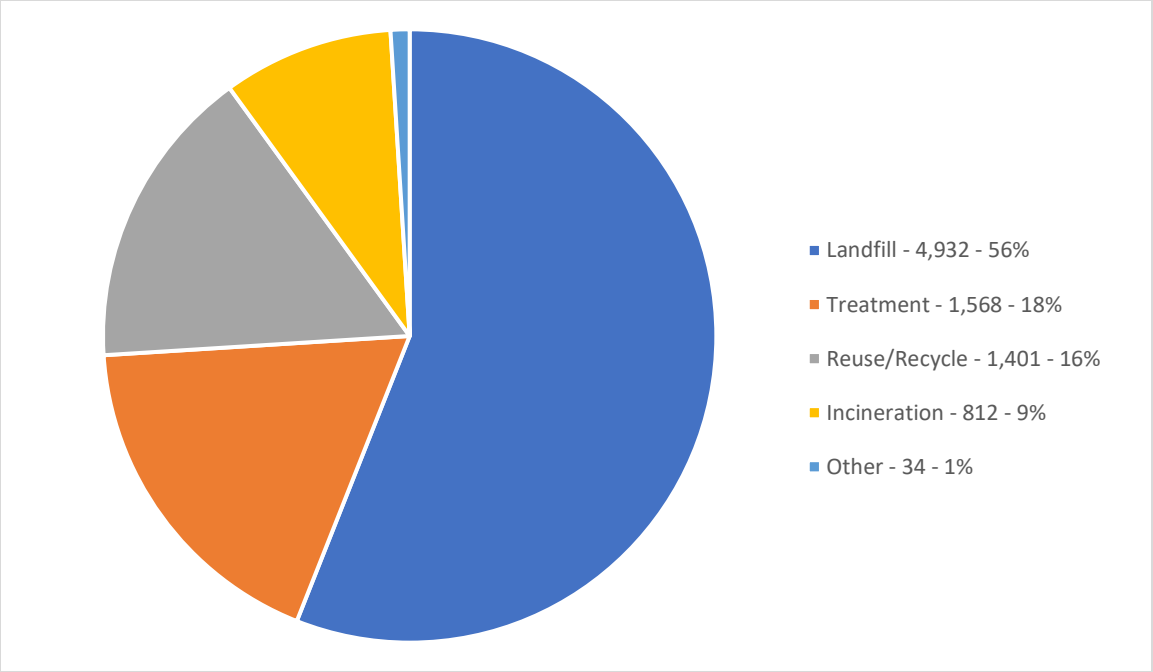

Figure 4. Hazardous waste in Idaho in 2025 by management method types (tons).

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