## 1. INTRODUCTION

Mattresses and box springs are predominantly constructed from foam, metal and wood, each of which are valuable and recyclable commodities. Established in 2014, the Mattress Recycling Council (MRC) is a 501(c)(3) organization formed by the mattress industry to operate recycling programs in states with mattress recycling laws. Currently, these programs exist in California, Connecticut, Rhode Island and most recently, Oregon.

MRC contracts with qualified mattress recyclers (recyclers), who are required to achieve a 75% recycling rate by weight through the dismantling of inbound mattresses and box springs (referred to as units). As part of this process, workers dismantle and separate recyclable foam, fibers, wood and metals for recovery. However, due to several factors, not all materials are recycled. This non-recyclable material, known as "residue," is landfilled. MRC first analyzed the residue from mattress recycling facilities in 2020 to identify areas to improve the statewide recycling rate. In 2025, MRC retained MSW Consultants to reperform a residue analysis to understand how residues may have changed since 2020 and refine and update definitions for key categories.

MRC publishes annual reports about mattress recycling performance in each of their state programs. The most recent 2024 California report, found that mattress recyclers are able to extract and recycle 73.7 percent by weight of all units received. Data from that 2024 report is used as a basis to evaluate the results of this composition study.

This residue report details the 2025 data collection methodology, findings and qualitative observations from the field data collection team.

#### **METHODOLOGY**

Consistent with the 2020 study, this study was focused on better understanding the composition of the remaining 26.3 percent of mattress recycling residue going to landfill. Residue material is handled differently at different facilities, but all processes involve the transfer of residue material from the facility cutting areas, where units are deconstructed, to a separate area where residue is accumulated before being loaded in a roll-off for landfill disposal. This is where MSW intercepted, sorted and weighed material for the study. MRC chose two California recycling facilities to host field data collection activities, one of which was a participant from the 2020 Study. MSW Consultants and MRC hosted calls with each recycler to discuss logistics and residue material accumulation, interception, workspace requirements, worker safety and sorted material disposal.

### 2.1 Sorting Targets

It was mutually agreed that intercepting all residue from a single normal operating day (24 hours of material generation) would provide a representative sample for determining residue composition. At both facilities, the field data collection team was able to sort more than a single day's generated material. Generation results have therefore been normalized to account for this extra sorted material.

Table 2-1 presents the estimated residue per day versus the total residue sorted. Unexpected excess residue from both locations was available due to additional worker shifts and that material was included in the data set to improve data quality.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Mattress Recycling Council California Annual Report 2024.





Table 2-1 Sorting Targets (Lbs.)

Average Estimated
Daily Generated Total Residue
Residue Sorted
13,717 14,465

## 2.2 Estimating Excluded Residue

Pocketed coils are a common support feature of most new innerspring mattresses. They are constructed of loose metal coils surrounded by a polypropylene sleeve. Separating the two components for recycling is particularly challenging. It was noted during the study that shredded polypropylene fabrics from pocketed coils could not be intercepted and sorted in the same fashion as the rest of the material. This is because the polypropylene fabrics are not separated in the cutting areas. Rather, they are removed by mechanical processes to extract the steel found within pocketed coils. It was therefore necessary to rely on other methods to factor in the proportion of residue comprised of polypropylene fabrics.

MSW collaborated with MRC to estimate this residue using a combination of MRC-provided weight estimates and facility-provided processed unit counts. The resulting fraction of polypropylene fabrics was therefore added to the mixed residue results to provide a complete snapshot of all mattress recycling residue. This material was found to contribute less than two percent of aggregate residue, and in the opinion of MSW Consultants, the method of estimation is sufficiently accurate for inclusion in the aggregate results.

## 2.3 Staffing

MSW Consultants deployed the two professional staff who conducted the previous study to manage the field data collection operations. These staff were supplemented by a team from MRC who acted as the sorters for this study.

# 2.4 Material Categories

All residual material was sorted into one of 17 material categories. This material category list is generally consistent with the 2020 study list, with the exception of a new category for "Polypropylene Fabric". This was previously part of the "Mixed Non-Woven Fibers" category, which has since been renamed "Other Non-Woven Fibers". The Material Category List, along with associated category definitions is shown below in Table 2-2.

**Table 2-2 Material Categories and Definitions** 

Group	Material Category	Definition
Paper	Cardboard	Corrugated cardboard layer occasionally found in mattress box springs used to separate wood and fabric layers
Plastic	Polyurethane Foam	Mattress foam consisting of open cell polyurethane; comes in a variety of colors and densities; includes memory foam
Plastic	Multi-Layered Foam	Mattress foam consisting of a mix of different polyurethane foams and/or latex foams that have not been separated in the mattress recycling process
Plastic	Loose Plastics	Rigid plastic mattress components such as corner guards and internal supports and plastic film used as mattress coverings during deliveries/disposal
Textile	Quilt Panels	The outermost layer of the mattress that is typically constructed of layers of fabric, fiber batting, non-woven fabric, and/or foam that are sewn together; various materials and construction methods
Textile	Cotton	Mote cotton padding or fill typically found in older mattresses as additional construction layers
Textile	Shoddy Felt Pad	Shoddy is manufactured from mixed, shredded post-industrial fabrics that are glued together. This layer is typically used to isolate open coil springs from foam layers that are placed over shoddy.
Textile	Fabric Scraps	Various fabric pieces smaller than 1' by 1' which would be difficult to process and/or identify based on size
Textile	Polypropylene Fabric	Non-woven polypropylene fabric, most commonly used in pocketed coils construction
Textile	Other Non-Woven Fibers	Mattress components consisting of a mix of non-woven fibers such as polyester, rayon, and other synthetics; wool and other animal hairs. Does not include non-woven polypropylene fibers
Textile	Coconut/Sisal/Plant Fibers	Mattress layer or fill consisting of either coconut, sisal, or another plant fiber
Metal	Scrap Metal	Ferrous metal products including mattress spring wires and foundation support structure metal
Wood	Wood	Typically, a soft wood like pine that is used to manufacture foundation or box spring frames
Other	Latex Foam	Mattress foam layer consisting of natural, synthetic, or a mixture of both. Latex is typically a white or beige color with circular perforations throughout the material
Other	Pocketed Coils	Steel springs encased in polypropylene fabric
Other	Fines	Recyclable or non-recyclable materials and items that are smaller than a volleyball and therefore cannot be easily captured in the recycling process
Other	Other Material	All other materials not included in the other categories or which cannot be identified

### 2.5 Health and Sanitation

Before sorting work began, the field data collection team met with facility management to discuss the facility layout, examine the provided workspace, and reiterate safety requirements. MSW Consultants also briefed the sorting team on PPE usage, safe handling of residue materials, and potential hazards that may be encountered. MSW ensured all sorters had hard hats, safety vests, eye protection, puncture and chemical-resistant gloves, and optional dust masks, ear protection, and Tyvek aprons.

## 2.6 Manual Sorting

Consistent with the previous study, accumulated residue materials were brought to the work area in piles for sorting. For residue materials which were fairly large, MSW Consultants used spare box springs<sup>2</sup> to pile residue constituents into their respective material category groups. When these piles reached a suitable height, a forklift would bring these over to the scale for a weigh-out. In the case of smaller residue materials, these were sorted and weighed in 35-gallon barrels. Figure 2-1 below shows four photos of loose residue material.

Figure 2-1 Assorted Piles of Mattress Recycling Residues

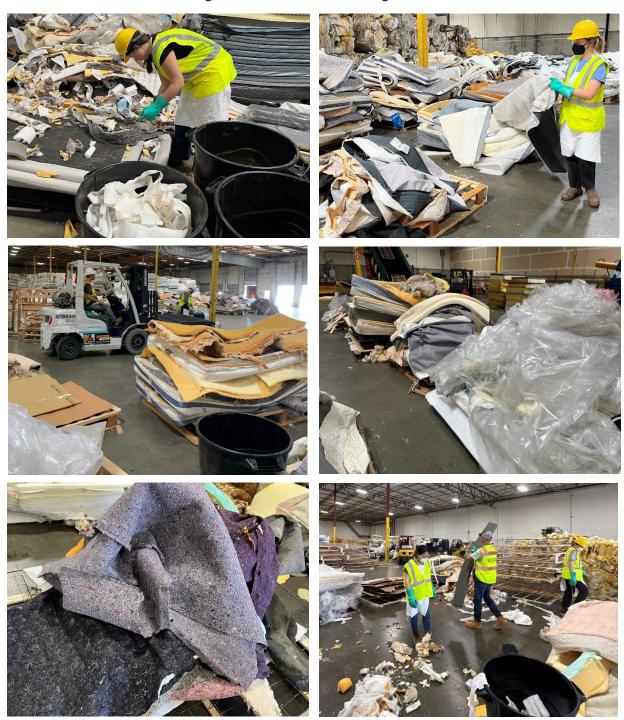


<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> All box springs and barrels were weighed in advance and marked with their tare weight, which was subtracted from the scale weight during material weigh-out.



Figure 2-2 shows a collection of photos from this sorting and weigh-out process.

Figure 2-2 Assorted Residue Sorting Photos



From Left to Right, Top to Bottom: a sorter collects fines into barrels; a sorter brings a quilt panel to the designated pile; MSW uses a forklift to weigh heavy residue materials; a pile of loose plastics and yet-unsorted residue piles; a pile of sorted Shoddy Felt Pad; sorters pick through a pile of freshly delivered residue material.

# 2.7 Data Recording and Analysis

MSW Consultants performed residue weigh-outs on a large floor scale<sup>3</sup>, often with the assistance of a forklift. Materials would be placed on the scale, the recorder would confirm the forklift was not bearing weight or lifting material, and that no material was in contact with the floor. The container or box spring was tared out and the weight data was recorded on a tablet computer using MSW Consultants' in-house data management platform.

A tablet allowed for samples to be tallied in real time, providing several important advantages:

- The template contains built-in logic and error checking.
- The template sums sample weights in real time.

#### 3. RESIDUE COMPOSITION

The composition of residue was calculated as the percentage by weight of all outbound residue intercepted and sorted at both facilities.

The combined composition was calculated two ways. The first method combined weight data from both recyclers and calculated the percentage by weight of residue per category based on the sum of total residue. However, this methodology does not account for the disparity in daily mattress deconstructed volumes between the two host facilities. Using facility-specific residue generation estimates, weighting factors were used to adjust the composition percentages of the sorted residue. The weighted averages calculated using this second method are used throughout the rest of this report. As discussed in Section 2.2, polypropylene fabric was also combined based on facility-specific weighting factors.

Table 3-1 compares the unweighted and weighted average composition of residue from both facilities. As shown, the methods produce similar results, which suggests that the residue stream composition is similar at both facilities. These calculations also show that polyurethane foam, shoddy felt pad, and other non-woven fibers are the predominant items being landfilled.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> This floor scale featured a 5,000 lb. capacity and was accurate to the nearest 1 lb., consistent with the previous study measurement resolution.

Table 3-1 Unweighted vs Weighted Residue Composition

	Unweighted Average	Weighted Average
Material Category	% of Total	% of Total
Polyurethane Foam	19.7%	19.5%
Shoddy Felt Pad	15.4%	15.6%
Other Non-Woven Fibers	14.1%	13.7%
Other Material	10.2%	9.6%
Quilt Panels	9.1%	8.8%
Latex Foam	5.5%	7.0%
Loose Plastics	6.8%	6.9%
Multi-Layered Foam	6.1%	5.7%
Cotton	4.4%	4.5%
Fines	2.0%	2.3%
Fabric Scraps	2.2%	1.9%
Cardboard	1.9%	1.7%
Wood	1.3%	1.1%
Polypropylene Fabric	0.7%	1.1%
Pocketed Coils	0.3%	0.4%
Coconut/Sisal/Plant Fibers	0.4%	0.3%
Scrap Metal	0.1%	0.1%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Figure 3-1 compares the weighted average composition of mattress recycling residue above with that of the 2020 baseline study. As noted previously, the Polypropylene Fabric category was not present in the previous study, so that has been combined with Other Non-Woven Fibers for this comparison.

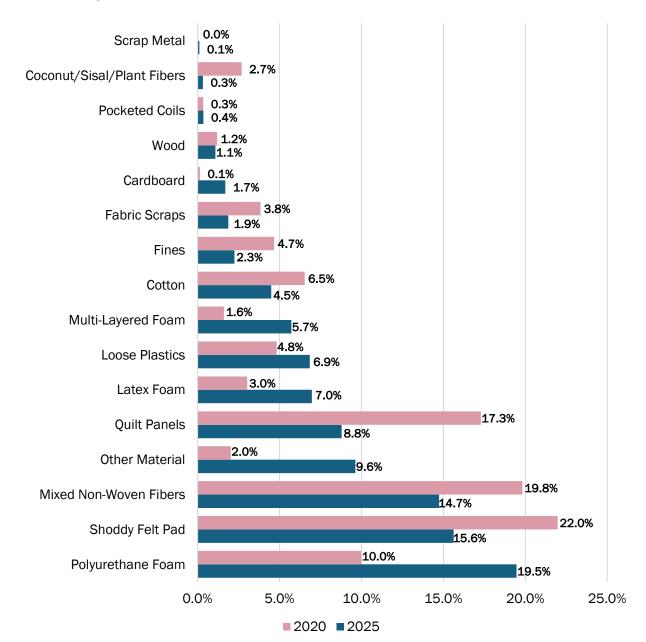


Figure 3-1 Comparison between 2020 Composition Results and 2025 Composition Results

### 4. OBSERVATIONS

Based on observations made during field collection, MSW Consultants provides the following qualitative comments about the accumulated residue material.

**Increase in "Uncommon" Mattresses:** MSW noted what seemed to be an increase in uncommon residue from the previous study including motors and electronic components, complex multi-layered designs, micro pocketed coil layers, and other unconventional constructions. As mattress brands continue to seek differentiation in the market, it is possible that these non-standard offerings will become increasingly common.

**Shoddy Felt Pad:** Though less prevalent in the residue stream in 2025 compared to 2020, this material still makes up a notable slice of the compositional pie for residues. This reduction seems to be the result of decreased use in mattress construction, which can be seen as an improvement because shoddy has limited use in secondary markets. As an alternative perspective, the shoddy felt pads are understood to be made of mostly recycled material, meaning mattresses are now using less recycled materials in their construction.

**Other Non-Woven Fibers**: Like the previous study, the majority of other non-woven fibers consisted of foundation fabric covers, which have non-woven top and bottom sections, and non-woven fabric layers between other mattress layers. Virtually all box springs had similar constructions, and therefore this material could be recovered if end markets existed for non-woven fabric and if recyclers could produce a clean feedstock from these layers.

**Quilt Panels**: Again, mirroring the 2020 study, most quilt panels found in the residue stream contained either metal staples or tacks on the edges, or built-in foam or gels. It is assumed that the cost to separate the metal and foam would currently exceed the recovery value, meaning potential recovery efforts for this category seem unlikely at present.

**Cotton**: Cotton was most often used as padding, augmenting attached natural fibers and foam layers. In one case, a futon mattress was found to be entirely filled with cotton, its sole source of cushion. Figure 4-1 shows cotton fluff piles as they appear following deconstruction, and the cotton-filled futon.



Figure 4-1 Cotton



**Polyurethane Foam**: Polyurethane foam found in the residue stream nearly always contained non-foam contaminant materials such as metal tacks and glued fabrics. It is assumed the secondary markets demand clean feedstocks and that it did not warrant the time and cost to further process these materials for recycling. Figure 4-2 shows these staples.



Figure 4-2 Polyurethane Foam with Staples

**Loose Plastics:** Large clear plastic film bags used as mattress coverings were almost always clean and free of moisture. Film plastic in this condition is highly recyclable and appeared in greater quantities in 2025 than observed in 2020. Figure 4-3 shows two examples. Rigid plastics such as corners, and expanded polypropylene foam layers were occasionally observed, but do not make up a significant proportion of loose plastic. These films were encountered at both facilities.



Figure 4-3 Loose Plastics

**Fines:** Fines appear to be unchanged from the previous study, being made up of small, well-mixed chunks of foam, wool, plastics, fabrics, metal pieces, wood splinters, etc.

**Fabric Scraps**: This mostly consisted of fabric strips which almost always had metal tacks from the outer edge of mattresses.

Polypropylene Fabric: As stated previously, MSW Consultants was unable to use the approved hand-sort approach for the polypropylene fabric category, as this material is not initially screened out like the rest of the residue material. Accumulated residue from one recycler did not contain any polypropylene, though it was noted to be present in other generated residues from outside the accumulation window. It seems there is an irregular rate of processing for this material. For the second recycler, their process periodically discards large quantities of finely shredded polypropylene fabric. Daily weights were recorded by the recycler and provided to MSW Consultants for recording, however it was determined this included processing of additional pocketed coils from outside the generation window. As a result, this number was replaced by the previously mentioned weight- and unit-based estimates using MSW and MRC data. Figure 4-4 shows an image of a hopper filled with shredded polypropylene.



Figure 4-4 Processed Shredded Polypropylene Fabric from Pocketed Coils

**Latex Foam**: In a few instances, latex mattresses were encountered, with most of the weight coming from intact latex units or layers. However, latex is a very dense material and has an outsized effect on the total composition when considering volume instead of weight. When latex foam was encountered, it was often found bonded with polyurethane foam in multi-layered constructions and was consequently sorted into the multi-layered foam category.

**Coconut/Sisal/Plant Fiber**: Very little material of this category was found and was mostly from inner support layers rather than acting as the main material in a mattress.

**Cardboard:** Cardboard found in the residue stream was frequently in good condition for recycling. It wasn't apparent how (if at all) cardboard recycling was prioritized at the facilities, but its easy-to-store, easy-to-bale, highly recoverable nature, reliable markets, and solid secondary market value make it one of the most widely recycled commodities in the U.S. While not extremely prevalent, improving capture of this category would appear to be a straightforward way to increase the overall recycling rate.

**Other Material**: This category includes various components from adjustable firmness and position mattresses. Much of this weight was composed of textile and/or cushion wrapped wooden panels with attached motors and wires. While it is assumed that wood underneath could be recovered, hand-separating these components seems to be a challenge without access to additional tools. Figure 4-5 shows some of these described panels.



Figure 4-5 Adjustable Bed Panels in the Other Materials Category

**Multi-Layered Foam**: Multi-layered foam residue often consisted of strongly bonded foam layers of different types, or foam and gel-like support structures bonded together. These mattresses may often be immediately discarded, with no attempt to extract what is recoverable. Figure 4-6 shows some examples of these mattresses.



Figure 4-6 Multi-Layered Foam

**Scrap Metals - Pocketed Coils**: The field data collection team witnessed a single set of freed "miniature" pocketed coils, which were much smaller in size than what is typically seen. These were observed to be sandwiched between layers of different types of foam in some of the multi-layered foam mattress constructions. It is unclear if the steel present in these coils can be reliably extracted using typical methods, or if their reduced size complicates recycling.

### 5. IMPLIED CAPTURE RATES

MSW extrapolated the statewide commodity capture rates by incorporating residue material compositions and data reported in MRC's California 2024 Annual Report. The capture rate shows how much of a given commodity is recovered as a percentage of the total sent to a recycling facility. Given this, whole mattresses that were reused or renovated and were not deconstructed into commodities are excluded from resulting commodity capture rates and calculations, consistent with the previous study.

Table 5-1 shows the commodities recovered from mattresses and box springs as well as whole mattresses reused/renovated in 2020 and 2024 as reported by MRC. As shown, 73.7 percent by weight of the material entering recycling facilities was either reused/renovated or the deconstructed mattress components were recycled and thus diverted from disposal in 2024.

Table 5-1 California Mattress Material Recycling Summary, 2020 vs 2024

	2020		2024	
Materials	Pounds	% of Total	Pounds	% of Total
Steel	29,365,968	34.9%	34,922,878	39.5%
Foam	13,201,620	15.7%	12,727,911	14.4%
Wood	10,193,344	12.1%	9,968,736	11.3%
Quilt & Toppers	8,502,147	10.1%	6,696,231	7.6%
Cotton	842,317	1.0%	177,514	0.2%
Cardboard	120,474	0.1%	104,070	0.1%
Other Fiber	442,113	0.5%	78,323	0.1%
Plastics	72,947	0.1%	52,910	0.1%
Felt/Shoddy	352,791	0.4%	36,016	0.0%
Whole Mattresses Reused/Renovated	1,777,160	2.1%	350,446	0.4%
WTE	26,845	0.0%	N/A	N/A
Total Recycled	64,897,726	77.1%	65,115,035	73.7%
Residue	19,286,140	22.9%	23,279,960	26.3%
Total	84,183,866	100.0%	88,394,995	100.0%

Table 5-1 also shows an increase in the absolute quantity of recycled materials being recovered<sup>4</sup>. This is a positive development. However, the recycling rate decreased slightly, from 77.1 percent in 2020 to 73.7 percent in 2024.

Table 5-2 shows the estimated amount of each material category that was landfilled in the entire state in 2024. These values were calculated by assuming the same composition of material residue found in this study (from Table 3-1) applies to the total amount of material landfilled by all MRC recyclers in 2024.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>MRC Reports collecting 1,560,655 mattress units in 2024, an increase in nearly 50,000 units from 2020.



Table 5-2 Annual Landfilled Material Composition Based on Sorted Categories

	Weighted	
Material	Percent	Pounds
Polyurethane Foam	19.5%	4,531,958
Shoddy Felt Pad	15.6%	3,638,388
Other Non-Woven Fibers	13.7%	3,184,621
Other Material*	9.6%	2,242,450
Quilt Panels	8.8%	2,046,887
Latex Foam	7.0%	1,622,899
Loose Plastics	6.9%	1,594,972
Multi-Layered Foam	5.7%	1,332,679
Cotton	4.5%	1,046,394
Fines*	2.3%	524,200
Fabric Scraps	1.9%	437,643
Cardboard	1.7%	393,594
Wood	1.1%	252,650
Polypropylene Fabric	1.1%	246,478
Pocketed Coils	0.4%	83,239
Coconut/Sisal/Plant Fibers	0.3%	75,834
Scrap Metal	0.1%	25,072
Total	100.0%	23,279,960

<sup>\*</sup>Non-recoverable materials excluded from subsequent commodity capture rate analysis

The categories used in this study were then mapped into the commodity types reported in the 2024 California Annual Report. "Fines" and "Other Materials", representing a combined 2,766,650 pounds are excluded from subsequent tables in this report. Of the total 23,279,960 pounds of disposed materials, 20,513,310 are estimated to be targeted commodities as defined by MRC's annual report and this number will be the basis for further capture rate analyses. The commodity mappings are shown in Table 5-3, while the resulting quantities are shown in Table 5-4, listed in order of most to least prevalent.

Table 5-3 Composition Study Material Category vs MRC 2024 California Annual Report Category Mapping

Composition Study Category	2024 Annual Report Categories
Cardboard	Cardboard
Polyurethane Foam	Foam
Multi-Layered Foam	Foam
Loose Plastics	Plastics
Quilt Panels	Quilt & Toppers
Cotton	Cotton
Shoddy Felt Pad	Felt/Shoddy
Fabric Scraps	Other Fiber
Polypropylene Fabric	Other Fiber
Other Non-Woven Fibers	Other Fiber
Coconut/Sisal/Plant Fibers	Other Fiber
Scrap Metal	Steel
Wood	Wood
Latex Foam	Foam
Pocketed Coils	Steel
Fines	N/A
Other Material	N/A

Table 5-4 Estimated Annual Residue Composition, Recast to 2024 Annual Report Commodity Categories

Material	Pounds	% of Total
Foam	7,487,536	36.5%
Other Fiber	3,944,577	19.2%
Felt/Shoddy	3,638,388	17.7%
Quilt & Toppers	2,046,887	10.0%
Plastics	1,594,972	7.8%
Cotton	1,046,394	5.1%
Cardboard	393,594	1.9%
Wood	252,650	1.2%
Steel	108,312	0.5%
Total	20.513.310	100.0%

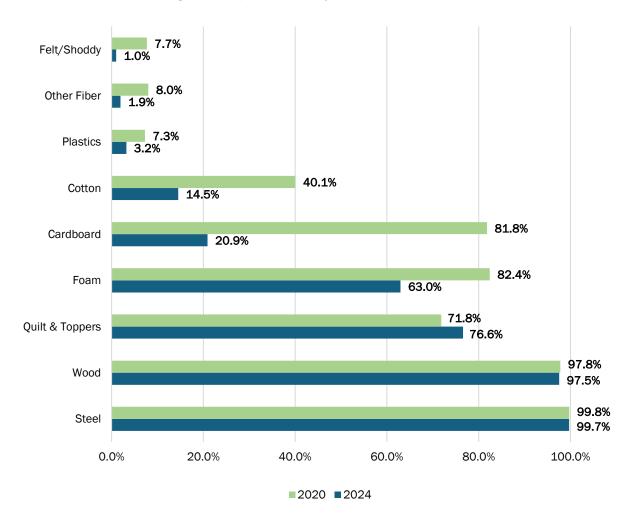
Table 5-5 combines the annual report commodity numbers from Table 5-1 and the recast residue estimates from the previous table to determine the estimated 2024 capture rate for identified commodities in the state of California.

Table 5-5 Implied Commodity Capture Rates in California (2024)

Material	Recovered	Disposed	Total	Capture Rate
Steel	34,922,878	108,312	35,031,190	99.7%
Wood	9,968,736	252,650	10,221,386	97.5%
Quilt & Toppers	6,696,231	2,046,887	8,743,118	76.6%
Foam	12,727,911	7,487,536	20,215,447	63.0%
Cardboard	104,070	393,594	497,664	20.9%
Cotton	177,514	1,046,394	1,223,908	14.5%
Plastics	52,910	1,594,972	1,647,882	3.2%
Other Fiber	78,323	3,944,577	4,022,900	1.9%
Felt/Shoddy	36,016	3,638,388	3,674,404	1.0%
Total	64,764,589	20,513,310	85,277,899	75.9%

Figure 5-1 compares the resulting capture rate estimates and compares them with the estimates presented in the 2020 report.

Figure 5-1 Implied Commodity Capture Rates 2020 vs 2024



MSW makes the following observations about Figure 5-1.

**Excellent Capture of Steel and Wood**: Recyclers are recovering a high percentage of steel and wood, which makes sense as these materials are more easily separated and have value in recycling markets.

**Strong and Increased Capture of Quilt & Toppers**: The capture rate of this category has increased from 71.8 percent in 2020, to 76.6 percent. This category appears to be the only one that has increased since the 2020 study.

**Sliding Capture Rate of Foam Group**: Foam categories, consisting of polyurethane foam, multi-layered foam, and latex foam, have dropped from 82.4 percent in 2021 to 63.0 percent in 2025. This is likely the result of increased instances of multi-layer and latex foam, which are not as easily recovered because of either metal staples or adhesives.

**Opportunity for Greater Film Plastics Capture**: Film plastics, which (qualitatively) make up the majority of observed residue plastics by weight are suitable for recycling. The study did not differentiate between rigid and flexible film; however, it is likely that recovery of film plastics would produce a marginal increase in statewide recycling rates.

**Surprisingly Low Capture of Cardboard**: Cardboard was found to be captured at a rate of only 20.9 percent – a sharp decrease from the 81.8% found in 2020. Most of the cardboard sorted during the study was intact and suitable for recycling. This is another opportunity to provide a marginal increase in statewide recycling rates.

Other Fiber: This group, a combination of fabric scraps, polypropylene fabric, other non-woven fibers, and coconut/sisal/plant fibers, represents a significant portion of residue and has the second-lowest capture rate. These materials may find additional utility in their current form as waste to energy, though this is recognized as less preferable to other recovery alternatives. Efforts to design mattresses to allow for clean extraction of each commodity type could markedly shrink the size of this group.

#### 6. CONCLUSIONS

Figure 6-1 re-orders the most prevalent materials in the mattress recycling residue stream from highest to lowest quantity regardless of capture rate.



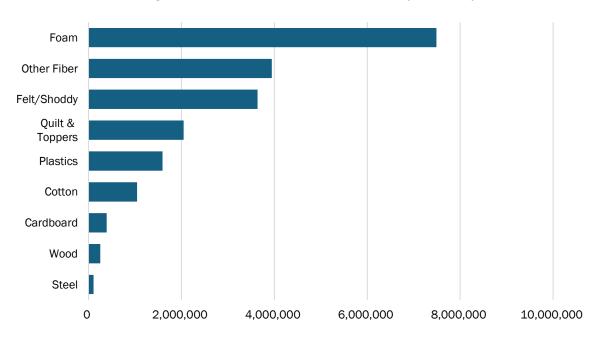


Figure 6-1 Annual Pounds Disposed as Residue by Commodity

As shown, incremental recycling rate increases could be achieved by finding either recycling solutions to the top five most prevalent residues or continuing to improve successful recycling efforts. For commodities such as foam, additional efforts by recyclers to clean and sort extracted materials would be expected to improve capture rates, at the expense of increased per unit processing time. MRC and its Recyclers need to determine if this would be a worthwhile trade-off. Most residual material represents either hard to recycle material due to processing time and commensurate operating cost, or material without an end market.

The prime target highlighted by this graph is cardboard, which is a commonly recycled commodity and is suitable for recycling in its current form. The decrease in cardboard capture since 2020 was surprising and may be an anomaly or driven by specific issues at the two host facilities. Similarly, it appears that recycling plastics could be improved at both locations.

This report assumes that the residue composition of mattress recycling operations across California is reasonably comparable to the composition of the host facilities.



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