

2025 McLean County Household Hazardous Waste Collection Report



Bloomington
Normal Water
Reclamation District



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Summary

On October 4, 2025, the McLean County Household Hazardous Waste Collection took place at the Interstate Center in Bloomington, IL. Overall, the event ran smoothly with no major backups or delays with no commercial or unaccepted waste coming through. However, other events occurring at the venue during the same day caused some minor issues with parking and confused attendees.

1,222 cars arrived at the event to drop off their waste, with over 99% of participants having made the required appointment prior to the event. The waste collected is estimated to have come from 2,484 households from 21 different Illinois counties. The effort successfully collected 26,679 gallons of hazardous waste materials for safe disposal. Fifty-one volunteers worked over 143 hours to help the EAC staff set-up, work the event, and tear everything back down at the end of the day.

The Ecology Action Center is the solid waste agency for the City of Bloomington, Town of Normal, and McLean County. In this role, the EAC coordinates community-wide solid waste planning, performs education and outreach to increase recycling, offers comprehensive recycling and waste information for area residents and businesses, provides a free smart phone or browser app for 24-hour access to recycling information, and coordinates HHW services for the McLean County area.



By The Numbers



1,656 Appointments Made

Of these, 108 canceled prior to the event and 329 failed to show up for their scheduled appointments.



1,222 Cars in Attendance

2.03 households' materials were transported per car with households per car ranging from 1 to 18.



2,484 Households Served

1,222 cars carrying materials from 2,484 total estimated households came through the collection event.



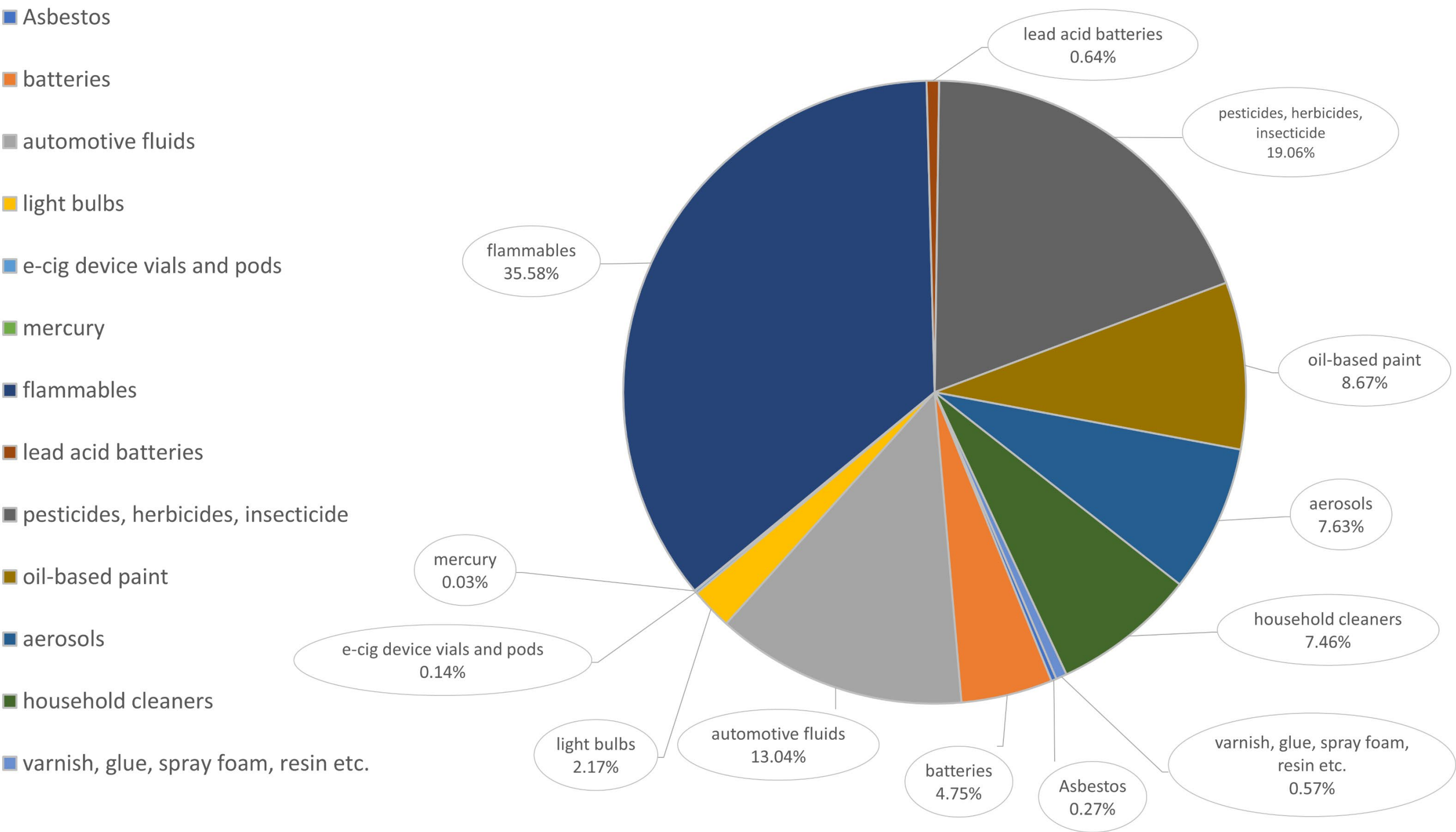
143 Volunteer Hours

51 volunteers put in 143 hours of work stuffing pamphlets and directing traffic. Volunteers put in \$4,974.97 worth of work.*

*Source: <https://independentsector.org/resource/value-of-volunteer-time/>

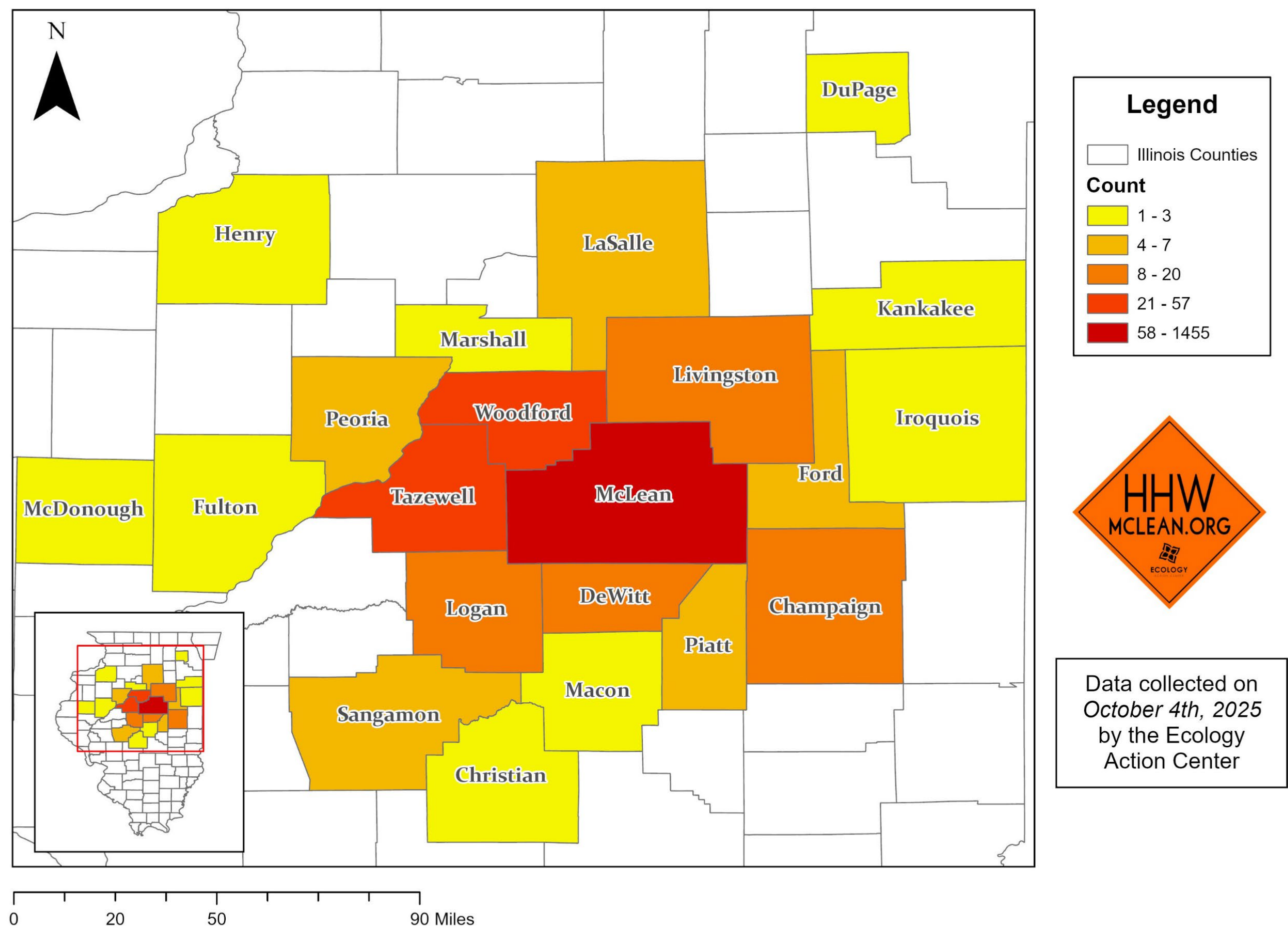
Materials Collected

2025 HHW Materials Collected



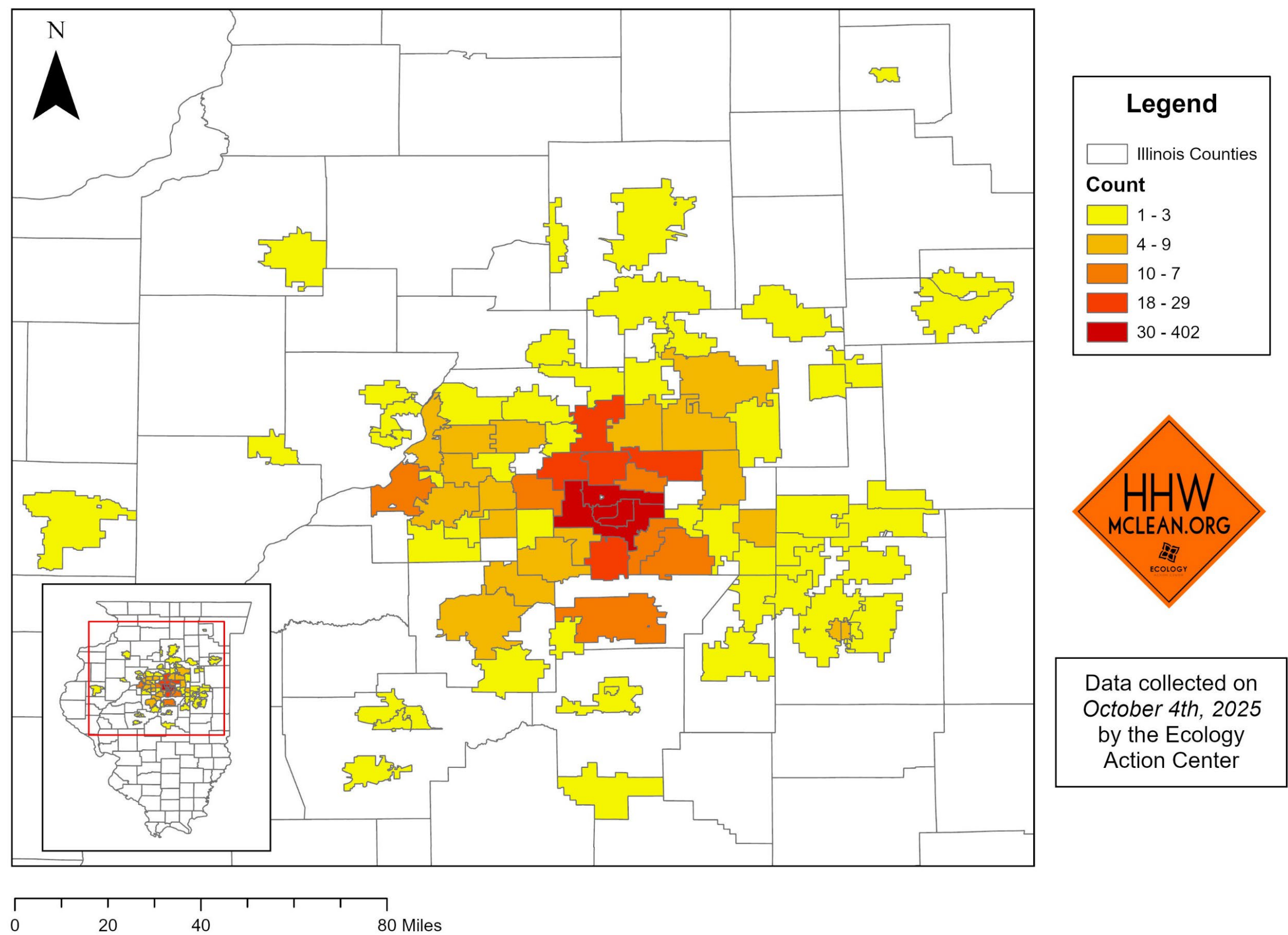
Attendees

2025 HHW Attendees by County



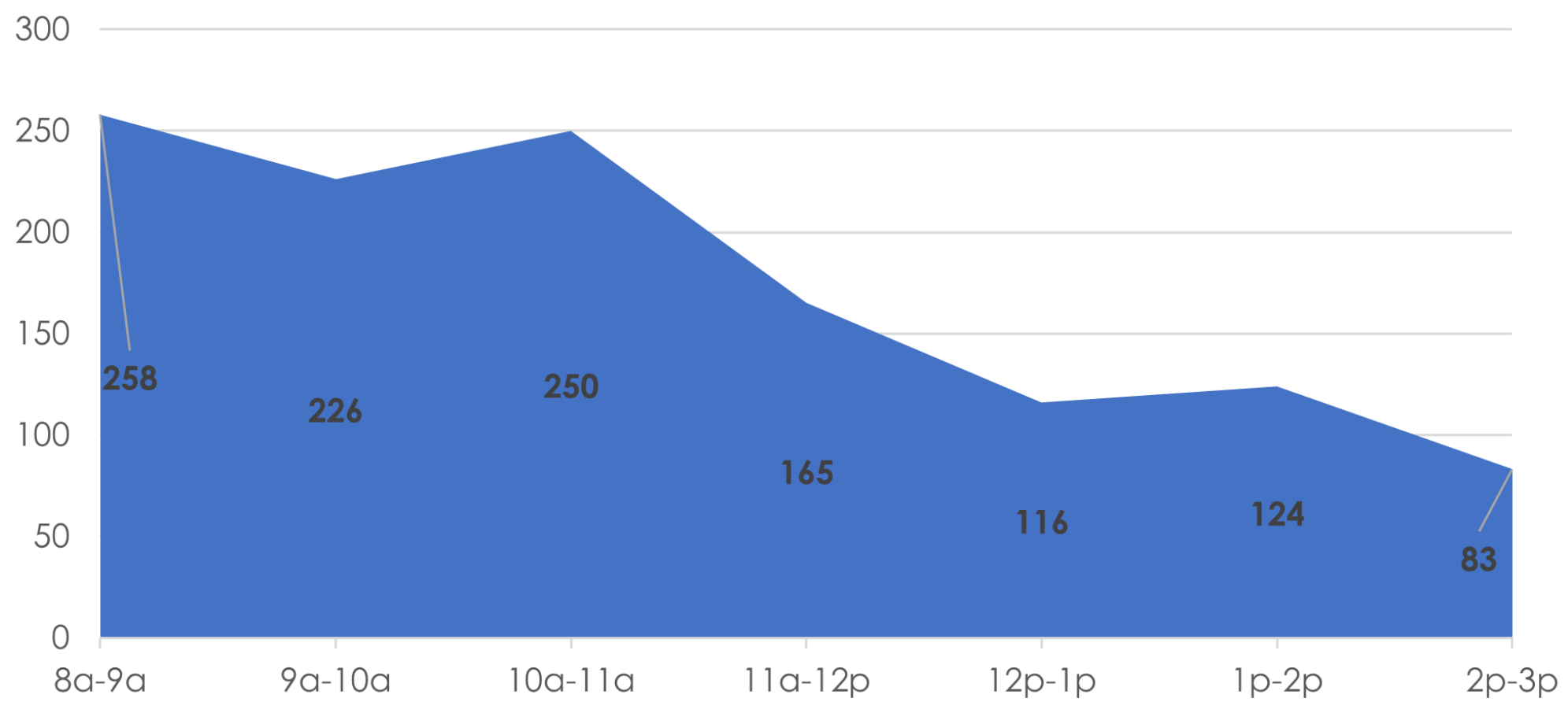
Attendees

2025 HHW Attendees by Zip Codes

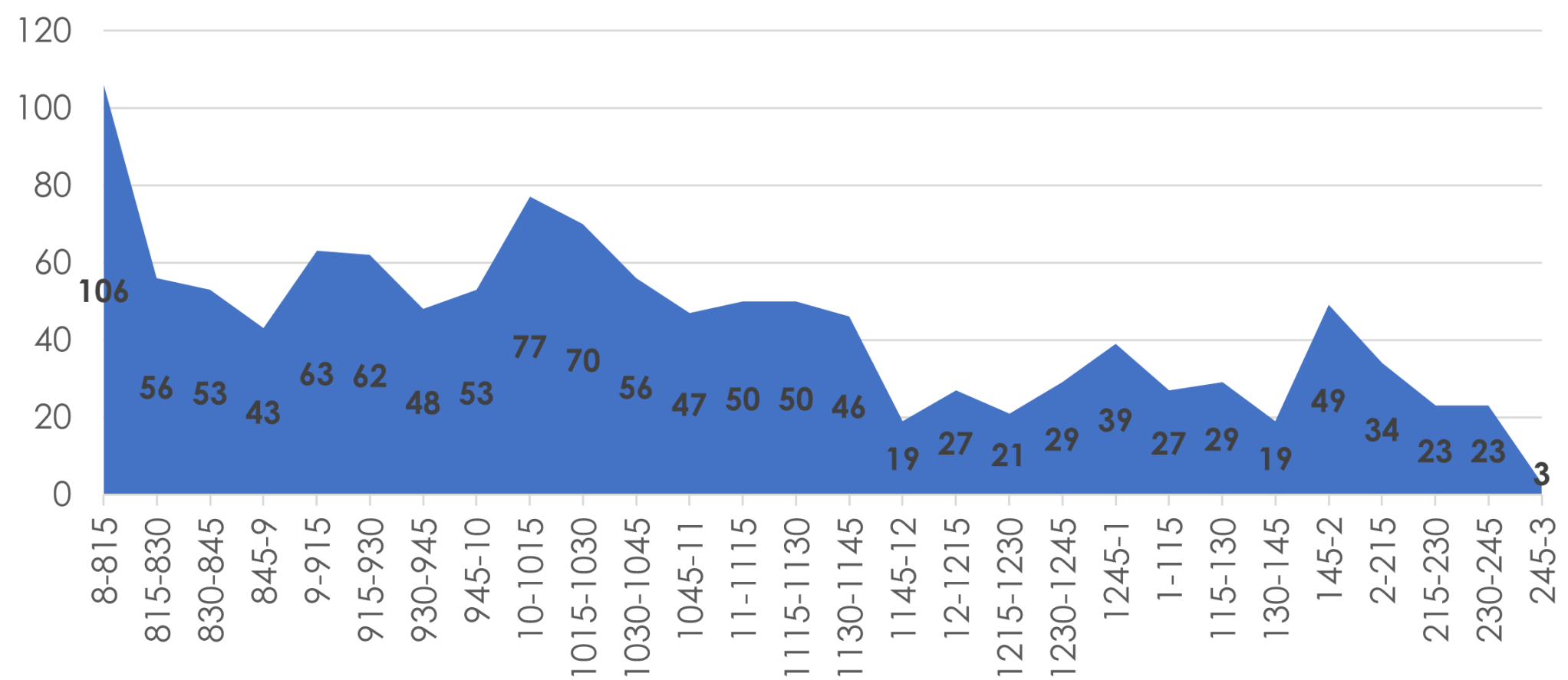


Attendees

HHW 2025 Collection Event
Attendance by hour



HHW 2025 Collection Event
Attendance by quarter hour



Marketing



31% of attendees heard about the event through Facebook



7% of those attending heard about it through a friend



15% of participants heard about the HHW collection through a newspaper



8% of those attending heard about it through a local radio station*



20% of attendees indicated they heard through "other" means



5% of participants heard about the HHW collection through the Illinois EPA



11% of participants heard about the HHW collection through the EAC Action Newsletter



1% of attendees heard about HHW through a postcard

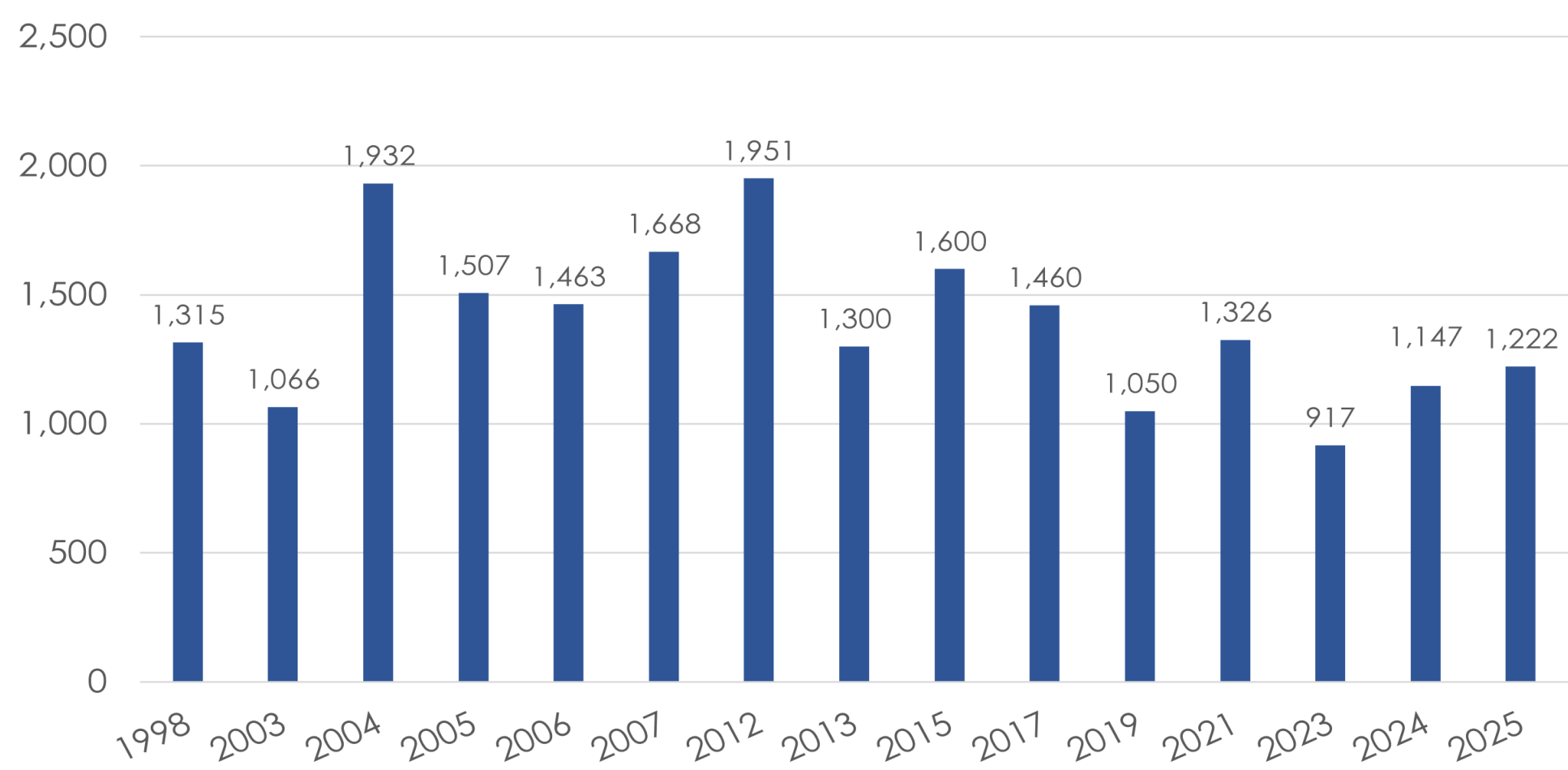


15% of attendees Heard about the event through Nextdoor.com

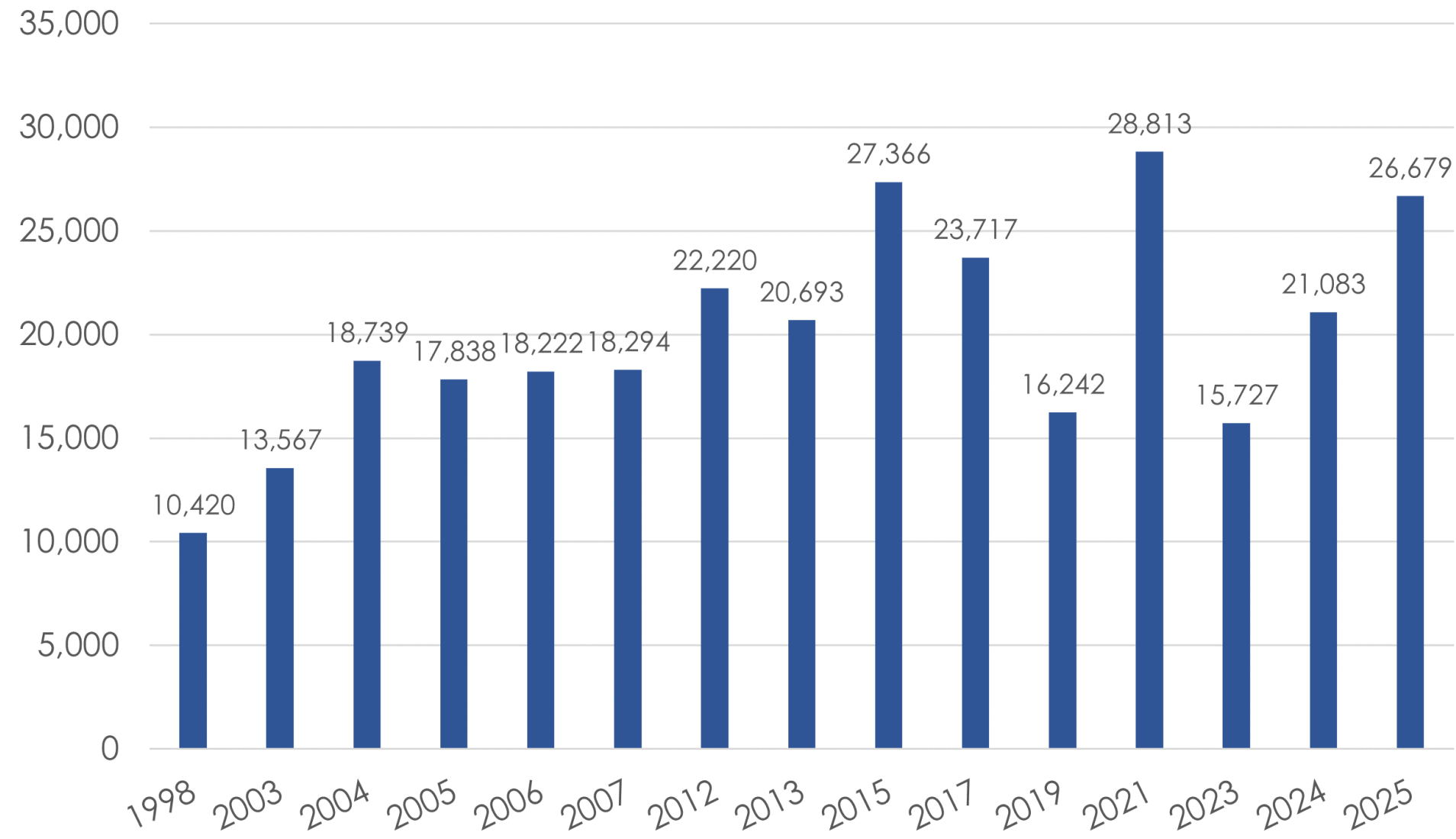
*6% from WGLT, 1% from WJBC, and 1% from Cities 92.9

Data Trends

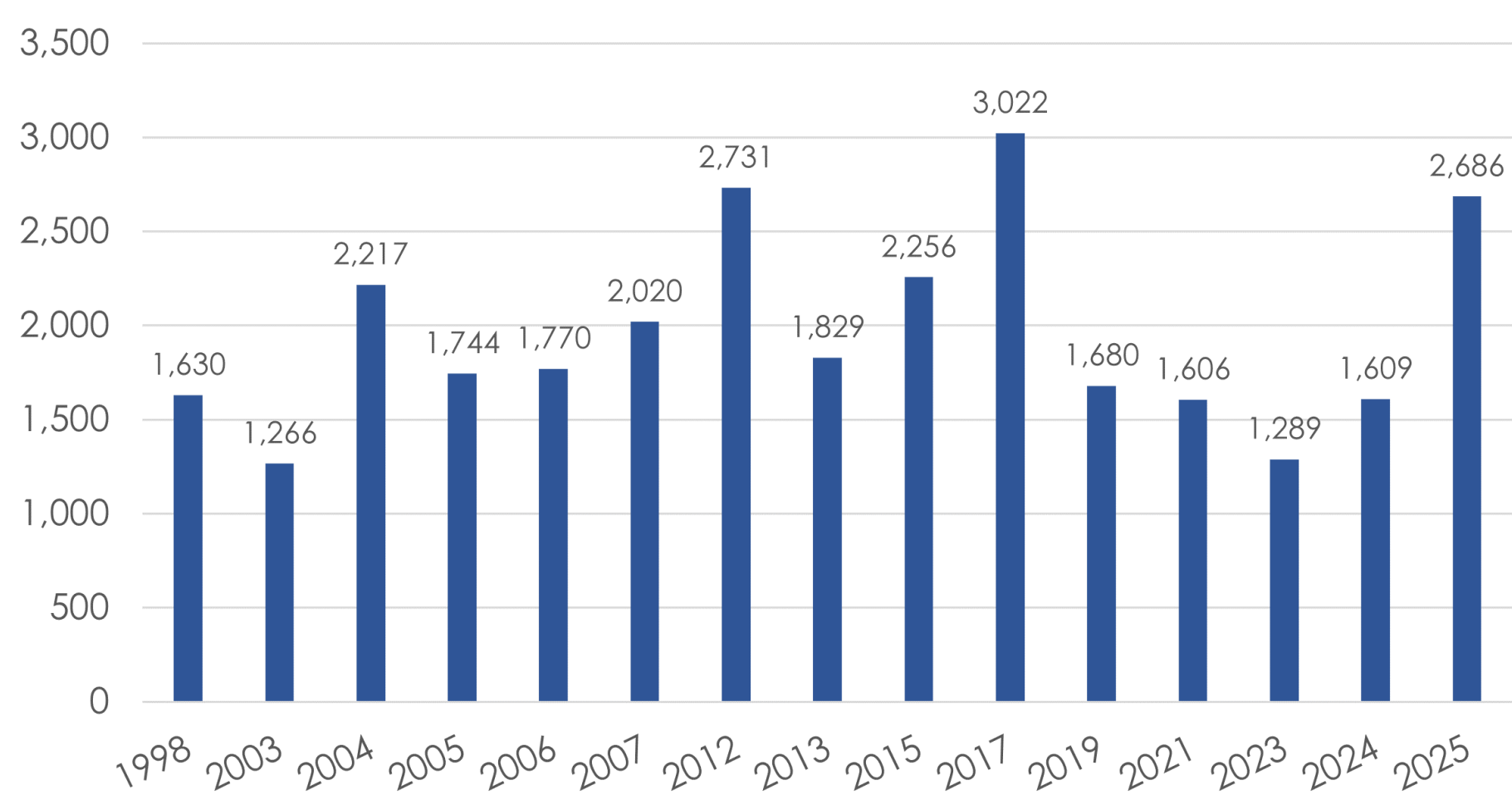
Participation by Number of Cars



Gallons of HHW Material Collected

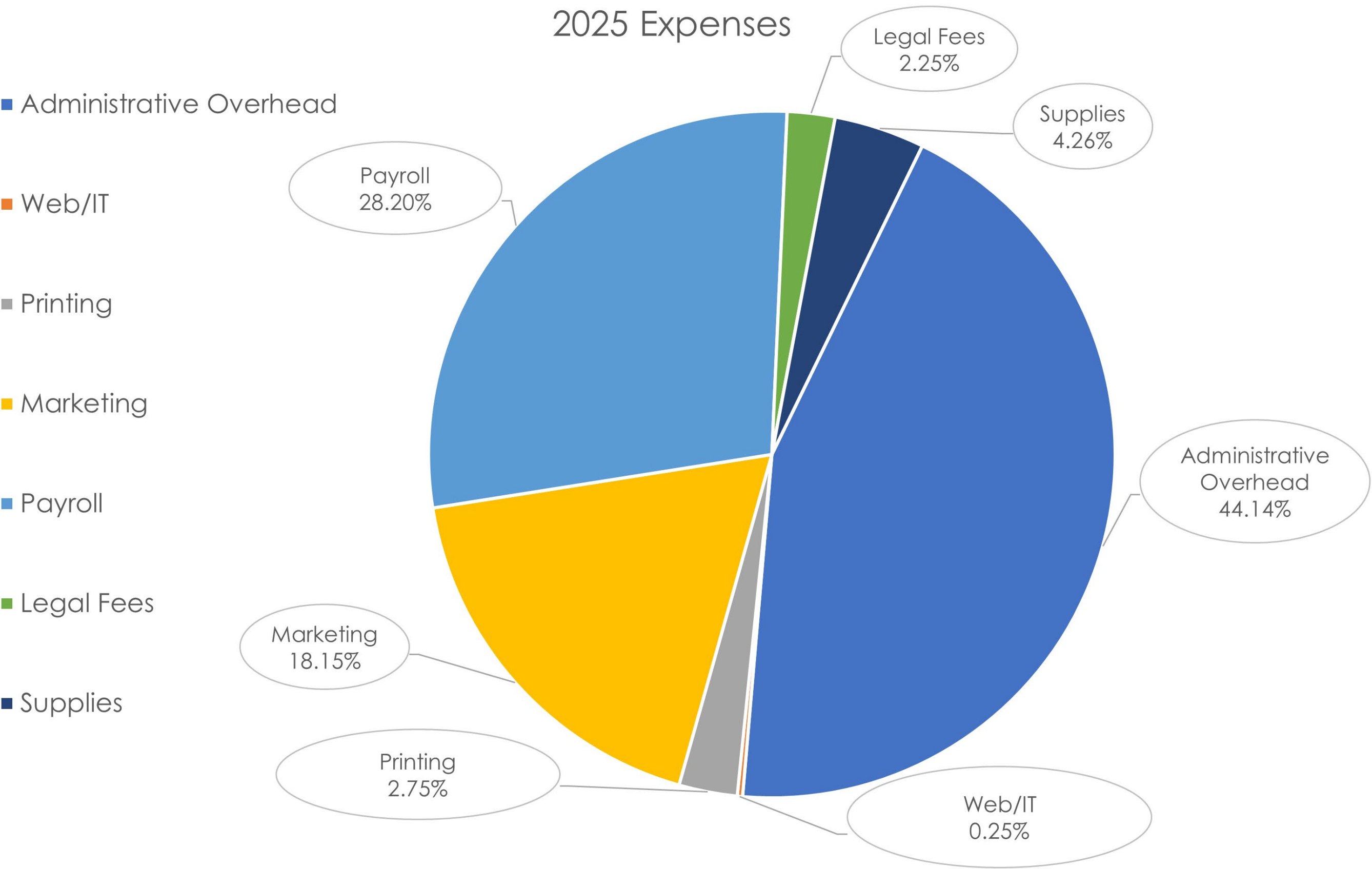


Participation by Number of Households



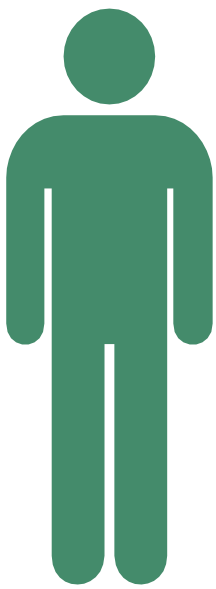
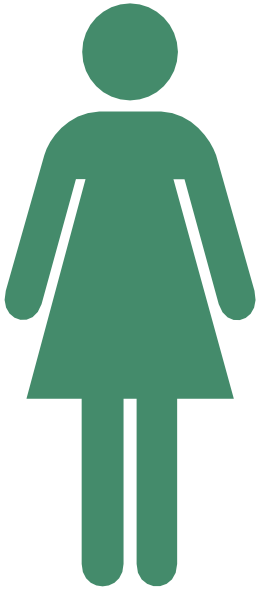
Financials

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency sponsorship of the October 2025 HHW collection allows all Illinois residents to participate and covers the most significant costs of the event including the transportation and disposal of all hazardous wastes collected. The Ecology Action Center's costs were limited to promotion and coordination, resulting in a significant cost savings for the local community in contrast to HHW collections that are completely locally funded.



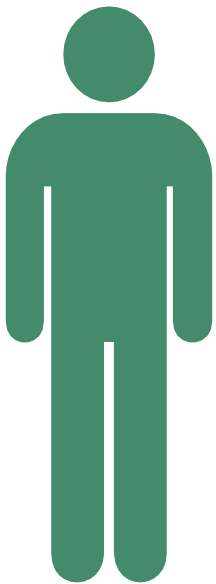
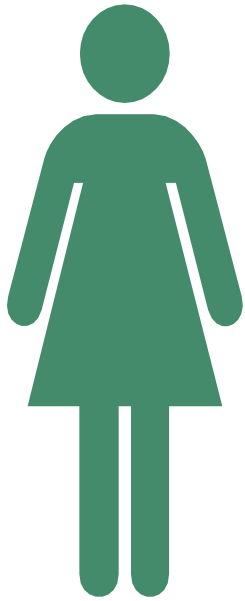
Feedback

"What a finely orchestrated event! Everyone was so friendly and helpful." -Tracey



"Giving a huge shout out to the EAC and all of the volunteers who make this happen in McLean County! Each time this event is held, so many residents benefit, and we are utterly grateful." -Angela

"Thank you for holding this event! Thank you to the staff and volunteers that made it possible!" -Lisa



"It was a very easy process, as always." -James