INFECTIOUS WASTE GENERATION ANNUAL REPORT
2027 Estimate

October 2026

SC DEPARTMENT *of* ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

S.C. Department of Environmental Services

The Infectious Waste Generation Annual Report – 2027 Estimate is submitted by the S.C. Department of Environmental Services in compliance with S.C. Code Section 44-93-210. Additionally, Act 119 of 2010 mandates that agencies provide all reports to the General Assembly in an electronic format.

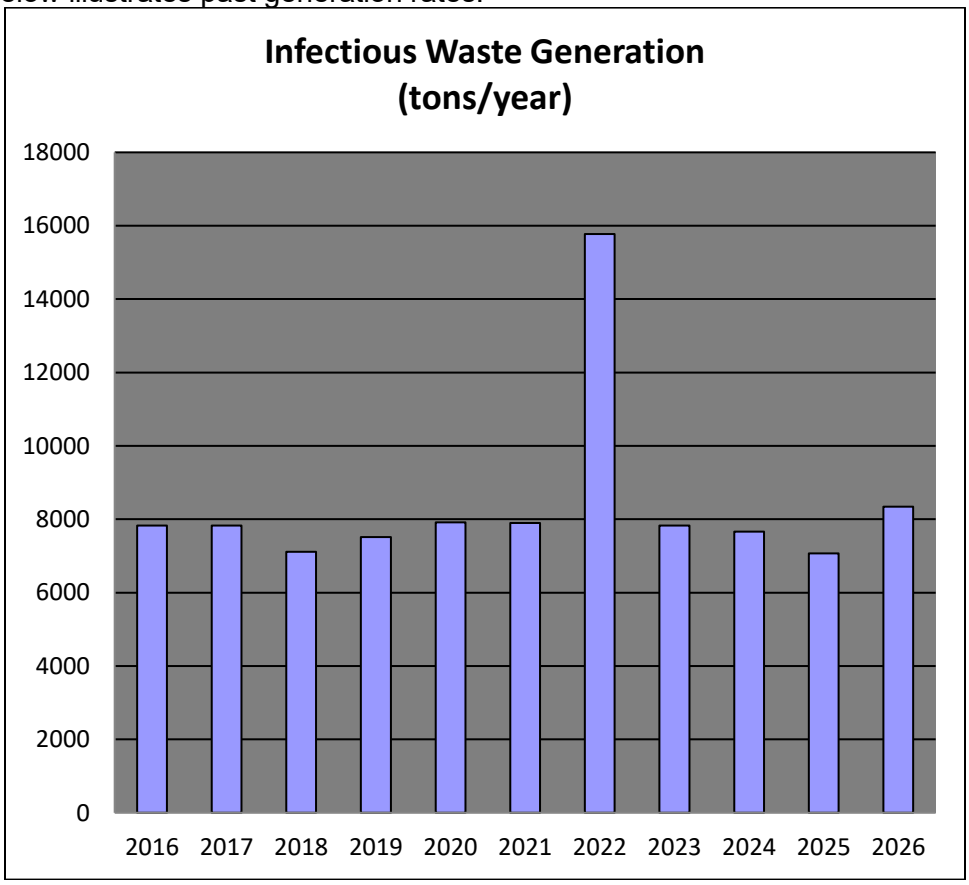
As required by the South Carolina Infectious Waste Management Act, the Department of Environmental Services (the Department) annually publishes a projection of the estimated amount of infectious waste to be generated in South Carolina for the next calendar year. This report fulfills this requirement.

The data used to calculate this estimate has been derived from in-state generators. According to the South Carolina Infectious Waste Management Regulation, R.61-105, any person producing infectious waste in South Carolina must register with the Department annually in writing on a Department registration form. The registration form includes the name of the business, address of the site of generation (each site of generation must apply separately), and the amount of infectious waste generated monthly (estimated within + or -20%). The data upon which this estimate is based was derived from the generator registration forms.

For the one-year period of October 1, 2025, through October 1, 2026, 10,279 generators have reported they produce an estimated 695.34 tons of infectious waste per month or 8,344.08 tons of infectious waste in a one-year period. Based on the previous annual volumes, the Department expects approximately the same as previous years to be generated in calendar year 2027. Infectious waste generated in private households is excluded from the Infectious Waste Management Act and is not included in this report.

Additional information and resources regarding the infectious Waste Management Program may be found at https://des.sc.gov/programs/bureau-land-waste-management/infectious-waste.

The table below illustrates past generation rates.



S.C. DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

BUREAU OF LAND AND WASTE MANAGEMENT
INFECTIOUS WASTE GENERATION

TOTAL AMOUNT OF INFECTIOUS WASTE GENERATED IN SOUTH CAROLINA

Infectious Waste Categories	Pounds per month	Tons per month
SHARPS: Needles, syringes, lancets and scalpel blades.	400,646.83	200.32
MICROBIOLOGICALS: Specimens, cultures and stocks of human pathogenic agents.	84,215.07	42.11
BLOOD AND BLOOD PRODUCTS: Unabsorbed human blood, or blood products, or absorbed blood and bloody body fluids.	558,608.71	279.30
PATHOLOGICAL: Tissues, organs, limbs, products of conception and other body parts removed from the whole body.	94,308.17	47.15
ANIMAL: Animal carcasses, body parts and bedding of animals intentionally exposed to human pathogens during research.	14,157.00	7.08
ISOLATION: Biosafety Level Four, highly communicable diseases classified by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.	105,609.97	52.80
OTHER: Other waste material designated by the generator as infectious waste.	133,126.99	66.56
TOTALS OF ALL WASTE STREAMS:	**1,390,672.74**	**695.34**

TOTAL NUMBER OF GENERATORS REGISTERED: 10,279