Table 10-3 Typical composition of municipal solid wastes

Component	Percent by mass			
	Range	Typical	Davis California*	Merida, Venezuela†
Food wastes	6–26	14	8.3	27.4
Paper	15–45	34	35.8	15.5
Cardboard	3–15	7	10.9	13.0
Plastics	2–8	5	6.9	4.6
Textiles	0–4	2	2.5	2.3
Rubber	0–2	0.5	2.5	0.4
Leather	0–2	0.5	0.7	1.3
Garden trimmings	0–20	12	10.8	5.8
Wood	1–4	2	1.9	3.6
Misc. organics	0–5	2	2.0	0.6
Glass	4–16	8	7.5	10.3
Tin cans	2–8	6	5.1	8.3
Nonferrous metals	0–1	1	1.6	0.1
Ferrous metals	1–4	2	2.2	1.2
Dirt, ashes, brick, etc	0–10	4	1.3	5.6

* Based on measurements made during the month of October over a 5-year period (1978 through 1982).

† Based on measurements made during the month of July over a 3-year period (1978 through 1980)

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