

# Zero Waste Planning



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# Why Zero Waste?

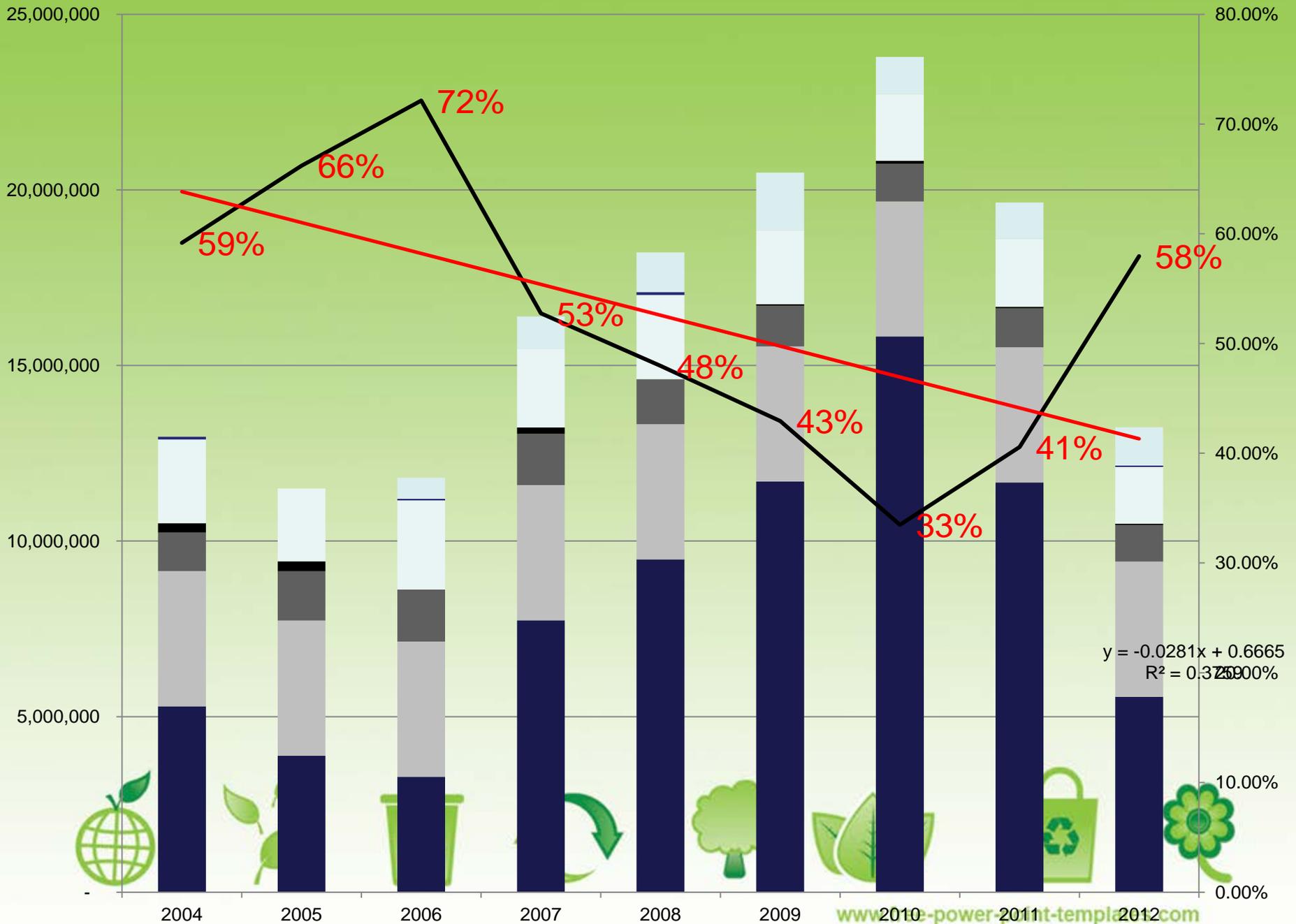
Average person produces:  
4.5# waste/person/day

58,000 Illinois students,  
faculty & staff → 48,000  
tons

6,620 tons: only 0.64#  
waste/person/day



# Landfill & recycling billing data (FY2003-FY2012)



# Why ZW at Illinois?

2008:  
signed the  
ACUPCC

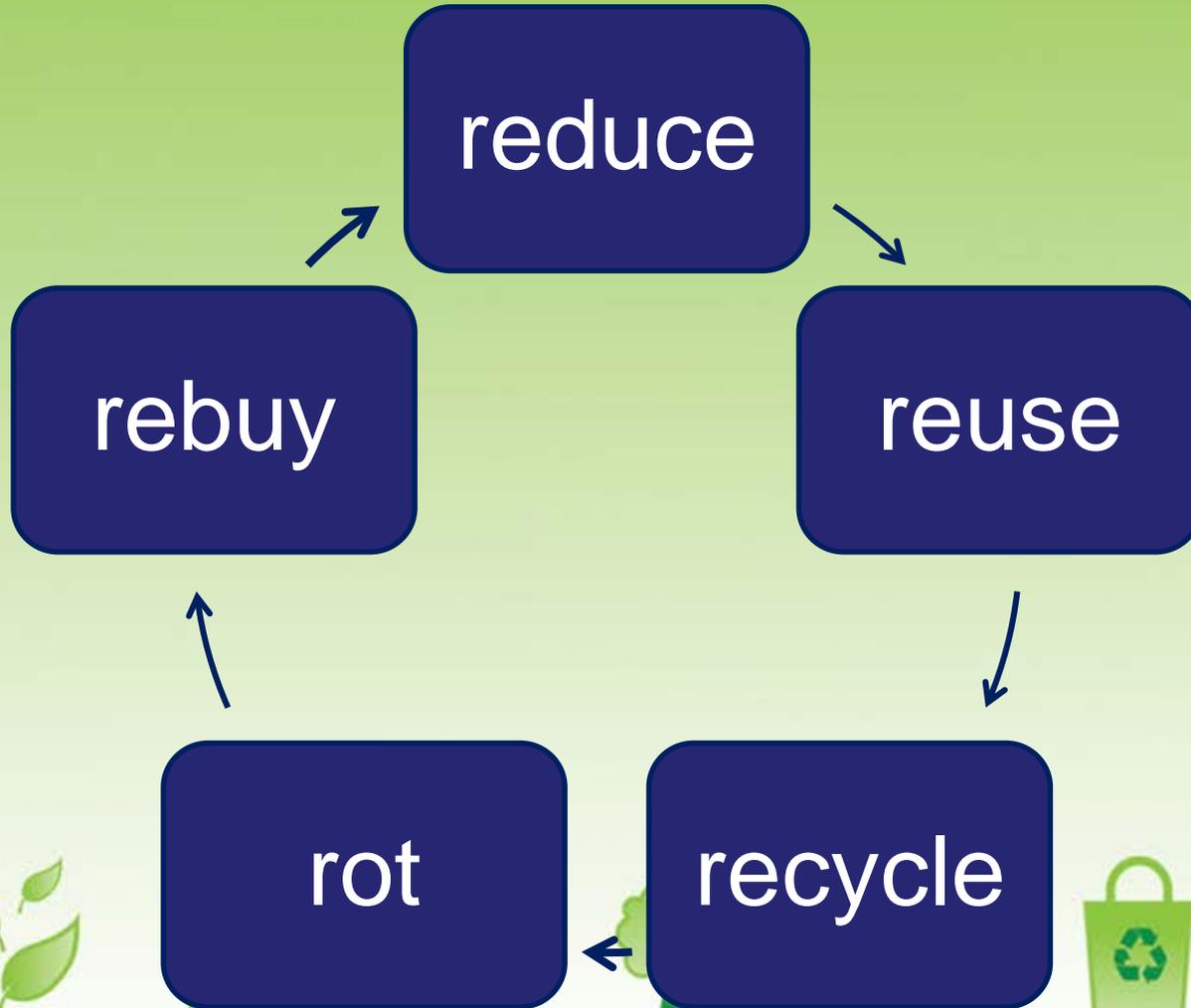
- reduce greenhouse gases, including by minimizing waste

2010:  
adopted  
the iCAP

- 2012: adopt Zero Waste Policy
- 2020: increase landfill diversion rate to 75%



# ZW Goal: increase sustainability



# The ZW “What?”

included

- Solid waste
- Landfilled & incinerated & recycled

excluded

- Liquid waste
- Third-parties



# The ZW “How?”

1. Define and communicate your goals

- Metric? Scope?
- Tell. Solicit. Engage.

2. Assess your situation

- Location? Constraints? Resources?

3. Inventory your program

- Current goals?
- Impact on waste stream?



# The ZW “How?”

## 4. Expand existing programs

- What is working?
- How far will it take you?

## 5. Implement new programs

- Peer institutions' programs?
- Same conditions? Success?

## 6. Assess changes

- What worked/failed? Why? Adapt?
- “Biggest bang for the buck?”



# ZW at Illinois

## Scope

- Campus buildings
- Waste and procurement

## Metric

- Landfill diversion rate
- Landfill tonnage

## Wastes

- Garbage
- Recyclables



# ZW at Illinois

## 1. Define and communicate

- Forums, online portal, meetings and workshops
- Interviews, email, campus & community

## 2. Assess situation

- No central waste management authority
- No list of all programs and providers
- Minimal or no data on collections

## 3. Inventory programs

- Many successful programs
- Minimal collaboration or communication
- Programs not fully implemented, nor campuswide



# ZW at Illinois

## 4. Expand existing programs

- Fully integrate “Orange & Blue Go Green” culture
- Update website and brochures
- Use Building Managers to implement programs

## 5. Implement new programs

- Establish Green Team network
- RecycleMania and State Electronics Challenge
- Waste collection and program participation data

## 6. Assess changes

- Impacts on landfill diversion rate & tonnage
- Data shows programs providing greatest benefits



# Challenges

Lack of data

Decentralized organization

“Rabbit holes”

“Mission creep”



# Responses

Investigate and estimate

Gather and communicate

“Future research questions”

Reduce scope

# Questions, comments, feedback?

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