

# Responsible Units Act to Reduce Program Costs

Summary of RU Survey results

Dec '11 – Jan '12

Joint project by

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For more information:

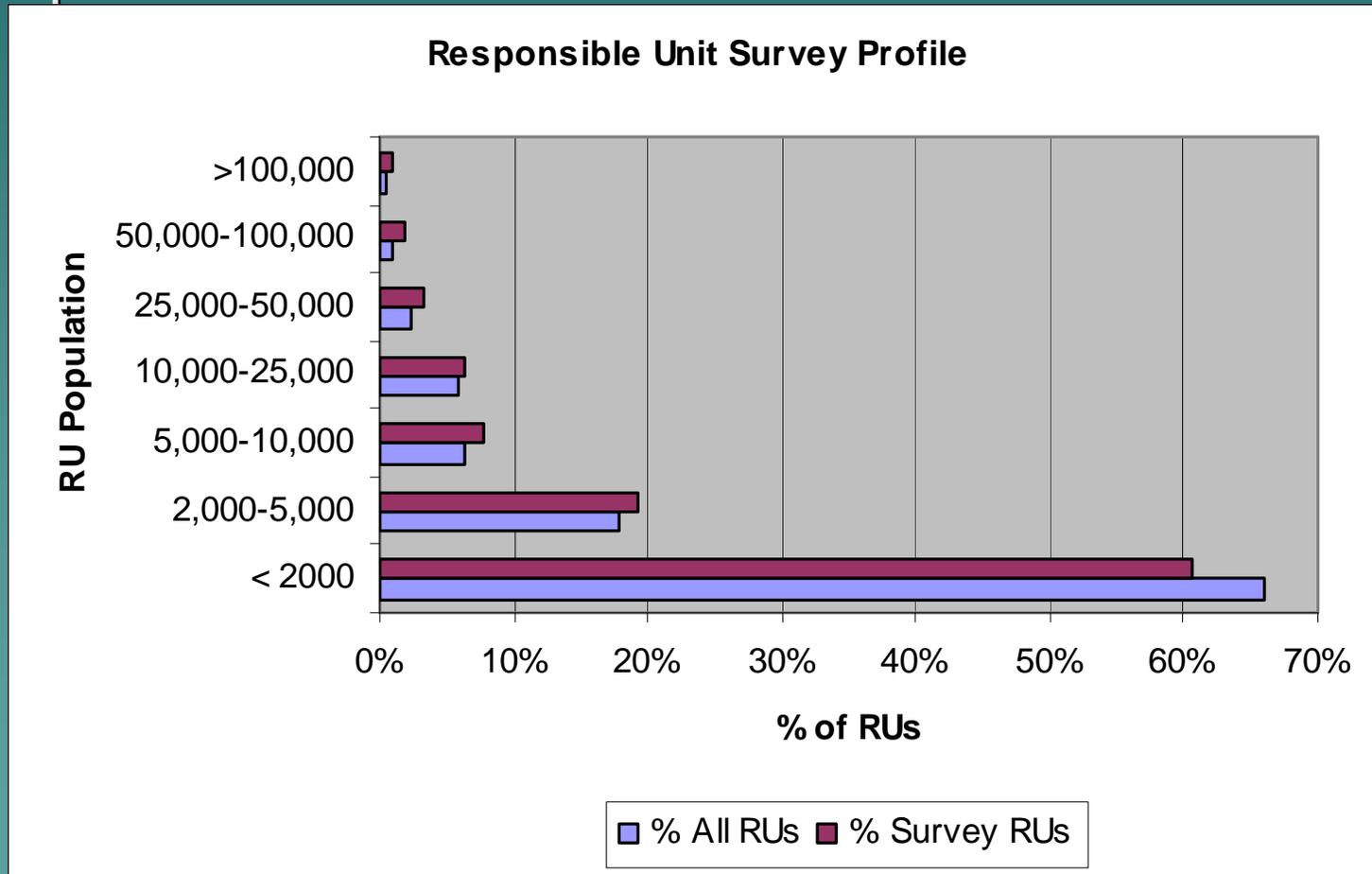
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# Survey Objectives

- ◆ Actions taken or planned by RUs
  - reductions in recycling grant award
  - Other budget constraints
- ◆ Why is this important?
  - DNR
    - ◆ Develop baseline
    - ◆ Analyze effects of budget constraints
    - ◆ Anticipate potential compliance issues
    - ◆ Inform legislature
  - RUs
    - ◆ learn from your peers

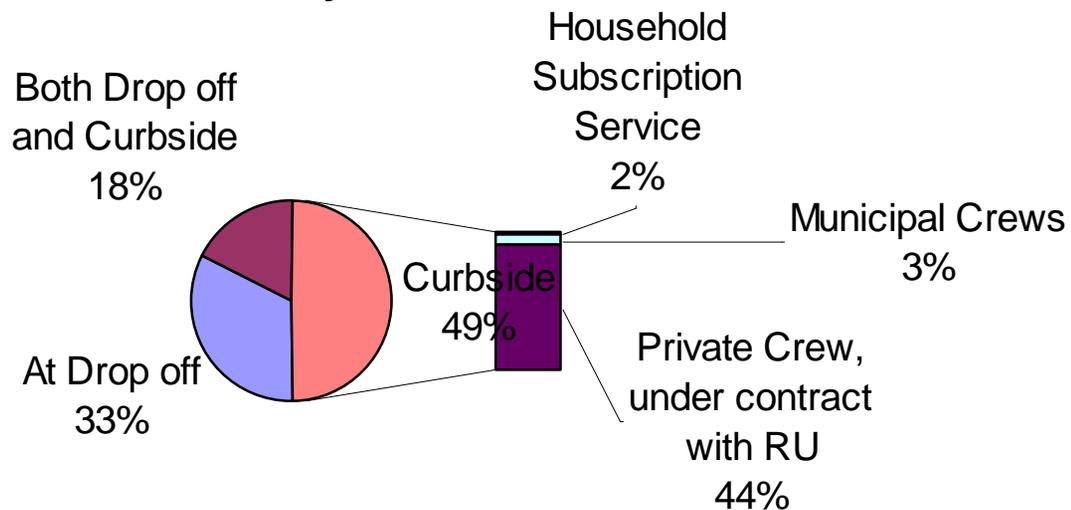
# Survey Profile - Baseline

600 RUs participating in Survey represent RU population



# Where Are Recyclables Collected?

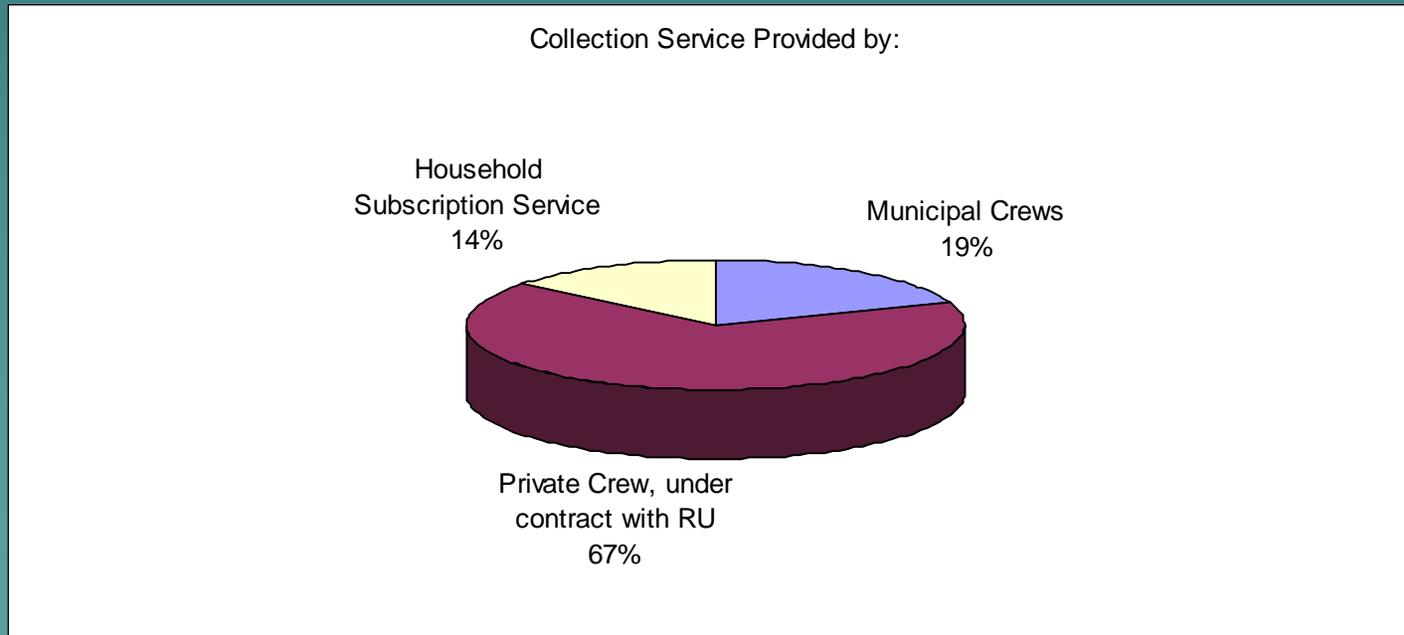
## Where are Recyclables Collected?



- At Drop off
- Both Drop off and Curbside
- Household Subscription Service
- Municipal Crews
- Private Crew, under contract with RU

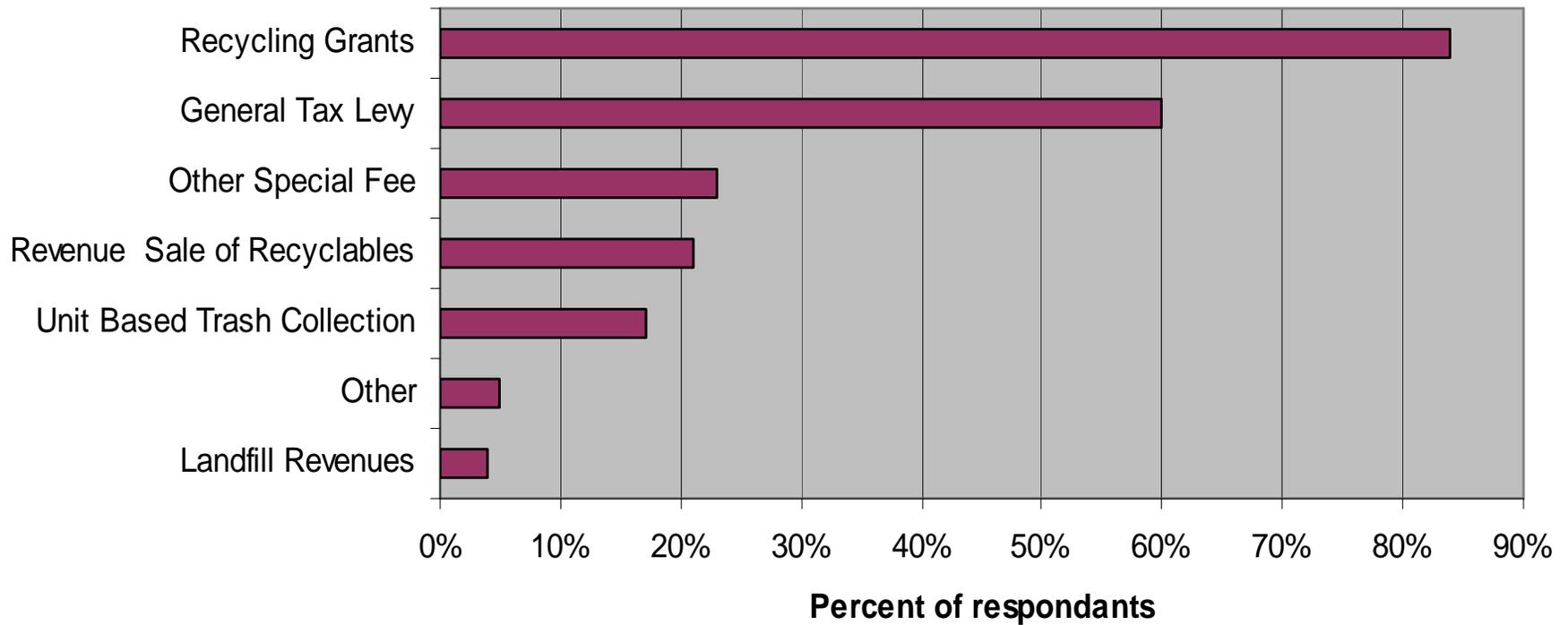
# Who Provides Collection Service?

- ◆ Majority of RUs contract with a private hauler for collection service



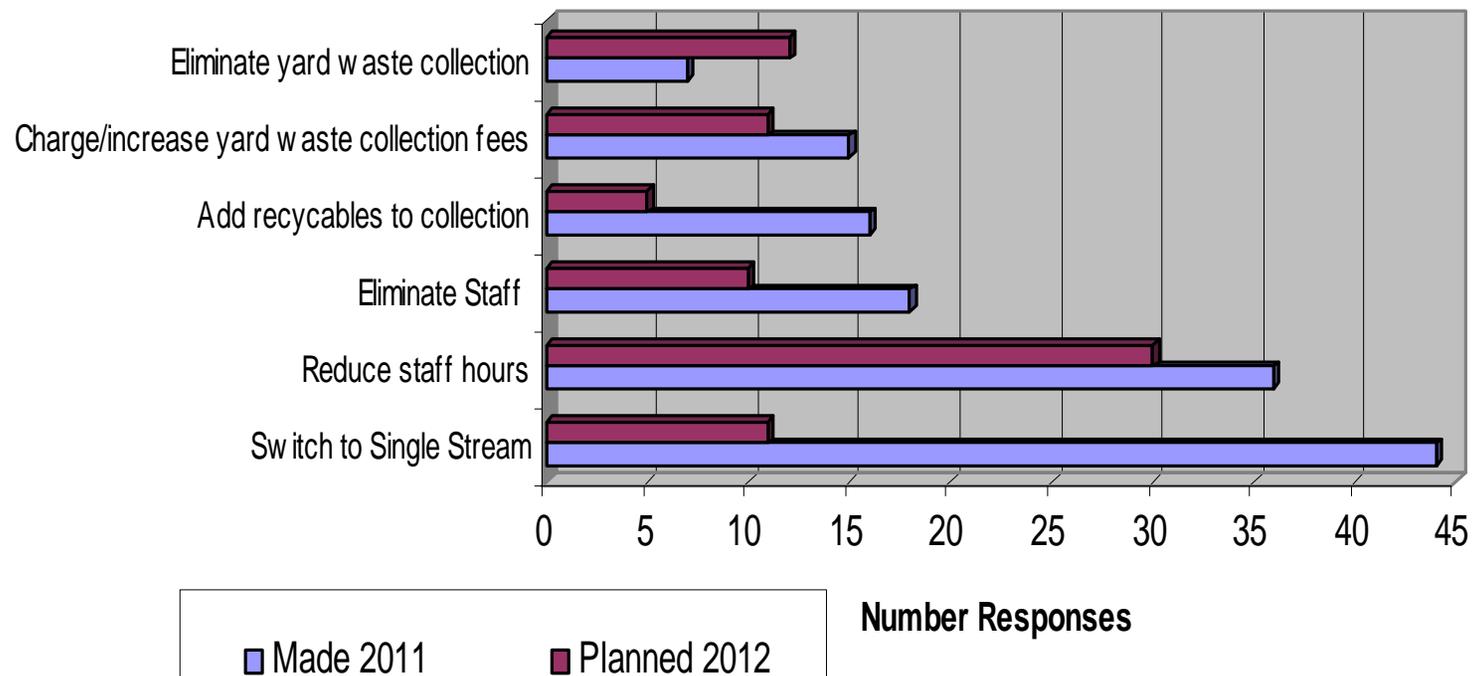
# Program Funding

## RU Program Funding Sources



# Actions Taken

## Changes Made or Planned By RUs



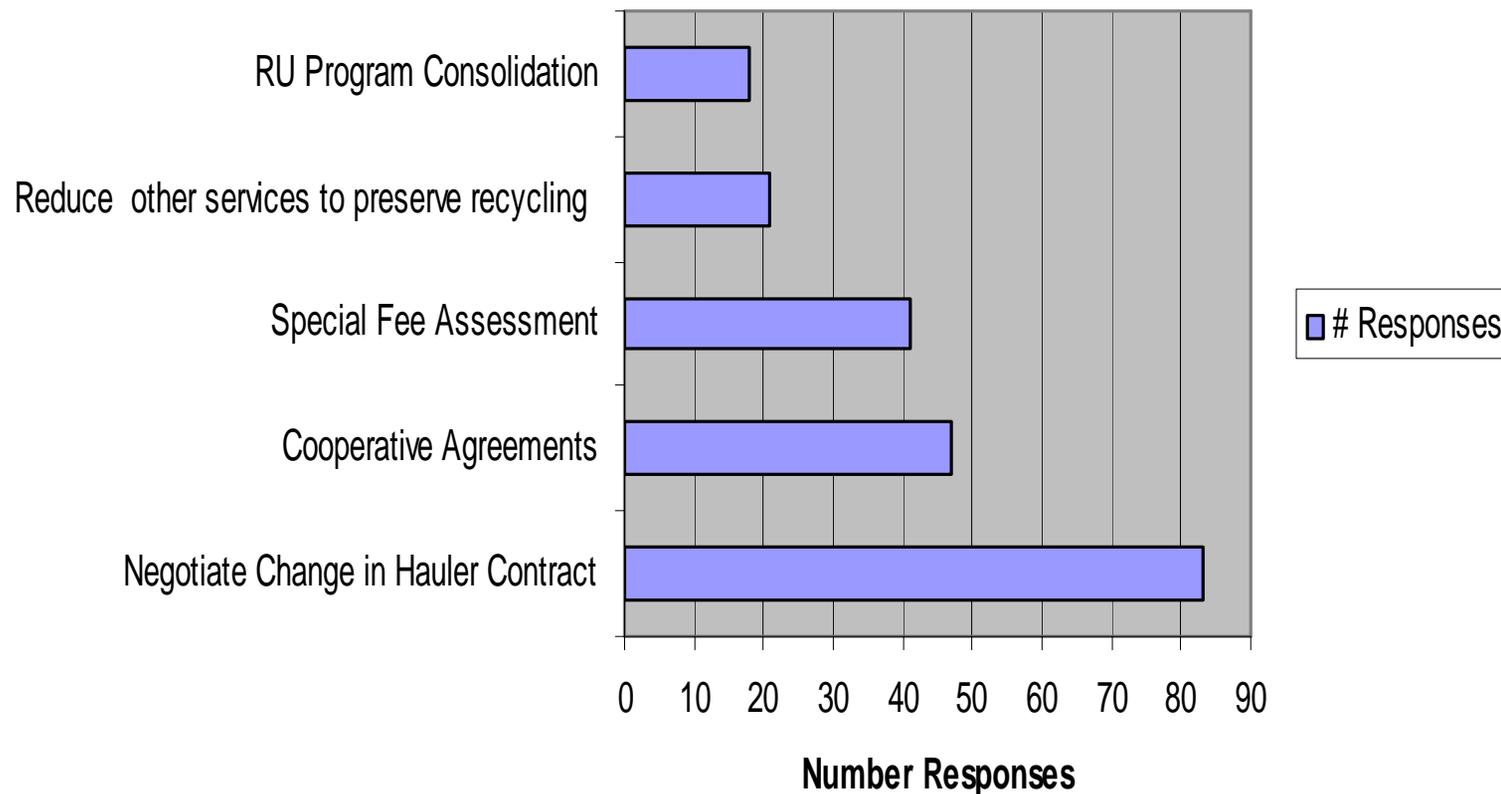
# Reasons for Changes

RUs face budget stress on multiple fronts

	State Grant	Other Budget	Other
Switch to Single Stream	10	16	36
Reduce staff hours	40	39	8
Eliminate Staff	13	16	6
Add recyclables to collection	4	5	16
Charge/increase yard waste collection fees	15	15	5
Reduce/Eliminate yard waste collection	10	16	3

# Other Changes

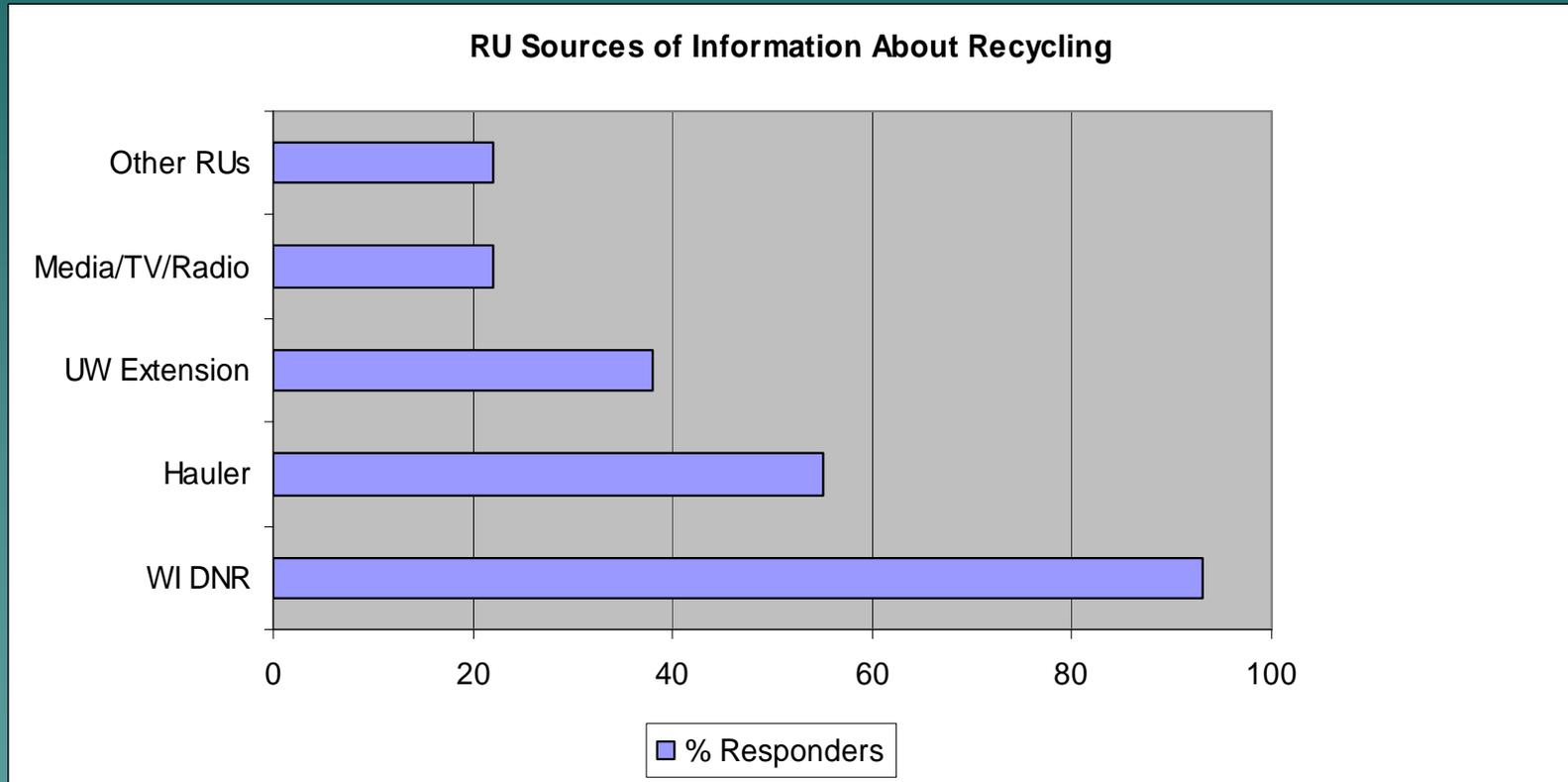
## Other Changes Made to Recycling Program



# Why Renegotiate Hauler Contracts?

- ◆ Better terms (learn from your peers)
- ◆ Add materials: Increase revenue potential (RU and/or Hauler)
- ◆ Automation: Reduce collection costs, worker comp
- ◆ Switch to single stream: increase recycling amounts, lower collection \$

# RU Sources of Information



# What Other Support is Useful

- ◆ How to reduce program costs – 54%
- ◆ More educational material – 49%
- ◆ Examples/comments
  - Info from recyclers on what works
  - Viable markets for plastics
  - Regional meetings among RUs to promote cooperation
  - How to encourage more business recycling

# Improvements Made

- ◆ Switch to single stream -convenience, revenue, less staff, cart system, less trash
- ◆ Volume based fees/ Pay as you Throw
- ◆ Regional contracts for recycling and trash
- ◆ Regular waste sorts (in hauler contract)
- ◆ Information for residents
- ◆ Control illegal dumping & use of drop off (security cameras, increased penalties)
- ◆ Regional contracts for e-cycling