2016 Food Manufacturer and Retailer Food Donation & Food Waste Survey

The Grocery Manufacturer’s Association (GMA) and Food Marketing Institute (FMI) are partnering with the National Restaurant Association (NRA) and other stakeholders in order to address the important issues of food insecurity and food waste in the United States. Together we have formed the Food Waste Reduction Alliance (FWRA) which has two goals - to increase the amount of unsaleable food donated to food banks and reduce the amount of food waste sent to landfills. The purpose of this survey is to better understand how much food is being donated, how much food waste is being recycled or recovered, and how much is sent to landfills and other waste disposal facilities in the United States.

Your participation in this simple survey is critical to the success of this important initiative. To ensure confidentiality, we have engaged Deloitte Consulting to handle all of the data. Results will only be presented to GMA, FMI, and NRA in the aggregate and without attribution to any company.

The timeframe for this survey is calendar year 2015, so please provide 2015 data to all questions. The online survey needs to be completed in one sitting, so please use the PDF of the survey that came in the email requesting your participation to help with drafting responses.

If you have any questions or require additional information regarding this survey, please contact Meghan Stasz at GMA (202-639-5935), David Fikes at FMI (202-220-0720) or Blythe Chorn at Deloitte (303-319-3523).

General Information: General information regarding the size of your company is needed in order to analyze and extrapolate the data after it is aggregated. Please provide a point of contact so that we may follow up with you, if needed. All information will be kept confidential using our third party consultant.

Question: Company name ________________________.
Question: Annual U.S. sales (US$) __________________ Fiscal Year __________.
Question: Number of U.S. employees (rounded to the nearest thousand)_____________.
Question: Primary business: is your company (please only check one):
___ Primarily a food manufacturer
___ Primarily a food retailer
___ Primarily a food wholesaler
Question: How many food retail locations does your company operate? ________
Question: How many food manufacturing locations does your company operate? ________
**Question:** How many food Warehouse/Distribution locations does your company operate? [ ]

**Question:** Point of contact information (name) _________________________________

**Question:** Point of contact (phone number and email): ___________________________

**Question:** The FWRA conducted this same survey in 2012 and 2014. Has your company responded to this survey in the past? _________________________________

**Question:** If you answered yes to the previous question, have there been any significant changes to your company that would affect comparability of this survey to the last survey? Please explain. _________________________________

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**Unsaleable Food Donations for Human Consumption:** The negative consequences of product shrink can be significantly mitigated when unsaleable food is safely donated for human consumption, which makes food donation an important part of overall strategy. Unsaleable food may be generated throughout the manufacturing and retail value chain. For instance, mistakes during production may result in food that is perfectly safe and delicious, but not saleable. Product ingredients and semi-finished products that are not suitable for retail but are safe for human consumption may also be donated. Fresh food items such as day old bread, produce with blemishes, prepared foods and other perishable items that are near sell-by dates may also be unsuitable for sale, but safe for consumption. Please only include unsaleable food in your answer below. Do not include food that is produced expressly for donation, purchased food provided by customers or employees expressly for donation, or any food that is donated to organizations if it is still suitable for retail sale.

**Question:** What is the total weight in pounds of unsaleable food donated for human consumption by all of your company’s U.S. operations during calendar year 2015? If you do not know the exact amount, please provide as accurate an estimate as possible. Donations in pounds: ___________________________ lbs.

**Question:** Please use the following scale to indicate the accuracy of your answer to the question above. Number one on the scale indicates that your answer is a best guess based on experience, not measured data. Number five indicates that your answer is based on some measured data used to extrapolate a somewhat accurate answer. Number ten means that your answer is based on actual measures that are believed to be very accurate. Please circle one number: 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 – 6 – 7 – 8 – 9 – 10

**Question:** What are the barriers, either internal or external, that prevent your company from donating more unsaleable food? Please check all that apply below. Also, provide a brief explanation of how (or if) these barriers have changed over the last two years, what your company is doing to overcome these barriers, and whether barriers are resulting in more unsaleable food.

- Liability concerns [ ] Yes ___ No ___
- Regulatory constraints [ ] Yes ___ No ___
Insufficient refrigeration and/or storage onsite  Yes____No____
Insufficient refrigeration and/or storage at Food Bank Yes____No____
Transportation constraints (distance, cost, fleet, etc.) Yes____No____
Other barriers (please list below) Yes____No____

Please explain here or attach a separate page:

Food Waste Reuse and Recycling:  For purposes of completing this survey, food waste is defined as: any solid or liquid food substance, raw or cooked, which is discarded, or intended or required to be discarded. Food wastes are the organic remnants generated by the processing, handling, storage, sale, preparation, cooking, and serving of foods. This definition includes all “material types” (i.e. food and inedible parts) as defined by the new Food Loss & Waste Protocol Accounting Standard (FLW Standard) which was developed by the World Resources Institute and available for download at www.wri.org.

Question: What is the total weight in pounds of food waste reused or recycled by all of your company’s U.S. operations during calendar year 2015? If you do not know exact amounts, please provide as accurate an estimate as possible. Please provide a total weight and breakdown by destination, if possible. The following destinations are taken from the new FLW Standard and a definition for each destination is included in the attached table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>_______ lbs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal Feed</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio-based materials/biochemical processing</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-digestion/anaerobic digestion</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composting/aerobic processes</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incineration/combustion for onsite heat/energy recovery</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land application</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All Other (list: ________________________________)</td>
<td>_______</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>_______ lbs.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If applicable please describe “All Other” destinations listed above:

Question: Please use the following scale to indicate the accuracy of your answers to the question above. Number one on the scale indicates that overall your answers are best guesses based on experience, not measured data. Number five indicates that your answers are based on some measured data used to extrapolate somewhat accurate answers. Number ten means that your answers are based on actual measures that are believed to be very accurate. Please circle one number: 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 – 6 – 7 – 8 – 9 – 10
Question: What are the barriers, either internal or external, that prevent your company from reusing and recycling more food waste? Please check all that apply below. Also provide a brief explanation of how (or if) these barriers have changed over the last two years and what your company is doing to overcome these barriers.

- Liability concerns: Yes____No____
- Food safety concerns regarding collection and storage: Yes____No____
- Insufficient recycling options: Yes____No____
- Transportation constraints (distance, cost, fleet, etc.): Yes____No____
- Other barriers (please list below): Yes____No____

Please explain here or attach a separate page:

Food and Solid Waste Disposal: This includes all food wastes, as defined above, that are transported to traditional disposal facilities such as landfills, municipal waste incinerators and wastewater treatment plants. Include finished products that are disposed due to recall. Do not include food waste listed as reused or recycled in the question above. Also, do not include food/organic residuals disposed via sanitary sewers due to routine cleaning and sanitation; however, do include food products that are disposed by pouring down the sanitary sewer drain or otherwise transported to a wastewater treatment plant for disposal. If you do not know the exact amount of food waste disposed, please provide as accurate an estimate as possible.

Question: What is the total weight in pounds of food waste transported to disposal facilities such as landfills, municipal waste incinerators and wastewater treatment plants by all of your company’s U.S. operations during calendar year 2015?
Food waste disposed in pounds:_________________________ lbs.

Question: Please use the following scale to indicate the accuracy of your answer to the question above. Number one on the scale indicates that your answer is a best guess based on experience, not measured data. Number five indicates that your answer is based on some measured data used to extrapolate a somewhat accurate answer. Number ten means that your answer is based on actual measures that are believed to be very accurate.
Please circle one number: 1 – 2 – 3 – 4 – 5 – 6 – 7 – 8 – 9 – 10

Question: What is the total weight in pounds of all municipal waste (i.e. all garbage, including food waste) transported to disposal facilities such as landfills, municipal waste incinerators and wastewater treatment plants by all of your company’s U.S. operations during calendar year 2015?
Total waste disposal in pounds:_________________________ lbs.
**Comparison Data**

**Question:** Over the last two years has your company invested time and/or resources to more accurately measure any of the following?

- Food waste generation  Yes____ No____
- Food waste disposal  Yes____ No____
- Food recycling (composting, anaerobic digestion, etc.)  Yes____ No____
- Food donations for human consumption  Yes____ No____
- Food sent to animal feed  Yes____ No____
- Other  Yes____ No____

If you answered yes to any above, please explain what investments (time, resources, etc.) your company has made for more accurate measurement?

**Feedback (Optional)**

**Question:** Please provide feedback regarding any difficulties encountered with completing this survey or any suggestions for improving future surveys.
### Food Waste Reuse and Recycling Destinations as found in the new *Food Loss and Waste Protocol Accounting and Reporting Standard*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animal feed</td>
<td>Diverting to feed animals, directly or after processing.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bio-based materials / biochemical processing</td>
<td>Converting to industrial products. Examples include creating fibers for packaging material, creating bioplastics (e.g., polylactic acid), making “traditional” materials such as leather or feathers (e.g., for pillows), and rendering fat, oil, or grease into a raw material to make products such as soaps, biodiesel, or cosmetics. “Biochemical processing” does not refer to anaerobic digestion or production of bioethanol through fermentation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Codigestion / anaerobic digestion</td>
<td>Breaking down biodegradable matter via bacteria in the absence of oxygen. This process generates biogas and nutrient-rich matter. Codigestion refers to the simultaneous anaerobic digestion of multiple organic wastes in one digester. This category includes fermentation (converting carbohydrates - such as glucose, fructose, and sucrose - via microbes into alcohols in the absence of oxygen).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composting / aerobic processes</td>
<td>Breaking down biodegradable matter via bacteria in oxygen-rich environments. Composting refers to the production of organic material (via aerobic processes) that can be used as soil amendment.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incineration</td>
<td>Combusting solid and liquid material in controlled incineration facilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land application</td>
<td>Spreading, spraying, injecting, or incorporating organic matter onto or below the surface of the land to take advantage of their soil enhancing qualities.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>