

# Negative Effects of E-Waste



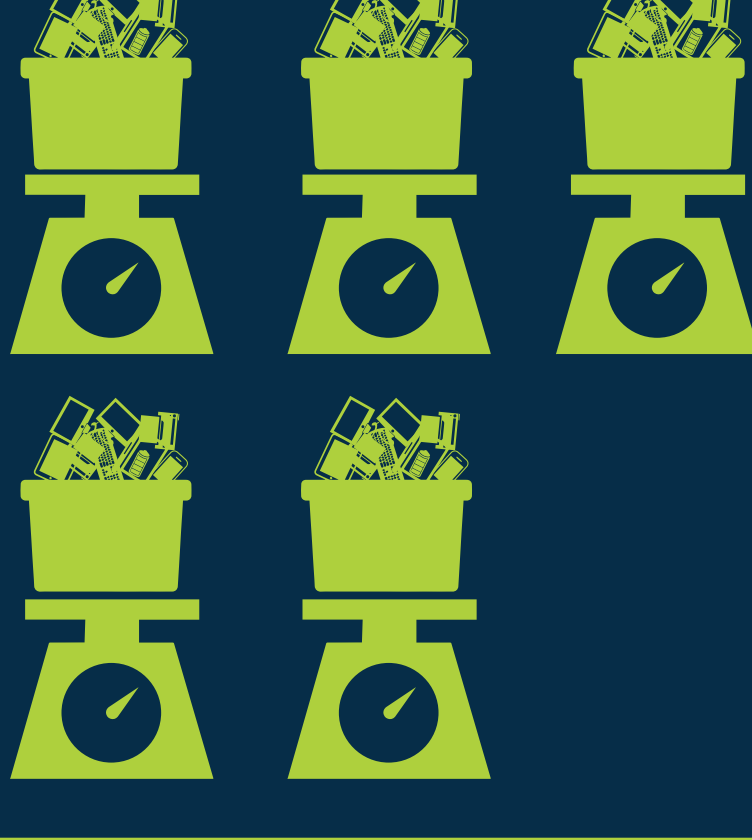
**E-waste is worth at least \$62.5 billion annually**, which is more than the gross domestic product (GDP) of most countries, according to "A New Circular Vision for Electronics: Time for a Global Reboot" report



Statistics reveal that the world has produced

**at least 50 million tons**

of e-waste in 2018 alone



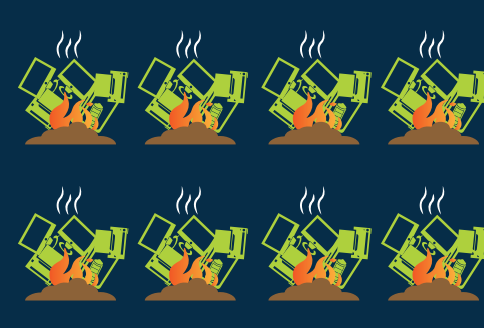
**Only 20%**

of global e-waste is formally recycled



**The remaining 80%**

is often incinerated or dumped in landfill

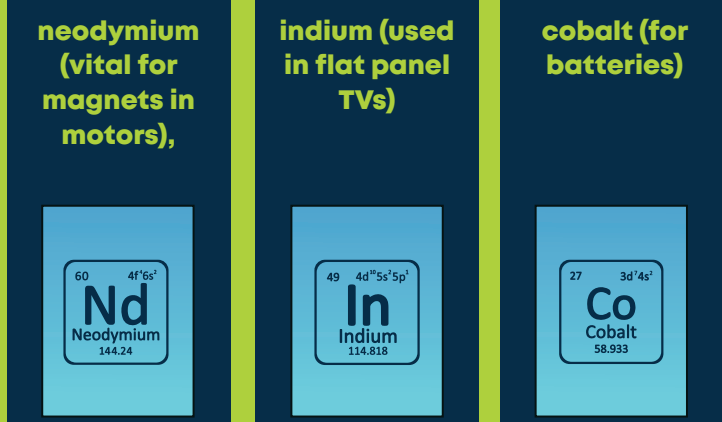


By 2040, carbon emissions from the production and use of electronics, including devices like PCs, laptops, monitors, smartphones and tablets (and their production) will reach

**14% of total emissions**



**The improper handling of e-waste** is resulting in a significant loss of scarce and valuable raw materials, including such precious metals as:



The EPA estimates e-waste, disposed electronics, now accounts for

**2% of all solid waste**



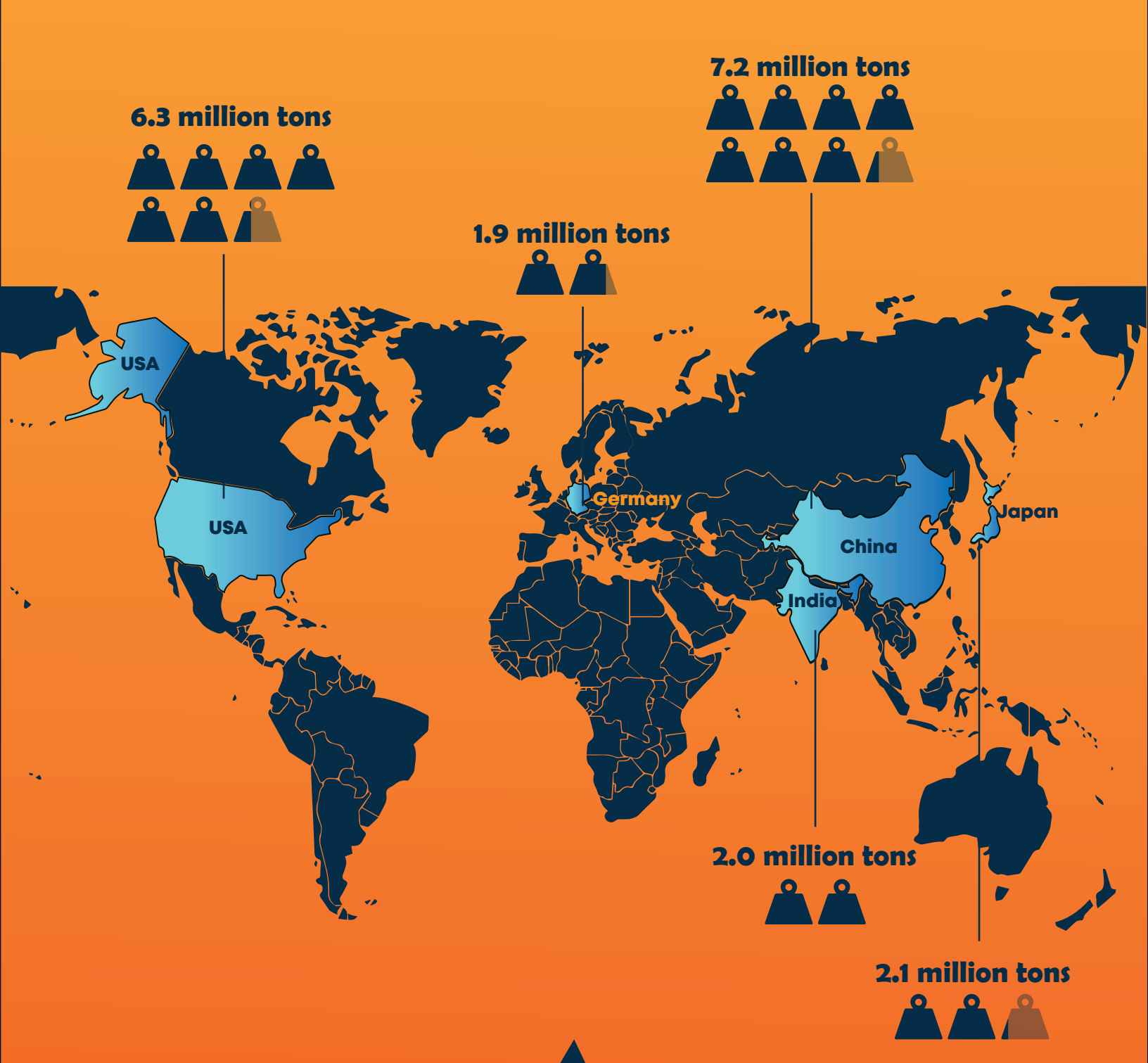
and

**70% of toxic waste**,

thanks to the use of chemicals such as lead, mercury, cadmium and beryllium, as well as hazardous chemicals such as brominated flame retardants



## THE GLOBAL E-WASTE LEADERBOARD



**China leads the way, with 7.2 million tons of e-waste per annum**

## THE ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS CAUSED BY IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF E-WASTE CAN BE BRIEFLY DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:

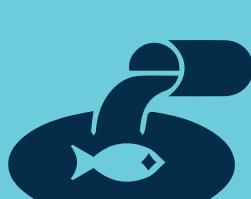
### Air Pollution

Burning of wires release hydrocarbons in the atmosphere



### Water Pollution

Electronic devices contain toxic metals like mercury, lead and lithium, which when disposed of improperly, mixes with ponds, lakes and groundwater. Communities that directly depend on these sources of water then consume it unknowingly. These heavy metals are hazardous for all forms of living beings



### Soil Pollution

The toxic metals from electronic devices enter the food chain as they are absorbed by plants from the soil. These metals not only destroy the plants, but also are then consumed by other living beings, leading to a poisonous food chain



Sources:

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