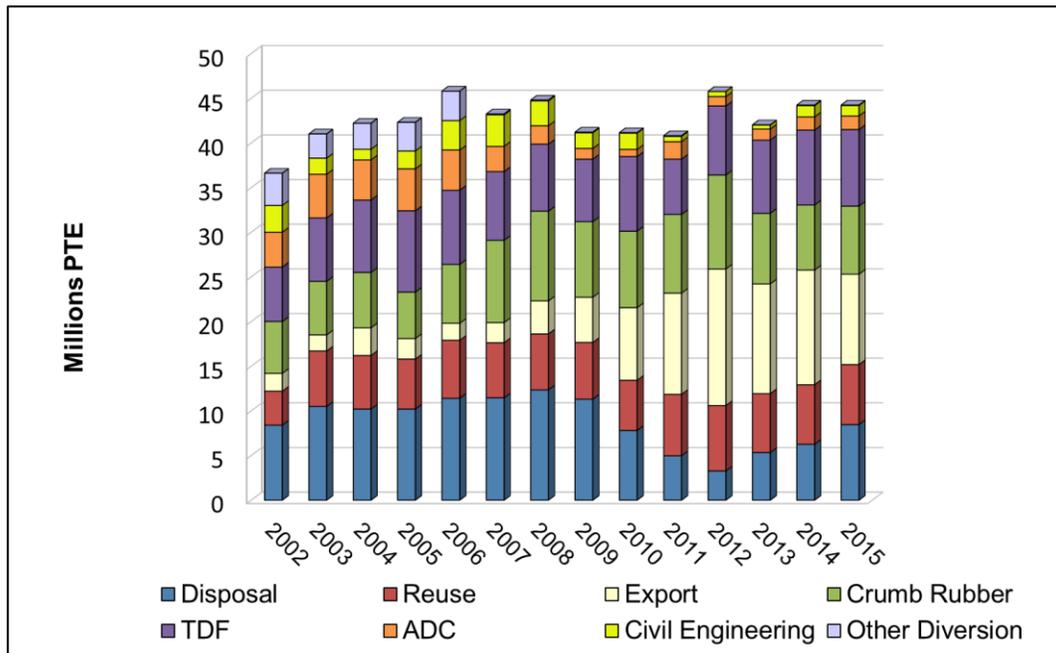


consistently strong and profitable market segment, but it is very mature and little growth is projected. Companies involved in the reuse segment (both used tires and retreading) report that the increasing quantities of lower-tier tires from China are often not suitable for reuse and have impacted their volume of used tires.

**Figure 2**  
**Twelve-Year Trend in California Waste Tire End Uses<sup>2</sup>**



**Crumb Rubber:**<sup>3</sup> Overall, use of California waste tires to produce crumb rubber increased by 5 percent in 2015, to 7.6 million PTEs. This comes after two consecutive annual declines. With relatively strong demand, use of California crumb rubber in the paving, turf infill, and ground rubber/nuggets segments was up by 12 percent, 11

<sup>2</sup> Data for 2002–2006 are from CalRecycle’s annual “California Waste Tire Generation, Markets, and Disposal” reports, prepared by CalRecycle Staff. Data for 2007–2015 are from the annual California Tire Market Reports prepared by the same consulting team responsible for this report, under several different CalRecycle contracts. In some cases, methodological differences complicate direct comparisons between earlier reports and post-2006 reports. Reports covering 2007 and beyond are available online at <http://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/Publications/PublicationsByCategory.aspx?CategoryID=25>.

<sup>3</sup> In this report, crumb rubber refers to tire-derived material ¼ inch or smaller, and is distinguished from ground rubber, which is ¼ to 1 inch in size, and nuggets, which may exceed 1 inch. For simplicity, crumb rubber is also used as the general market category, including crumb rubber, ground rubber, and nuggets.