



National Waste Report for 2012

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Published by the Environmental Protection Agency, Ireland

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ISBN: 978-1-84095-550-7 08/14/250

Price: €20 (free to download)

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Acknowledgements

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) gratefully acknowledges all the local authorities and private sector waste operators who co-operated by submitting waste data, answering validation queries and facilitating audits.

The EPA also gratefully acknowledges the assistance of RPS Consulting Ltd, who worked on behalf of the EPA in the collection, compilation and validation of the waste data submitted by local authorities, recovery operators, hazardous waste treatment facilities and landfills.

The authors would like to acknowledge their colleagues in the Office of Climate, Licensing, Resources and Research and the Office of Environmental Enforcement for their assistance in reviewing the report and providing information within their area of expertise, and colleagues in the Office of Environmental Assessment for their assistance in producing maps.

The assistance of staff in a number of other organisations is also acknowledged, including the Central Statistics Office, the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government, the European Recycling Platform, the National Transfrontier Shipment Office at Dublin City Council, the National Waste Collection Permit Office at Offaly County Council, Repak, the Tyre Recovery Activity Compliance Scheme, the Tyre Waste Management Scheme and WEEE Ireland.

List of terms

This list of terms is intended to assist understanding of this report, and does not purport to be a legal interpretation of said terms.

An **Annual Environmental Report (AER)** may be submitted each year to either the EPA or local authorities by organisations with either waste or industrial authorisations, providing summary information on the environmental performance of the facility e.g. data on emissions to air and water, waste management, resource consumption, objectives and targets, ambient monitoring and complaints. AERs for EPA licensees are made publicly available on the EPA website.

2-bin or 3-bin system refers to a source segregated collection system where dry recyclables and residual wastes are separately collected (2-bin system), or where dry recyclables, organics and residuals are separately collected (3-bin system). The reference to **'black bin'** in this document is a reference to a single bin collection or to the residuals bin from a 2-bin or 3-bin system. The reference to **'green bin'** in this document is a reference to a dry recyclables collection, and **'brown bin'** is a reference to an organics bin collection.

Biodegradable (in the context of waste) means waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic or aerobic biological decomposition, such as food and garden waste, paper and cardboard etc.

Biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) means the biodegradable component of municipal waste, and does not include biostabilised waste. Biodegradable municipal waste is typically composed of food and garden waste, wood, paper, cardboard and textiles.

Biostabilised residual waste means residual BMW that has been treated to achieve an EPA approved biodegradability stability standard¹ prior to landfilling or alternative agreed use.

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Bio-waste under the terms of the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) means biodegradable garden and park waste, food and kitchen waste from households, restaurants, caterers and retail premises and comparable waste from food processing plants.

Certificate of Registration (CoR). Certain waste activities require authorisation under a certificate of registration. These activities are listed in Part II of the Third Schedule of the *Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007*, S.I. No. 821 of 2007. The list of activities was amended in 2008 by *S.I. No. 86 of 2008*. When these activities are carried out by local authorities, the EPA grants the CoR. When these activities are carried out by persons or organisations that are not local authorities, CoRs are granted by the local authority in whose area the activity will be carried out.

Commercial waste, in the context of this report, is a term used to describe the non-household fraction of municipal waste, which is produced by commercial premises such as shops, offices and restaurants, as well as municipal premises such as schools, hospitals etc. It also includes non-process industrial waste arising from factory canteens, offices etc. Commercial waste is broadly similar in composition to household waste, consisting of a mixture of paper and cardboard, plastics, organics, metal and glass.

Construction and demolition (C&D) waste is all waste that arises from construction and demolition activities (including excavated soil from contaminated sites). These wastes are listed in Chapter 17 of the European Waste Catalogue (EWC).

CSO - the Central Statistics Office.

DECLG - the Department of the Environment, Community and Local Government.

Disposal means any operation which is not recovery even where the operation has as a secondary consequence the reclamation of substances or energy. Annex I of the Waste Framework Directive (Directive 2008/98/EC) sets out a non-exhaustive list of disposal operations.

¹ <http://www.epa.ie/pubs/advice/waste/municipalwaste/>

EEE is electrical and electronic equipment.

End of Life Vehicle (ELV) means a vehicle which is waste within the meaning of Article 1(a) of the Waste Directive (refer to Directive 2000/53/EC on end-of life vehicles).

EPA - the Environmental Protection Agency.

EU - European Union.

European Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (E-PRTR). The E-PRTR Regulation (EC No. 166/2006) requires that releases of pollutants and off-site transfers of waste by facilities operating in relevant classes of activity must be reported annually to the EPA. The EPA in turn reports this information to the European E-PRTR website.

European Waste Catalogue (EWC), now known as the **List of Wastes (LoW),** is a list of all waste types generated in the EU. The different types of waste are fully defined by a six-digit code, with two digits each for chapter, sub-chapter and waste type. The catalogue is available for download from the EPA website at: www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/waste/stats/epawastecataloguehazardouslist2002.pdf.html

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) & GNP (Gross National Product). Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and Gross National Product (GNP) are closely related macroeconomic parameters. GDP measures the total output of the economy in a period i.e. the value of work done by employees, companies and self-employed persons. This work generates incomes but not all of the incomes earned in the economy remain the property of residents (and residents may earn some income abroad). The total income remaining with Irish residents is the GNP and it differs from GDP by the net amount of incomes sent to or received from abroad.

Hazardous wastes are wastes that have the potential to cause harm to human health or the environment. Any waste which displays one or more of the hazardous properties listed in Annex III of the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) is defined as hazardous waste.

Household waste is defined as waste produced within the curtilage of a building/residence or self-contained part of a building/premises used for the purposes of living accommodation.

IE - Republic of Ireland.

Industrial waste is waste produced by industrial activity such as that of factories, mills and mines. Non-process industrial waste (eg from site canteen, office, etc.) is similar in character to commercial waste.

Inert waste is waste that does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations. Inert waste will not dissolve, burn or otherwise physically or chemically react, biodegrade or adversely affect other matter with which it comes into contact in any way likely to give rise to environmental pollution or harm human health.

An **Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control (IPPC)** licence is an authorisation issued and enforced by the EPA for specific industrial and agricultural activities. An IPPC licence sets limits on air and water emissions, waste and noise and requires that an activity must use the Best Available Techniques (BAT).

An **Integrated Waste Management Facility (IWMF)** in the context of this report is one that combines a landfill and other waste infrastructure such as civic amenity site, transfer station, composting or other treatment facilities.

Kerbside collection is a common reference for the practice of collecting household or commercial waste directly from its source, often, though not necessarily, from the pavement or front door.

Mechanical-biological treatment (MBT) means the treatment of residual municipal waste (black bin) through a combination of manual and mechanical processing and biological stabilisation, in order to stabilise and reduce the mass of waste that requires disposal.

Merchant operator. A commercial operator that accepts waste from third parties for treatment (as opposed to an industrial activity with facilities for the treatment of waste arising from their own processes, such as on-site incineration).

Metric tonnes are expressed as tonnes or 't' throughout this report. Mt = million tonnes.

MDR - Mixed dry recyclables.

MFSU - manufacture, formulation, supply and use.

Municipal waste means household waste as well as commercial and other waste that, because of its nature or composition, is similar to household waste. It excludes municipal sludges and effluents. In the context of this report municipal waste consists of three main elements - household, commercial (including non-process industrial waste), and street cleansing waste (street sweepings, street bins and municipal parks and cemeteries maintenance waste, litter campaign material).

N/A – not applicable.

NACE - Nomenclature générale des activités économiques dans l'Union Européenne (general name for economic activities in the European Union).

NEC – not elsewhere classified.

Notifiable waste - Shipments of amber listed waste destined for recovery, and all shipments of waste destined for disposal, are subject to prior notification and consent procedures in accordance with Articles 3 and 4 of the Waste Shipment Regulation 1013/2006.

NTFSO – National Transfrontier Shipment Office, Dublin City Council.

NWCPO – National Waste Collection Permit Office, Offaly County Council.

OEA – Office of Environmental Assessment, Environmental Protection Agency.

OEE – Office of Environmental Enforcement, Environmental Protection Agency.

Organic waste is biodegradable food, garden and landscaping waste, and where the context permits, will also include industrial organic sludges (eg from the food and drink production sector).

Packaging is used to contain, protect and present goods. Virtually all packaging eventually becomes waste. Packaging is made from such materials as cardboard, paper, glass, plastic, steel, aluminium, wood, textiles and composite materials such as those used in milk and juice cartons.

Pay-to-use (PTU) waste compacting units.

Preparing for reuse means checking, cleaning or repairing recovery operations, by which products or components of products that have become waste are prepared so that they can be reused without any other pre-processing.

Recovery means any operation the principal result of which is waste serving a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfill a particular function, or waste being prepared to fulfill that function, in the plant or in the wider economy. Annex II of the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC) sets out a non-exhaustive list of recovery operations, which includes material recovery (i.e. recycling), energy recovery (i.e. use as a fuel (other than in direct incineration) or other means to generate energy) and biological recovery (eg composting).

Recycling means any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes. It includes the reprocessing of organic material but does not include energy recovery and the reprocessing into materials that are to be used as fuels or for backfilling operations.

Refuse derived fuels (RDF) are fuels produced from waste through a number of different processes such as mechanical separation, blending and compressing to increase the calorific value of the waste. Such waste derived fuels can be comprised of paper, plastic and other combustible wastes and can be combusted in a waste-to-energy plant, cement kiln or industrial furnace.

Residual waste means the fraction of collected waste remaining after a treatment or diversion step, which generally requires further treatment or disposal.

Reuse means any operation by which products or components that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived.

RMCEI – Recommendation for Minimum Criteria for Environmental Inspections. The RMCEI contains non-binding criteria for the planning, carrying out, following up and reporting on environmental inspections. Its objective is to strengthen compliance with EU environment law and to contribute to its more consistent implementation and enforcement in all Member States.

Rol – Republic of Ireland

rx3 'rethink, recycle, remake' is an initiative working to create markets for recyclables (2008 – 2013) funded by the Department of Environment, Community and Local Government.

SI (Statutory Instrument). An order, regulation, rule, scheme or bye-law made in exercise of a power conferred by statute.

tpa – tonnes per annum.

The **Transfrontier Shipment of Waste (TFS) Regulations 2007** set out new notification procedures, revised waste listings and enforcement provisions in relation to the export, import and transit of waste shipments within the EU. The National TFS Office at Dublin City Council is the competent authority for the implementation and enforcement of the TFS Regulations since 12th July 2007.

Treatment means recovery or disposal operations including preparation prior to recovery or disposal.

Waste is defined as any substance or object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard, under the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC).

Waste management means the collection, transport, recovery and disposal of waste, including the supervision of such operations and the after-care of disposal sites, and including actions taken as a dealer or broker.

Waste producer means anyone whose activities produce waste (original waste producer) or anyone who carries out pre-processing, mixing or other operations resulting in a change in the nature or composition of this waste, under the Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC).

Waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) refers to electrical and electronic equipment which is waste within the meaning of Article 3(a) of the Waste Directive 2008/98/EC, including all components, subassemblies and consumables which are part of the product at the time of discarding.

Waste Framework Directive (WFD) - Waste Directive 2008/98/EC of 19 November 2008.

WCP (Waste Collection Permit). A permit issued by a local authority for the collection of waste under the Waste Management (Collection Permit) Regulations 2007, as amended.

WFP (Waste Facility Permit). A permit issued by a local authority to a facility for the transfer, storage or treatment of waste under the Waste Management (Facility Permit and Registration) Regulations 2007, as amended.

