

COMPOSTING AND ANAEROBIC DIGESTION

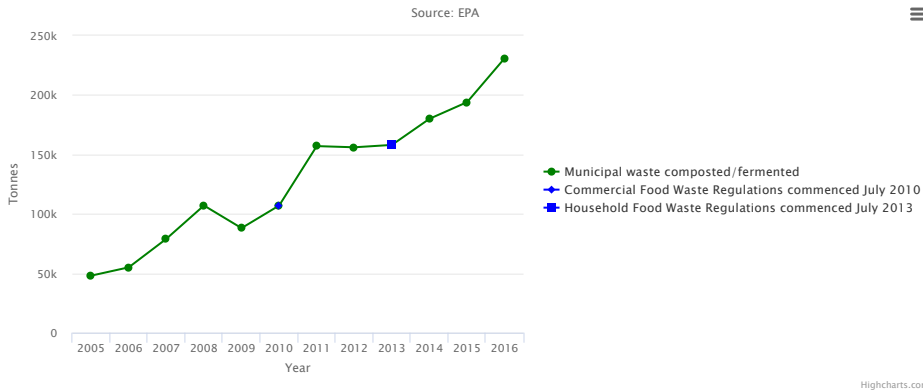
EPA Waste Data Release, 14 March 2018

Reference Year 2016

This release reports information on composting and anaerobic digestion in 2016 at commercial facilities that accepted biodegradable waste generated in Ireland. The figures do not include (i) home composting estimates (ii) facilities where only waste generated on-site was treated on-site and (iii) waste imported to Ireland for treatment.

The quantity of biodegradable municipal waste sent for composting and anaerobic digestion increased by 19 per cent between 2015 and 2016 (from 194 ktonnes to 231 ktonnes). The food waste regulations (commercial and household) have had a positive impact on increasing the quantity of municipal waste accepted for composting/anaerobic digestion.

Municipal waste accepted for composting/anaerobic digestion, 2005 - 2016



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KEY TRENDS

- ▶ Composting was the dominant treatment activity (79 per cent of tonnage accepted).
- ▶ The quantity of waste generated in Ireland and accepted for treatment at composting and anaerobic digestion plants in Ireland and abroad increased from 308 ktonnes in 2015 to 353 ktonnes in 2016 (15 per cent increase).
- ▶ Municipal waste (kitchen and canteen food waste, garden and park green waste, edible oils & fats) was main source of waste accepted (65 per cent of total accepted).
- ▶ The quantity of municipal waste accepted for treatment has risen from 194 ktonnes in 2015 to 231 ktonnes in 2016 (19 per cent increase).
- ▶ The quantity of brown bin waste accepted for treatment rose from 143 ktonnes in 2015 to 174 ktonnes in 2016 (22 per cent increase) reflecting implementation of the Commercial and Household Food Waste Regulations. Waste collectors reported that approx. 640,000 households were provided with an organic bin kerbside collection service in 2016 compared to 572,000 in 2015.
- ▶ Commercial brown bin waste is primarily food waste, while household brown bins can contain garden waste as well as food waste, depending on the waste collector.
- ▶ There is an increasing trend of brown bin waste collected in Ireland being exported to Northern Ireland for recovery (4 ktonnes in 2013, 31 ktonnes in 2015 and 56 ktonnes in 2016. In 2016, 32 per cent of the total quantity of brown bin waste accepted at composting and anaerobic digestion facilities was accepted at Northern Ireland facilities.
- ▶ There was a five-fold increase in edible oil and fats waste accepted for treatment between 2015 (1 ktonne) and 2016 (5 ktonnes).
- ▶ There was an increase in wastes from agriculture and food preparation and processing industries from 52 ktonnes in 2015 to 85 ktonnes in 2016.
- ▶ Products of composting and anaerobic digestion were used in horticulture, landscaping and agricultural land treatment.

BIOSTABILISED ORGANIC FINES

In 2016, five composting facilities biostabilised organic fines arising from the mechanical treatment of residual waste. Biostabilised residual waste has been treated to achieve an EPA approved biodegradability stability standard prior to use as landfill cover or alternative agreed use. There was a significant increase in the quantity of organic fines accepted for biostabilisation between 2013 (50 ktonnes) and 2014 (100 ktonnes but the quantity accepted has levelled out somewhat with 119 ktonnes accepted in 2015 and 122 ktonnes accepted in 2016.

Show Table 1 Waste facilities surveyed, 2016

Facility Name	Authorisation number	Composting activity in 2016	Anaerobic Digestion activity in 2016	Biostabilisation of organic fines in 2016	Location
Acorn Recycling Limited	W0249	Yes	No	No	Co. Tipperary
Athchursáil Árann Teoranta	COMP-19	Yes	No	No	Co. Galway
Ballyshannon Recycling Limited	WFP-WX-15-0084-02	No	Yes	No	Co. Wexford
Bio-Energy and Organic Fertiliser Services (BEOFS)	WFP-KK-14-0010-02	No	Yes	No	Co. Kilkenny
Bord Na Móna PLC Drehid Landfill	W0201	Yes	No	Yes	Co. Kildare
Bord na Móna PLC Kilberry Compost Facility	W0198	Yes	No	No	Co. Kildare
Bruscar Bhearna Teoranta t/a Barna Waste	W0106	Yes	No	No	Co. Galway
Clare County Council Central Waste Management Facility	W0109	Yes	No	No	Co. Clare
Cleary Compost and Shredding Limited	WFP-KE-10-0064-01	Yes	No	No	Co. Kildare
Cremin's Farm Compost Limited	WFP-LK-2012-23A-R2	Yes	No	No	Co. Limerick

CTO Environmental Solutions Limited	WFP-CK-09-0018-03	Yes	No	No	Co. Cork
Enrich Environmental Limited	P1013	Yes	No	Yes	Co. Meath
Enviro Grind Limited	WFP-DL-17-004-05	Yes	No	No	Co. Donegal
Kings Tree Services Limited t/a Greenking Composting Limited	W0218	Yes	No	No	Co. Wicklow
Limerick City and County Council Mungret Facility	R02188	Yes	No	No	Co. Limerick
Louth County Council Dundalk Landfill	W0034	Yes	No	No	Co. Louth
McDonnell Farms Biogas Limited t/a GreenGas AD Plant	WFP/L/2017/50/R4/T1	No	Yes	No	Co. Limerick
McGill Environmental Systems (Ireland) Limited – Glenville Facility	W0180	No	No	Yes	Co. Cork
Methanogen Limited (Kilgreany AD Facility)	WFP-WCC-14-02-0001	No	Yes	No	Co. Waterford
Michael Dolan t/a Johnstown Recycling	WFP-WM-2015-001	Yes	No	No	Co. Westmeath
Miltown Composting Systems Limited	W0270	No	No	Yes	Co. Tipperary
Molaisin Compost Limited	W0245	Yes	No	No	Co. Waterford
M & T Plant Hire Limited	WFP-WX-17-0129-01	Yes	No	No	Co. Wexford
OD Agri Ltd t/a OD Recycling	WFP-TS-10-0002-05	No	No	Yes	Co. Tipperary
Ormonde Organics	W0287	Yes	Yes	No	Co. Waterford
Padraig Thornton Waste Disposal Limited t/a Thorntons Recycling	W0195	Yes	No	No	Co. Meath
Paul Mooney	WFP-KE-12-0065-01	Yes	No	No	Co. Kildare
Sligo County Council – Young's Quarry	R1474	Yes	No	No	Co. Sligo
Waddock Composting Facility Limited	P1009	Yes	No	No	Co. Carlow
Granville Eco Park Limited	P0413/12A	No	Yes	No	Northern Ireland
Natural World Products Limited – Glenside	P0341/10A	Yes	No	No	Northern Ireland
Natural World Products Limited – Keady	WML 03/04	Yes	No	No	Northern Ireland
Greenville Energy Limited	WML 26/27	No	Yes	No	Northern Ireland

Open in Excel: [Table 1 Facilities surveyed, 2016 \(XLS 12KB\)](#)

Show [Table 2 Waste types accepted for composting & anaerobic digestion, 2013 to 2016](#)

List of Waste entry chapter sub-heading	Waste types accepted for composting and anaerobic digestion	Tonnes accepted in 2013	Tonnes accepted in 2014	Tonnes accepted in 2015	Tonnes accepted in 2016
02 01	Wastes from agriculture, horticulture, aquaculture, forestry, hunting and fishing	896	2,258	1,296	573
02 02	Wastes from the preparation and processing of meat, fish and other foods of animal origin	5,065	5,737	16,319	41,071
02 03	Wastes from fruit, vegetables, cereals, edible oils, cocoa, coffee, tea and tobacco preparation and processing; conserve production; yeast and yeast extract production, molasses preparation and fermentation.	655	1,340	421	1,110
02 05	Wastes from the dairy products industry	8,736	8,513	8,384	13,497
02 06	Wastes from the baking and confectionery industry	824	1,569	226	465
02 07	Wastes from the production of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages (except, coffee, tea and cocoa)	26,388	26,074	24,849	27,895
03 03	Wastes from pulp, paper and cardboard production and processing	237	28	1,926	627
04 02	Wastes from the textile industry	163		148	159
06 10	Wastes from the manufacture, formulation, supply and use (MFSU) of nitrogen chemicals, nitrogen chemical processes and fertiliser manufacture	628	622	914	884
07 05	Wastes from MFSU of pharmaceuticals	2,946	2,709	4,045	4,537
07 06	Wastes from the MFSU of fats, grease, soaps, detergents, disinfectants and cosmetics	228	195	96	213
10 01	Wastes from power stations and other combustion plants	0	43	67	495
10 13	Waste from manufacture of cement, lime and plaster and articles and products made from them	0		33	0
15 01	Packaging (including separately collected municipal packaging wastes)	352	191	317	499
16 03	Off-specification batches and unused products	7	131	21	0

16 10	Aqueous liquid waste	0		0	76
17 02	Construction and demolition waste wood	149	243	429	627
17 08	Gypsum waste	139	239		1,165
19 05	Wastes from aerobic treatment of waste	2,252	1,356	1,606	0
19 08	Wastes from waste water treatment plants not otherwise specified	55,196	46,874	47,927	20,042
19 09	Wastes from the preparation of water intended for human consumption or water for industrial use	3,158	2,637	399	2,109
19 12	Wastes from mechanical treatment of waste (wood waste)	3,920	5,919	3,131	3,140
20 01	Municipal wastes (separately collected fractions) except 15 01	121,114	134,643	147,468	179,731
20 02	Garden and park wastes (including cemetery waste)	35,393	45,738	46,586	50,885
20 03 (Note 1)	Other municipal wastes	2,157	2,974	1,829	3,549
Total		270,603	290,033	308,437	353,349

Note 1: Includes List of Waste entries 20 03 04 (septic tank sludge) and 20 03 06 (waste from sewage cleaning) which are excluded from municipal waste reporting as per Eurostat guidance.

Open in Excel: [Table 2 Waste types accepted, 2013 to 2016 \(XLS 12KB\)](#)

Show [Table 3 Organic fines accepted for biostabilisation, 2013 to 2016](#)

List of Waste entry chapter sub-heading	Description	Tonnes accepted 2013	Tonnes accepted 2014	Tonnes accepted 2015	Tonnes accepted 2016
19 12	Organic fines from mechanical treatment of waste	50,000	100,000	119,000	122,000

Open in Excel: [Table 3 Organic fines accepted for biostabilisation, 2013 to 2016 \(XLS 9KB\)](#)