

End-of-Life Vehicle Statistics for Ireland

Introduction

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) produces national statistics on waste generation and management to meet legislative reporting obligations and inform policy.

This release reports information on the reuse, recycling and recovery of Irish End-of-Life Vehicles (ELVs) in 2014, the most recent reference year reported to the European Commission.¹ ELVs are cars accommodating up to eight passengers plus driver and commercial vehicles no greater than 3.5 tonnes that have reached end of life.

Key points

- Approximately 87,000 ELVs were treated, 6% fewer than in 2013.
- Ireland met the ELV Directive targets, with 82% reuse and recycling and 91% reuse and recovery².
- Higher targets came into effect in January 2015. Ireland is at risk of missing the targets based on current treatment of ELVs (Figure 1). Significant efforts will need to be taken to increase reuse and recycling (in particular of plastics and glass) and/or increase post-shredding recovery.

Legislation

The ELV Directive (2000/53/EC) governs the collection and treatment of ELVs and aims to ensure that such activities are carried out in an environmentally sound manner. The ELV Directive was transposed into national law in 2006. Each Member State is obliged to meet targets set out in the ELV Directive with regards to reuse, recycling and recovery of ELVs. The targets are:

- By 1 January 2006 a minimum of 80% reuse and recycling and a minimum of 85% reuse and recovery.
- By 1 January 2015 a minimum of 85% reuse and recycling and a minimum of 95% reuse and recovery.

Treatment of ELVs

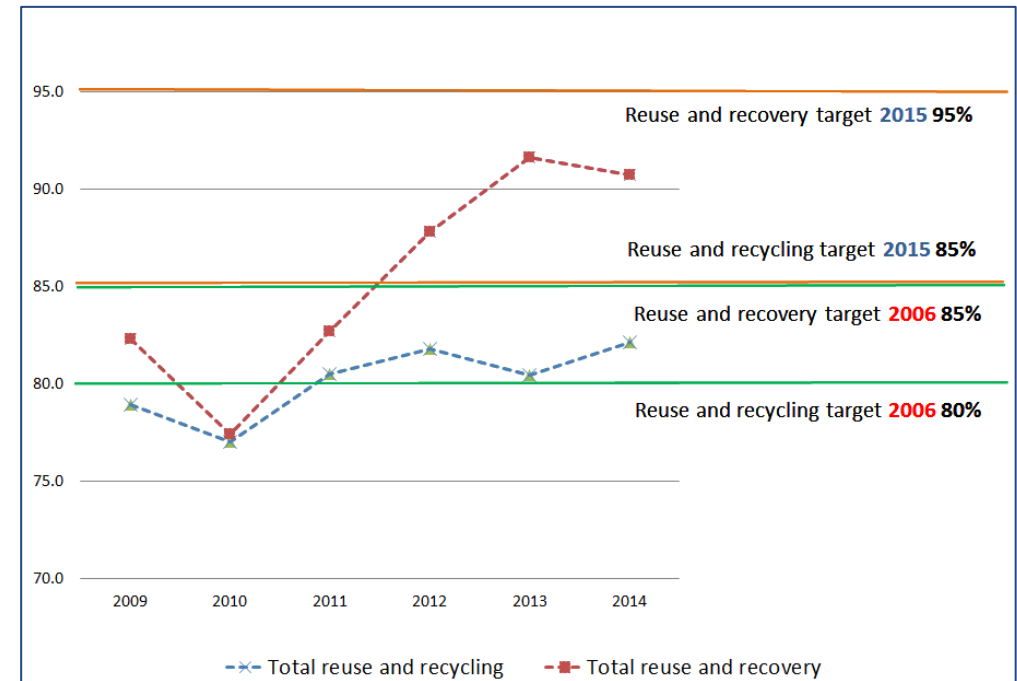
Authorised Treatment Facilities (ATFs) are waste facilities for the collection and treatment of ELVs. Treatment includes depollution (e.g. draining waste oils), removal of parts, such as mirrors, batteries and tyres, for reuse or for recycling. Treated ELVs are then sent to metal shredding facilities to recover ferrous and non-ferrous metals. Shredder residue is sent for post-shredder recovery of materials or for disposal.

Data collection

The EPA surveyed 153 ATFs and the three ELV shredders operational in 2014.³ These facilities provided information on the number of ELVs they accepted, depolluted, spare parts taken off for reuse and on the waste materials sent for recycling and other recovery. End-of-waste criteria⁴ exist for scrap metals, and some ferrous and non-ferrous metal from ELV shredding reached end-of-waste status in Ireland.

See <http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/waste/stats/> for the data table linked to this release.

Figure 1. ELV reuse, recovery and recycling percentage from 2009 – 2014 compared to ELV Directive targets.



¹ The deadline for reporting reference year 2015 information to the Commission is 30 June 2017.

² Based on ELVs accepted at waste facilities for treatment.

³ 94% of ATFs and all three shredders provided 2014 data to the EPA.

⁴ Council Regulation (EU) No. 333 of 2011.