

Bulletin 2: Household Waste Statistics for 2013

Introduction

The EPA produces national statistics on waste generation and management to meet legislative reporting obligations and inform national policy development. This bulletin reports preliminary information on household waste in Ireland in 2013.

Household waste includes dry recyclables (e.g. glass, plastic, metals, paper and cardboard); organic waste (food and garden waste); residual (black-bin) waste and other wastes generated in the household such as bulky waste, portable batteries, waste electrical and electronic equipment and household hazardous wastes.

Key Trends

- Key information for household waste management for the period 2010-2013 is shown in Table 1.
- There was a 37% decrease in household waste disposed to landfill in 2013 compared to 2012, and the recovery (a mix of recycling and other recovery) rate increased.
- Household waste managed per person was 304 kg in 2013. Figure 1 shows that since 2011 household waste managed per person has been relatively stable.
- Particularly since 2012, there has been a shift from landfilling of residual waste to energy recovery of residual waste (household and other).
- There was an 84% increase in the quantity of municipal residual wastes (which includes household waste) sent for energy recovery in 2013 (627 ktonnes) compared to 2012 (340 ktonnes). In 2013, 327 ktonnes were used for energy recovery in Ireland and 300 ktonnes were exported for use as a fuel.
- Over three-quarters of our household waste was collected at kerbside in 2013. See Figure 2.
- Ninety authorised operators collected household waste at kerbside in 2013 (86 private sector, 4 local authority). There was an average of 8 kerbside collectors per local authority area (minimum 4, maximum 15).
- 72% of permanent private households availed of a kerbside waste collection service.

- Of serviced households, 96% were on at least a 2-bin service (i.e. residual and mixed dry recyclables bin), 39% had an organics service and 5% a segregated glass service
- Of household waste collected at kerbside (1,096 ktonnes), 67% was residual waste (see Figure 3).
- There was a 4% increase in segregated organic waste (food and garden) collected at household kerbside in 2013.
- Despite a slight decrease in the number of civic amenity sites (115 in 2013, 118 in 2012) and bring banks (1,800 in 2013, 1,826 in 2012), the tonnage of household waste collected at civic amenity sites and bring banks combined remained relatively stable.

Table 1. Trends in household waste management 2010-2013 (ktonnes)

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Quantity managed (collected and brought)	1,421	1,407	1,368	1,398
Quantity disposed to landfill	844	750	590	372 (approx.)
Quantity recovered	577	657	778	1,026 (estimate)
Recovery rate	41%	47%	57%	73% (estimate)



Detailed information on waste materials and tonnages of household waste collected and brought in 2013 are available on EPA website: <http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/waste/stats/>

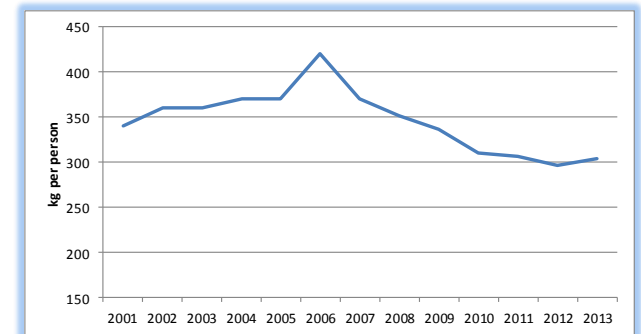


Figure 1. Household waste managed (kg per person), 2001 to 2013

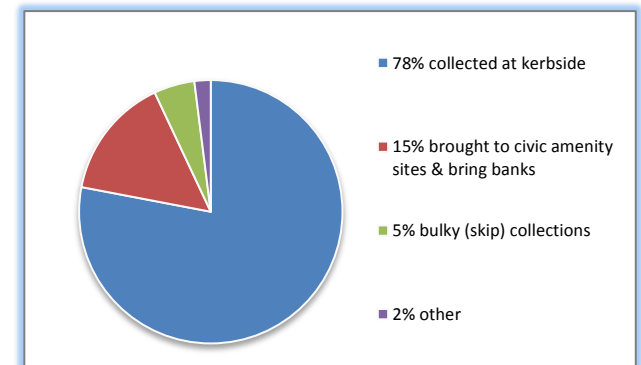


Figure 2. Household waste, percentage by source collected/brought in 2013

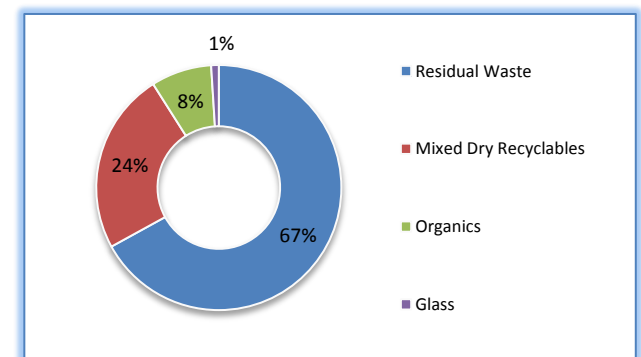


Figure 3. Household waste collected at kerbside, percentage by waste service type in 2013