

WEEE Statistics for Ireland

The EPA produces national statistics on waste generation and management to meet legislative reporting obligations and inform national policy development.

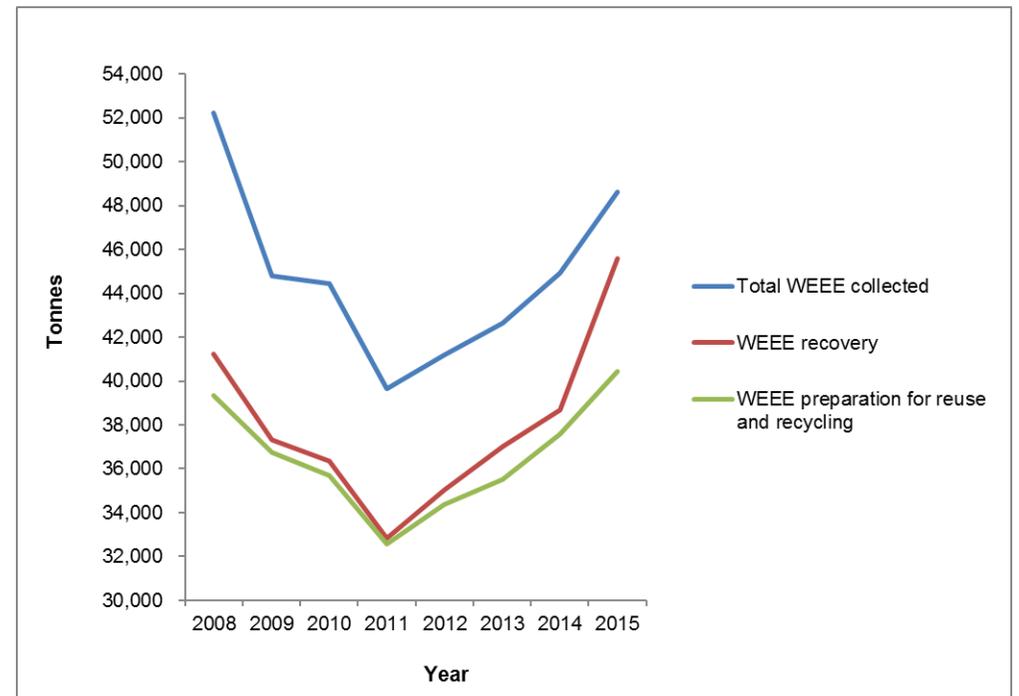
This release reports information on the collection and recovery of waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) in Ireland in 2015. There are ten categories of WEEE under the EU WEEE Directive, e.g. large and small household appliances, IT and telecommunications equipment. There is high potential for reuse of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) and recovery of the many valuable materials in WEEE (metal, plastic, glass, rare metals). Recovery activities include preparing for reuse, recycling, energy recovery and other recovery.

Key points relating to 2015 reference year

- Ireland surpassed the EU targets for collection of household WEEE and recovery of all ten categories of WEEE.
- 8.6 kg of household WEEE were collected per person (EU target is 4 kg per person).
- 48,626 tonnes of WEEE (all categories, household and non-household) were collected for treatment.
- 45,576 tonnes of WEEE were recovered.
- 54 per cent of WEEE collected by weight comprised large household appliances.
- 64 per cent of the WEEE collected was treated in Ireland (although not necessarily final treatment).
- Of WEEE exported for treatment, 99.8 per cent was exported to treatment facilities in EU Member States.
- New EU targets will come into force for 2016 reference year and onwards.

Figure 1 shows the trends in WEEE collected and WEEE recovered between 2008 and 2015. Between 2008 and 2011 the tonnage of WEEE collected decreased due to the economic recession, as householders and businesses were not replacing EEE as frequently. The recovering economy is likely the driving force behind the increase in total WEEE collected from 2012 onwards.

Figure 1. WEEE collected, recovered, prepared for reuse & recycled, 2008 to 2015



More information

An Excel file with Figure 1 data and additional tables is available, see <http://www.epa.ie/pubs/reports/waste/stats/>.

For more information on EU statistics on WEEE, see http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Waste_statistics_-_electrical_and_electronic_equipment