

29 November 2019

## Other environmental accounts: Waste accounts Year 2017

**The Spanish economy generated 132.1 million tonnes of waste in 2017, 2.3% more than the previous year**

**The final treatment of waste increased by 8.2% reaching 115.5 million tonnes**

**38.9% of treated waste was destined for recycling**

### Generation of waste in the Spanish economy<sup>1</sup>

The Spanish economy generated 132.1 million tonnes of waste in 2017, 2.3% more than the previous year. Of these, 3.2 million corresponded to hazardous waste (1.6% more than in 2016) and 128.9 million to non-hazardous waste (2.0% more).

### Waste generated by type of waste<sup>2</sup>. Year 2017

Unit: thousand tonnes

	Total	Interannual variation rate (%)	Non- hazardous	Interannual variation rate (%)	Hazardous	Interannual variation rate (%)
<b>Waste generated</b>	<b>132,119.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>128,884.6</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>3,234.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Mineral	69,079.7	3.1	68,432.8	3.0	646.9	6.4
Mixed materials	35,886.5	2.8	35,811.7	2.8	74.8	-4.6
Animal and vegetal	8,910.2	-5.0	8,910.2	-5.0	..	..
Metallic	5,842.7	2.5	5,842.7	2.5	..	..
Paper and cardboard	3,624.7	2.7	3,624.7	2.7	..	..
Chemical	2,436.8	-1.0	925.1	-6.4	1,511.7	2.5
Common sludges	1,579.4	8.3	1,579.4	-8.3	..	..
Discarded equipment	1,215.7	1.0	248.8	-1.8	966.9	1.7
Wood	1,173.3	9.7	1,172.2	9.7	1.1	-27.9
Glass	1,122.5	-4.4	1,122.5	-4.4	0.0	-94.5
Plastic	758.4	3.7	758.4	3.7	..	..
Others	489.4	11.5	456.1	-5.4	33.3	-52.8

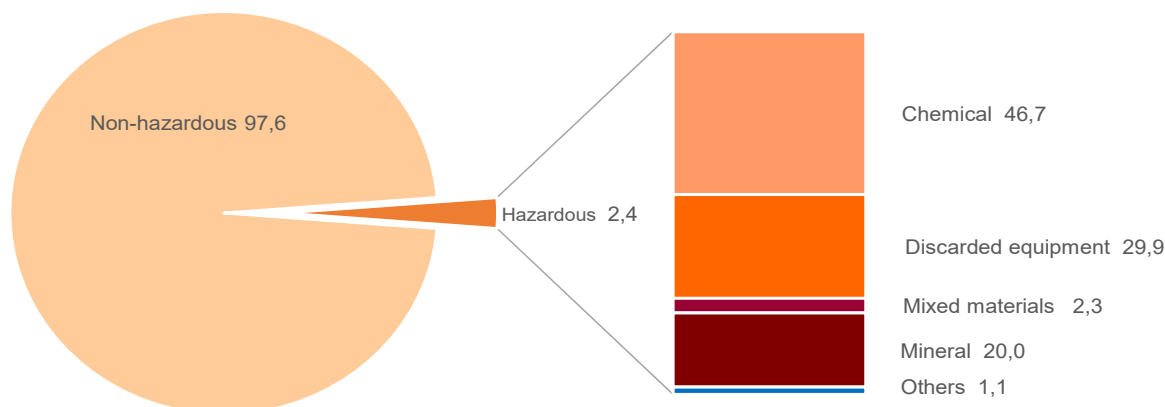
<sup>1</sup> A greater detail of the waste generated in the urban sphere can be consulted in the press release of the Statistics on the Collection and Treatment of Waste published today by the INE.

<sup>2</sup> The symbol “..” indicates the categories of waste not covered by Regulation (EC) No 2150/2002.

The most relevant categories of waste generated were *Mineral wastes* (69.1 million tonnes), *Mixed wastes* (35.9 million tonnes) and *Animal and vegetal wastes* (8.9 million tonnes).

In 2017, 97.6% of the waste generated was non-hazardous waste and 2.4% was hazardous waste. Of the total hazardous waste generated, 46.7% corresponded to *Chemical wastes*, 29.9% to *Discarded equipment* and 20.0% to *Mineral wastes*.

## Waste generated in the Spanish economy (percentage). Year 2017



## Generation of waste by activity sectors and households

82.9% of waste generated in 2017 corresponded to the *Economic Sectors* and 17.1% to *Households*.

The activities that experienced larger increases compared to 2016 were *Industry* (7.0% more) and *Water supply, sanitation, waste management and decontamination* (5.8% more). In contrast, in *Services*, waste generation fell by 13.4%.

On the other hand, *Households* as consumers generated 2.9% more waste.

## Waste generated by activity sectors and households. Year 2017

Unit: thousand tonnes

	Total	Variation rate (%)	Non-hazardous	Variation rate (%)	Hazardous	Variation rate (%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>132,119.3</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>128,884.6</b>	<b>2.3</b>	<b>3,234.7</b>	<b>1.6</b>
Agriculture, livestock breeding, forestry and fishing	6,055.0	-3.5	6,031.9	-3.4	23.1	-16.6
Industry (Including mining and energy production)	41,122.2	7.0	39,659.8	7.0	1,462.4	6.8
Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	21,325.4	5.8	20,731.2	5.8	594.2	5.6
Construction	35,347.1	-1.3	35,295.8	-1.3	51.3	-35.1
Services	5,698.0	-13.4	4,623.9	-15.3	1,074.1	-4.1
Households	22,571.6	2.9	22,542.0	2.9	29.6	16.5

By type of waste, those generated by *Households* with the greatest weight were *Mixed waste* (84.1% of the total), *Paper and Cardboard* (4.7%) and *Glass* (3.6%).

On the other hand, the main wastes generated by the *Economic Sectors* were *Mineral wastes* (62.6% of the total) and *Mixed wastes* (15.4%).

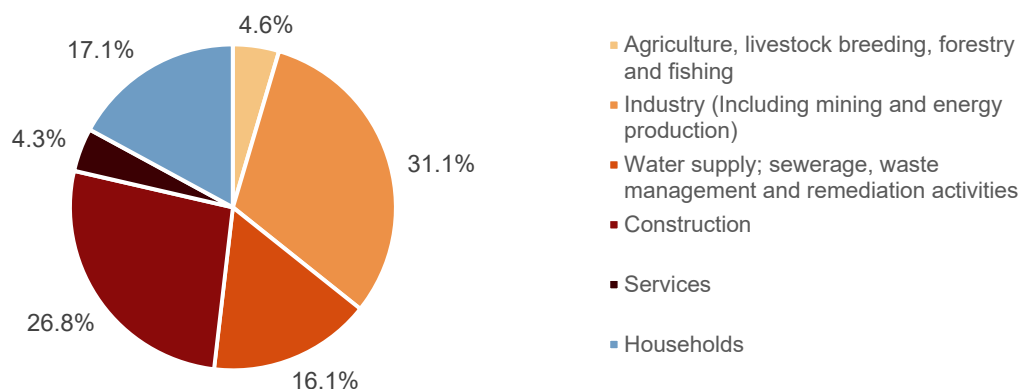
## Types of wastes generated by activity sectors and households. Year 2017

Unit: thousand tonnes

	Total	% of the total	Economic sectors	% of the total	Households	% of the total
<b>Waste generated</b>	<b>132,119.3</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>109,547.7</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>22,571.6</b>	<b>100</b>
Mineral	69,079.7	52.4	68,584.2	62.6	495.6	2.2
Mixed materials	35,886.5	27.2	16,899.6	15.4	18,986.8	84.1
Animal and vegetal	8,910.2	6.7	8,033.3	7.3	876.8	3.9
Metallic	5,842.7	4.4	5,821.8	5.3	20.9	0.1
Paper and cardboard	3,624.7	2.7	2,563.3	2.3	1,061.4	4.7
Chemical	2,436.8	1.8	2,432.5	2.2	4.3	0.0
Common sludges	1,579.4	1.2	1,579.4	1.5	..	..
Discarded equipment	1,215.7	0.9	1,159.3	1.1	56.4	0.3
Wood	1,173.3	0.9	983.6	0.9	189.7	0.8
Glass	1,122.5	0.8	306.6	0.3	815.9	3.6
Plastic	758.4	0.6	733.9	0.7	24.6	0.1
Others	489.4	0.4	450.2	0.4	39.2	0.2

The activities that generated the greatest amount of waste in 2017 were *Industry* (31.1% of the total) and *Construction* (26.8%).

## Waste generated by activity sectors and households (percentage). Year 2017



**Types of wastes generated by activity sectors. Year 2017**

Unit: thousand tonnes

	Total sectors	Agriculture, livestock breeding, forestry and fishing	Industry (Including mining and energy production)	Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	Construction	Services
<b>Waste generated</b>	<b>109,547.7</b>	<b>6,055.0</b>	<b>41,122.2</b>	<b>21,325.4</b>	<b>35,347.1</b>	<b>5,698.0</b>
Mineral	68,584.1	11.0	31,951.9	1,575.4	34,951.7	94.0
Mixed materials	16,899.6	329.1	1,285.7	14,186.3	33.4	1,065.2
Animal and vegetal	8,033.3	5,594.2	1,505.6	12.6	58.6	862.4
Metallic	5,821.8	6.4	2,210.0	3,287.3	68.6	249.5
Chemical	2,432.5	26.7	1,836.4	398.7	8.1	162.5
Paper and cardboard	2,563.3	13.0	915.3	255.4	57.4	1,322.3
Common sludges	1,579.4	4.7	287.7	1,278.4	3.9	4.6
Discarded equipment	1,159.3	6.2	27.8	93.9	4.5	1,026.9
Wood	983.6	19.4	611.8	44.1	130.6	177.7
Plastic	733.9	34.0	273.8	143.8	20.8	261.5
Others	450.2	9.2	85.8	8.8	1.5	344.9
Glass	306.6	1.1	130.4	40.7	8.0	126.5

By sectors, *Mineral wastes* were mainly originated by *Construction* (35.0 million tonnes) and *Industry* (32.0 million). And *Mixed wastes* by *Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities* (14.2 million).

On the other hand, *Animal and vegetal wastes* were generated mostly by *Agriculture, livestock, forestry and fishing* (5.6 million tonnes).

## Final waste treatment in the Spanish economy

Waste treatment companies<sup>3</sup> managed 115.5 million tonnes of waste in 2017, 8.2% more than in the previous year.

Specifically, they treated 113.2 million tonnes of non-hazardous waste (8.2% more than in 2016) and 2.3 million tonnes of hazardous waste (7.7% more).

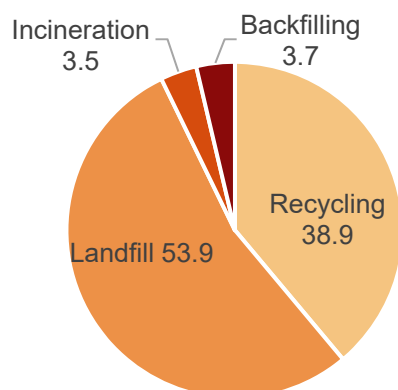
### Final waste treatment Year 2017

Unit: thousand tonnes

Waste treatment (by type of treatment)	Quantity	Interannual variation rate (%)
<b>Total waste treatment</b>	<b>115,486.3</b>	<b>8.2</b>
Non-hazardous	113,204.5	8.2
Hazardous	2,281.8	7.7
<b>Recycling</b>	<b>44,921.8</b>	<b>13.5</b>
Non-hazardous	43,334.7	14.0
Hazardous	1,587.2	1.1
<b>Landfill</b>	<b>62,226.7</b>	<b>8.7</b>
Non-hazardous	61,668.6	8.5
Hazardous	558.1	39.9
<b>Incineration</b>	<b>4,067.2</b>	<b>5.8</b>
Non-hazardous	3,930.7	6.4
Hazardous	136.5	-8.5
<b>Backfilling</b>	<b>4,270.5</b>	<b>-29.3</b>
Non-hazardous	4,270.5	-29.3
Hazardous	0.0	..

Of the total waste treated, 53.9% ended up in landfill, 38.9% was recycled, 3.7% was reused in backfilling operations and 3.5% was incinerated.

### Final waste treatment (percentage). Year 2017



<sup>3</sup> Only final treatments are included.

In 2017, 45.0 million tonnes of waste were recycled, 13.5% more than in 2016. 45.4% of this figure corresponded to *Mineral waste*, 23.6% to *Metallic waste*, and 8.6% to *Paper and cardboard*.

Recycled waste showing the highest growth rates in 2017 were *Minerals* (26.2%) and *Metals* (16.6%). In turn, *Plastic waste* decreased by 21.5% compared to 2016.

## Recycling by waste category. Year 2017

Unit: thousand tonnes

	Recycling	% of the total	Interannual variation rate (%)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>44,921.8</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>13.5</b>
Mineral	20,405.9	45.4	26.2
Metallic	10,595.2	23.6	16.6
Paper and cardboard	3,840.5	8.6	-5.7
Mixed materials	2,872.8	6.4	-5.1
Animal and vegetal	1,631.8	3.6	0.7
Common sludges	1,257.2	2.8	10.6
Chemical	1,114.7	2.5	-8.9
Wood	1026.4	2.3	5.0
Glass	1,008.5	2.2	1.7
Discarded equipment	522.2	1.2	5.2
Plastic	467.1	1.0	-21.5
Others	179.5	0.4	1.3

## Data review and update

The data published today are provisional and will be revised when the data for 2018 are released. The results are available at INEBase.

## Methodological note

The Environmental Accounts (EA) is a synthesis statistical operation whose general objective is to integrate environmental information in a coherent way into the central system of National Accounts, following the methodology of the System of Environmental-Economic Accounting (SEEA) developed by the United Nations, which constitutes the conceptual framework of the EA.

The Waste Accounts are useful for organising information on the generation of waste and the management of its flows to recycling facilities, backfilling operations, incineration and controlled landfills. From this information, important indicators can be obtained to measure the pressure that the economy exerts on the environment. They also make it possible to monitor the objectives of waste reduction policies and evaluate improvements in management for the recovery of materials.

The study of waste includes the generation and treatment of waste in accordance with the guidelines established in Regulation (EC) 2150/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November on waste statistics, as amended by Regulation (EU) 849/2010.

The INE annually carries out the Statistics on Generation, Collection and Treatment of Waste with the aim of quantifying the origin and treatment thereof. This information, together with information from other bodies, mainly that provided by the Ministry of Ecological Transition, provides the basis for the preparation of the Waste Accounts.

For more information you can access the methodology at:

<http://www.ine.es>

And the standardised methodological report at:

<http://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/en/RespuestaDatos.htm?oe=30087>

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