

1 August 2012

Collection and Treatment of Waste Survey Year 2010

**24.4 million tonnes of urban waste are collected in 2010, that is,
1.5% less than in 2009**

**The final treatment of waste reaches 56 million tonnes, 7.4% more
than the previous year ¹**

Urban waste collection

Urban waste management companies collected 24.4 million tonnes of waste in the year 2010, that is, 1.5% less than the previous year. Of this amount, 19.4 million tonnes corresponded to mixed waste² and approximately 5 million tonnes to selective collection³.

Urban waste collection⁴. Year 2010

Unit: thousand of tonnes

Collected waste (by type)	Total
TOTAL	24,380.0
TOTAL OF MIXED WASTE	19,395.2
TOTAL OF SELECTIVE COLLECTION WASTE	4,984.8
05 - Medical and biological waste	24.6
06 - Metal waste	56.4
07.1 – Glass	804.0
07.2 - Paper and cardboard	1,467.4
07.3 – Rubber	9.0
07.4 – Plastic	185.5
07.5 – Wooden	192.1
07.6 – Textile waste	4.7
08.2 y 08.43 - Electrical and electronic equipment	61.2
08.41 - Batteries and accumulators	3.1
09 - Animal and plant waste	954.4
10.2 - Mixed containers and mixed packaging	640.3
Others	582.2

¹ Treatment of common sludge and of construction and demolition waste is not included.

² **Mixed waste:** defined as the household waste and goods generated in private homes, businesses, offices and services, or in cleaning public highways. This waste is not separated in origin.

³ **Selectively collected waste:** this results from a collection system that uses different methods for collecting fermentable organic materials and recyclable materials, as well as any other system that uses different methods to separate the recoverable materials contained in waste. Not included is the waste recovered in triage and sorting plants.

⁴ From reference year 2010, inclusive, using the new European Waste Classification (EWC-Stat, version 4), (Commission Regulation (EU) No 849/2010 of 27 September).

In per capita terms, **412.5 kilograms of mixed urban waste were collected per person and per year in Spain⁵**.

Concerning urban waste originating from selective collection, 31.2 kg of paper and cardboard (32.9% more than in 2009) and 17.1 kg of glass (14.3% more than in 2009) were collected per person and per year.

By **Autonomous Community**, Illes Balears and Canarias registered the highest per capita values of mixed waste (with 630.1 kg and 590.5 kg, respectively). At the other end of the spectrum was Comunidad Foral de Navarra (with 308.3 kg).

In glass, Región de Murcia showed the highest per capita value (with 50.6%). In the selected collection of paper and cardboard, the highest values were recorded in Principado de Asturias (85.9 kg), País Vasco (77.8 kg) and Cataluña (60.4 kg).

Urban waste collection per capita by Autonomous Community. Year 2010

Unit: Kilogram

	Mixed waste	Glass	Paper and cardboard	Mixed packaging
National Total	412.5	17.1	31.2	13.6
Andalucía	521.9	9.8	16.2	15.9
Aragón	366.3	17.2	23.7	9.2
Asturias, Principado de	415.7	29.2	85.9	9.5
Balears, Illes	630.1	19.1	22.2	13
Canarias	590.5	12.8	32.6	9.3
Cantabria	452.7	17.8	23.3	8.5
Castilla y León	360.2	16.7	22.2	7.8
Castilla - La Mancha	476.7	10	17.3	8.2
Cataluña	335.4	24.8	60.4	16.5
Comunitat Valenciana	377.3	15.1	14.7	8
Extremadura	459.0	7.7	29.6	9.3
Galicia	366.5	14	16.6	7.9
Madrid, Comunidad de	336.8	12.8	24.8	21.9
Murcia, Región de	497.6	50.6	15.4	9.1
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	308.3	25.4	47.2	31.6
País Vasco	329.7	24.8	77.8	14.3
Rioja, La	349.5	20.1	28.5	14.6

⁵ The per capita indicators use the Population Now Cast published by the INE. The link containing indicators calculated with regard to the population recorded in the municipal register is available online at <http://www.ine.es/en/>.

Waste treatment

Waste treatment companies, handling waste of both urban and non-urban origin, managed 53.4 million tonnes of non-hazardous waste and 2.6 million tonnes of hazardous waste in the year 2010.

Of the total non-hazardous waste, 49% was recycled, 46.6% was dumped and 4.4% was incinerated.

Non-hazardous waste. Percentage by type of treatment. Year 2010

	Recycling	Dumping	Incineration
Total managed	49.0	46.6	4.4
Chemical waste (except industrial effluent sludge)	51.1	48.9	0.0
Medical and biological waste	2.8	84.7	12.5
Metal waste	96.4	3.6	0.0
Glass waste	99.0	1.0	0.0
Plastic waste	78.6	20.4	1.0
Paper and cardboard waste	92.4	7.6	0.0
Wooden waste	92.2	7.6	0.2
Textile waste	23.1	76.9	0.0
Discarded vehicles and electronic equipment	96.3	3.7	0.0
Animal and plant waste	96.5	2.9	0.6
Mixed waste	2.0	88.4	9.6
Common sludge	61.4	32.7	5.9
Solidified, stabilised or vitrified waste	27.3	72.7	0.0

Regarding the hazardous waste managed in 2010, 63.1% was sent for recycling, 28.2% for dumping and 8.7% for incineration.

Hazardous waste. Percentage by type of treatment. Year 2010

	Recycling	Dumping	Incineration
Total managed	63.1	28.2	8.7
Waste from used oils	94.1	3.9	2.0
Chemical waste (except industrial effluent sludge)	64.2	19.5	16.4
Discarded vehicles and electronic equipment	98.5	1.5	0.0
Solidified, stabilised or vitrified waste	28.6	71.4	0.0

Methodological note

The INE performs this annual study whose purpose is to measure urban waste collection and processing, regardless of whether this is urban or not, in Spain. Thus, the guidelines set out in European Parliament and Council Regulation 2150/2002 of 25 November on waste statistics are followed. The annexes of this regulation - where variables investigated and breakdowns considered are stipulated - have been subjected to amendment by virtue of Commission Regulation 849/2010 of 27 September.

The definition of waste corresponds to that set out in European Parliament and Council Directive 2008/98 of 19 November according to which waste is "any substance or object that its owner discards or has the intention or obligation to discard." The processing operations investigated are identified by means of D/R codes, also defined in the aforementioned directive.

The population under study is the set of entities whose main activity is the management, collection and/or processing of solid waste in Spain. These activities fall under the scope of divisions 38 and 39 of the National Classification of Economic Activities (NCEA-2009). The framework of reference is built from the Central Companies Directory (DIRCE) and list of registries (licences) of waste managers supplied by autonomous communities and cities.

For the study of management of urban waste all those investigated that dealt with a municipality with more than 20,000 inhabitants were investigated. The total results were obtained by means of ratio estimators according to the population seen. For the study of waste processing (urban or non-urban) an *ad hoc* stratification was designed. Some of the strata were investigated in depth and the remainder by means of random sampling.

The estimates corresponding to mixed domestic waste, glass, paper and cardboard, animal and vegetable waste and containers, of urban origin, were obtained considering the data supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and the Environment. The estimates corresponding to the remaining categories come exclusively from the aforementioned survey.

The variables investigated correspond to the 51 categories and 21 waste management operations, considered in EU Regulation 849/2010. The categories studied range from chemical composites to substances such as metals, rubber, wood, paper, plastics, sludge and mineral waste. Management or processing operations subject to the survey are grouped into 6 blocks and include recovery or assessment, incineration, dumping and backfilling operations.