

27 November 2023

**Statistics on Waste Collection and Treatment
Year 2021**

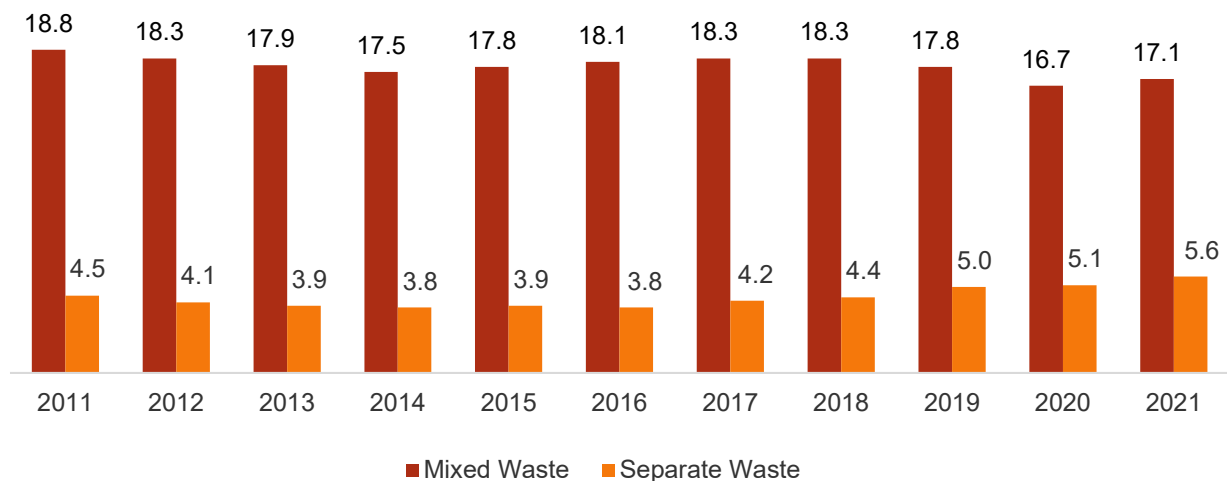
Waste treatment companies collected 22.7 million tonnes of urban waste¹, 4.4% more than in 2020

Separate collection increased by 9.8% to 5.6 million tonnes

In 2021, 478.7 kilograms of urban waste per capita were collected, 4.3% less than in the previous year

Companies in charge of handling urban waste collected 22.7 million tonnes of waste in 2021, 4.4% less than in the previous year. Of this, 17.1 million of tonnes was mixed waste and 5.6 million was separate collection waste.

Urban waste collection
Millions of tonnes



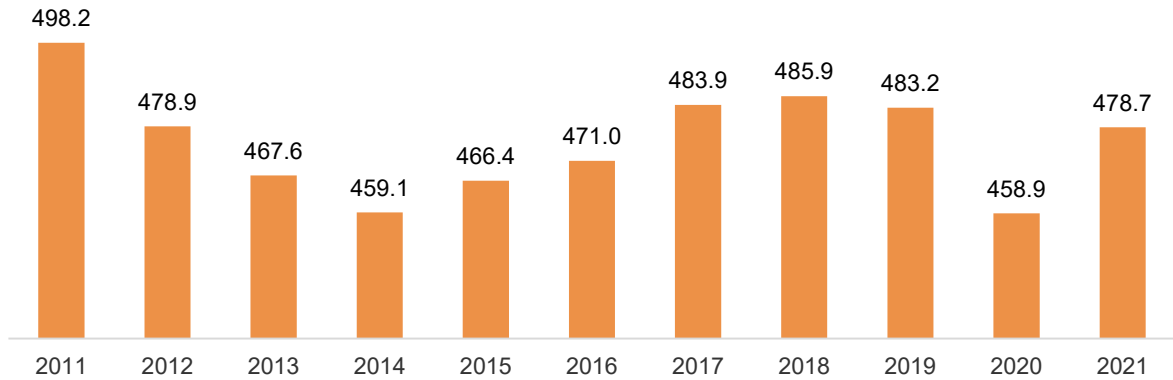
¹ Domestic waste generated by *Households, Business and Services*, from refuse collected in the urban sphere.

In per capita terms, in Spain² 478.7 kilograms of waste were collected per person per year, 4.3% more than in 2020.

Of this, 360.7 kilograms per person per year was mixed waste and 118.0 kilograms was separate collection.

Per capita urban waste collection

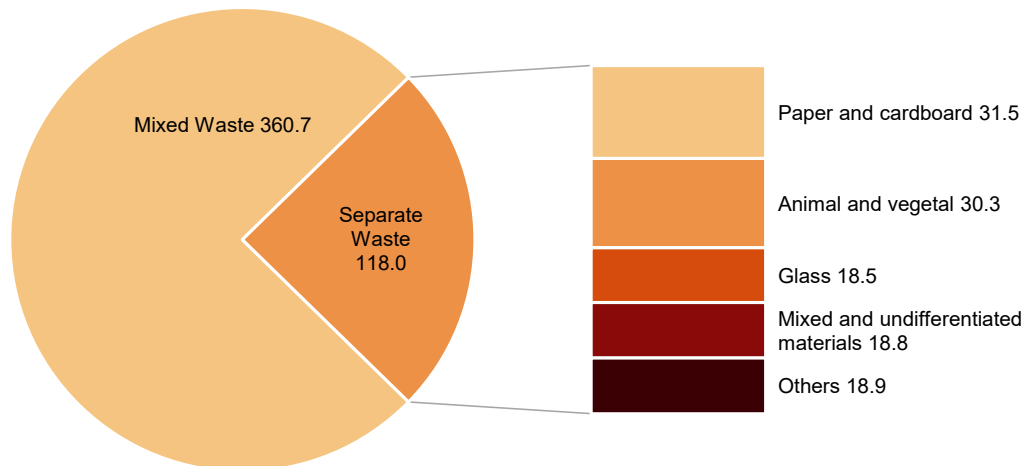
Kilograms per inhabitant



By type of waste collected separately, 31.5 kilograms per person and year of *Paper and cardboard*, 30.3 kilograms of *Animal and vegetable waste*, and 18.5 kilograms of *Glass* were collected.

Urban waste collection by waste type. 2021

Kilograms per inhabitant



Animal and vegetable waste collected separately increased by 14.4% in 2021, *Containers and mixed packaging* by 0.2% and *Paper and Cardboard* by 11.3%.

²The resident population figures published by the INE as at 1 July 2021 have been used.

Urban waste collection by waste type. 2021

Thousands of tonnes

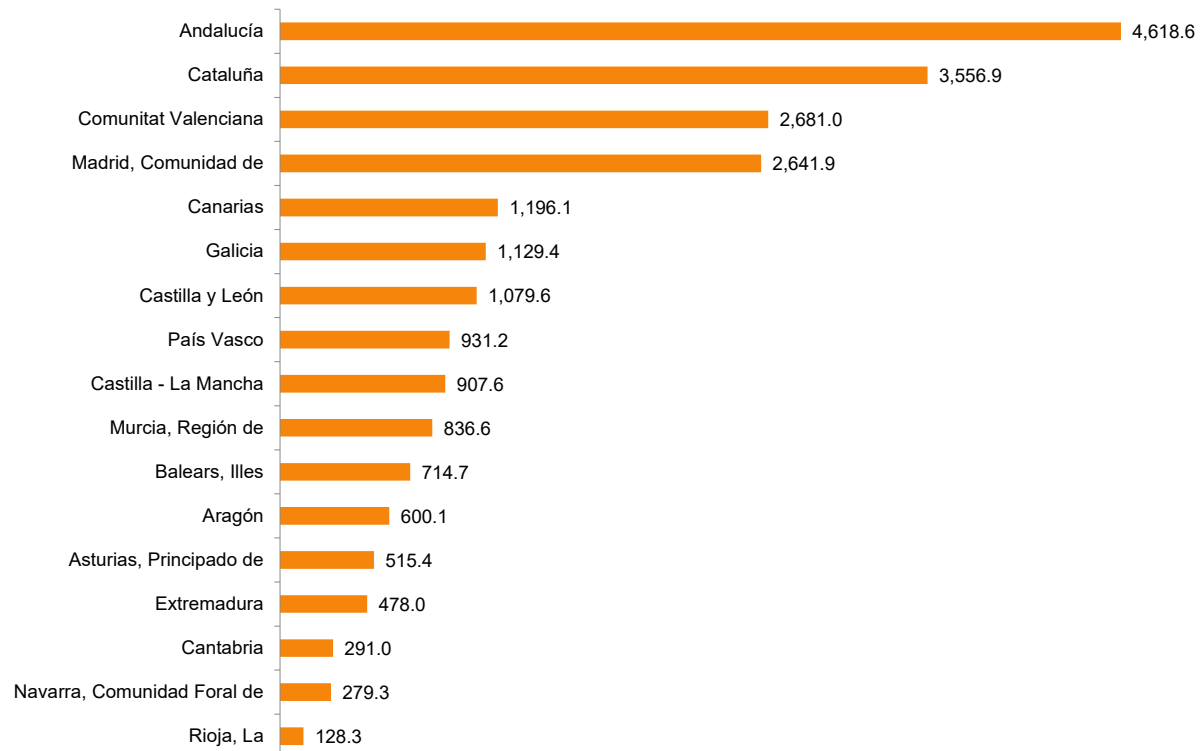
	Quantity	% of the total	Variation rate (%)
Total	22,677.0	100.0	4.4
Mixed Waste	17,088.9	75.4	2.5
Separate Waste	5,588.1	24.6	10.6
Paper and cardboard	1,491.2	26.7	11.3
Animal and vegetal	1,434.0	25.7	14.4
Mixed and undifferentiated materials	889.1	15.9	0.2
Glass	878.0	15.7	5.9
Others	895.8	16.0	20.8

Results by autonomous communities

In 2021, the Autonomous Communities that collected the most urban waste were Andalucía (4.6 million tonnes), Cataluña (3.6 million) and Comunitat Valenciana (2.7 million).

Urban waste collection by Autonomous Community. 2021

Thousands of tonnes



Cataluña was the community where the largest quantity of *Paper and cardboard* (412.7 thousand tonnes), *Glass* (189.7 thousand) and *Mixed Packaging* (191.1 thousand) was collected.

Urban waste collection by waste type and Autonomous Community. 2021

Thousands of tonnes

	Mixed Waste	Glass	Paper and cardboard	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	Waste total ¹
National Total²	17,088.9	878.0	1,491.2	889.1	22,676.9
Andalucía	3,991.6	109.9	124.2	114.0	4,618.6
Aragón	462.3	20.5	29.3	24.1	600.1
Asturias, Principado de	387.2	17.7	44.0	16.6	515.4
Balears, Illes	511.5	39.2	46.2	41.3	714.7
Canarias	982.9	35.5	20.3	29.2	1,196.1
Cantabria	244.3	11.6	6.0	7.4	302.3
Castilla y León	902.1	49.7	48.1	32.2	1,079.6
Castilla - La Mancha	784.2	23.2	29.1	29.0	907.6
Cataluña	2,073.8	189.7	412.7	191.1	3,556.9
Comunitat Valenciana	1,980.0	85.7	308.3	73.7	2,681.0
Extremadura	427.8	9.3	24.2	15.0	478.0
Galicia	930.2	48.2	40.0	32.8	1,129.4
Madrid, Comunidad de	1,791.1	122.0	145.1	184.8	2,641.9
Murcia, Región de	735.5	26.5	33.9	21.2	836.6
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	164.0	17.5	27.9	16.1	279.3
País Vasco	544.6	62.4	139.5	53.6	931.2
Rioja, La	102.0	8.6	8.1	6.3	128.3

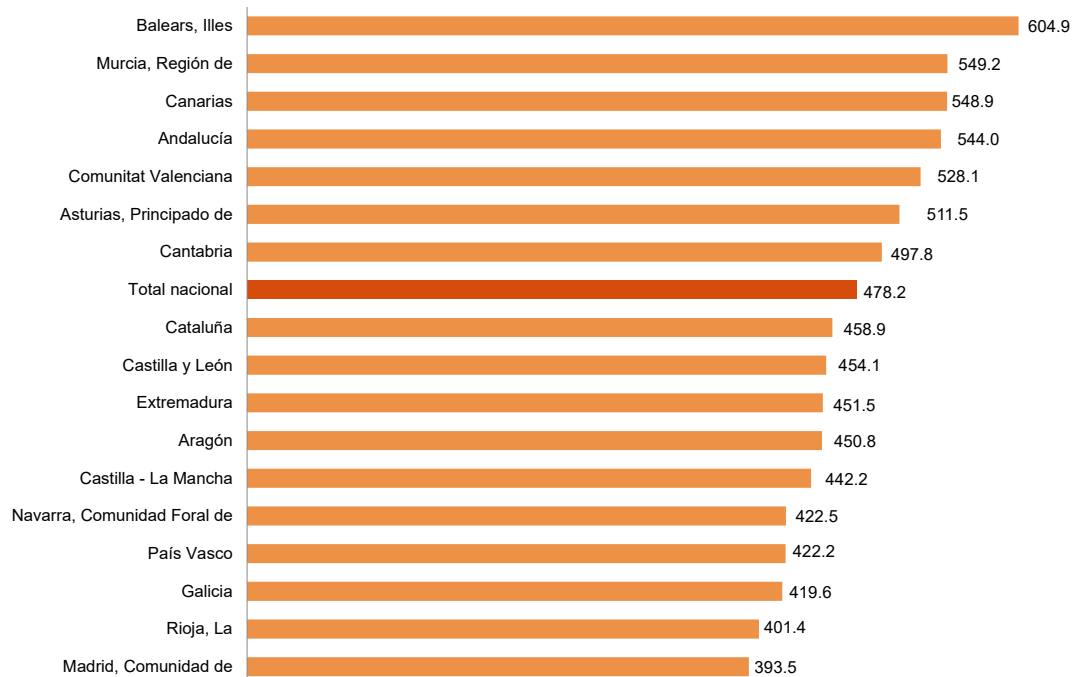
¹ The total of wastes includes the rest of the waste that is collected separately.

² The total includes the data for the autonomous cities of Ceuta and Melilla to preserve statistical secrecy.

In 2021, Illes Balears collected the largest amount of waste per capita (604.9 kilograms), and Comunidad de Madrid the least (393.5 kilograms).

Urban waste collection by Autonomous Community. 2021

Kilograms per inhabitant



Data reviews and updates

The data published today is provisional and will be revised when next year's data is released. All results are available on INEbase.

Methodological note

The main objective of the Statistics on Waste Collection and Treatment is to quantify in physical units the urban waste collected and the final treatment, both of urban and non-urban waste, by treatment operation. Thus, from the total quantities treated for each category of waste, it is possible to work out which quantity refers to each of the treatment operations considered.

The data in this press release refer to the management of urban waste.

The collection of urban waste includes domestic waste and commercial or industrial waste which comes under municipal jurisdiction, collected in urban containers, at clean points, or other municipal collection systems. It also includes waste from street cleaning and biodegradable waste from cleaning parks and gardens.

The population figures used are those of the resident population published by the INE on 1 July 2021.

For further information, the methodology can be accessed at:

<https://www.ine.es/daco/daco42/resiurba/notaresi.pdf>

The standardised methodological report can be found at:

<https://www.ine.es/dynt3/metadatos/es/RespuestaDatos.html?oe=30079>

INE statistics are produced in accordance with the Code of Good Practice for European Statistics, which is the basis for the institution's quality policy and strategy. For more information, see the section on [Quality at INE and the Code of Best Practices](#) on the INE website.

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