NATIONAL STATISTICS OFFICE • MALTA

NEWS RELEASE

EUROPEAN STATISTICAL SYSTEM

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During 2020, the total amount of generated waste decreased by 19.8 per cent over 2019.

Solid Waste Management: 2020

The total generation of solid waste in Malta during 2020 amounted to 2.5 million tonnes; dropping by 19.8 per cent over the amount recorded during the previous year. Hazardous waste increased by 1.3 per cent or 521 tonnes, while non-hazardous waste decreased by 20.1 per cent. Decreases were recorded for the three major sub-divisions of non-hazardous waste: mineral waste went down by almost 533,563 tonnes, secondary waste by 46,685 tonnes and other waste by 37,232 tonnes (Table 1).

Waste treatment registered a decrease of 21.4 per cent or 628,179 tonnes over the same period (Table 2). This happened mainly due to a drop of 495,130 tonnes in the backfilling of mineral waste (Table 6). Mineral waste was also the major contributor for the decrease in recycling taking place in Malta which went down by 123,354 tonnes. On the other hand, waste amounts that were sent for recycling in other countries advanced by 3.0 per cent or 2,570 tonnes. In 2020, the total amount of landfilling taking place in Malta and in other countries decreased by 11.3 per cent while the total amount of waste that was incinerated increased by 27.3 per cent (Table 2).

During 2020, the waste input into the Tal-Kus (Gozo) waste transfer station decreased by 4.8 per cent, or 843 tonnes. Decreases of 2,758 tonnes, 50,747 tonnes and 10,797 tonnes were also recorded at the Malta North Mechanical-Biological Treatment plant, the Sant' Antnin Waste Treatment Plant and the Għallis landfill respectively. Conversely, waste that was incinerated at the Marsa Thermal Treatment Facility increased by 912 tonnes (Tables 3 to 5).

In 2020, the separate collection of waste fractions from bring-in sites decreased by 6.8 per cent or 279 tonnes, while amounts collected from civic amenity sites increased by 5.5 per cent or 1,904 tonnes. With regard to door-to-door collections, decreases of 5.1 and 2.8 per cent were recorded in the grey/green bag and organic waste collections respectively. On the other hand, the amount of glass collected increased by 7.4 per cent over 2019 (Table 7) ■

Statistics in this News Release should be interpreted in the context of the COVID-19 situation.

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Table 1. Waste generation by year and category ...

tonnes

Waste category			2016	2017	2018	2019 [3]	2020
EWC-Stat code	Description	Hazardous / Non-hazardous					
1.1	Spent solvents	HAZ	1,294	2,049	1,708	1,305	1,747
1.2	Acid, alkaline or saline wastes	NHAZ	14	33	3	-	-
1.2	Acid, alkaline or saline wastes	HAZ	67	0	16	51	124
1.3	Used oils	HAZ	286	209	826	356	597
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	NHAZ	634	573	537	710	674
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	HAZ	20,562	14,428	6,434	16,513	15,442
3.2	Industrial effluent sludges	NHAZ	0	1	0	0	27
3.2	Industrial effluent sludges	HAZ	174	695	2,341	1,282	586
3.3	Sludges & liquid wastes from waste treatment[1]	NHAZ	7,118	9,516	9,931	11,402	4,079
5	Health care and biological wastes	NHAZ	3	-	-	-	0
5	Health care and biological wastes	HAZ	402	416	448	457	632
6.1	Metallic wastes, ferrous	NHAZ	25,017	11,333	33,754	39,878	16,663
6.2	Metallic wastes, non-ferrous	NHAZ	3,053	14,068	4,057	4,091	4,094
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	NHAZ	2,370	17,590	1,460	1,501	2,070
7.1	Glass wastes	NHAZ	7,210	6,229	7,884	8,746	7,385
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	18,927	18,651	14,469	20,924	19,536
7.3	Rubber wastes	NHAZ	2,492	3,009	2,461	2,326	2,845
7.4	Plastic wastes	NHAZ	8,657	7,618	7,201	9,220	8,802
7.5	Wood wastes	NHAZ	10,097	8,339	9,738	10,281	10,230
7.6	Textile wastes	NHAZ	568	980	1,195	1,822	1,475
7.7	Waste containing PCB	HAZ	-	1	-	8	-
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	NHAZ	245	574	616	1,228	249
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	HAZ	2,330	3,517	3,447	2,878	2,940
8.1	Discarded vehicles	HAZ	104,844	21,001	13,945	14,556	12,760
8.41	Batteries and accumulators wastes	NHAZ	14	27	29	147	30
8.41	Batteries and accumulators wastes	HAZ	991	1,843	1,821	1,816	1,339
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	7,116	8,376	13,160	33,445	33,213
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	4,608	4,355	5,089	6,938	5,556
9.3	Animal faeces, urine and manure	NHAZ	8,926	8,147	9,954	10,606	9,469
10.1	Household and similar wastes	NHAZ	223,524	244,729	245,718	236,097	224,219
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	17,297	20,708	24,011	31,779	30,035
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	HAZ	3	12	52	71	12
10.3	Sorting residues[1]	NHAZ	88,433	94,341	98,674	108,174	68,789
10.3	Sorting residues[1]	HAZ	-	-	-	1,352	2,009
11	Common sludges	NHAZ	38,669	36,609	30,753	33,800	39,791

… Table 1. Waste generation by year and category

tonnes

Waste category			2016	2017	2018	2019 [3]	2020
EWC-Stat code	Description	Hazardous / Non-hazardous					
12.1	Mineral waste from construction & demolition [2]	NHAZ	1,296,533	1,678,471	1,877,525	2,460,128	1,894,591
12.1	Mineral waste from construction & demolition [2]	HAZ	0	2	0	-	-
12.2, 12.3, 12.5	Other mineral wastes [2]	NHAZ	57,741	37,941	40,581	32,631	37,939
12.2, 12.3, 12.5	Other mineral wastes [2]	HAZ	349	3,217	559	627	3,276
12.4	Combustion wastes	NHAZ	1	7	1	57	-
12.4	Combustion wastes	HAZ	2,581	914	134	-	-
12.6	Soils [2]	NHAZ	16,179	447	44	25	5
12.6	Soils [2]	HAZ	-	-	21	-	118
12.7	Dredging spoils [2]	NHAZ	-	439,298	120,000	702	27,388
12.7	Dredging spoils [2]	HAZ	-	-	-	-	171
12.8, 13	Mineral waste from waste treatment & stabilised waste [1]	NHAZ	338	332	310	329	353
12.8, 13	Mineral waste from waste treatment & stabilised waste [1]	HAZ	244	193	274	267	306
Total hazardous			**134,128**	**48,497**	**32,025**	**41,538**	**42,059**
Total non-hazardous			**1,845,786**	**2,672,302**	**2,559,156**	**3,066,988**	**2,449,507**
Mineral waste			1,370,453	2,156,157	2,038,150	2,493,486	1,959,923
Secondary waste			95,889	104,188	108,916	119,905	73,220
Other waste			379,444	411,957	412,090	453,596	416,364
Total waste generation			**1,979,914**	**2,720,799**	**2,591,181**	**3,108,526**	**2,491,566**

[1] Waste generated from waste treatment operations (secondary waste).

[2] Mineral waste.

[3] Revised.

Chart 1. Annual waste generation by category aggregates

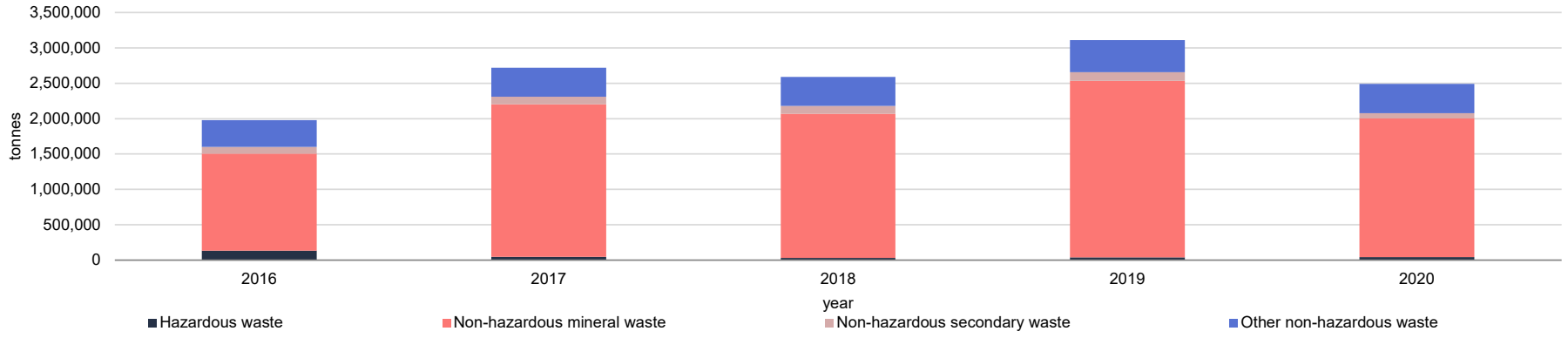


Table 2. Waste treatment by year, type of operation and location

tonnes

Waste treatment operation	Location of treatment	2016	2017	2018	2019 [2]	2020
Disposal - Landfill	Malta	264,206	290,521	297,523	314,714	303,917
	Other countries	220	14,749	11,771	49,111	18,759
Disposal - Incineration	Malta	5,451	5,322	4,960	5,099	6,011
	Other countries	90	1,488	1,058	1,992	3,013
Disposal - Other [1]	Malta	16,000	425,000	120,000	-	26,908
	Other countries	59	-	-	-	-
Recovery - Energy recovery	Malta	-	-	-	-	-
	Other countries	973	746	161	-	43
Recovery - Recycling	Malta	198,291	317,682	395,626	819,544	696,190
	Other countries	175,927	102,757	108,876	86,946	89,516
Recovery - Backfilling	Malta	889,488	1,292,429	1,407,245	1,661,710	1,166,581
	Other countries	-	-	-	-	-
Total waste treatment		**1,550,706**	**2,450,694**	**2,347,220**	**2,939,116**	**2,310,937**

[1] In Malta this waste treatment comprises disposal of inert mineral waste and dredging spoils at sea.

[2] Revised.

Chart 2. Annual waste treatment by type of operation

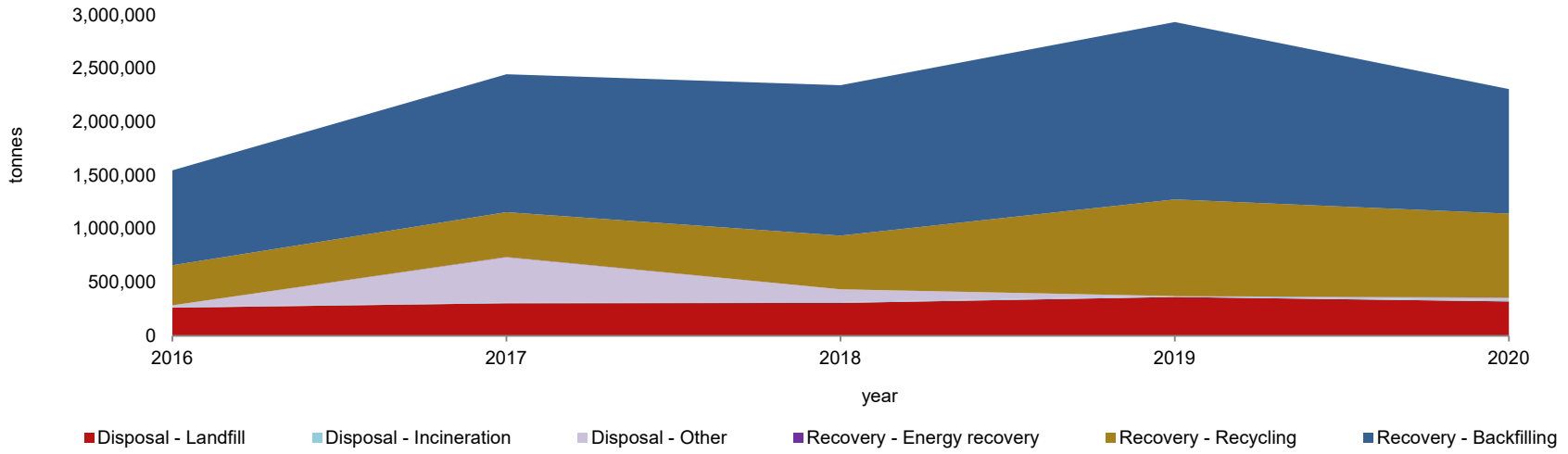


Table 3. Waste input by year, facility and waste category

tonnes

Waste category			2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EWC-Stat code	Description	Hazardous / Non-hazardous					
Tal-Kus (Gozo) waste transfer station [1]							
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	NHAZ	6	1	0	7	10
7.1	Glass wastes	NHAZ	621	883	949	1,061	895
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	254	785	243	162	180
7.3	Rubber wastes	NHAZ	101	115	118	128	123
7.4	Plastic wastes	NHAZ	6	4	24	92	100
7.5	Wood wastes	NHAZ	182	308	259	374	18
7.6	Textile wastes	NHAZ	-	-	1	-	-
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	HAZ	0	2	-	-	-
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	365	1,449	1,549	1,858	1,782
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	299	579	600	639	424
10.1	Household and similar wastes	NHAZ	10,353	10,621	11,186	11,043	10,948
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	1,246	1,932	2,098	2,245	2,287
11	Common sludges	NHAZ	184	-	-	-	-
Total			**13,619**	**16,679**	**17,025**	**17,609**	**16,766**
Malta North Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plant [2]							
6.1	Metallic wastes, ferrous	NHAZ	-	449	-	-	114
6.2	Metallic wastes, non-ferrous	NHAZ	-	6	-	-	-
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	NHAZ	-	84	170	137	169
7.1	Glass wastes	NHAZ	-	2,033	-	35	-
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	1	1,434	1,739	2,144	2,171
7.3	Rubber wastes						2
7.4	Plastic wastes	NHAZ	-	442	487	379	596
7.5	Wood wastes	NHAZ	1,084	1,395	-	-	-
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	-	344	-	3,204	26,418
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	17	3	-	-	0
9.3	Animal faeces, urine and manure	NHAZ	6,523	4,922	6,233	6,113	5,133
10.1	Household and similar wastes	NHAZ	48,719	51,843	60,189	38,328	14,231
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	144	12,603	21,422	28,548	23,239
10.3	Sorting residues [3]	NHAZ	-	69	-	-	4,056
11	Common sludges	NHAZ	465	-	-	-	-
Total			**56,952**	**75,628**	**90,240**	**78,888**	**76,130**
Sant' Antnin Waste Treatment Plant (SAWTP) [4]							
6.1	Metallic wastes, ferrous	NHAZ	168	-	27	-	246
6.2	Metallic wastes, non-ferrous	NHAZ	12	2	1	-	-
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	NHAZ	240	103	62	68	74
7.1	Glass wastes	NHAZ	2,185	4,038	6,751	8,421	6,984
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	2,137	817	217	261	247
7.4	Plastic wastes	NHAZ	793	342	185	352	258
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	NHAZ	7	7	-	-	4
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	2,184	2,701	7,460	24,085	537
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	347	54	57	9	-
10.1	Household and similar wastes	NHAZ	46,745	49,540	48,630	28,806	212
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	16,070	6,361	335	1,924	4,619
10.3	Sorting residues [3]	NHAZ	2	-	-	-	-
Total			**70,890**	**63,965**	**63,725**	**63,928**	**13,181**

[1] Tal-Kus waste transfer station started operations in March 2016.

[2] Malta North MBT plant started operations in December 2015.

[3] Waste generated from waste treatment operations (secondary waste).

[4] In May 2017 the SAWTP materials recovery facility was destroyed by fire thus affecting the input of certain waste categories. In 2020 the anaerobic digestion plant at SAWTP underwent repair works and so certain waste categories were diverted to other facilities.

Table 4. Għallis landfill - waste landfilled by year and category

tonnes

Waste category		2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
EWC-Stat code	Description					
1.2	Acid, alkaline or saline wastes	14	33	3	-	-
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	579	486	465	626	511
3.3	Sludges & liquid wastes from waste treatment [1]	7,118	9,516	9,931	11,402	3,898
6.2	Metallic wastes, non-ferrous	5	15	1	-	-
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	-	-	0	-	1
7.1	Glass wastes	29	70	248	287	290
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	32	11	1	1	3
7.4	Plastic wastes	39	139	107	80	46
7.5	Wood wastes	8,829	6,199	9,388	9,740	10,125
7.6	Textile wastes	316	150	32	9	18
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	45	87	134	198	138
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	-	67	109	115	20
9.2	Vegetal wastes	4,166	3,698	4,345	6,333	5,329
9.3	Animal faeces, urine and manure	2,439	3,225	3,735	4,494	4,337
10.1	Household and similar wastes	128,343	142,978	138,884	168,922	214,322
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	185	543	217	148	133
10.3	Sorting residues [1]	73,450	85,774	98,674	77,410	24,113
11	Common sludges	38,020	36,609	30,493	33,800	39,791
12.1	Mineral waste from construction & demolition [2]	260	152	123	9	12
12.2, 12.3, 12.5	Other mineral wastes [2]	-	-	280	91	1
12.6	Soils [2]	-	438	44	19	-
12.7	Dredging spoils [2]	-	-	-	702	480
12.8, 13	Mineral waste from waste treatment & stabilised waste [1]	338	332	310	329	353
Total		**264,206**	**290,521**	**297,523**	**314,714**	**303,917**

[1] Waste generated from waste treatment operations (secondary waste).

[2] Mineral waste.

Note: All waste input into Għallis landfill is non-hazardous.

Table 5. Marsa Thermal Treatment Facility - waste incinerated by year and category

tonnes

Waste category			2016	2017	2018	2019 [2]	2020
EWC-Stat code	Description	Hazardous / Non-hazardous					
1.1	Spent solvents	HAZ	-	-	2	-	-
1.3	Used oils	HAZ	2	-	-	14.26	2.32
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	NHAZ	44	47	50	43	35
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	HAZ	73	62	67	46	36
5	Health care and biological wastes	NHAZ	-	-	-	-	0
5	Health care and biological wastes	HAZ	402	417	448	429	603
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	-	3	-	4	61
7.6	Textile wastes	NHAZ	-	-	-	-	0
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	4,928	4,793	4,385	4,541	5,271
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	-	-	0	1	0
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	2	1	0	19	0
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	HAZ	-	-	7	2	-
10.3	Sorting residues [1]	NHAZ	-	1	-	-	-
Total hazardous			**477**	**478**	**524**	**490**	**642**
Total non-hazardous			**4,974**	**4,844**	**4,435**	**4,608**	**5,369**
Total			**5,451**	**5,322**	**4,960**	**5,099**	**6,011**

[1] Waste generated from waste treatment operations (secondary waste).

[2] Revised.

Table 6. Inert mineral waste treatment in Malta by year, category and treatment operation

tonnes

Waste category		Waste treatment operation	2016	2017	2018	2019 [3]	2020
EWC-Stat code	Description						
12.1	Mineral waste from construction and demolition	Backfilling in quarries	831,747	1,254,495	1,366,953	1,629,187	1,128,662
12.1	Mineral waste from construction and demolition	Recycling	198,291	314,224	392,847	816,670	692,613
12.2, 12.3, 12.5	Other mineral wastes [1]	Backfilling in quarries	57,741	37,934	40,292	32,524	37,919
12.6	Soils [2]	Disposal at sea	16,000	-	-	-	-
12.7	Dredging spoils	Disposal at sea	-	425,000	120,000	-	26,908
Total			**1,103,778**	**2,031,653**	**1,920,092**	**2,478,380**	**1,886,102**

[1] Estimated value for backfilling of mineral waste generated by softstone quarrying (see methodological note 10).

[2] This category refers to inert mineral waste from excavation.

[3] Revised.

Note: All waste categories included in this table are non-hazardous.

Chart 3. Annual inert mineral waste treatment in Malta by treatment operation

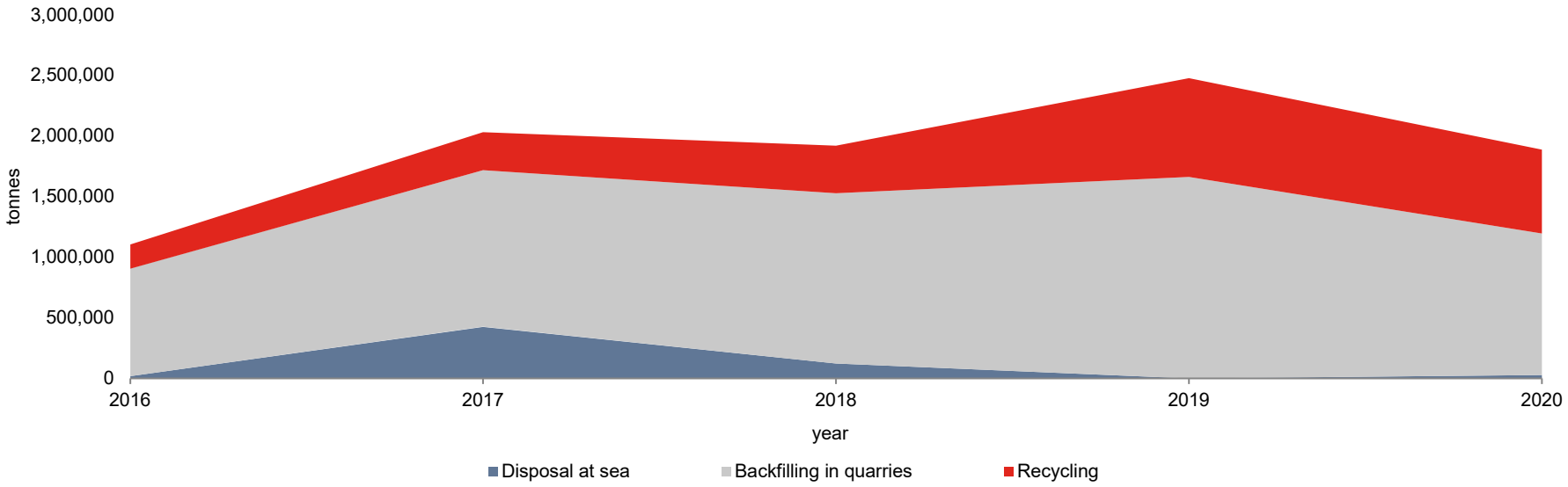


Table 7. Separate collection of waste fractions by year, type of collection and material

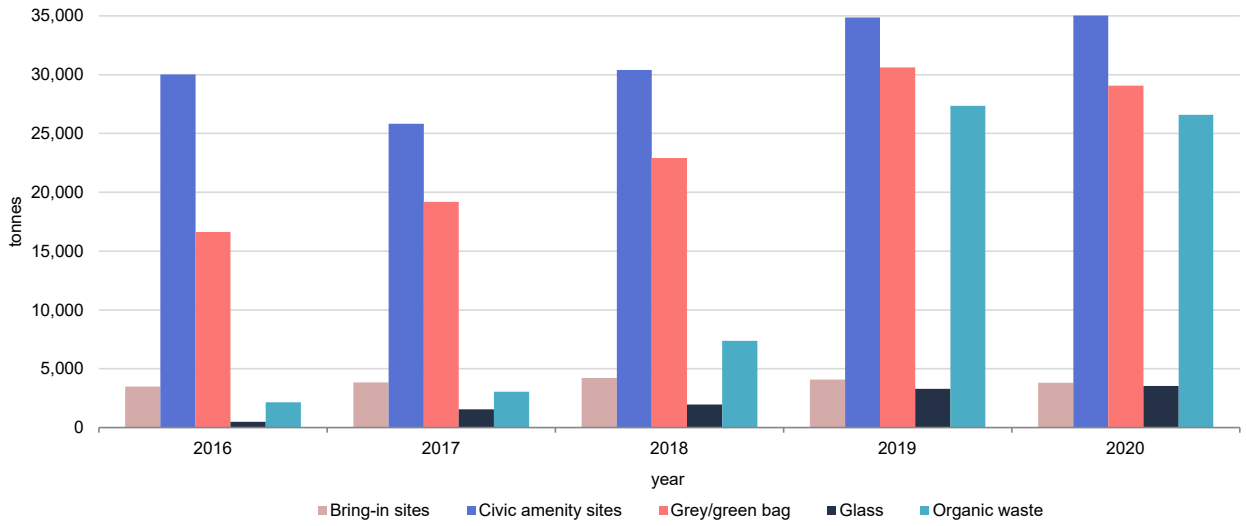
tonnes

Material	Hazardous / Non-hazardous	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Bring-in sites						
Paper and cardboard	NHAZ	646	630	685	828	887
Plastic	NHAZ	484	449	456	411	521
Cans	NHAZ	169	137	148	124	168
Glass	NHAZ	1,893	2,126	2,369	2,377	1,993
Mixed paper, plastic, cans, glass	NHAZ	293	509	559	353	245
Total		**3,486**	**3,852**	**4,218**	**4,093**	**3,814**
Civic amenity sites						
Tyres	NHAZ	147	128	137	215	271
Mixed construction and demolition wastes	NHAZ	11,438	8,966	10,670	11,172	13,661
Paper and cardboard	NHAZ	889	802	947	1,075	1,093
Glass	NHAZ	161	163	162	237	248
Wood	NHAZ	5,648	5,157	6,096	6,224	6,439
Plastics	NHAZ	179	144	184	206	242
Metals	NHAZ	1,309	955	1,067	1,149	1,272
Biodegradable waste	NHAZ	1,518	1,361	1,449	1,733	1,618
Bulky waste	NHAZ	6,677	6,274	8,116	9,790	9,726
Organic waste	NHAZ	-	20	16	20	24
Compost[1]	NHAZ	-	18	-	-	-
Clothes and textiles	NHAZ	-	-	-	-	5
Chemicals and gases	HAZ	-	-	-	-	2
Engine, gear and lubricating oils	HAZ	49	80	55	74	125
Waste containing asbestos	HAZ	136	73	87	99	104
Wastes from human or animal healthcare	HAZ	8	8	15	18	11
Waste electrical and electronic equipment	HAZ	1,748	1,579	1,309	2,744	1,787
Paints, inks, adhesives and resins	HAZ	28	77	54	69	107
Printing toners and cartridges	HAZ	-	3	11	1	4
Batteries and accumulators	HAZ	80	28	15	34	27
Total		**30,014**	**25,834**	**30,392**	**34,862**	**36,766**
Door-to-door collection from households						
Paper, plastic, metals (grey/green bag)	NHAZ	16,620	19,183	22,925	30,622	29,074
Glass	NHAZ	493	1,553	1,962	3,295	3,538
Organic waste	NHAZ	2,162	3,054	7,381	27,356 [2]	26,600

[1] Compost produced from green waste that was collected from the Ta' Qali Civic Amenity Site.

[2] First full calendar year during which nationwide organic waste collection took place.

Chart 4. Annual separate collection of waste fractions by type of collection



Methodological Notes

1. Data which is presented in this News Release has been sourced from the administrative records of the Environment and Resources Authority (ERA), Transport Malta and WasteServ Malta Ltd.

2. Revisions have been made to 2019 data due to updated figures that were made available by data providers. In this release, 2020 data should be considered as provisional.

3. Waste generation figures shown in Table 1 are derived from records kept by the relevant entities about the waste inputs into waste management facilities. In this process, double counting for inter-facility transfers is eliminated, except for waste that is generated as a result of waste treatment processes (secondary waste).

4. Table 2 comprises a breakdown of waste that was treated in Malta and waste that was sent for treatment in other countries into six waste treatment categories. These are based upon the categories that are used for the reporting of the Waste Statistics Regulation to Eurostat. Waste that is held in temporary storage does not form part of these categories.

5. Waste items in Tables 1 and 3 to 6, are classified according to the Statistical European Waste Classification (EWC-Stat. Version 4): https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/classifications/European%20Waste%20Catalogue.pdf
This classification has been published in the Waste Statistics Regulation 2150/2002 (WStatR) and is a substance-oriented nomenclature used to report waste generation and treatment data to Eurostat. Countries such as Malta, that collect data according to the European Waste Catalogue, can convert the data into EWC-Stat waste categories by means of the table of equivalence which is published in Annex 3 of the WStatR.

6. The discrepancies in the published data and the data that are available on the Eurostat website occur since data for all waste categories reported in this news release are in wet weight. For Eurostat reporting, sludges and dredging spoils are reported in dry weight. Differences may also result due to updates in the source data.

7. Totals for waste generation (Table 1) and treatment (Table 2) are not equal due to the storage of waste at certain waste treatment facilities. Moreover, Table 1 includes the intentional double counting of secondary waste generation from waste treatment activities.

8. Tables 1 and 2 comprise data from all waste management facilities and waste brokers that are permitted by ERA to operate in this sector. Comprehensive lists of these entities can be found on the ERA website as follows:
Waste management facilities: https://era.org.mt/topic/permitted-waste-management-facilities
Quarries permitted to accept inert waste: https://era.org.mt/topic/permitted-quarries
Waste brokers: https://era.org.mt/topic/list-of-authorised-waste-brokers

9. In Table 2, Recovery - Recycling taking place in Malta mainly comprises inert mineral waste. From 2017 onward small amounts of other materials were also recycled in Malta.

10. Waste generation and treatment data include estimates for the mineral waste that is generated by softstone quarrying. These are estimated at 30 per cent of the total volume of quarried material.

11. Definitions:

- **Inert mineral waste managed in quarry sites:** Waste which mainly consists of stones, concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics from construction and demolition. It also includes clean geological material from excavation works.
- **Dredging spoils:** Mineral waste that originates from port maintenance activities and is made up of sediments excavated from the seabed.
- **Bring-in sites**: Collection depots for clean source-segregated recyclable materials. Four types of materials are collected: glass, metals, plastic and paper/cardboard.
- **Civic amenity sites**: Collection depots for the separate disposal of household bulky waste and recyclables. Up to 2020, there were six sites operated by WasteServ Malta Ltd.
- **Door-to-door green/grey bag collection:** Collection of mixed paper, metals and plastics from households on pre-determined weekdays that has been taking place since 2011. Waste which is collected in this manner is sorted by material type in waste treatment facilities.
- **Door-to-door glass waste collection**: Collection of glass waste from households usually held once a month and that has been taking place since 2014.
- **Door-to-door organic waste collection**: Collection of organic waste from households on pre-determined weekdays. This collection started as a pilot project covering a limited number of localities in 2015 and was extended nation-wide as from the 31st October 2018.
- **Recovery**: Any operation the principal result of which is waste serving a useful purpose by replacing other materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfil a particular function, or waste being prepared to fulfil that function, in the plant or in the wider economy.

- **Recycling:** A subset of recovery and means any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials, or substances whether for the original or other purposes. It includes the reprocessing of organic material (e.g. composting, anaerobic digestion, etc.) but excludes the use as fuels and the use for backfilling operations.

- **Backfilling**: A recovery operation where waste is used in excavated areas (such as underground mines, gravel pits) for the purpose of slope reclamation or safety or for engineering purposes in landscaping and where the waste is substituting other non-waste materials which would have had to be used for the purpose.

- **Energy recovery**: A recovery operation that takes place whenever both the conditions and energy efficiency thresholds which are provided in the 'Guidelines on the energy efficiency formula for incineration facilities' related to the Waste Framework Directive are met.

- **Disposal:** Any operation which is not recovery even where the operation has as a secondary consequence the reclamation of substances or energy.

- **Landfilling**: The deposit of waste on landfills within the meaning of Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste. This includes landfills for inert waste, non-hazardous waste and hazardous waste above ground and landfills for the underground storage of waste.

- **Incineration**: A disposal operation where the main purpose of the incineration is the thermal treatment of waste in order to reduce the volume and the hazardousness of the waste, and to obtain an inert product that can be disposed of.

- **Other disposal**: Operations such as land treatment, deep injection, impoundment of waste and the release of waste into water bodies. These disposal methods can be used only for a limited range of waste types. In Malta, these operations are limited to disposal at sea at the official spoil ground located off the Grand Harbour area.

- **Pre-treatment**: Preparatory waste treatment operations that are necessary before final treatment (both for recovery and disposal) can take place. In Malta, these treatments comprise essentially waste sorting and mechanical-biological treatment.

12. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:
    Sources and methods:
    https://nso.gov.mt/en/nso/Sources_and_Methods/Unit_B3/Environment_Energy_Transport_and_Agriculture_Statistics/Pages/Waste-Statistics.aspx
    Statistical concepts: https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/concepts.aspx
    Metadata: https://metadata.nso.gov.mt/reports.aspx?id=23
    Classification: List of recovery and disposal operations (Annex I and Annex II of Directive 2008/98/EC)

13. References to this news release are to be cited appropriately.

14. A detailed news release calendar is available on:
    https://nso.gov.mt/en/News_Releases/Release_Calendar/Pages/News-Release-Calendar.aspx

European statistics comparable to data in this News Release are available at:

EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database

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