

In 2015, 92.8 per cent of municipal waste was treated by landfilling.

Municipal Waste: 2015

Municipal waste generation

In 2015, municipal waste generation in Malta amounted to 269,316 tonnes, an increase of 5.1 per cent over 2014, which is the highest increase that was registered since 2011. On a per capita basis, this amounted to 620 kilograms.

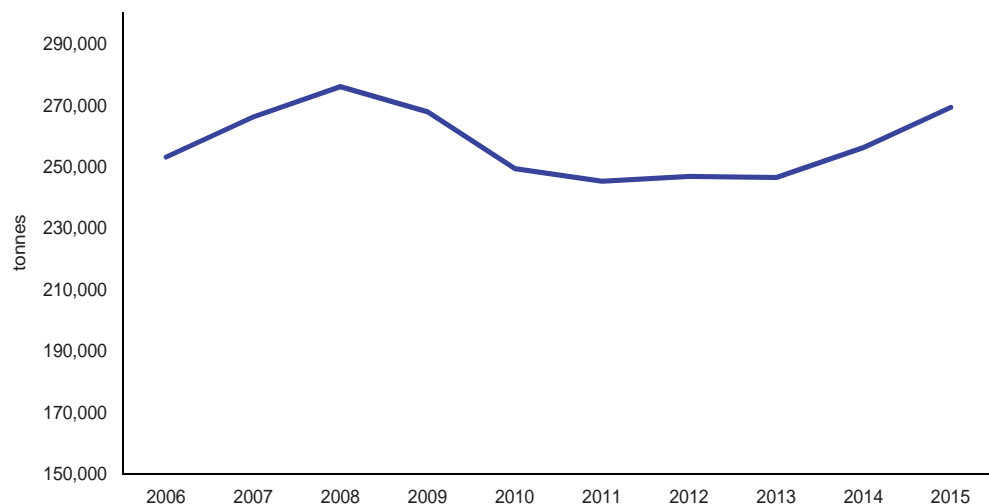
Mixed municipal waste which is covered by the black bag waste collection made up 67.9 per cent (182,763 tonnes) of the total municipal waste generation in 2015, increasing by 5.0 per cent over the previous year. The Green/Grey bag collection of mixed recyclables went up by 15.8 per cent, contributing 5.5 per cent (14,926 tonnes) to the total municipal waste generation (Table 1).

Municipal waste treatment

During the year under review 92.8 per cent of the total amount of municipal waste treated was disposed at the Għallis landfill. The bulk of this waste comprised mixed municipal waste (59.0 per cent) followed by rejects from the mechanical treatment of municipal waste (16.2 per cent).

Material recycling occupied a share of 6.9 per cent from the total municipal waste treatment. At 57.6 per cent paper and cardboard made up the bulk of recycled amounts, followed by glass at 13.3 per cent. In 2015, no municipal waste was composted since the output of compost from the Sant'Antnin Anaerobic Digestion plant was landfilled at Għallis (Table 2) ■

Chart 1. Municipal waste generation



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Table 1. Municipal waste generation

	tonnes				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Municipal waste generation - Total	245,199	246,749	246,390	256,189	269,316
<i>by waste type:</i>					
Paper and cardboard	3,291	3,532	2,591	6,266	6,953
Plastic	1,715	1,519	1,869	1,576	1,107
Metals	3,557	1,502	3,631	1,470	1,330
Glass	223	1,868	2,268	2,415	3,538
Wood	10,813	12,061	14,669	14,112	14,447
Waste electrical and electronic equipment *	1,327	1,197	1,210	1,252	1,206
Biodegradable garden and park waste	6,747	7,472	6,551	7,733	6,660
Mixed packaging	10,579	10,863	12,063	12,566	14,468
Mixed municipal waste	174,108	174,993	168,518	174,094	182,763
Street cleaning residues	3,215	3,659	3,607	3,048	3,650
Bulky waste	28,755	25,419	26,210	29,450	32,201
Other *	870	2,665	3,202	2,207	993
<i>by waste origin:</i>					
Bring-in sites	4,955	3,447	4,043	3,740	2,652
Civic amenity sites *	12,396	12,338	12,333	14,370	16,991
Green/Grey bag and glass collection	10,111	10,720	11,729	12,891	14,926
Black bag collection	174,108	174,993	168,518	174,094	182,763
Street cleaning	3,215	3,659	3,607	3,048	3,650
Other *	40,414	41,592	46,159	48,045	48,334
Municipal waste generation per capita - kilograms	587	586	579	597	620

Source: WasteServ Malta Ltd.; ERA; NSO

* includes hazardous waste

Chart 2. Municipal waste generation per capita



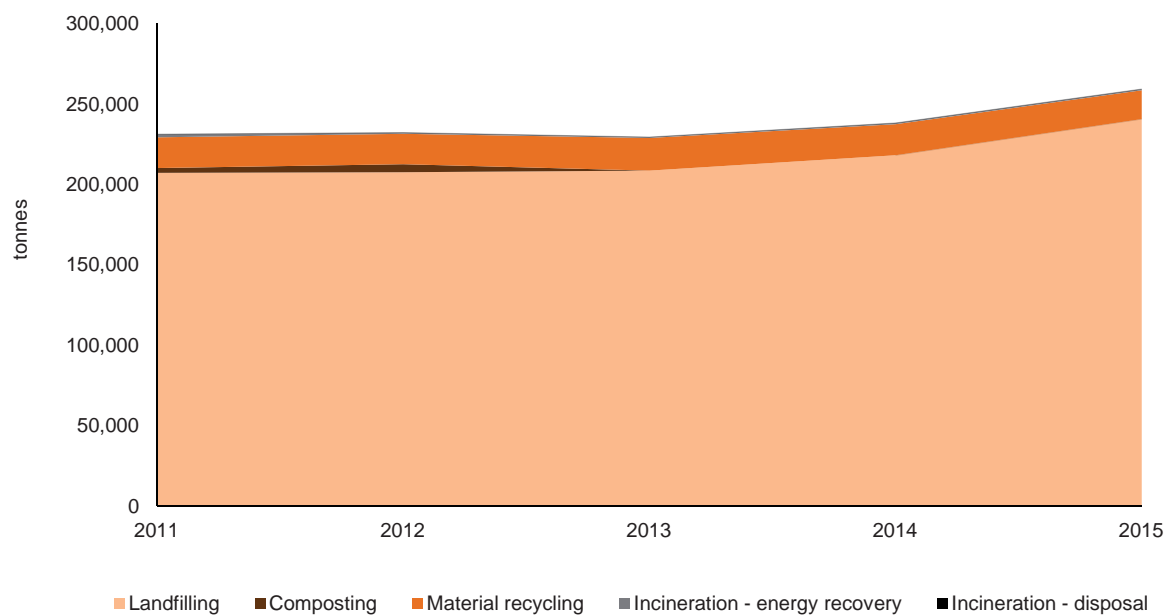
Table 2. Municipal waste treatment

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
	tonnes				
Municipal waste treatment - Total	231,401	232,334	229,676	238,393	259,505
Landfilling	207,297	207,611	208,673	218,325	240,795
Wood	-	84	146	48	14,447
Digestate from anaerobic digestion	-	-	4,113	3,892	2,798
Refuse derived fuel	3,714	176	188	312	-
Rejects from mechanical treatment of waste	37,600	46,398	48,246	44,290	38,891
Biodegradable garden and park waste	6,747	7,472	6,551	7,733	6,660
Mixed packaging	16	152	281	240	160
Mixed municipal waste	130,926	126,393	120,597	130,262	142,063
Street-cleaning residues	2,492	2,763	2,721	2,326	3,650
Bulky waste	25,537	24,172	25,830	29,211	32,108
Other *	266	-	1	11	18
Material recycling	19,222	18,917	20,407	19,261	17,947
Paper and cardboard	8,698	10,867	10,754	10,236	10,345
Plastic	2,335	2,777	2,302	2,752	2,149
Metals	2,870	2,144	2,434	2,169	1,640
Glass	3,405	1,644	3,284	2,397	2,387
Waste electrical and electronic equipment *	1,672	1,217	1,180	1,359	1,205
Other *	241	269	453	347	222
Composting	2,944	5,119	-	-	-
Digestate from anaerobic digestion	2,944	5,119	-	-	-
Incineration - energy recovery	1,826	668	552	753	725
Refuse derived fuel	1,826	668	552	753	725
Incineration - disposal	113	19	44	54	39
Solvents, paints, inks, adhesives and resins *	76	19	44	53	39
Other	36	-	-	0	-

Source: WasteServ Malta Ltd.; ERA

* includes hazardous waste

Chart 3. Municipal waste treatment



Methodological Notes

1. Data presented in this news release is based on the methodology that is applied for the Municipal Waste Sustainable Development indicator which is compiled annually for Eurostat by NSO. The latest data transmission to Eurostat occurred in February 2017.
2. Eurostat data on municipal waste generation and treatment which is expressed as kilograms per capita is compiled by means of data about the total population as at 1st January. In this news release the municipal waste generation per capita is calculated according to the total population as at 31st December.
3. Table 2 presents data for the five final treatment categories under which municipal waste can be classified. Data is inclusive of waste exports to overseas final treatment facilities, occurring due to the limited treatment capacity in Malta available for hazardous waste and waste undergoing recycling and energy recovery operations. In general the disposal by means of landfilling and incineration is carried out in Malta, whilst material recycling and energy recovery are carried out abroad.
4. The difference between municipal waste generation and municipal waste treatment refers to storage of municipal waste, mainly recyclables.
5. The data for composting and/or fermentation for 2011 and 2012 refers to the use of digestate (compost) produced by the Sant' Antnin anaerobic digestion plant, as landfill cover at Magħtab. Since 2013 the digestate produced has been landfilled.
6. Data for 2015 is to be considered as provisional.
7. Definitions:
 - **Municipal waste:** Waste that is generated from households and waste that is similar in nature and composition to household waste that is generated by businesses and institutions. This waste is collected by or on behalf of municipal authorities and disposed of through the waste management system.
 - **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 2015 there were six sites operated by WasteServ Malta Ltd.
 - **Green/Grey bag collection:** Door-to-door collection of mixed paper, metals and plastics from households on pre-determined weekdays. As from 2014 door-to-door collection of glass is also taking place.
 - **Black bag collection:** Door-to-door collection of mixed organic and recyclable waste primarily from households but also including waste from businesses and institutions on pre-determined weekdays.
 - **Landfilling:** Disposal of waste into or onto land, including specially engineered landfill.
 - **Recycling:** Any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes, except use as fuel.
 - **Composting:** Biological treatment (anaerobic or aerobic) of biodegradable matter resulting in a recoverable product.
 - **Incineration:** Incineration with energy recovery is considered as a recovery operation whenever 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. Incineration without energy recovery refers to the thermal treatment of waste and is considered as a disposal operation.
8. More information relating to this news release may be accessed at:

Metadata: <http://nso.gov.mt/metadata/reports.aspx?id=23>

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

[EUROSTAT Website/Homepage/Statistics Database](#)

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