

11 February 2021 | 1100 hrs | 023/2021

During 2019, the total amount of generated waste increased by 2.6 per cent over 2018.

Solid Waste Management: 2019

The total amount of solid waste generated in Malta during 2019 amounted to 2.7 million tonnes; advancing by 2.6 per cent over that recorded during the previous year. Hazardous waste increased by 34.1 per cent or 10,932 tonnes, mainly as a result of higher amounts of chemical wastes. Likewise, non-hazardous waste went up by 2.2 per cent or 56,995 tonnes, with mineral waste from construction and demolition and the organic waste collection from households (classified under animal and mixed food waste) being the main contributors towards this increase (Table 1).

Waste treatment registered an increase of 30.0 per cent or 704,251 tonnes when compared to 2018. This happened mainly due to an increase, amounting to almost 1.0 million tonnes, in the recycling of mineral waste from construction and demolition. On the other hand, backfilling in quarries decreased by 14.6 per cent or 205,776 tonnes (Table 6). Landfilling and incineration both increased by 54,531 tonnes and 1,102 tonnes respectively, whilst no amounts were recorded for disposal at sea and energy recovery. From the waste that was sent overseas for treatment in 2019, 63.0 per cent underwent recycling processes and 35.6 per cent was landfilled (Table 2).

During 2019, the waste input into the Tal-Kus (Gozo) waste transfer station increased by 3.4 per cent, or 584 tonnes. Increases of 168 tonnes, 203 tonnes and 17,191 tonnes were also recorded at the Marsa Thermal Treatment Facility, the Sant' Antnin Waste Treatment Plant and the Għallis landfill respectively. Conversely, the input of waste at the Malta North Mechanical-Biological Treatment plant declined by 12.6 per cent or 11,352 tonnes (Tables 3 to 5).

In 2019, the separate collection of waste fractions experienced increases across all collection modes except for bring-in sites. The highest increase, at 19,975 tonnes, was recorded in the organic waste collection from households, since 2019 was the first full calendar year during which the nationwide collection of this waste took place. This was followed by the collection of dry recyclables from the grey/green bag and glass collection which increased by 9,031 tonnes or 36.3 per cent. Waste collected from civic amenity sites rose by 4,470 tonnes or 14.7 per cent, while waste collected from bring in sites dipped by 125 tonnes or 3.0 per cent (Table 7) ■

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

tonnes

Waste category			2015 ³	2016 ³	2017	2018 ³	2019
EWC-Stat code	Description	Hazardous / Non-hazardous					
1.1	Spent solvents	HAZ	1,448	1,294	2,049	1,708	1,305
1.2	Acid, alkaline or saline wastes	NHAZ	-	14	33	3	-
1.2	Acid, alkaline or saline wastes	HAZ	0	67	0	16	51
1.3	Used oils	HAZ	727	286	209	826	356
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	NHAZ	672	634	573	537	699
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	HAZ	20,880	20,562	14,428	6,434	16,511
3.2	Industrial effluent sludges	NHAZ	-	0	1	0	0
3.2	Industrial effluent sludges	HAZ	31	174	695	2,341	1,282
3.3	Sludges & liquid wastes from waste treatment ¹	NHAZ	2,798	7,118	9,516	9,931	11,402
5	Health care and biological wastes	NHAZ	-	3	-	-	-
5	Health care and biological wastes	HAZ	362	402	416	448	457
6.1	Metallic wastes, ferrous	NHAZ	27,921	25,017	11,333	33,754	39,878
6.2	Metallic wastes, non-ferrous	NHAZ	3,794	3,053	14,068	4,057	4,091
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	NHAZ	10,659	2,370	17,590	1,460	1,501
7.1	Glass wastes	NHAZ	4,277	7,210	6,229	7,884	8,709
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	19,082	18,927	18,651	14,469	20,924
7.3	Rubber wastes	NHAZ	2,975	2,492	3,009	2,461	2,326
7.4	Plastic wastes	NHAZ	3,160	8,657	7,618	7,201	9,167
7.5	Wood wastes	NHAZ	15,172	10,097	8,339	9,738	9,927
7.6	Textile wastes	NHAZ	145	568	980	1,195	1,822
7.7	Waste containing PCB	HAZ	-	-	1	-	8
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	NHAZ	224	245	574	616	1,030
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	HAZ	1,564	2,330	3,517	3,447	2,878
8.1	Discarded vehicles	HAZ	15,472	104,844	21,001	13,945	14,511
8.41	Batteries and accumulators wastes	NHAZ	-	14	27	29	147
8.41	Batteries and accumulators wastes	HAZ	2,066	991	1,843	1,821	1,816
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	5,879	7,116	8,376	13,160	33,375
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	6,866	4,608	4,355	5,089	6,633
9.3	Animal faeces, urine and manure	NHAZ	1,540	8,926	8,147	9,954	10,606
10.1	Household and similar wastes	NHAZ	218,505	223,524	244,729	245,718	235,288
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	14,755	17,297	20,708	24,011	31,748
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	HAZ	4	3	12	52	71
10.3	Sorting residues ¹	NHAZ	42,374	88,433	94,341	98,674	108,174
10.3	Sorting residues ¹	HAZ	-	-	-	-	2,817
11	Common sludges	NHAZ	32,653	38,669	36,609	30,753	33,800

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

tonnes

Waste category			2015 ³	2016 ³	2017	2018 ³	2019
EWC-Stat code	Description	Hazardous / Non-hazardous					
12.1	Mineral waste from construction & demolition ²	NHAZ	1,300,566	1,296,533	1,678,471	1,877,525	1,999,833
12.1	Mineral waste from construction & demolition ²	HAZ	1	0	2	0	0
12.2, 12.3, 12.5	Other mineral wastes ²	NHAZ	51,513	57,741	37,941	40,581	43,959
12.2, 12.3, 12.5	Other mineral wastes ²	HAZ	6,135	349	3,217	559	627
12.4	Combustion wastes	NHAZ	1	1	7	1	57
12.4	Combustion wastes	HAZ	498	2,581	914	134	-
12.6	Soils ²	NHAZ	33,823	16,179	447	44	25
12.6	Soils ²	HAZ	-	-	-	21	-
12.7	Dredging spoils ²	NHAZ	77,781	-	439,298	120,000	702
12.8, 13	Mineral waste from waste treatment & stabilised waste ¹	NHAZ	333	338	332	310	329
12.8, 13	Mineral waste from waste treatment & stabilised waste ¹	HAZ	390	244	193	274	267
Total hazardous			49,579	134,128	48,497	32,025	42,957
Total non-hazardous			1,877,468	1,845,786	2,672,302	2,559,156	2,616,151
Mineral waste			1,463,682	1,370,453	2,156,157	2,038,150	2,044,518
Secondary waste			45,505	95,889	104,188	108,916	119,905
Other waste			368,281	379,444	411,957	412,090	451,727
Total waste generation			1,927,047	1,979,914	2,720,799	2,591,181	2,659,108

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

² Mineral waste.

³ Revised (see methodological notes)

Chart 1. Annual waste generation by category aggregates

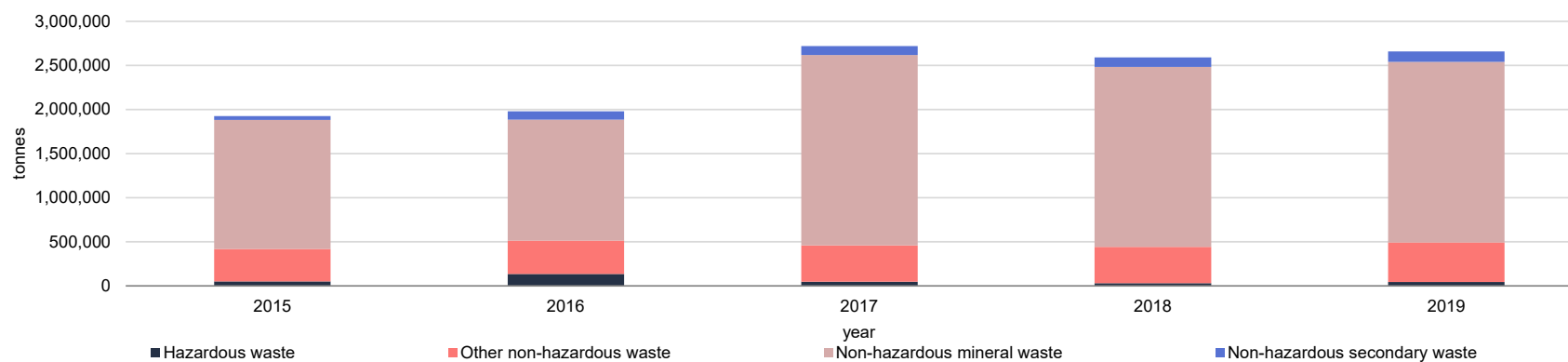


Table 2. Waste treatment by year, type of operation and location

tonnes

Waste treatment operation	Location of treatment	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Disposal - Landfill	Malta	335,791	264,206	290,521	297,523	314,714
	Other countries	397	220	14,749	11,771	49,111
Disposal - Incineration	Malta	5,684	5,451	5,322	4,960	5,128
	Other countries	519	90	1,488	1,058	1,992
Disposal - Other ¹	Malta	111,560	16,000	425,000	120,000	-
	Other countries	-	59	-	-	-
Recovery - Energy recovery	Malta	-	-	-	-	-
	Other countries	1,098	973	746	161	-
Recovery - Recycling	Malta	304,773	198,291	317,682	395,626	1,392,111
	Other countries	76,825	175,887	102,757	108,876	86,946
Recovery - Backfilling	Malta	942,279	889,488	1,292,429	1,407,245	1,201,469
	Other countries	-	-	-	-	-
Total waste treatment		1,778,927	1,550,666	2,450,694	2,347,220	3,051,471

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

Chart 2. Annual waste treatment by type of operation

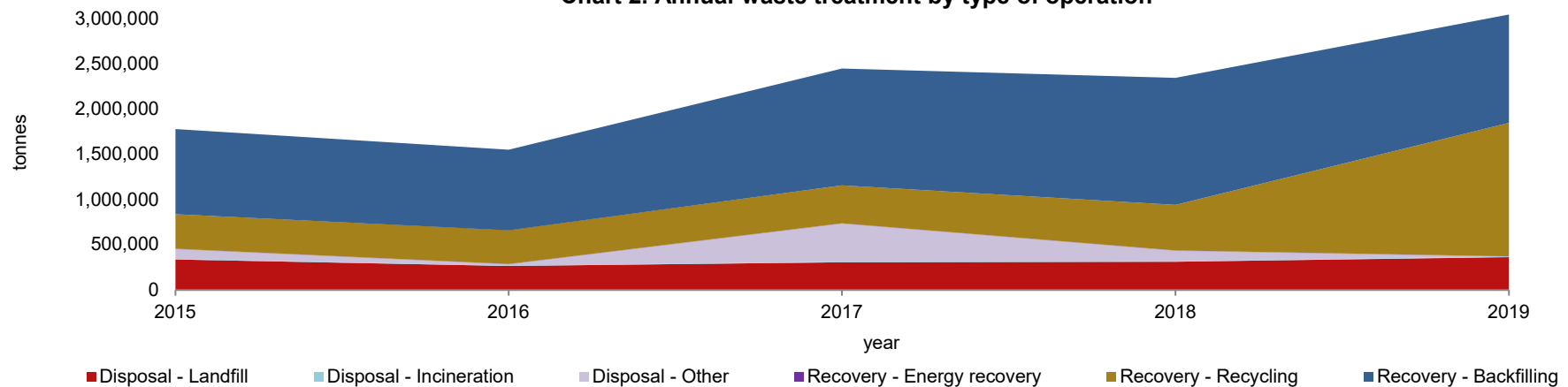


Table 3. Waste input by year, facility and waste category

Waste category			tonnes				
EWC-Stat code	Description	Hazardous / Non-hazardous	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Tal-Kus (Gozo) waste transfer station¹							
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	NHAZ	-	6	1	0	7
7.1	Glass wastes	NHAZ	-	621	883	949	1,061
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	-	254	785	243	162
7.3	Rubber wastes	NHAZ	-	101	115	118	128
7.4	Plastic wastes	NHAZ	-	6	4	24	92
7.5	Wood wastes	NHAZ	-	182	308	259	374
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
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	-	299	579	600	639
10.1	Household and similar wastes	NHAZ	-	10,353	10,621	11,186	11,043
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	-	1,246	1,932	2,098	2,245
11	Common sludges	NHAZ	-	184	-	-	-
Total			-	13,619	16,679	17,025	17,609
Malta North Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) plant²							
6.1	Metallic wastes, ferrous	NHAZ	-	-	449	-	-
6.2	Metallic wastes, non-ferrous	NHAZ	-	-	6	-	-
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	NHAZ	-	-	84	170	137
7.1	Glass wastes	NHAZ	-	-	2,033	-	35
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	-	1	1,434	1,739	2,144
7.4	Plastic wastes	NHAZ	-	-	442	487	379
7.5	Wood wastes	NHAZ	-	1,084	1,395	-	-
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	-	-	344	-	3,204
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	-	17	3	-	-
9.3	Animal faeces, urine and manure	NHAZ	-	6,523	4,922	6,233	6,113
10.1	Household and similar wastes	NHAZ	196	48,719	51,843	60,189	38,328
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	-	144	12,603	21,422	28,548
10.3	Sorting residues ³	NHAZ	-	-	69	-	-
11	Common sludges	NHAZ	-	465	-	-	-
Total			196	56,952	75,628	90,240	78,888
Sant' Antnin Waste Treatment Plant (SAWTP)⁴							
6.1	Metallic wastes, ferrous	NHAZ	-	168	-	27	-
6.2	Metallic wastes, non-ferrous	NHAZ	-	12	2	1	-
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	NHAZ	503	240	103	62	68
7.1	Glass wastes	NHAZ	2,441	2,185	4,038	6,751	8,421
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	2,362	2,137	817	217	261
7.4	Plastic wastes	NHAZ	788	793	342	185	352
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	NHAZ	-	7	7	-	-
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	734	2,184	2,701	7,460	24,085
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	-	347	54	57	9
10.1	Household and similar wastes	NHAZ	40,701	46,745	49,540	48,630	28,806
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	12,638	16,070	6,361	335	1,924
10.3	Sorting residues ³	NHAZ	-	2	-	-	-
Total			60,166	70,890	63,965	63,725	63,928

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 into the plant.

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

tonnes

Waste category		2015 ¹	2016	2017	2018	2019
EWC-Stat code	Description					
1.2	Acid, alkaline or saline wastes	-	14	33	3	-
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	621	579	486	465	626
3.3	Sludges & liquid wastes from waste treatment ¹	2,798	7,118	9,516	9,931	11,402
6.2	Metallic wastes, non-ferrous	-	5	15	1	-
6.3	Metallic wastes, mixed	-	-	-	0	-
7.1	Glass wastes	37	29	70	248	287
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	35	32	11	1	1
7.4	Plastic wastes	22	39	139	107	80
7.5	Wood wastes	73,294	8,829	6,199	9,388	9,740
7.6	Textile wastes	18	316	150	32	9
8 (excl. 8.1, 8.41)	Discarded equipment	-	45	87	134	198
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	0	-	67	109	115
9.2	Vegetal wastes	6,834	4,166	3,698	4,345	6,333
9.3	Animal faeces, urine and manure	1,540	2,439	3,225	3,735	4,494
10.1	Household and similar wastes	177,821	128,343	142,978	138,884	168,922
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	390	185	543	217	148
10.3	Sorting residues ²	39,544	73,450	85,774	98,674	77,410
11	Common sludges	32,271	38,020	36,609	30,493	33,800
12.1	Mineral waste from construction & demolition ³	171	260	152	123	9
12.2, 12.3, 12.5	Other mineral wastes ³	41	-	-	280	91
12.6	Soils ³	-	-	438	44	19
12.7	Dredging spoils ³	21	-	-	-	702
12.8, 13	Mineral waste from waste treatment & stabilised waste ¹	333	338	332	310	329
Total		335,791	264,206	290,521	297,523	314,714

¹ The amount landfilled in 2015 includes wood waste that was generated from 2010 to 2014 that was held in storage at the landfill.

² Waste generated from waste treatment operations (secondary waste).

³ 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			2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
EWC-Stat code	Description	Hazardous / Non-hazardous					
1.1	Spent solvents	HAZ	0	-	-	2	-
1.3	Used oils	HAZ	3	2	-	-	14.26
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	NHAZ	53	44	47	50	44
1.4, 2, 3.1	Chemical wastes	HAZ	92	73	62	67	41
5	Health care and biological wastes	HAZ	363	402	417	448	457
7.2	Paper and cardboard wastes	NHAZ	7	-	3	-	4
9.1	Animal and mixed food waste	NHAZ	5,166	4,928	4,793	4,385	4,545
9.2	Vegetal wastes	NHAZ	-	-	-	0	1
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	NHAZ	-	2	1	0	19
10.2	Mixed and undifferentiated materials	HAZ	2	-	-	7	2
10.3	Sorting residues ¹	NHAZ	-	-	1	-	-
Total hazardous			459	477	478	524	514
Total non-hazardous			5,225	4,974	4,844	4,435	4,614
Total			5,684	5,451	5,322	4,960	5,128

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

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

tonnes

Waste category		Waste treatment operation	2015 ³	2016 ³	2017 ³	2018 ³	2019
EWC-Stat code	Description						
12.1	Mineral waste from construction and demolition	Backfilling in quarries	890,853	831,747	1,254,495	1,366,953	1,157,618
12.1	Mineral waste from construction and demolition	Recycling	304,773	198,291	314,224	392,847	1,389,237
12.2, 12.3, 12.5	Other mineral wastes ¹	Backfilling in quarries	51,426	57,741	37,934	40,292	43,851
12.6	Soils ²	Disposal at sea	33,800	16,000	-	-	-
12.7	Dredging spoils	Disposal at sea	77,760	-	425,000	120,000	-
Total			1,358,612	1,103,778	2,031,653	1,920,092	2,590,706

¹ Estimated value for backfilling of mineral waste generated by softstone quarrying.

² This category refers to inert mineral waste from excavation.

³ Revised (see methodological notes)

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

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

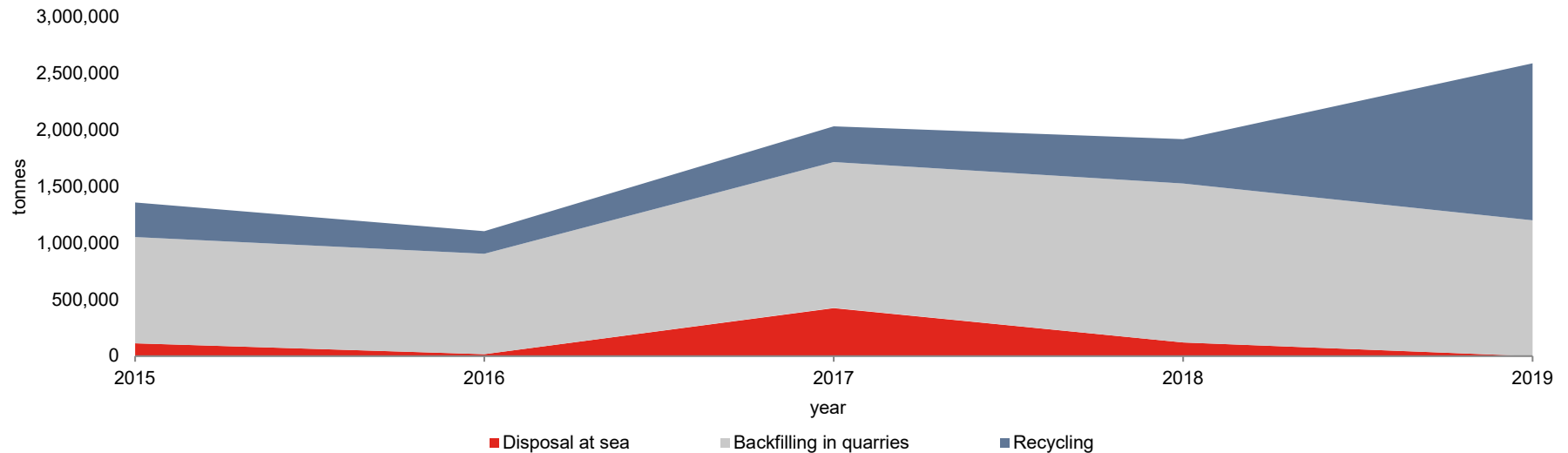


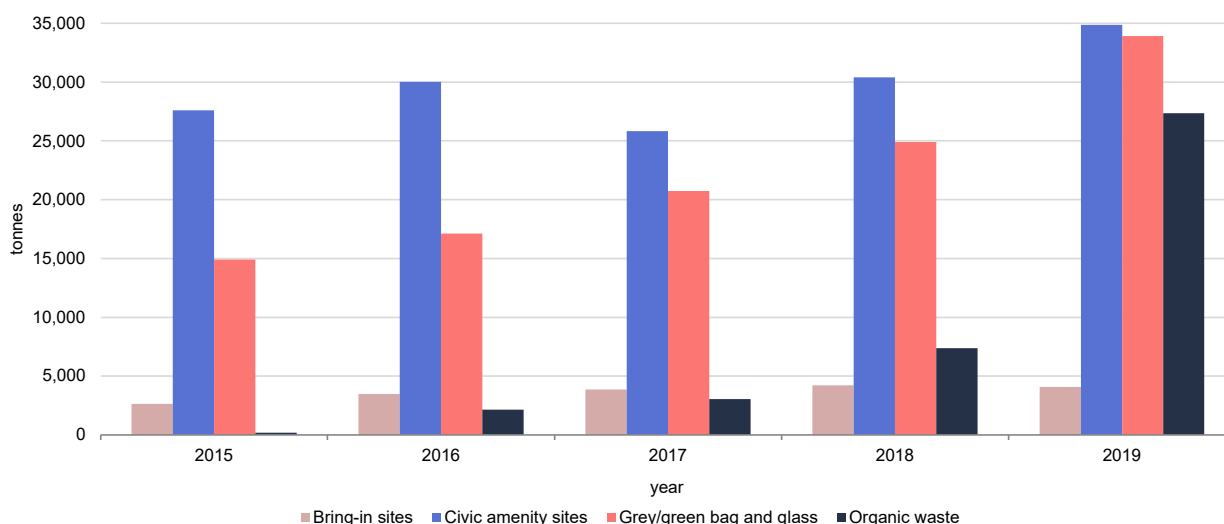
Table 7. Separate collection of waste fractions by year, type of collection and material

		tonnes				
Material	Hazardous / Non-hazardous	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Bring-in sites						
Paper and cardboard	NHAZ	781	646	630	685	828
Plastic	NHAZ	507	484	449	456	411
Cans	NHAZ	153	169	137	148	124
Glass	NHAZ	1,211	1,893	2,126	2,369	2,377
Mixed paper, plastic, cans, glass	NHAZ	-	293	509	559	353
Total		2,652	3,486	3,852	4,218	4,093
Civic amenity sites						
Tyres	NHAZ	141	147	128	137	215
Mixed construction and demolition wastes	NHAZ	10,255	11,438	8,966	10,670	11,172
Paper and cardboard	NHAZ	996	889	802	947	1,075
Glass	NHAZ	116	161	163	162	237
Wood	NHAZ	5,420	5,648	5,157	6,096	6,224
Plastics	NHAZ	256	179	144	184	206
Metals	NHAZ	1,112	1,309	955	1,067	1,149
Biodegradable waste	NHAZ	1,214	1,518	1,361	1,449	1,733
Bulky waste	NHAZ	6,618	6,677	6,274	8,116	9,790
Organic waste	NHAZ	-	-	20	16	20
Compost ¹	NHAZ	-	-	18	-	-
Engine, gear and lubricating oils	HAZ	79	49	80	55	74
Waste containing asbestos	HAZ	118	136	73	87	99
Wastes from human or animal healthcare	HAZ	5	8	8	15	18
Waste electrical and electronic equipment	HAZ	1,176	1,748	1,579	1,309	2,744
Paints, inks, adhesives and resins	HAZ	39	28	77	54	69
Printing toners and cartridges	HAZ	-	-	3	11	1
Batteries and accumulators	HAZ	45	80	28	15	34
Total		27,588	30,014	25,834	30,392	34,862
Door-to-door collection from households						
Paper, plastic, metals (grey/green bag) and glass	NHAZ	14,926	17,113	20,735	24,887	33,918
Organic waste	NHAZ	179	2,162	3,054	7,381	27,356 ²

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. This news release presents a revised approach to waste treatment data. The layout of table 2 has been revised to comprise a breakdown of waste that was treated in Malta and waste that was sent for treatment in other countries into six waste treatment categories. Waste treatment that is held in temporary storage is not included in this table. Table 3 presents data for the waste input into WasteServ's major pre-treatment facilities (Tal-Kus (Gozo) waste transfer station, Malta North mechanical-biological treatment plant and the Sant' Antnin waste treatment plant) whilst Tables 4 and 5 present data for waste that has undergone final treatment in WasteServ's facilities (Ghallis landfill and the Marsa Thermal Treatment Facility).
3. In tables 1 and 6 revisions for 2015, 2016 and 2017 data have occurred because of a review of construction, demolition and excavation waste data which the NSO undertook together with the ERA. Revisions in 2018 data resulted from updates to provisional data from data providers. In this release, 2019 data should be considered as provisional.
4. 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.
5. Waste generation figures shown in Table 1 are derived from records kept by the relevant entity 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).
6. In Table 2, data is classified according to the waste treatment categories that are set for the reporting of WStatR data to Eurostat.
7. 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.
8. 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.
9. 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>
10. 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.
11. Data in Table 6 includes figures for the mineral waste that is generated by softstone quarrying. These are estimated at 30 per cent of the total volume of quarried material.
12. 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 2019, there were six sites operated by WasteServ Malta Ltd.
 - **Green/Grey bag collection from households:** 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. Collected waste items are sorted by material type in waste treatment facilities.
 - **Organic waste collection:** Door-to-door 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.

13. 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

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

Classification: [List of recovery and disposal operations](#)

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

15. 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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