



Waste indicators in the EU context



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The EU waste policy aims at establishing a circular economy in which materials and resources are kept in the economy for as long as possible and where waste disposal is the last waste management option. The new set of indicators of waste management provided by Eurostat is a way to monitor progress towards greater recycling and less disposal.



The Seventh Environmental Action Program sets the following priority goals for EU waste management policy:

- reduce the amount of waste generated;
- maximize recycling and reuse;
- limit burning to materials that can not be recycled;
- limit the disposal of waste for non-recyclable waste;
- ensure full implementation of waste policy objectives in all Member States.

The waste management indicators set combines the data collected in accordance with the Waste Regulations (EC) Reg. 2150/2002 (WStatR) with data on imports / exports from external trade statistics (COMEXT databases) or from national sources.



Source of data and availability

The indicator set for waste management is based on waste data collected in accordance with Regulation (EC) No. 2150/2002 on waste statistics (WStatR). Data are adapted for import and export using international trade statistics (COMEXT data) or national data on import and export of waste.

The indicators set is available for every the second year, beginning with the reference year 2010.

The indicators set covers both, non-hazardous and hazardous waste, from all economic sectors and households.



Eurostat waste management indicators are considered as a good way to track domestic waste streams, but have **some limitations**:

- The Combined Nomenclature (CN) used for international trade statistics does not distinguish consistently waste and commodities, i.e. some CN codes do not cover only waste but also non-waste products.
- Foreign trade statistics provide information about the geographical destination of the waste, but not about the type of treatment at the destination. Therefore, the type of treatment is based on assumptions.
- Additional limitations come out from the fact that trade statistics within the EU do not cover 100% trading in goods / waste due to reporting thresholds.



Regulations on waste statistics

- Regulation (EC) No 2150/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 November 2002 on waste statistics (OJ L 332, 9.12.2002, p. 1-36)
- Summary of EU legislation - Waste management statistics
- Commission Regulation (EU) No 849/2010 of 27 September 2010 amending Regulation (EC) No 2150/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste statistics (OJ L 253, 28.9.2010, p 2-41)
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1445/2005 of 5 September 2005 defining the proper quality evaluation criteria and the contents of the quality reports for waste statistics for the purposes of Regulation (EC) No 2150/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council (OJ L 229, 6.9.2005, p. 6).



Waste indicators

Eurostat produce a set of Indicators for EU Sustainable Development Goals (EU SDGs) and resource efficiency indicators, set up to monitor progress in achieving sustainable development objectives in the context of EU policies. The SDG indicator set contains 100 indicators that are structured along 17 SDG goals.



The key waste related indicators

1. Generation of municipal waste & treatment, by type of treatment
2. Generation of waste, excluding mineral waste
3. Waste management, excluding mineral waste
4. The percentage of recycled e-waste
5. Prices for recycling materials



The impact of the new EU legislation on waste statistics

Waste management in the EU should be transformed into sustainable material management, promoting the principles of a circular economy, reducing the dependence of the EU on imported resources, providing new economic opportunities and contributing to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth targets in the Europe 2020 strategy.

Regulation on Waste Statistics (Regulation (EC) No. 2150/2002) influences the changes in definitions for hazardous waste, the treatment of materials and the overburden.

The new waste law includes the harmonization of definitions, the revision of recycling targets for municipal and packaging waste, and the rationalization of reporting.



Implementing acts in 2019:

- the calculation rules related to recycling and disposal of municipal waste
- the rules on calculation of separate biological waste and recycling at the source (home composting) and on processed metals from municipal waste
- the Report format for the recycling and disposal of municipal waste; the Report format for quality of municipal waste
- rules for calculating the recycling of packaging waste
- rules for calculating re-use of sales packaging for the first time on the market, processing of wooden packaging, processing of metals from packaging waste
- reporting format for recycling packaging waste, packaging waste quality, waste oils

Delegated acts in 2019:

- detailed rules on calculating the average loss rates created during recycling preparation for different waste streams
- reporting on food waste



Thank you for your attention

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