

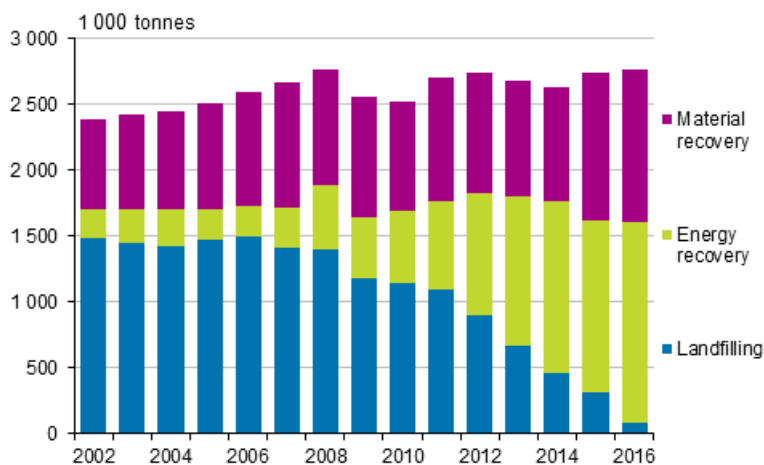
Waste statistics 2016

Municipal waste

Recovery of waste has replaced disposal of municipal waste at landfill sites

Disposal of municipal waste at landfill sites has decreased strongly according to the development that has continued in recent years. In 2016, only around three per cent of municipal waste was disposed at landfill sites. It has been replaced by recovery of waste: both energy production and material recovery are competing for the recovery of former landfill waste, of which energy use of municipal waste has been the general treatment method in recent years.

Amount of municipal waste by treatment method in 2002 to 2016



Within a short time, municipal waste has become a significant energy fuel for district heat production of built-up areas. Biocomponents included in energy-recovered municipal waste, such as wood, paperboard and cardboard and food waste, also curb greenhouse gas emissions in case they replace the use of fossil fuels.

Amount of separately collected municipal waste growing

Although mixed waste and its recovery as energy are still generally discussed, separate collection arrangements have changed the quality and composition of mixed waste directed to energy recovery on the level of the whole country. Increasingly more waste components are directed to separate collection in

place of mixed waste, such as collection of packaging waste in the scope of producer responsibility waste, and thus material recovery.

In 2016, around 97 per cent of municipal waste was recovered, which is a new record. The material recovery rate is high particularly for fibre packaging generated in service industries such as trade. Most of biowaste is composted or digested. Around two-thirds of the total amount of kitchen and food waste and garden waste are composted and one third digested. The digestion residue is used in soil improvement or landscaping, as is compost soil.

Total amount of municipal waste per inhabitant has stabilised

The amount of municipal waste has been 2.4 to 2.8 million tonnes per year in Finland after the turn of the millennium. Although the total amount of municipal waste has in recent years grown slightly in numerical value, the growth has been small, and calculated by inhabitant, the amount has stabilised to around five hundred kilograms per year in 2016. The growth in the total amount of municipal waste is thus explained by the rising number of inhabitants.

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Appendix tables

Appendix table 1. Municipal waste treatment in 2016, tonnes

Waste	Amount	Recycling	Energy recovery	Landfilled
Mixed waste total	1 218 521	5 982	1 136 439	76 100
Separately collected waste total, of which	1 462 788	1 140 398	315 689	6 701
Paper and board waste	501 071	465 892	35 176	3
Organic waste	392 959	347 826	43 431	1 702
Glass waste	77 233	77 111	0	122
Metal waste	161 507	161 507	0	0
Wood waste	45 593	3 043	42 550	0
Plastic waste	46 804	18 995	27 794	15
Electrical and electronic scrap	56 964	56 964	0	0
Other separately collected waste	180 657	9 060	166 738	4 859
Other	86 622	17 186	62 702	6 734
All total	2 767 931	1 163 566	1 514 830	89 535

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Source: Waste statistics 2016, Statistics Finland