Odpady

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KEY MESSAGES

Municipal waste production per capita in the Czech Republic (289 kg per year) is low compared to the EU27 average (518 kg per year), and in fact is only 55.8% of the EU27 average.

69% of all waste is utilised for material and energy and only 25% of all produced waste is eliminated in 2007 (preliminary data).

The largest share of waste utilisation is attributed to waste recycling, i.e. regenerating technologies that ensure material utilisation of waste or its parts (66% of the overall utilisation).

The most common method for disposing municipal waste is landfilling (81%) in secured and controlled landfills designated for different types of waste.

Hazardous waste accounts only of 8.75% of the entire amount of waste produced.

The basic objectives of waste management include decreasing the specific waste production and increasing the waste utilisation rate.

REFERENCES AND OTHER INFORMATION

- **Ministry of the Environment** – http://www.mzp.cz
- **CENIA, the Czech Environmental Information Agency** – http://www.cenia.cz
- **Czech Statistical Office** – http://www.czso.cz
- **T. G. Masaryk Water Research Institute – The Waste Management Centre** – http://ceho.vuv.cz
- **EKO-KOM, an authorised packaging company** – http://www.ekokom.cz
- **The Integrated Waste Management System** – http://isoh.cenia.cz/groupisoh
- **Eurostat** – http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu
- **European Environmental Agency** – http://www.eea.europa.eu

THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Translation: Lucie Kráglová
Graphic design: Daniela Řeháková
Print: Studio Press s.r.o.
Contact:
CENIA, the Czech Environmental Information Agency
Litevská 8, 100 05 Praha 10
www.cenia.cz, info@cenia.cz, tel: +420 267 225 340

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Waste

THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

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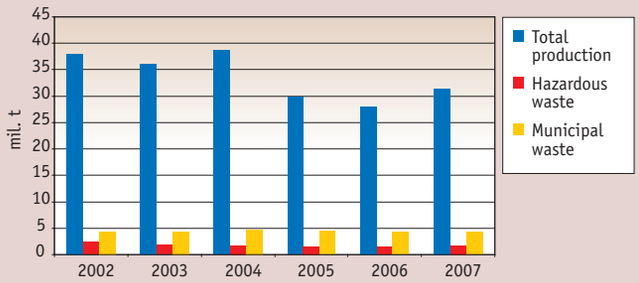
WASTE PRODUCTION

Waste production in the Czech Republic is closely related to economic growth and the gradual improvement of production technologies that have increased the usage of raw materials. Total waste production dropped by 17.2% between 2002 and 2007. The largest share of total waste production is made up by other categories of waste (94.35%) and only a minimal share of the total production is made by hazardous waste (5.65%). Waste categories according to their qualities, i.e. other and hazardous, and different waste groups according to their place of origin are monitored during waste production and waste management. Therefore, we can easily monitor municipal waste, industrial waste, agricultural waste, etc. The classification of waste into groups and catalogue items is based on Decree No. 381/2001 Sb., establishing the waste catalogue, which follows the uniform European waste catalogue.

Waste production in the Czech Republic [millions of tonnes], 2002–2007
Source: CENIA

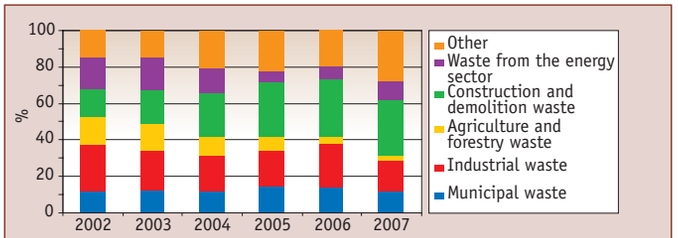


– 2007 – preliminary data
– Total municipal waste production includes other categories and hazardous categories.

Waste is another area significant to environmental protection that was legally recognized only after 1990. The first waste management act is from 1991. Until then, most municipal waste was disposed of at uncontrolled and unsecured landfills. The last of them was closed in 1996. The waste disposal system has been expanding and because of constant technological innovations, the amount of landfilled waste has been reduced. Today, there are 199 landfills for other waste in the Czech Republic, used mainly for depositing municipal waste, with a total capacity of 53 315 750 m³. Next are three municipal waste incinerators that convert heat into energy and 29 hazardous waste incinerators.

Since 2005, construction waste and waste from demolition have most contributed to total waste production due to the extensive construction in recent years. The proportion of industrial waste in total waste production has been decreasing as the restructuring of Czech industry continues. Agriculture, forestry and the energy sector also all account for a low proportion of waste production. The share of municipal waste in total waste production has remained unchanged. Municipal waste production is closely related to the increasing standard of living in Czech households.

The structure of produced waste in the Czech Republic [%], 2002–2007
Source: CENIA

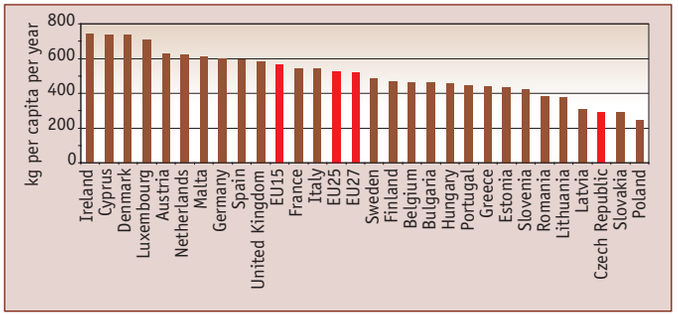


2007 – preliminary data

MUNICIPAL WASTE

Compared to the EU27 average, municipal waste production per capita in the Czech Republic (245 kg per year) is low and is only 47.3% of the EU27 average.
Municipal waste disposal is the responsibility of municipalities. It is provided through the waste collection systems of different municipalities in cooperation with specialised companies that are active in the waste management area. The vast majority of the Czech population has the opportunity to separate municipal waste and more than two-thirds of the population regularly separates utilisable municipal waste. People in towns and municipalities can use collecting bins or other collecting means for plastic, glass and paper. Waste collection yards collect other municipal waste such as bulk waste, hazardous municipal waste, construction debris, electrical waste, home appliances, etc. Selected types of products, such as tyres, batteries, oil, car wrecks, etc., can be returned under a special system that involves both the manufacturer or the distributor and the end user/processor.

An international comparison of municipal waste production per capita [kg per capita], 2005
Source: EUROSTAT

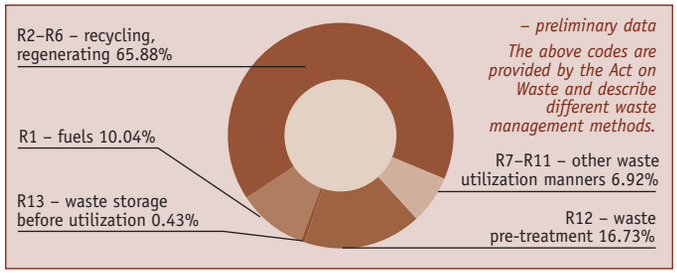


WASTE MANAGEMENT

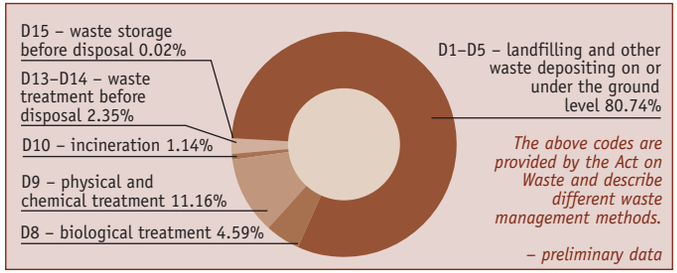
In the waste management hierarchy of the Czech Republic, the material utilisation of waste is first, promoting raw material renewal and primary resource consumption. Second is the energy utilisation of waste, i.e. waste disposal that creates energy from waste that cannot be reused as materials. Last in the waste management hierarchy is elimination. 69% of all waste is utilised for material and energy and only 25% of all produced waste is eliminated.
The largest share of waste utilisation is taken by technologies used for waste recycling, or regenerating, that provide for the utilisation of waste or its parts (66% of all utilisation). The second most common waste disposal method is the pre-treatment of waste used as a precursor for additional utilisation processes (17%), such as final separation of sorted waste, iron separation form ash, etc. The third most common waste utilisation method is energy utilisation (10%), i.e. waste used as a fuel.
The most frequent waste disposal method is landfilling (81% of all disposal waste) in secure and controlled landfills designated for different types of waste. The second most common method is physical and chemical treatment (11%), most often in the form of the stabilisation and solidification of hazardous waste and biological treatment (5%), the bio-degradation of contaminated waste, etc.

While a major part of old construction waste and other types of waste can be and are reused, the main problem in the Czech Republic is the amount of municipal waste that is still deposited in landfills and not re-used. Therefore, in compliance with EU legislation and the Waste Management Plan of the Czech Republic, technologies for increasing the utilisation of municipal waste are being created and supported (from EU structural funds through the Operational Programme Environment and other programmes), both by the development and operation of waste collection yards and by legislative amendments. The separation of biological waste has been gradually introduced by Act No. 185/2001 Sb., on waste.

Waste utilisation structure in the Czech Republic [%], 2007
Source: CENIA



Waste disposal structure in the Czech Republic [%], 2007
Source: CENIA



THE CZECH REPUBLIC'S BASIC STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES FOR WASTE MANAGEMENT

- Decreasing specific waste production independent of the level of economic growth.
- Increasing the rate of waste utilisation as a replacement for primary natural resources.
- Minimising waste disposal's negative impacts on human health and the environment.