

EEA Core Set of Indicators - CSI 016
Municipal waste generation
May 2005 assessment

working draft

About this document

Generated on: 17 Jun 2005

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If you would like to see further background information about this indicator, you can see the published specification at:

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Key policy question: Waste prevention: are we reducing the generation of municipal waste?

Key message: Generation of municipal waste per capita continues to grow in Western European countries while remaining stable in countries of Central and Eastern Europe.

The EU target to reduce municipal waste generation to 300 kg/capita by the year 2000 was not achieved.

One of the targets that had been set in the 5th Environmental Action Programme was to reduce and stabilise by the year 2000 the generation of municipal waste per capita at the average 1985 EU level of 300kg per capita. The indicator shows that the target is far from being reached.

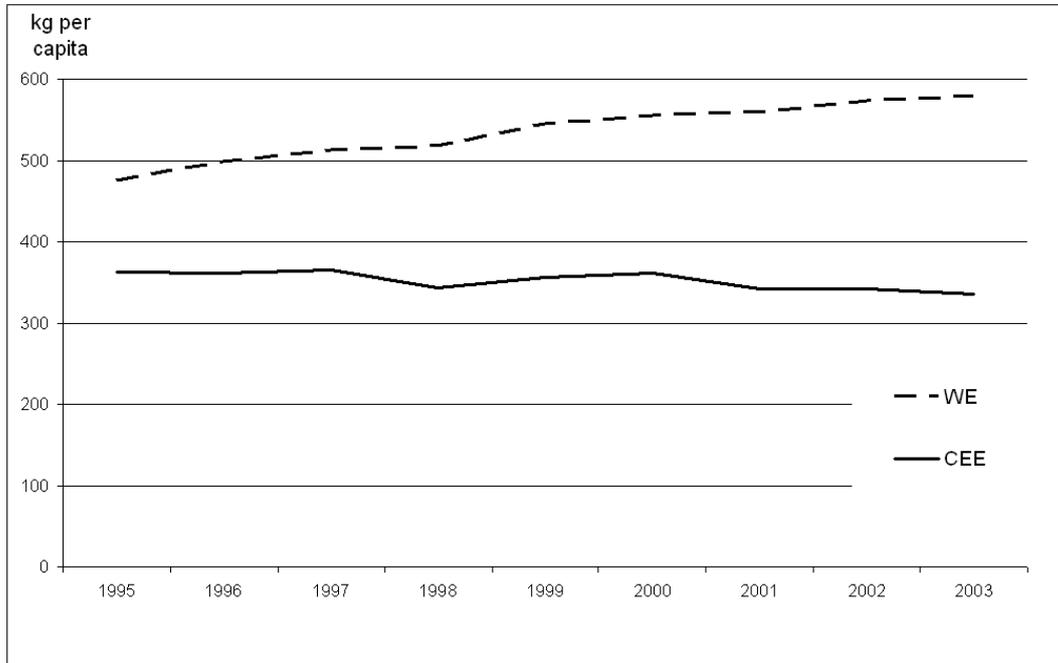
However, it is not stated whether this target relates to waste collected by municipalities (common understanding of municipal waste) or to waste generated by households (common understanding of household waste).

The average generated municipal waste in many Western European countries have reached more than 500kg per capita.

In Central and Eastern Europe the municipal waste collection and generation numbers are lower than for WE countries and the generation is slightly decreasing. It needs further clarification if the reason is different consumption patterns or underdeveloped municipal waste collection and disposal systems. Reporting systems need further development.



Fig. 1: Municipal waste collection in WE, CEEC and EECCA countries



Data source: European Topic Centre on Resource and Waste Management

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