MONITORING OF SOLID WASTE IN HONG KONG

Waste Statistics for 2024

Environmental Protection Department

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Waste Statistics for 2024

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Cover photos

Top left :	Recycling spot
Bottom left :	O.PARK2
Top right :	GREEN@UN CHAU recycling store
Bottom right :	Smart Recycling Bins in shopping mall

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Contents

AFCD	Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department	漁農自然護理署
AWCP	Animal Waste Composting Plant	動物廢料堆肥廠
C&D	Construction and Demolition	拆建
C&SD	Census and Statistics Department	政府統計處
CEDD	Civil Engineering and Development Department	土木工程拓展署
CWTC	Chemical Waste Treatment Centre	化學廢物處理中心
EPD	Environmental Protection Department	環境保護署
FEHD	Food and Environmental Hygiene Department	食物環境衛生署
FWPF	Food Waste Pre-Treatment Facilities	廚餘預處理設施
GMC	Glass Management Contractor	玻璃管理承辦商
IETS	Island East Transfer Station	港島東廢物轉運站
I · PARK	Integrated Waste Management Facilities (IWMF)	綜合廢物管理設施
IWTS	Island West Transfer Station	港島西廢物轉運站
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste	都市固體廢物
N/A	Not Available	沒有數字
NENT	North East New Territories Landfill	新界東北堆填區
NLTS	North Lantau Transfer Station	北大嶼山廢物轉運站
NT	New Territories	新界
NWNTTS	North West New Territories Transfer Station	新界西北廢物轉運站
OITF	Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities	離島廢物轉運設施
O · PARK	Organic Resources Recovery Centre	有機資源回收中心
RTS(s)	Refuse Transfer Station(s)	廢物轉運站
SENT/SENTX	South East New Territories Landfill and its Extension	新界東南堆填區及其擴建部分
STTS	Shatin Transfer Station	沙田廢物轉運站
tpd	tonnes per day	每日公噸數
T · PARK	Sludge Treatment Facility	污泥處理設施
WEEE	Waste electrical and electronic equipment	廢電器及電子設備
WEEE · PARK	WEEE Treatment and Recycling Facility	廢電器電子產品處理及回收設施
WENT	West New Territories Landfill	新界西堆填區
WKTS	West Kowloon Transfer Station	西九龍廢物轉運站
Y · PARK	Yard Waste Recycling Centre	園林廢物回收中心

Introduction

This report presents the statistics on disposal and recovery/recycling of solid waste generated in Hong Kong in 2024. The information contained in this report is compiled from data collected from various sources, mainly including the records of government waste transfer and treatment facilities, such as waste intake records of the treatment facilities. Data are also collected through statistical surveys, including collecting data on recycling quantity of various recyclables from recyclers, and conducting waste composition survey by taking samples at waste treatment facilities to collect data on disposal quantity of various components of municipal solid waste. The data are used to compile annual statistics on recovery and disposal quantities by waste category after data collating and processing. The classification of solid waste and the methodology adopted in data collection are explained in Appendix 1, whereas terms related to the Waste Management System of Hong Kong are elaborated in Appendix 2.

Key observations of the local waste disposal and resource recovery scene in 2024 are summarised in the ensuing paragraphs, with a view to facilitating readers to have a quick overview of the achievements and challenges of our waste management efforts. Detailed statistics on waste disposal and resource recovery are provided in Chapters 2 and 3 respectively.

Figures presented in this report may not add up to the respective totals due to rounding. Percentages presented are derived from unrounded figures.

Key Observations

Waste Disposal in 2024

Total Solid Waste

Solid waste comprises municipal solid waste (MSW), overall construction waste, and special waste. In 2024, the total quantity of solid waste disposed of at the strategic landfills was 5.72 million tonnes. The average daily quantity was 15,637 tonnes per day (tpd), similar to the level of 2023 (Plate 2.1).

Municipal Solid Waste

Municipal solid waste includes domestic waste, commercial and industrial (C&I) waste.

In 2024, the quantity of MSW disposed was 10,510 tpd (3.85 million tonnes), which represented a decrease of 3.4% as compared to 2023. Discounting the factor of population growth, the disposal rate of MSW was 1.40 kg/person/day, lower than that of the 1.44 kg/person/day in 2023.

The major component of MSW is domestic waste. Its quantity of disposal was 6,505 tpd (2.38 million tonnes) in 2024, which has decreased by 3.4% as compared to 2023. On the other hand, the quantity of C&I waste disposed of was 4,006 tpd (1.47 million tonnes) in 2024, which has decreased by 3.6% when compared to 2023.

Plates 2.8 and 2.9 show the composition of MSW disposed of at landfills in 2024.

Of the 10,510 tonnes of MSW landfilled each day in 2024, some 3,001 tonnes (29% of MSW) were ***food waste***, which has decreased by 6.0% as compared to 2023. Domestic food waste disposal rate was 0.27 kg/person/day in 2024 which was similar to the level of 2023, while C&I food waste disposal rate decreased from 0.16 kg/person/day in 2023 to 0.13 kg/person/day in 2024.

The second largest constituent of MSW was ***waste paper***, with a disposal quantity of 2,431 tpd (23% of MSW) in 2024, which has increased by 12.0% as compared to 2023, and the share of waste paper also rose, which was mainly paper waste other than cardboard, newsprint, office paper or tetrapak that could not be easily recycled. The third largest constituent of MSW was ***waste plastics***. Some 1,885 tpd (18% of MSW) were disposed of at landfills in 2024, which has decreased by 11.1% as compared to 2023 (2,120 tpd), and the share of waste plastics also dropped as compared to 2023. This reflects the increasing global awareness of "plastic-free" in recent years and the effectiveness of the Government's active promotion of various related measures, including the implementation of the regulation on disposable plastic products in 2024.

Overall Construction Waste

Regarding construction waste, the amount of construction waste disposed of at landfills slightly increased by 270 tpd (6%) to 4,694 tpd.

Special Waste

In 2024, the quantity of special waste disposed of at landfills was 432 tpd (0.16 million tonnes), which has decreased by 8.3% as compared to 2023.

Resource Recovery in 2024

Municipal Solid Waste

Hong Kong is a service-oriented economy and hence, its capacity to consume recycled materials in local production is relatively limited. As a result, around 80% of MSW recyclables locally recovered are delivered outside Hong Kong for recycling and around 20% are recycled locally (Plate 3.3).

The overall MSW recovery rate in 2024 was 34%, which has increased from 33% in 2023 (Plate 3.2). MSW recovered for local recycling was about 420,000 tonnes in 2024, representing a decrease of 7.3% compared to about 450,000 tonnes in 2023 (Plate 3.5). On the other hand, the quantity delivered outside Hong Kong for recycling increased from about 1.52 million tonnes in 2023 to about 1.60 million tonnes in 2024. The increase was mainly attributed to rise in recycling quantity of ferrous metals.

With the expansion of the EPD's community recycling network and strengthening of various waste reduction and recovery measures, the quantity of ***food waste*** recycled recorded a double-digit growth of 33% year-on-year (Plate 3.11), increasing from 79,000 tonnes in 2023 to 104,800 tonnes in 2024. Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 1 (O · PARK1) started to receive and process food waste in July 2018, while the Organic Resources Recovery Centre Phase 2 (O · PARK2) also commenced operation in March 2024. Besides, the EPD in collaboration with Drainage Services Department has implemented the Food Waste/Sewage Sludge Anaerobic Co-digestion Trial Scheme at the Tai Po and Shatin Sewage Treatment Works in 2019 and 2023 respectively to treat food waste. In addition, the EPD is actively implementing various food waste collection measures to expand the food waste recycling network. Since 2021, the EPD has expedited the expansion of the Pilot Scheme on Food Waste Collection, completing the installation of Food Waste Smart Recycling Bins in all public rental housing estates across the territory in June 2024. Meanwhile, the EPD has supported private residential premises in implementing food waste recycling through funding schemes and set up public food waste recycling points at suitable locations. All these measures are continuously driving food waste recycling in Hong Kong.

The quantity of ***plastic recyclables*** recycled decreased from 128,200 tonnes in 2023 to 101,500 tonnes in 2024. Following the enhanced control of transboundary movements of plastic wastes under the amendment to the Basel Convention starting from 2021, economies worldwide have tightened their import control on plastic recyclables. On the other hand, the Hong Kong government implemented various new measures to promote waste plastic recovery, including launch of three Stages of Reverse Vending Machines (RVM) Pilot Scheme.

The quantity of ***waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)*** recycled locally decreased from 48,800 tonnes in 2023 to 33,400 tonnes in 2024. Although the recovery amount may decrease with the drop in sales of electrical and electronic goods, the recyclable value of WEEE is relatively high which attracts local recyclers to actively engage in WEEE recovery. The Government has fully implemented the producer responsibility scheme on WEEE in 2018 covering the regulated electrical equipment (REE). Starting from 1 July 2024, the scheme was enhanced to cover refrigerators and washing machines with larger volume, as well as stand-alone tumble dryers and dehumidifiers. The WEEE Treatment and Recycling Facility (WEEE · PARK) also further promoted beneficial recycling and reuse of the REE. Coupled with the continuous increase in the public's awareness of recycling of other WEEE, the recovery rate of WEEE remained high.

Overall Construction Waste

Regarding construction waste, the quantity of construction waste reused in 2024 increased by about 4,700 tpd (11%) to an average of 45,810 tpd, which was reusable public fill generated from construction activities. Amount received by public fill reception facilities for temporary storage and future reuse increased by around 4,330 tpd, marking a 15% year-on-year increase. Amount of direct reuse through project matching also increased by 350 tpd, representing a 3% year-on-year increase, thus the overall construction waste recovery rate was above 90%.

Special Waste

As from April 2015, the Sludge Treatment Facility (T · PARK) in Tuen Mun has started treating dewatered sewage sludge from major sewage treatment works managed by Drainage Services Department by incineration. On average, 1,070 tonnes of dewatered sewage sludges was treated per day at the T · PARK in 2024.

On the other hand, from March 2024 onwards, 20 tpd of livestock waste was treated by anaerobic digestion at O · PARK2. The remaining livestock waste was treated by other environmentally-acceptable means such as on-site composting, aerobic treatment, and dry muck-out.

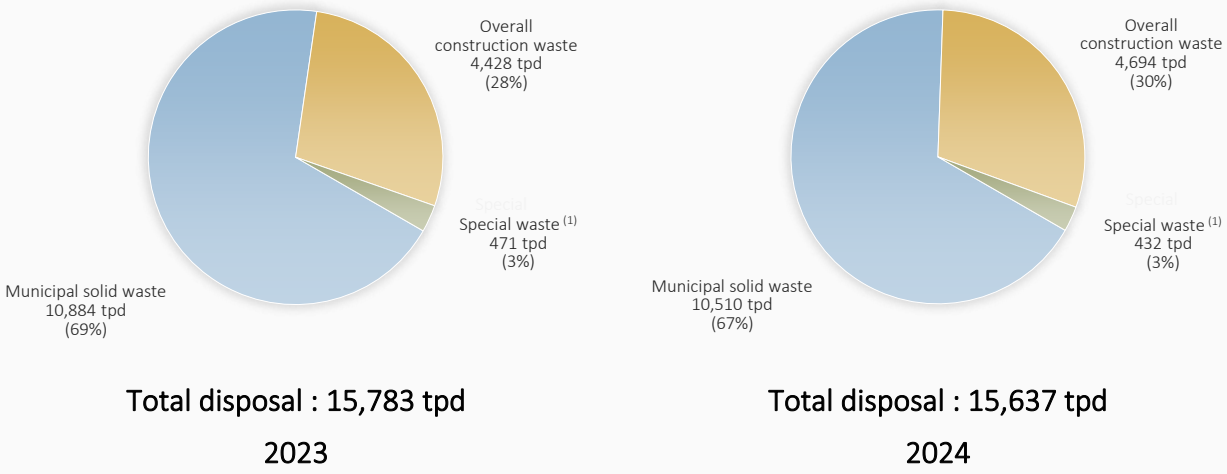
Plate 2.1 Disposal of total solid waste at landfills in 2024 - By main waste category

Waste category [1]		Average daily quantity (tpd) and year-on-year growth rate [3]	
a.	Municipal solid waste	10,510	(-3.4%)
	(i) Domestic waste	6,505	(-3.4%)
	(ii) Commercial and industrial waste	4,006	(-3.6%)
b.	Overall construction waste	4,694	(6.0%)
c.	Special waste [2]	432	(-8.3%)
d.	Total waste received at landfills (a + b + c)	15,637	(-0.9%)

Notes :

1. Please refer to Appendix 1 for the classification of solid waste.
2. The quantity does not include special waste not disposed of at landfills.
3. Figures in brackets refer to year-on-year (y-o-y) growth rates.

Plate 2.2 Disposal of total solid waste at landfills in 2023 and 2024 - By main waste category



Total disposal : 15,783 tpd
2023

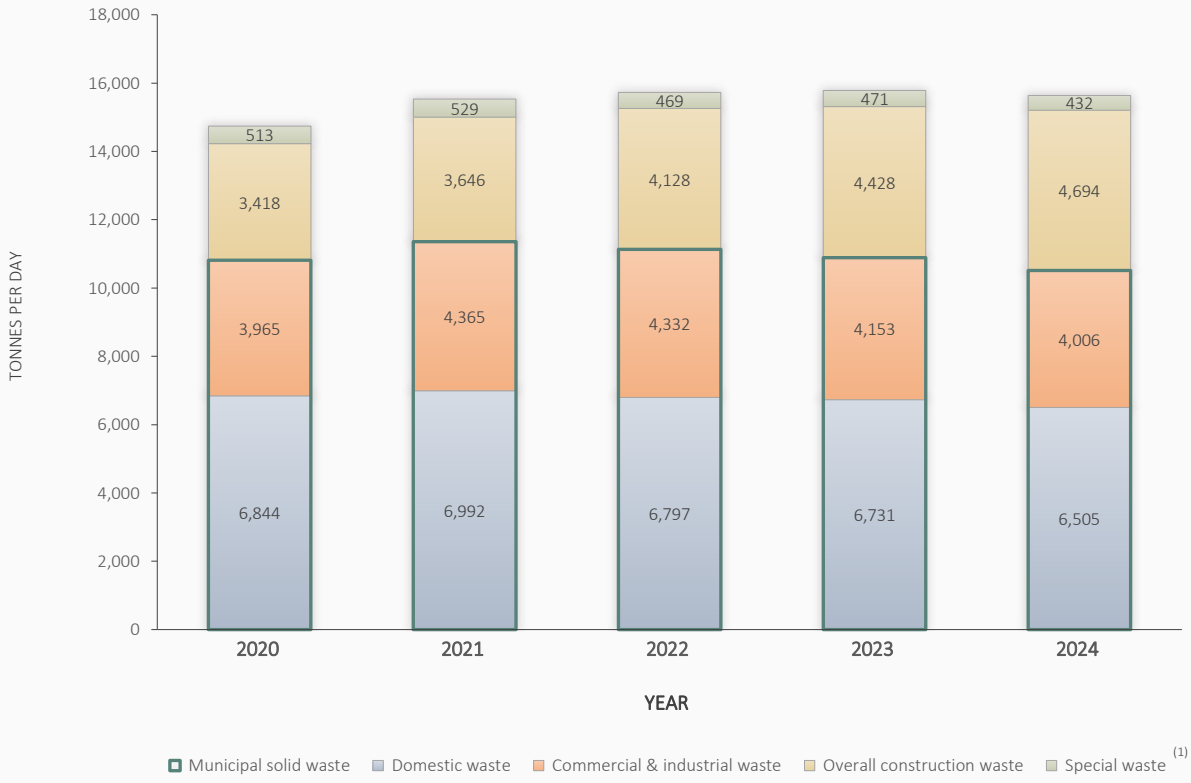
Total disposal : 15,637 tpd
2024

Note :

1. The quantity does not include special waste not disposed of at landfills.

Plate 2.3 Disposal of total solid waste at landfills from 2020 to 2024 - By main waste category

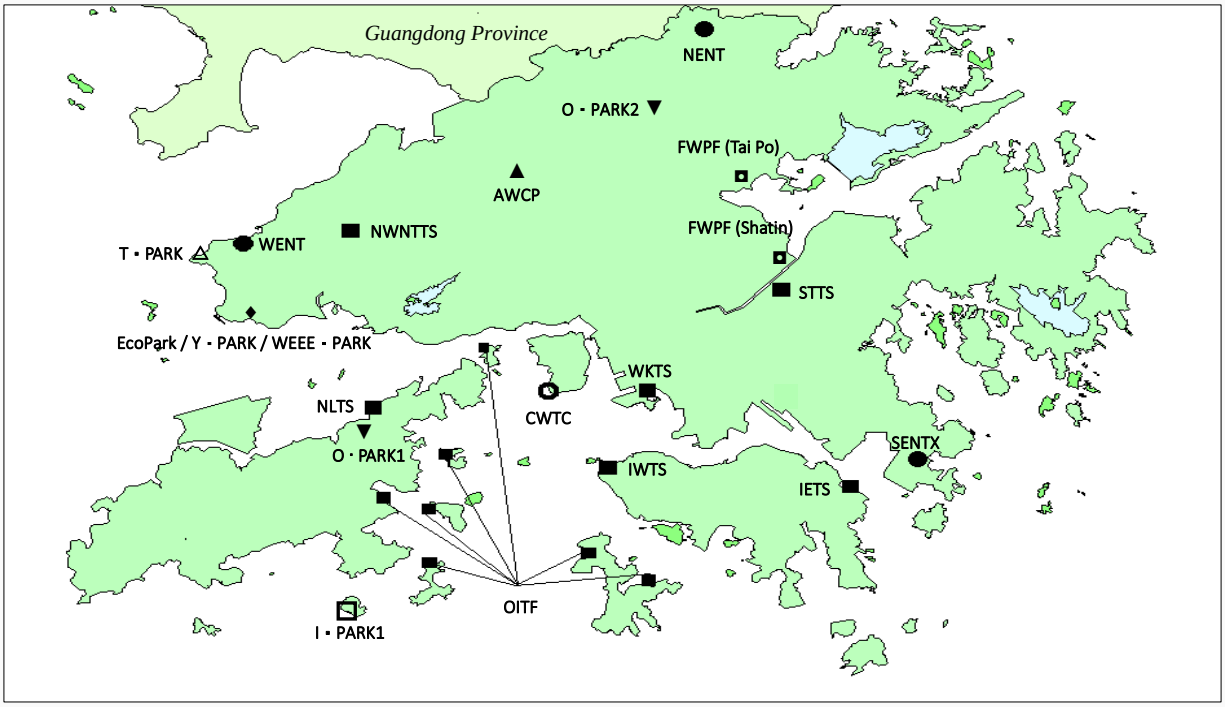
Total disposal (tpd)	14,739	15,533	15,725	15,783	15,637
y-o-y change (%)	-5.7	5.4	1.2	0.4	-0.9



Note :

1. The quantity does not include special waste not disposed of at landfills.

Plate 2.4 Waste management facilities in Hong Kong



Landfill	●	WENT	- West New Territories Landfill
		SENTX	- South East New Territories Landfill Extension (1)
		NENT	- North East New Territories Landfill
RTS	■	IETS	- Island East Transfer Station (2)
		IWTS	- Island West Transfer Station (2)
		WKTS	- West Kowloon Transfer Station (2)
		OITF	- Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities (2)
		NLTS	- North Lantau Transfer Station (2)
		STTS	- Shatin Transfer Station (3)
		NWNTTS	- North West New Territories Transfer Station (3)
Waste treatment / recycling facilities	O	CWTC	- Chemical Waste Treatment Centre
	▲	AWCP	- Animal Waste Composting Plant
	♦	EcoPark / Y · PARK (4) / WEEE Treatment and Recycling Facility (WEEE · PARK)	
	▼	Organic Resources Recovery Centre (O · PARK) (5)	
	△	Sludge Treatment Facility (T · PARK) (6)	
	◘	Food Waste Pre-Treatment Facilities under Food Waste / Sewage Sludge Anaerobic Co-digestion Trial Scheme	
	□	Integrated Waste Management Facilities (I · PARK) (7)	

Notes :

1. From 21 November 2021 onwards, SENTX has replaced SENT to accept C&D waste.
2. Waste from IETS, IWTS, WKTS, OITF and NLTS was transferred to WENT by sea.
3. Waste from STTS and NWNTTS was transferred to NENT by road.
4. From June 2021 onwards, Y · PARK has commenced operation to convert suitable yard waste into various recyclable products such as wood chips, wood boards and wood beam through the processes of sorting, cutting, shredding, etc.
5. O · PARK1 at Siu Ho Wan and O · PARK2 at Sha Ling have commenced operation in July 2018 and March 2024 respectively to convert food waste into biogas for electricity generation whilst the residues from the process be produced as compost for landscaping and horiculture use.
6. From April 2015 onwards, dewatered sewage sludge from major sewage treatment works managed by Drainage Services Department has been treated by incineration at T · PARK, and the residue and ash of incineration have been disposed of at WENT.
7. I · PARK1 will commence operation gradually starting from end 2025. It adopts advanced moving grate high-temperature incineration technology to treat municipal solid waste. Energy will be recovered during the incineration process to generate electricity for the facility's daily operations, with the remaining power exported to the public grid.

Plate 2.5 Total solid waste received by disposal facilities in 2024 - By main waste category

Disposal facility	Average daily quantity (tpd) and year-on-year growth rate [4]							
	Municipal solid waste		Overall construction waste		Special waste [1]		All waste categories	
RTS								
IETS - Island East Transfer Station	1,321	(5.9%)	-	-	-	-	1,321	(5.9%)
IWTS - Island West Transfer Station	962	(-3.1%)	-	-	-	-	962	(-3.1%)
WKTS - West Kowloon Transfer Station	2,300	(-5.2%)	-	-	461	(-3.5%)	2,761	(-4.9%)
OITF - Outlying Islands Transfer Facilities	82	(1.9%)	38	(-21.0%)	3	(13.5%)	123	(-6.3%)
NLTS - North Lantau Transfer Station	681	(-1.2%)	-	-	0	(96.5%)	682	(-1.1%)
STTS - Shatin Transfer Station	1,920	(4.1%)	-	-	-	-	1,920	(4.1%)
NWNTTS - North West New Territories Transfer Station	1,315	(-1.1%)	-	-	-	-	1,315	(-1.1%)
Landfill								
WENT - West New Territories Landfill [2]	5,863	(-1.5%)	431	(49.3%)	355	(-0.7%)	6,649	(0.8%)
SENTX - South East New Territories Landfill Extension [3]	-	-	2,920	(4.1%)	-	-	2,920	(4.1%)
NENT - North East New Territories Landfill [2]	4,647	(-5.8%)	1,343	(0.6%)	77	(-32.4%)	6,067	(-4.9%)
All landfills	**10,510**	**(-3.4%)**	**4,694**	**(6.0%)**	**432**	**(-8.3%)**	**15,637**	**(-0.9%)**

Notes :

1. Please refer to Plate 2.13b for special waste not disposed of at landfills.
2. Solid waste delivered to RTSs will be transferred to specified landfills after compression. The quantities include solid waste directly delivered to landfills and those transferred from RTSs to landfills.
3. From 21 November 2021 onwards, SENTX has replaced SENT Landfill to accept C&D waste.
4. Figure less than 0.5 tpd is shown as 0. Figures in brackets refer to year-on-year (y-o-y) growth rates.

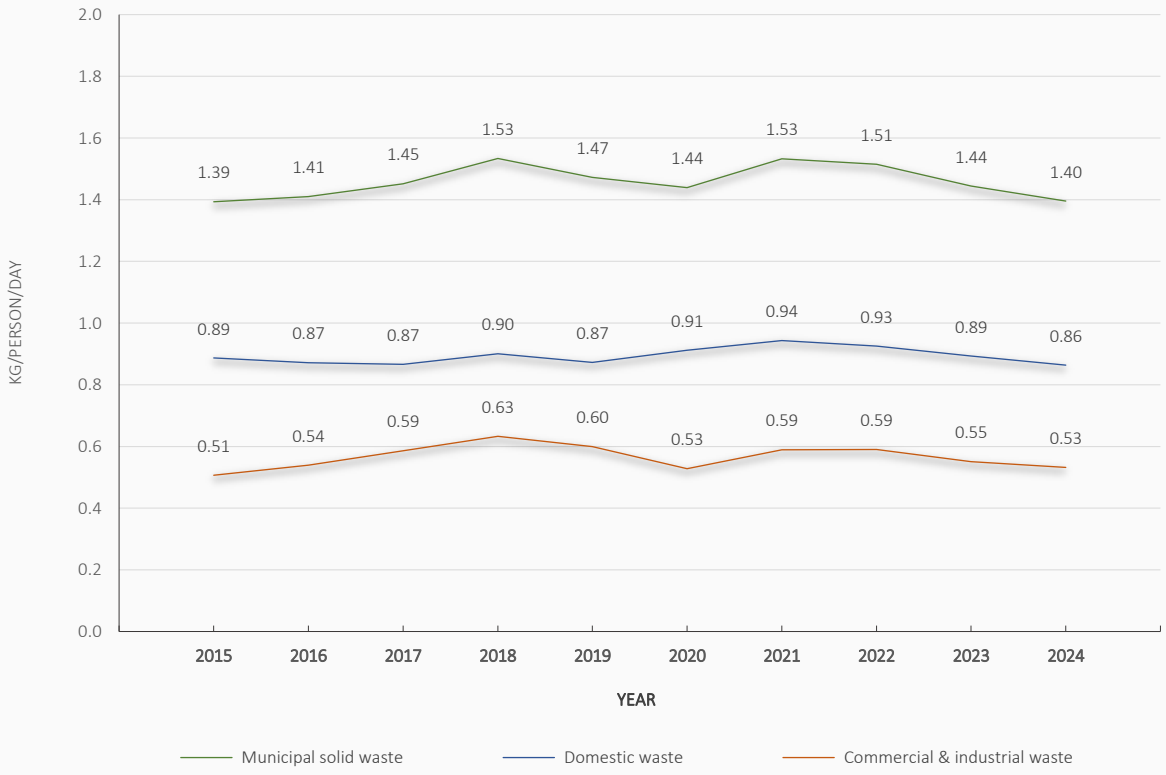
Plate 2.6 Arisings of solid waste disposed of at landfills in 2024 - By district and main waste category

District [3]	Average daily quantity [1] [2] (tpd)			
	Domestic waste (a)	Commercial & industrial waste (b)	Municipal solid waste (c) = (a) + (b)	Overall construction waste (d)
Central & Western	305	201	506	107
Eastern	551	136	687	92
Southern	190	78	268	88
Wan Chai	258	44	301	94
Hong Kong Island	**1,303**	**459**	**1,762**	**381**
Kowloon City	292	82	374	377
Kwun Tong	433	146	579	322
Sham Shui Po	372	118	490	95
Wong Tai Sin	269	45	314	42
Yau Tsim Mong	486	308	794	125
Kowloon	**1,852**	**699**	**2,551**	**961**
Kwai Tsing	334	275	609	281
North	423	349	772	237
Sai Kung	325	48	373	1,241
Shatin	434	712	1,146	158
Tai Po	211	212	423	143
Tsuen Wan	232	315	547	39
Tuen Mun	453	259	712	664
Yuen Long	742	477	1,219	226
NT – Except Outlying Islands	**3,154**	**2,648**	**5,803**	**2,989**
Cheung Chau	27	0	27	18
Hei Ling Chau	3	0	3	0
Lamma Island	9	0	9	2
Ma Wan	18	0	18	0
Mui Wo	25	0	25	16
Lantau [4]	105	200	305	326
Peng Chau	9	0	9	1
NT – Outlying Islands	**194**	**200**	**395**	**364**
All districts	**6,505**	**4,006**	**10,510**	**4,694**

Notes :

1. The geographical distribution of solid waste arisings is mainly estimated from waste intake records taken at waste treatment facilities and should be regarded as indicative reference only.
2. Special waste is not included.
3. Districts under each main region are sorted in alphabetical order.
4. Mui Wo is not included.

Plate 2.7 Per capita disposal rates [1] of MSW, domestic waste and commercial & industrial waste from 2015 to 2024



Note :

1. The per capita disposal rates are calculated based on the mid-year population data for the respective years according to the latest estimates released by the C&SD in August 2025.

Plate 2.8 Composition of MSW disposed of at landfills in 2024 - By waste type

Composition	Average daily quantity (tpd) and percentage share by weight [3]					
	Domestic waste (a)		Commercial & industrial waste (b)		Municipal solid waste (c) = (a) + (b)	
Paper	1,487	(22.9%)	945	(23.6%)	2,431	(23.1%)
Plastics	1,176	(18.1%)	709	(17.7%)	1,885	(17.9%)
Putrescibles	2,144	(33.0%)	1,083	(27.0%)	3,227	(30.7%)
Glass	118	(1.8%)	87	(2.2%)	205	(1.9%)
Metals	149	(2.3%)	93	(2.3%)	242	(2.3%)
Textiles	236	(3.6%)	164	(4.1%)	400	(3.8%)
Wood	17	(0.3%)	211	(5.3%)	228	(2.2%)
Household hazardous wastes (HHWs) [1]	98	(1.5%)	52	(1.3%)	150	(1.4%)
Others [2]	1,079	(16.6%)	663	(16.6%)	1,742	(16.6%)
Total	**6,505**	**(100.0%)**	**4,006**	**(100.0%)**	**10,510**	**(100.0%)**

Notes :

1. Household hazardous wastes (HHWs) include paints, pesticides, fuels, cylinders, batteries, electrical appliances, fluorescent lamps and medicines, etc.
2. Others include bulky items and other miscellaneous waste materials.
3. Figures in brackets refer to percentage shares by weight in total disposal quantity of the corresponding waste type.

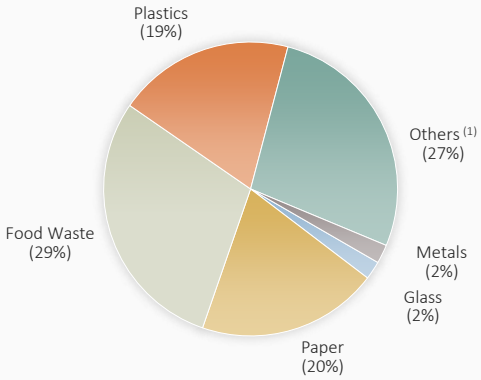
Plate 2.9 Composition of MSW disposed of at landfills in 2024 - By major waste type

Composition [1]	Average daily quantity (tpd) and percentage share by weight [4]					
	Domestic waste (a)		Commercial & industrial waste (b)		Municipal solid waste (c) = (a) + (b)	
Paper						
- Cardboard / Newsprint / Office paper	343	(5.3%)	206	(5.2%)	549	(5.2%)
- Tetrapak	53	(0.8%)	33	(0.8%)	86	(0.8%)
- Others [1]	1,091	(16.8%)	705	(17.6%)	1,796	(17.1%)
Paper sub-total	**1,487**	**(22.9%)**	**945**	**(23.6%)**	**2,431**	**(23.1%)**
Plastics						
- Plastic bags	554	(8.5%)	334	(8.3%)	889	(8.5%)
- Plastic bottles	149	(2.3%)	68	(1.7%)	217	(2.1%)
- Plastic / Polyfoam dining wares	136	(2.1%)	71	(1.8%)	207	(2.0%)
- Others [2]	337	(5.2%)	236	(5.9%)	572	(5.4%)
Plastics sub-total	**1,176**	**(18.1%)**	**709**	**(17.7%)**	**1,885**	**(17.9%)**
Putrescibles						
- Food waste	1,996	(30.7%)	1,004	(25.1%)	3,001	(28.5%)
- Yard waste	148	(2.3%)	79	(2.0%)	226	(2.2%)
Putrescibles sub-total	**2,144**	**(33.0%)**	**1,083**	**(27.0%)**	**3,227**	**(30.7%)**
Glass						
- Glass bottles	106	(1.6%)	78	(2.0%)	184	(1.8%)
- Other glass	12	(0.2%)	8	(0.2%)	21	(0.2%)
Glass sub-total	**118**	**(1.8%)**	**87**	**(2.2%)**	**205**	**(1.9%)**
Metals						
- Ferrous metals	87	(1.3%)	61	(1.5%)	147	(1.4%)
- Non-ferrous metals	63	(1.0%)	32	(0.8%)	95	(0.9%)
Metals sub-total	**149**	**(2.3%)**	**93**	**(2.3%)**	**242**	**(2.3%)**

Notes :

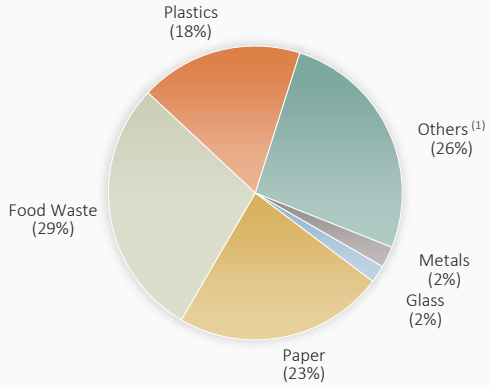
1. Other paper waste includes tissue paper, paper bags, thermal paper, food packaging paper, paper dining wares, etc.
2. Other plastics waste includes transparent stretch film for packaging, polyfoam packaging, toys, buckets, plastic board, scrap, etc.
3. Figures in brackets refer to percentage shares by weight in total disposal quantity of the corresponding waste type.

Plate 2.10 Composition of MSW disposed of at landfills in percentages in 2023 and 2024 - By major waste type



Total disposal : 10,884 tpd

2023



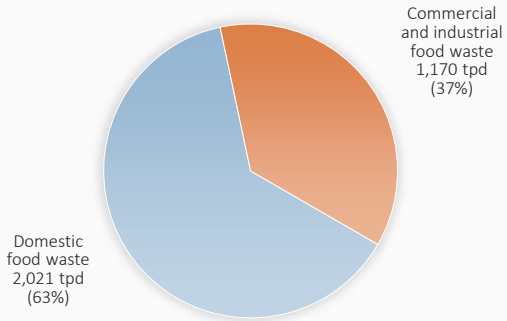
Total disposal : 10,510 tpd

2024

Note :

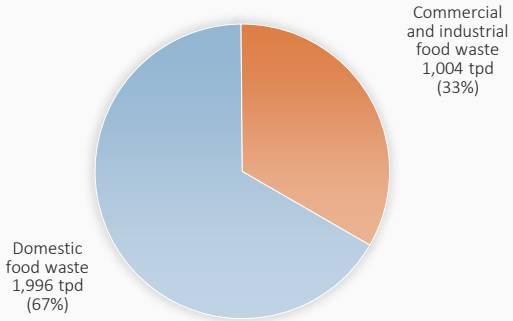
1. Others include textiles, wood, yard waste, household hazardous wastes, bulky items and miscellaneous waste materials.

Plate 2.11 Composition of municipal food waste disposed of at landfills in 2023 and 2024 - By waste category



Municipal food waste disposal : 3,191 tpd (29% of MSW)

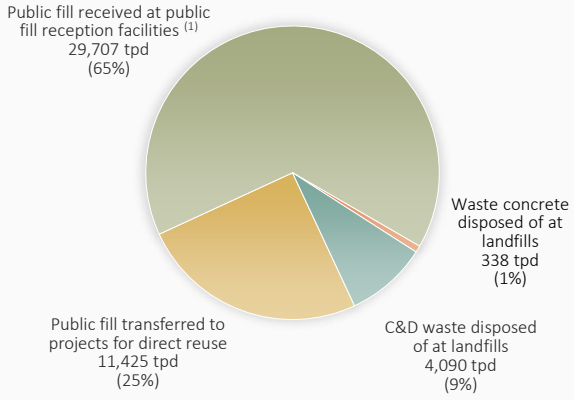
2023



Municipal food waste disposal : 3,001 tpd (29% of MSW)

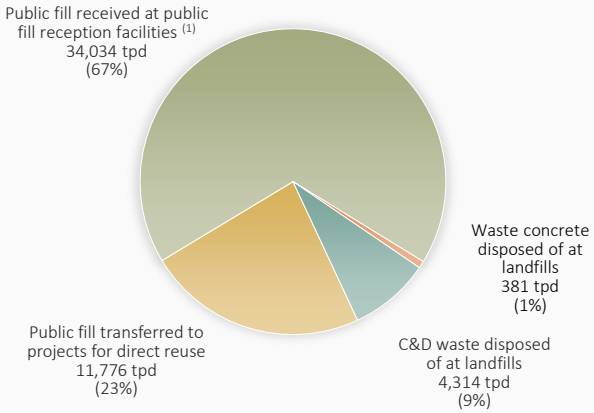
2024

Plate 2.12 Disposal and reuse of overall construction waste in 2023 and 2024



Total generation : 45,560 tpd

2023



Total generation : 50,505 tpd

2024

Note :

1. Public fill reception facilities (PFRFs) are managed by CEDD for receiving inert construction waste (also known as public fill) appropriate for reuse. At present, four PFRFs are in operation, namely Tseung Kwan O Area 137 Fill Bank, Tuen Mun Area 38 Fill Bank, Chai Wan Public Fill Barging Point and Mui Wo Temporary Public Fill Reception Facility.

Plate 2.13a Disposal of special waste at landfills in 2024 - By special waste type

Special waste type	Average daily quantity [1] (tpd)	and year-on-year growth rate [7]
Abattoir waste	10	(1.7%)
Animal carcasses and kennel waste	10	(-41.6%)
Asbestos waste	4	(40.8%)
Chemical waste other than asbestos waste	4	(3.8%)
Clinical waste (with package material) [2]	5	(170.5%)
Dewatered dredged materials	0	(N/A)
Dewatered sludges [3]	32	(6.0%)
Dewatered waterworks sludge	78	(-5.0%)
Incineration ash and stabilised residue	144	(-1.3%)
Livestock waste [4]	39	(-42.0%)
Sewage works screenings	58	(0.2%)
Waste tyres [5]	35	(-13.3%)
Others [6]	13	(4.5%)
All special waste disposed at landfills	**432**	**(-8.3%)**

Notes :

1. Some types of special waste may not arise and be disposed of daily throughout the whole year. The average daily quantity is obtained by dividing the total amount of waste disposed of at landfills in the whole year by the number of days in the whole year.
2. Clinical waste is incinerated at CWTC except during normal maintenance or emergency shut-down maintenance of the incineration treatment system for more than two days. During the shutdown, clinical waste is packed and transferred to designated landfill for disposal in accordance with the Clinical Waste Disposal License of CWTC.
3. Dewatered sludges include dewatered sludges and other sludges from industrial activities. Dewatered sludges originate from sewage treatment works managed by the Drainage Services Department, wastewater treatment facilities and grease trap waste treatment facility at refuse transfer stations managed by the EPD, and private sewage treatment plants. Except that dewatered sewage sludge from major sewage treatment works managed by Drainage Services Department is treated by incineration at T · PARK, other sludges are disposed of at WENT and NENT Landfills.
4. In 2024, the generation of livestock waste amounted to 216 tpd, out of which 39 tpd were disposed of at landfills. Livestock waste disposed of at landfills mainly include the livestock waste collected by the free collection service for solid livestock waste provided to local livestock farmers by the Government. From March 2024 onwards, 20 tpd of livestock waste is treated by anaerobic digestion at O · PARK2. The remaining livestock waste was treated by other environmentally-acceptable means such as on-site composting, aerobic treatment, and dry muck-out.
5. Waste tyres are shredded or cut prior to disposal at landfills.
6. Others include condemned goods, contaminated waste and government items.
7. Figures in brackets refer to year-on-year (y-o-y) growth rates. It should be noted that special waste types with small tpd figures may be subject to strong y-o-y fluctuations due to small base numbers.

Plate 2.13b Treatment of special waste not disposed of at landfills in 2024 - By special waste type

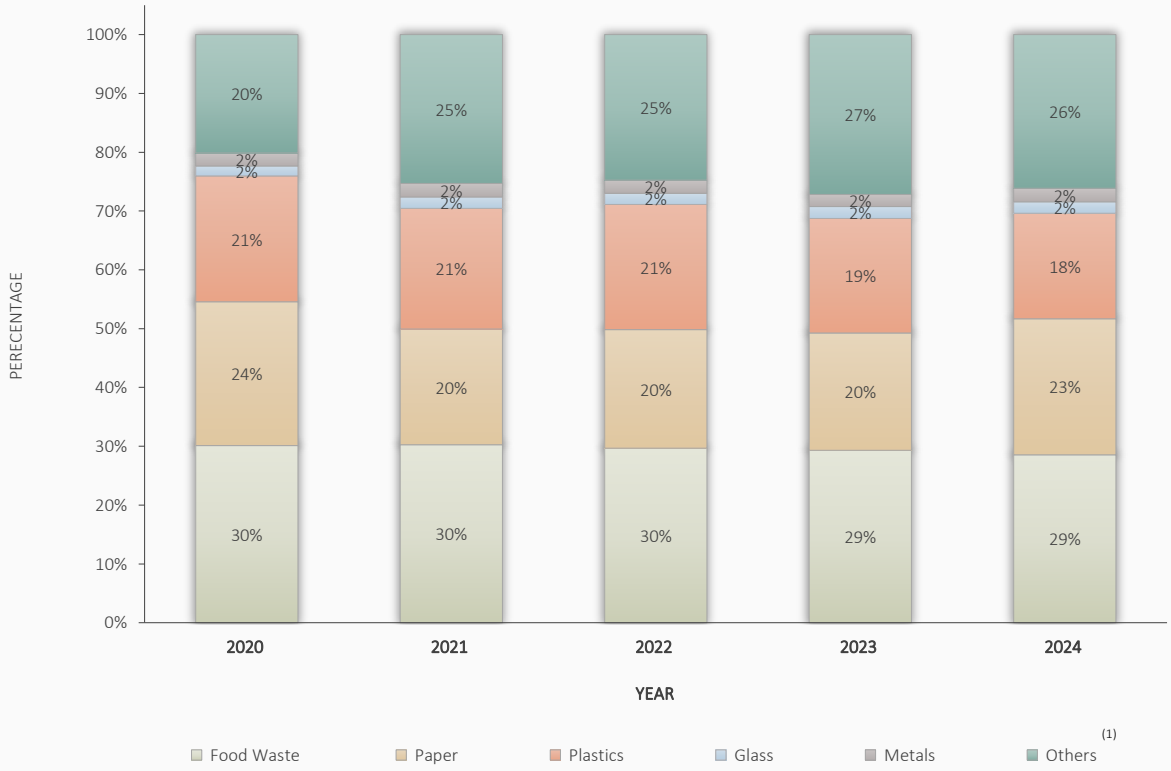
Special waste type	Treatment method	Average daily quantity [1] (tpd) and year-on-year growth rate [6]	
Chemical waste other than asbestos waste	CWTC	16	(-20.3%)
Clinical waste	CWTC	3	(-59.8%)
Grease trap waste	WKTS [2]	461	(-3.5%)
Horse stable waste	AWCP	17	(-24.8%)
Dredged mud and excavated materials	Marine dumping [3]	10,383	(80.5%)
Dewatered sewage sludge [4]	Incineration at T • PARK	1,070	(-4.1%)
Furnace bottom ash	Concrete manufacturing, stored in lagoon [5]	46	(-18.9%)
Pulverised fuel ash	Concrete manufacturing, stored in lagoon [5]	500	(-20.1%)

Notes :

1. Some types of special waste may not arise and be treated daily throughout the whole year. The average daily quantity is obtained by dividing the total amount of waste treated outside landfills in the whole year by the number of days in the whole year.
2. The figure is the quantity of grease trap waste treated by the Grease Trap Waste Treatment Facility at WKTS.
3. The density of the dredged mud and excavated materials is assumed to be one tonne per cubic metre.
4. Dewatered sewage sludge from major sewage treatment works managed by Drainage Services Department has been treated by incineration at T • PARK from April 2015 onwards.
5. Furnace bottom ash and pulverised fuel ash are wastes resulting from coal-fired electricity generation. Their figures are provided by the Power Companies.
6. Figures in brackets refer to year-on-year (y-o-y) growth rates. It should be noted that special waste types with small tpd figures may be subject to strong y-o-y fluctuations due to small base numbers.

Plate 2.14 Composition of MSW disposed of at landfills in percentages from 2020 to 2024 - By major waste type

Total disposal (tpd)	10,809	11,358	11,128	10,884	10,510
y-o-y change (%)	-2.2	5.1	-2.0	-2.2	-3.4

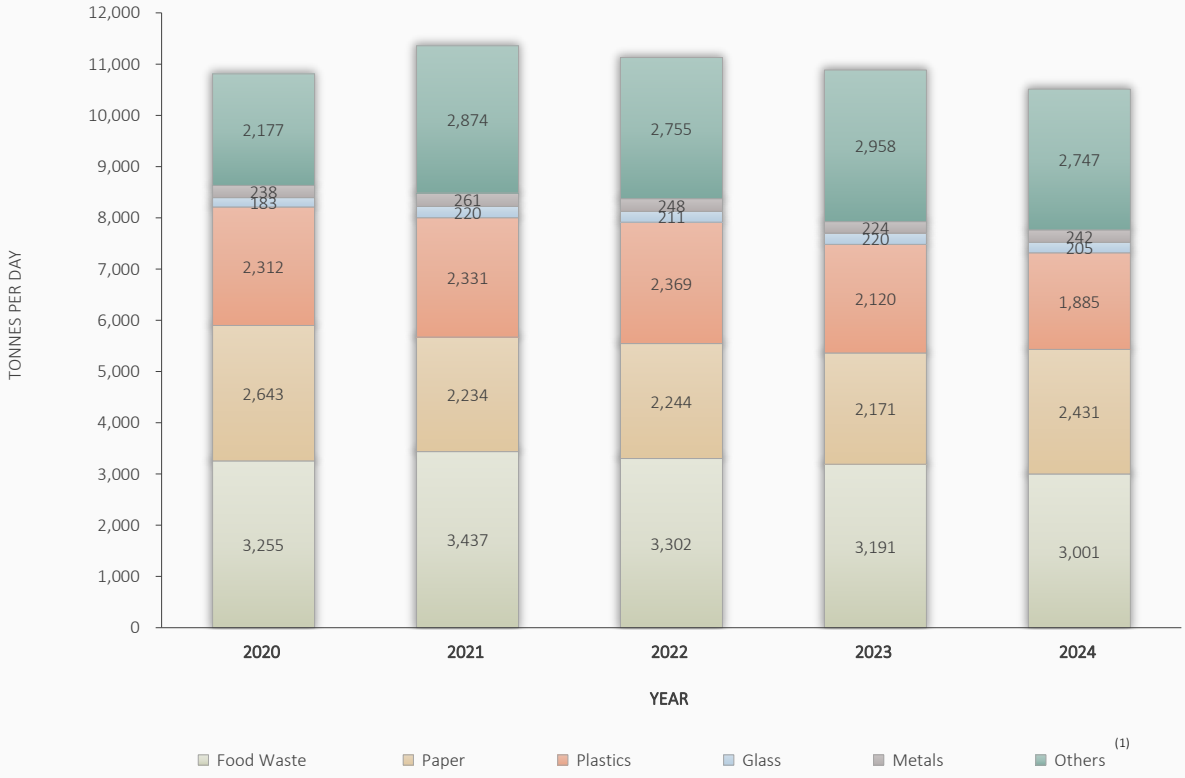


Note :

1. Others include textiles, wood, yard waste, household hazardous wastes, bulky items and miscellaneous waste materials.

Plate 2.15 Composition of MSW disposed of at landfills in quantities from 2020 to 2024 - By major waste type

Total disposal (tpd)	10,809	11,358	11,128	10,884	10,510
y-o-y change (%)	-2.2	5.1	-2.0	-2.2	-3.4

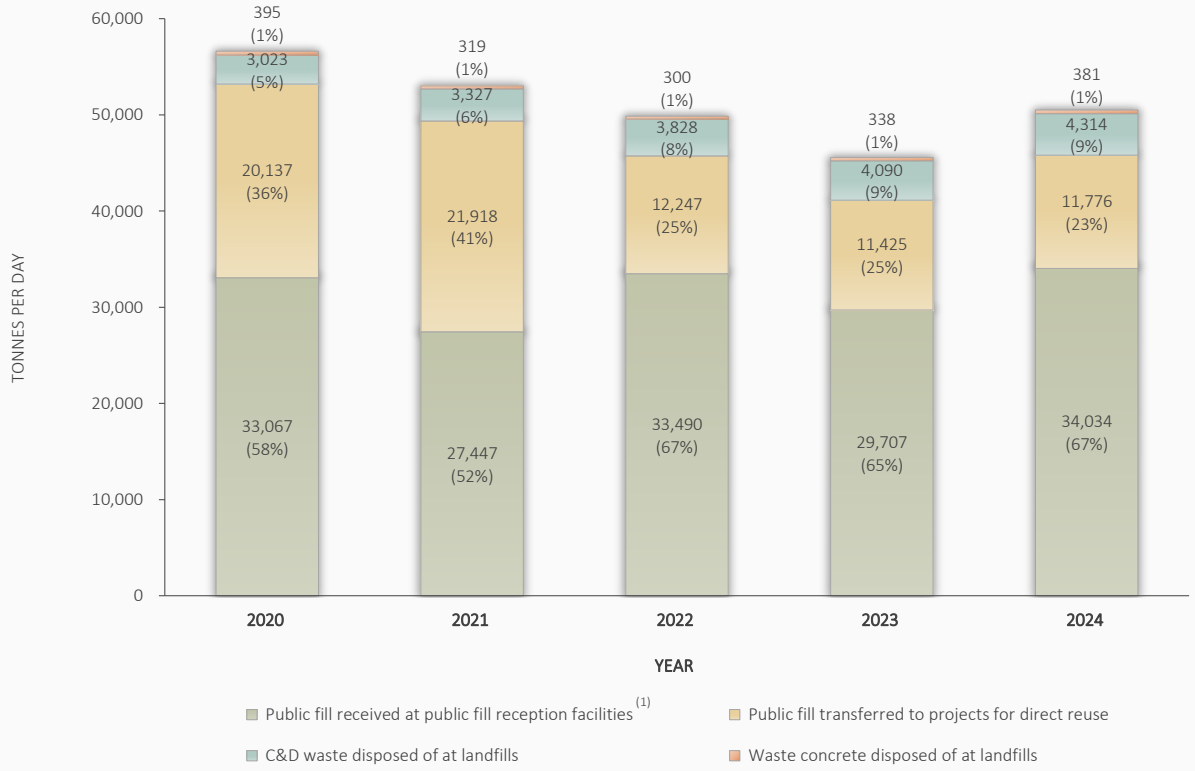


Note :

1. Others include textiles, wood, yard waste, household hazardous wastes, bulky items and miscellaneous waste materials.

Plate 2.16 Disposal and reuse of overall construction waste from 2020 to 2024

Total generation (tpd)	56,622	53,011	49,865	45,560	50,505
y-o-y change (%)	17.3	-6.4	-5.9	-8.6	10.9



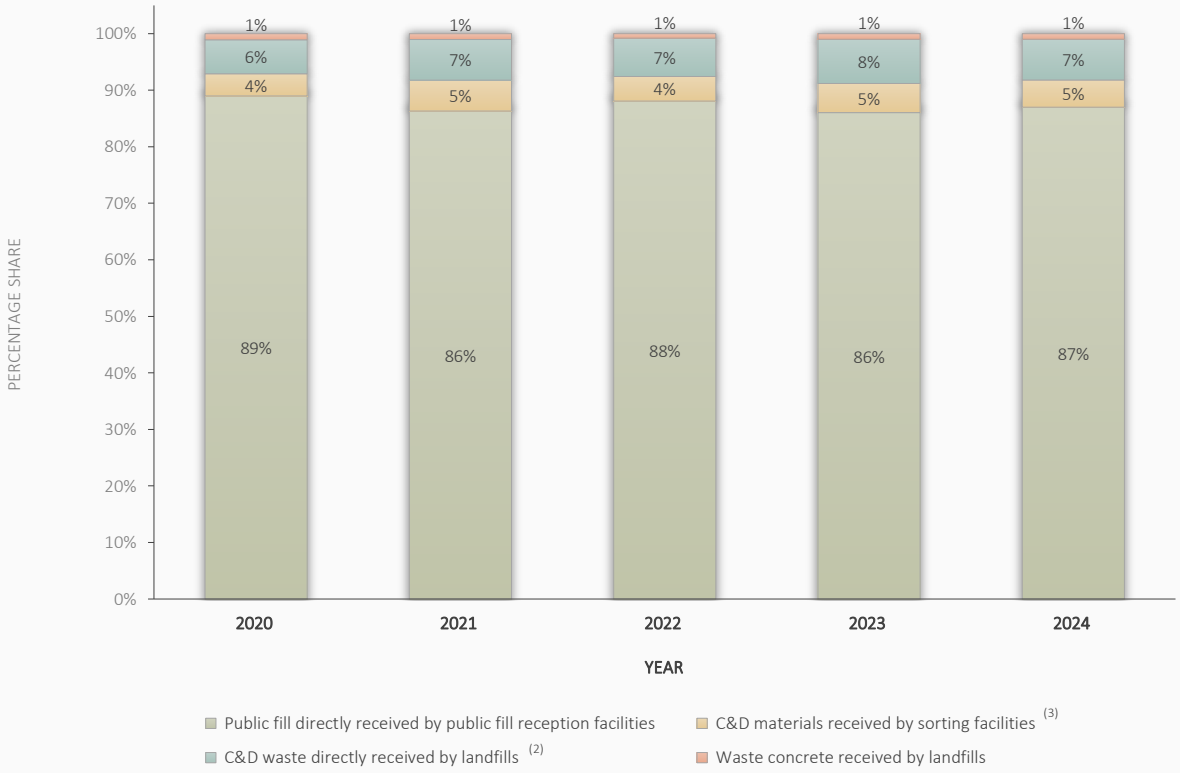
Notes :

1. Public fill reception facilities (PFRFs) are managed by CEDD for receiving inert construction waste (also known as public fill) appropriate for reuse. At present, four PFRFs are in operation, namely Tseung Kwan O Area 137 Fill Bank, Tuen Mun Area 38 Fill Bank, Chai Wan Public Fill Barging Point and Mui Wo Temporary Public Fill Reception Facility.
2. Figures in brackets refer to percentage shares by weight.

Plate 2.17 Overall construction waste received by treatment facilities [1] from 2020 to 2024

Unit : tpd

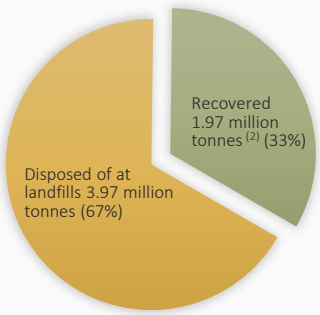
	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Public fill reception facilities	32,536	26,782	33,112	29,292	33,672
Sorting facilities	1,439	1,699	1,638	1,754	1,864
Landfills	2,592	2,548	2,845	2,998	3,170
Waste concrete	*395*	*319*	*300*	*338*	*381*
C&D waste	*2,197*	*2,230*	*2,545*	*2,660*	*2,789*



Notes :

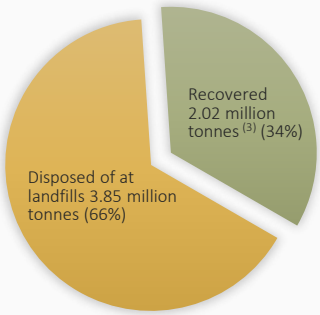
1. Under the Construction Waste Disposal Charging Scheme, $71 is charged per tonne of public fill disposed of at public fill reception facilities, $175 per tonne of construction waste at sorting facilities and $200 per tonne of construction waste at landfills.
2. C&D waste directly received by landfills excludes C&D waste from sorting facilities, but includes a small quantity of C&D waste from OITF.
3. After sorting, inert material will be transferred from sorting facilities to public fill banks, and non-inert C&D waste to landfills.

Plate 3.1 Generation, disposal and recovery of MSW in 2023 and 2024



Total generation (1) : 5.94 million tonnes

2023



Total generation (1) : 5.86 million tonnes

2024

Notes :

1. Generation of MSW is the sum of MSW disposed of at landfills and MSW recovered for recycling.
2. A total of 1.97 million tonnes of recyclables were recovered for recycling in 2023, of which, 1.52 million tonnes (77%) were delivered outside Hong Kong for recycling and 0.45 million tonnes (23%) recycled locally.
3. A total of 2.02 million tonnes of recyclables were recovered for recycling in 2024, of which, 1.60 million tonnes (79%) were delivered outside Hong Kong for recycling and 0.42 million tonnes (21%) recycled locally.

Plate 3.2 Recovery rates of MSW, domestic waste, and commercial & industrial waste from 2020 to 2024

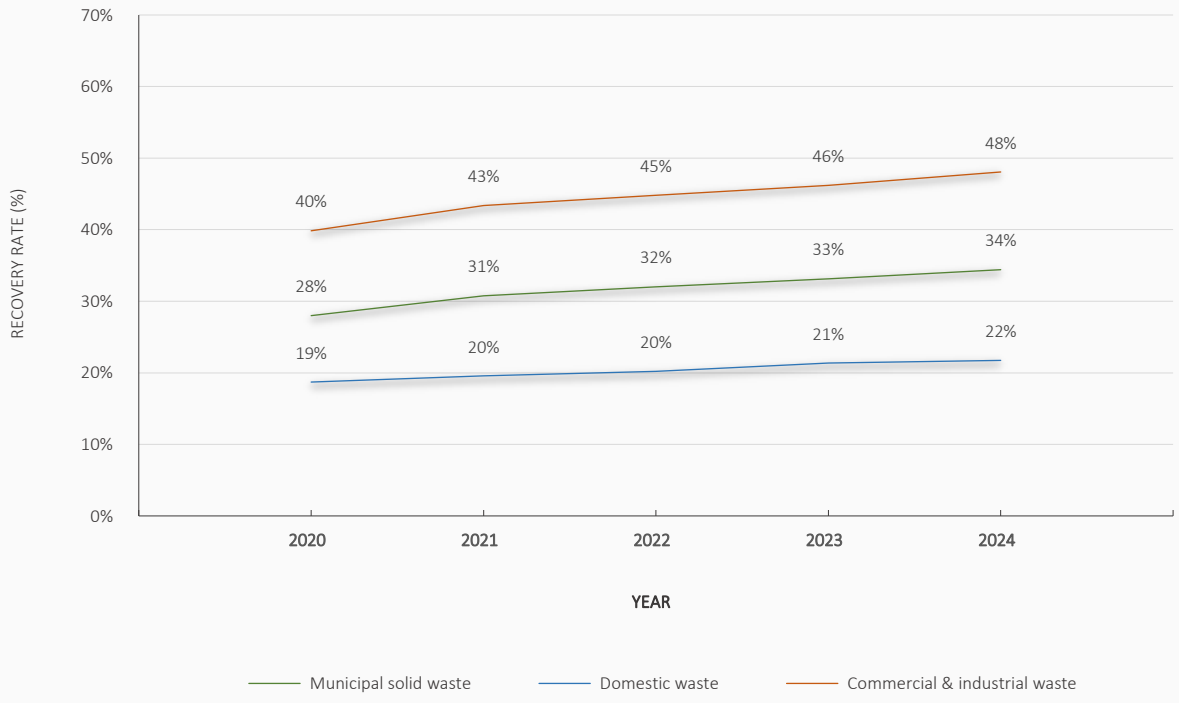


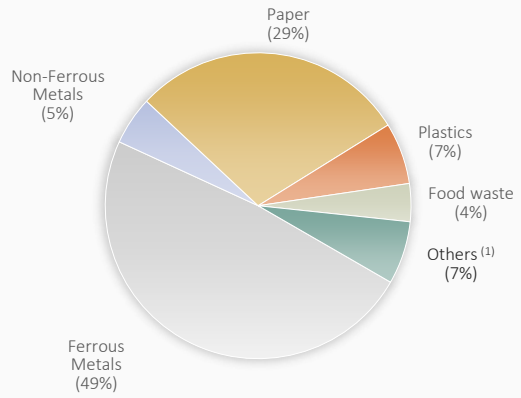
Plate 3.3 Recyclables recovered from MSW in 2024
- By type of recyclable

Recyclable type	Quantity of recovered recyclables (thousand tonnes) and percentage share by weight [5]					
	Delivered outside Hong Kong for recycling (a)		Recycled locally (b)		Total recovered for recycling (c) = (a) + (b)	
Paper	583.6	(36.5%)	2.5	(0.6%)	586.1	(29.0%)
Plastics	3.8	(0.2%)	97.7	(23.4%)	101.5	(5.0%)
Ferrous metals	889.8	(55.6%)	118.9	(28.5%)	1,008.7	(50.0%)
Non-ferrous metals	100.7	(6.3%)	3.7	(0.9%)	104.5	(5.2%)
Food waste [1]	0.0	(0.0%)	104.8	(25.1%)	104.8	(5.2%)
Glass [2]	0.0	(0.0%)	22.3	(5.3%)	22.3	(1.1%)
Textiles	16.6	(1.0%)	8.5	(2.0%)	25.1	(1.2%)
Wood	0.0	(0.0%)	6.7	(1.6%)	6.7	(0.3%)
Electrical and electronic equipment	1.7	(0.1%)	31.7	(7.6%)	33.4	(1.7%)
Yard waste [3]	0.0	(0.0%)	8.2	(2.0%)	8.2	(0.4%)
Others [4]	4.5	(0.3%)	12.0	(2.9%)	16.6	(0.8%)
Total	**1,600.8**	**(100.0%)**	**417.1**	**(100.0%)**	**2,017.9**	**(100.0%)**

Notes :

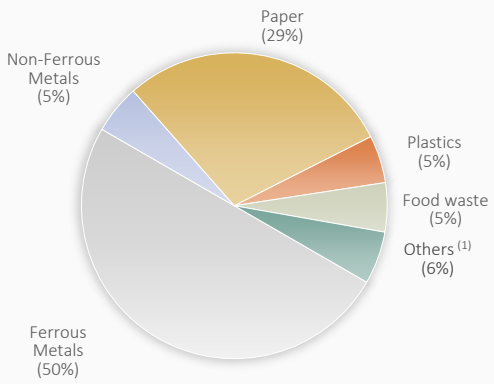
1. The quantity of food waste recycled locally includes those recycled by industrial operators, those recycled at O · PARKs, food waste pre-treatment facilities and OITF, and those recycled by non-government organizations.
2. Glass beverage bottles recovered for reuse through deposit-and-refund system operated by local beverage manufacturers are not included.
3. The quantity of yard waste recycled locally includes yard waste recycled on-site and off-site within Hong Kong and those recycled at Yard Waste Recycling Centre (Y · PARK).
4. The quantity includes rubber tyres, rechargeable battery and fluorescent lamps/tubes.
5. Figures less than 50 tonnes are shown as 0.0. Figures in brackets refer to percentage shares by weight.

Plate 3.4 Recyclables recovered from MSW in percentages in 2023 and 2024 - By type of recyclable



Total resource recovered : 1.97 million tonnes

2023



Total resource recovered : 2.02 million tonnes

2024

Note :

1. Others include glass, wood, rubber tyres, textiles, electrical and electronic equipment, yard waste, rechargeable battery and fluorescent lamps/tubes.

Plate 3.5 Quantities of recyclable materials recovered from MSW from 2020 to 2024

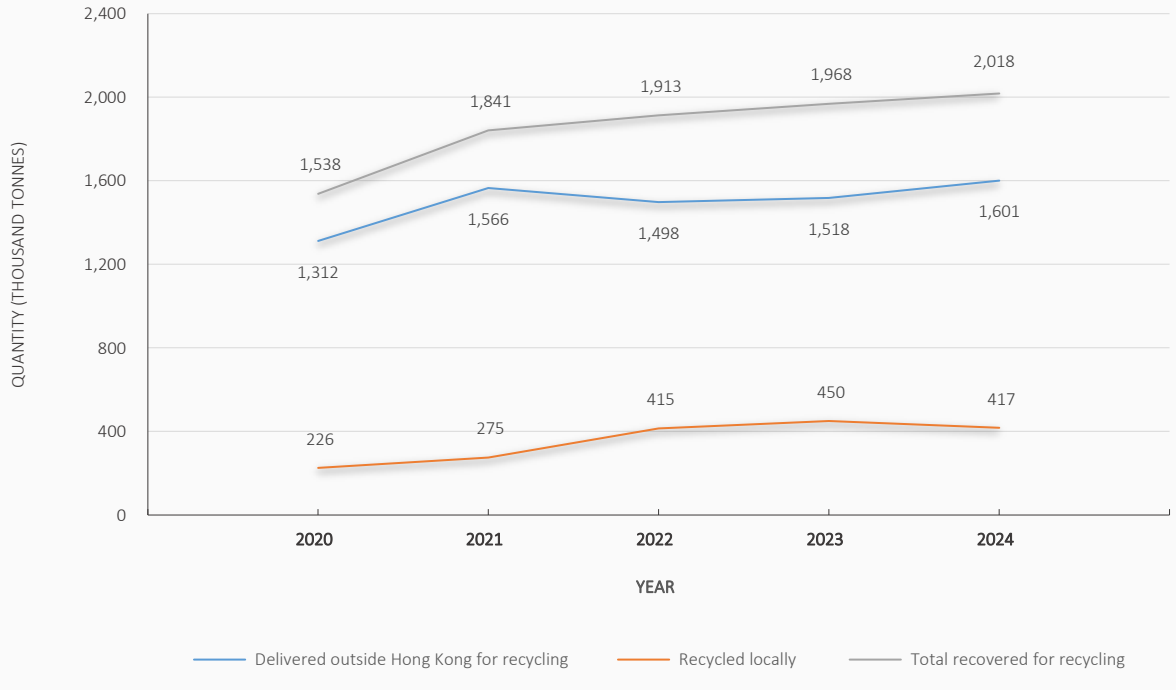


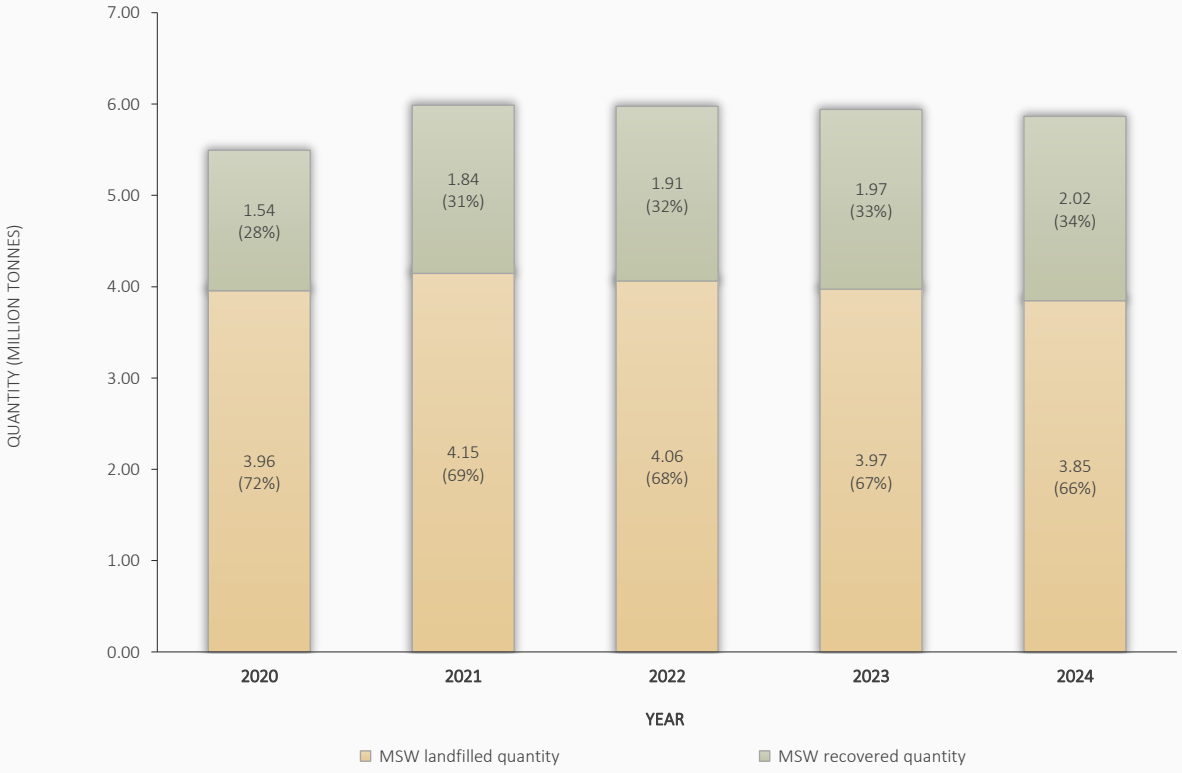
Plate 3.6 Recyclable materials recovered from MSW recycled outside Hong Kong in 2024 - By major type of recyclable material

Recyclable type	Quantity (thousand tonnes)	Value ($ thousand)	Value per unit weight ($ / tonne)
Ferrous metals	889.8	2,605,387	2,928
Non-ferrous metals	100.7	3,397,599	33,731
Plastics	3.8	13,925	3,633
Paper	583.6	820,021	1,405
Textiles	16.6	24,166	1,458

Source : Merchandise trade statistics from C&SD, supplemented by administrative records and survey results from EPD.

Plate 3.7 Generation, disposal and recovery of MSW from 2020 to 2024

Total generation (million tonnes)	5.49	5.99	5.97	5.94	5.86
y-o-y change (%)	-3.2	9.0	-0.2	-0.6	-1.3

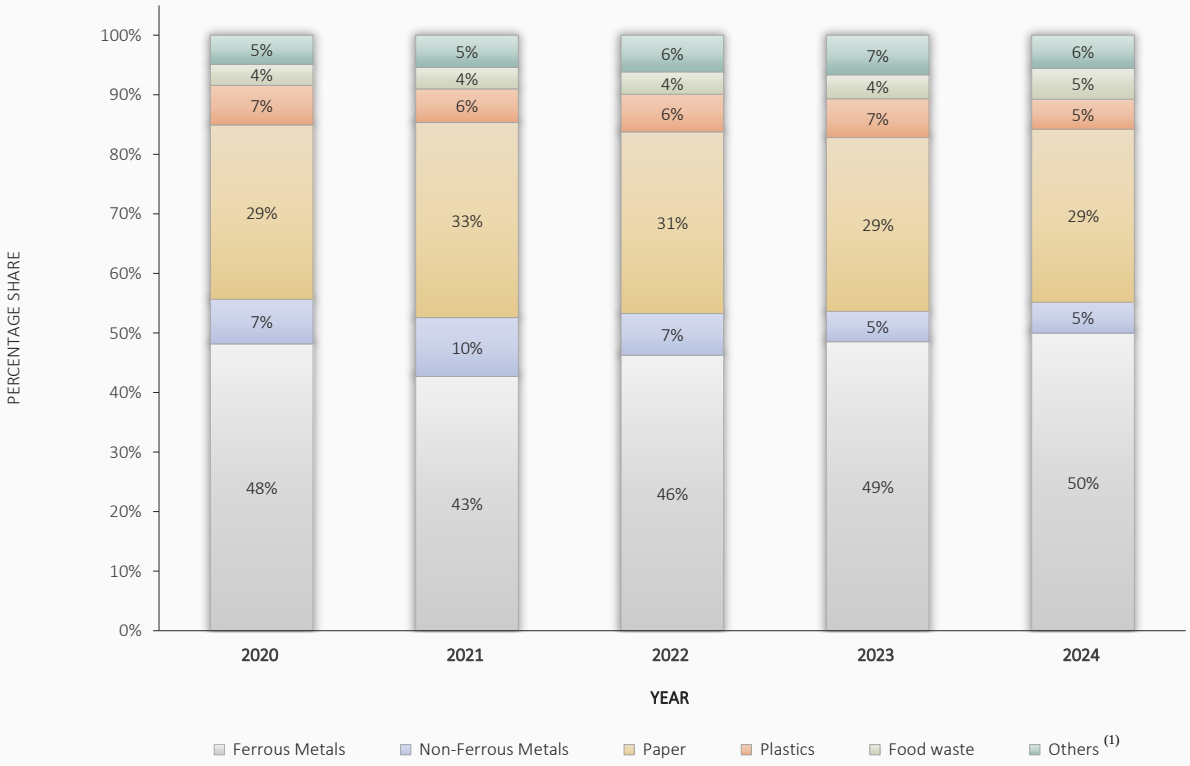


Note :

1. Generation of MSW is the sum of MSW disposed of at landfills and MSW recovered for recycling.

Plate 3.8 Recyclables recovered from MSW in percentages from 2020 to 2024
- By major type of recyclable

Total recovery (million tonnes)	1.54	1.84	1.91	1.97	2.02
y-o-y change (%)	-6.2	19.7	3.9	2.9	2.5

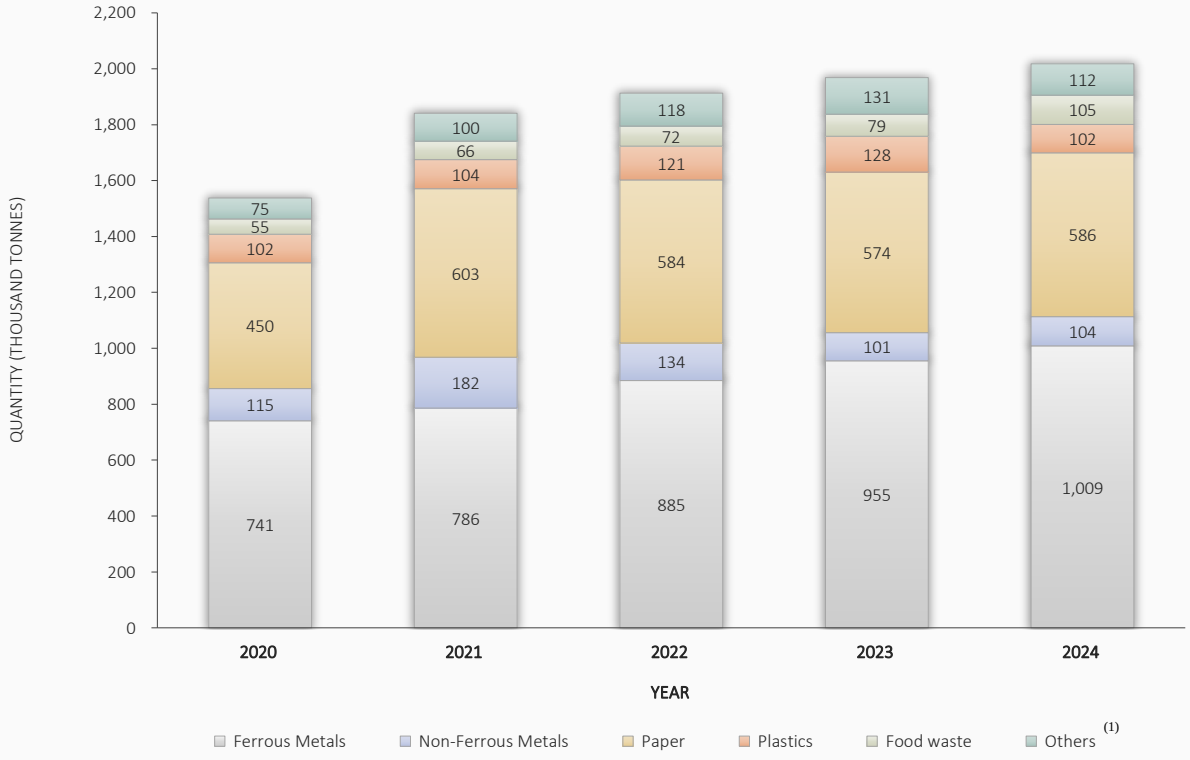


Note :

1. Others include glass, wood, rubber tyres, textiles, electrical and electronic equipment, yard waste, rechargeable battery and fluorescent lamps/tubes.

Plate 3.9 Recyclables recovered from MSW in quantities from 2020 to 2024
- By major type of recyclable

Total recovery (million tonnes)	1.54	1.84	1.91	1.97	2.02
y-o-y change (%)	-6.2	19.7	3.9	2.9	2.5

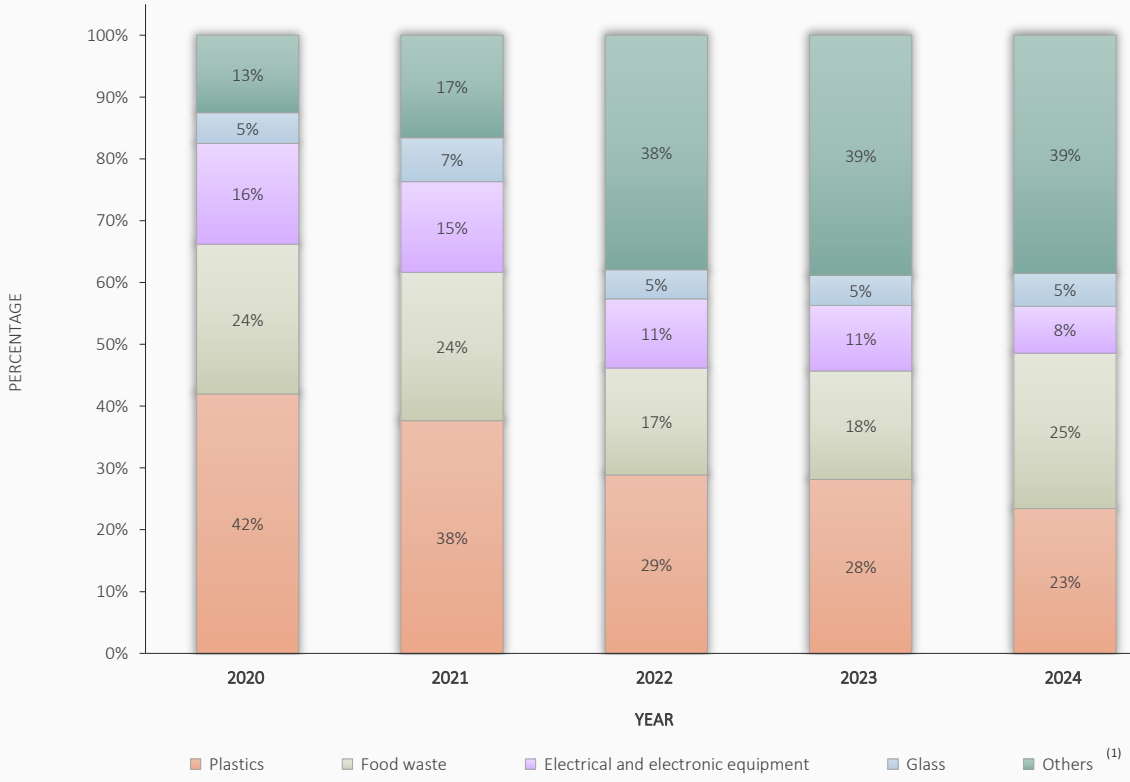


Note :

1. Others include glass, wood, rubber tyres, textiles, electrical and electronic equipment, yard waste, rechargeable battery and fluorescent lamps/tubes .

Plate 3.10 Recyclables recovered from MSW recycled locally in percentages from 2020 to 2024
- By major type of recyclable material

Total recyclables recycled locally (thousand tonnes)	225.6	275.3	415.2	450.0	417.1
y-o-y change (%)	11.1	22.0	50.8	8.4	-7.3

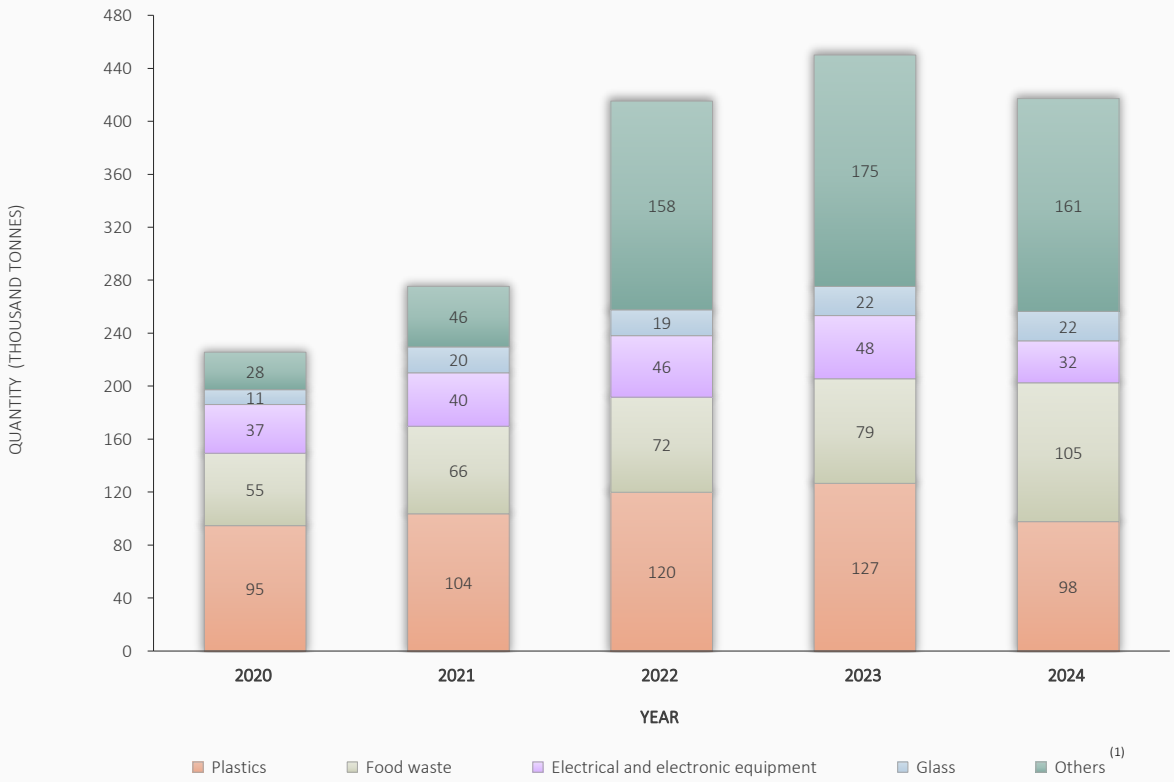


Note :

1. Others include paper, metals, wood, rubber tyres, textiles, yard waste, rechargeable battery and fluorescent lamps/tubes.

Plate 3.11 Recyclables recovered from MSW recycled locally in quantities from 2020 to 2024
- By major type of recyclable material

Total recyclables recycled locally (thousand tonnes)	225.6	275.3	415.2	450.0	417.1
y-o-y change (%)	11.1	22.0	50.8	8.4	-7.3



Note :

1. Others include paper, metals, wood, rubber tyres, textiles, yard waste, rechargeable battery and fluorescent lamps/tubes.

Waste Classification and Terminology

Solid waste is classified into three main categories by making reference to the sources of waste and the institutional arrangements for waste collection and disposal. These three main categories of solid waste are municipal solid waste, overall construction waste and special waste. The detailed interpretations of some commonly used terms are described below.

Municipal solid waste includes domestic waste, and commercial and industrial waste.

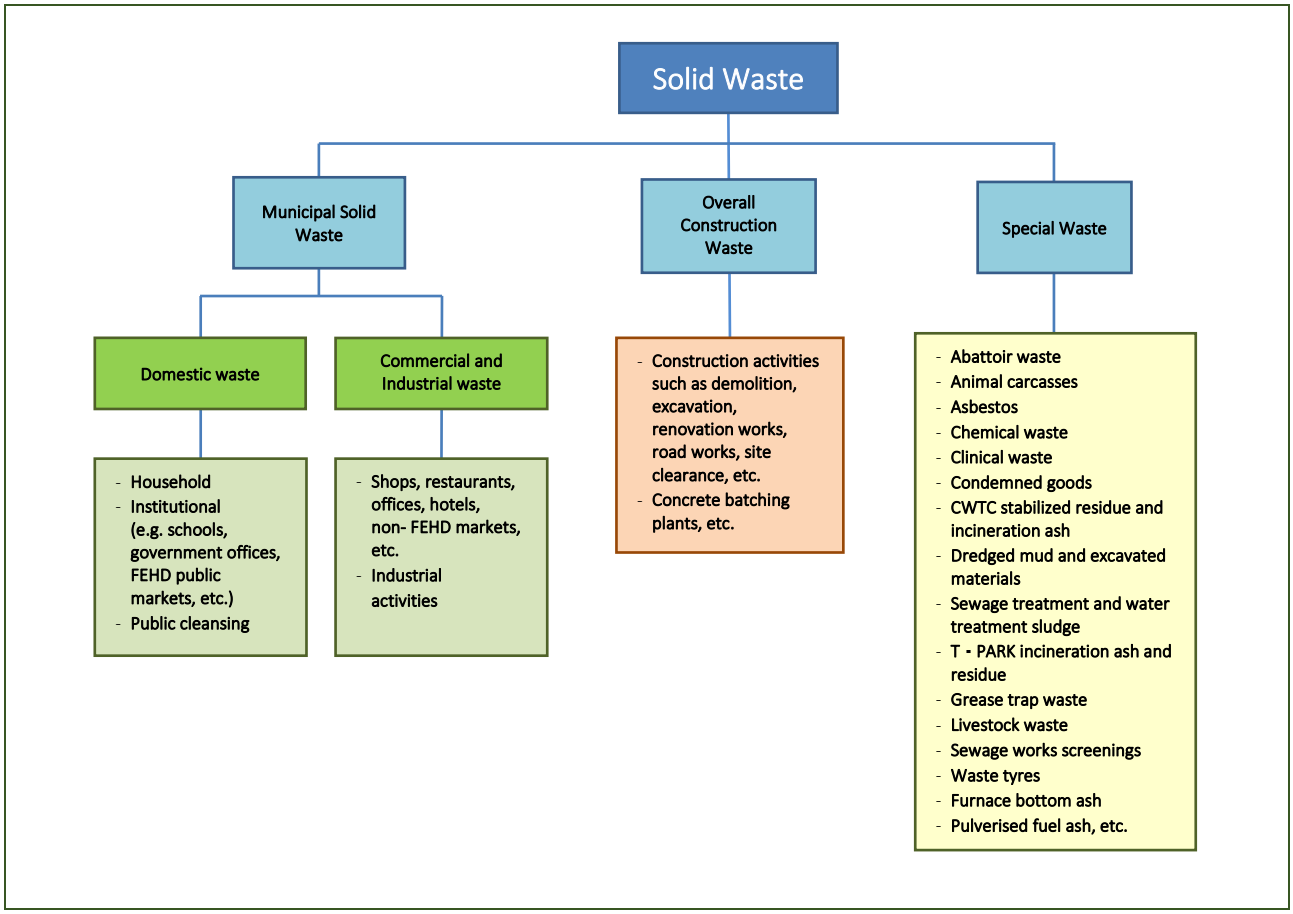
- Domestic waste refers to household waste, waste generated from daily activities in institutional premises (e.g. schools, government offices) and refuse collected from public cleansing services. Public cleansing waste includes dirt and litter collected by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department (FEHD), marine refuse collected by the Marine Department and waste from country parks collected by the Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department (AFCD).
- Commercial and industrial waste is waste arising from shops, restaurants, hotels, offices, markets in private housing estates and industrial activities, and does not include construction waste, chemical waste and other special waste. It is collected mainly by private waste collectors. However, some industries may deliver their industrial waste directly to landfills for disposal.
- Municipal solid waste contains a small portion of bulky items such as furniture, pianos and bicycles which cannot be handled by conventional compactor type refuse collection vehicles. These items are regarded as bulky waste and are usually collected separately.

Overall construction waste includes waste or surplus materials arising from construction activities such as site clearance, refurbishment, renovation, demolition, land excavation and road works. It also includes waste concrete that is generated from concrete batching plants, cement plaster/mortar plants not set up inside construction sites. The overall construction waste is sorted into inert materials (called public fill) and construction and demolition (C&D) waste (basically non-inert waste), where inert materials like debris, rubble, concrete and earth are reused in construction sites, or as fill in reclamation sites when available. C&D waste are disposed of at landfills.

Special waste is waste that requires special disposal arrangement. It includes abattoir waste, animal carcasses, asbestos, chemical waste, clinical waste, condemned goods, CWTC stabilized residue and incineration ash, dredged mud and excavated materials, sewage treatment and water treatment sludge, T • PARK incineration ash and residue, grease trap waste, livestock waste, sewage works screenings, waste tyres, furnace bottom ash, pulverised fuel ash, etc.

- Chemical waste is defined in the Waste Disposal (Chemical Waste) (General) Regulation under the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354). Chemical waste can be any substance arising from any process or trade activity which contains chemical in such form, quantity or concentration that can cause pollution to the environment or become a risk to health.

Current classification of solid waste



Monitoring Methodology

Solid waste data are mainly collected from the following sources:

- Waste intake records taken at waste management facilities;
- Results of annual survey on waste composition conducted at landfills and RTSs;
- Results of waste recovery survey conducted on the local recycling industry;
- Statistics provided by relevant groups of EPD; and
- Statistics provided by other departments including FEHD, CEDD and C&SD.

Under the statistical framework of solid waste, waste is an unwanted material or product which has been consumed, or is unsuitable for consumption as perceived by the generator. The interpretations of common terminology of Hong Kong's Waste Management System are detailed below [1].

- Waste management system (WMS) of Hong Kong comprises the public sector, private recyclers, and green groups in Hong Kong which engage in treatment of wastes or recyclables.

- Waste disposal is locally generated waste that are disposed of at strategic landfills managed by EPD.

- Resource recovery refers to recycling, reuse, or composting of locally recovered recyclables in Hong Kong or other economies. Resource recovery activities divert wastes from local landfills for further uses. The quantity of recyclables recovered includes recyclables delivered outside Hong Kong for recycling as well as recyclables recycled locally.

- Waste generation is waste locally generated in Hong Kong and passes through the WMS. The generation quantity of waste equals the sum of quantities of waste disposal and resource recovery, as derived below:

$$\text{Waste generation} = \text{Waste disposal} + \text{Resource recovery}$$

- Waste avoidance refers to the reduction in the quantity of waste entering the WMS, as a result of preventing the creation of waste at source or treatment of waste outside of the WMS. For example, wastes directly recycled or reused at the place of generation by private sector (e.g. on-site composting) or exchange of unprocessed second-hand products are regarded as waste avoidance. Waste avoidance falls outside of the scope of WMS, and is not measured in waste statistics in this report.

- Waste recovery rate is calculated as the proportion of resource recovery in waste generation, as indicated below.

$$\text{Waste recovery rate} = \frac{\text{Resource recovery}}{\text{Waste generation}} \times 100\%$$

$$= \frac{\text{Resource recovery}}{\text{Waste disposal} + \text{Resource recovery}} \times 100\%$$

- Per capita waste disposal rate is the quantity of waste disposed of at landfills on a daily basis by an average person of the Hong Kong population, as derived below:

$$\text{Per capita waste disposal rate} = \frac{\text{Average daily quantity of waste disposal}}{\text{mid-year population}}$$

[1] The terminology applies to municipal solid waste (MSW) and overall construction waste only.