Northern Ireland Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste Management Statistics

Annual Report 2019/20

Sustainability at the heart of a living, working, active landscape valued by everyone.

Northern Ireland waste management statistics annual report 2019/20

Waste collected by NI Councils

998,985 Tonnes

Recycling

51.1%
up from 49.8% in 2018/19

Recycling, energy recovery and landfill rates of LAC municipal waste **2019/20** compared to **2018/19**.

Landfill

24.0%
down from 28.9% in 2018/19

Energy Recovery

22.1%
up from 19.4% in 2018/19

Key Points for Northern Ireland

- Northern Ireland's councils collected 998,985 tonnes of waste during 2019/20 which was 0.9 per cent higher than that collected in 2018/19. During 2019/20, 51.1 per cent of waste collected by councils was sent for recycling, 1.3 per cent higher than the recycling rate for 2018/19.

- The landfill rate for waste collected by councils recorded a new annual low of 24.0 per cent in 2019/20, a fall from 74.0 per cent in 2006/07 and 28.9 per cent in 2018/19.

- More than one fifth of waste arisings were sent for energy recovery in 2019/20, compared to 19.4 per cent in 2018/19, and 0.4 per cent 10 years ago.

- Household waste accounted for 88.2 per cent of all waste collected during 2019/20. The recycling rate for household waste was 51.9 per cent while the landfill rate for household waste was 23.7 per cent. Fermanagh & Omagh generated the smallest amount of household waste per capita at 412 kg whilst Antrim & Newtownabbey recorded the largest at 588 kg per capita.

- The household waste recycling rate of 51.9 per cent has met the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy target to recycle 50 per cent of household waste by 2020. This target was first met in 2018/19 with the latest figure the highest household recycling rate ever recorded for Northern Ireland.

- The household waste recycling rate is also a population indicator for the draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021. The household waste recycling rate of 51.9 per cent is an increase of 9.8 percentage points since the baseline year for PfG reporting (2014/15) and is considered as a positive change for PfG reporting.

- There were 126,286 tonnes of biodegradable waste sent to landfill during 2019/20. This was 17.6 per cent lower than the 153,323 tonnes sent in 2018/19 and also represents a lower proportion of the reduced annual allowance allocated to councils under the Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS) in 2019/20.

Contents

Reader Information

This document may be made available in alternative formats, please contact us to discuss your requirements. Definitions of key terms used in this publication are available in Appendix 2 – Glossary.

Purpose

This is an annual publication which reports finalised figures on the key measurements of local authority collected municipal waste for councils and waste management groups in Northern Ireland.

The data contained are used by local authorities, waste management groups, Devolved Administrations, UK Government and the EU to measure progress towards achieving targets from various waste strategies including:

- The revised Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy
- The draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021
- The EU Waste Framework Directive

The data are also used by media, the general public and special interest groups to inform policy and lifestyle choices related to the treatment of waste.

Further details are available in Appendix 1 – Main Uses of Data

Next Updates

- Provisional figures for July to September 2020 will be available in January 2021.
- Finalised data for 2020/21 are scheduled to be published in November 2021 and will supersede previously published data from the four quarterly returns for that financial year.
- The scheduled dates for all upcoming publications are available from the GOV.UK statistics release calendar: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics
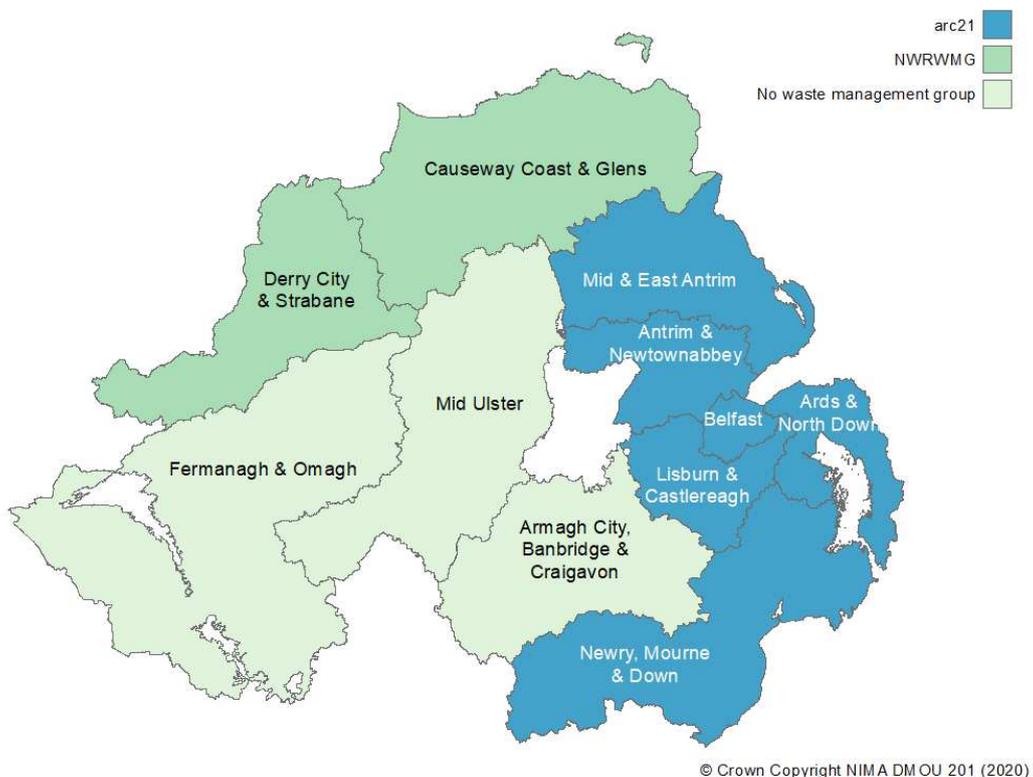
Introduction

This report presents finalised and validated information on the quantities of local authority collected (LAC) municipal waste collected and managed in Northern Ireland over the 2019/20 financial year, as well as trend data over previous years. It provides information on the quantities of waste arising, sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling, composting, energy recovery and sent to landfill. Some of these measurements are key performance indicators (KPIs). These are used to assess progress towards achieving waste strategy targets and where appropriate this is highlighted in the tables and charts.

Owing to the reform of local government, 26 council districts in Northern Ireland were reorganised into 11 new councils from 1 April 2015. This is the fifth annual waste statistics release on an 11 council basis. During this period, 8 of the 11 new councils formed two Waste Management Groups (WMGs) with 3 councils unaffiliated to any group. WMGs produce, develop and implement Waste Management Plans for their areas of responsibility and are an important part of the data submission process. The group with the largest share of the population is arc21 with 59 per cent. The North West Regional Waste Management Group (NWRWMG) has 16 per cent of the population with the remaining 25 per cent residing in councils not belonging to a waste management group.

There are six councils in **arc21**: Antrim & Newtownabbey; Ards & North Down; Belfast; Lisburn & Castlereagh; Mid & East Antrim; and Newry, Mourne & Down.
NWRWMG contains two councils: Causeway Coast & Glens; and Derry City & Strabane. The remaining three councils are not members of any WMG: Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon; Fermanagh & Omagh; and Mid Ulster.

Figure 1: Map of councils and waste management groups in Northern Ireland

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Overview

This report presents information on the quantities of local authority collected municipal waste managed in Northern Ireland during the 2019/20 financial year.

The report is split into five sections, each of which cover local authority collected (LAC) municipal waste and, where appropriate, household waste:

- **waste arisings (pages 5-8)**,
- **reuse, dry recycling and composting (pages 9-13),**
- **energy recovery (pages 14-16),**
- **landfill (pages 17-18), and,**
- **biodegradable landfill (pages 19-20).**

Figure 2: Waste preparing for reuse, dry recycling, composting, energy recovery and landfill rates by council and waste management group
Northern Ireland, 2019/20
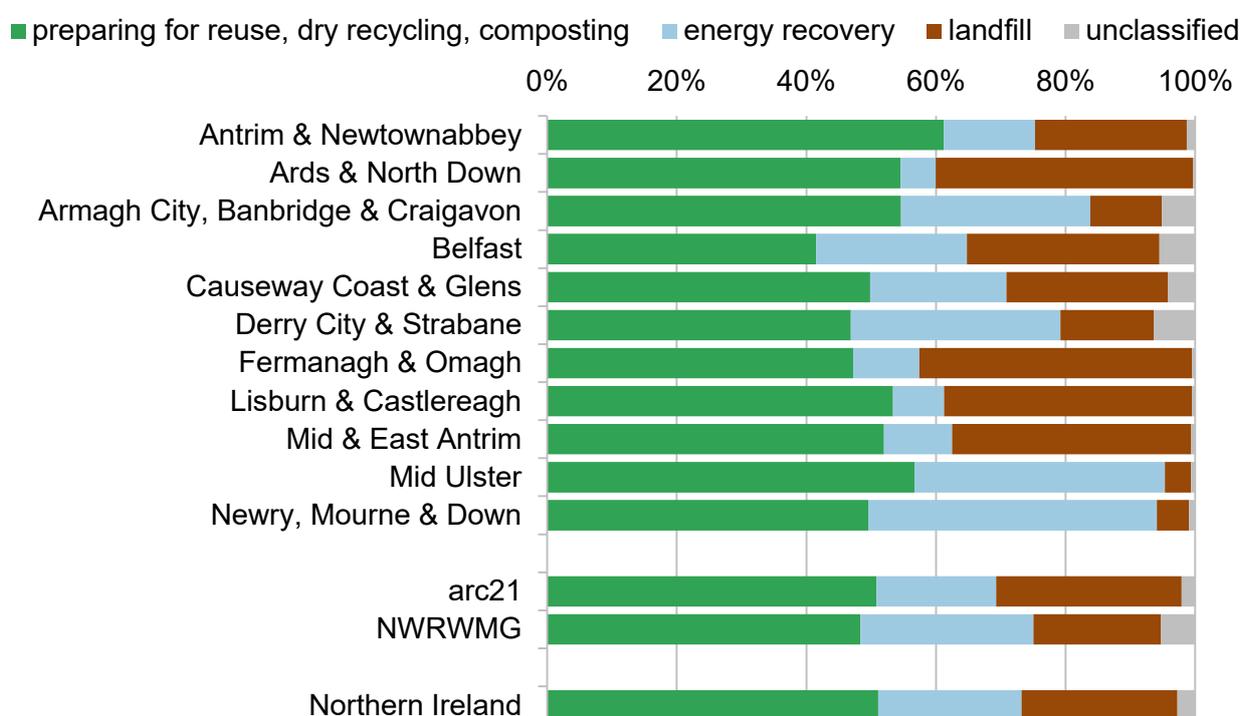
At the Northern Ireland level, 51.1 per cent of waste collected by councils was sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting during 2019/20. Energy recovery accounted for 22.1 per cent whilst 24.0 per cent was sent to landfill. This left 2.7 per cent unaccounted for which was likely to involve moisture and/or gaseous losses. Each of the rates is discussed in detail in the appropriate section of the report.

The rate of waste sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting increased by 1.3 percentage points compared to 2018/19. The energy recovery rate increased by 2.7 percentage point and the landfill rate fell by 4.8 percentage points.

Household waste accounted for 88.2 per cent of total waste. Household waste includes materials collected directly from households via kerbside collections, material taken to bring sites and civic amenity sites as well as several other smaller sources.

Waste Arisings

The total quantity of local authority collected (LAC) municipal waste arisings is a key performance indicator, KPI (j). This indicator is also used to monitor performance under the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015. In 2019/20, Northern Ireland's councils collected 998,985 tonnes of waste. This was a 0.9 per cent increase on the 990,233 tonnes collected in 2018/19.

Since 2006/07 household waste has accounted for 86-90 per cent of total waste collected by councils. In 2019/20 household waste accounted for 88.2 per cent. Household waste includes materials collected directly from households via kerbside collections, material taken to bring sites and civic amenity 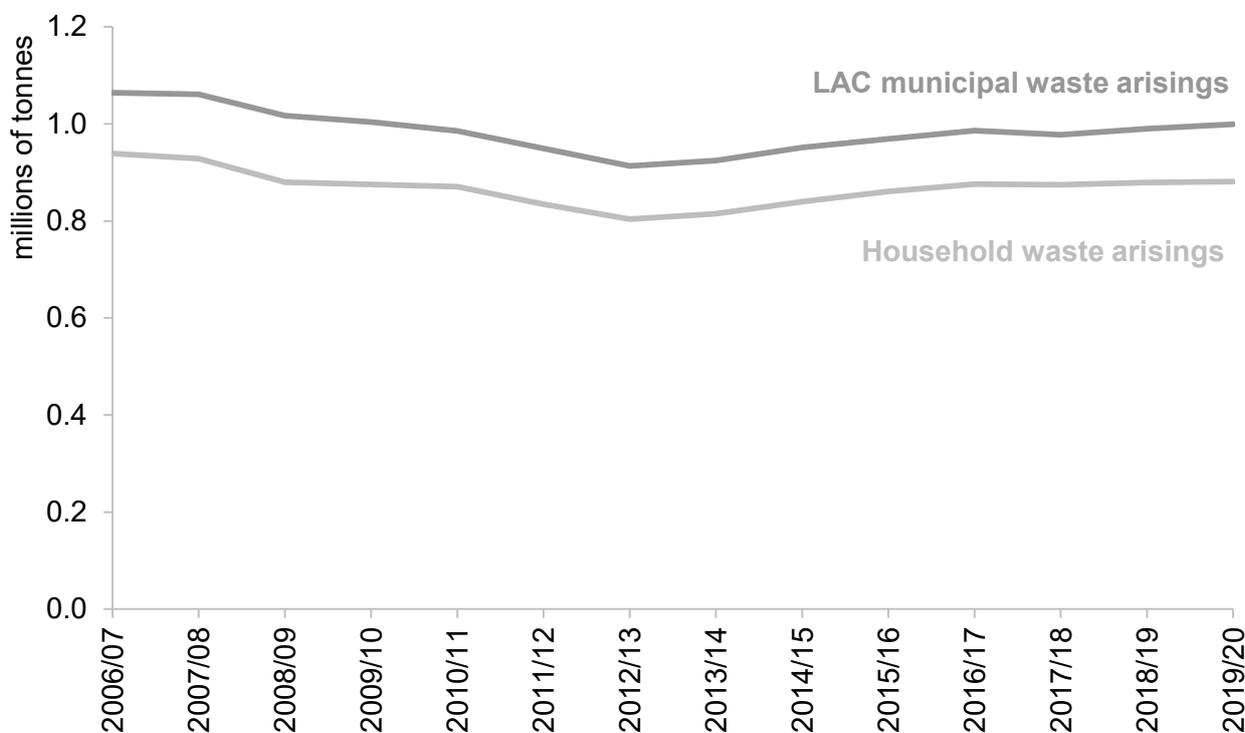sites as well as several other smaller sources. The remaining 11.8 per cent was non-household waste such as commercial and industrial waste.

Figure 3: Waste arisings
Northern Ireland, 2006/07 to 2019/20, KPI (j)

Total waste arisings fell from 1,064,090 tonnes in 2006/07 to a low of 913,546 in 2012/13, a 14.1 per cent decrease. Since then total arisings have shown an increasing trend with a 9.4 per cent increase recorded over the seven years.

Factors affecting waste arisings, the majority of which is household waste, include individual household behaviours, the advice and collection services provided by councils and to some extent the state of the economy.

Figure 4: Waste arisings by council
Northern Ireland, 2018/19 and 2019/20, KPI (j)
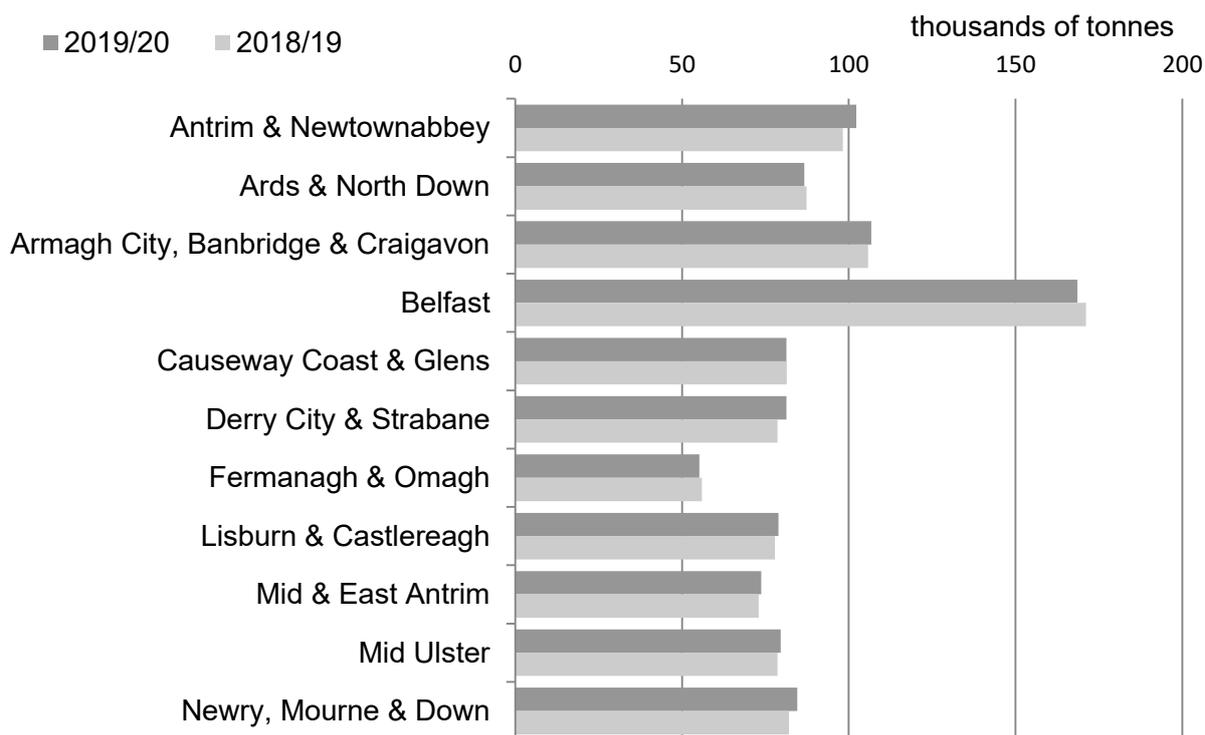
The proportion of waste collected by each council broadly reflects the population within the councils. Belfast City Council had the greatest waste arisings in 2019/20 with 168,515 tonnes. This was 17 per cent of total Northern Ireland waste arisings, with 18 per cent of the population living in this council area. Fermanagh & Omagh District Council had the lowest arisings in 2019/20 with 55,224 tonnes collected. This represented 6 per cent of total arisings during this period, the same as the proportion of the population living in this council area.

Antrim & Newtownabbey reported the largest increase in their waste arisings compared with last year, increasing by 4.1 per cent. Derry City & Strabane reported increased waste arisings compared with last year by 3.4 per cent. The largest decreases in waste arisings were recorded in Belfast and Fermanagh & Omagh, where they fell by 1.5 and 1.3 per cent respectively.

There are two key performance indicators which look at household waste arisings in more detail by considering household waste arisings per capita, KPI (p), and per household KPI (h). In Northern Ireland there were 465 kilogrammes (kg) of household waste collected per capita (per head of population) and 1,160 kg per household during 2019/20, compared to 467 kilogrammes (kg) of household waste collected per capita and 1,170 kg per household during 2018/19.

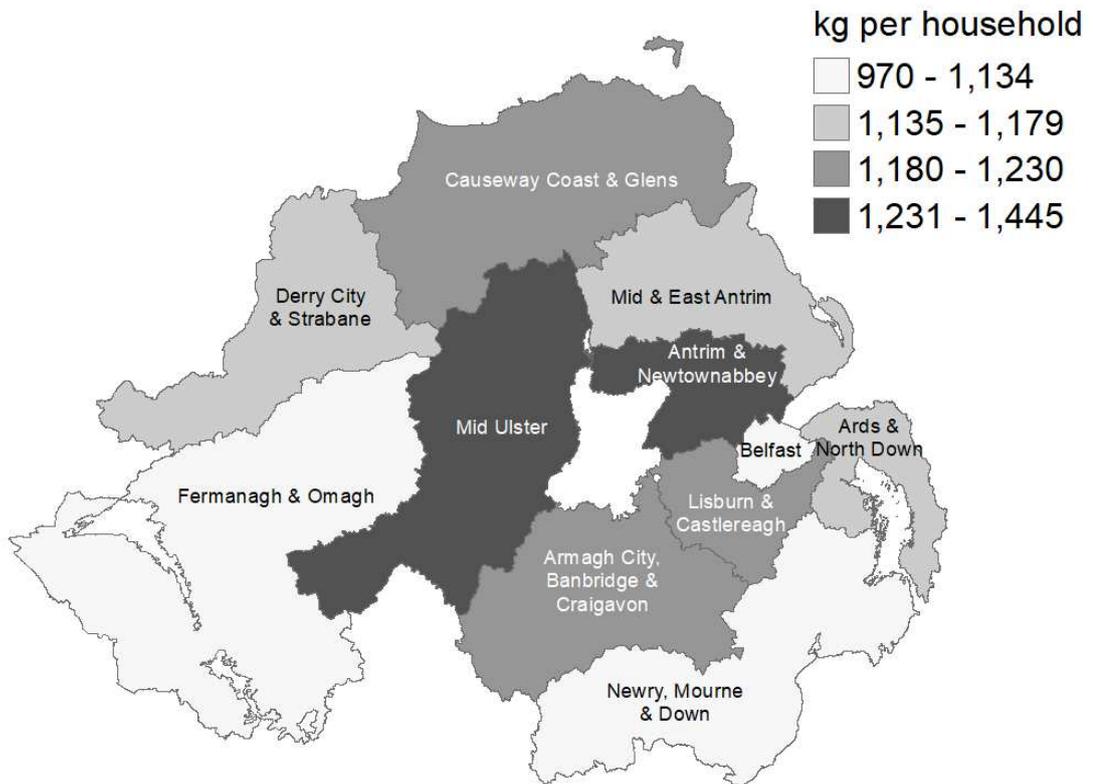**Figure 5: Household waste arisings per capita and per household by council**
Northern Ireland, 2019/20, KPIs (p) and (h)

Household waste per capita

kg per capita

- 411.9 - 419.5
- 419.6 - 472.4
- 472.5 - 493.1
- 493.2 - 588.1
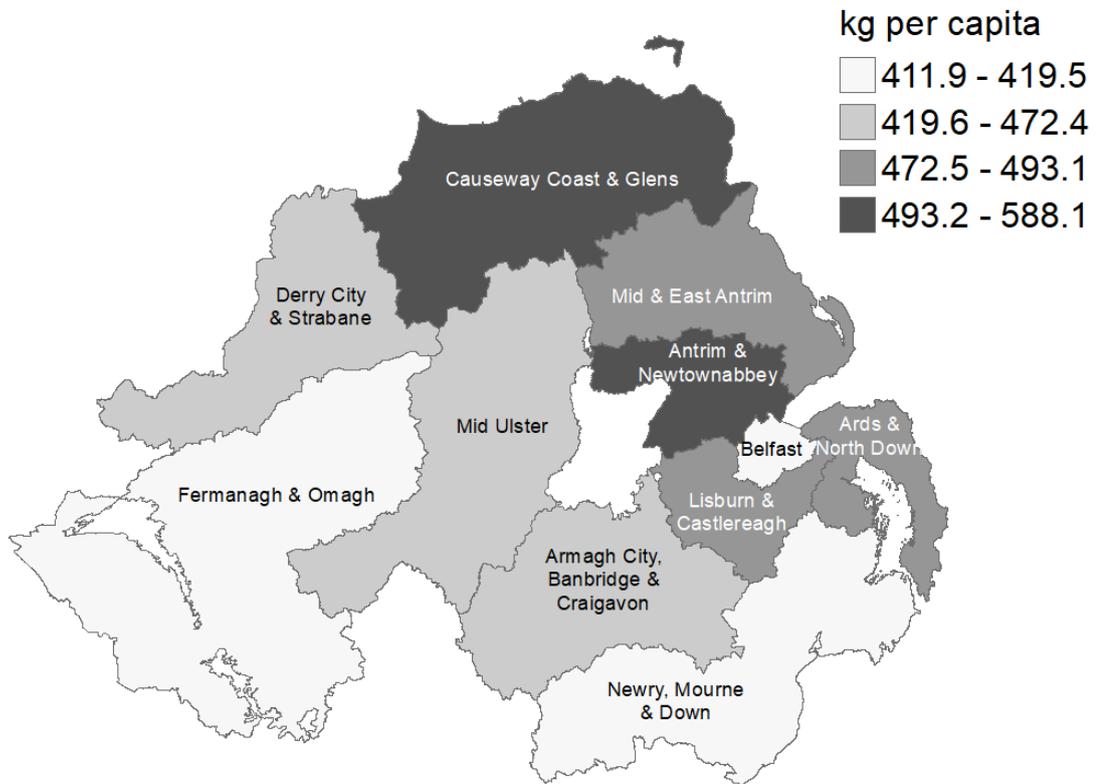
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Household waste per household

kg per household

- 970 - 1,134
- 1,135 - 1,179
- 1,180 - 1,230
- 1,231 - 1,445

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Fermanagh & Omagh generated the smallest amount of household waste per capita at 412 kg in 2019/20, followed by Belfast and Newry, Mourne & Down. The largest quantity was recorded in Antrim & Newtownabbey at 588kg per capita. The greatest increase in household waste per capita compared to last year was also recorded in Antrim & Newtownabbey, increasing by 3.4 per cent. Household waste per capita fell by 4.9 per cent in Fermanagh & Omagh, the largest decrease recorded.

The household waste arisings per household show a similar distribution across Northern Ireland to household waste arisings per capita with some small differences. Belfast City Council generated the smallest quantity of household waste per household at 970 kg per household. The largest quantity per household was recorded in Antrim & Newtownabbey at 1,445 kg per household.

The arisings figures can be found in Tables 1 and 2 of the data tables appendix. The per capita and per household figures can be found in Table 18. All figures are also available from the time series dataset.

Recycling (preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting)

This section of the report looks at local authority collected (LAC) municipal and household waste recycling rates. Both are key performance indicators and now include waste sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting. Previously used key performance indicators KPI (a) and (e) have been modified, in line with the rest of the UK, to include waste sent for preparing for reuse, and relabelled as KPI (a2) and (e2). The impacts were small, adding 0.1-0.2 percentage points to the rates, and resulted in the break in the time series visible in Figure 6. The KPI (a2) indicator is also used to monitor performance under the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015.

In 2019/20, the tonnage of waste sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting (referred to as 'recycling' for the rest of this section) increased by 3.5 per cent to reach a record high of 510,374 tonnes. The recycling rate was 51.1 per cent, 1.3 percentage points higher than the recycling rate recorded in 2018/19. The dry recycling rate remained the same as it was in 2018/19, with the composting rate increasing by 1.4 percentage points. The tonnages sent for dry recycling and composting increased by 0.8 and 6.8 per cent respectively.

Figure 6: Waste sent for preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting
Northern Ireland, 2006/07 to 2019/20, KPIs (a), (a2), (e), (e2)
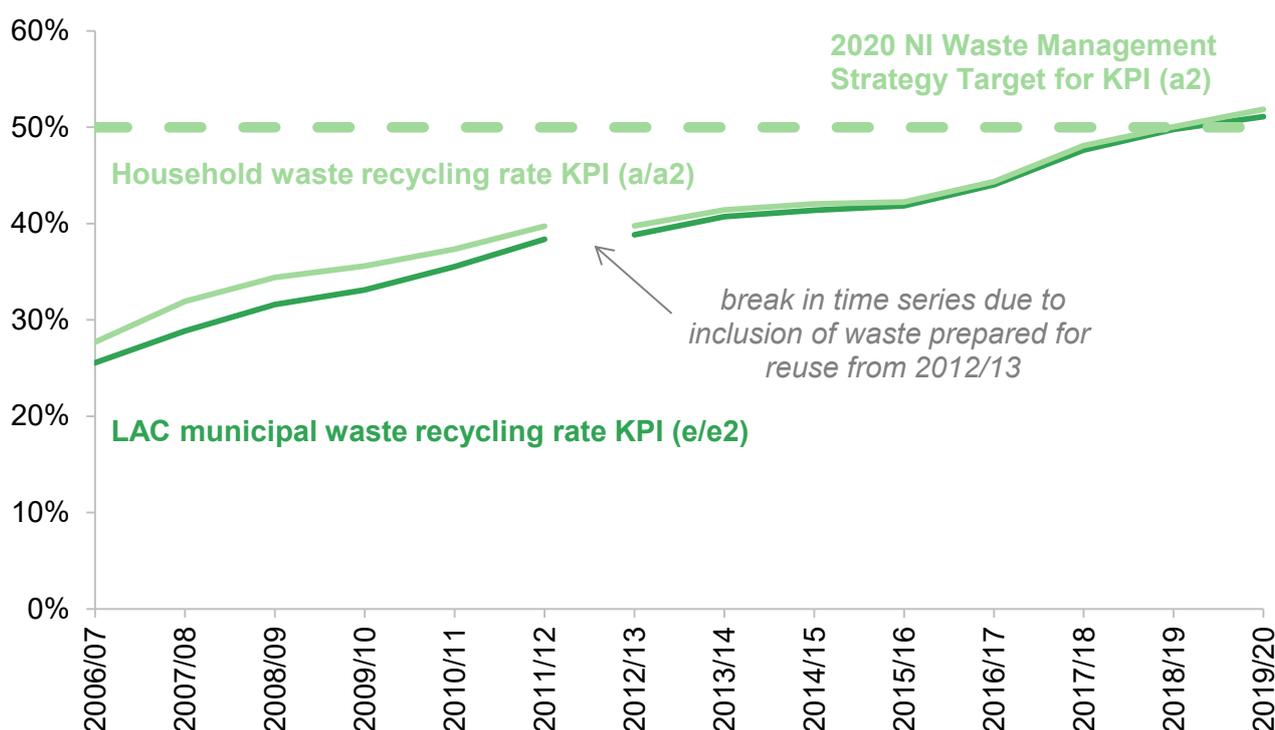
The household waste recycling rate was 51.9 per cent in 2019/20, 1.8 percentage points higher than the 2018/19 household waste recycling rate. The proportion of household waste sent for preparing for reuse was 0.1 per cent, dry recycling made up 24.1 per cent and composting was 27.7 per cent.

The household waste recycling rate met the Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy target to recycle 50 per cent of household waste by 2020 for the second successive year, and is the highest household recycling rate ever recorded for Northern Ireland.

Additionally, the draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021 contains the percentage of household waste that is reused, recycled or composted as a measure for indicator 36 under outcome 2: we live and work sustainably, protecting the environment. The household recycling rate of 51.9 per cent is an increase of 9.8 percentage points since the baseline year for PfG reporting (2014/15) and therefore is considered as a positive change for PfG reporting.

Figure 7a compares the household recycling rates for 2019/20 and 2018/19, whilst Figure 7b illustrates changes to the component parts of the household recycling rates for each council.

Figure 7a: Household waste preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting rate by council and waste management group
Northern Ireland, 2018/19 and 2019/20, KPI (a2)
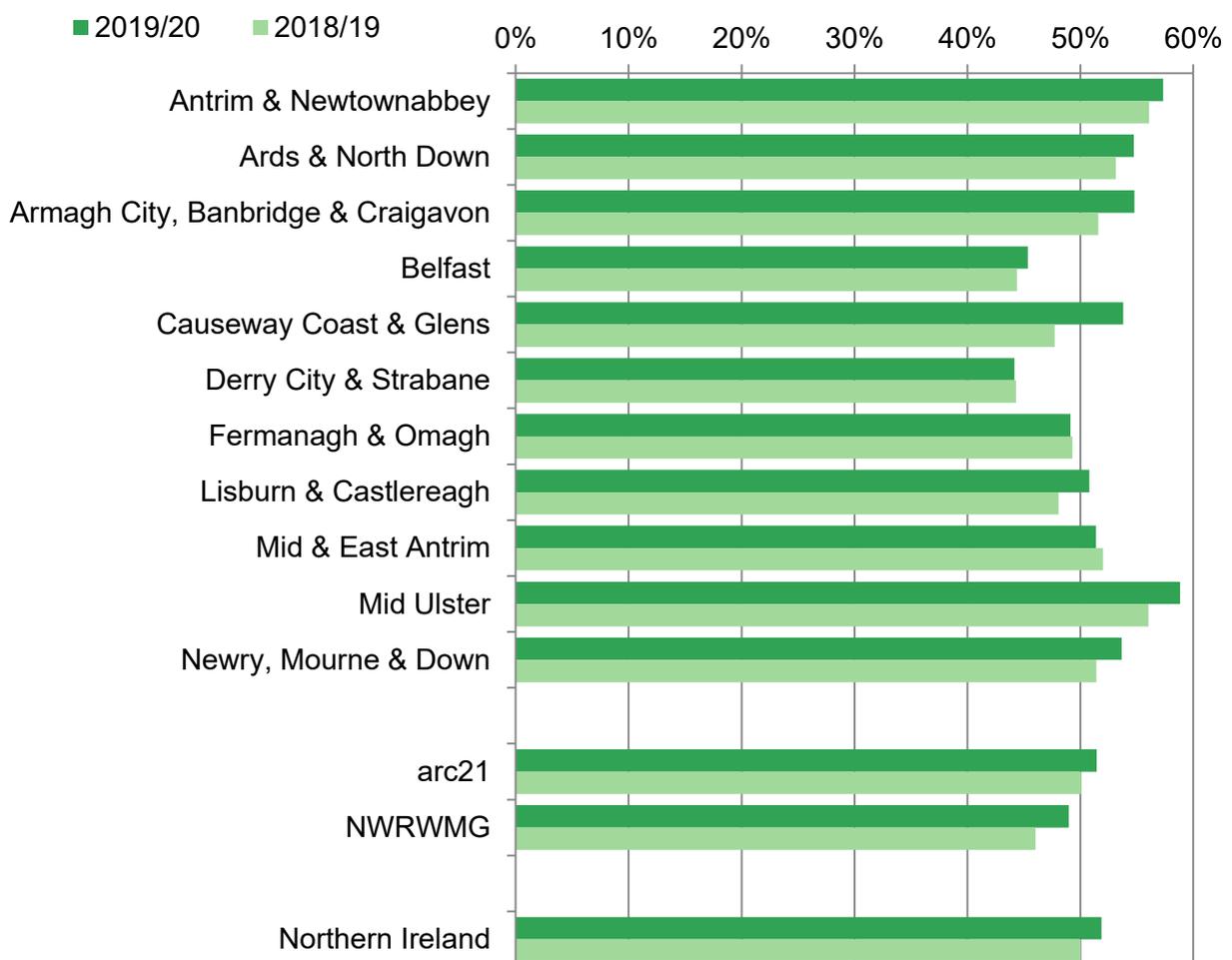
The lowest household waste recycling rates were recorded in Derry City & Strabane at 44.2 per cent, and Belfast at 45.4 per cent. The highest household waste recycling rates were recorded in Mid Ulster and Antrim & Newtownabbey at 58.8 per cent and 57.3 per cent respectively.

Eight councils reported increased household recycling rates compared to 2018/19, with Causeway Coast & Glens reporting the largest increase at 6.1 percentage points. The improved recycling rate for Causeway Coast & Glens can mostly be attributed to a rise in household waste composting which increased by 4.4 percentage points.

10

Armagh City, Banbridge & Craigavon and Mid Ulster reported increased household recycling rates by 3.2 and 2.8 percentage points respectively.
The household waste recycling rate fell by 0.6 percentage points in Mid & East Antrim compared to 2018/19, a fall that can be attributed to a 0.7 percentage point decrease in the household waste dry recycling rate. Derry City & Strabane and Fermanagh & Omagh reported a similar household waste recycling rate to last year.

Overall, there was considerable variation between household dry recycling and composting rates. Derry City & Strabane recorded the highest dry recycling rate at 28.1 per cent, whilst Lisburn & Castlereagh recorded the lowest rate at 19.5 per cent. The highest composting rate was in Antrim & Newtownabbey at 34.4 per cent with Derry City & Strabane having the lowest rate at 15.9 per cent.

Dry recycling and composting rates remained relatively stable for most councils compared with the previous year. The largest increase recorded was in Causeway Coast & Glens where the composting rate increased by 4.4 percentage points. The household waste dry recycling rate fell 1.4 percentage points in Derry City & Strabane and Fermanagh & Omagh – the largest decreases reported compared to 2018/19. Differences in composting rates across the council areas can be affected by variations in the urban-rural characteristics of the council areas.

Figure 7b: Change reported for household waste preparing for reuse rate, dry recycling rate and composting rate by council
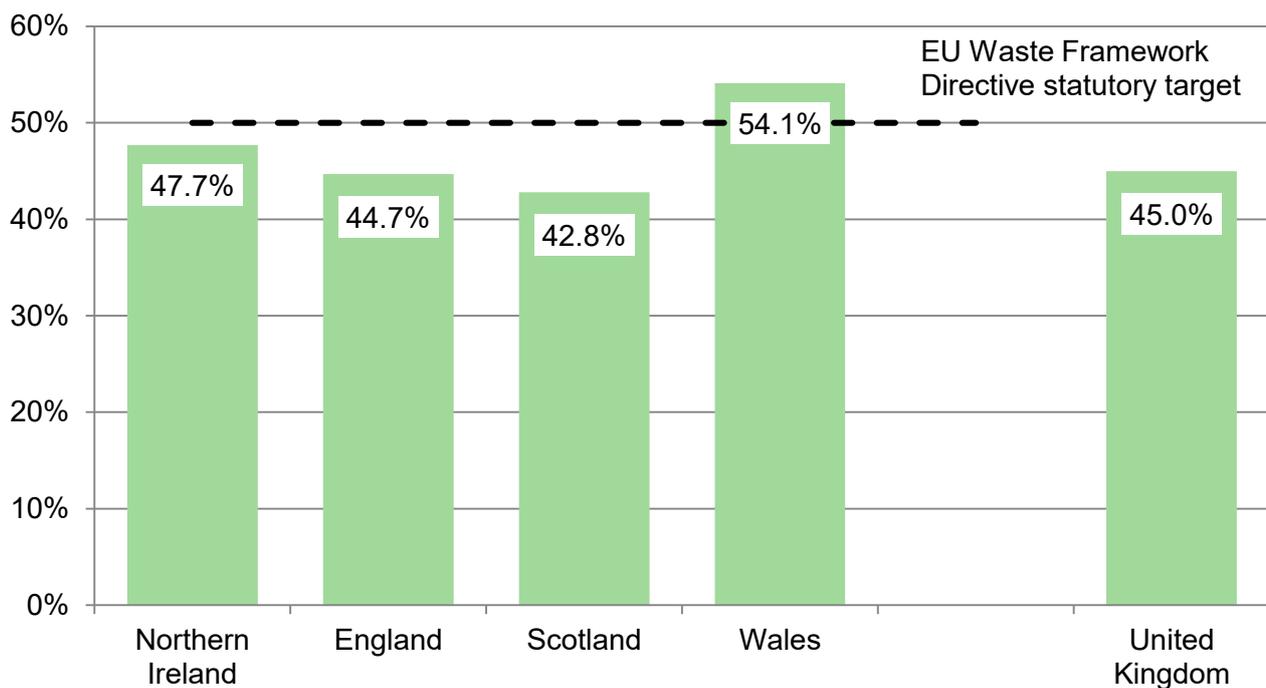Northern Ireland, 2019/20 compared to 2018/19
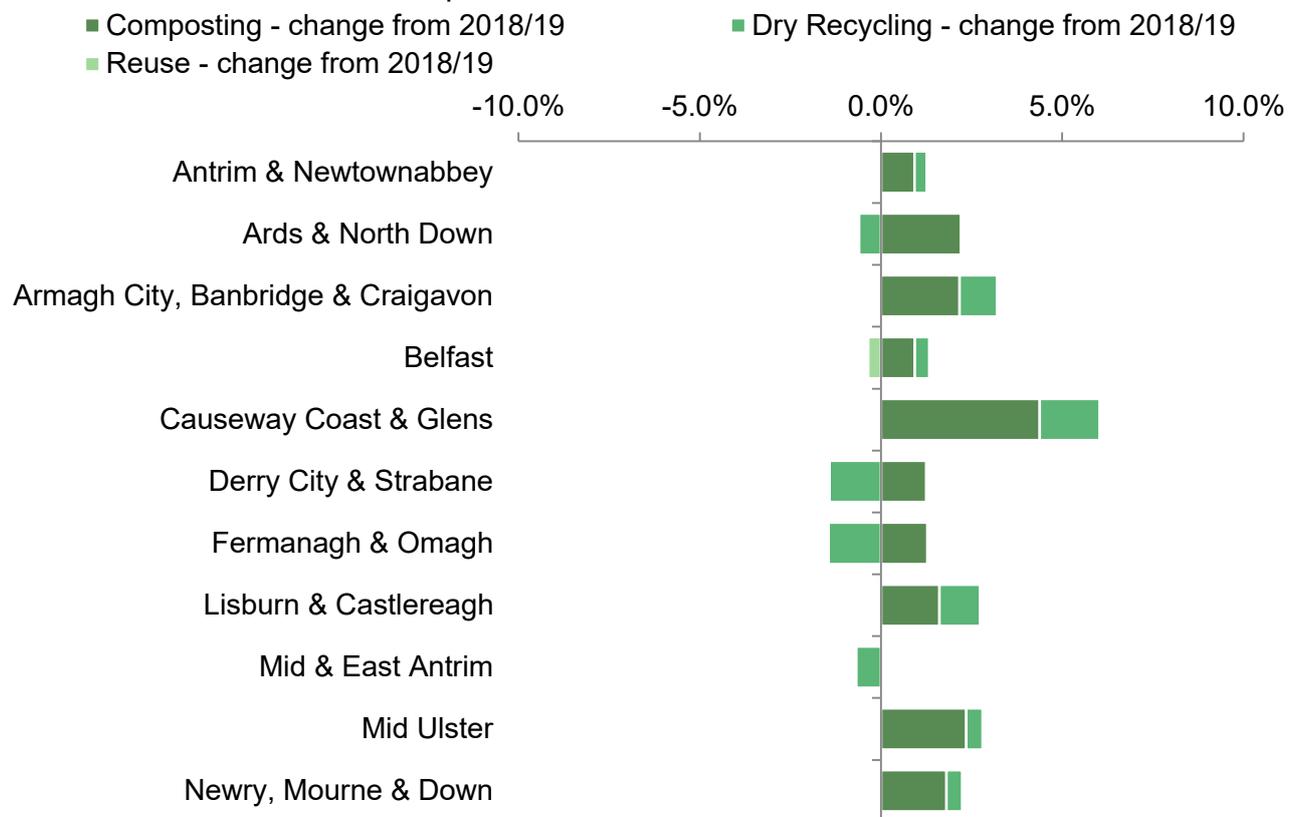
Waste from households recycling rate (including preparing for reuse and composting)

An additional recycling rate called the 'waste from households recycling rate', whilst not a key performance indicator, can be used to make comparisons between each of the four UK countries. The EU Waste Framework Directive statutory target requires member states to recycle 50 per cent of waste from households by 2020. The UK waste from households recycling rate is reported by calendar year and was 45.0% in 2018, a decrease from 45.5% in 2017. The waste from household recycling rate decreased in all UK countries except Northern Ireland in 2018. The waste from household recycling rate for Northern Ireland was 47.7%, compared with 44.7% in England, 42.8% in Scotland and 54.1% in Wales.

The latest comparison for finalised annual figures (by calendar year) is shown in Figure 8, with further data available at https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-waste-data

Figure 8: Waste from households recycling rate (including preparing for reuse and composting)
Comparison of UK Countries, 2018

The latest statistics available for waste from household in Northern Ireland are provided below and relate to the 2019/20 financial year.

In 2019/20 there were 421,608 tonnes of waste from households sent for recycling (including preparing for reuse and composting). The waste from households recycling rate was 50.3 per cent. This was an increase of 1.8 percentage points on the 48.5 per cent of waste from households sent for recycling in 2018/19.

Figure 9: Waste from households recycling rate (including preparing for reuse and composting)
Northern Ireland, 2018/19 and 2019/20
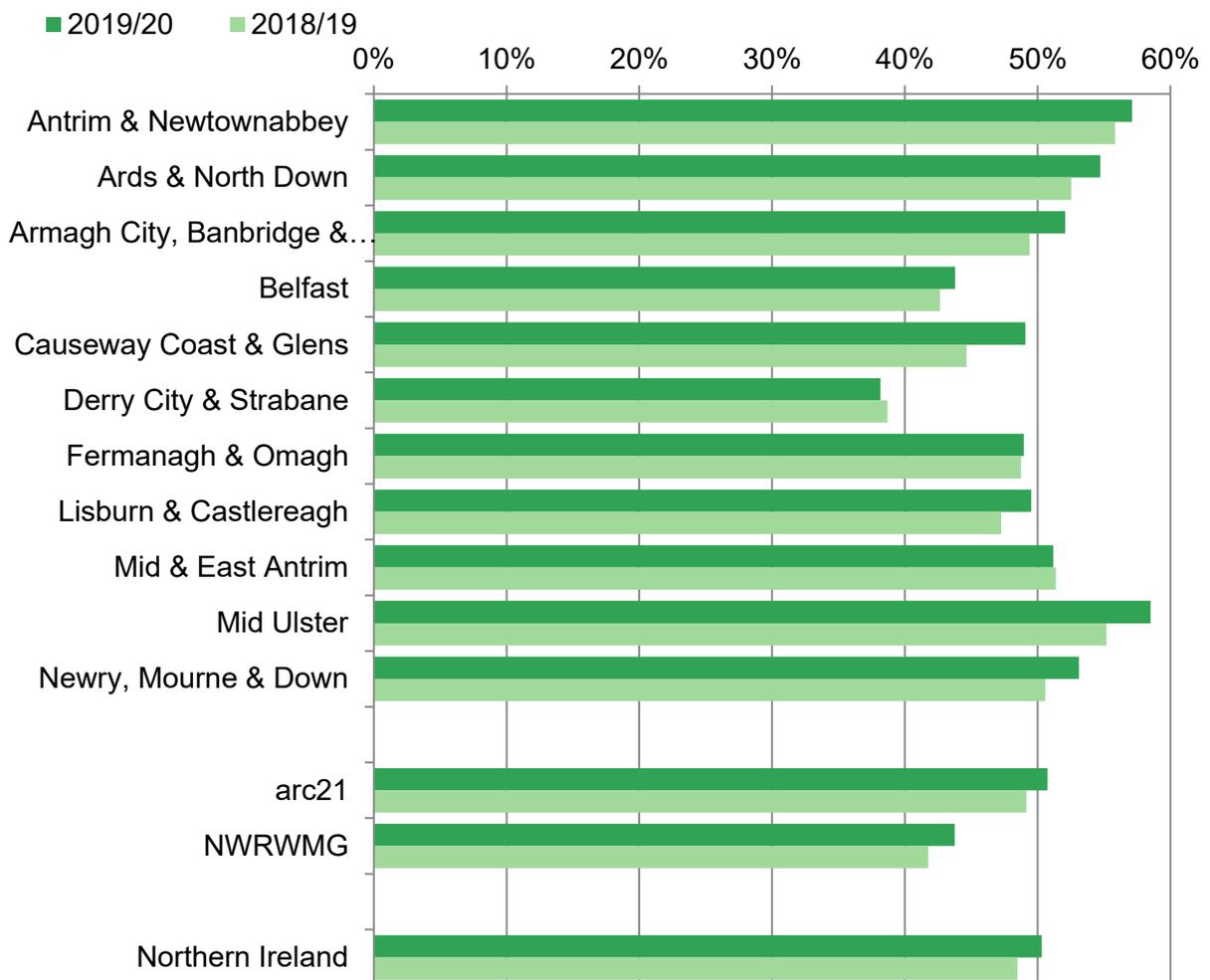
All figures for the recycling section can be found in the accompanying data tables spreadsheet and also in the time series dataset.

- Tables 3 and 4 (Waste recycling)
- Tables 16 and 17 (Household waste recycling)
- Table 23 (Waste from household recycling)

Energy recovery

This annual report includes figures on energy recovery, which is the term used when value is gained from waste products by converting them into energy. All energy recovery figures reported in this section are derived from material sent for energy recovery via incineration, although other technologies exist. Energy recovery via anaerobic digestion is discussed at the end of this section. For more information see *Energy Recovery Data* in the *Data Developments* section of the user guidance.

In 2019/20, 220,978 tonnes of waste arisings were sent for energy recovery. This gave an energy recovery rate of 22.1 per cent, higher than the 19.4 per cent recorded in 2018/19. In each year, the majority was mixed residual waste with a smaller proportion from specific streams, e.g. wood.

Figure 10: Waste sent for energy recovery via incineration
Northern Ireland, 2006/07 to 2019/20
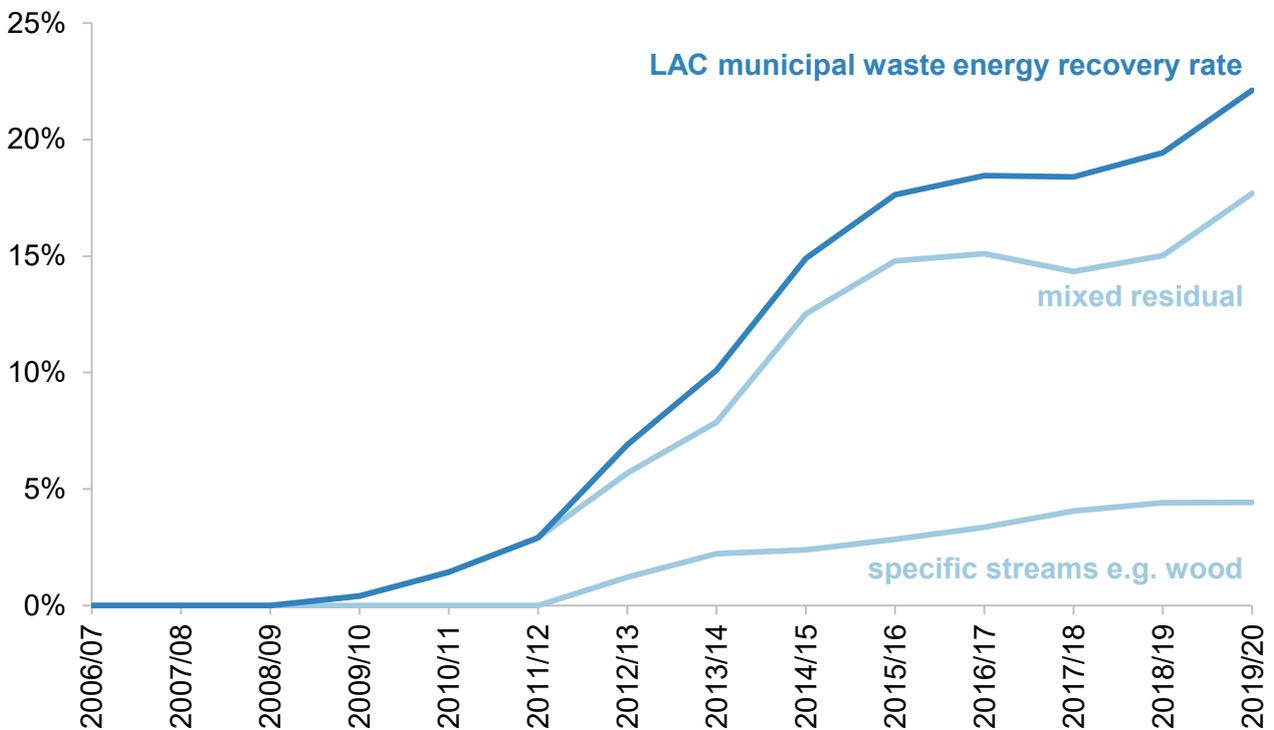
There was zero, or very small quantities, of waste sent for energy recovery before 2009/10. Strong growth followed from 2010/11, with the energy recovery rate increasing from 0.4 per cent in 2009/10 to 22.1 per cent in 2019/20.

Mixed residual waste sent for energy recovery is combustible residual waste collected from the kerbside and from civic amenity sites and processed into refuse derived fuel at material recovery facilities. The specific streams element of energy recovery is mostly wood but also includes furniture, carpets and mattresses, mostly collected from civic amenity sites.

Figure 11: Waste energy recovery by council and waste management group
Northern Ireland, 2018/19 and 2019/20
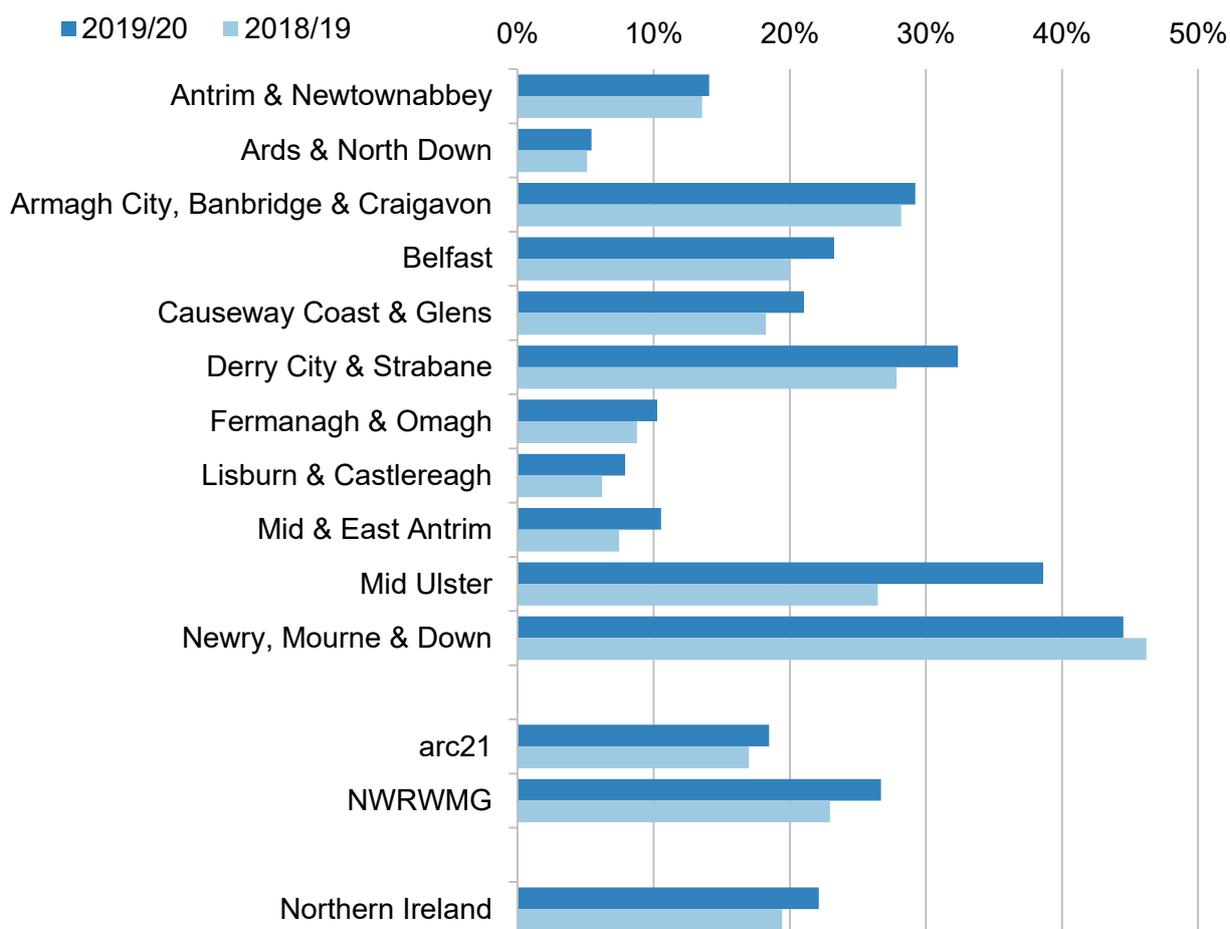
Newry, Mourne & Down had the highest energy recovery rate in 2019/20 at 44.5 per cent, a decrease of 1.7 percentage points on last year. This can be attributed to a fall in mixed residual waste. The lowest energy recovery rate was 5.4 for Ards & North Down, similar to that recorded in 2018/19.

Eight councils reported an increase in the energy recovery rate in 2019/20 compared to 2018/19, the largest of which was in Mid Ulster at 12.2 percentage points. Antrim & Newtownabbey and Ards & North Down reported similar rates to last year.

For Antrim & Newtownabbey, Ards & North Down, Fermanagh & Omagh, Lisburn & Castlereagh, energy recovery from specific streams accounted for a greater proportion of their total energy recovery than mixed residual waste. Antrim & Newtownabbey had the highest energy recovery rate for specific streams at 7.8 per cent, of a total 14.1 per cent energy recovery rate. Newry, Mourne & Down had the highest energy recovery rate for mixed residual waste at 40.9 per cent.

The NWRWMG had an energy recovery rate of 26.7 per cent, up from 23.0 per cent in 2018/19, and higher than that of arc21 at 18.5 per cent, which was also an increase from 17.0 per cent in 2018/19.

Generating energy from waste by incineration is preferable to landfill, although preparing for reuse, dry recycling and composting are preferable to both.

Energy Recovery via Anaerobic Digestion

The tonnages relating to energy recovery from material undergoing anaerobic digestion are still accounted for under the recycling section since the vast majority of the tonnage of waste undergoing this process eventually ends up as a compost (once the methane generated from the anaerobic digestion process has been collected). Table 13 in the data tables appendix shows the amount of food waste anaerobically treated to recover energy before ending up as a compost.

These figures can be found in Tables 3, 4 and 13 of the data tables appendix and in the [time series dataset](#).

Landfill

The quantity of waste sent to landfill decreased by 16.0 per cent from 285,905 to 240,220 tonnes between 2018/19 and 2019/20. This gave a landfill rate of 24.0 per cent for 2019/20, 4.8 percentage points lower than the 28.9 per cent recorded in 2018/19 and the lowest ever recorded. Similarly, the landfill rate for household waste has recorded a new low of 23.7 per cent in 2019/20, a drop of 4.8 percentage points on the 2018/19 rate of 28.4 per cent and a fall from a high of 72.3 per cent in 2006/07.

Figure 12: Waste sent to landfill
Northern Ireland, 2006/07 to 2019/20, KPIs (b) and (f)
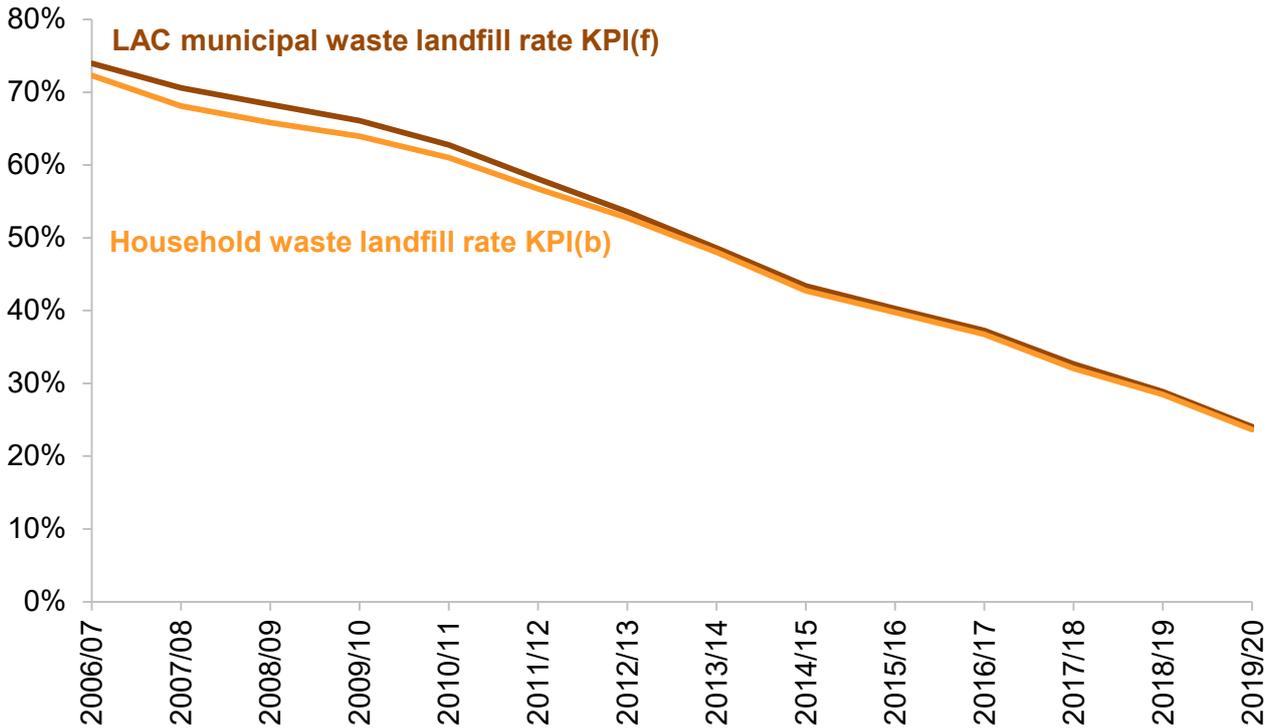
The NWRWMG had a landfill rate of 19.7 per cent, 4.4 percentage points lower than the Northern Ireland rate, and 6.7 percentage points lower than recorded in 2018/19. Arc21's landfill rate was higher than the Northern Ireland rate at 28.6 per cent, however it fell by 3.8 percentage points compared to 2018/19.

Ten councils recorded a decrease in their household landfill rate compared to last year. Decreases ranged from 12.5 percentage points in Mid Ulster to 1.6 percentage points in Fermanagh & Omagh. The household landfill rate was similar in Newry, Mourne & Down to that recorded in 2018/19.

Mid Ulster recorded the lowest household landfill rate at 3.7 per cent, one sixth of the Northern Ireland rate of 23.7 per cent. Whilst Lisburn & Castlereagh's household landfill rate decreased by 4.6 percentage points compared to 2018/19, the 40.1 per cent reported for 2019/20 was higher than in any other council.

Figure 13: Household waste landfilled by council and waste management group
Northern Ireland, 2018/19 and 2019/20, KPI (b)
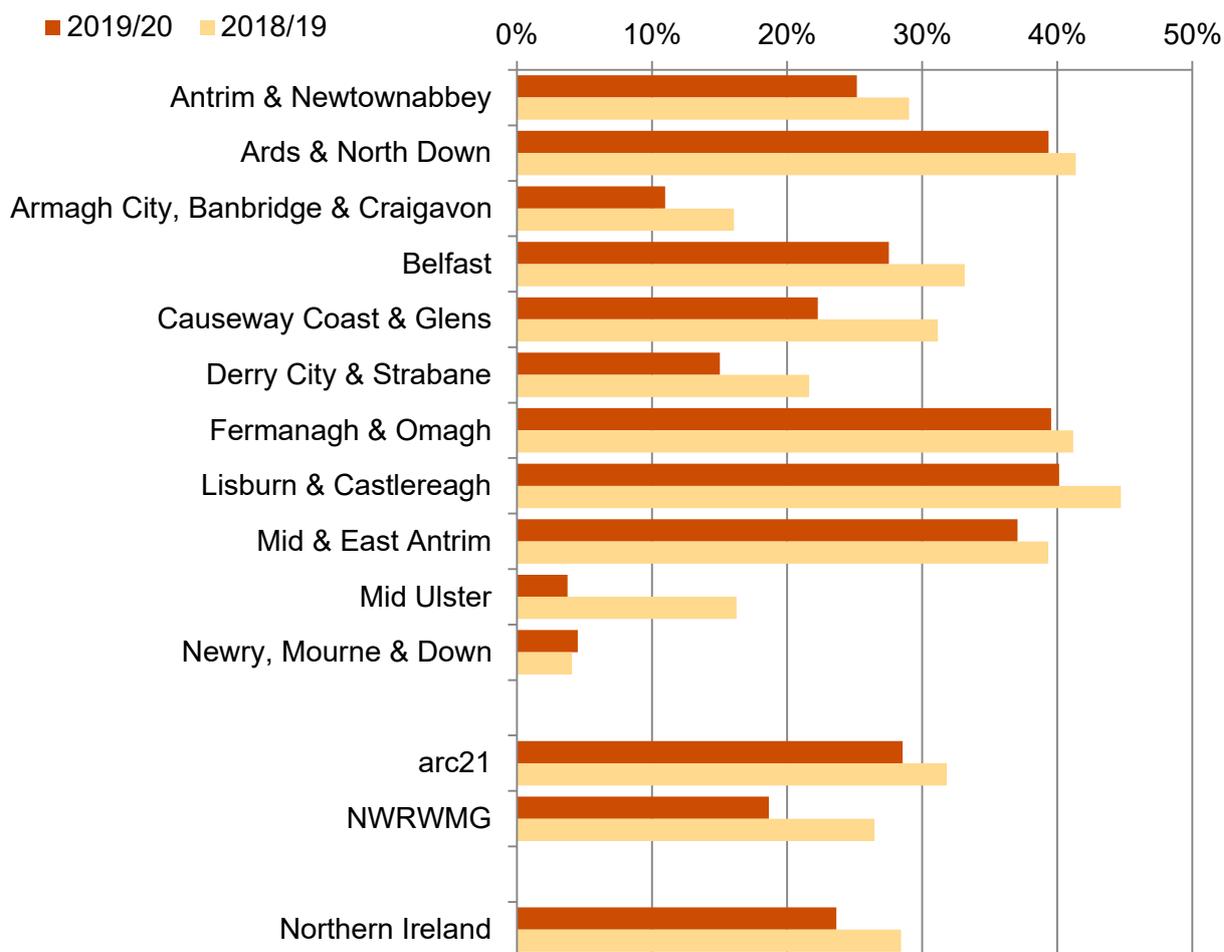
The statutory requirement for all councils in Northern Ireland to provide households with a container for food to enable its separate collection contributed to the drop in landfill rates, though increasing energy recovery rates for some councils also contributed. Material, mainly from residual waste treatment, can be sent for energy recovery in the form of refuse derived fuel (RDF) which diverts it from landfill. Landfill Tax for household waste continues to be the main driver for local authorities to reduce landfill. Other considerations include a limit on the amount of biodegradable Waste as measured by KPI (g). Generating energy from waste by incineration is preferable to landfill, although recycling and reuse are preferable to both.

This data and more information including collection method can be found in the data tables appendix. Tables 3 and 4 cover all waste collected and Tables 16 and 17 cover household waste. The data are also available from the time series dataset.

# Biodegradable local authority collected municipal waste to landfill

Article 5(2) of the EC Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) requires member states to reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill, setting challenging targets. The Landfill Allowance Scheme (NI) Regulations 2004 (as amended) place a statutory responsibility on councils, in each scheme year, to landfill no more than the quantity of biodegradable Waste (BLACMW) for which they have allowances. In order to ensure compliance with these targets, the amount of biodegradable Waste sent to landfill, KPI (g), is monitored. This indicator is also used to monitor performance under the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015.

Under the Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme (NILAS) regulations councils have been allocated a number of allowances (each allowance represents 1 tonne of BLACMW) for each year until 2019/20. However in any scheme year a council may transfer allowances to other councils in order to ensure that each council does not exceed the amount it is permitted to send to landfill. Transfers of allowances are not included in the provisional quarterly figures but are included in these finalised annual figures. More information on the NILAS regulations can be found on the DAERA website: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/northern-ireland-landfill-allowance-scheme-nilas

Figure 14: Biodegradable Waste sent to landfill
Northern Ireland, 2006/07 to 2019/20, KPI (g)
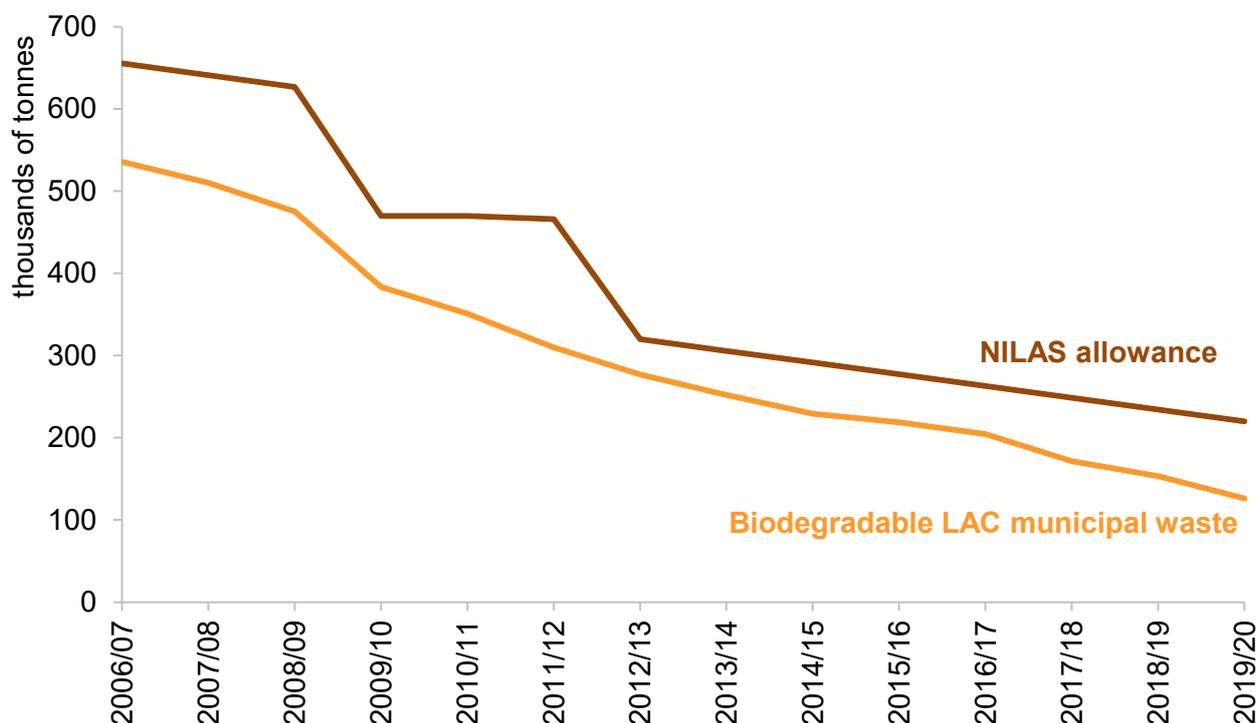
There were 126,286 tonnes of biodegradable waste sent to landfill during 2019/20. This was 17.6 per cent lower than the 153,323 tonnes sent in 2018/19, and 57.4 per cent of the allowance used compared to 65.4 per cent in 2018/19. The 2019/20 NILAS allowance (220,000 tonnes) was 6.1 per cent lower than the 2018/19 allowance (234,284 tonnes). The amount of biodegradable waste sent to landfill in 2019/20 has fallen by 76.4 per cent compared with the amount sent in 2006/07.

Councils within arc21 used 67.2 per cent of their total allocation, lower than the 72.2 per cent used in 2018/19, whilst councils within NWRWMG used 51.4 per cent of their allocation, a decrease of 16.6 percentage points from 2018/19. If comparing the extent to which allowances have been used against last year, it is important to note that there has been a reduction in the allocations in 2019/20.

Figure 15: Biodegradable Waste landfilled by council
Northern Ireland, 2019/20, KPI (g)

- Apr to Jun 2019
- Jul to Sep 2019
- Oct to Dec 2019
- Jan to Mar 2020
- remaining 2019/20 allowance
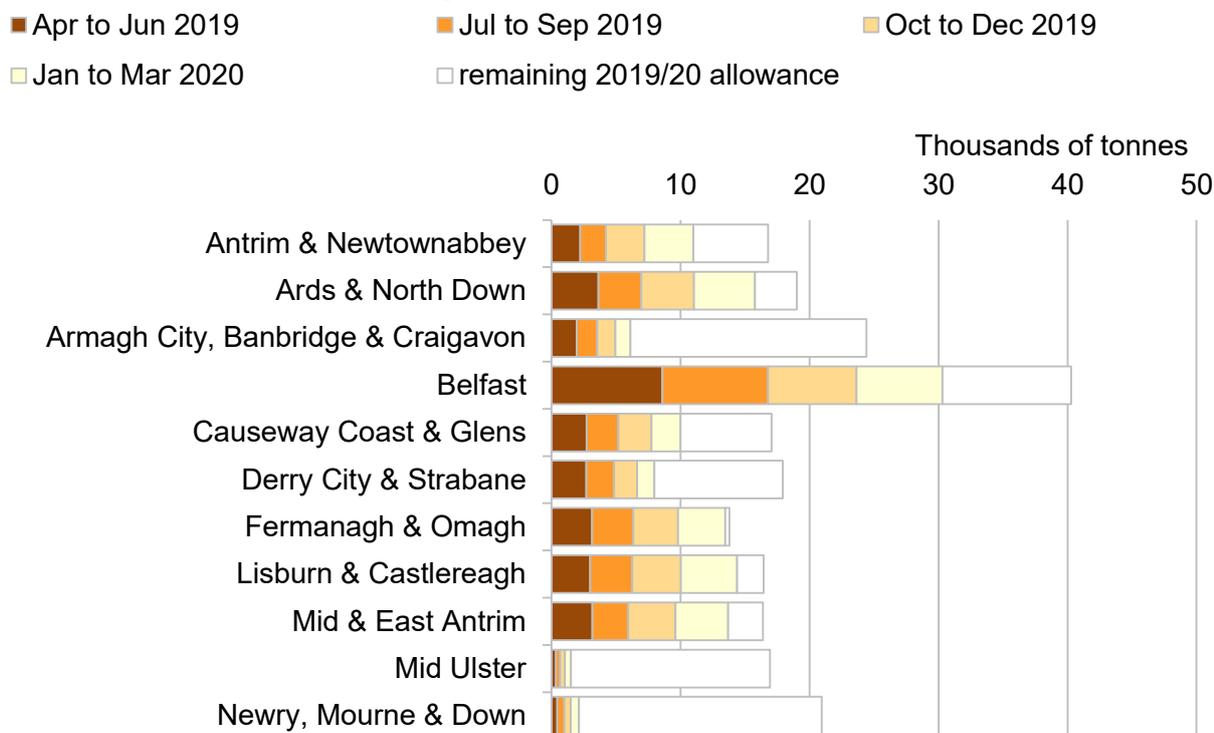
There is considerable variation between councils in the proportion of the 2019/20 allowance used, although there were no transfers of allowances required between councils in 2019/20. Mid Ulster used the lowest share of its annual allocation at 8.9 per cent, a fall of 22.6 percentage points compared to 2018/19. Fermanagh & Omagh used 97.8 per cent of their 2019/20 allowance, up from 93.2 per cent in 2018/19 and the highest reported. After Mid Ulster, Causeway Coast & Glens reported the second largest decrease in the proportion of their allocation used compared to last year at 20.4 percentage points.

This data can be found in Table 21 of the data tables appendix and in the time series dataset.

Northern Ireland Key Performance Indicators 2019/20

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) are a set of measures used to gauge performance in terms of meeting waste strategy targets. They were originally defined in the Environment and Heritage Service (now the Northern Ireland Environment Agency) municipal waste data monitoring and reporting: interim guidelines, published in March 2003.

The table below has been included to help users find a specific KPI value or location in the report or data tables. Previously used key performance indicators KPIs (a) and (e) have been modified, in line with the rest of the UK, to include waste sent for preparing for reuse, and relabelled as KPI (a2) and (e2).

KPI	Performance during 2019/20	Section in report and Appendix Table
a2	51.9 per cent of household waste sent for recycling (including composting and preparing for reuse)	Recycling (pages 9-13) Data table 17a
b	23.7 per cent of household waste landfilled	Landfill (pages 17-18) Data table 17b
e2	51.1 per cent of waste sent for recycling (including composting and preparing for reuse)	Recycling (pages 9-13) Data table 4a
f	24.0 per cent of waste landfilled	Landfill (pages 17-18) Data table 4b
g	126,286 tonnes of biodegradable waste landfilled	Biodegradable landfill (pages 19-20) Data table 21a
h	1,160 kg of household waste generated per household	Waste arisings (pages 5-8) Data table 18
j	998,985 tonnes of waste generated	Waste arisings (pages 5-8) Data table 1
m	See Tables 22i and 22ii for capture rates by primary waste category	Data tables 22i and 22ii
n	0.9 per cent increase in waste generated	Waste arisings (pages 5-8) Data table 2
p	465 kilogrammes of household waste generated per capita	Waste arisings (pages 5-8) Data table 18

The fully validated figures that are published in the annual report have undergone audit by the Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and further validation by Statistics and Analytical Services Branch (SASB) in the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA). The annual validation acts as a check that all issues raised at the quarterly validation stage have been addressed. Additional validation checks incorporated later in the working year are then also applied backwards to all quarters in the reporting year via the annual validation.

The table below outlines the differences between finalised data in this annual report and the provisional twelve-month rolling figures and time series dataset for April 2019 to March 2020 presented in the data tables for the [January to March 2020 quarterly report](#).
(Data tables - Table 18)

Comparison of provisional and final figures for 2019/20 key performance indicators

KPI	Definition	2019/20 provisional	2019/20 finalised	difference
a2	Percentage of household waste sent for recycling (including composting and preparing for reuse)	52.0 per cent	51.9 per cent	-0.17 percentage points
b	Percentage of household waste sent to landfill	23.7 per cent	23.7 per cent	-0.02 percentage points
e2	Percentage of waste sent for recycling (including composting and preparing for reuse)	51.0 per cent	51.1 per cent	0.05 percentage points
f	Percentage of waste landfilled	24.1 per cent	24.0 per cent	-0.09 percentage points
g	Reported biodegradable waste sent to landfill	126,288	126,286	-1.69 tonnes (0.00 per cent)
h	Annual household waste collected per household	1,158	1,160	1.46 kg (-0.13 per cent)
j	Waste arisings	988,955	998,985	30.79 tonnes (0.00 per cent)
m	Capture rates	See Tables 22i and 22ii for capture rates by primary waste category		
n	Waste arisings growth rate	0.9 per cent	0.9 per cent	0.00 percentage points
p	Annual household waste collected per capita	464	465	-1.46 kg per capita (0.32 per cent)

The differences between provisional and final figures are small but arise due to the additional validations carried out before the finalisation of this annual publication.

Progress against targets

Data contained in this release are published primarily to provide an indication of the progress towards achieving waste strategy targets. They allow for the assessment of the performance of the councils and waste management groups in Northern Ireland in managing waste arisings, recycling, composting and landfill.

Overview of progress against targets

Indicator	Source	Progress/ Outcome
To achieve a recycling rate of 45 per cent (including preparing for re-use) of household waste by 2015	Targets 1, 2 & 3 on p39 of the revised Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy	KPI (a2) Target first met in 2017/18 – 48.1 per cent Target met in 2019/20 – 51.9 per cent
To achieve a recycling rate of 50 per cent (including preparing for re-use) of household waste by 2020	As above	KPI (a2) Target met in 2019/20 – 51.9 per cent
To achieve a recycling rate of 60 per cent (including preparing for re-use) of LACMW by 2020	As above	KPI (e2) Progress in 2019/20 – 51.1 per cent
To landfill no more than 220,000 tonnes of biodegradable LACMW by the end of March 2020.	Article 3 of The Landfill (Scheme Year and Maximum Landfill Amount) Regulations 2004	KPI (g) Target met in 2019/20 – 126,286 tonnes (57 per cent of allowance used)
Percentage household waste that is reused, recycled or composted.	Indicator 36 of the draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021	9.4 percentage points higher than 2014/15 baseline figure – positive change

Appendix 1: User Guidance

This statistical release is part of a regular data series presenting finalised information on local authority collected municipal waste managed in Northern Ireland.

Description of data
Local authority collected municipal waste (LACMW) data in Northern Ireland. This is municipal waste which is collected under arrangements made by a district council.

Main Uses of Data
Data contained in this release are published primarily to provide an indication of the progress towards achieving waste strategy targets. They allow for the assessment of the performance of the councils and waste management groups in Northern Ireland in managing waste arisings, recycling, composting and landfill. Targets are set for an annual period and performance against targets is considered in the Progress against targets section.

The revised Northern Ireland Waste Management Strategy sets out targets for the management of local authority collected municipal waste.
  - To achieve a recycling rate of 45 per cent (including preparing for re-use) of household waste by 2015.
  - To achieve a recycling rate of 50 per cent (including preparing for re-use) of household waste by 2020.
  - Proposals to achieve a recycling rate of 60 per cent (including preparing for re-use) of LACMW by 2020.
https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/waste-management-strategy

The draft Programme for Government Framework 2016-2021 contains the percentage of household waste that is reused, recycled or composted as a measure for indicator 36 under outcome 2: we live and work sustainably,

protecting the environment.

The Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (Northern Ireland) 2015 came into operation on 28 September 2015. It contains three waste management indicators which correspond to KPIs (a2), (g) and (j) in this publication.

The EU Waste Framework Directive statutory target requires member states to recycle 50 per cent of waste from households by 2020.

The data are also used to assess performance against the Landfill Directive targets.
http://www.ciwm.co.uk/ciwm/knowledge/landfill-directive.aspx

This annual report provides final validated information on several key performance indicators (KPIs) used to assess progress towards achieving local authority collected municipal waste targets.

The waste data may help to inform particular lifestyle choices of the public, specifically decisions about how to treat their waste. This information feeds into Northern Ireland specific and UK wide research projects and articles carried out and published by Waste and Resource Action Programme (WRAP) – see the following web resources for more information:
https://www.recyclenow.com/ni
http://www.wrap.org.uk/
http://laportal.wrap.org.uk/

These projects are funded by each of the governments within the UK and the EU. The results of research by WRAP assist governments to devise strategies to deal with issues such as using resources sustainably, helping people to recycle more and to waste less both at home and at work, offering economic as well as environmental benefits.

Additionally, waste management information is used to inform the media, special interest groups such as the Chartered Institute of Waste Management (CIWM) which is the professional body representing waste and resource professionals, academics, for example those who would have an interest and/or involvement in the WRAP research mentioned above, and by DAERA to respond to parliamentary / assembly questions and ad hoc queries from the public.

The Northern Ireland Neighbourhood Information Service (NINIS) provides access to waste information with the aim of making it available to as wide an audience as possible by providing interactive charts and mapping facilities that enable the statistics to be interpreted readily in a spatial context. http://www.ninis2.nisra.gov.uk/Interactive Maps/Agriculture per cent20and per cent20Environment/Environment/Local per cent20Authority per cent20Collected per cent20Municipal per cent20Waste per cent20Recycling/atlas.html

Local Government Reorganisation
The 26 councils covered by previous reports were reorganised into 11 new councils from 1 April 2015. Prior to this, we consulted with users of the report, the proposed changes and summary of responses are available on the Statistics and Analytical Services Branch (SASB) website https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/consultations/proposed-changes-northern-ireland-local-authority-collected-municipal-waste-management-statistics

At that stage the opportunity was also taken to update the report using feedback from NISRA's peer review group.

Data Developments
Key Performance Indicators (a) and (e)
Prior to 2015/16, Northern Ireland recycling KPIs did not include waste sent for preparing for reuse, unlike the other UK devolved administrations. Waste sent for preparing for reuse has been added to the calculations of these KPIs and they have been renamed KPI (a2) and KPI (e2). This change has been backdated to include data from 2012/13 onwards and allows comparisons across time to be made for these KPIs.

The difference this makes to the quantity of waste recycled is small. During 2019/20 this change added on 947 tonnes of waste sent for preparing for reuse to the recycling total. This added 0.1 percentage points to the KPI (a) and KPI (e) rates.

These measures are now more consistent with the rest of the UK and more consistent with the definition of the targets in the Waste Management Strategy 2020 and the Local Government (Performance Indicators and Standards) Order (NI) 2015, which include waste sent for preparing for reuse.

Waste from households recycling rate
In Northern Ireland, the household recycling rate is based on 'household waste' as defined in the Waste and Contaminated Land (NI) Order 1997 (the 1997 Order) and Schedule to the Controlled Waste and Duty of Care Regulations (NI) 2013. The new 'waste from households' recycling rate has been introduced for statistical purposes to provide a harmonised UK indicator with a comparable calculation in each of the four UK countries.

This 'waste from households' measure has been added to the report and data tables to enable UK comparisons. However the main focus of this report is still the previous 'household waste' definition because it is the measure most directly related to current Northern Ireland policy targets. There are targets in the revised Waste Management Strategy, the 2015-16 Programme for Government and the Local Government (Performance

Indicators and Standards) Order (NI) 2015 that reference the prior 'household waste' definition.

There is a difference between 'household waste' and 'waste from households'. The latter has a generally narrower definition than the former. There are a number of sources of waste that were considered under 'household waste' that are not considered by 'waste from households', for example waste from street recycling bins and street cleaning. More information is available from the 'waste from households' calculation guidance on the WDF website.
http://www.wastedataflow.org/documents/guidancenotes/NorthernIreland/OtherGuidanceNotes/WfHrecyclingguidanceNI_v2.pdf

Analysis using 2019/20 data has shown that the 'waste from households' rate is 1.6 percentage points lower than the 'household waste' recycling rate at the Northern Ireland level. However, the difference between these rates vary across councils, with the waste from households being between 6.0 and 0.01 percentage points lower than the household waste recycling rate. The time series file allows the difference in these rates to be compared over quarters and across councils.

Data Sources
Waste Management Data
The information presented in this report is taken from WasteDataFlow (WDF), a web based system for local authority collected municipal waste reporting by UK local authorities to central government. The data are based on returns made to WDF (relating to approximately 40 questions on local authority collected municipal waste management) by councils, within two months of the end of each quarter.

It is increasingly rare that residual waste may still be disposed of directly to landfill. Waste is collected by the councils directly from the kerbside and some civic amenity sites; third parties under contract to the council also collect from the remaining civic amenity sites and almost all of the bring banks. Some larger councils use intermediate bulking up stations where the waste is weighed both coming into and leaving the transfer station. In all cases the waste is weighed on arrival at treatment sites for recovery e.g. Material Recovery Facilities (MRFs) and/or disposal e.g. landfill sites.

MRFs, which sort the co-mingled waste into different resource streams, almost always have more than one input source and so the weighed tonnages of each stream coming out of the plant are assigned pro-rata to each source i.e. based on their input tonnages as a percentage of all input tonnages for that period. Weighbridge dockets are generated which form the basis for statutory Waste Transfer Notes (WTNs) as the waste moves further down the treatment chain/onto reprocessors. These WTNs and/or internal reports (which also form the basis for invoices) are then sent to the council on a monthly basis. These are summarised on a quarterly basis and organised into the relevant WDF questions/categories and finally input by hand into the WDF web portal.
Data providers (councils in Northern Ireland) are supplied with technical guidance documents outlining the methodologies that should be used in the collection, reporting and validation of the data returns. These documents can be accessed on the WDF website.
www.wastedataflow.org/htm/datasets.aspx#NorthernIrelandGuidance

Population Data
Population data used to calculate KPI (p), household waste arisings per capita, are taken from the 2019 mid-year estimates, produced by NISRA, and were the most up to date available at the time of publication.

Household Data

Household data used to calculate KPI (h), household waste arisings per household, are based on the Land and Property Services (LPS) housing stock from April 2020. Note these household figures do not include caravans. An adjustment is made to account for the estimated number of vacant properties. A council-specific occupancy rate was calculated from 2011 Census data and is applied to the LPS data. The datasets can be accessed from the LPS website.
https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-research/housing-stock-statistics

https://www.finance-ni.gov.uk/topics/statistics-and-research/new-dwelling-statistics

Data Quality
The data are final and are based on, but supersede, previously published data from the four quarterly returns for the financial year. The data download from WDF were completed on 09 November 2020. At that time, all the district councils had made a return, giving a 100 per cent response rate.

Information contained in this report has been sourced from WasteDataFlow (WDF), which is the web based system for local authority collected municipal waste data reporting by UK local authorities to central government. The data in this report are based on returns made to WDF by district councils in Northern Ireland at the end of the 2019/20 financial year.

The fully validated figures that are published in this annual report have undergone audit by Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA) and further validation by Statistics and Analytical Services Branch (SASB) beyond that which is done on a quarterly basis. The annual validation acts as a check that all issues raised at the quarterly validation stages have been addressed. Additional validation checks incorporated later in the working year are then also applied backwards to all quarters in the reporting year via the annual validation.

Strengths of Data
Data are derived from WDF with full coverage for all councils to support statutory NILAS diversion targets. As the data are derived from an administrative system, they provide a complete picture of council controlled waste activity in NI.

Validation and audits
Various validation checks are carried out by both NIEA and SASB. Validations are conducted for each individual question, with additional global validations carried out to ensure that total tonnage of waste types is equal to the sum of the component parts. Any discrepancies are queried with the data provider. Variance checks are employed as an integral part of the production process.

In addition, NIEA carry out a year round programme of audits of WDF returns by individual councils. These audits are conducted under Regulation 10 (6)(a) of the NILAS Regulations. Councils are selected from each waste management group and contacted by telephone, letter and e-mail informing them of NIEA's intention to audit. The audit involves checking and confirming relevant data submitted as a NILAS return to the Monitoring Authority via WDF. One quarter of each council's municipal waste returns are selected, generally being the most recent submission. The areas being inspected relate to:
i.   landfilling of municipal waste,
ii.   collection, recycling, reuse and recovery of municipal waste,
iii. the standard of reporting/evidence for end destinations of recycled materials.

Councils are asked to provide original documentation to support reported figures in the WDF system for the quarter in question. Any anomalies or discrepancies are subsequently queried with the relevant council. As WDF data can

usually only be amended at council level, it is then necessary to 'reject' or release the data back to the waste management group and subsequently back to the council so that it might be corrected as appropriate.

Limitations of Data

Waste Management Data

Despite the intensive validation carried out on the data prior to publication, any administrative system involving manual data compilation will always be open to a degree of clerical error.

Unclassified waste

Unclassified waste is calculated as a residual amount of municipal waste after municipal waste sent to landfill, sent for recycling (including composting), sent for energy recovery and preparing for reuse have been accounted for, instead of being extracted directly from the WasteDataFlow system. The majority of the total unclassified tonnage can be attributed to moisture and/or gaseous losses. Small negative tonnages can arise in the unclassified column if more waste is sent for treatment in the quarter than was actually collected as is more likely at councils operating transfer stations. Transfer stations move waste quickly but if a particular transfer occurs the day after arriving, which also happens to be the start of the next quarter, then a small inconsistency can arise.

Types of waste

There are many different forms of waste, including municipal solid waste, commercial and industrial waste, construction, demolition and excavation waste, hazardous waste, agricultural waste, and waste water and sludges. The latest report on construction, demolition and excavation waste arisings is for 2009/10:
https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/construction-demolition-and-excavation-waste-arisings-use-and-disposal-northern-ireland

Following on from the UK's agreement to revise its interpretation of 'municipal waste' to include much more commercial and industrial waste than previously; it should be noted that this report, as with all previous ones, reflects local authority collected municipal waste only.

Material Recovery Facilities

MRFs usually have more than one input source and the pro-rata assignment to each source based on their input tonnages can lead to a small over or under estimation of the actual tonnage being recovered from each individual source.

Capture Rates

Capture rates are no longer included in the body of the report but are still available in the data tables appendix. The calculations for capture rates are based on a Compositional Study undertaken in 2017 and may not accurately reflect the current situation. However, it is the best available estimation of the proportions of the primary waste categories contained within kerbside residual waste. Levels of uncertainty around the results of the Compositional Study are discussed in the full report.

The accuracy of these estimates is expected to decrease over time as household recycling habits continue to change.

Waste Crime

Waste crime is the unauthorised management of waste, including illegal dumping. It can be difficult to quantify the impact of such activity upon these official figures as it is not always possible to determine the source, date and tonnage of illegally deposited waste. Where possible the extent and any implications of such activity will be communicated to users.

Energy Recovery via Anaerobic Digestion
The tonnages relating to energy recovery from material undergoing anaerobic digestion are still accounted for under the recycling section since the vast majority of the tonnage of waste undergoing this process eventually ends up as a compost (once the methane generated from the anaerobic digestion process has been collected).

Rounding and Summing
It should be noted that in some instances totals may not add up due to rounding. If tonnages work out to be less than 0.5 tonnes, they will be rounded to zero.

On occasion percentages work out to be less than 0.1 per cent or more than 99.9 per cent. Users should be aware that in such cases, the percentage is rounded to zero or 100 per cent respectively.

Whilst tonnages may be summed over councils and/or Waste Management Groups to give totals for higher level geographies, such totals may suffer from rounding errors when compared with any given totals.

However where fractions or proportions, such as recycling rates, waste arisings per capita etc are stated for councils or waste management groups, these indicators cannot be simply added or averaged to produce a rate for a higher level geography. Such information is often available in the data tables appendix, or otherwise may be available upon request.

Data for Northern Ireland and Waste Management Groups are only added to charts with rates and percentages to avoid distorting the scale of the charts.

Notation and Terminology
Please see the glossary (appendix 2) for clarification of key terms.

Guidance on using data
All figures in the report and the accompanying Excel tables are annual figures and refer to the stated period. These annual figures are the final, validated figures for the year and supersede those figures published in the quarterly reports for the period. Please note that any comparisons with prior year use the final validated figures as published in the annual report for that period. Very small increases or decreases in figures (<0.5 per cent or <0.5 percentage points) are not highlighted in the commentary and should be interpreted with care.

Waste Management information elsewhere in the United Kingdom and Europe
While it is our intention to direct users to waste management information elsewhere in the UK and Europe, users should be aware that local authority collected municipal waste statistics in other administrations are not always measured in a comparable manner to those in Northern Ireland. Details of waste management data published elsewhere in the UK and Europe can be found at the following links.

England
https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/waste-and-recycling-statistics

Scotland
http://www.sepa.org.uk/environment/waste/waste-data/waste-data-reporting/

Wales
https://gov.wales/local-authority-municipal-waste-management

Ireland
http://www.epa.ie/waste/municipal/

European Union Member States
http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Municipal_waste_statistics

The basis of the data collection across the UK using WDF is broadly consistent, however there are some minor definitional differences such as Northern Ireland recycling KPIs do include material used as 'backfill' (using suitable waste material to refill an excavation instead of non-waste material) which is not directly comparable with the revised Waste Framework Directive recycling measurements.

The meetings of the WasteDataFlow Operational Group ensure a conscious effort to share waste management developments on a UK-wide basis with Northern Ireland representation on this group.

https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/waste-data-flow-northern-ireland-user-group-meeting-2012

A National Statistics Publication

National Statistics are produced to a high professional standard. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political interference.

The UK Statistics Authority has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. Designation can be broadly interpreted to mean that the statistics:
  - meet identified user needs;
  - are well explained and readily accessible;
  - are produced according to sound methods; and

  - are managed impartially and objectively in the public interest.

Once statistics have been designated as National Statistics it is a statutory requirement that the Code of Practice shall continue to be observed.

The Department demonstrates its commitment to the Code of Practice by publishing a series of supporting statements related to its use of administrative data, publication strategy, confidentiality arrangements, revisions policy, customer service and complaints procedure. For details see the statistics charter on the DAERA statistics website https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/daeras-statistics-charter

For further information

For more information relating to this publication, including additional analysis, breakdowns of the data or alternative formats please contact Statistics and Analytical Services Branch.

As we want to engage with users of our statistics, we invite you to feedback your comments on this publication at any time of the year. Contact details are available on the front cover of this report and in the data tables appendix.

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Appendix 2: Glossary

Term	Explanation
Biodegradable waste	Any waste that is capable of undergoing anaerobic decomposition, such as food and garden waste, and paper and paperboard.
Bring site	An unmanned site with a container or a collection of containers for depositing recyclable waste.
Capture rate for household kerbside collected waste	The amount of 'available' material that is actually being collected for recycling through household kerbside collection schemes.
Civic amenity site	A manned site for depositing waste.
Composting	An aerobic, biological process in which organic wastes, such as garden and kitchen waste, are converted into a stable granular material which can be applied to land to improve soil structure and enrich the nutrient content of the soil.
Composting rate	The percentage of waste sent for composting. It excludes waste collected for composting that was rejected at collection or at the gate of the reprocessor.
Dry recycling	The recycling of dry materials such as paper, card, cans, plastic bottles, mixed plastic, glass.
Dry recycling rate	The percentage of waste sent for recycling. It excludes waste collected for recycling that was rejected at collection, during sorting or at the gate of the recycling reprocessor. It includes residual waste which was diverted for recycling but excludes waste sent for preparation for reuse.
Energy recovery rate	The percentage of waste sent for energy recovery. It includes mixed residual and specific sources components.
Household waste	Includes materials (except soil, rubble and plasterboard) collected directly from households (e.g. kerbside collections) or indirectly (e.g. bring sites, civic amenity sites, collected by private and voluntary organisations not included elsewhere or street sweepings).
Kerbside	A regular collection of waste from premises.
Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	A set of measures used to gauge performance in terms of meeting waste strategy targets.
LAC	Local Authority Collected, as in Waste.
Landfill sites	Any areas of land in which waste is deposited. Landfill sites are often located in disused mines or quarries. In areas where they are limited or no ready-made voids exist, the practice of landraising is sometimes carried out, where waste is deposited above ground and the landscape is contoured.
Local authority collected municipal waste	Waste which is collected under arrangements made by a district council.

Term	Explanation
Mixed dry recyclables	Waste streams intended for recycling found together with each other but separately from other waste.
Mixed residual waste sent for energy recovery	Combustible residual waste collected from the kerbside and civic amenity sites and processed into refuse derived fuel at material recovery facilities.
NILAS	Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme
Non household waste	Asbestos, beach cleansing, fly-tipped materials, gully emptyings, commercial and industrial, construction and demolition, grounds waste, highways waste, other collected waste and other.
Other household waste	Healthcare waste, bulky waste, street cleaning and other household.
Recycling	Any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes. It does not include energy recovery and the reprocessing into materials that are used as fuels.
Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF)	Consists largely of organic components of municipal waste (such as plastics and biodegradable waste). This can then be used in a variety of ways to generate electricity, most commonly as an additional fuel used with coal in power stations or in cement kilns.
Regular residual household waste	Household regular kerbside collection.
Residual waste	Waste that is not sent for preparing for reuse, sent for recycling or composting.
Specific streams e.g. wood	Used in the context of Waste sent for energy recovery. It is mostly wood but also contains furniture, carpets and mattresses, mostly collected from civic amenity sites.
Waste arisings	The amount of waste collected in a given locality over a period of time.
Waste collected for disposal to landfill	Collected for disposal is residual waste that has not been sorted to separate out recyclable material from other waste before being presented to the Council for collection at various locations.
Waste from households	Not the same as 'household waste'. This is a narrower definition and includes material (except soil, rubble and plasterboard) collected only from households (e.g. kerbside collection, bring sites, civic amenity sites or community skips managed by councils).

Term	Explanation
Waste sent to landfill	The amount of waste sent to landfill. Excludes residual waste which was diverted for energy recovery, recycling or composting. Includes household waste collected for energy recovery, recycling or composting which was diverted to landfill.
Waste Transfer Note (WTN)	A note which must be created for any transfer of controlled waste. The exception to this is householders, who are not required to produce transfer notes.
WasteDataFlow	The web based system for local authority collected municipal waste data reporting by UK local authorities to government (www.wastedataflow.org).

Recycled material types

Compostable (excluding wood)	Green waste only, green garden waste only, mixed garden and food waste, waste food only, other compostable waste (excluding wood).
Construction, Demolition and Excavation	Plasterboard, rubble and soil.
Electrical Goods	Large and small domestic appliances, TVs and monitors, fluorescent tubes and other light bulbs, fridges and freezers, auto batteries and post consumer batteries.
Glass	Brown, clear, green and mixed glass.
Metal	Aluminium, mixed and steel cans, aluminium foil, bicycles, aerosols, gas bottles, fire extinguishers and other scrap metal.
Paper and Card	Books, card, mixed paper and card, paper, yellow pages and cardboard beverage packaging.
Plastics	PET(1), HDPE(2), PVC(3), LDPE(4), PP(5), PS(6), other plastics(7), mixed plastic bottles, and plastics.
Textiles	Textiles and footwear, footwear only, textiles only and carpets.
Unclassified	Derived category including all other recycled material collected not included in the main categories.
WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment)	As electrical goods above but excluding auto batteries and post consumer batteries.
Wood	Wood, chipboard and MDF, composite wood materials and wood for composting.

Appendix 3: List of Acronyms

This is a list of commonly used acronyms in this report.

arc21	Regional waste management group in Northern Ireland
BLACMW	Biodegradable Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste
CIWM	Chartered Institution of Wastes Management
DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LAC	Local Authority Collected
LACMW	Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste
LPS	Land and Property Services
MDR	Mixed Dry Recyclables
MRF	Materials Recovery Facility
NI	Northern Ireland
NIEA	Northern Ireland Environment Agency
NILAS	Northern Ireland Landfill Allowance Scheme
NISRA	Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency
NWRWMG	North West Regional Waste Management Group
RDF	Refuse Derived Fuel
SASB	Statistics and Analytical Services Branch, DAERA
UK	United Kingdom
WDF	WasteDataFlow
WEEE	Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment
WRAP	Waste and Resource Action Programme

Appendix 4: National Statistics Status

National Statistics status means that our statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value, and it is our responsibility to maintain compliance with these standards.

These statistics were first designated as National Statistics, and underwent a full assessment against the Code of Practice, in January 2014 by the UK Statistics Authority.

A compliance check assessment was completed for the waste statistics produced by each of the UK regions in 2020 with the results of the finding published in October 2020.

The trustworthiness, quality and value of the statistics, including the coherence of the data source, methods and quality assurance (QA) arrangements, and the presentation of the statistics were reviewed with a final outcome that the statistics can continue to be designated as National Statistics.

The conclusion of the compliance check cited the following actions as strengths:

- Ongoing quality assurance of the data contained within the report by reviewing methods on a quarterly basis.

- Improved statistical output by creating a time series of Northern Ireland local authority collected municipal waste management statistics to accompany the report and tables. This dataset is also available on Open Data NI along with a time series of materials collected at Northern Ireland local authority waste management sites.

- Improved statistical output by creating infographics to accompany the report and tables.

- Improved statistical output by creating an interactive dashboard to accompany the report and tables.

- Hosted a workshop with users in February 2020 to review publications and statistical outputs.

- Sought and implemented recommendations from GSS good practice team to improve the publication.

Some areas for minor improvement were also suggested and these will be addressed as we continually improve the statistical output.

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BELFAST
BT4 3SB
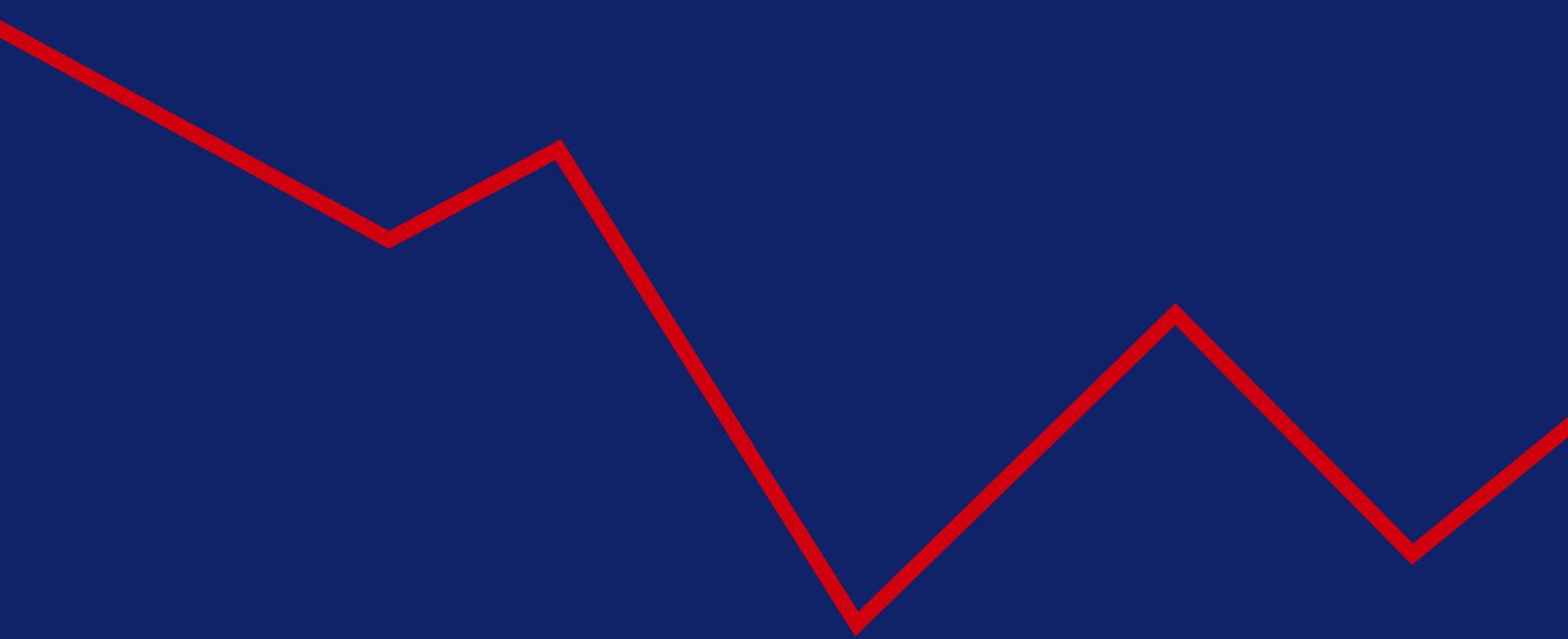
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