

AUSTRIA



👤 TOTAL POPULATION (MILLION): 8.86
 🏙️ % CITIES: 31.0%
 🏘️ % TOWNS AND SUBURBS: 30.8%
 🏡 % RURAL: 38.2%
 📄 RECEIVED EARLY WARNING REPORT: NO
 🗑️ FOOD WASTE
 POTENTIAL GENERATION (KG/CAPITA): 118,5
 POTENTIAL GENERATION (T): 1,049,986

POTENTIAL MAXIMUM CAPTURE WITH OPTIMISED COLLECTION SCHEMES (T): 892,488

CURRENT CAPTURE (T): 201,980

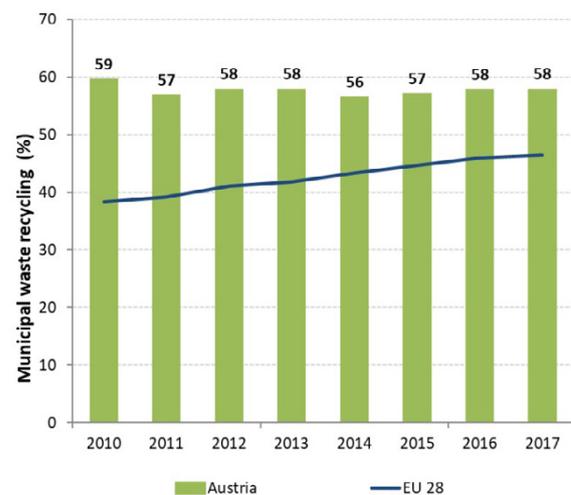
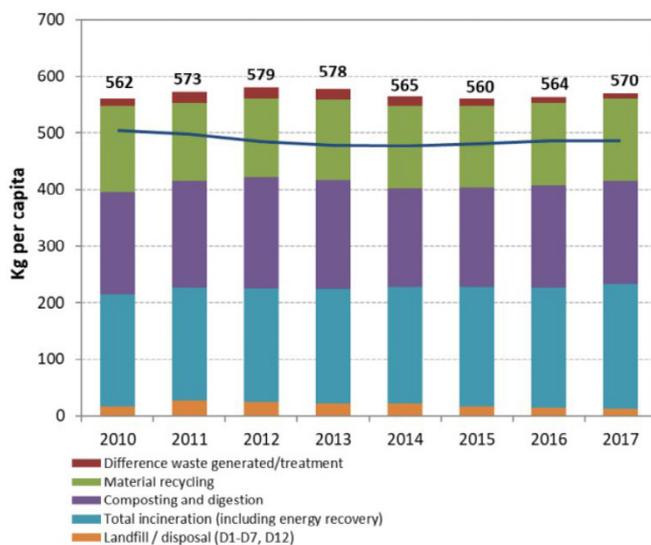
CURRENT CAPTURE (% ON POTENTIAL GENERATION): 19%

AMOUNT STILL TO BE CAPTURED (T): 690,508

🌱 BIO-WASTE

CURRENT CAPTURE (% ON POTENTIAL GENERATION): 44%

[LINK TO NATIONAL WASTE DATA](#)



Source: EC Environmental legislation implementation assessment, national reports 2019

🗑️ COLLECTION:

Austria has successfully implemented the proximity principle in bio-waste management. The country's strategy followed the premise: "As much home composting as possible – brown bin offered wherever home composting is not possible – as much decentralised agricultural (on-farm) composting as possible":

- door-to-door separate collection of bio-waste (organic kitchen waste, plant residues and biodegradable waste from home gardens) has been established throughout Austria as the predominant collection system; separate collection of e.g. leftover raw meat scraps from kitchens varies from region to region, depending on further treatment.
- bring system (civic amenity site): mainly for prunings and grass cuttings from home gardens.

📄 PLANS AND PROPOSALS:

A ban on the landfilling of biodegradable municipal waste was introduced in 2009. In December 2017 Austria adopted a new federal waste management plan, updating its 2011 plan.



Decentralised small-scale composting plant.
Photo: © Hildebrandt - Amlinger

RECENT UPDATE - CASE STUDY

The Austrian compost and biogas association, KBVÖ (Kompost- und Biogasverband Österreich), reported that 80-90% of impurities in the organic waste collected from households are conventional, non-biodegradable bags. To tackle this problem and reduce impurities, KBVÖ launched an initiative to market only single-use carrier bags in Austria that are compostable according to the European standard for industrial composting EN 13432. Combined with a consumer information campaign, the compostable bags are intended to be re-used to collect and dispose organic kitchen waste. This way more bio-waste will be separately collected and diverted from other recycling streams, while reducing contamination of ordinary plastics in organic waste.