



Press release

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Household waste no longer increasing

In 2002 the volume of household waste stayed about the same as in the year before. The same happened in 2001 on 2000, bringing to an end the period of growth that occurred between 1995–2000. In this period the volume of household waste increased on average by about 4 percent a year, according to the latest preliminary figures by Statistics Netherlands.

Separately collected waste no longer increases

In 2002 Dutch municipalities collected 9.1 billion kilograms worth of household waste. This is 563 kilograms per inhabitant. Almost half of the household waste, 4.2 billion kilograms, consisted of separately collected waste material. This remained constant as well over the last three years, whereas between 1993 and 2000 the volume of separately collected waste increased by about 9 percent on average a year. The growth rate fell to zero around 2000.

Less organic waste and old paper

The largest category of separately collected waste is organic waste from gardens and kitchens. The volume is close to 1.5 billion kilograms, which is slightly more than in 2001. However, since 1997 organic garden and kitchen waste has been decreasing. The volume of organic garden and kitchen waste per inhabitant fell from 98 kilograms in 1997 to 88 kilograms in 2002.

The volume of separately collected waste paper decreased by 2.2 percent in 2002 on 2001 to just under 1 billion kilograms. This waste flow has been decreasing since 1999. In 2002 waste paper collection fell by 4 kilograms per inhabitant compared to 1999.

In the category other separately collected waste, the flow of construction waste fell to 0.4 billion kilograms after a sharp increase in the 1990s. The construction waste comes mainly from DIY renovations. It constitutes almost 10 percent of separately collected waste.

Bulky garden waste increased by 9 percent to almost 0.4 billion kilograms. Also collected wooden waste increased again. Other smaller waste flows that are on the increase are household appliances, furniture and clean soil.

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Table 1
Household waste collection since 1993

Year	Total collected	Separately collected	Not separately collected	Separately collected
	x million kg			%
1993	7 273	2 304	4 969	32
1994	7 331	2 756	4 575	38
1995	7 443	3 143	4 300	42
1996	7 710	3 440	4 269	45
1997	8 139	3 776	4 363	46
1998	8 346	3 894	4 452	47
1999	8 697	4 047	4 651	47
2000	8 986	4 159	4 827	46
2001	9 005	4 146	4 859	46
2002*	9 069	4 174	4 894	46

* preliminary figures

Source: CBS

