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# Europe Industrial Waste Management - Market Share Analysis, Industry Trends & Statistics, Growth Forecasts (2024 - 2029)

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## Abstracts

The Europe Industrial Waste Management Market size is estimated at USD 48.54 billion in 2024, and is expected to reach USD 62.34 billion by 2029, growing at a CAGR of 4.26% during the forecast period (2024-2029).

Key Highlights

The European Union has been recognized for its worldwide leadership in waste management. Some of the world's highest recycling rates for municipal waste are reported by EU Member States, such as Germany, Italy, and Austria. The waste management sector shall be responsible for all aspects of the waste cycle, which includes collection, transport, processing, disposal, and recycling of materials destroyed. French businesses Veolia and Suez and UK-based Biffa PLC are all among the largest waste management companies worldwide based on revenue.

In its Member States, the European Union has different practices for the management of waste. The EU waste policy is aimed at contributing to the recycling economy by resource extraction of quality resources from waste. The EU would like to promote the prevention of waste and the re-utilization of products as much as possible. Recycling, including composting, is preferred by the EU if recycling is not possible, followed by the use of waste to generate energy.

The recycling rate of urban waste in the EU has slowly improved over a number of years and now stands at 49%, as indicated by industry reports published in 2024. Nevertheless, 24% of municipal waste is disposed of in landfills. The recycling rates for other specific waste streams vary, from 64% of total packaging to 39% in electrical and

electronic waste.

In order to support a more Circular Economy in the European Union, a number of bold recycling targets have been set over the next decades. At 60% of municipal waste generated by 2030, EU Member States are now legally obliged to recycle or prepare for reuse. In accordance with the European Commission's Waste Framework Directive, residual municipal waste should be reduced by 50% in that same year to approximately 56.5 million tonnes.

Europe Industrial Waste Management Market Trends

Germany Leads the Highest Contribution in the Waste Generation

Several sectors, such as manufacturing, construction, and healthcare, have a high level of waste production. The manufacturing sector is responsible for the production of different types of waste, e.g., chemical waste, packaging waste, and electronics waste. The large-scale production of goods and the use of chemicals and raw materials in manufacturing processes are reasons for this.

Around 340 million tonnes of waste are produced each year. Construction and demolition waste, which can be reused for building measures, is the vast majority of that waste, i.e., approximately two-thirds of the total. The recycling of 50 million tonnes of municipal waste is carried out each year.

Since the EU Battery Directive entered into force in 2006, the separate collection and recycling of all batteries has been mandatory in the EU member states. A collection rate of 45% has been applied in all EU member states since 2016. Every year, more than 60,000 tonnes of portable batteries and accumulators are placed on the market in Germany.

Although the amount of portable batteries sold continues to increase every year, Germany consistently complies with the applicable EU-wide collection provisions. Containers for waste portable batteries are available in shops and at municipal collection points. Automotive and industrial batteries are also collected and consigned to recycling.

Mineral waste is the largest waste stream in Germany, amounting to an annual volume of more than 275 million tonnes, as well as construction and demolition waste and excavated soil, which includes slag and ash from incineration processes in the energy and metals industries. Mineral waste holds enormous potential for recycling. Around 90% of mineral waste can currently be recovered.

Construction and Demolition Segment Occupying the Largest Market Share

The construction and demolition (C&D) waste in Europe has witnessed significant growth in recent years due to rapid urbanization, construction activities, and stringent regulations promoting sustainable waste management practices. Construction and demolition waste accounts for more than one-third of the total waste generated in the European Union. C&D waste includes a wide variety of waste materials such as concrete, bricks, wood, glass, metals, and plastic. It includes all the waste produced by the construction and demolition of buildings and infrastructure, as well as road planning and maintenance.

In the EU, the level of recycling and material recovery of construction and demolition waste varies widely, ranging from less than 10% to more than 90%. The different definitions of construction and demolition waste applied by EU countries make it difficult to compare them across borders.

According to the news released by the European Union in March 2023, the waste generated by construction and demolition activities in the European Union (EU-27) in 2020 amounted to well over 37% of all waste. Since 2012, when the construction industry accounted for 32.5% of all waste, this percentage has increased. However, in 2018, the recovery rate of construction and demolition waste was more than 90% for most EU countries.

Europe Industrial Waste Management Industry Overview

The European industrial waste management market is highly competitive, with several players focusing on innovative technologies to recycle and reuse waste generated in different sectors and households around the world. There are also several startups coming up in the industry that are continuously focusing on waste reduction following the Zero Waste - 3R (Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle) philosophy. Veolia. BIFFA LLC, Suec, Clean Harbours, and Cleanaway Germany are the other major market players.

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