

### Total Food Waste Generation in EU MS: Best estimate by Member State

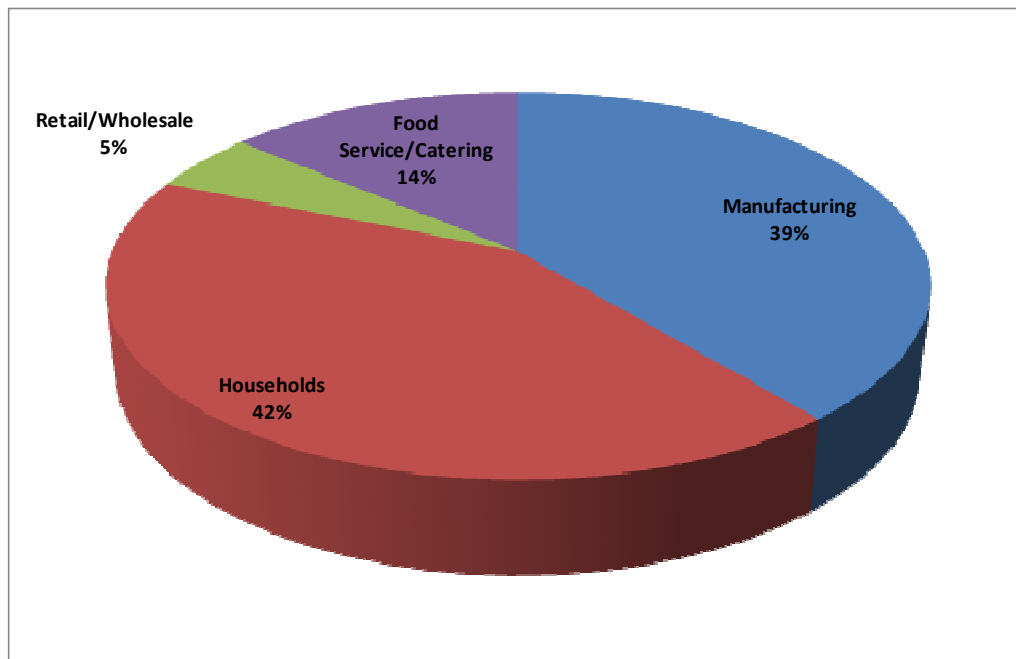
	Manufacturing	Households	Other sectors	Total
<b>EU27</b>	34 755 711	37 701 761	16 820 000	89 277 472
Austria	570 544	784 570	502 000	1 858 000
Belgium	2 311 847	934 760	945 000	4 192 000
Bulgaria	358 687	288 315	27 000	674 000
Cyprus	186 917	47 819	21 000	256 000
Czech Republic	361 813	254 124	113 000	729 000
Denmark	101 646	494 914	45 000	642 000
Estonia	237 257	82 236	36 000	355 000
Finland	590 442	214 796	208 000	1 013 000
France	626 000	6 322 944	2 129 000	9 078 000
Germany	1 848 881	7 676 471	862 000	10 387 000
Greece	73 081	412 758	2 000	488 000
Hungary	1 157 419	394 952	306 000	1 858 000
Ireland	465 945	292 326	293 000	1 051 000
Italy	5 662 838	2 706 793	408 000	8 778 000
Latvia	125 635	78 983	11 000	216 000
Lithuania	222 205	111 160	248 000	581 000
Luxembourg	2 665	62 538	31 000	97 000
Malta	271	22 115	3 000	25 000
Netherlands	6 412 330	1 837 599	1 206 000	9 456 000
Poland	6 566 060	2 049 844	356 000	8 972 000
Portugal	632 395	385 063	374 000	1 391 000
Romania	487 751	696 794	1 089 000	2 274 000
Slovakia	347 773	135 854	105 000	589 000
Slovenia	42 072	72 481	65 000	179 000
Spain	2 170 910	2 136 551	3 388 000	7 696 000
Sw eden	601 327	905 000	547 000	2 053 000
United Kingdom	2 591 000	8 300 000	3 500 000	14 391 000

Source: 2006 EUROSTAT data (EWC\_09\_NOT\_093), Various national sources

Certain national studies covered retail and food service sector food waste, providing more detail than EUROSTAT's 'Other Sectors'. A further estimate of food waste was then made, breaking down food waste by Manufacturing, Household, Retail and Food Service sector data. This approximate percentage breakdown is presented below, and more detail can be found on page 63 of the report. Please bear in mind that agricultural food waste was not included in the scope of this study.

This breakdown is not intended to draw a comparison between household and manufacturing sector data, as the reliability of estimates for certain sectors differs. A cross-sector comparison would be more instructive when data available for all sectors is considered more robust.

Percentage breakdown of EU27 food waste arisings by Manufacturing, Households, Wholesale/Retail, and Food Service/Catering sectors (best estimate)



Source: 2006 EUROSTAT data (EWC\_09\_NOT\_093), Various national sources

Households produce the largest fraction of EU food waste among the four sectors considered, at about 42% of the total or about 38Mt, an average of about 76kg per capita.

Manufacturing food waste was estimated at almost 35 Mt per year in the EU27 (70kg per capita), although a lack of clarity over the definition of food waste (particularly as distinct from by-products) among MS makes this estimate fragile.

Once again, the main estimate of this study relies more heavily on EUROSTAT data to estimate manufacturing, household and 'other sector' food waste. A further estimate on the breakdown between retail and food service sector food waste (in place of 'other sectors') relies more heavily on extrapolations, at times from a limited number of sources. According to this further estimate, the following sectoral detail can be presented:

- ➔ Wholesale/Retail sector: close to 8kg per capita (with an important discrepancy between MS) representing around 4.4 Mt for the EU27
- ➔ Food Service sector: an average of 25kg per capita for EU27, at 12.3 Mt for the EU27 overall. There is a notable divergence between the EU15 at 28kg per capita (due to a higher trend of food waste in the restaurant and catering sector) and 12kg per capita in EU12.

Food which ends up as being discarded by households represents 25% of food purchased (by weight), according to studies completed by WRAP. For the UK, the avoidable portion of this food waste represents a total annual loss per household of approximately £480 or 565 Euros<sup>1</sup>.

Important limitations accompany this work of quantification, resulting from the variable reliability of EUROSTAT and national data. Methodologies for collecting and calculating the food waste data submitted to EUROSTAT differs between MS, who are free to choose their own methodology. Limitations in the reliability of EUROSTAT data, due to a lack of clarity on

<sup>1</sup> WRAP (2009) *Household Food and Drink Waste in the UK*

