

## Introduction

Dear Readers,

*In 2020 the Czech Statistical Office (CZSO) finished the planned process of modernisation of waste data collection that resulted in this publication. It brings series of changes compared to previous years. These modifications are described in more detail below in the methodological notes. Let me briefly state here the facts behind these changes.*

*The first one lies in an updated interpretation of the municipal waste definition, which strictly applies up-to-date methodological recommendations of Eurostat concerning the implementation of the Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste. The concept of municipal waste has thus been expanded by waste similar in nature and composition to waste from households and waste collected outside the municipal waste collection system has been covered.*

*The second change, which is of no less importance, results from a possibility to use administrative data on waste generation and management in a broader extent. Analytical works focusing on comparison of data from the Integrated Environmental Reporting System (administrative system of waste records in Czech abbreviated as ISPOP) and a statistical survey on the Waste generation and management (“Odp 5-01” annual questionnaire) have proven that both the primary data sources are compatible enough for compilation of results in compliance with the methodology of Regulation (EC) No. 2150/2002 of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste statistics and relating methodological instructions. Therefore it was possible to use the administrative data in processing of statistical results to improve the coverage of the population observed. At the same time the administrative burden of respondents was decreased.*

*Due to the aforementioned reasons, data in this publication are not comparable to those published before. However, comparable results are presented for the years 2017 – 2019, which enables comparisons over time. Works on recalculation of time series will continue concurrently with the processing of data for the year 2020 in order to provide users with a picture of the state of the waste management in compliance with the up-to-date methodologies, which is as complete as possible.*

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