

Secondary waste is [waste](#) generated from different sources and of different nature, i.e. waste generated in a process that is known as a waste treatment operation; it includes residual materials originating from recovery and disposal operations, such as [incineration](#) and [composting](#) residues.

Secondary waste occurs in the following waste categories:

Waste categories which consist completely of secondary waste are:

- **sorting residues** (10.3) which include waste from mechanical sorting processes, refuse-derived fuels, non-composted residues from composting, etc.;
- **mineral wastes from waste treatment** (12.8, 13) which cover mainly wastes from waste incineration (bottom ash, slag, fly ash, etc.), mineral fractions from mechanical treatment, and solidified, stabilised or vitrified wastes; wastes from co-incineration are not included here but covered by the category combustion waste;
- **sludges and liquid wastes from waste treatment** (03.3) comprises wastes from chemical-physical treatment of hazardous waste, liquids and sludges from anaerobic waste treatment, landfill leachates, etc.

A waste category which contains secondary waste but not completely, the amount of secondary waste is not quantifiable, is:

- **combustion waste** (12.4)

From the economic activities secondary waste is generated, the amount of secondary waste not quantifiable, from: [NACE E38](#) - Waste collection, treatment and disposal activities; materials recovery.

Further information

- [Directive 98/2008](#) on waste (legal text)

Related concepts

- [Composting](#)
- [Incineration](#)
- [Waste](#)

Statistical data

- [Waste statistics](#)