

Lifecycle of plastics in the Netherlands 2018

Differences in figures for packaging on the market between Afvalfonds Verpakkingen and PlasticsEurope

Both the Packaging Waste Fund and PlasticsEurope publish annually on the weight of plastic packaging newly introduced to the market in the Netherlands. The figures of the two organizations show a difference: PlasticsEurope reports 601 kton of packaging in 2018, compared to 522 kton by the Waste Fund. The difference of 79 kton is caused by a different measuring point and a different definition of packaging. PlasticsEurope uses a broader definition than the Waste Fund and also includes, for example, garbage bags and refillable drinking bottles as packaging. The Packaging Waste Fund only counts what is regarded as packaging according to the legal definition (in accordance with the Packaging Management Decree). The Packaging Waste Fund therefore bases the figures on the weight of plastic packaging declared by the packaging industry and Plastic Europe bases its figures on the weight of plastic material used to make packaging (according to their broader definition) declared by plastic producers ('converters') to produce.

