Our SHE goals and performance

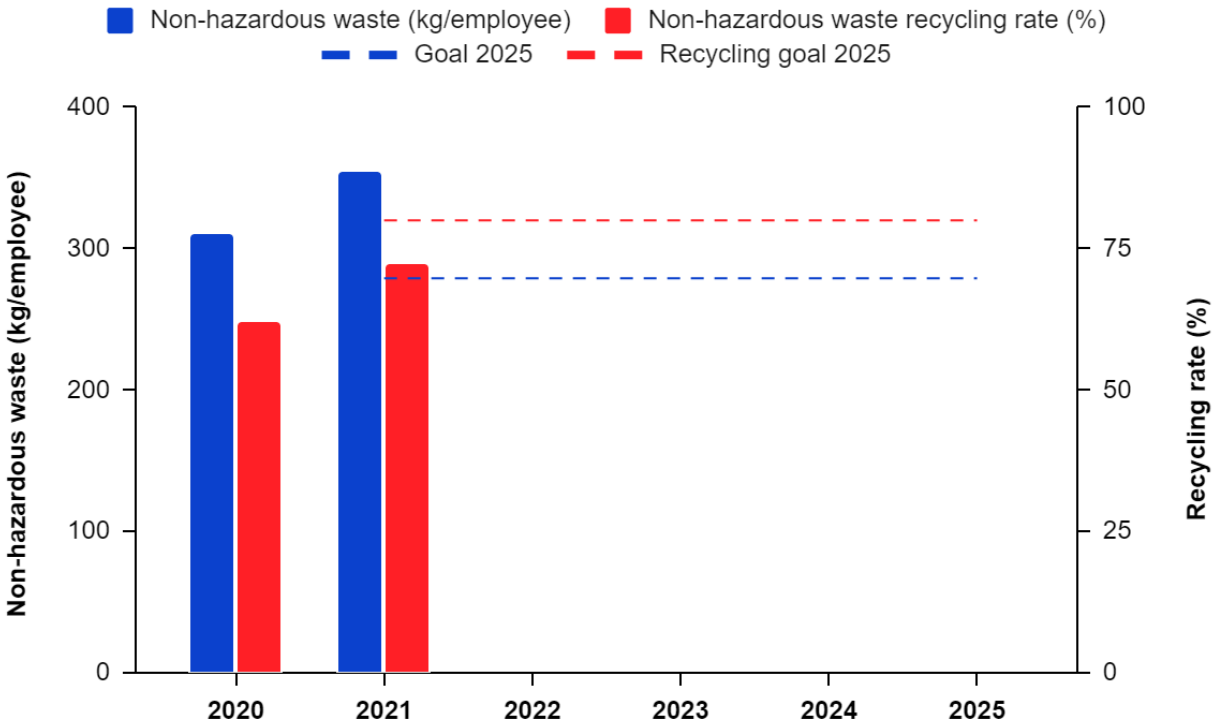
Waste Management

We aim to implement the following waste management strategy in all our waste activities: avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle and thermally destroy. We permit landfilling only as a last resort and, even then, only for inert materials such as slag or ashes. Waste minimization and reduction measures are not only restricted to production processes but are evaluated and implemented across all operations at Roche. We strive for eco-efficient solutions which show both a reduction in the environmental burden and an economic benefit, e.g. reduction in raw material and disposal cost. Improved waste management can reduce unnecessary costs, boost staff morale, provide a competitive (or efficiency) edge and improve environmental outcomes. Together these benefits make a workplace more sustainable. Roche has defined three goals until 2025, starting from 2020:

1. Reduce general (non-hazardous) waste excluding construction waste by -10% per employee (2020: 310 kg/employee; 2025: 279 kg/employee)
2. General (non-hazardous) waste to be recycled (excluding construction waste) by 80% or more (2020: 65%; 2025: 80%)
3. Reduce plastic waste (separated fraction from non-hazardous waste) by 10% (2020: 3,365 tons; 2025: 3,028 tons).

In 2021, Roche generated 37,391 tons of *non-hazardous waste* representing 355 kg/employee (see ***Figure***). This is an increase of approximately 14.5% per employee since the start of the new 5-year goal period in 2020. The 2025 goal is 279 kg/employee. Waste trends tend to be variable and the impacts of SARS-CoV-2 on production are likely to be the cause of the increase. This increase, however, is still 18.4 % lower compared to the 2015 value.

Of 37,391 tons of our non-hazardous waste generated in the reporting year, 27,035 tons or 72.3% was recycled (see ***Figure***). This exceeds the projected recycling rate of 68%, keeping us on course to reach the 80% goal by 2025.



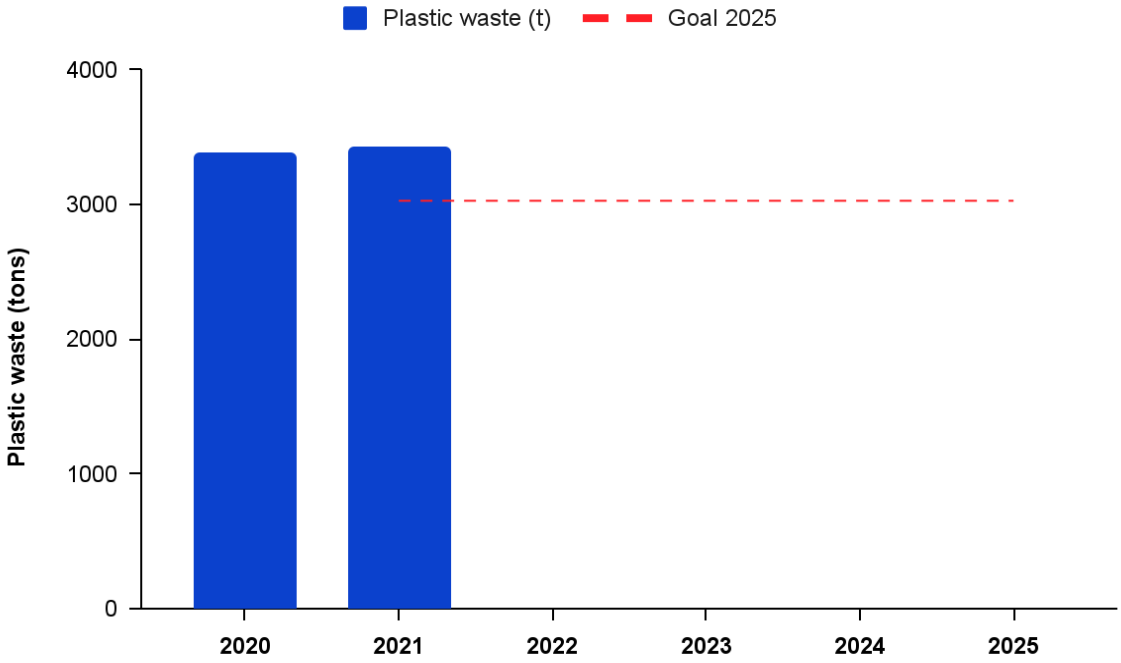
While properly disposing of plastic waste is the primary environmental problem, the production process as well as transporting, recycling and disposing of the plastic waste materials are also leading causes of carbon emissions which contribute to global warming. It takes a significant amount of energy and natural resources like water, oil, natural gas, and coal to make plastic, with more than 90% being produced from fossil fuel resources.

Reducing plastic waste will reduce the contamination of the environment, consume less natural resources and have both financial and reputational benefits. In the long run, reusable items are way cheaper than constantly purchasing more plastic.

In 2020, 3,365 t of plastic waste was generated making the 5 year goal 3,028 tons for 2025 (see ***Figure***). In 2021 a total of 3,419 tons of plastic waste was generated, an increase of ~1.6% with:

- 2,066 tons of plastic being recycled,
- 1,265 tons incinerated and
- 83.3 tons were landfilled.

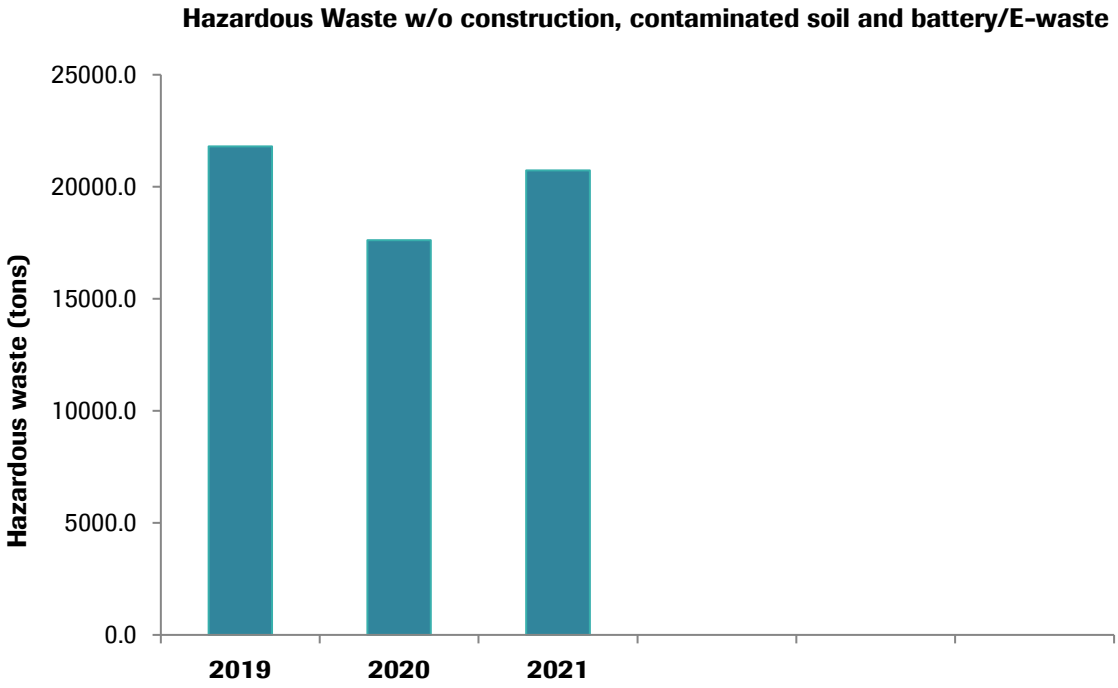
This increased amount of plastics in 2021 means there is a greater amount of reduction that has to be done each year in a shorter period of time.



While not a formally established Group goal for 2020-2025, the minimization of the amount of hazardous (formerly chemical) waste being sent to a landfill remains a corporate expectation. Only inert materials should be disposed of in a landfill.

In the reporting year, there has been a reclassification of certain waste categories to be more consistent with regulatory/peer definition (e.g. E-Waste has been shifted from non-hazardous waste to hazardous waste). Hence, any trend to be shown for *hazardous waste* for the past year(s) is only meaningful after an adjustment of the specific waste categories has been made.

Usually, construction & demolition as well as contaminated soil wastes are highly fluctuating over the year and thus normally not included in any total amount but used for individual reporting. Related to the total amount of hazardous waste, further adjusted by excluding also the battery/E-waste, we noticed an almost 18% increase from 2021 to 2020, but are still approx. 5% below the amount of 2019, the last year not influenced by the pandemic (see ***Figure*** below).


Hazardous Waste w/o construction, contaminated soil and battery/E-waste
Hazardous waste (tons)
25000.0
20000.0
15000.0
10000.0
5000.0
0.0
2019
2020
2021