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## Current Status

Source [Environmental Protection Administration](#) Posted 2020/03/04 Updated 2022/11/19

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### (1) Current Status

In Taiwan, the transboundary movement of industrial wastes is governed by Article 38 of the Waste Disposal Act. It specifies that the import and export of waste may commence only after receipt of permission. The Management Regulations for the Import and Export of Industrial Waste provides detailed implementation rules including application documents required for an import/ export permit. As for wastes meeting the requirements contained in the Industrial Wastes Required as Raw Materials for Industrial Use, no import/ export permit is required. To save and protect Taiwan's environment, certain types of wastes are banned from importation including hazardous wastes, wastes collected from households and residues arising from the incineration of household wastes.

### (2) Industrial Waste Management in Taiwan

The Waste Disposal Act of Taiwan requires designated industries to report the volumes and disposal methods of their wastes online. Industrial wastes are classified into five categories according to their types, namely, hazardous industrial waste (Class A), toxic and hazardous industrial waste (Class B), biomedical, dioxin and hazardous industrial waste (Class C). General industrial waste (Class D) and mixed metal scrap waste (Class E).

Based on statistics reported by Taiwan Environmental Protection Administration (TEPA), a total of about 5.6 million tons of wastes from these designated industries was reported in 2020. The general industrial waste was 4.4 million tons (78%) and hazardous industrial wastes was 1.2 million tons (22%) of all reported wastes (see Figure 1, 2).



Figure 1 Total waste of reported in 2020

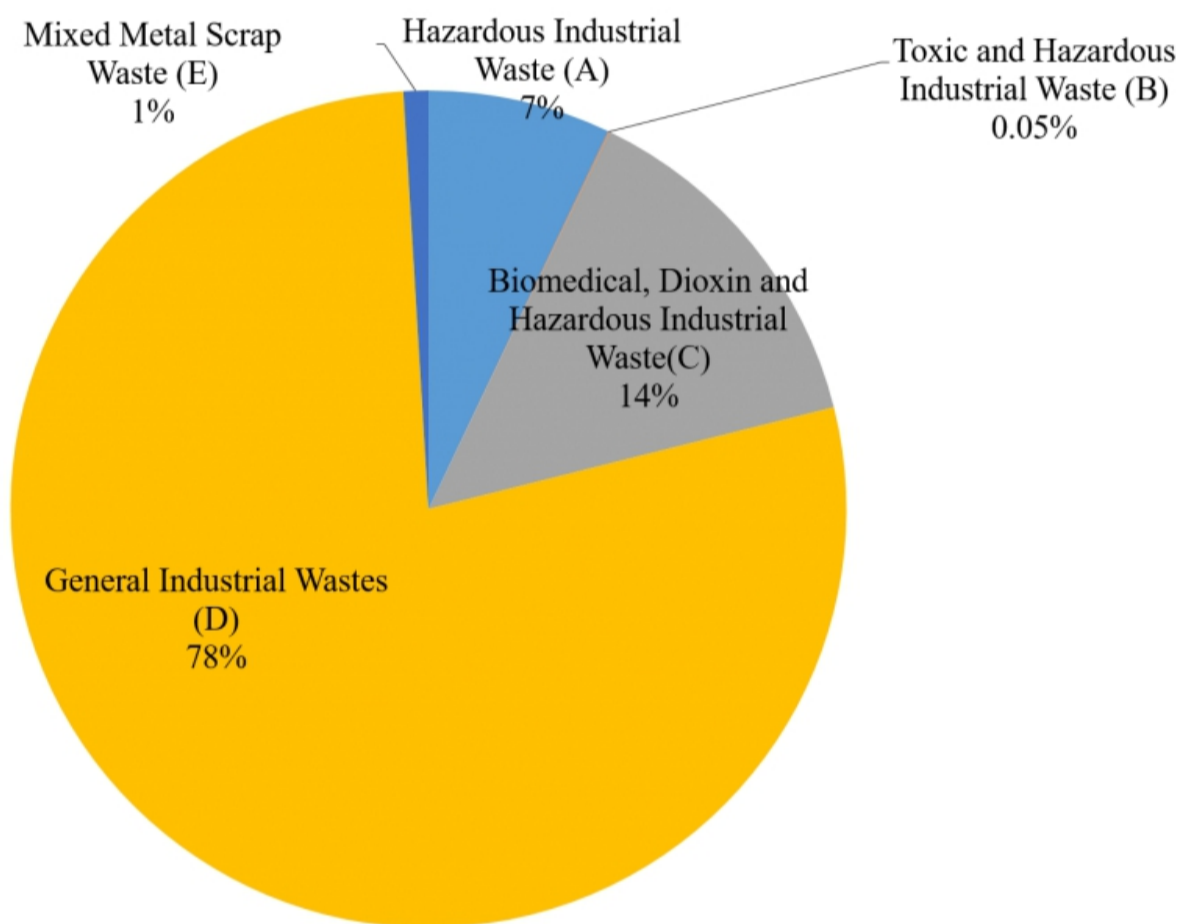


Figure 2 Industrial waste category in 2020

The waste disposal method of the designated announcement business has a recycling volumes of approximately 2.5 million metric tons (44.7%), followed by an intermediate treatment of approximately 3 million metric tons (55.3%) (including entrusted or co-processed, overseas processing, and self-processing), in Figure 3.

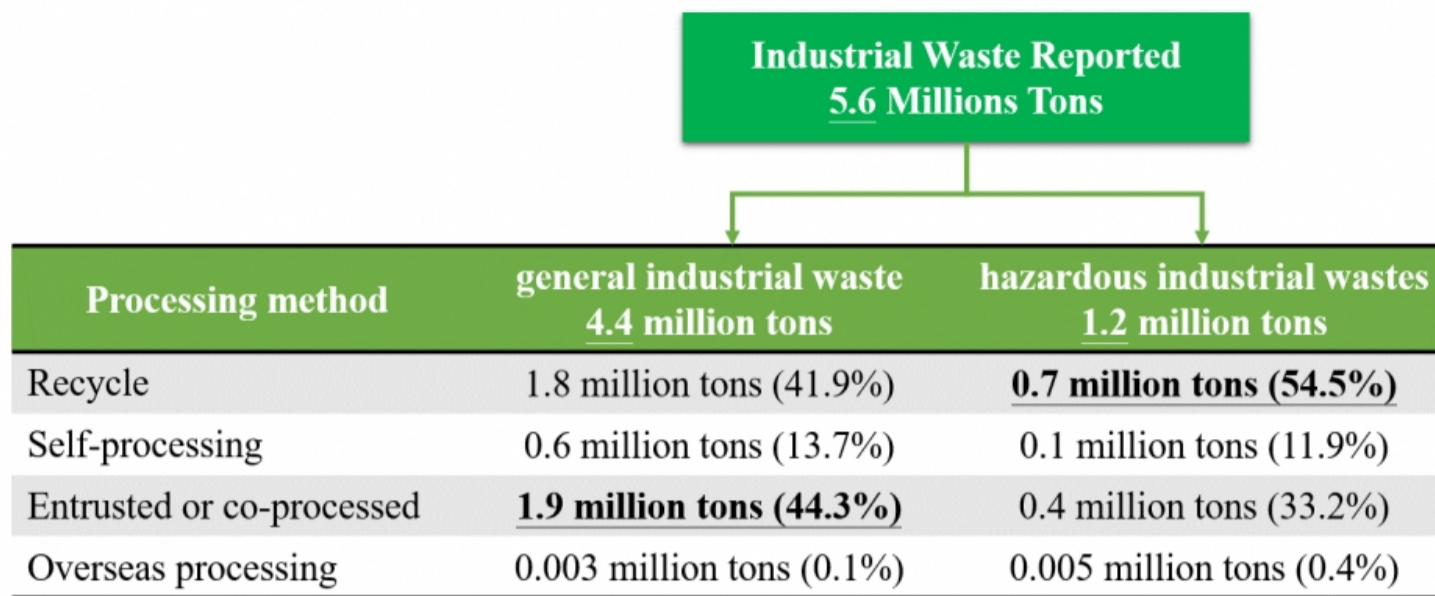


Figure 3 Industrial wastes in 2020

### (3) Management regarding the Import and Export of Waste

Taiwan implemented control measures over the import of certain scrap metals in 1983 to prevent pollution to the local environment. A decade later in January 1993, Taiwan comprehensively banned the import of scrap metals. In February 1993, the Regulations Governing the Permitting of Hazardous Industrial Waste Import and Export was promulgated to control the transboundary movement of hazardous waste.

Taiwan's waste import and export control measures primarily consider the following two factors: 1) whether related countries agree to the import or export of the wastes, and 2) whether the imported or exported wastes can be environmental sound treated or reused without causing environmental or health hazards. Based on these considerations, the import or export of waste is either prohibited, restricted or permitted.

According to the Waste Disposal Act, parties wishing to import or export industrial wastes must first apply to the local government for a permit. In the case of hazardous industrial wastes, approval by TEPA must be obtained before the local governments issue a permit. This is also valid for the import, export, transit or transshipment of general wastes from non-industrial sources, which are regulated under international conventions.

Attachments

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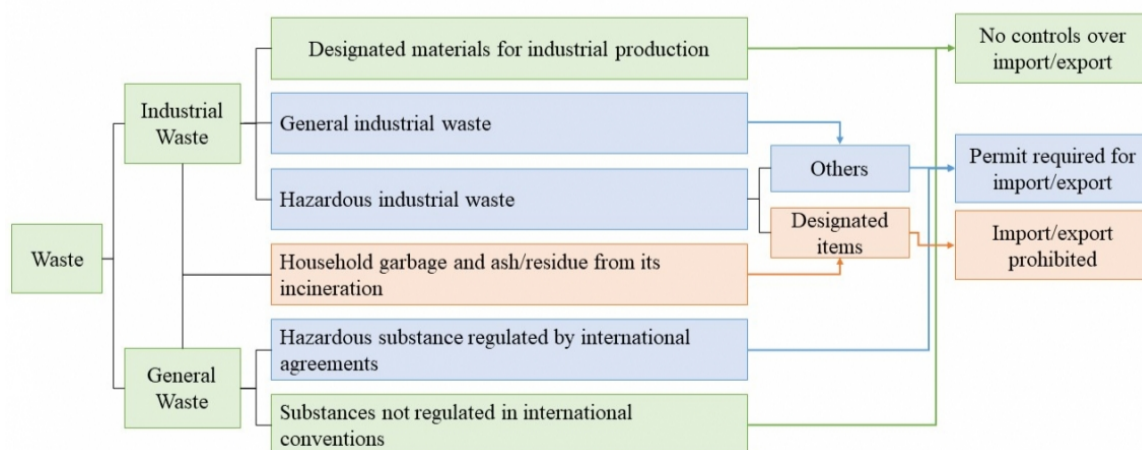


Figure 4 Regulatory framework for waste import and export in Taiwan

The overall waste import and export management structure is shown in Figure 4. The review procedure for waste import and export are shown in import and export.

## (4) Recent Changes

In order to ensure the environmentally sound management of exported hazardous wastes, Article 38 of the Waste Disposal Act was amended on June 14, 2017. Hazardous industrial waste shall give priority to domestic treatment and recycling and can only be exported to member countries of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, or countries which signed bilateral agreement with the Republic of China for transboundary movements of hazardous industrial wastes in accordance with international convention. The changes to the Wasted Disposal Act came into force on June 14, 2018.

Taiwan has seen a significant increase in the import of waste plastic and waste paper since the end of 2017. Therefore, to prevent the import of low-quality waste plastic and paper, some changes were made to the Industrial Wastes Required as Raw Materials for Industrial Use which came into force on 4 October 2018. New import requirements were added to waste plastic and waste paper. Types and forms of the aforesaid two waste materials are limited, and such wastes can only be imported and used by legal factories.



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