UTILITY REGULATORY AUTHORITY

# Waste Management Statistics

2024

# About us

The Utility Regulatory Authority (URA) serves as the national regulator for the energy, water, sanitation, and waste sectors. Its goal is to ensure reliable, sustainable, and affordable utility services.


**Key Functions:**

- Regulates energy, water, sanitation, and waste sectors to ensure efficient, sustainable service delivery.
- Develops and enforces technical and operational standards; monitors financial and technical compliance.
- Reviews and approves fair and transparent tariffs that balance affordability and financial sustainability.
- Tracks service quality through KPIs, audits, and regular evaluations.
- Promotes reforms, innovation, and improved service delivery across sectors.
- Collects and publishes sector data to promote accountability and informed decision-making.
- Facilitates collaboration between government, service providers, and consumers.

Through these roles, URA ensures utilities operate transparently and sustainably to support national development and public welfare.

# Waste Statistics 2024

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# Contents

# List of Abbreviations

| Abbreviation | Description |
|---|---|
| C&D Waste | Construction and Demolition Waste |
| MWSC | Male Water and Sewerage Company |
| RWMF | Regional Waste Management Facility |
| SEEA | System of Environmental Economic Accounting |
| URA | Utility Regulatory Authority |
| WAMCO | Waste Management Corporation |

# Key Findings from 2024

## Waste Generation

Approximately

**500,000** Tonnes of waste was generated in 2024

| Greater Male Area | Islands | Resorts |
|---|---|---|
| 43% | 45% | 12% |

Per Capita Waste Generation Rate for 2024 is

**2.88** kg/day

| 3.82 | 2.17 | 2.64 |
|---|---|---|
| Greater Male Area | Resorts | Islands |

## Waste Composition

**Top 3 categories**

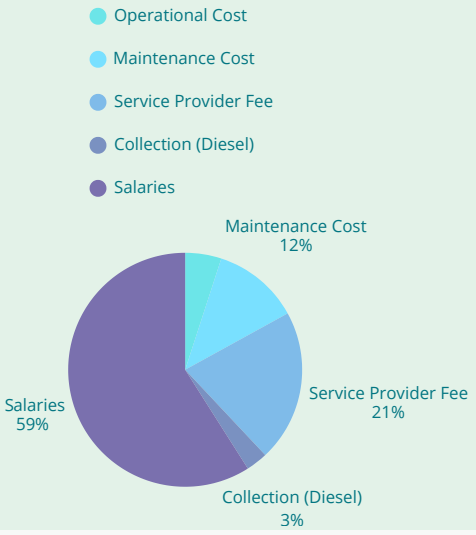
**33%** UNSEGREGATED

**29%** ORGANIC WASTE

**13%** PLASTICS

PAPER/CARDBOARD AND HAZARDOUS WASTE are the least reported categories

## Recurrent Cost for Waste Management




## Waste Offloaded to RWMF's

| | |
|---|---|
| **Thilafushi** | 266,000 Tonnes |
| **Vandoo** | 850 Tonnes |

## Waste Management Facility Compliance Rate

| Category | Compliance Rate (%) | Remarks |
|---|---|---|
| Design and Layout | 63% | Most facilities properly located and gated; limited signage and fencing issues. |
| Infrastructure & Waste Handling | 38% | Weak environmental controls; open burning common; poor leachate and odor management. |
| Staffing & Operations | 46% | Staff assigned but safety gear use and record-keeping inadequate. |
| Waste Collection Services | 38% | Collection services exist but vehicles lack proper coverage and control systems. |
| Treatment Type | 25% | Minimal composting and recycling; open burning remains dominant. |

## Waste Management Permits

In 2024 , a total of **28** temporary permits were active, comprising new issuances and permits carried over from the previous year

| 15 | 13 |
|---|---|
| Issued during the calendar year remain valid into 2025 | Carried over from 2023 |

# Introduction

The "Waste Statistics 2024" report presents an overview of waste generation, composition, regulatory compliance, cost of waste management services, and the future outlook for the regulation of the waste sector. This is the first report of its kind prepared by the URA and marks an important step toward improving waste data collection and management across the country.

The data on waste generation and composition in this report is primarily based on information reported by licensed waste service providers for the year 2024. Island-specific statistics were collected through a dedicated survey conducted in 2024 to support tariff development. Additionally, data on regulatory compliance has been compiled from inspections carried out by URA to assess service providers' adherence to relevant standards and requirements.

This report provides a brief snapshot of the current state of waste management in the Maldives. The findings highlight the urgent need for standardized data collection methods and harmonized reporting frameworks to ensure accuracy and comparability in future assessments. URA plans to publish this report annually to assess the quality of waste management service and support evidence-based decision-making, policy formulation, and improvements in the solid waste management sector.

# Data Sources and Methodology

This report draws on data from multiple key sources to provide a reliable overview of waste generation, service fees, operational costs, and regulatory compliance. While the data has been carefully collected and reviewed, some variations may exist due to reporting differences or limitations. Readers are encouraged to consider this when interpreting the findings.

| Data Source | Description | Data Provided | Notes/Comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| Permit Holder Reports | Monthly reports from licensed waste facility operators | Total waste volumes, breakdown by waste type | Includes R. Dhuvaafaru (MWSC), Six Senses Laamu, Outrigger Maafushivaru, Greater Malé Area (Malé, Villimalé, Hulhumalé, Thilafushi), Vandhoo RWMF (WAMCO) |
| Island Data Collection for Tariff Development | Targeted data collection by URA on smaller islands | Daily waste volumes (red bags), service fees, recurring costs | Islands with populations <5,000; councils submitted data; cleaned and filtered for completeness (Data of 31 Islands) |
| Reports of Existing Waste Management Systems at Resorts | Reports submitted to URA for approval | Monthly and daily waste generation figures | Covers resort waste management systems; (Data of 64 resorts) |
| Inspections and Licensing Statistics | Internal URA databases | Permit status, compliance, inspections, service provider performance | Provides operational and regulatory compliance context |

# Methodology

The following explains how national waste generation, cost, and compliance data were processed, analyzed, and estimated for 2024.

### Data Cleaning and Validation

All datasets were reviewed to remove duplicates, incomplete entries, and outliers.

### Data Processing and Estimation

#### a. Islands

For inhabited islands, average per capita waste generation rates were calculated using data from islands with available information (31 islands). These rates were applied to islands without data, based on population (resident population based on census 2022), to estimate total waste generation. R. Dhuvaafaru was treated separately, as detailed records were available.

- **Assumptions applied in island estimates:**

A standard waste bag was assumed to hold 3 to 5 kg of mixed waste, with an average of 4 kg per bag used when converting bag counts to weight. Continuous operations were assumed for all islands throughout the year. Population data from census were used to extrapolate estimates for islands without data.

#### b. Resorts

Resort waste generation was derived from analyzed and cleaned datasets submitted. Sixsenses Laamu and Outrigger Maafushivaru with detailed available records were treated separately. Average daily waste generation rate from available resorts (64 resorts) was applied to other resorts without data to estimate national totals.

#### c. Greater Malé Area

Data submitted by WAMCO were used for Malé, Hulhumalé, and Vilimalé

### Per Capita Waste Generation

Per capita waste generation was calculated for islands, and the Greater Malé Area using resident population and for resorts assuming 80% occupancy rate with waste generation data. These figures allow comparison of waste patterns between urban, small island settings, and tourism sectors.

### Cost and Fee Analysis

Waste management costs and service fees were analyzed using survey responses from islands. The analysis focused on islands with populations under 5,000, as these were the islands for which data were available on 2024 survey. Reported costs included monthly operational expenses, labor, equipment maintenance, and service provider fees. Average values were used to estimate the proportion of monthly recurrent cost of waste management for the country.

### Compliance Assessment

Compliance levels were evaluated using URA's internal inspection database. Findings from the inspections were compared against regulatory standards to determine the proportion of facilities meeting the requirements. Inspections are conducted annually based on the work plan

## Limitations

- Resort and residential island waste estimates were based on a limited number of resorts and islands with detailed data, which may not represent all locations across the Maldives.
- Actual occupancy rates and seasonal tourism variations and the variation in service standards were not considered in resort estimates. An occupancy rate of 80% was used for calculations to standardize waste generation estimates across resorts.
- Calculations assumed full-year operations, without accounting for temporary closures or service interruptions in case of tourist resorts.
- Some island data were incomplete or missing; population-based extrapolations were used for missing data.
- Waste data represent the year 2024, while population figures used for calculations are based on the resident population from the 2022 Census.
- A uniform per capita waste generation rate was applied for islands without data, although actual consumption behavior and resource use may vary between communities.
- Differences in waste composition between resorts, residential islands, and urban areas were not separately analyzed.
- Minor variations may exist due to differences in reporting methods or human error in recordkeeping.

# Legal and Regulatory Framework for the URA Waste Sector

## Utility Regulatory Authority Act (Law No. 26/2020)

The URA Act, enacted in 2020, establishes the authority as the independent regulator for public utility services, including water, sewerage, and waste management. Under this law, URA is tasked with:

- Licensing utility service providers.
- Setting and enforcing technical and service quality standards.
- Monitoring performance and customer service.
- Approving tariff structures to ensure fair and sustainable pricing.
- Protecting consumer rights and ensuring transparency in service delivery.
- This Act forms the basis for URA's jurisdiction over waste management as a regulated utility service.

## Waste Management Act (Law No. 24/2022)

The Waste Management Act, ratified in December 2022, further clarifies the role of URA in regulating waste-related services. Key provisions include:

- Recognizing waste management as a utility service requiring regulation and licensing.
- Mandating URA oversight of service providers, and private contractors.
- Establishing coordinated responsibilities between URA, the Ministry and the Environmental regulatory Authority
- Requiring compliance with service standards, infrastructure guidelines, and performance reporting.

The Act empowers URA to enforce service quality, economic efficiency, and environmental safety in waste management operations.

**Institutional Roles**

Waste Management in the Maldives is governed by a multi-tired structure involving national and local institutions


## Waste Management Service Registration and Billing Regulation (2023/R-115)

This regulation, issued in 2023, sets clear rules for registration requirements, billing procedures for licensed waste management service providers under URA's licensing framework

## Technical Standards and Guidelines

**Design Guidelines for Waste Management Facilities (URA 3003:2023)**
These guidelines provide technical standards for the design of waste management facilities, including transfer stations, disposal sites, and waste-to-energy plants. They cover safety, environmental safeguards, accessibility, and infrastructure specifications.

## Licensing Framework

In the absence of finalized regulations under the Waste Management Act (Law No. 24/2022), specifically those related to licensing, registration, and operational compliance, URA currently issues temporary permits for waste management service providers under the provisions of the URA Act (Law No. 26/2020).

These temporary permits:

- Are issued for a period of one year;
- Details out compliance conditions and service standards for the permit holders;
- Serve as an interim regulatory measure to enable the continued provision of essential waste management services while ensuring basic oversight and accountability.

This temporary licensing framework ensures that service continuity is maintained during the transition to a more comprehensive, legally grounded regulatory system. The Ministry of Tourism and Environment is in the process of development of the full licensing and registration regulations under the Waste Management Act. Once enacted, all service providers will be required to transition from temporary permits to full licenses in accordance with the new legal provisions.

# Waste Generation

## Waste Generated in 2024

In 2024, total waste nationwide exceeded half a million tonnes. The Greater Malé Area contributed about 43%, resorts 12%, and other islands around 45% of the waste generated.


**45%**
Islands

**43%**
Greater Male Area

**12%**
Resorts

### COMPARISON WITH WASTE GENERATION OVER THE YEARS.

In 2024, waste generation in the Maldives was estimate to be approximately 517,560.84 tons. This figure is significantly higher than previous national estimates, such as the 365,000 tons projected in the 2018–2019 SEEA-based National Waste Accounts and the 365,000 to 400,000 tons outlined in the 2022 D9 Waste Audit Report

| Source | Year | Estimated Total Waste (Tonnes) |
|---|---|---|
| 2024 Data | 2024 | 517,560.84 |
| D9 Waste Audit Report (ICAT) 2022 | 2022 | 365,000 – 400,000 |
| Maldives National Waste Accounts (SEEA) 2018-2019 | 2018-2019 | ~365,000 |

## Waste Offloaded to Regional Waste Management Facilities (RWMFs) in 2024

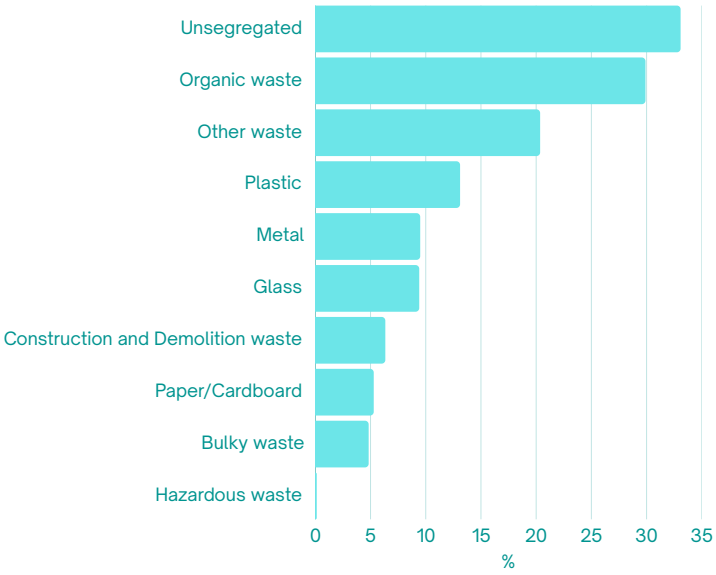
In 2024, about 267,279 tons of waste were offloaded to RWMF's. Among this 99.6% of the waste was received by Thilafushi, while Vandhoo handled 0.4%. This gap reflects historical reliance on Thilafushi as the final disposal site and operational limitations at Vandhoo.

| Location | Tonnes Offloaded |
|---|---|
| Thilafushi | 266,429 |
| Vandhoo | 850 |
| Total | 232,906.36 |

### Unaccounted Waste in 2024

An estimated 45% of the total waste generated in 2024 was transferred to regional facilities for management. The rest is unaccounted or locally managed waste through practices such as open burning, on-site disposal, or informal handling.

## Waste Composition in 2024

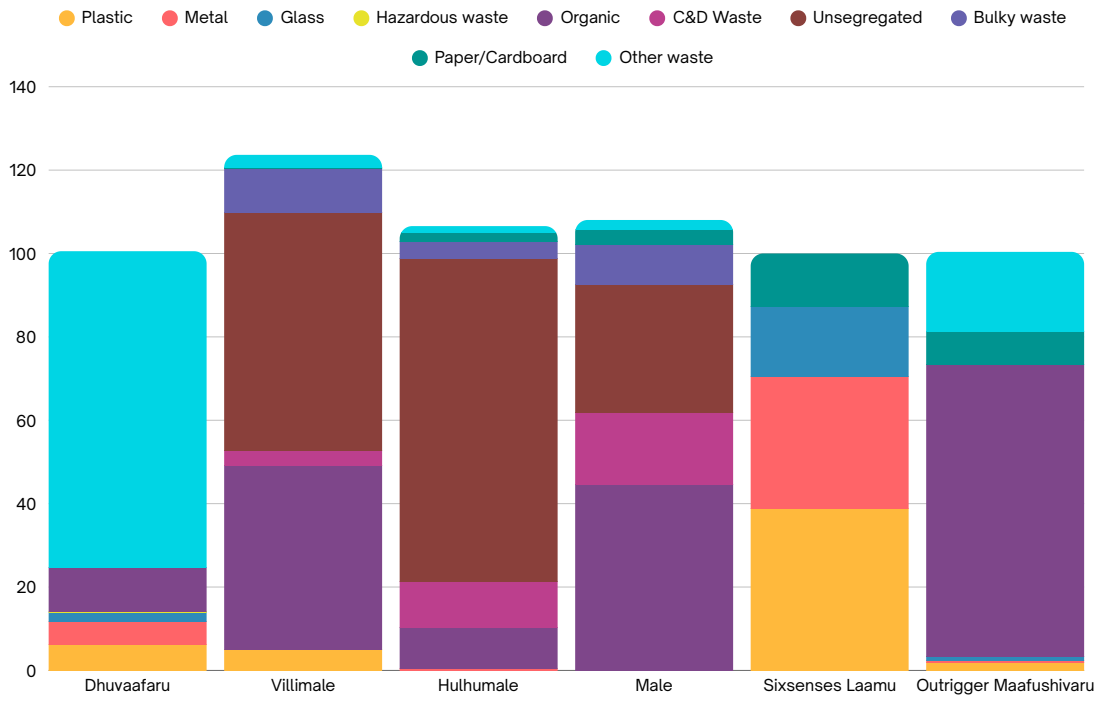



The waste composition data for 2024 shows that unsegregated waste and organic waste make up the largest portions of the total waste generated. Plastic, metal, and glass also contribute significantly. Smaller fractions include construction and demolition waste, paper and cardboard, and bulky waste. Hazardous waste represents only a minor share, while other waste includes miscellaneous materials not classified under the main categories.

Note: The percentages for each waste category are calculated as averages across multiple locations. As a result, the sum of these average percentages may not equal exactly 100% due to independent averaging of each category and rounding. This is a common occurrence in multi-site data analysis and does not affect the overall interpretation of the waste composition trends.

## Waste Composition by Location

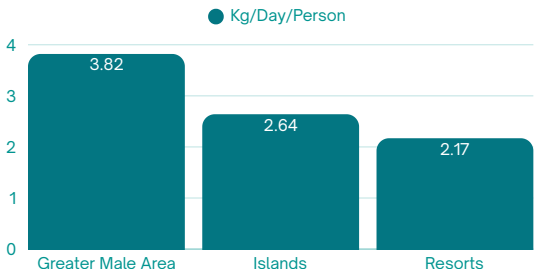
Six Senses Laamu shows strong waste segregation with high recyclables. The Greater Malé Area - Malé (31%), Villimale' (57%), and Hulhumale' (77%) has high unsegregated portion of waste, showing need for improvement. Dhuvaafaru has mostly mixed ("Other") and organic waste. Outrigger Maafushivaru has a high percentage of Organic Waste (70%). Hazardous waste is minimal. Overall, the data reflects national waste trends but needs more data for further verification.



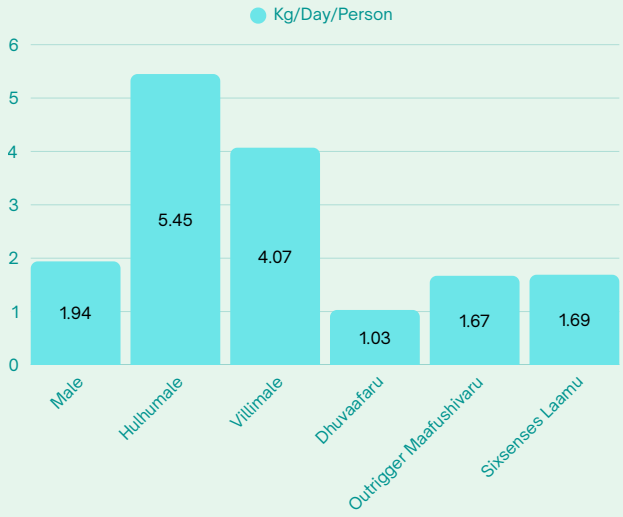

Note: The locations included in the above chart are those that have reported data under their waste management permits in 2024

## Per capita waste generation

The Greater Malé Area, including Malé City, Hulhumalé, and Villimalé produces the highest waste at 3.82 kg per person per day, followed by inhabited islands with 2.64 kg, and resorts with 2.17 kg. This shows higher waste generation in urban areas compared to islands and resorts, likely due to population density and lifestyle differences




### Per Capita Waste Generation Rate by location



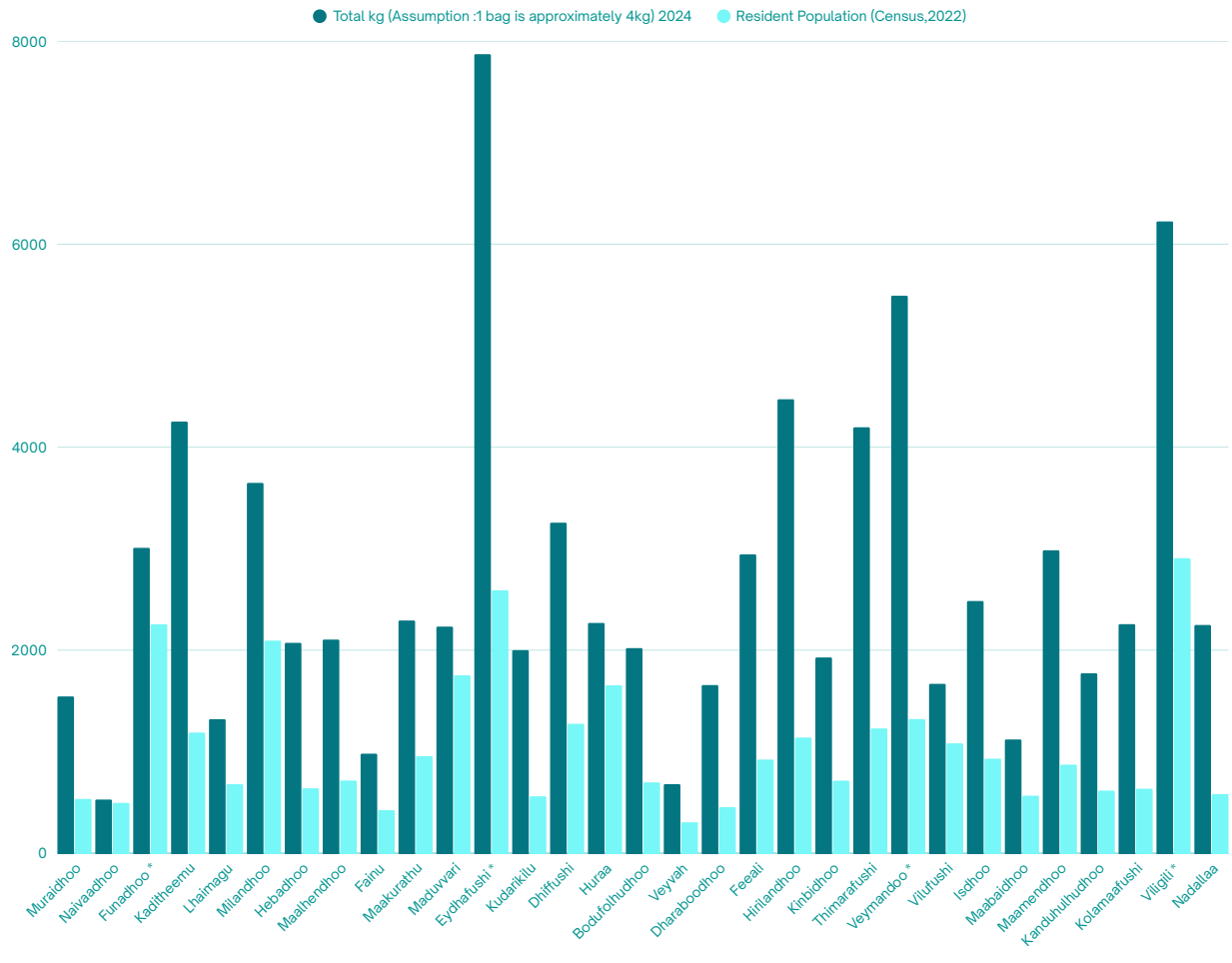

The data shows per capita waste generation in specific locations of the Maldives. Among the urban areas, Hulhumalé has the highest waste generation at 5.45 kg per person per day, followed by Villimalé at 4.07 kg and Malé at 1.94 kg. On the islands, Dhuvaafaru produces 1.03 kg, while the resorts Outrigger Maafushivaru and Six Senses Laamu generate 1.67 kg and 1.69 kg per person per day, respectively. The population data used for this analysis is based on the resident population from the 2022 Census for inhabited islands and an 80% occupancy rate for resorts.

## Monlthy Breakdown of Waste Generation in 2024

| Location | Monthly Average (Kg) |
|---|---|
| Male | 14,427,338.46 |
| Hulhumale | 10,438,316.67 |
| Villimale | 801,129.17 |
| Dhuvaafaru | 102,740.83 |
| Sixsenses Laamu | 29,489 |
| Outrigger Maafushivaru | 21,833.55 |

Malé records the highest average monthly waste generation among the assessed locations, followed by Hulhumalé. This trend is consistent with the higher population density, extensive commercial activities, and institutional operations concentrated in these urban areas. Villimalé shows a moderate level of waste generation, reflecting its smaller residential population. In contrast, residential islands such as Dhuvaafaru and resort islands such as Six Senses Laamu and Maafushivaru generate comparatively smaller quantities of waste, which can be attributed to lower population levels and restricted development areas.

## Daily Waste Generated in Residential Islands




*Atoll capitals

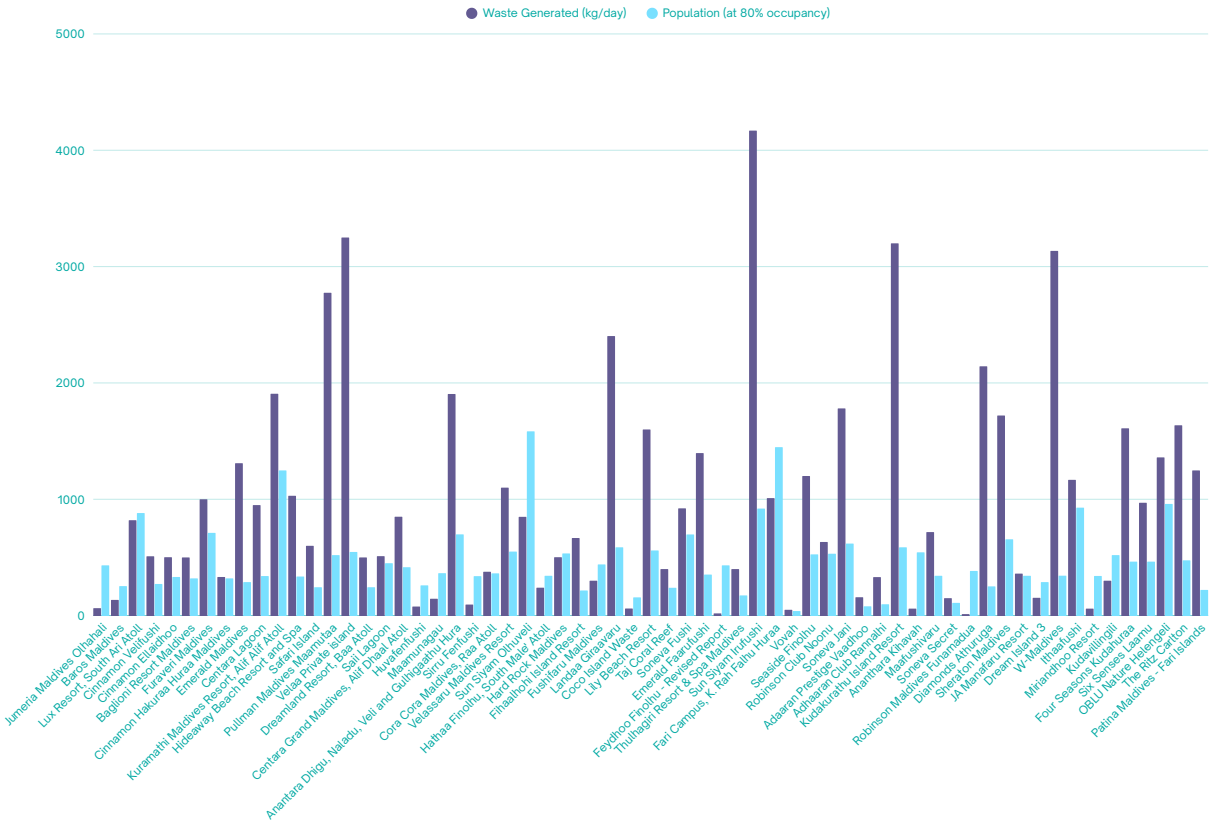
Note: The data included in the above chart is from estimates reported (islands with population <5000) during the survey conducted for tariff development 2024

The data shows a clear link between island population size and the total weight of collected waste. Islands with larger populations generally report higher daily waste generation, reflecting greater consumption of resources. Major contributors include B. Eydhafushi (7,872 kg) and Ga. Viligili (6,224 kg), which are among the most populous and serve as key service and logistics hubs.

Atoll capitals consistently report higher figures, reflecting their administrative roles and service concentration. Although this trend is seen across most islands, outliers indicate possible local variations in consumption or reporting accuracy, emphasizing the need for further review and data standardization.

## Daily Waste Generated at Resorts

Daily waste generation across Maldivian resorts ranges from 13 kg/day to 4,169 kg/day, with a median of approximately 718 kg/day, showing a wide variation in waste production. While waste generally increases with resort population, variations are observed. Some smaller resorts produce relatively low waste, whereas some mid-sized resorts generate higher waste, likely due to luxury operations, intensive guest services, or operational practices. Larger resorts produce very high total waste, reflecting both higher guest and staff capacity and intensive resort services. The population considered in this analysis refers to 80% occupancy of the maximum staff and guest capacity, not the actual daily occupancy, providing a standardized basis for comparison across resorts.

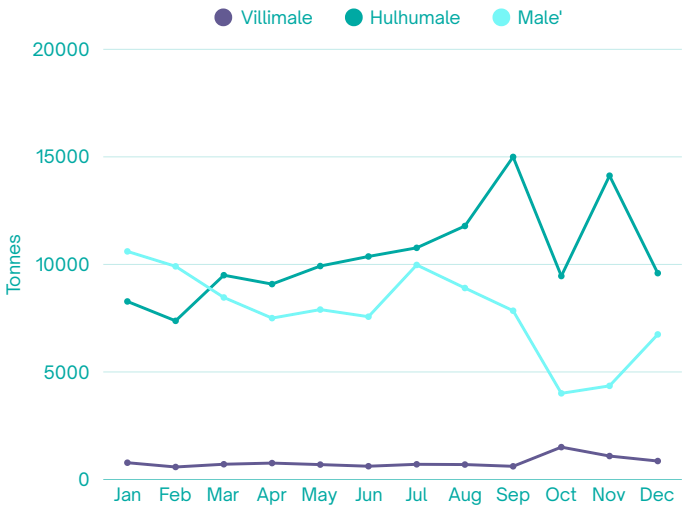



Note: The data included in the above chart is from waste management reports submitted by resorts in 2024

## Monthly Waste Generation Trends (2024)

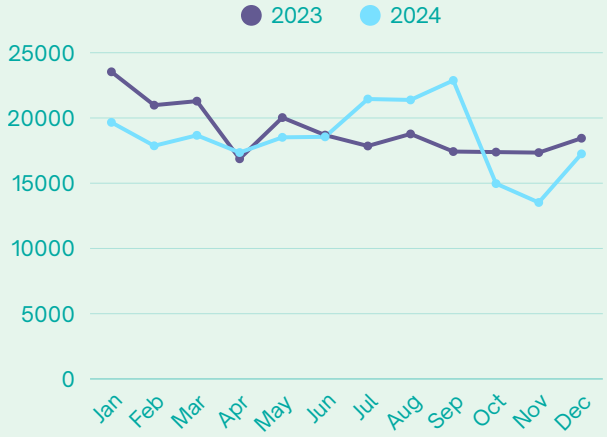
### Greater Male Area

Monthly data shows that Hulhumalé's waste generation generally increases toward September before slightly declining. Malé shows moderate variation, with higher values early in the year and a drop around October–November. Villimalé remains low throughout the year, with a small rise in October. Overall, Hulhumalé displays the most fluctuation, while Villimalé stays steady at low levels.




**MONTHLY TRENDS IN WASTE GENERATION IN GREATER MALE AREA - COMPARISON WITH 2023**

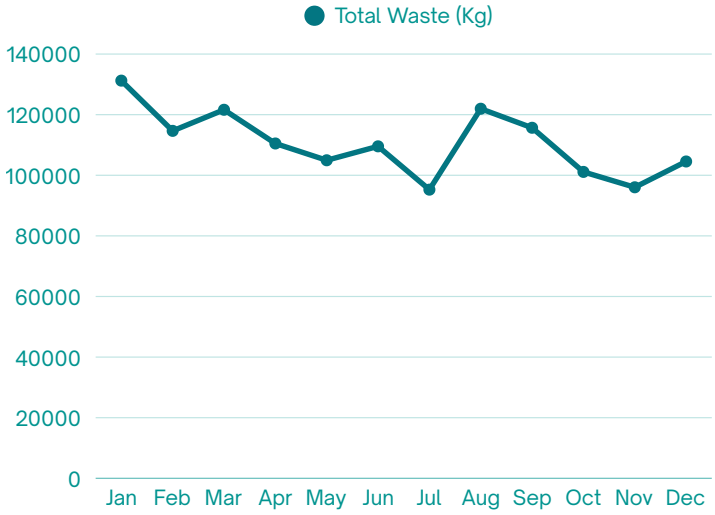
A comparison of monthly waste generation in the Greater Malé Area shows that in 2024, most months recorded higher waste than in 2023, particularly from July to September, where 2024 peaked at 22,877 tonnes compared to 17,427 tonnes in 2023.



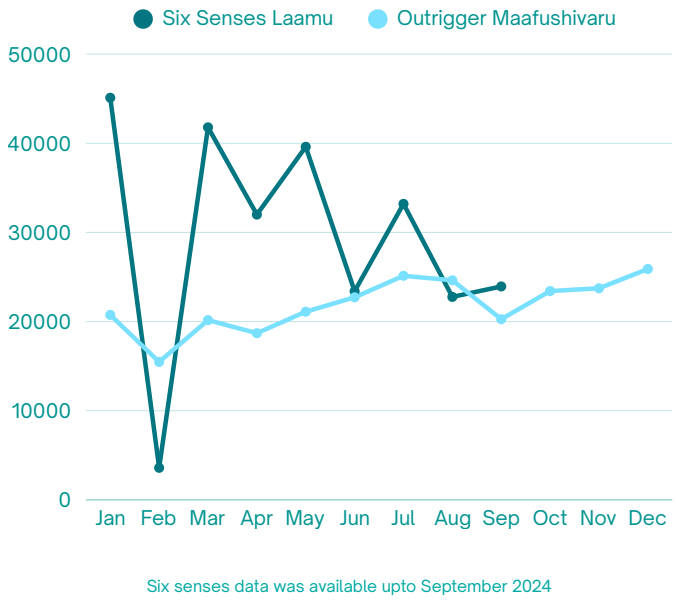

Early-year months like January–March and late-year months like October–November were slightly lower or similar. Overall, 2024 shows an increase in waste generation compared to 2023, with mid-year peaks more pronounced.

## R. Dhuvaafaru

In 2024, Dhuvaafaru recorded the highest amount of waste in January (131,231 kg) and the lowest in July (95,256 kg). Waste levels were higher in the first quarter and rose again in August (121,958 kg). Lower volumes in July and November suggest possible seasonal or activity-based variations. Overall, monthly waste ranged moderately between 95,000 and 131,000 kg.




## Resorts




Six senses data was available upto September 2024

The 2024 monthly waste data show that Six Senses Laamu generally produces more waste and fluctuates widely, peaking in January (45,104 kg). Outrigger Maafushivaru generates 15,000–26,000 kg monthly, showing a steadier pattern. Sixsesnes laamu has a higher total bed capacity (580) than Outrigger Maafushivaru (428). However, occupancy data is not available to relate it to the waste generation

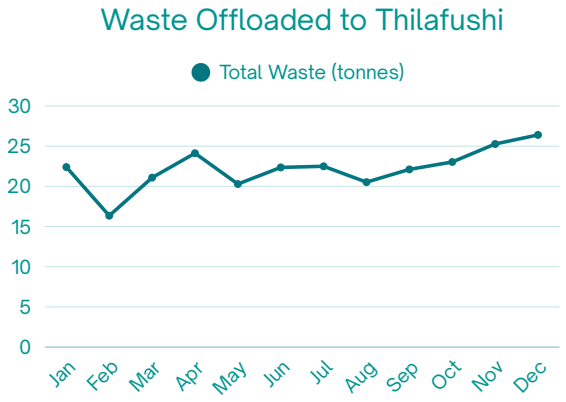
Both resorts follow a similar seasonal trend, with lower waste early in the year and higher waste mid to late year corresponding to the peak season for tourism.

## Waste Offloaded to Regional Waste Management Facilities

Waste was consistently offloaded to Thilafushi at a significantly larger volume throughout the year, averaging around 20,000 tons per month and totaling around 266,00 tons annually.

In contrast, Vandhoo handled a much smaller amount, averaging just around 71 tons per month and totalling around 850 tons for the year. Waste offloaded at Vandhoo at the beginning of the year was 25 tons in January and February, then a marked increase was seen from March onward, eventually stabilizing at approximately 87.5 tons per month from June through December.

Overall, the data underscores Thilafushi's role as the primary waste management site, while Vandhoo appears to have expanded its capacity or operational role during the second half of the year.





Note: Vandhoo's monthly waste values were reported in ranges (e.g., 0–25, 50–75, 75–100 tonnes). For this analysis, the midpoints of the ranges were used to calculate averages, so actual values may be higher or lower than shown.

# Compliance

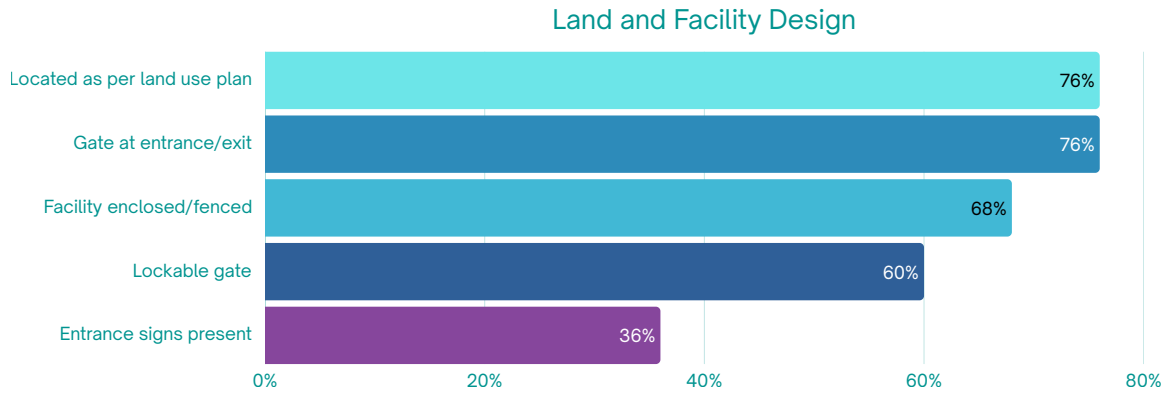
## Inspections of Waste Management Systems

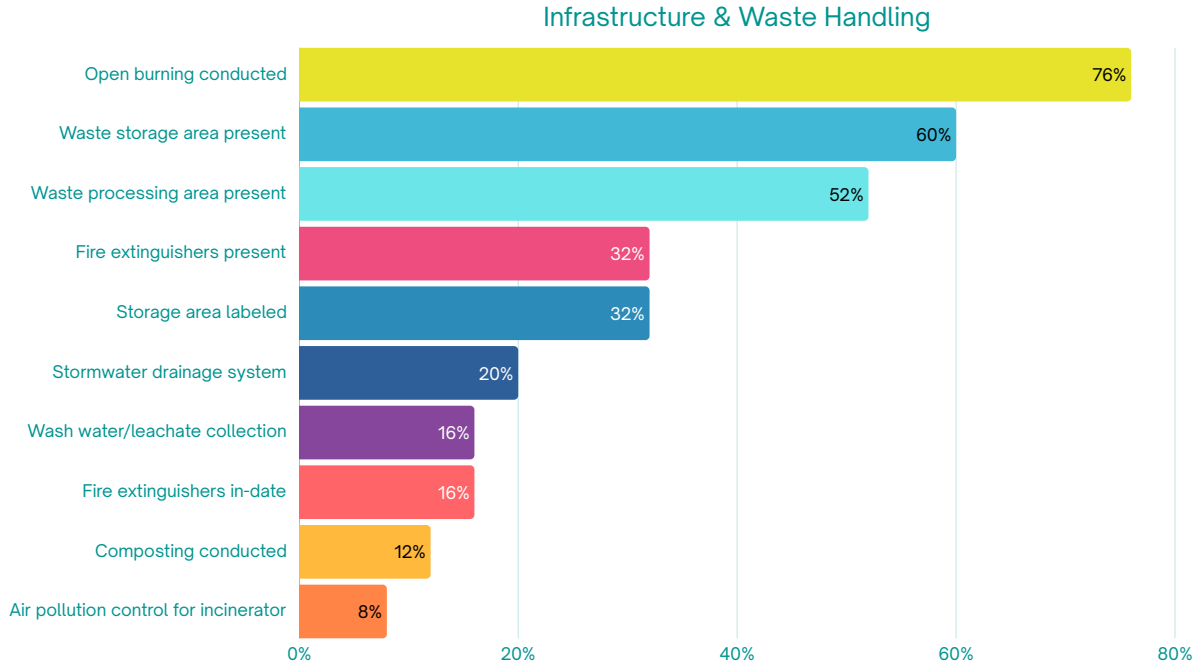
As part of the annual workplan, a selection of islands across various atolls is designated for inspection each year. This selection prioritizes atolls that have not been previously visited to ensure comprehensive coverage. In 2024, 18 residential islands across 6 atolls were inspected.

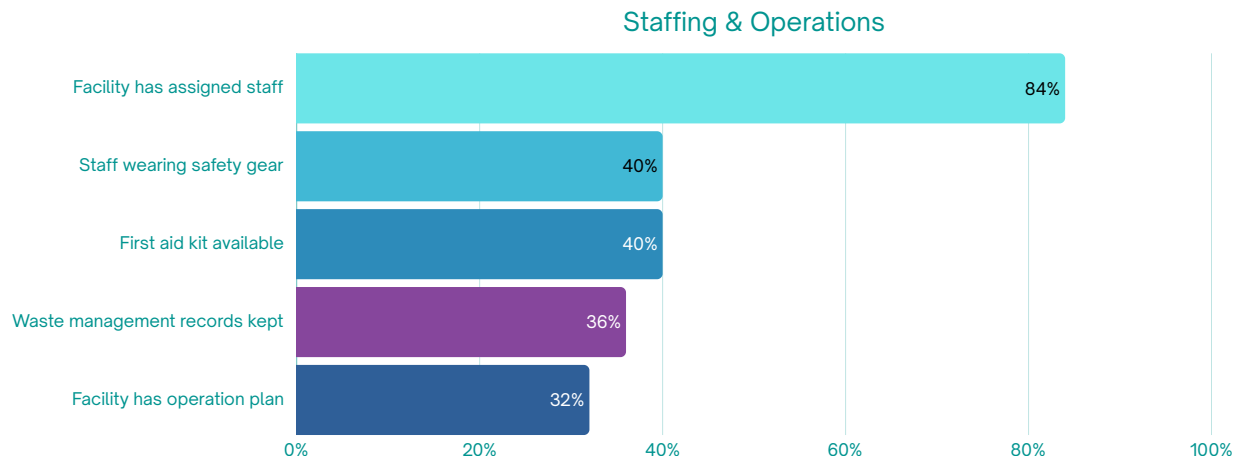
Post-inspection, detailed reports were compiled and formally communicated to the respective operators. These reports highlighted key findings and outlined specific areas requiring corrective action to align with regulatory standards and operational best practices.

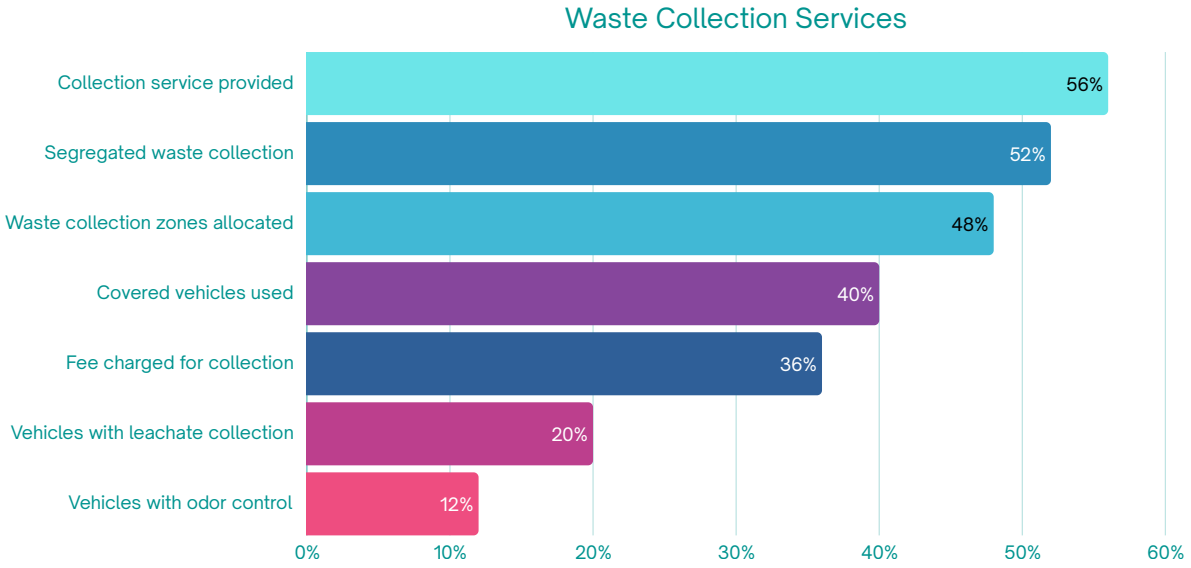
## Key findings from Inspections

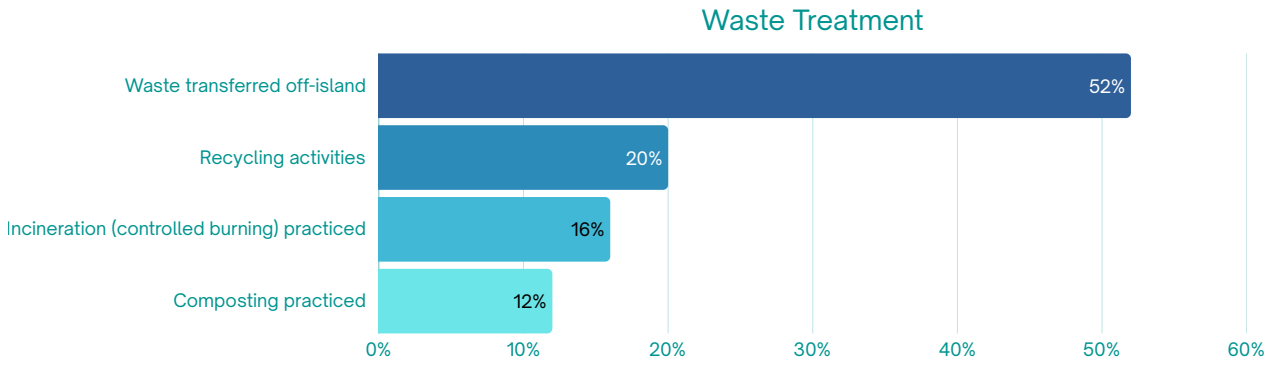
The following charts show the compliance rates of the inspected facilities.




Staffing & Operations
Facility has assigned staff
84%
Staff wearing safety gear
40%
First aid kit available
40%
Waste management records kept
36%
Facility has operation plan
32%
0%
20%
40%
60%
80%
100%


Waste Collection Services
Collection service provided
56%
Segregated waste collection
52%
Waste collection zones allocated
48%
Covered vehicles used
40%
Fee charged for collection
36%
Vehicles with leachate collection
20%
Vehicles with odor control
12%
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%


Waste Treatment
Waste transferred off-island
52%
Recycling activities
20%
Incineration (controlled burning) practiced
16%
Composting practiced
12%
0%
10%
20%
30%
40%
50%
60%

## Common Issues Identified from Inspections

The inspection uncovered several recurring issues across the islands in 2024.

- Nearly half of the inspected locations, about 48% were found to dispose of food waste directly into the sea, posing environmental concerns.
- Around 40% of islands practiced open burning of waste, which can contribute to air pollution and public health.
- Space constraints were reported at roughly 32% of the facilities, limiting proper waste handling and expansion opportunities.
- The most widespread problem was the lack or malfunction of essential machinery, affecting approximately 72% of the islands, which significantly hampers effective waste processing and management.

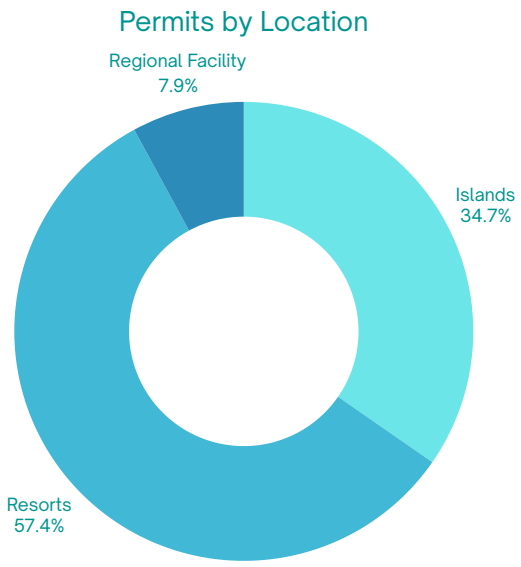
## Licensing

As per the current licensing framework highlighted in Section 3, temporary permits were issued to 15 parties to manage waste in 2024.

In 2024, a total of 28 temporary permits were active, comprising new issuances and permits carried over from the previous year. Of these, 15 permits (54%) were issued during the calendar year and remain valid into 2025. The remaining 13 permits (46%) originated from 2023, 8 issued in the first half and 5 in the latter half.

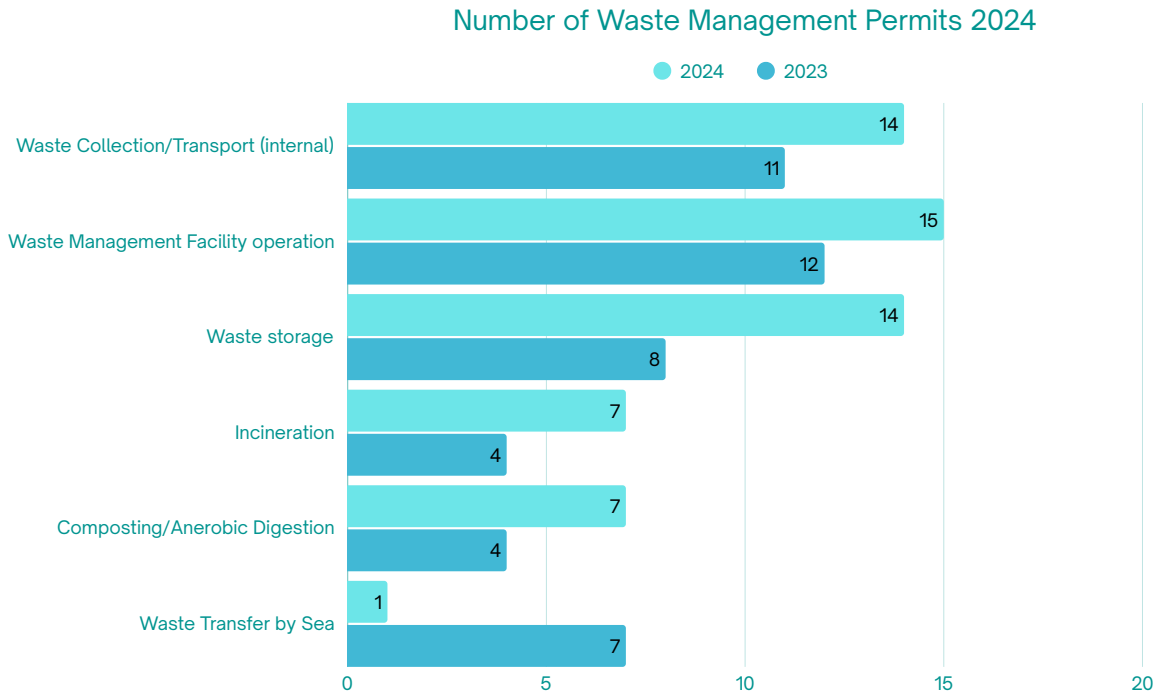
| Source of Permit | Number of Permits | Validity Period | Comments |
|---|---|---|---|
| Issued January–June 2023 | 8 | Expires early 2024 | Carried over from previous year |
| Issued June–December 2023 | 5 | Expires mid–late 2024 | Carried over from previous year |
| Issued January–December 2024 | 15 | Expires in 2025 | Newly issued throughout the year |
| **Total Active in 2024** | **28** | Throughout 2024 | Includes overlapping validity periods |

Out of the 28 active temporary permits in 2024, the majority were issued to resorts (15 permits). Islands accounted for 9 permits. The major 2 regional facilities had active permits until early 2024 and have been renewed in early 2025.



## Permitted Waste Management Activities

Permits for internal collection/transport, facility operation, and storage increased significantly, reflecting operational expansion and improved regulatory compliance. Incineration and composting saw a notable rise, suggesting greater adoption of waste treatment technologies and the improved regulatory compliance by resorts where these activities are typically conducted.




# Waste Management Fee

This section presents findings from data collected to support the development of a standardized waste collection tariff system. The dataset shows the range of fees currently charged across different islands and property categories. The minimum and maximum values represent the lowest and highest rates taken, not standardized charges. For example, household waste collection fees range from  MVR 50 to 200

| Monthly Waste Management Fee | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Category** | **Maximum fee (MVR)** | **Minimum fee (MVR)** |
| Households with Residents | 200 | 50 |
| Households without residents | 200 | 0 |
| Empy plots | 200 | 0 |
| Shops | 500 | 100 |
| Hardware Shop | 150 | 50 |
| Furniture Shop | 150 | 50 |
| Café/Restuarent/Food preparation business | 500 | 50 |
| Guest Houses/City Hotels | 800 | 50 |
| Warehouses and Storage Areas | 800 | 50 |
| Workshops and Garages/Carpentries | 650 | 50 |
| Pharmacies | 2000 | 150 |
| Government Offices/Schools/Mosques/Utilities Office | 2000 | 150 |
| Hospitals/Health Facilities | 2000 | 150 |
| Utility Buildings | 2000 | 50 |
| Land given to Communication Services | 1000 | 50 |
| Parks/Public areas/Sports & Recreational areas | 1000 | 50 |
| Empty Plots Reserved for Institutions | 2000 | 50 |
| Private Offices/Institutions | 650 | 50 |
| Fish Factory/Fish Markets/Fish Procesing areas/Other | 1250 | 50 |
| Agricultural Plots | 1000 | 50 |
| Boat Yards | 1500 | 50 |
| Emply Plots Reserved for Industrial Use | 1000 | 50 |
| Gate Fee at the waste management facility | 200 | 50 |

## Approved Waste Management Fees

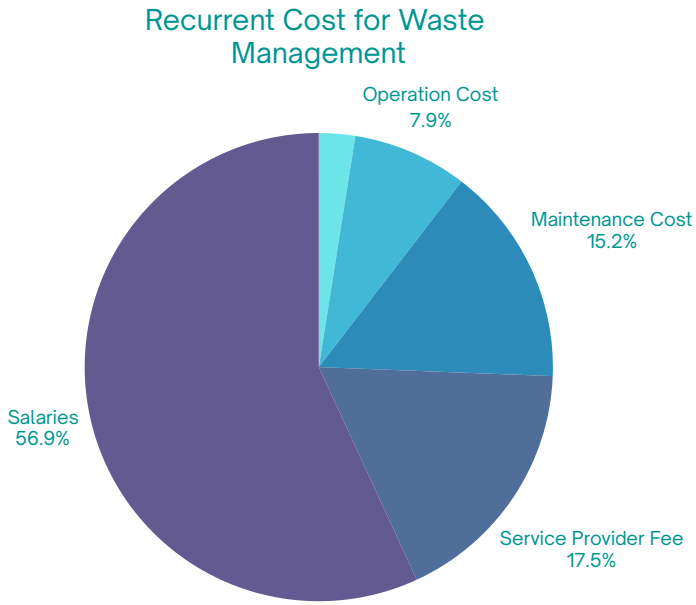
The fee structures presented below have been approved for the islands of N. Magoodhoo (approved in 2024) and Lh. Hinnavaru (approved in 2025) following a detailed analysis of the financial data they submitted in support of their proposed waste management charges.

These rates represent the maximum allowable fees that can be charged for the waste collection services. Both the councils were given approval to set their actual charges at any amount not exceeding these approved rates. As of the date of this report, only two islands have received formal approval for their waste management fee structures

| Category/Item | Monthly Fee (in MVR) |
|---|---|
| Waste from households | 150 |
| Individual houses | 150 |
| Apartments | 150 |
| Restaurants, Cafes, Small Hotels | 1000 |
| Guesthouses | 1000 |
| Canteens & Workshops | 500 |
| Parks, Public Spaces | 200 |
| Mosques | 150 |
| Other Religious Centers | 150 |
| Madrasa & School Parks | 150 |
| Government Offices | 1000 |
| Government Institutions (Islands) | 1200 |
| SOE Offices and Sites | 2000 |
| Construction Waste (per trip) | 200 |
| Green Waste from Gardening (per trip) | 150 |
| Furniture & Large Waste (per trip) | 150 |
| From pickup vehicles (per trip) | 150 |
| From carts (per trip) | 50 |
| From wheelbarrows (per trip) | 25 |
| After 30 days delay – Late fee (per bill) | 5 |

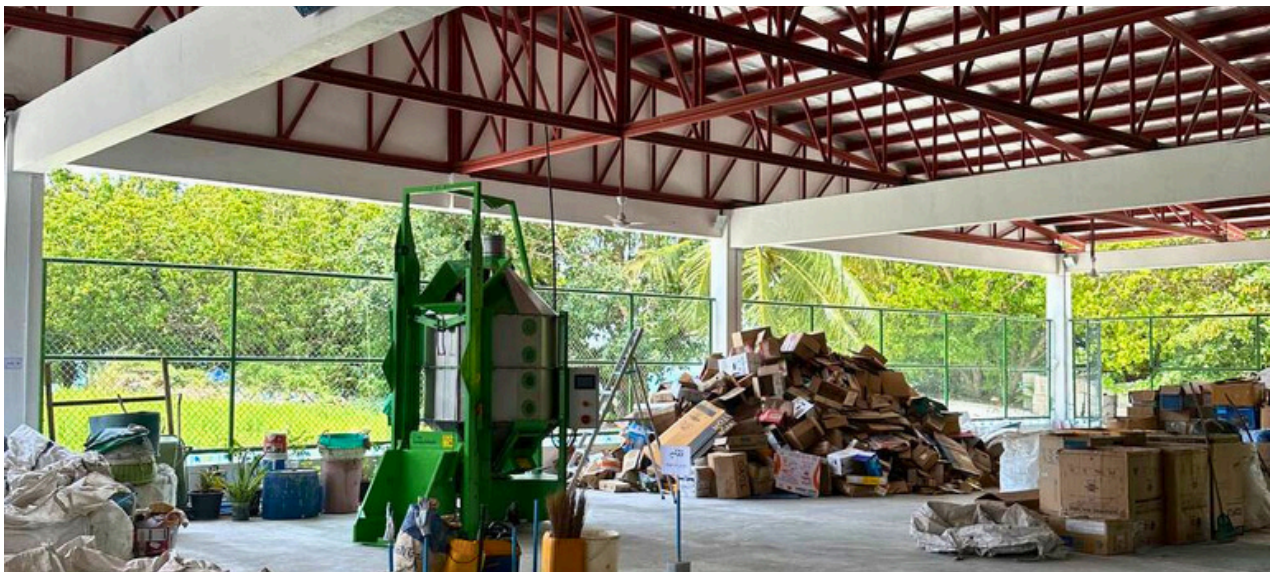
# Cost of waste management

The monthly recurrent costs of waste management services across Maldivian islands fall into five main categories. Collection costs, mainly from diesel use for transport vehicles, average MVR 5,539 per month. Operation costs for utilities and cleaning supplies total about MVR 17,565. Maintenance costs for vehicles, equipment, and infrastructure average MVR 33,567. Service provider fees, applicable to islands using external contractors, average MVR 38,755. Salaries are the largest expense at around MVR 125,834 per month, covering staff for collection, driving, sorting, finance, and administration.



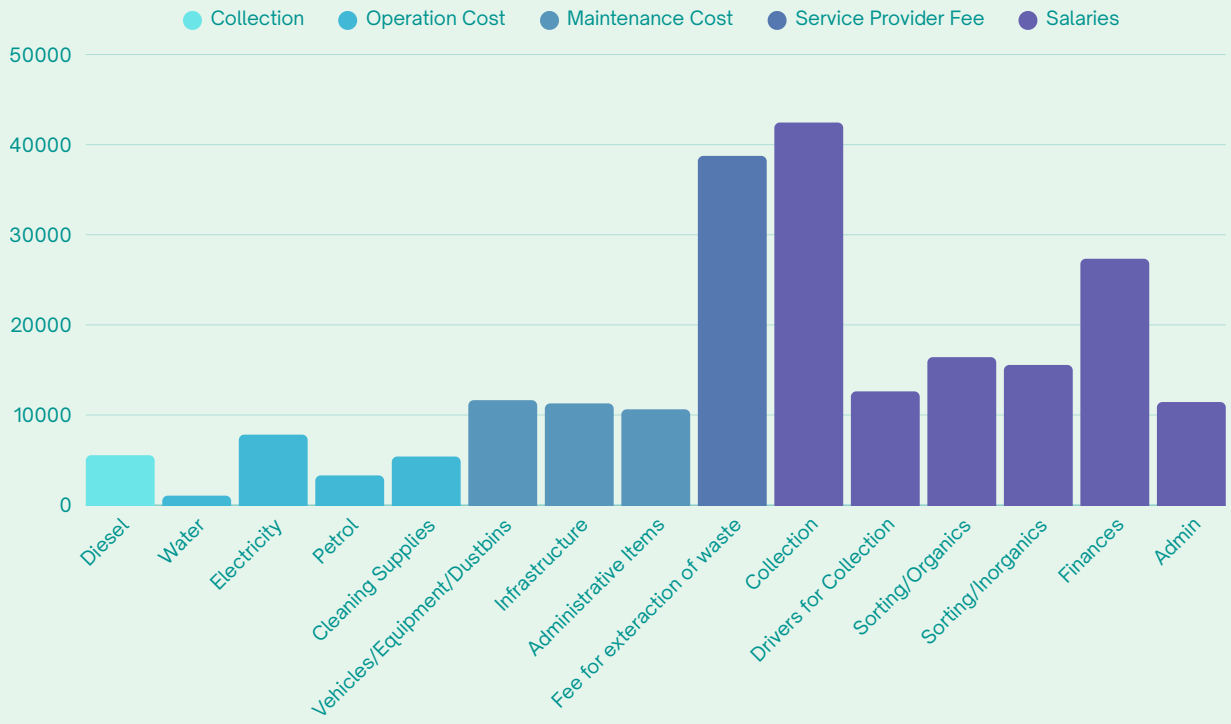

Note: This data is collected through the survey conducted in 2024 for tariff development. The data represents the cost for residential islands with population <5000

Overall, salaries and outsourced service fees are the major cost components reflecting the critical role of human resources and external support in sustaining island-based waste management systems.



## COST BREAKDOWN

Salaries are the largest expense, with finance and collection staff contributing significant portions of total salary costs. Service provider fees for waste extraction represent a major standalone expense, forming a substantial share of the total budget. Maintenance costs are spread across vehicles, infrastructure, and administrative items, with vehicles/equipment/dustbins accounting for the largest share within the category. Operational costs are smaller in comparison, with electricity representing the highest portion of that category. Overall, the trend shows that human resources and outsourced services dominate monthly costs



# Outlook

URA envisions a stronger and more accountable regulatory environment for the waste management sector over the coming years. Drawing on the data and insights presented in the 2024 Waste Statistics Report, URA aims to strengthen evidence-based decision-making, enhance monitoring systems, standardize service quality, and ensure regulatory compliance among licensed waste service providers.

## Key Outlook Highlights (2025-2027)

### Highlight 1

Transition to permanent licensing once regulations under the Waste Management Act are finalized.

### Highlight 2

Implementation of standardized data collection and digital reporting for all licensed operators.

### Highlight 3

Development and approval of cost-reflective tariff structures across islands and sectors.

### Highlight 4

Collaboration with councils and private operators to ensure adherence to service standards.

### Highlight 5

Promotion of awareness programs to strengthen public and operator compliance.

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