

ALDI GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND FOOD WASTE REPORTING **PUBLIC METHODOLOGY STATEMENT**

The methodology outlined below is used to calculate the total tonnes of food wasted as a percentage of food handled in our GREAT BRITAIN & IRELAND operations for the full calendar years of 2017 to 2021. The baseline year for Aldi's food waste reporting is 2017. Aldi signed up to the Courtauld 2030 agreement to reduce food waste, and 2017 was the first full year of reported food waste.

The information provided is in conformance with the [Food Loss and Waste Accounting Standard \(FLW Standard\)](#) and the [IGD WRAP Food Waste reduction Roadmap reporting guidelines](#).

Scope

- 'Food' refers to all food intended for human consumption (i.e. excluding pet food). As a general rule, non-food products are excluded. A full list of commodity groups included in our food waste figures can be found in Appendix One.
- Packaging weight is excluded from our food waste figures.
- Food donated to charitable organisations is not classed as waste and is therefore excluded from our food waste figures.
- RDC food donations are not recorded in GB food donations figures as numbers are currently negligible and all donations are based on estimated weights.
- The scope of the food waste intensity calculation covers food waste arising only from our direct operations (Stores and Regional Distribution Centres) in Great Britain and Ireland.
- Food waste arising at our suppliers' sites and from third party logistics providers is not included.
- Food that is rejected during the Quality Control process due to it being outside of Aldi's agreed specification with the supplier, are also excluded.
- Emergency Withdrawals are excluded from Aldi's food waste figures, as these are treated as supplier waste.
- Food waste that has not been redistributed via our food surplus partners is sent to Anaerobic Digestion.

Data Sources

- **Food waste (Store and Regional Distribution Centre waste):** this data contains the number of product units wasted and the total units wasted per product. This includes:
 - Damaged food products that cannot be sold.
 - Products that reach their 'Best Before' or 'Use By' date.
 - Products that are not suitable for sale for another reason, i.e. quality issues.
- **Sales data:** to perform the food wastage intensity calculation, sales data is used to calculate food waste as a percentage of all food handled. This is extracted from our reporting system, which ultimately comes from transactions at the tills in our Stores.
- **Product weight data:** this dataset contains the contents weight of each product and does not include the packaging weight. The source of product weight data is from suppliers who inform us of the weight of each product.
- **Food donations data:** this dataset contains data provided by our charity partners, Neighbourly (Great Britain) and FoodCloud (Ireland). Preceding these partnerships, Aldi Regional Distribution Centres and other charity partners provided data for historic food donations. Details of commodity groups that are donatable are included in Appendix Two.

Methodology

1. The number of units wasted per product is converted into a weight measured in tonnes by multiplying the number of units of waste by per unit weight as recorded in the dataset. Where each item of a product has a slightly different weight, known as 'random weight' products (e.g. some Fresh Meats), the weight of each item is coded into the barcode and added up individually to determine the total wasted weight for the specific product.
2. The total wastage tonnages for each product are added up to obtain a total wastage tonnage for each food category.
3. Category waste tonnages are added to obtain a total waste tonnage for our entire GB & IE operations.
4. The calculation of donations data is performed by our food redistribution partners and submitted to Aldi each month in meals donated to charities that is converted into tonnage by multiplying by 0.00042. These donation tonnages are then subtracted at the end from Aldi's food waste figures.
5. Sales data is extracted from the system for each year and tonnages are calculated by multiplying the unit weight of each product sold by the number of units sold.

Chiller breakdown waste: during the years 2017-2020, products wasted from chiller breakdowns were recorded on a waste memo type that included products outside of the scope of food waste reporting. Where possible, out of scope items have been excluded.

Produce quality: during 2021, fruit and vegetables were recorded on a waste memo type that included products outside of the scope of food waste reporting. For 2021, we have deemed all fruit and vegetable on this memo type to be food waste.

Missing weights: a small % of products remain with missing weights in our systems. For these products, estimated weights have been used to allow an estimated total waste tonnage for each product with a missing weight. The estimated weight for the product is calculated by creating a 'sub-commodity group average' weight, which is an average using all other weights available in the sub-commodity group. Where a sub-commodity average is not possible due to lack of data, either the commodity group average is used or the weight of a similar product. The estimated sold and wastage tonnages for these products are added to our final food waste and food sold figures.

Food waste compared to food handled (food waste intensity)

We express our food waste intensity as a percentage of the total product handled by Aldi. Therefore, the following calculation is used:

Tonnes of food waste (tonnes of food surplus - tonnes of food redistributed)

Tonnes of food product sold + tonnes of food waste + tonnes of food redistributed

The sales food weight is measured using the same method for food waste weight: the number of units sold is multiplied by the unit weight and is used in the calculation described above. The assured figures are included below:

Amendment of food waste figures from previous years (2017-2019)

Following a review of our methodology from previous years' data published between 2017-2019, we have corrected certain elements of the methodology for all historic reporting years, which has altered our food waste figures.

The following items were updated to reflect our food waste figures more accurately:

- The tolerance for the number of missing weights was reduced.
- The methodology for calculating missing weight data has been updated.
- The data sources for the food waste reporting have been corrected.

Food Waste Assurance

Deloitte LLP were engaged in 2022 to provide independent limited assurance over the food waste intensity metric using the assurance standard ISAE 3000. Deloitte’s limited assurance report including further details, and their assurance conclusion, is included [here](#).

Below is a summary of the previous food waste figures reported for Aldi GB:

Year	Historic Food Waste Intensity	Updated Food Waste Intensity
2017	1.24%	1.16%
2018	1.19%	0.79%
2019	1.14%	0.69%
2020	N/A	0.67%
2021	N/A	0.66%

Appendix One - Relevant Food Commodity Groups

Food categories included within food waste reporting:

Commodity Group Name	
Spirits	Canned Food
Sparkling wine	Convenience Food & Soups
Wine	Long Life Meats
Beer	Long Life Dairy
Soft Drink & Juices	Chilled Foods
Baby Products (food only)	Dressing, Oils & Sauces
Medicine (nutritional supplements)	Preserves & Spreads
Frozen Food	Processed Foods
Confectionery	Eggs
Chocolates	Regional Bakery
Biscuits	Central Bakery & Cakes
Seasonal Confectionery	Fruits & Vegetables
Chips, Snacks & Nuts	Fresh Meat
Coffee & Hot Beverages	Fresh Fish
Tea	

Appendix Two - Donatable Food Commodity Groups (GB and IE)

Category	Donatable (Y/N) (GB)	Donatable (Y/N) (IE)
Fruits & Vegetables	Y	Y
Central Bakery & Cakes	Y	Y
Canned Foods	Y	Y
Coffee & Hot Beverages	Y	Y
Biscuits	Y	Y
Long Life Dairy	Y	Y
Seasonal confectionery	Y	Y
Tea	Y	Y
Processed Foods	Y	Y
Dressings, Oils & Sauces	Y	Y
Eggs	Y	Y
Soft Drinks & Juices	Y	Y
Crisps, Snacks & Nuts	Y	Y
Long Life Meats	Y	Y
Preserves & Spreads	Y	Y
Chocolate	Y	Y
Confectionery	Y	Y
Central Bakery & Cakes	Y	Y
Soups (ambient only)	Y	Y
Fresh Fish	N	Y
Fresh Meat	N	Y
Chilled Foods (excluding 'food to go')	N	Y

Frozen Food	N	N
Spirits	N	N
Sparkling wine	N	N
Wine	N	N
Beer	N	N
Tobacco Products	N	N