

Appendix: 2027 Fee developments for portable batteries

The fees for portable batteries will increase in 2027. The main reasons for this increase are:

1. The growing volume of portable batteries collected;
2. Communication campaigns and targeted action plans to achieve the statutory collection target;
3. Higher costs for collection, transport, sorting and processing, partly due to developments in energy prices and depreciation costs for safe collection equipment.

Increased collection of portable batteries

The volume of portable batteries collected continues to grow. As a result, the total costs of collection, transport, sorting and processing are increasing.

Higher collection volumes are essential to keep batteries out of residual waste, reduce safety risks throughout the waste management chain and recover valuable raw materials. At the same time, every additional kilogram of batteries collected brings additional operational costs. The growth in collection volumes therefore has a direct impact on the overall costs of the collection system.

Measures to achieve the collection target

Under the European Batteries Regulation, a statutory collection target of **63% by 31 December 2027** applies to portable batteries. Additional efforts are required to achieve this target.

In 2027, further efforts will therefore focus on communication and targeted action plans, including:

- Research conducted by Stichting OPEN shows that consumers know how to safely dispose batteries at Wecycle collection points. We will continue to encourage this behaviour through awareness campaigns.
- Targeted action plans for collection channels and target groups where untapped collection potential remains.
- Projects aimed at preventing batteries from ending up in residual waste or other waste streams.

The associated costs are necessary to achieve a sustained increase in collection volumes and meet the statutory target.

Rising operational costs

In addition to higher collection volumes, the costs per battery collected are also increasing. These include the costs of collection, transport, sorting and processing.

The increase in operational costs is driven by:

- Stricter fire safety requirements. Batteries must be collected, stored, transported and processed safely throughout the entire waste management chain. In particular, the growing proportion of lithium-containing batteries in the collected waste stream creates additional safety risks. This requires specially designed collection equipment, safety measures and operating procedures.

- Higher energy, labour and other operating costs faced by battery transport companies, sorting facilities and recyclers, resulting in higher processing costs per battery.
- Declining revenues from recycled materials.

Cost allocation and fee categories

Costs are allocated based on the battery chemistries that generate these costs during the waste management phase. The costs of collection, storage, transport, sorting and processing can vary significantly between different battery chemistries.

The 2027 fee structure consists of seven fee categories based on chemical composition:

- Lithium-ion
- Primary lithium
- Lithium TCL
- Lead
- NiMH
- NiCd
- Alkaline and other batteries

This differentiation ensures that the fees reflect the costs associated with collecting and processing batteries of different chemical compositions.

Offset of surpluses from previous years

The Waste Management Fee Agreement (Afvalbeheerbijdrageovereenkomst, ABBO) stipulates that accumulated surpluses must be offset against future fees. In accordance with this provision, part of the surplus accumulated up to and including 2026 will be used to reduce the 2027 fees.

A surplus arises when the waste management fees collected in a given year exceed the total costs, including the amounts allocated to provisions under the fully funded system.

By offsetting part of the accumulated surplus against the fees, participants benefit from lower fees, in line with the agreements set out in the ABBO.

Without this offset, the average fee increase for 2027 would be **10.6%**. By applying part of the surplus, the average fee increase is limited to:

An average of 3%

The percentage increase varies by fee category. The average increase of 3% is a weighted average across the seven fee categories. This means that the increase for individual fee categories may be higher or lower than the overall average.