

Press Release

"EAPA Asphalt in Figures 2019 – Production of reduced-temperature asphalts steadily growing in Europe."

Brussels, 22 December 2020. The European Asphalt Pavement Association (EAPA) has released its overview of the latest available production figures of the European Asphalt Industry, the "EAPA Asphalt in Figures 2019".

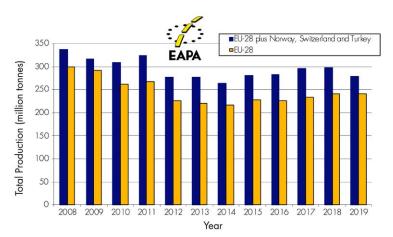


Figure 1: Total Production of Asphalt in Europe from 2008 to 2019

In 2019 the total production of hot and warm mix asphalt (see Figure 1) increased by 0,4% to 241,4 million tonnes for EU-28. However, when other European countries are included e.g. Norway, Switzerland and Turkey, the total production reduced by 6,1% (279,7 Mt), especially motivated by the big drop of production in Turkey, from 41,7 Mt in 2018 to 23,5 Mt in 2019 (-43,6%). Due to this, Germany became in 2019 the number one asphalt producing country in Europe with a total production of 40,0 Mt, followed very closely by France (35,8 Mt).

Figure 2-left shows the distribution of the reclaimed asphalt available in the following 18 countries: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Norway, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and Turkey. The total amount available in these countries was 52,6 Mt. The leading countries are Germany (13,4 Mt, 28% of total), Italy (9,5 Mt, 20%), France (8,0 Mt, 17%) and Great Britain (6,1 Mt, 12%). The rest of the countries together represent only 23% of the total.

Figure 2-right shows the percentage of available reclaimed asphalt, which was re-used for the manufacture of new mixes (including HMA, WMA, Half-WMA, and CMA), recycled as unbound road layers and other civil Engineering applications, and used in other unknown applications or put to landfill. For the calculation of these values, only countries providing full data (total amount and use percentages) were considered. These countries were Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Norway, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, and Turkey. In these countries, a total of 25,3 Mt of reclaimed asphalt were available, out of which, 70% were re-used, 22% were recycled and only 8% were used on unknown applications or put to landfill.

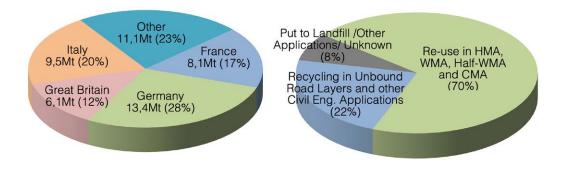


Figure 2. Total amount of reclaimed asphalt available in European countries providing data in 2019 (left) and the application of reclaimed asphalt in European countries providing data (right)

These figures make asphalt an important tool, within the construction sector, to meet the challenging objectives of circular economy, which the European Commission included in "The European Green Deal".

The production of Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA), an important tool to reduce the emissions and energy consumption of the sector, has been generally increasing over the last years (Figure 3), reaching new heights in 2019 with a production of 7,9 Mt (6,8 Mt in 2018). European champion in WMA production was France with 4,3 Mt, followed by Norway (1,7 Mt). It is especially remarkable the huge increase in Norway, where the WMA production in 2019 tripled the value of 2016. This represents already 22,6% of total asphalt production in the country.

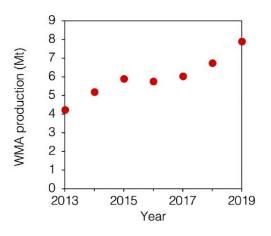


Figure 3. Total production of Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA) in European countries providing data

For this latest edition of the "Asphalt in Figures" and this press release please visit the EAPA website:



About Reduced-Temperature and Warm Mix Asphalts

A reduced-temperature asphalt is a normal asphalt that is produced and applied at a temperature lower than an equivalent "Hot Mix Asphalt" (HMA). When such temperature reduction is around 20-40°C, the material is called Warm Mix Asphalt (WMA). Thanks to the lower production and application temperature this WMA has several advantages, e.g.

Environmental benefits: less energy used and lower emissions.

Paving operations benefits: WMA can be compacted at a lower temperature than HMA. Thus, WMA will cool faster to ambient temperatures and therefore, the site can be opened for traffic at an earlier stage.

Asphalt workers benefit: improved working conditions with less emissions.

More information can be found on following websites:

Asphalt Advantages

Warm Mix Asphalt

About "Asphalt in Figures"

Every year EAPA is collecting and publishing the latest available key figures of the European asphalt industry in the so called "Asphalt in Figures". In these overviews you can find data of the asphalt production in Europe, data regarding the application and the use of binders. The data has been collected and provided since 1990 with e.g. the assistance of the members of the European Asphalt Pavement Association (EAPA). The releases since 2013 are publicly available on the EAPA website. For more information, please contact us.

Previous releases of Asphalt in Figures

Notes for Editors

EAPA is the voice of the Asphalt Paving Industry in Europe. With more than 40 Members and Associated Members, EAPA represents most of the asphalt pavement industry engaged in asphalt production, asphalt road construction and maintenance all over Europe. EAPA works to ensure that the use of asphalt, as the optimum choice for the construction and maintenance of the vital European road infrastructure, is fully appreciated, promoted, and implemented. Conscious of the importance of providing information to the public, EAPA is pleased to present to you the data of 'Asphalt in Figures' for the year 2019.

Contact

Dr. Breixo Gómez, EAPA Technical Director, email: breixo@eapa.org, Twitter: @B_GomezMeijide and @eapa_org, LinkedIn: @breixogomezmeijide, phone: +32 (0)497179754 EAPA Website: www.eapa.org