City University London

[Job Date.Quarter].[2013].[Q2]

Volumetric* Distribution of Total Collected Containers

* The data represented on this diagram are expressed volumetrically. Waste compactors are used to improve collection efficiency by increasing the weight of material available per collection simply by taking materials with a relatively low mass density (such as cardboard) and reducing their volume. However, reporting collections by weight can have a distortion effect on the data because of the fact that some materials (e.g. glass) have disproportionately high density when compared to cardboard (even in a compacted state). For that reason, the above data is expressed in terms of volumetric collections.
Gravimetric* Distribution of Collected Containers

* The data represented are the same as were reported on the volumetric chart but are here expressed by weight. Comparison of the two charts shows that the contribution made by residuals and glass to the total are greater when expressed gravimetrically because of their higher densities compared to the dry recyclables (primarily paper, card and plastics).