



Kildare Census 2022 Profile

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Key Facts

- Over recent years, there has been a concerted effort to reduce the carbon footprint of our homes, by improving their building energy ratings (BERs) among other measures. Of the assessed housing stock in County Kildare (2022), nearly thirty percent has attained a BER rating of B2 or higher;
- This is the second-highest proportion among the State's thirty-one local authorities. It should be noted, however, that only forty-two percent of the county's housing stock has had its BER assessed;
- Good BER ratings are associated with low levels of heat demand, and 2022 figures indicate that County Kildare had the seventh-lowest per capita level of heat demand of all counties. Total energy demand, across all sectors in County Kildare, amounted to 1,211 gigawatt hours (in 2022) – the fourteenth highest level in the State;
- County Kildare has no wind farms but has (Feb 2023) thirteen planned solar farms with a projected maximum export capacity (MEC) of 114MW - 5.9% of that planned for the State;
- County Kildare performs quite well with only 38.6% of domestic waste (black bin) going to landfill. A further 14.5% is recycled as mixed dry recyclables (green bin) and 15% as organic waste (brown bin - higher than the national rate at 11.1%); and
- Sales of electric and hybrid vehicles have been increasing over recent years, and in 2023, they accounted for almost fifty percent of all new car sales in County Kildare – up from seven percent in 2018.

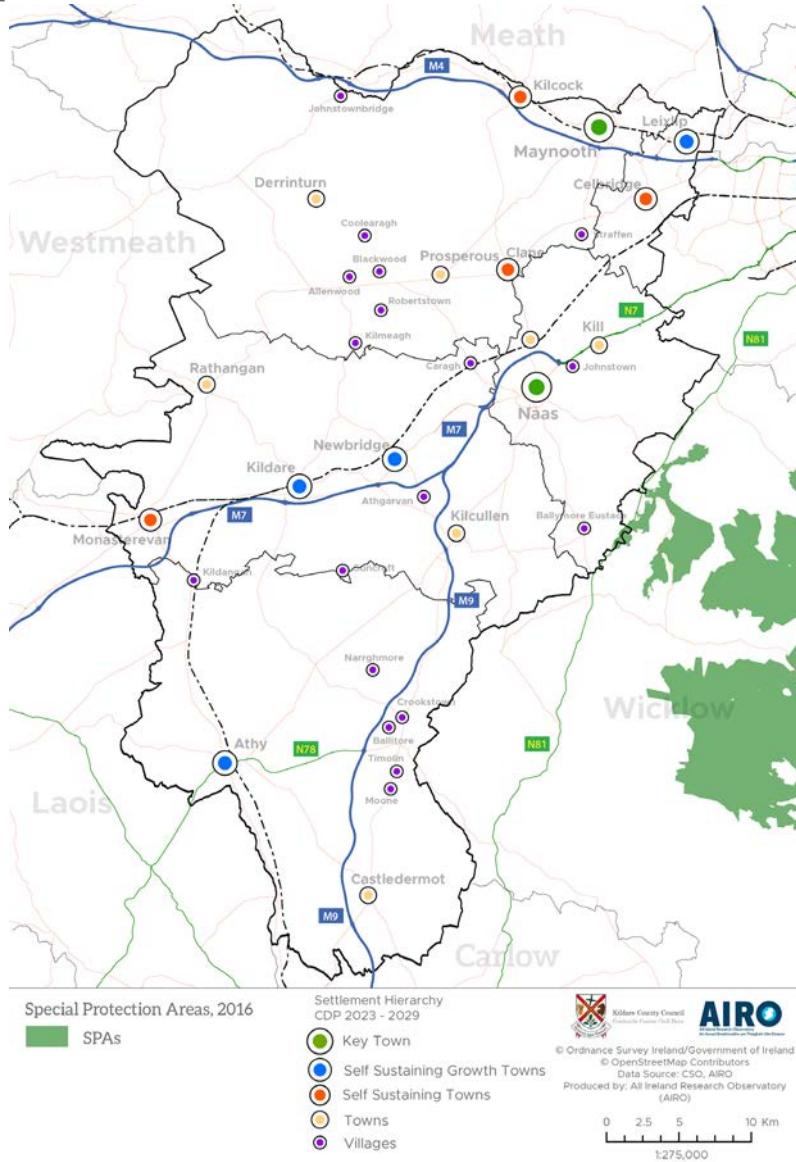
Kildare is a county with outstanding natural beauty, significant habitats and a wide range of biodiversity. Consequently, and in order to protect the county's environmental resources, which are fundamental to its tourism industry and sustainable agriculture, a number of legal designations are in place.

Legal Designations

Kildare contains a number of Natural Heritage Areas (NHAs) - a basic designation for wildlife and an area considered important for the habitats present or which holds species of plants and animals whose habitat needs protection. The north of the county contains the Carbury Bog NHA and the Hogestown Bog NHA. In addition, there are proposed NHAs (pNHAs) in the county, which were published on a non-statutory basis in 1995, but have not since been statutorily proposed or designated. These sites are of significance for wildlife and habitats - the Royal Canal, Rye Water Valley/Cartron, Donadea Wood, the Grand Canal and the Curragh.

Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) are prime wildlife conservation areas in the country, considered to be important on a European as well as Irish level. The north of the county contains Ballinafagh Bog SAC and Ballinafagh Lake SAC. To the north of Newbridge are the Polardstown Fen SAC and Mouds Bog SAC and running south from Monasterevin to Athy is the River Barrow and Nore SAC.

Special Protection Areas, 2022



Special Areas of Conservation, 2022

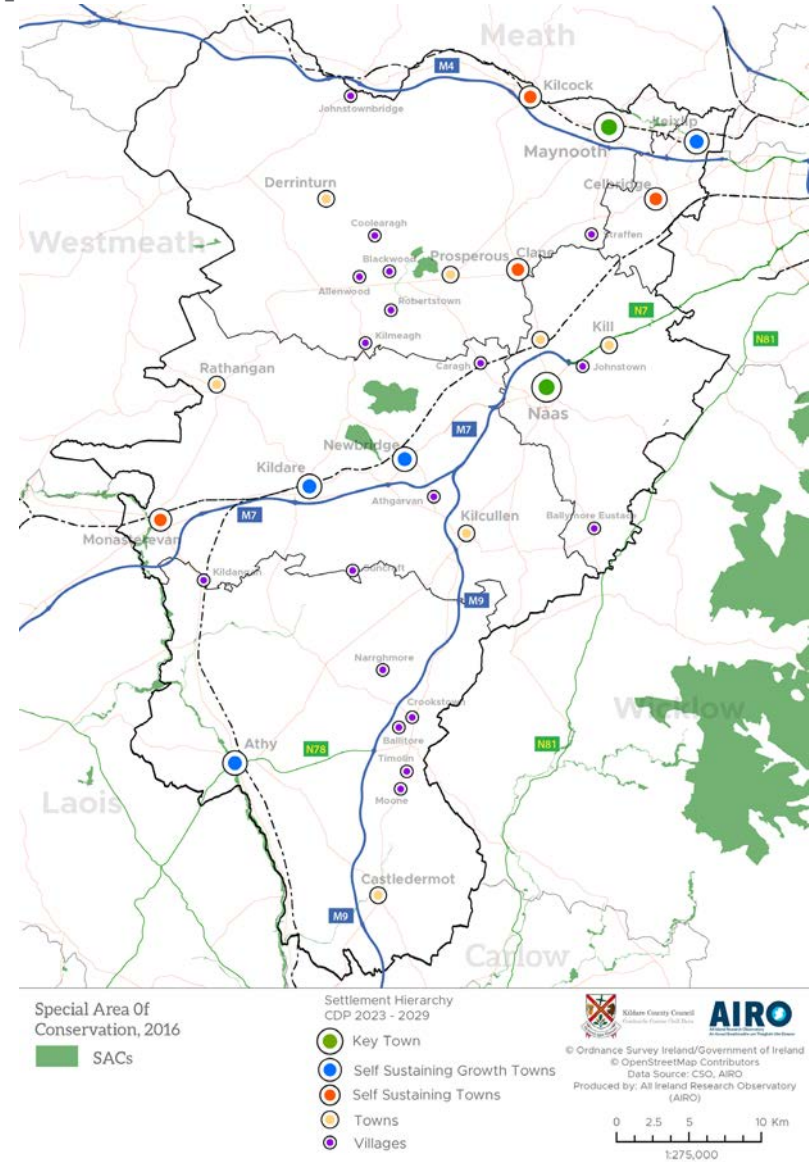


Figure 8.1 - Environmental Profile: Special Protection Areas, 2016 (Source: NPWS)

Figure 8.2 - Environmental Profile: Special Areas of Conservation, 2016 (Source: NPWS)

National Heritage Areas, 2022

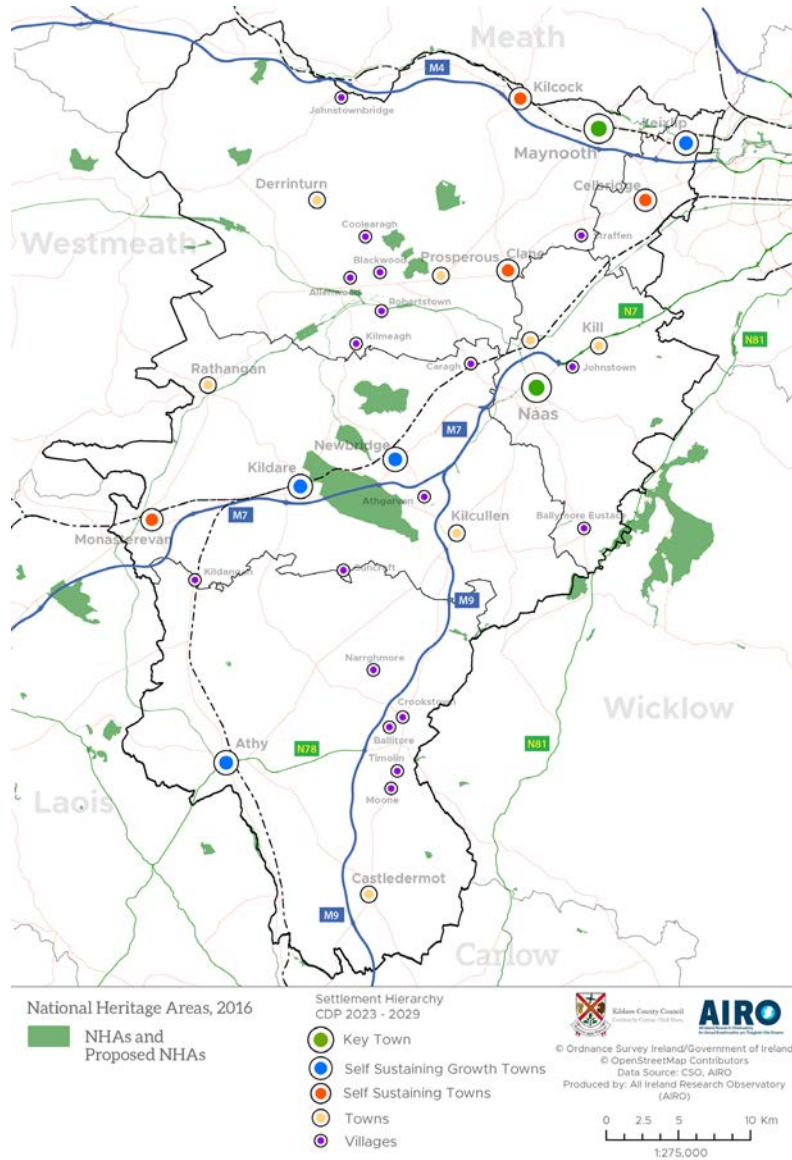


Figure 8.3 - Environmental Profile: National Heritage Areas, 2016 (Source: NPWS)

Natura 2000 Sites, 2022

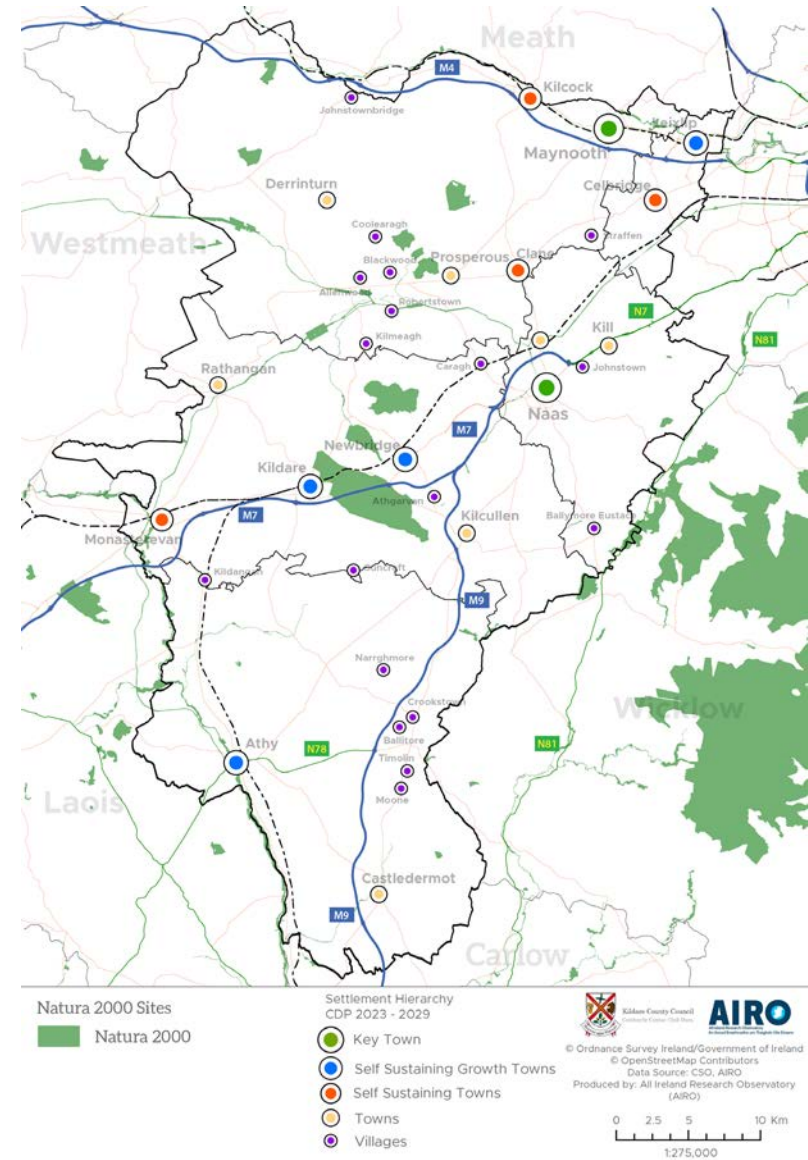


Figure 8.4 - Environmental Profile: Natura 2000 Sites, 2016 (Source: NPWS)

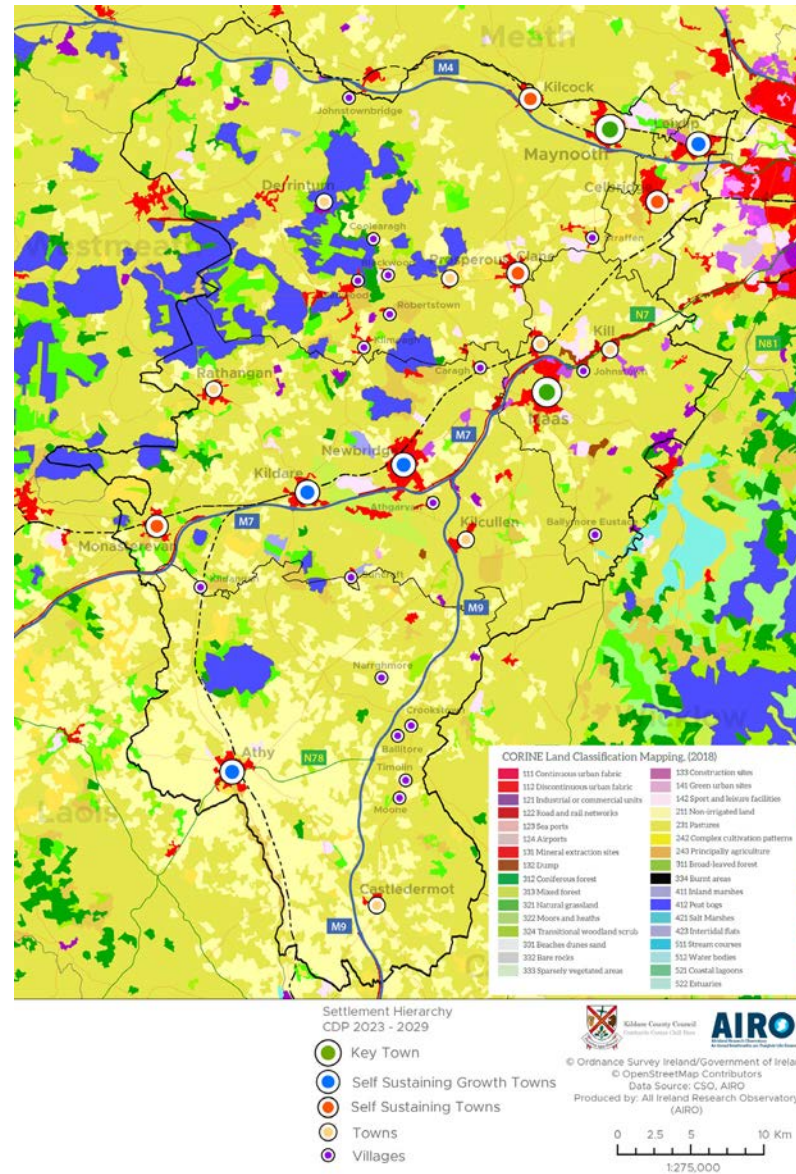


Figure 8.5 - CORINE Land Classification, 2018 (Source: EPA)

Assessed Stock (%) with a BER B2 or Higher

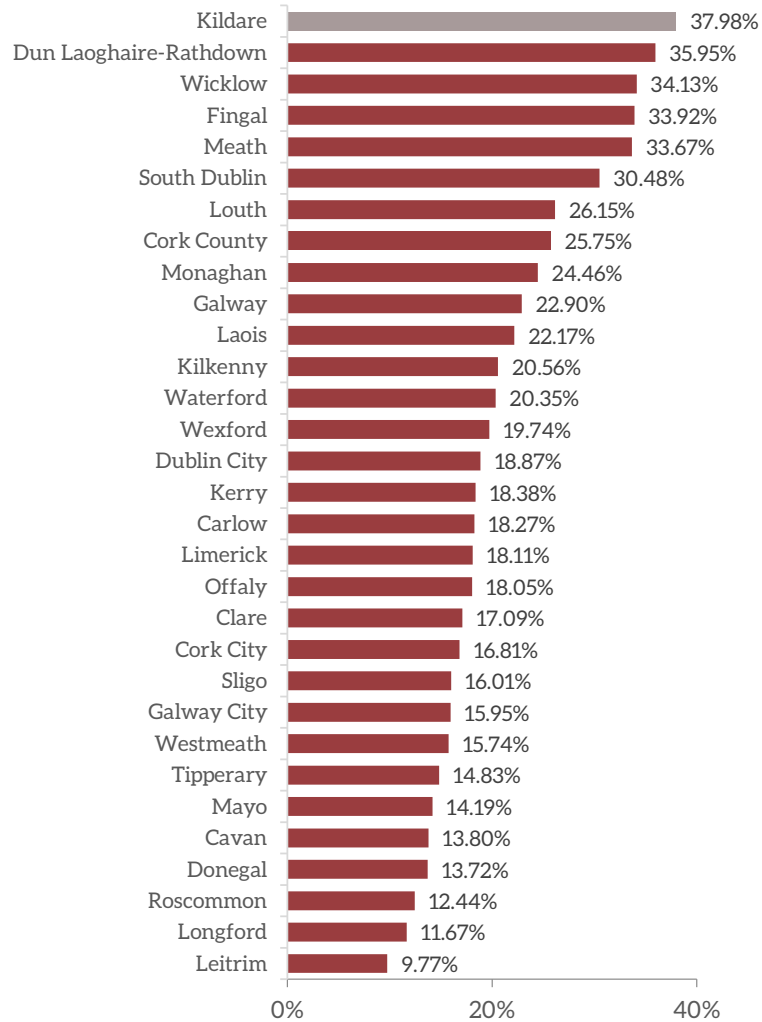


Figure 8.6 - Assessed Stock (%) with BER B2 or Higher, 2023(Source: SEAI)

Estimated BER Coverage (% Stock Assessed)

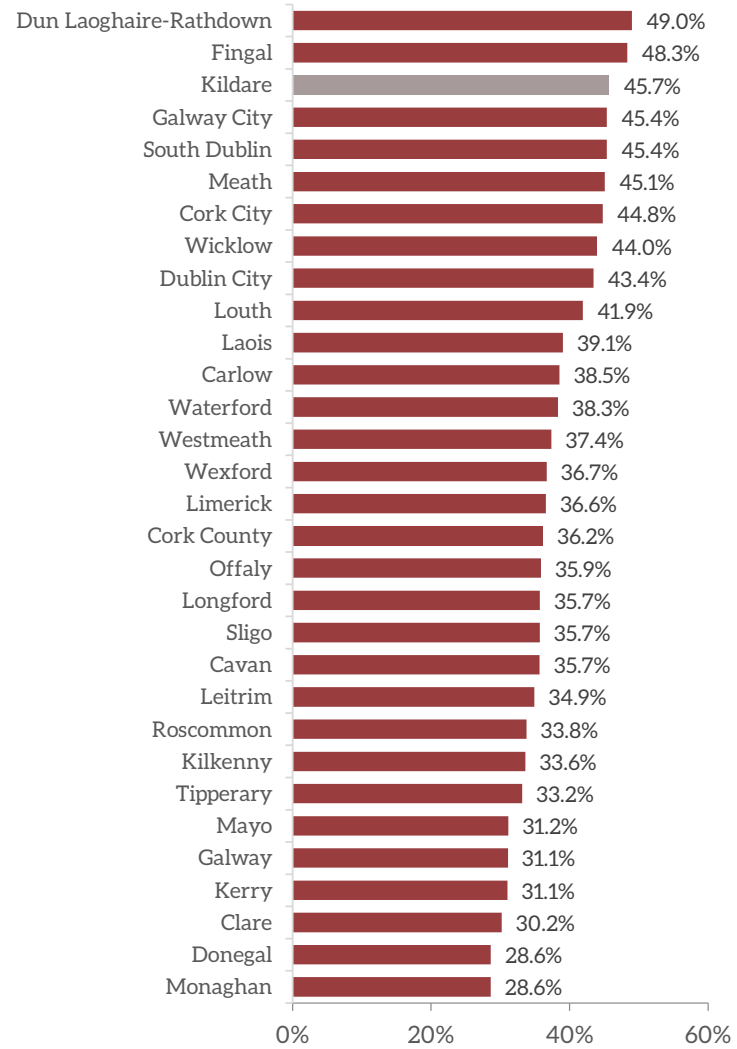


Figure 8.7 - Estimated BER Coverage (% Stock Assessed), 2023 (Source: SEAI)

Connected Wind Farms (% Share and Count), 2023

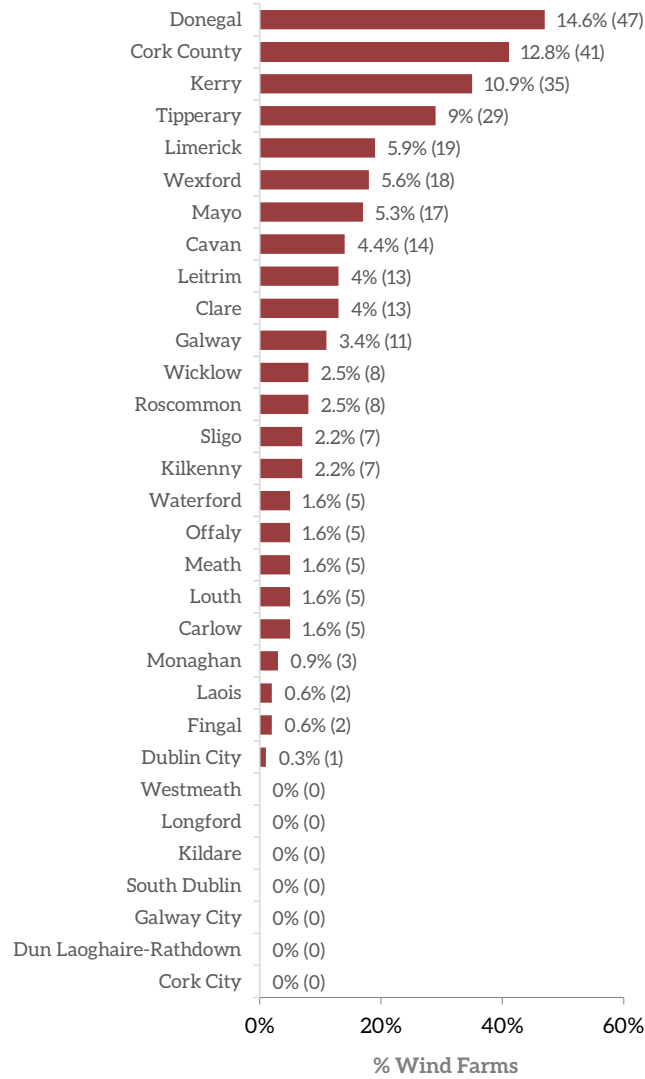


Figure 8.8 - Connected Wind Farms, 2023 (Source: SEAI)

Connected Wind Farms by MEC - MW, 2023

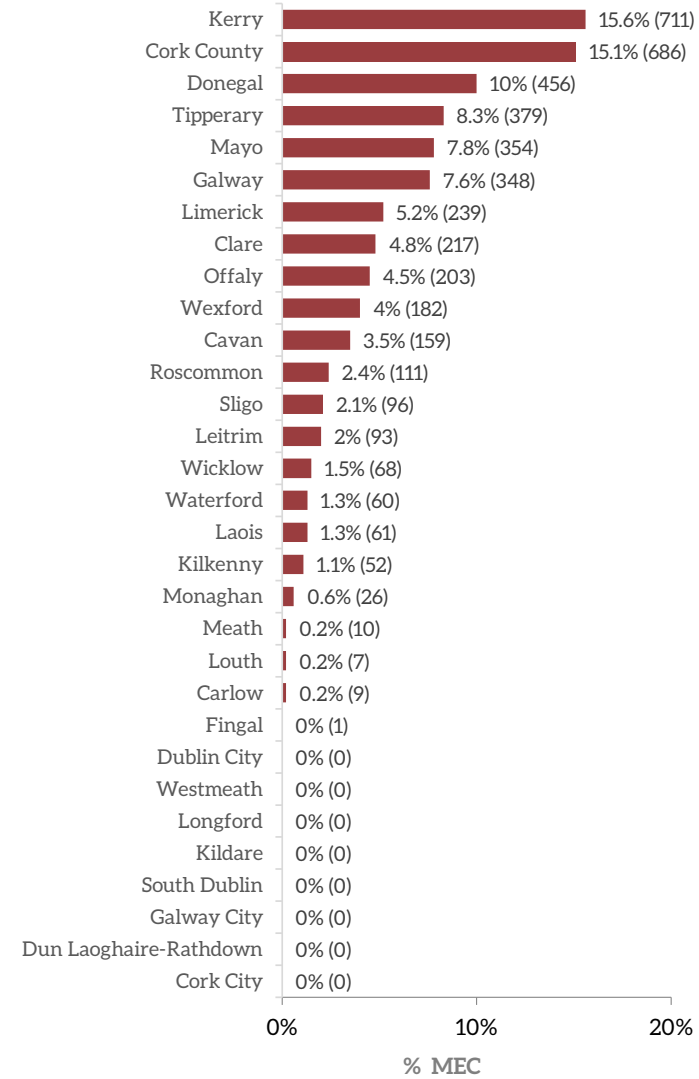


Figure 8.9 - Connected Wind Farms by MEC - MW, 2023 (Source: SEAI)

Planned Solar Farms (% Share and Count), 2023

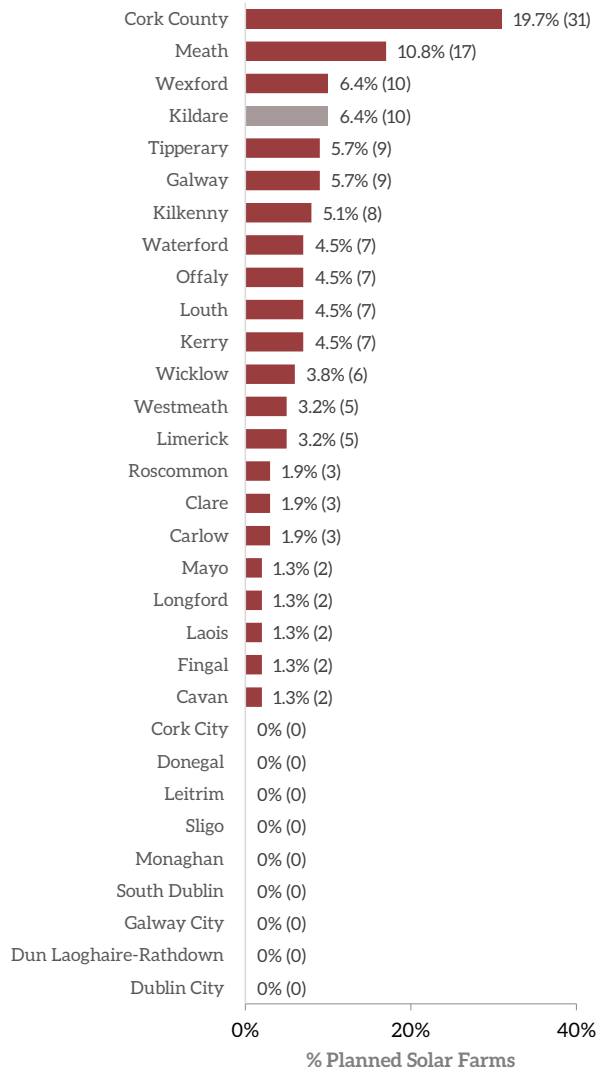


Figure 8.10 - Planned Solar Farms, 2023 (Source: SEAI)

Planned Solar Farms by MEC - MW, 2023 (Max Export Capacity - Mega Watt)

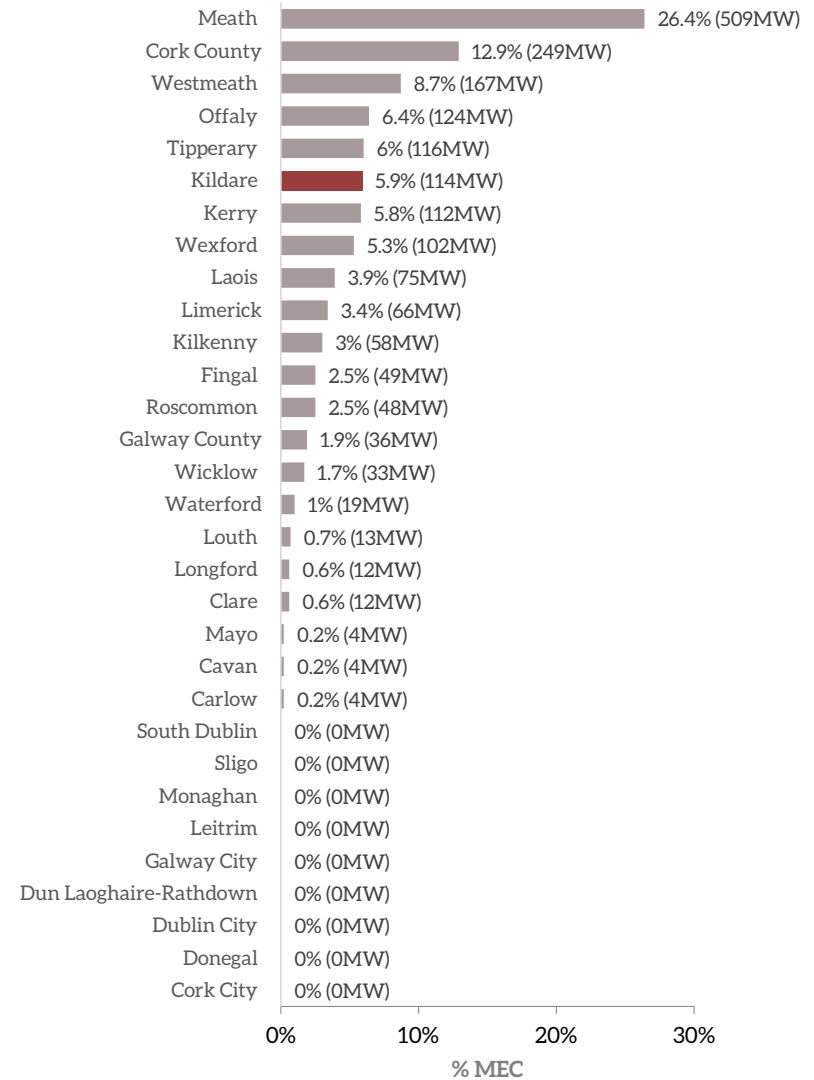


Figure 8.11 - Planned Solar Farms by MEC - MW, 2023 (Source: SEAI)

Residential Heat Demand - Megawatt (Mw) Per Capita, 2022

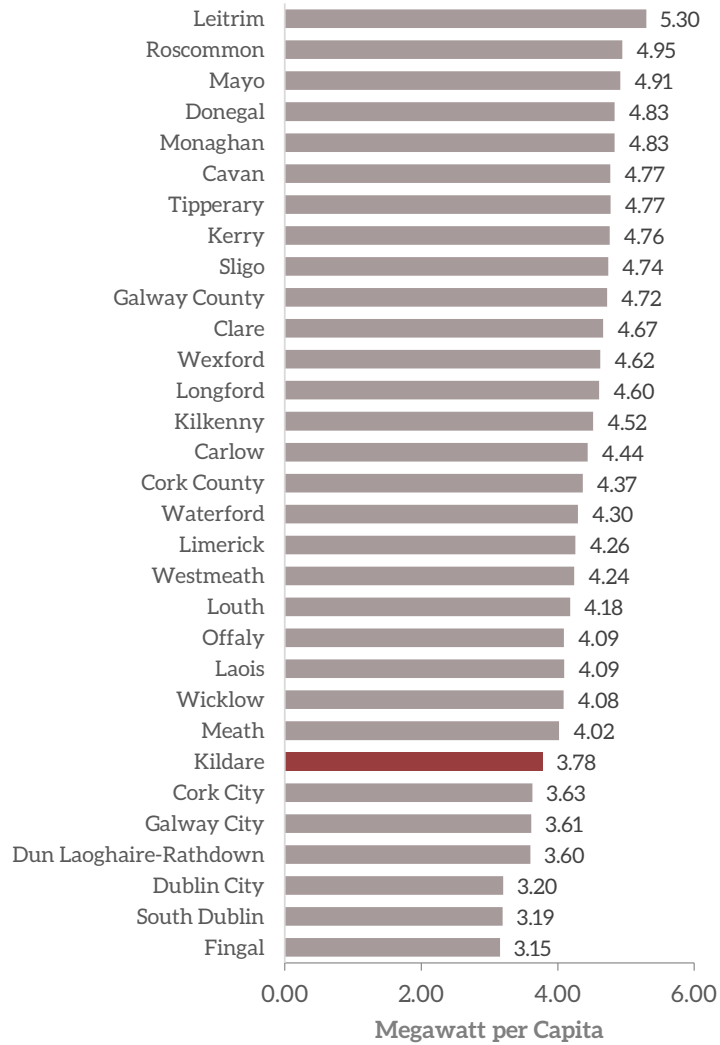


Figure 8.12 - Residential Heat Demand MW per Capita, 2022 (Source: SEAI)

Total Heat Demand (All Sectors) Gigawatt Hours (GWh), 2022

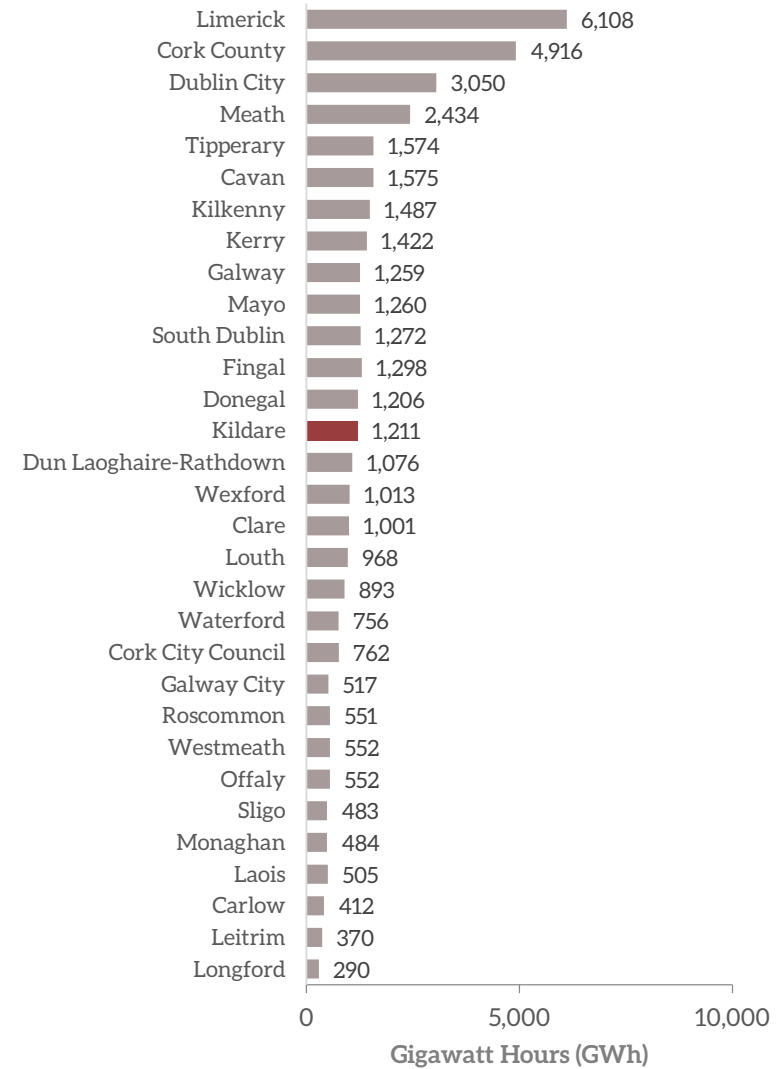


Figure 8.13 - Total Heat Demand GWh, 2022 (Source: SEAI)

% New Car Registrations by Fuel Type

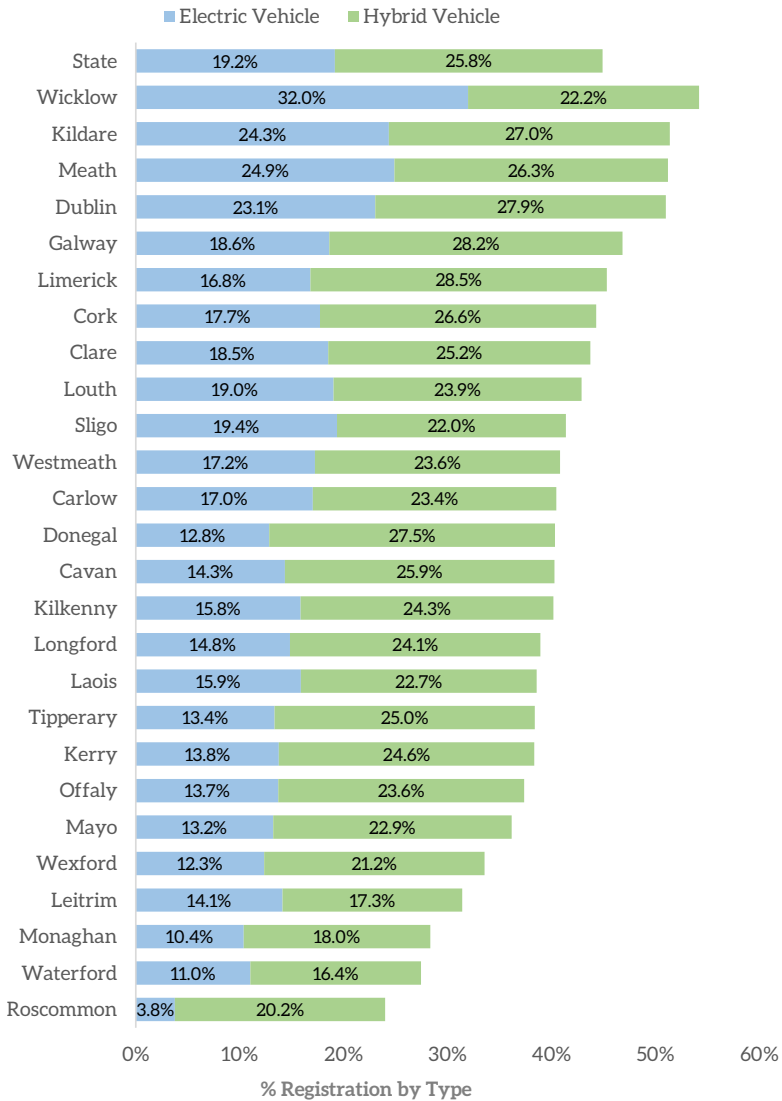


Figure 8.14 - % New Car Registrations by Fuel Type, 2023 (Source: CSO)

Number of Registrations 2021 -2023

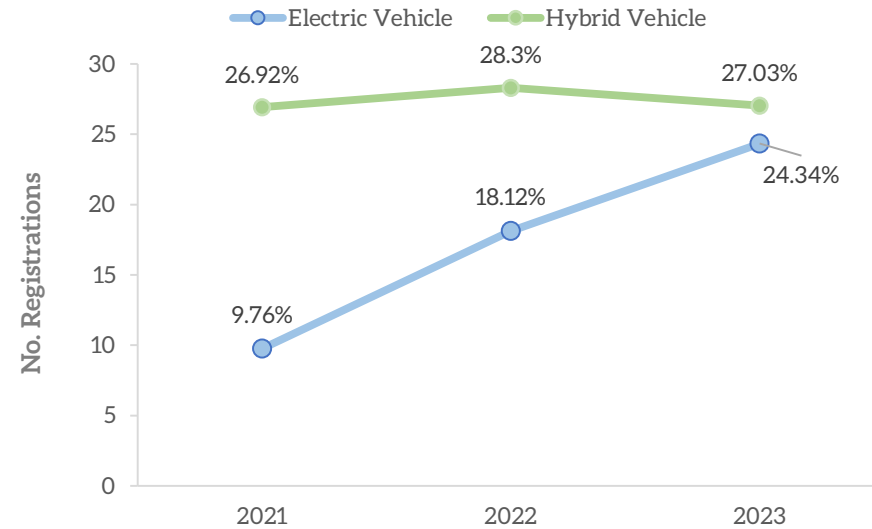


Figure 8.15 - Kildare Car Registrations 2021-2023, (Source: CSO)

Breakdown of Household Waste Collected, 2020

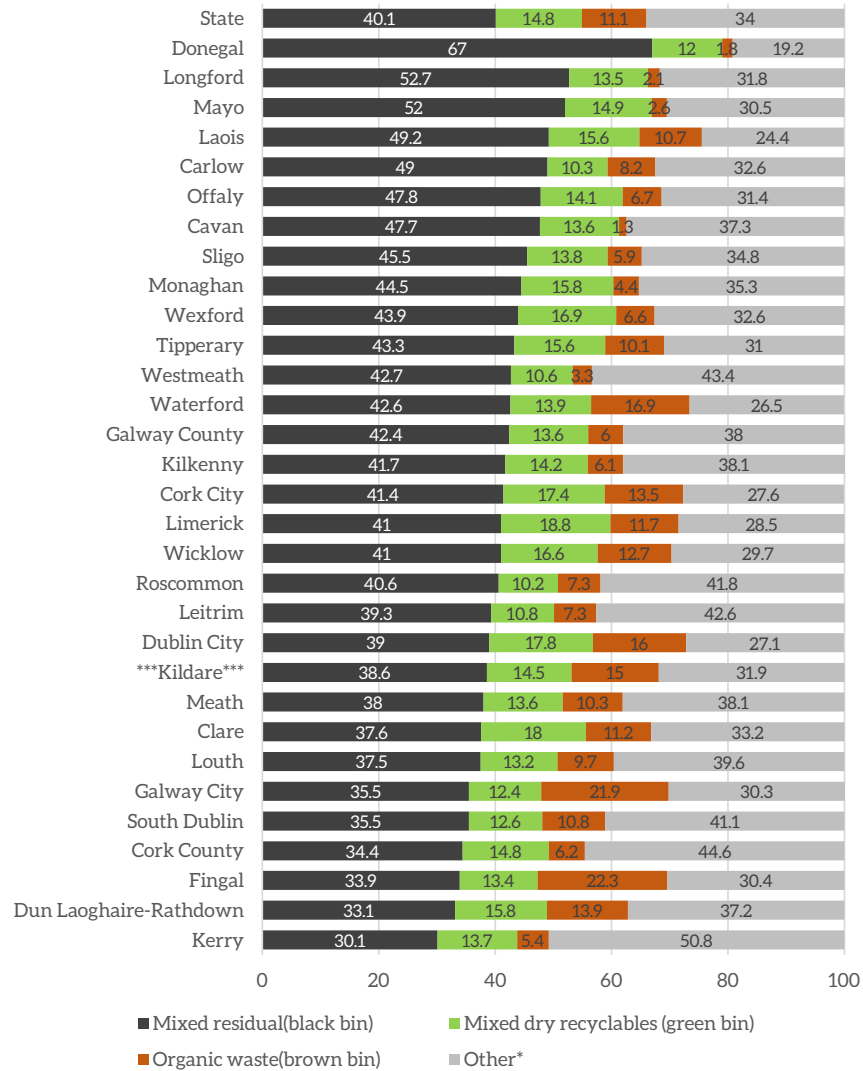


Figure 8.16 - Household Waste Collected Breakdown, 2020 (Source: CSO)

Detailed Breakdown Kildare County Waste Generation

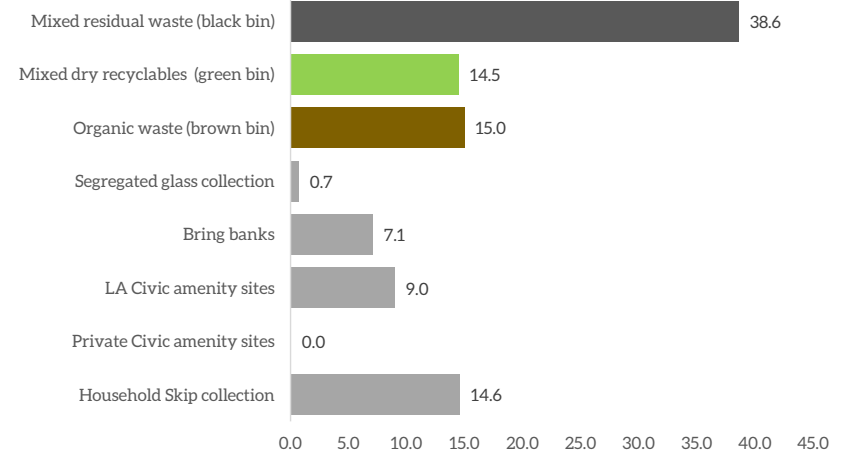
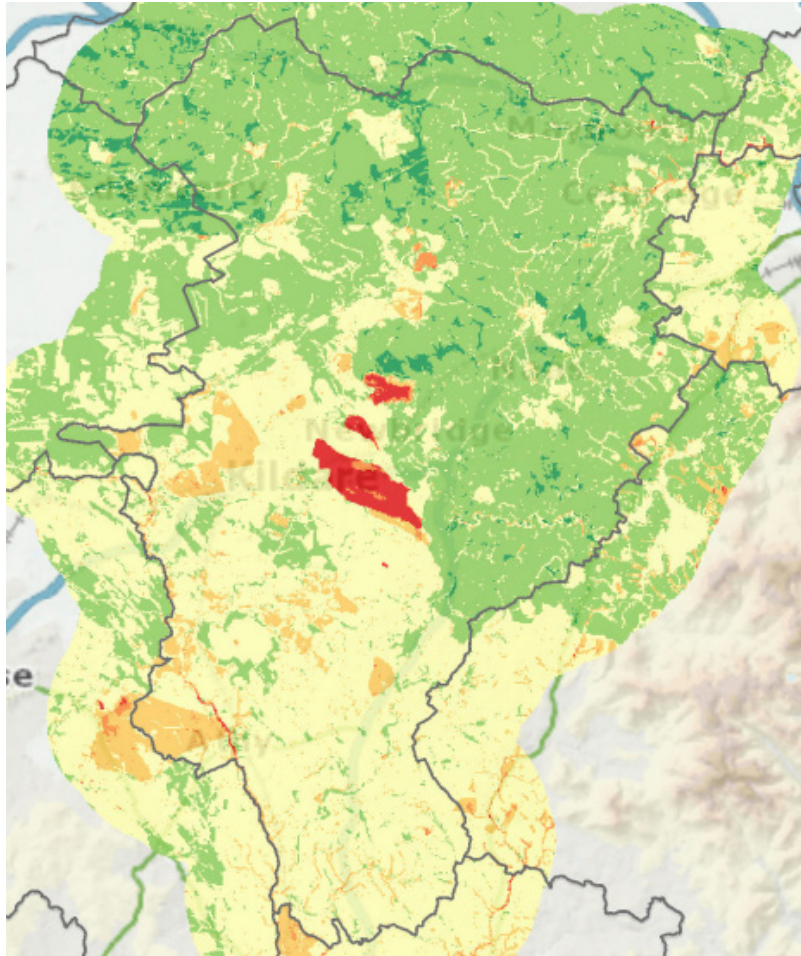
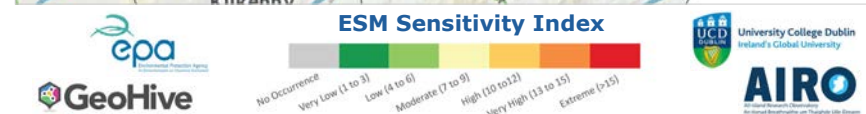
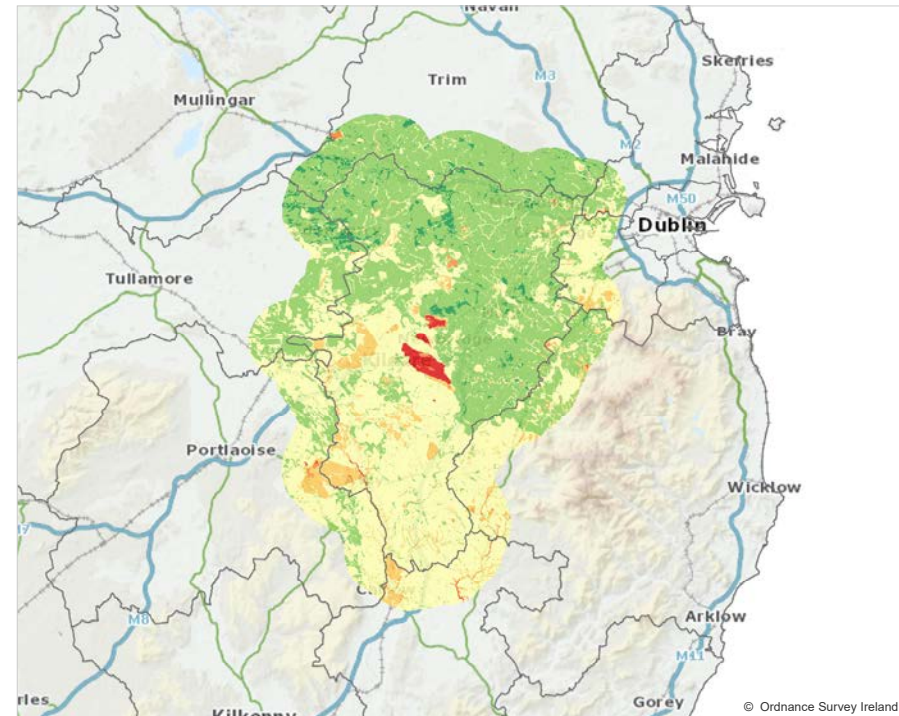


Figure 8.17 - County Waste Generation Breakdown, 2020 (Source: CSO)

Environmental Sensitivity Map, Q1 2023



Environmental Sensitivity Map (ESM) for LECP 2023



Date: 3/1/2023 Time: 10:29:15 PM Author: Kildare County Council

*This map is an aggregate result based on the variables and user defined weights listed below.
Warning: Please note that weights are only to be used to emphasize the relative significance of an environmental aspect - applying weights to more than two themes would magnify, and possibly overstate, the overall sensitivity.

Air & Climactic Weight: 1 Variables: Historical Flood Extents

Biodiversity, flora and fauna Weight: 1 Variables: Ancient Woodlands, Annex 1 Habitats, Coastal Habitats-Saltmarshes, Forest Inventory, Margaritiferia Sensitive Areas, Natural Heritage Areas, Proposed Natural Heritage Areas, Salmonid Waters (S.I. 293 Only), Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Woodland Habitats

Cultural Heritage Weight: 1 Variables: National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH), Sites and Monuments Record

Population and Human Health Weight: 1 Variables: WFD RPA Surface Water Drinking Water (Lakes), WFD RPA Surface Water Drinking Water (Rivers)

Soils and Geology Weight: 1 Variables: Geoparks and Geosites, Peat Bogs, Soil Permeability

Water Weight: 1 Variables: Aquifer Vulnerability, Groundwater Source Protection Areas, Wetlands, WFD Groundwater Status, WFD Lake Status, WFD River Status, WFD RPA Nutrient Sensitive Areas (Lakes, Coastal and Transitional Water Bodies), WFD RPA Nutrient Sensitive Areas (Rivers), WFD RPA Recreational Waters (Coastal and Transitional Water Bodies), WFD RPA Recreational Waters (Lakes), WFD RPA Water Dependant Habitats (SACs), WFD RPA Water Dependant Habitats (SPAs)



Comhairle Contae Chill Dara
Kildare County Council