Table 10-4 Typical data on moisture content of municipal solid waste components

Component	Moisture, percent	
	Range	Typical
Food wastes	50–80	70
Paper	4–10	6
Cardboard	4–8	5
Plastics	1–4	2
Textiles	6–15	10
Rubber	1–4	2
Leather	8–12	10
Garden trimmings	30–80	60
Wood	15–40	20
Misc. organics	10–60	25
Glass	1–4	2
Tin cans	2–4	3
Nonferrous metals	2–4	2
Ferrous metals	2–6	3
Dirt, ashes, brick, etc	6–12	8
Municipal solid wastes	15–40	20

Source From Tchobanoglous et al [10-5]

To obtain the dry mass, the solid-waste material is dried in an oven at 77 C (170 F) for 24 h. This temperature and time is used to dehydrate the material completely and to limit the vaporization of volatile materials.

Typical data on the moisture content for the solid-waste components are given in Table 10-4. For most industrial solid wastes, the moisture content will vary from 10 to 35 percent. The use of Eq. (10-1) is illustrated in Example 10-1.

Example 10-1: Estimating the moisture content of a solid-waste sample Estimate the moisture content of a solid-waste sample with the following composition.

Component	Percent by mass
Food wastes	15
Paper	45
Cardboard	10
Plastics	10
Garden trimmings	10
Wood	5
Tin cans	5