

Senegal



Indicator	Data
Population, 2019 (no.)	16,296,364
Population Density, 2018 (people per sq. km of land area)	82.35
Coastal Population, 2014 (no.)	8,125,063
Share of people living in urban areas, 2019 (%)	47.7
Total MSW generated, 2014 (tons/year)	2,582,560

Socio-Economic Profile

Senegal is a lower middle-income country in West Africa bordered by Mauritania, Mali, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, and Gambia. In recent years, economic growth in Senegal has been driven by the services sector¹. The country comprises 12 Regions² and runs a unitary presidential republic system with a parliament.

In 2019, Senegal recorded an overall GDP (PPP) of USD 55 billion and a GDP (PPP) per capita of USD 3,395³. With an area of 196,722 km², it has a population of 16,296,364 (2019) and a population density of 82.35 people per km² (2018)⁵. Though urbanization has increased in recent decades, majority of Senegal's population still resides in rural areas – 52.3% in 2019⁶. In 2014, over 8 million Senegalese resided coastal areas⁷, including in the capital city, Dakar.

Plastic Industry and Ecosystem

In 2018 and 2019, Senegal had no domestic resin production. Its conversion industry processed 47kt of resin (22kt PE, 21kt PP, 4kt PET) in 2018 and 37kt of resin (18kt PE, 11kt PP, 8kt PET) in 2019. Similar to other West African countries, Senegal is a net importer of plastics. In 2019, 79.4%⁸ of plastic waste was imported.

¹ World Bank Group 2021. Senegal – Overview. <https://www.worldbank.org/en/country/senegal/overview>

² Statoids 2015. Regions of Senegal. <http://www.statoids.com/usn.html>

³ GDP, PPP (constant 2017 international \$) and GDP per capita, PPP (constant 2017 international \$)

⁴ World Bank Group 2020. World Development Indicators. <https://datacatalog.worldbank.org/dataset/world-development-indicators>

⁵ *ibid.*

⁶ *ibid.*

⁷ Jambeck et al 2014. Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean. <https://jambeck.engr.uga.edu/landplasticinput>

⁸ UN Comtrade 2019. UN Comtrade Database. <https://comtrade.un.org/>

⁹ *ibid.*

Solid Waste Management

Senegal generates 0.79 kg of municipal solid waste (MSW) per capita per day and this amounts to an overall daily MSW generation of 6.4 million kg¹⁰. However, the West African nation has struggled to effectively manage its waste arisings – about 82% of MSW generated in Senegal is inadequately managed¹¹.

Plastic waste management has increasingly been cited by Senegal’s government as a pressing environmental issue for the nation. Plastic waste accounts for just below 13% of MSW arisings, with a daily generation rate of about 831,000 kg, of which 82% is reportedly inadequately managed¹². 16,625 kg/day of plastic waste leaks into the environment in Senegal¹³.

Legislation, policies, and other initiatives

In Senegal, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development is responsible for guidance on waste management¹⁴. Currently, waste management in Senegal is driven by the following:

- Environmental Code 2001 (Law No. 2001-01), 2001

This law requires the environmentally friendly disposal or recycling of all kinds of waste¹⁵.

In 2020, the Single Use Plastics Prohibition Law – Law No. 2020-04 – was introduced by the Senegalese government. The law prohibits the use of single-use plastic products such as cups, lids, and pipettes¹⁶. Additionally, it also applies extended producer responsibility to plastic product producers in Senegal¹⁷.

¹⁰ Jambeck et al 2014. Plastic waste inputs from land into the ocean. <https://jambeck.engr.uga.edu/landplasticinput>

¹¹ *ibid.*

¹² *ibid.*

¹³ *ibid.*

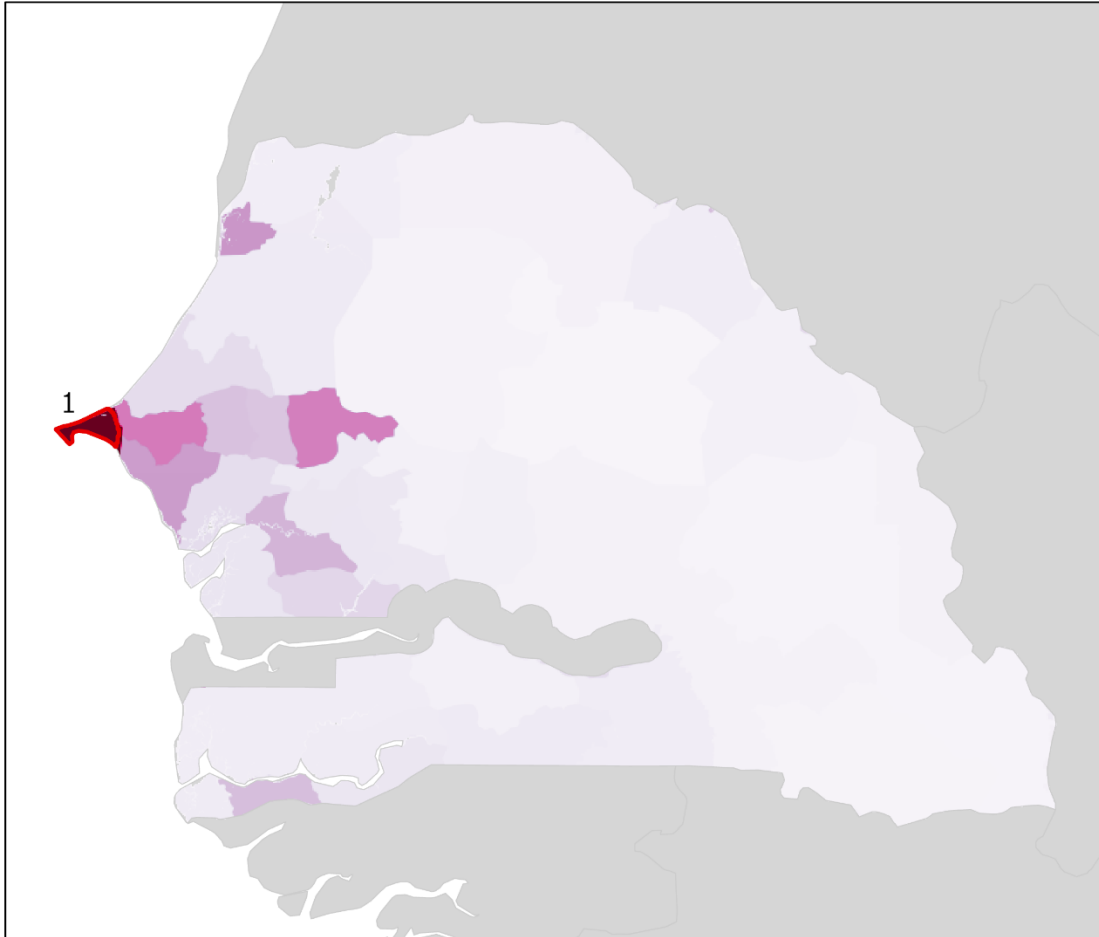
¹⁴ Development Aid 2021. Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development of Senegal. <https://www.developmentaid.org/#!/donors/view/154893/ministry-of-environment-and-sustainable-development-of-senegal-ministere-de-lenvironnement-et-du-dev>

¹⁵ Chatham House 2020. Policies. <https://circulareconomy.earth/>

¹⁶ *ibid.*

¹⁷ *ibid.*

Plastic Waste in Senegal



Plastic Generation Hotspots

ID	Locale	Rank	Plastic Waste (kt)	Area (km ²)	Population
1	Dakar	5	75.321095	567.266754	3743139

Total Annual National Plastic Waste Generation: 341.7 kt



Hotspot
Extent



Location in Region

