

Download Environmental Data Instructions

Data from EPA's response to the BP oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico is available from this database. You can download the entire data set or you can refine your search to specific parameters.

(<http://www.epa.gov/bpspill/download.html>)

- Begin by selecting "Sample Date" or "Published Date" from the "Search By" field to search by the date a sample was taken or by the date a sample was published:

Search By:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Sample Date	<input type="radio"/> Published Date
------------	--	--------------------------------------

- Enter the data range you'd like to search. Data collection began on April 28, 2010:

Date between:	<input type="text" value="05/21/2010"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	and	<input type="text" value="07/02/2010"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>
---------------	---	-------------------------------	-----	---	-------------------------------

- For "Location" select "State" or "Zip Code" – "State" will allow the user to search for data by state and county, selecting "Zip Code" will allow the user to search for a particular zip code.

Location:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> State:	<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="radio"/> Zip Code:	<input type="text" value=""/>
	County:	<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>		

- When "State" is selected you can choose the state name for which you want data from the "State" drop down menu, or select All. You can further modify your location by selecting a county name for which you want data from the "County" drop down menu, or select All:

Location:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> State:	<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input type="radio"/> Zip Code:	<input type="text" value=""/>
	County:	<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>		

- When "Zip Code" is selected, you will enter the zip code of the location you wish to have data from:

Location:	<input type="radio"/> State:	<input type="text" value="All"/>	<input type="text" value=""/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Zip Code:	<input type="text" value=""/>
-----------	------------------------------	----------------------------------	-------------------------------	--	-------------------------------

- For "Type" select "Sampling" or "Monitoring" – "Monitoring" provides air monitoring data, "Sampling" provides air sampling, surface water, sediment, and multiple types of waste:

Type: Sampling Monitoring

- You can select multiple media (solid waste, weathered oil, air, surface water, liquid waste, tar, sediment, water), a single medium, or all:

Medium:

<input type="checkbox"/> All	<input type="checkbox"/> Air	<input type="checkbox"/> Dispersant	<input type="checkbox"/> Liquid Waste
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mousse	<input type="checkbox"/> Oily Debris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sediment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solid Waste
<input type="checkbox"/> Surface Water	<input type="checkbox"/> Tar	<input type="checkbox"/> Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Weathered Oil

- Substance categories for the media you've selected will be available in the drop-down selection menu:

Substance: Category:
 Available Substances: % Gravel % Sand % Silt, Clay % Solids .alpha.-End .alpha.-Hex
 All
 Dispersant Constituents
 Metals
 Particulates
 Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons
 Semi Volatile Organic Compounds
 Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons
 Volatile Organic Compounds
 Selected Substances:

- Substances for the category you choose can be selected to further refine your search:

Substance: Category:
 Available Substances: 1-(2-Butoxy-1-methylethoxy)-2-propanol 2-Ethylhexanol Bis(2-ethylhexyl) sodium sulfosuccinate Ethylene glycol monobutyl ether Propylene glycol

 Selected Substances:

- Click "Download Data"

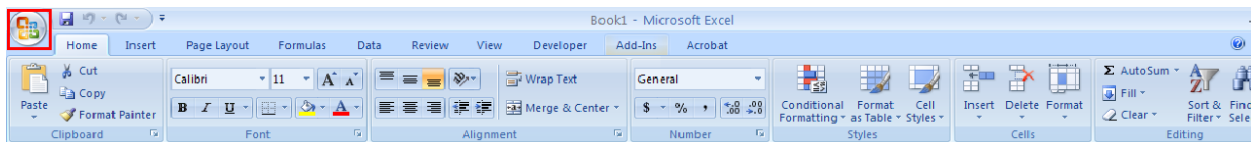
- Your browser will open a window permitting you to **open** or **save** the file in .csv format. If the number of search results exceeds 65,000 rows you will be notified to narrow your search criteria.
- See spreadsheet column definitions on page 3 and 4 of this document.
- Follow the instructions below to work with the files you download in Microsoft Excel 2007 or 2003

To use this file in Microsoft Excel 2007 and 2003

Click the “Open” button and the file will open as a Microsoft Office Excel file (Excel).

You will need to reformat the column widths in Excel to properly display the data. You can do this by highlighting the entire worksheet by clicking CTRL+A and then hovering your mouse over the line dividing columns A and B until the cursor becomes a crosshair and then double clicking.

In order to save the file that you have just opened and formatted, click the Excel Office Button in the top left hand corner, which is highlighted in red in the screenshot below. Next, hover over the “Save As” option and when the menu expands, select the “Excel Workbook” option.



Microsoft Excel - Toolbar

For Excel 2007: When the “Save As” popup appears, select a location where you would like to save this file and ensure that the “Save as type” is set to: Excel Workbook (*.xlsx) and then click the “Save” button. The file is now saved to the selected location and can be opened in Excel in the future simply by navigating to the file and double clicking on it.

For Excel 2003: In order to save the Excel file that you have just opened and formatted, click the File menu and select the “Save as” option.

When the “Save As” popup appears, select a location where you would like to save this file and ensure that the “Save as type” is set to: Microsoft Excel Workbook. Then click the “Save” button. The file is now saved to the selected location and can be opened in Excel in the future simply by navigating to the file and double clicking on it.

Spreadsheet Column Definitions

Below is a list of definitions for all of the data columns contained in both the Monitoring and Sampling spreadsheets.

Monitoring Data

Date: Date that monitoring was performed

Matrix: Media that was monitored. Example: Air

Location: The name or code that uniquely identifies the monitoring station

State Name: The state in which the monitoring was performed

Instrument: The instrument that was used to perform the monitoring

CAS Number: The unique identifier for a chemical or substance. The CAS acronym stands for Chemical Abstracts Service Number

Substance: The name of each substance that the monitors could detect

Result: The numerical value presented by the monitoring instrument for each substance

Unit: The unit of measure that corresponds to each Result

Interval: Timeframe during which the measurement was taken

County: The County in which the monitoring was performed

Zip Code: The zip code in which the monitoring was performed

Published Date: The date the data was published

Latitude: The latitude at which the monitoring was performed

Longitude: The longitude at which the monitoring was performed

Sampling Data

Date: Date the sample was collected

Matrix: Media that was sampled. Example: Air, Water, Sediment

Sample Name: The unique identifier for each sample collected

Location: The name or code that uniquely identifies the station at which the sample was collected

State Name: The state in which the sample was collected

CAS Number: The unique identifier for a chemical or substance. The CAS acronym stands for Chemical Abstracts Service Number

Substance: The name of each substance for which an analysis was performed

Result: The measured amount of each substance present in a sample

Unit: The unit of measure that corresponds to each Result

Reporting Limit: The lowest amount of a substance that a lab is required to quantify

Reporting Limit Unit: The unit of measure that corresponds to each Reporting Limit

Detected: Indicates whether or not a substance was found in a sample. (Yes/No)

Acute Aquatic Life Benchmark: The lowest amount of a substance that may potentially cause adverse effects in a short period of time

Acute Aquatic Life Benchmark Unit: The unit of measure that corresponds to the Acute Aquatic Life Benchmark

Acute Aquatic Life Benchmark Exceeds: Indicates whether or not the substance exceeds the Acute Aquatic Life Benchmark

Chronic Aquatic Life Benchmark: The lowest amount of a substance that may possibly cause adverse effects over a long period of time

Chronic Aquatic Life Benchmark Unit: The unit of measure that corresponds to the Chronic Aquatic Life Benchmark

Chronic Aquatic Life Benchmark Exceeds: Indicates whether or not the substance exceeds the Chronic Aquatic Life Benchmark

County: The County in which the sample was collected

Zip Code: The zip code in which the sample was collected

Published Date: The date the data was published

Latitude: The latitude at which the sample was collected

Longitude: The longitude at which the sample was collected