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National Priority Chemicals Trends Report (2004-2006)

Section 4 Trends Analyses for Specific Priority Chemicals (2004-2006): Introduction

Hazardous Waste Minimization and Management Division
Office of Solid Waste
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Contact Information:

Bill Kline, Senior Data Analyst
Analysis & Information Branch
(540) 341-3631
kline.bill@epa.gov

Tammie Owen, Data Analyst
Analysis & Information Branch
(703) 308-4044
owen.tammie@epa.gov

Ben Lesser, Chief
Analysis & Information Branch
(703) 308-0314
lesser.ben@epa.gov

SECTION 4

TRENDS ANALYSES FOR SPECIFIC PRIORITY CHEMICALS (2004–2006)

Introduction

Section 4 presents the generation and management trends from national, EPA region, state, county, and industry perspectives for ten of the 24 PCs reported to TRI¹⁰ (see table below). The ten PCs consist of six PCs with the largest quantities generated (excluding recycled quantities), the three metals (cadmium, lead, and mercury) and their compounds, and dioxins. Although we only present trends for these ten PCs in this Report, waste minimization opportunities likely exist for the other PCs. In this section, we also provide basic information regarding the PC, including its alternative names (if any), and general uses. To find more descriptive information, including the Chemical Abstracts Service Registration Number, and potential hazards for each of these chemicals, please see <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/minimize/chemlist.htm>.

In this Report, for the first time, we also present data derived from the Hazardous Waste Report (also called the Biennial Report (BR)) for the ten PCs reported to TRI, as well as six of the seven PCs that are not reported to TRI. See the section for each PC with the heading: **PC Data Derived From Hazardous Waste Biennial Reports**. By law, large quantity generators (LQGs)¹¹ and treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs) must submit reports every two years on their hazardous waste streams. EPA has developed a methodology to identify those hazardous waste streams that are likely to contain PCs and to estimate the quantity of PCs in the waste streams. To learn more about the Priority Chemical Biennial Report Measurement Methodology, please see <http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/minimize/trends.htm>. As discussed in Section 1, we caution readers against making casual one-to-one comparisons between the TRI and BR data. The differences between these two reporting systems can cause significant variation in the number of reporting facilities and quantities of chemicals reported.

Priority Chemicals (PCs) Reported to TRI	
1,2,4-trichlorobenzene	Hexachloroethane
Anthracene	Lead and lead compounds
Cadmium and cadmium compounds	Mercury and mercury compounds
Dioxins and dioxin-like compounds	Naphthalene
Hexachloro-1, 3-butadiene	Polycyclic aromatic compounds (PACs)
Priority Chemicals (PCs) Not Reported to TRI*	
1,2,4,5-Tetrachlorobenzene	Endosulfan, alpha, beta
4-Bromophenyl phenyl ether	Fluorene
Acenaphthene	Pyrene
Acenaphthylene	

* Although we do not have TRI data for these seven PCs, we have developed a methodology by which to estimate the quantities of these PCs in hazardous waste streams reported for the BR. These quantities (for six of these PCs) are presented at the end of this section.

For some PCs, numerous facilities reported they only used recycling. Facilities that only recycle wastes containing PCs might offer insights about how to further enhance waste minimization and thus decrease or even entirely avoid using land disposal, treatment, and energy recovery to manage PC wastes. Where applicable, we present data concerning facilities that reported only using recycling to manage wastes containing the PC.

¹⁰ The quantities of some PCs might differ from the quantities presented in the TRI Public Data Release because we only extract a subset of the TRI universe which we believe offer opportunities for waste minimization. We also exclude air emissions and surface water discharges reported to TRI.

¹¹ A LQG is a facility that generates more than 1,000 kilograms (2,200 pounds) of hazardous waste or 1 kg of acute hazardous waste in a calendar month.