What are the Sector Snapshots?

EPA has developed a series of sector snapshots that provide environmental and economic performance data for industry sectors participating in EPA's Smart Sectors program. Each snapshot is designed to help the general public, EPA, and sector partners gain a common understanding of sector performance over time.

Why Did EPA Develop the Sector Snapshots?

EPA and other agencies collect and make available large volumes of environmental and economic data, which often reside in disparate locations. The snapshots assemble data from different publicly-available sources to provide an integrated, high–level overview of each sector. The snapshots show environmental trends over time, in the context of the economic impact of the sectors.

What Data are Presented?

Most sector snapshots display data for total air emissions, criteria air pollutants, water discharges, releases to land, and hazardous waste generation. However, each set of indicators is tailored based on data availability and relevance to the sector’s operations. The economic benchmarks available include dollar value of output and employment, and for some sectors, an indicator for production applicable to the sector.