

## Toxics Release Inventory (TRI)



***“We all deserve to know what toxic chemicals are being used and released into our environment, and what steps companies are taking to reduce these releases—or better yet, prevent waste from being generated in the first place.”***

***- EPA Administrator  
Gina McCarthy***

### What is TRI?

TRI tracks the management of over 650 toxic chemicals that may pose a threat to human health and the environment. More than 20,000 U.S. industrial facilities report annually how much of each chemical is released to the environment and/or managed through recycling, energy recovery and treatment.

The goal of TRI is to provide this information to communities and to support informed decision-making by industry, government, non-governmental organizations and the public. Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) established the TRI Program, and the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990 expanded it.

U.S. facilities that meet TRI reporting criteria submit data annually to EPA, states, and tribes. These facilities:

- are in a covered industry sector (based on North American Industry Classification System codes),
- manufacture, process, or otherwise use a threshold amount of a TRI chemical, and
- have at least 10 full-time equivalent employees.



TRI data are accessible through a variety of resources.

### What does TRI provide?

TRI includes information about:

- on-site disposal or other releases of toxic chemicals to air, surface water and land,
- off-site transfers of toxic chemicals from TRI facilities to other locations,
- pollution prevention activities at facilities, including source reduction, recycling, treatment and energy recovery of TRI chemicals,
- releases of lead, mercury, dioxin and other persistent, bioaccumulative and toxic (PBT) chemicals, and
- facilities in a variety of industry sectors (including manufacturing, metal mining, and electric power generation) and some federal facilities.

### Useful Links:

- TRI homepage: [www.epa.gov/tri](http://www.epa.gov/tri)
- TRI Pollution Prevention: [www.epa.gov/tri/p2](http://www.epa.gov/tri/p2)
- EPCRA homepage: <http://www2.epa.gov/epcra>

## How can you use TRI data?

- To identify sources of toxic chemical releases
- To begin analyzing potential toxic chemical hazards to human health and the environment
- To encourage pollution prevention (P2) at facilities

## Who uses TRI data?

- Individuals, communities and environmental groups
- Governmental agencies
- Academic and investment communities
- News media
- Industry groups

## What do the TRI data show at the national level?

### Quick Facts for Reporting Year 2013

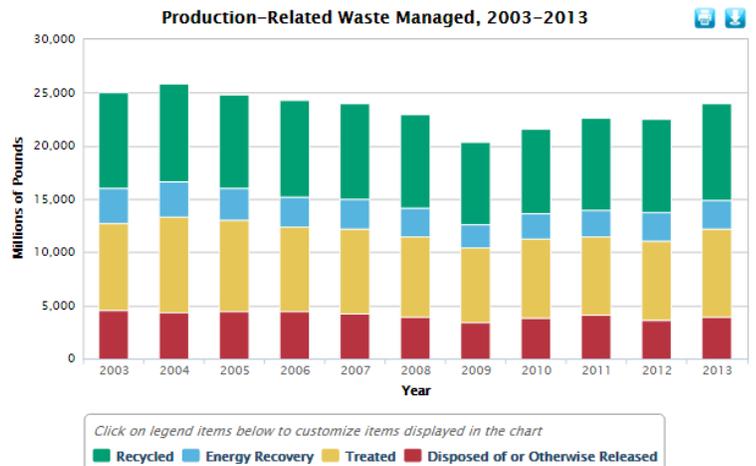
<b>Number of TRI Facilities</b>	<b>21,598</b>
<b>Production-Related Waste Managed</b>	<b>25.63 billion lb</b>
Recycled	9.23 billion lb
Energy Recovery	2.91 billion lb
Treated	9.49 billion lb
Disposed of or Otherwise Released	4.00 billion lb
<b>Total Disposal or Other Releases</b>	<b>4.14 billion lb</b>
<b>On-site</b>	<b>3.74 billion lb</b>
Air	0.77 billion lb
Water	0.21 billion lb
Land	2.75 billion lb
<b>Off-site</b>	<b>0.41 billion lb</b>

### Limitations of TRI Data:

TRI data do not reflect:

- Releases of toxic chemicals not on the TRI chemical list
- Releases from facilities in industry sectors not covered by the TRI Program
- Risks to human health and the environment

TRI facilities report the best readily available data to EPA.



## Accessing and Analyzing TRI Data

Multiple resources provide easy access to TRI data and related analyses:

- **TRI National Analysis website:** Find national- and local-level analyses of toxic chemical waste management data.
- **TRI Pollution Prevention (P2) Tool:** Explore and compare facility and parent company information on the management of toxic chemical waste.
- **TRI Explorer:** Access and analyze the most commonly requested TRI information.
- **Envirofacts:** Search all publicly available TRI data in EPA's data warehouse.
- **myRTK:** Find summary-level facility information in easy-to-use tool in English and Spanish.