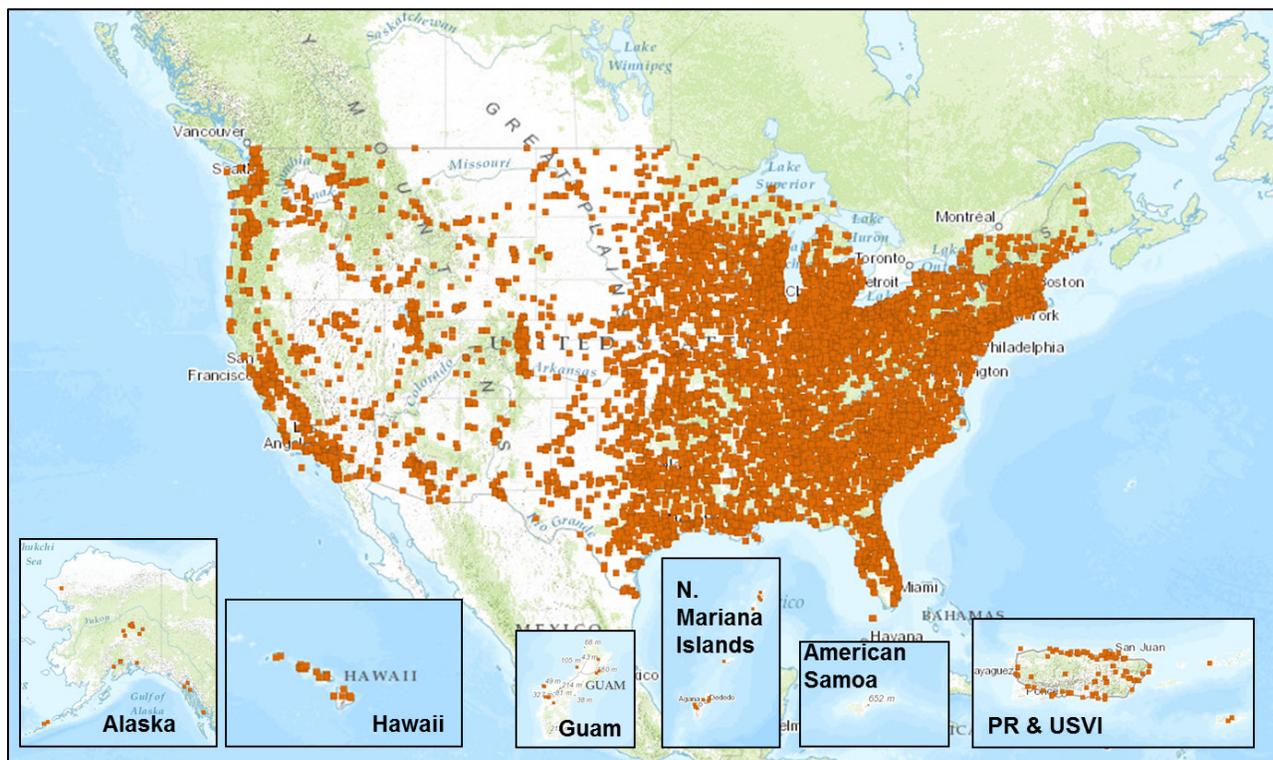


2014 TRI National Analysis: Introduction

Industries and businesses in the United States use tens of thousands of chemicals to make the products we depend on, such as pharmaceuticals, computers, paints, clothing, and automobiles. Although the majority of toxic chemicals are managed by industrial facilities to minimize releases of chemicals into the environment, releases do still occur.

It is your right to know what toxic chemicals are being used in your community, how they are managed, whether they are being released into the environment, the quantities of these releases, and whether such quantities are increasing or decreasing over time. The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) is an EPA program that tracks the management of certain toxic chemicals that may pose a threat to human health and the environment. This information is submitted by thousands of U.S. facilities on over [650 chemicals and chemical categories](#) under the [Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act \(EPCRA\)](#) and the [Pollution Prevention Act \(PPA\)](#).

Map of TRI Facilities



This map shows facilities that reported to EPA's TRI Program for 2014. These facilities are primarily from industry sectors involved in manufacturing, metal mining, electric power generation, and hazardous waste treatment; have ten or more employees; and manufacture, process, or otherwise use TRI chemicals in quantities that trigger reporting. Federal facilities are also required to report to the TRI Program, most recently by [Executive Order 13693](#).



For more information about facilities in your community that report to the TRI Program, visit the **Where You Live** section of the National Analysis.

Exploring Demographic Information within the 2014 TRI National Analysis

Almost 59 million people live within one mile of at least one of the many facilities that reported to the TRI Program for 2014. As part of the TRI National Analysis, EPA has developed a Story Map to provide information on community demographics across the country.

The Story Map includes interactive maps showing facility locations and the demographic patterns of the communities around them, particularly the percentage of the population living below the poverty line and the population of minority status, based on U.S. Census data. You can search for your own community to learn more about the facilities that are located in your neighborhood and report to the TRI Program.

See EPA's [story map](#) about who lives near TRI facilities.



TRI Summary for 2014

The TRI National Analysis is developed on an annual basis, and the 2014 TRI National Analysis is EPA's summary and interpretation of TRI data reported for activities at facilities during 2014. It offers a starting point for understanding how the environment and communities may be affected by toxic chemicals, and is presented as a snapshot of the data at one point in time. Any TRI reporting forms submitted to EPA after the July 1, 2015, reporting deadline may not be processed in time to be included in the National Analysis. The most recent data available are accessible from the [TRI Data and Tools webpage](#).

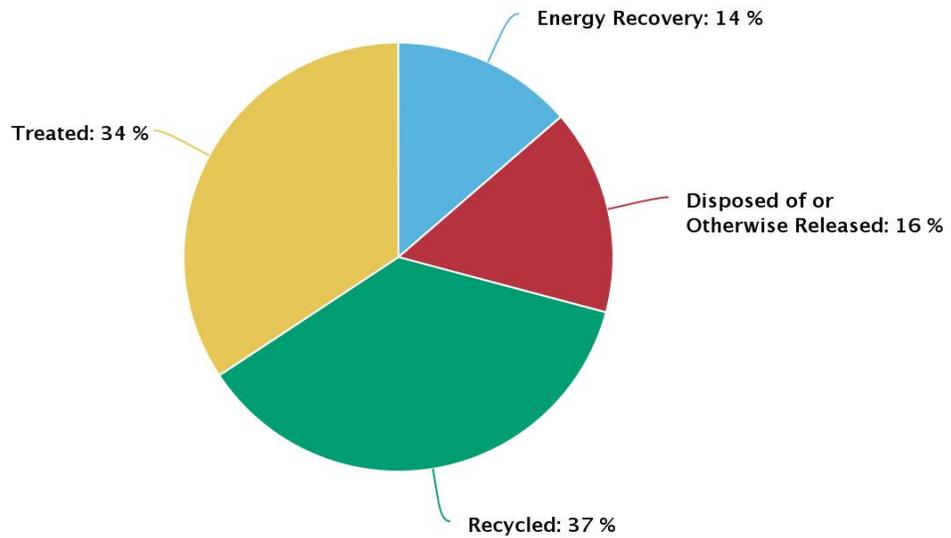
Users of TRI data should be aware that the TRI database includes information on the quantities of many toxic chemicals that are released or otherwise managed as waste by industrial facilities, but it does not contain such information on all toxic chemicals or all industry sectors of the U.S. economy. Additionally, covered facilities report the quantities of chemicals to TRI using their best-available data. Each year, EPA conducts an extensive data quality investigation before publishing the National Analysis. During the [data quality](#) review, potential errors are identified and investigated to help ensure the most accurate and useful information possible in the National Analysis and TRI database.

Quick Facts for 2014	
Number of TRI Facilities	21,783
Production-Related Waste Managed	25.45 billion lb
Recycled	9.30 billion lb
Energy Recovery	3.48 billion lb
Treated	8.73 billion lb
Disposed of or Otherwise Released	3.95 billion lb
Total Disposal or Other Releases	3.89 billion lb
On-site	3.49 billion lb
Air	0.74 billion lb
Water	0.22 billion lb
Land	2.53 billion lb
Off-site	0.41 billion lb

Note: Numbers do not sum exactly due to rounding.

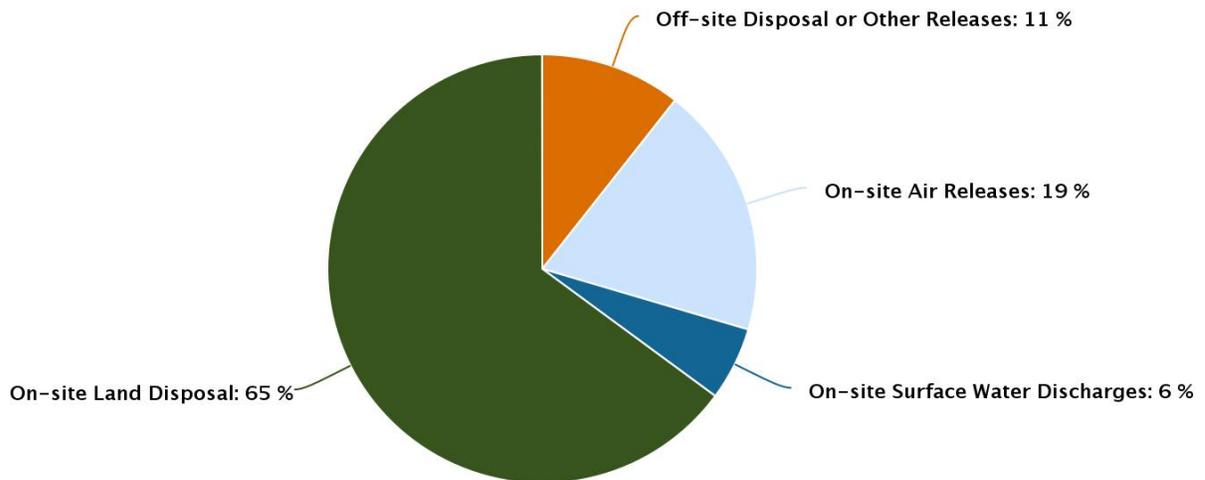
Production-Related Waste Managed, 2014

25.45 billion pounds



Total Disposal or Other Releases, 2014

3.89 billion pounds



**In 2014:**

- 21,783 facilities reported to the TRI Program.
- Facilities reported managing 25.45 billion pounds of toxic chemicals in production-related wastes. This is the quantity of toxic chemicals in waste that is recycled, burned for energy recovery, treated, disposed of or otherwise released. In other words, it encompasses the toxic chemicals in waste generated in the processes and operations of the facilities that reported.
 - Of this total, 21.50 billion pounds were recycled, burned for energy recovery, or treated, and 3.95 billion pounds were disposed of or otherwise released to the environment, as shown in the Production-Related Waste Managed pie chart.
- Facilities also reported total on- and off-site disposal or other releases of 3.89 billion pounds of toxic chemicals. As shown in the Disposal or Other Releases pie chart, most were disposed of on-site to land (including landfills, other land disposal, and underground injection).

Note that two metrics shown in the Quick Facts box related to disposal or other releases are similar (3.95 and 3.89 billion pounds), but total disposal or other releases is slightly lower. The reason total disposal or other releases is lower is that it removes "double counting" that occurs when a TRI facility transfers waste to another TRI facility. For example, when TRI Facility A transfers a chemical off-site for disposal to Facility B, Facility A reports the chemical as transferred off-site for disposal while Facility B reports the same chemical as disposed of on-site. In processing the data, the TRI Program recognizes that this is the same quantity of the chemical, and includes it only once in the total disposal or other releases value. The production-related waste value in TRI, however, considers **all** of the instances where the waste is managed (first as a quantity sent off-site for disposal and next as a quantity disposed of on-site), and reflects both the transfer off-site and the on-site disposal.

A current list of the chemicals reportable to the TRI Program is available on the [TRI chemicals webpage](#). The list of chemicals has changed over the years; as a result, trend graphs in the TRI National Analysis include only those chemicals that were reportable for the entire time period presented so that the year-to-year data are comparable. Results which focus only on the year 2014 include all chemicals reportable in 2014 and may be slightly different from results in trend analyses that include 2014 and previous years.

Additional information is presented in the following chapters of the TRI National Analysis:

- **Waste Management and Pollution Prevention** presents trends on recycling, energy recovery, treatment, and releases of toxic chemicals and the types of pollution prevention activities that facilities have implemented.
- **Releases of Chemicals** presents trends in releases of toxic chemicals to air, water, and land of toxic chemicals, including a focus on selected chemicals of concern.
- **Industry Sectors** highlights toxic chemical waste management trends for four industry sectors.



- **Where You Live** presents analyses of the quantities of TRI chemicals specific to: state, city, county, zip code, metropolitan area or micropolitan area, and by Large Aquatic Ecosystems (LAEs) such as the Chesapeake Bay, as well as information about facilities in Indian Country.
- **TRI and Beyond** combines TRI data with other EPA data, such as greenhouse gas emissions, providing a more complete picture of national trends in chemical use, management, and releases of the chemicals, and overall environmental performance by facilities.

To conduct your own analysis of TRI data, use one of EPA's TRI data access and analysis tools available to the public from the [TRI Data and Tools webpage](#).