



# Community Right to Know: Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Tools for Communities

**Coachella Valley EJ Task Force  
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## Presentation Outline

- What is the Toxics Release Inventory?
- Which facilities are subject?
- What information is reported by facilities?
- Where is TRI information found?
- How is TRI information used?



# What is the Toxics Release Inventory?



## **EPA information resource**

- ✓ **For the public**
- ✓ **Listed toxic chemicals**
- ✓ **Released into the environment**
- ✓ **By certain facilities**

## **The TRI currently covers**

- ✓ **About 675 chemicals/categories**
- ✓ **Over 20,000 facilities across U.S.**



Bhopal Memorial

## Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) 1986

### **Bhopal, India. December 1984**

Union Carbide plant release  
Methyl isocyanate gas

### **Institute, West Virginia. August 1985**

Union Carbide plant release  
Aldicarb oxime and other chemicals



## EPCRA Section 313

- Right of public access to information on toxic chemical hazards in their communities
- Responsibility of facilities that manufacture, process or otherwise use listed toxic chemicals to report releases annually
- Requires EPA to collect, maintain and make available to the public the TRI data reported by facilities

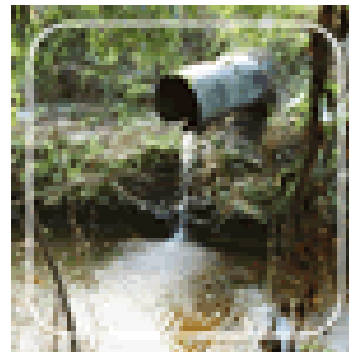


## What is a "release"?

A **"release"** refers to any of the ways that toxic chemicals enter the environment from industrial facilities.



AIR: Fugitive or On-site



WATER



LAND

# Which facilities must report to TRI?

1. Facility must be in a **TRI-covered industry sector or category.**



**Manufacturing**



**Coal/Oil  
Electricity  
Generation**



**Certain Mining  
Facilities**



**Hazardous  
Waste  
Management**



**Federal Facilities**

2. Facility must have the equivalent of at least **10 full-time employees.**

3. Facility must manufacture, process or use at or over the threshold established for any **TRI-listed toxic chemical in a calendar year.**



## What do facilities report to TRI?



### On-site releases of TRI chemicals to

- Air (On-site and Fugitive)
- Water
- Land



### Transfer of chemical waste to off-site locations

### Other waste management

- Recycling
- Treatment
- Energy Recovery



### Pollution prevention activities





## Some limitations of TRI data

- **Annual data:** Facilities report July 1 for previous calendar year.
- Covers some, but **not all toxic chemicals and not all industry sectors.**
- Does not include **facilities with fewer than 10 employees.**
- Does not apply to **facilities that don't meet the threshold** for a TRI-listed chemical, even if the facility has releases.
- **Does not cover all sources of pollution**, e.g. cars and trucks.
- **Does not describe how long or how often chemicals were released.**

For more information, see *"Factors to Consider When Using TRI Data"* at: [www2.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/factors-consider-when-using-toxics-release-inventory-data](http://www2.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/factors-consider-when-using-toxics-release-inventory-data)



## Why is TRI Important to Communities?

- TRI can help Communities:
  - Identify which chemicals are being released by facilities located on or near their homes and communities
  - Track increases or reductions of toxic chemical releases from facilities over time;
  - Prioritize efforts to address pollution from facilities located on or near homes and communities.



# What can TRI data tell us?

- **How many TRI facilities** operate in the community **and where they are located**,
- **Which chemicals are being released** by TRI facilities,
- **Whether facilities have increases or reductions** of toxic chemical releases in the community over time,
- **How facility releases in a community compare with similar facilities in other areas across the country**,
- **Whether a facility has implemented Pollution Prevention** activities or other efforts to improve environmental performance.

More on TRI uses at <https://www.epa.gov/toxics-release-inventory-tri-program/tri-data-uses>



# Accessing TRI Information

- Several pathways**
- Easy to find via Google, Bing, etc.**
- Improved navigation & speed**
- TRI program encourages user feedback for making tools more intuitive & user-friendly**



# How to access TRI data - myRTK

- Easy to use application available in English and Spanish

1. Go to:

[www.epa.gov/tri/myrtk](http://www.epa.gov/tri/myrtk)

2. Enter your location

3. Click “Find Facilities”

The screenshot shows the EPA myRTK mobile application interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Today', 'Apps', 'Connect', and 'Tips'. Below this is a search bar with 'my Right-to-Know' and language options for 'English' and 'español'. A secondary navigation bar contains 'Map', 'List', 'Search', and 'Information'. The main content area is titled 'Search' and includes the text 'Learn about nearby facilities and chemical releases. Enter an address/ZIP.' Below this are four input fields: 'Street', 'City', 'State', and 'Zip'. A 'Find Facilities' button is located at the bottom of the form. Red arrows from the instructions point to the 'Street' field, the 'City' field, the 'State' field, the 'Zip' field, and the 'Find Facilities' button.



# Summary TRI Facility Report - myRTK

Search Map List Legend and Info

Map Satellite

**BRADFORD INDUSTRIES INC**  
75 ROGERS ST  
LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS 01852  
Textiles

Home Today Apps Connect Tips

Click on the bubble and facility name to see a summary facility report

Search Map List Legend and Info

### FACILITY REPORT

**BRADFORD INDUSTRIES INC**  
Toxics Release Inventory ID = 01852BRDFR75ROG  
75 ROGERS ST, LOWELL, MA 01852  
Industry: Textiles

**CONTEXT**  
**County**  
2% of TRI releases in MIDDLESEX, MA  
78 TRI facilities in MIDDLESEX, MA  
**National**  
Ranks 39 out of 121 TRI facilities in Industry: Textiles  
(Rank 1 = highest releases)

**ON SITE RELEASES TOTALS**

Source	Quantity Reported
Air	5,918
Water	0
Land	0

**ON SITE RELEASES BY CHEMICAL**

	Quantity Reported (Pounds)	Health Effects Cancer	Other
ANTIMONY COMPOUNDS	NR		✓
N,N-DIMETHYLEFORMAMIDE	3,465		✓
TOLUENE	2,453		✓

Legend: Air (blue), Water (green), Land (red)  
NR - No on-site releases reported for this chemical

**POLLUTION PREVENTION (P2) AND WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Method	Pounds
Recycling	0
Energy Recovery	32,210
Treatment	603,000
Releases	8,211

Waste Management Hierarchy: Source Reduction, Recycling, Energy Recovery, Treatment, Disposal/Other Releases

New Source Reduction Activities : none [Go to full P2 report](#)

**COMPLIANCE**

Facility has permits/records for:  
Air ✓ Water ✓ Land ✓

3 Year Compliance Status (quarterly): (Jan 13->Dec 15)

Quarter	Compliance	Significant Non-Compliance	Non-Compliance	Status Unknown/Unavailable
Q1 2013	✓			
Q2 2013	✓			
Q3 2013	✓			
Q4 2013	✓			
Q1 2014	✓			
Q2 2014	✓			
Q3 2014	✓			
Q4 2014	✓			
Q1 2015	✓			
Q2 2015	✓			
Q3 2015	✓			
Q4 2015	✓			

Last Full Inspection: 944 days ago  
Formal Enforcement Actions-5yr: 0  
[More Compliance Data](#)



# How to access TRI data – National Analysis

- EPA's summary and interpretation of the most recent TRI data
- Analyses of national trends, specific chemicals, industry sectors, and geographic areas
- Links to data access tools and downloadable data files

The screenshot shows the EPA website's 'Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) National Analysis' page. The page is titled '2014 TRI National Analysis is Available' and provides a summary of the data. It includes a video player, a map of the United States, and a pie chart showing waste management statistics for 2014. The pie chart data is as follows:

Category	Percentage
Treated	34%
Energy Recovery	14%
Recycled	37%
Disposed of or Otherwise Released	15%

[www.epa.gov/trinationalanalysis](http://www.epa.gov/trinationalanalysis)

# How to access TRI data – TRI Fact Sheets

## Find TRI Factsheets for Your Community

Search by:  States  Metropolitan Areas  Watersheds  Tribal

Search: State:  or Zip Code:  City:  County:

**States - Total Releases**

- > 150 million lb
- 35 million - 150 million lb
- 500,000 - 35 million lb
- < 500,000 lb

**Note:** Search results will display location-specific data based on facilities that reported to the TRI Program in 2014. Data are current as of November 2015.

[Use the interactive version of this map.](#)

### Find TRI Facilities

Street

City

State

Zip

**Note:** Search results will display facilities that reported to the TRI Program in 2014. Data are current as of October 2015. Search uses the myRTK tool.

**Get email alerts**





**2014 TRI Factsheet: State – California**  
**2014 Dataset (released March 2016)**

The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) tracks the management of certain toxic chemicals that may pose a threat to human health and the environment. Certain industrial facilities in the U.S. must report annually how much of each chemical is recycled, combusted for energy recovery, treated for destruction, and disposed of or otherwise released on- and off-site. This information is collectively referred to as production-related waste managed.

Map of TRI Facilities in California



Quick Facts for 2014

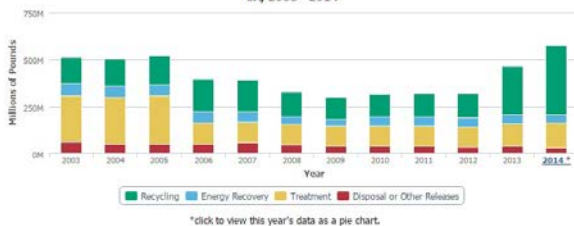
	California	United States
<b>Number of TRI Facilities:</b>	1,280	21,841
<b>Total Production-Related Waste Managed:</b>	574.7 million lbs	25.3 billion lbs
<b>Total On-site and Off-site Disposal or Other Releases:</b>	27.7 million lbs	3.9 billion lbs
<b>Total On-site:</b>	23.3 million lbs	3.4 billion lbs
• Air:	8.4 million lbs	739.2 million lbs
• Water:	2.9 million lbs	215.5 million lbs
• Land:	11.9 million lbs	2.5 billion lbs
<b>Total Off-Site:</b>	4.4 million lbs	450.6 million lbs

# TRI Fact Sheets

California ranks **48 out of 56** states/territories nationwide based on total releases per square mile (Rank 1 = highest releases)

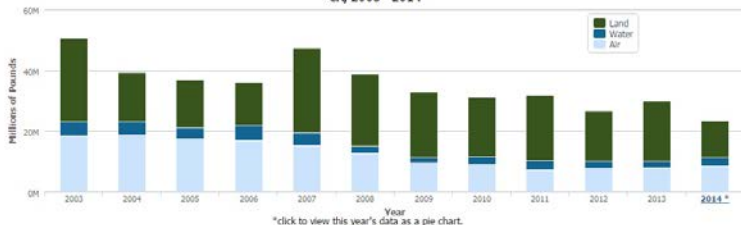
Looking at production-related waste managed over time helps track progress in reducing waste generated and moving toward safer waste management methods. EPA encourages facilities to first eliminate waste at its source (source reduction). For waste that is generated, the preferred management method is recycling, followed by energy recovery, treatment, and as a last resort, disposing of or otherwise releasing the waste. Under the Pollution Prevention Act of 1990, TRI collects information to track industry progress in reducing waste generation and moving towards safer waste management alternatives. Learn more about [Pollution Prevention](#) and [TRI](#).

Production-related waste managed in CA, 2003 - 2014

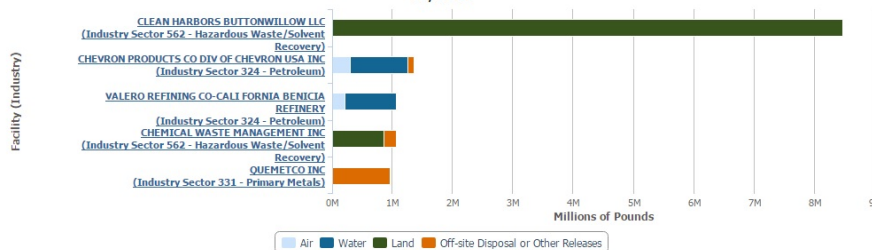


The following charts represent releases of TRI-covered chemicals to the environment in the State of California. A "release" of a chemical means that it is emitted to the air, water, placed in some type of land disposal, or transferred off-site for disposal or release.

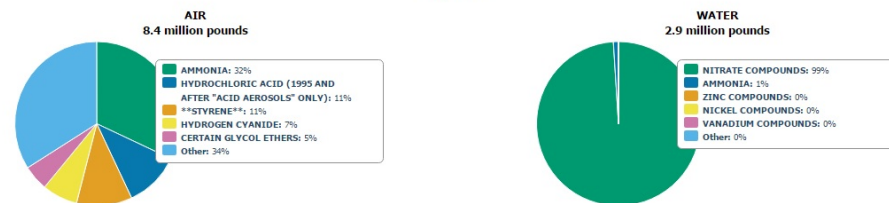
Total On-site Releases by Environmental Medium CA, 2003 - 2014



Top Five Facilities by Total Disposal or Other Releases CA, 2014



Top Five Chemicals Released to Air and Water CA, 2014



Note: \*\*=Carcinogenic Chemical

Note: Trend graphs were created using the 2001 core chemicals/industries list.



## How Communities use TRI Data

- Find out if there is a TRI facility in or near their homes or schools using the TRI Data Tools
- Find out if a facility of concern is in compliance with EPA laws and regulations using EPA's Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) application.
  - <https://echo.epa.gov>
- Report a suspected violation of environmental laws or regulations
  - <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-incidents/report-spills-and-environmental-violations>



## For more information about TRI:

- Call EPA's **TRI Information Center**: 1-800-424-9346. Select option #3 for TRI
- Visit the **TRI Program's website**: [www.epa.gov/tri](http://www.epa.gov/tri)
- Contact the **TRI Help Desk** by email: [tri.help@epa.gov](mailto:tri.help@epa.gov)
- Contact EPA Region 9 TRI Coordinator Angela Baranco [baranco.angela@epa.gov](mailto:baranco.angela@epa.gov) (415) 947-4262