TRI Pollution Prevention (P2) Data Overview

The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program collects information on industry progress in implementing source reduction activities, reducing chemical wastes generated, and moving towards safer waste management methods. Since 2010, the quantity of TRI P2 data has increased substantially, particularly the P2 narratives submitted by facilities, making TRI a robust resource for helping to evaluate and improve corporate environmental performance.

Source Reduction Activities (Form R, Section 8.10)

- Source reduction means eliminating or reducing the creation of chemical waste.
- Facilities are required to report their newly implemented source reduction activities each year by selecting codes on the TRI Form R.
- From 2010 to 2016, facilities reported more than 59,000 source reduction activities to TRI.
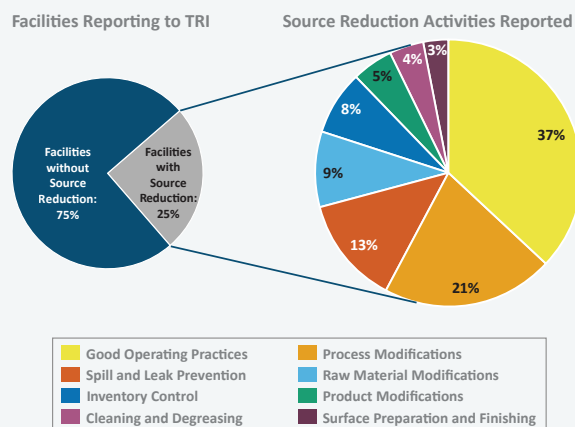
Optional P2 Narratives (Form R, Section 8.11)

Facilities reporting to the TRI Program may also submit optional narrative text to describe their P2 activities, including source reduction activities and other waste management practices. From 2010 to 2016, nationwide P2 narratives increased significantly, expanding P2 details that may assist others in identifying opportunities to eliminate or reduce chemical wastes generated. The increase in the percentage of forms with this information by state is shown in the maps below.
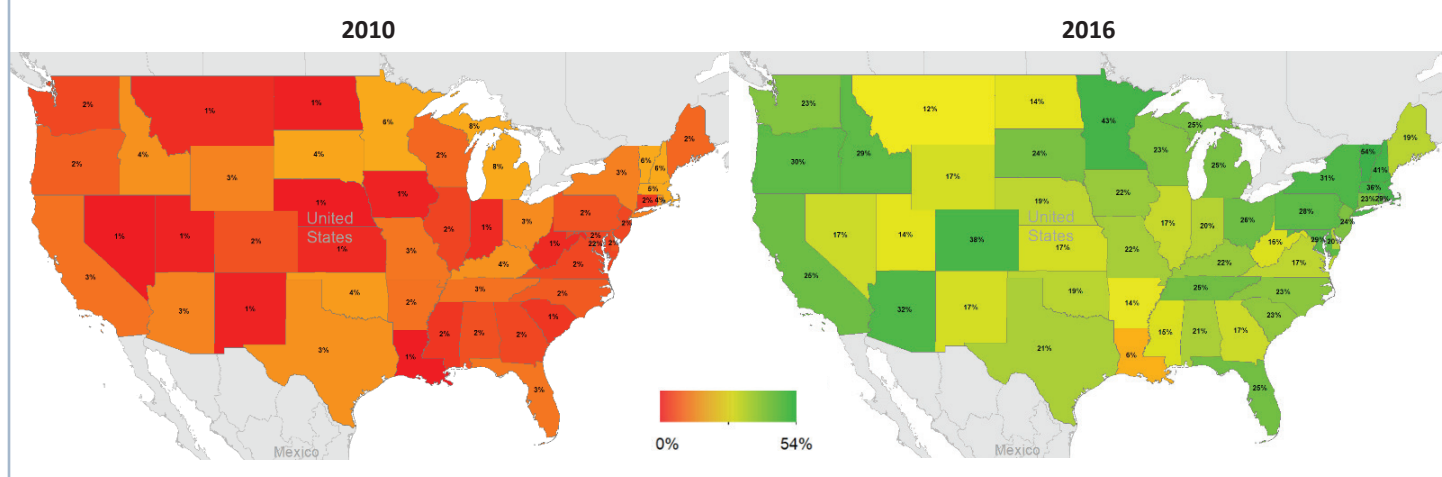
Quick Facts

- Reporting of optional P2 narratives has **increased** substantially since 2010.
- TRI facilities reported **27,000 source reduction narratives** from 2010 to 2016.
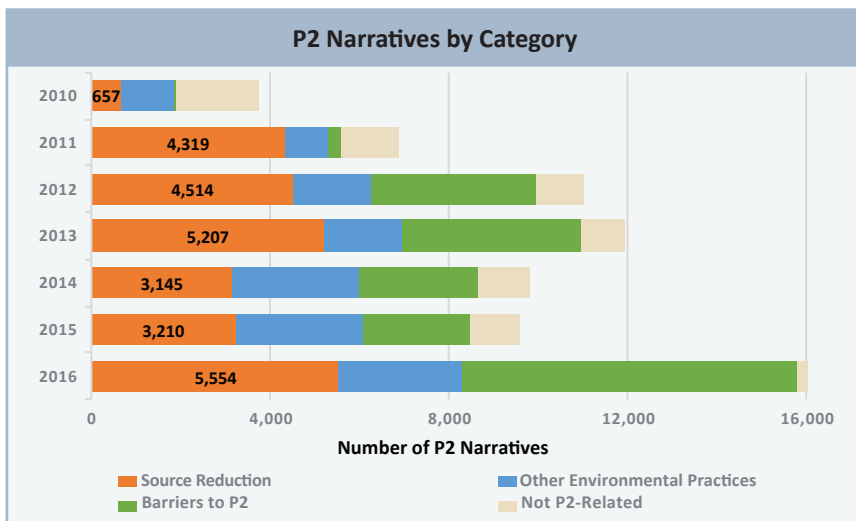

Newly Implemented Source Reduction Practices 2010-2016

Facilities Reporting to TRI

Facilities without Source Reduction: 75%

Facilities with Source Reduction: 25%

Source Reduction Activities Reported

37%, 21%, 13%, 9%, 8%, 5%, 4%, 3%

Legend:
- Good Operating Practices
- Spill and Leak Prevention
- Inventory Control
- Cleaning and Degreasing
- Process Modifications
- Raw Material Modifications
- Product Modifications
- Surface Preparation and Finishing

P2 Narratives by State

2010 / 2016

0% — 54%

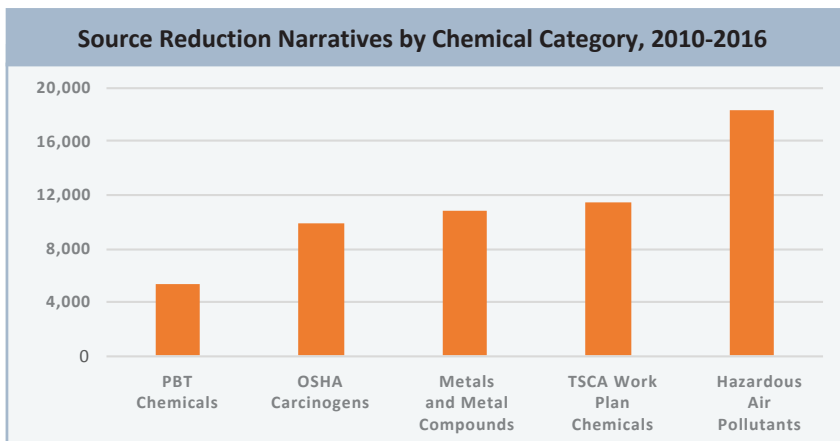# TRI Pollution Prevention (P2) Data Overview

P2 Narratives by Category

P2 Narratives by Category

P2 narratives range from vague to detailed in terms of how much optional information the facility provides. EPA encourages sharing of P2 best practices so others can replicate these approaches and, similarly, sharing of obstacles to P2 to help with identification of technical assistance opportunities. From 2010 to 2016, facilities submitted 61,000 P2 narratives with **about 27,000 of those related to source reduction**, 14,000 on other environmental practices, and 20,000 on barriers to implementing P2.
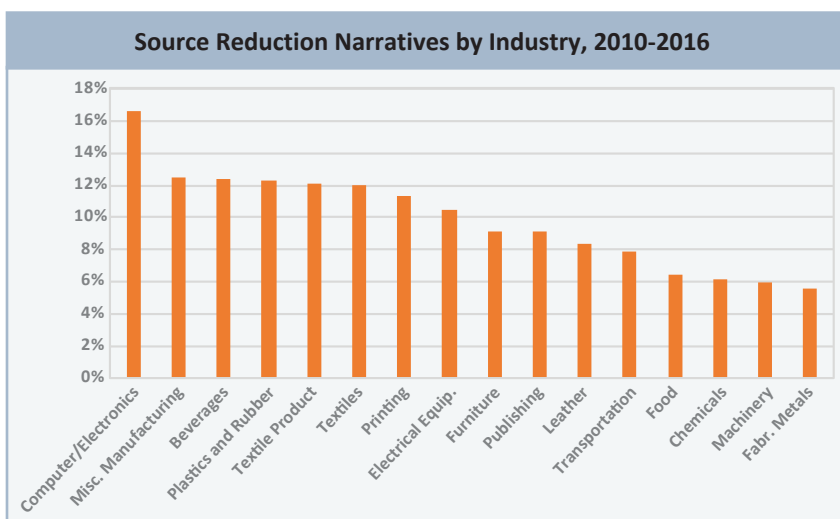
Source Reduction by Chemicals

Source reduction narratives are available for 51% of the 552 chemicals reported to TRI from 2010 to 2016. The number of chemicals in each of the categories shown in this graph varies, but each category has many available source reduction text entries. For example, for the 203 OSHA carcinogens, there are about 10,000 source reduction entries. Text entries about other environmental practices (e.g., recycling) and barriers are available for an additional 49 chemicals reported to TRI.

Source Reduction Narratives by Chemical Category, 2010-2016

Source Reduction by Industries

Half of the industry sectors that report to TRI have at least 400 source reduction narratives for 2010 to 2016, and all sectors except Apparel have some source reduction information. In general, source reduction text reporting is higher among manufacturing sectors, which tend to have greater opportunities for source reduction. The figure to the right shows the rate of source reduction text entry reporting for sectors with a rate greater than five percent.

Source Reduction Narratives by Industry, 2010-2016

Accessing TRI's P2 Data – P2 Search Tool

The TRI P2 Search Tool is the most effective way to access the P2 data reported to TRI. The tool can be used to identify P2 practices associated with particular geographic areas, industries, chemicals, or companies and to compare P2 performance at the facility and company level. This tool also includes visual displays of the P2 data reported annually by each facility or parent company. For more information, visit TRI's P2 webpage.