Chemical Data Reporting

CDR DATA IN ACTION

EPA

- View the Scope documents for the first 10 chemicals selected for risk evaluation under amended TSCA. The CDR data were used to identify the industrial, commercial and consumer use categories reported for these chemicals.

Other Federal Agencies

- View the Toxicological Profiles published by CDC's Agency for Toxic Substances & Disease Registry (ATSDR). CDR data provide context on production and use in chemical profiles.

FACT SHEET: HOW EPA AND STAKEHOLDERS USE CHEMICAL DATA REPORTING (CDR) DATA

The 2016 CDR data, which was initially released to the public in May 2017, contains information useful not just for EPA but also for stakeholders, such as industry, other federal agencies, states, tribal governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and researchers. This fact sheet contains examples of how different stakeholders currently use CDR data and possible ways it can be applied in the future.

How EPA Uses CDR Data

CDR data are primarily used by EPA to support health, safety, and environmental protection activities related to chemical manufacturing and use. Manufacturing, processing and use information about chemicals in commerce helps EPA understand exposure to these chemicals and screen and prioritize chemicals to identify potential human health and environmental effects.

EPA used the 2012 and 2016 CDR data to identify current uses and production volumes to help determine the scope of the risk evaluations for the first 10 chemicals being reviewed under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) as amended by the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act. CDR data will continue to inform future prioritization, risk evaluation, and risk management work under amended TSCA.

The Interagency Testing Committee (ITC), an independent advisory committee to the Administrator of the EPA, uses CDR data when updating the "Priority Testing List" (PTL). The ITC designates or recommends chemicals to the PTL that the Agency may prioritize when requiring testing under TSCA section 4 or collecting information under TSCA sections 8(a) or 8(d). In making those determinations, production volumes reported to CDR are used to identify chemicals where exposure is likely. The ITC has also used CDR data in the past to identify high production volume (HPV) chemicals (chemicals manufactured in the U.S above 1,000,000 lbs).

EPA and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) develop Emission Scenario Documents and industry-specific generic scenarios that are used to estimate occupational exposure and environmental release of chemicals for specific use scenarios. CDR data are used to identify the chemicals commonly used in specific industries, estimate the number of potentially exposed workers, and develop estimates of exposure and releases.

Additional examples of how EPA uses CDR data include:

- The Office of Research and Development uses CDR data to characterize the life cycle of chemicals for life-cycle inventories, to develop conceptual models, and to develop standardized emission and release estimates from chemical production.
- The Office of Water uses CDR data to identify facilities in specific industry sectors while developing effluent guidelines and to identify chemicals of interest and their associated processing and use activities for Effluent Guidelines Annual Review Reports.
- The Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance uses CDR data to analyze chemical manufacturing production volume trends over time, correlate production with facility discharges to evaluate potential noncompliance, and prioritize compliance assistance efforts.

How Other Federal Agencies Use CDR Data

Other federal agencies, such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC), have regulatory authority over the use of chemical substances in the workplace and in consumer products, respectively. Data reported to CDR have been used to add context on chemical exposure for potential rulemakings at these agencies. For example, OSHA's 2014 proposed rulemaking on Chemical Management and Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) relied on CDR data to better understand how workers are exposed to chemicals and the industries and occupations where exposures might occur.

Data reported to CDR provides useful contextual information to federal agencies that conduct toxicology research. The National Institutes of Health (NIH) includes exposure and use information reported to CDR in the Hazardous Substances Data Bank (HSDB), a public toxicology database for over 5,800 hazardous chemicals. Additionally, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) uses CDR data when developing toxicological profiles.

States and Tribal Governments

Data reported to CDR can help states, tribes and local governments with rulemaking, information collection, and voluntary program activities. For example, the Minnesota Department of Health uses CDR data when developing and updating the Minnesota Chemicals of High Concern list, which prioritizes chemicals that are high production volume.

NGOs, Private Sector, and Academia

In the private sector, CDR data help companies achieve product stewardship and sustainability goals by providing a better understanding of downstream uses of chemicals in commerce. Data reported to CDR are also used by NGOs. The publicly available information provided by CDR supports activities typically undertaken by NGOs, such as tracking industry trends, organizing grassroots involvement in risk-based decision making, and conducting outreach and educational programs.

CDR data also have applications in academic research. CDR data have been used to benchmark manufacturing trends of specific chemicals over time. Additionally, when combined with other public data sources, CDR data can be used to prioritize chemicals for risk screening.

For Additional Information:

- Chemical Data Reporting Fact Sheet: Basic Information (https://www.epa.gov/chemical-data-reporting/chemical-data-reporting-fact-sheet-basic-information)
- Access the 2016 CDR data in ChemView (https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/introduction-chemview)
- Using CDR to evaluate chemicals under the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act (https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/evaluating-risk-existing-chemicals-under-tsca)