



# 2008 TRI National Analysis

December 10, 2009



# Key Messages

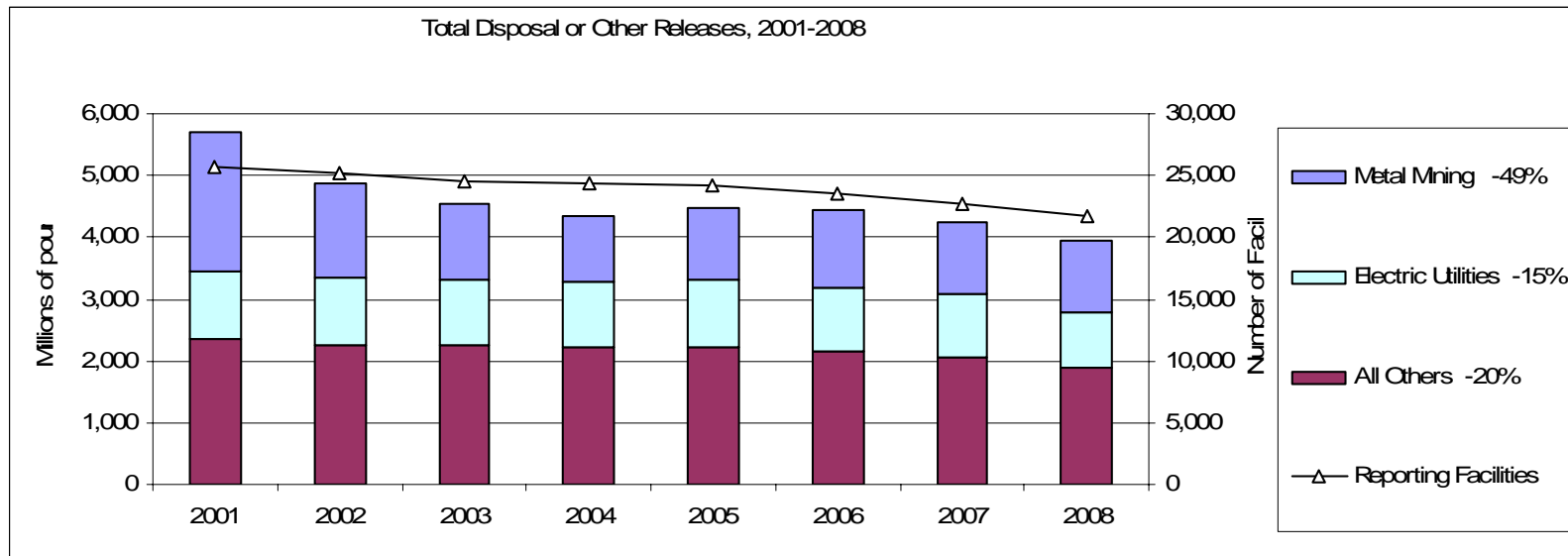
- The analysis of the 2008 data is available faster than ever before.
  - For the first time, analysis will be available in the same calendar year that facilities submitted it to TRI
  - 3 months faster than ever before
- Total TRI releases are down 6%
  - Similar decrease to last year
  - Decreases in releases of most chemicals, including PBT (persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic) chemicals, reversing a trend of increases over the past several years
  - Data are from 2008, so much of the effect of the economic downturn may not be visible this year
- Facilities reporting to TRI down 5%
  - The decrease is similar to last year
  - There are two trends
    - Small decreases in facilities each year
    - 2% - 4% of facilities report late each year
  - Following up with OECA on enforcement strategy



## Key Messages (cont.)

- EPA has reversed the 2006 Burden Reduction Rule, restoring stricter reporting requirements
  - The 2006 Burden Reduction Rule expanded eligibility for the short TRI “Form A”, providing less information on toxic releases
  - New rule restores the stricter eligibility requirements for Form A that were in place prior to 2006
- For the first time, raw data were shared with communities before EPA completed its analysis
  - Early data sharing set a new standard for transparency
  - Communities had access as soon as raw data were available
  - EPA received positive feedback in the press and from other stakeholders

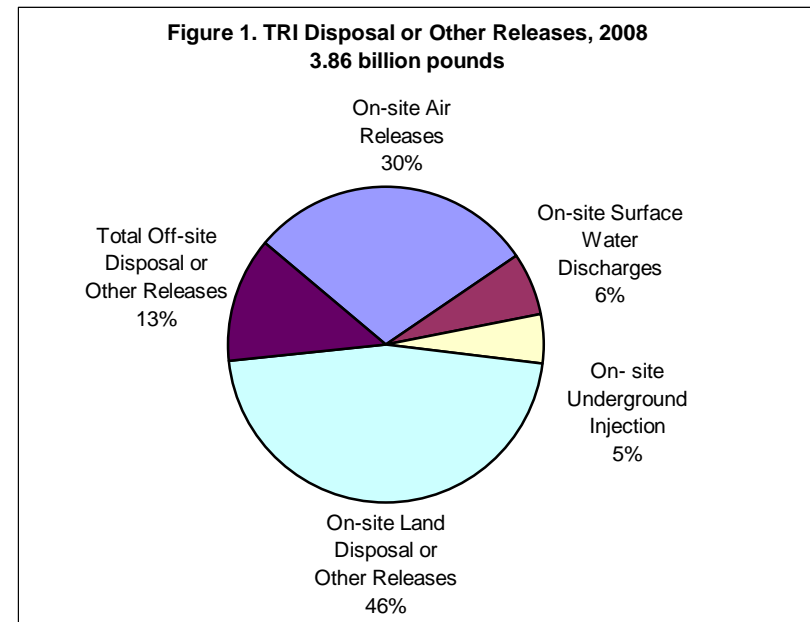
# Key Findings - Industries



- Decrease this year driven by electric utilities sector (down 10%)
- Also large decrease from primary metals (down 12%) and hazardous waste management (down 19%)
- Most of decrease since 2001 due to metal mining

# Key Findings – Environmental Media

- Land releases virtually same as last year
  - 0.1% increase
- Air releases down 14%
  - Electric utilities air releases down 10%
  - Chemicals air releases down 8%
  - Transportation Equipment air releases down 29%
- Surface water discharges increased by 3%
  - Food/Beverage sector water releases increased by 11%
  - Electric utilities water releases doubled (due entirely to coal ash spill from TVA Kingston facility)
  - Petroleum refinery water releases increased 11%





# Key Findings - PBTs

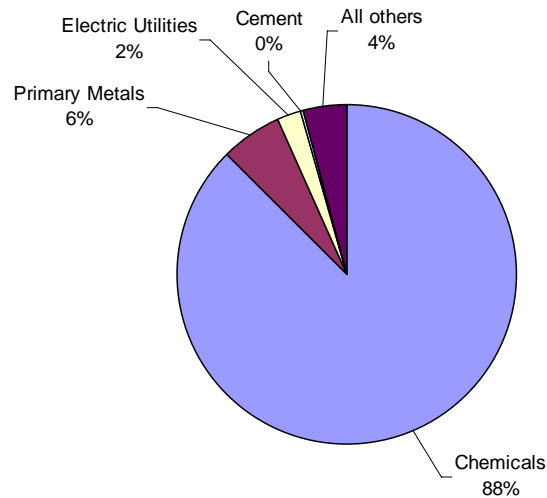
- Total disposal and other releases of PBTs decreased 2%
- Lead decreased 2% overall
  - However, *air* releases of lead increased due to one facility (Moody AFB in TX) which reported huge increases in lead releases to air
- Dioxin decreased 77% overall
  - Large decreases by facilities that disposed large amounts in 2007
  - However, *air* releases of dioxins increased due to large release from one primary metals facility (Quemetco in CA) – without this facility air releases would have decreased 4%
- Mercury decreased 11% overall
  - Air releases decreased 5%
- PCBs increased by 121%
  - represents large disposals to hazardous waste landfills



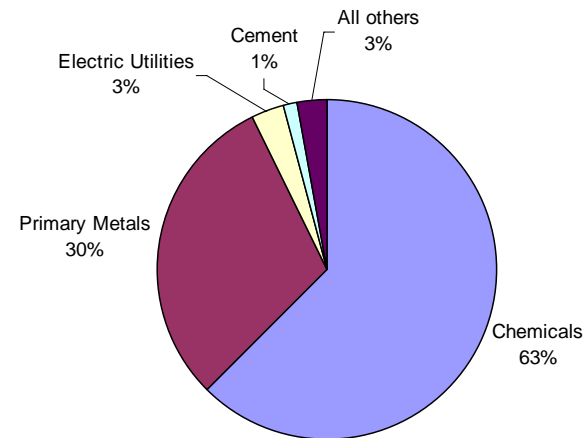
# New – Dioxin TEQs

- TEQ values more accurately show relative - the dioxin category is actually 17 chemicals, all bad, but each with different toxicity, in some cases very big variations in toxicity
- TEQ is a weighted sum so that for a facility you have a single number that takes toxicity and quantity into account
- TEQ tells something about hazard from a facility, but not necessarily risk, because it does not account for exposure
- TEQ weighting changes relative ranking of sectors and facilities

2008 Dioxin Release (grams)

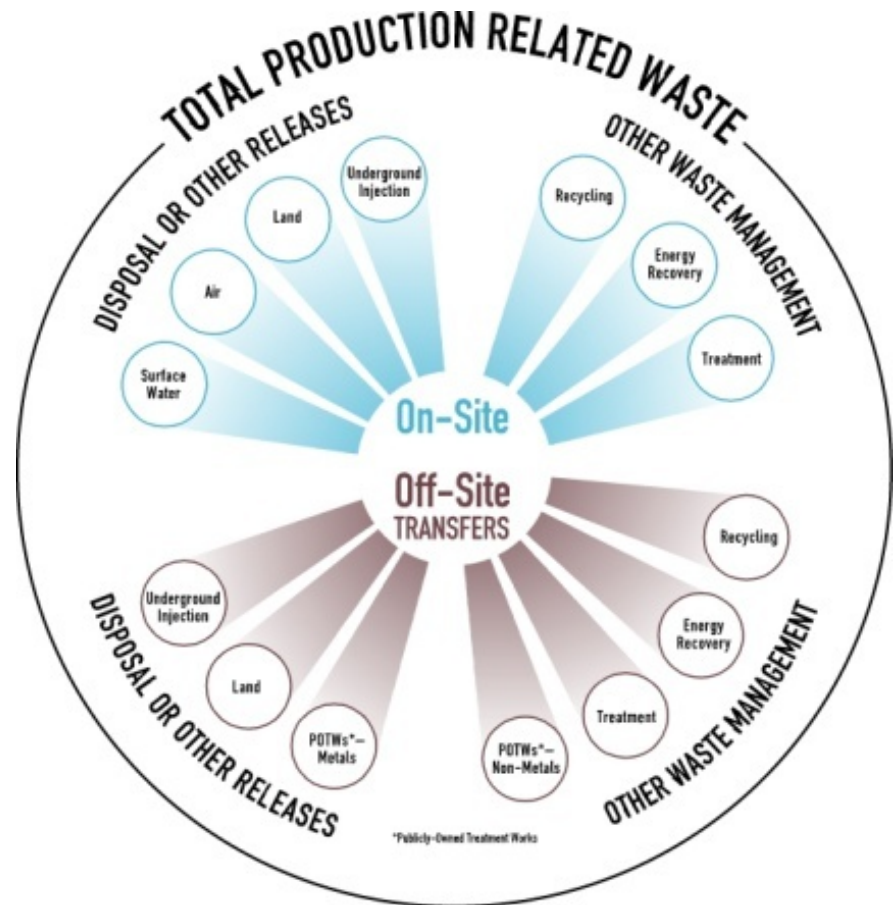


2008 Dioxin Release (grams TEQ)



# Background – Production-Related Waste

- TRI collects waste management information beyond just releases
- Most of the attention is given to “disposal or other releases”
- “Total Production Related Waste” includes additional data on waste management, and does not include one-time accidental releases







# New – Production context for TRI data

- Industrial Production Index from the Federal Reserve Board, presented alongside TRI Production-Related Waste
- IPI available for most TRI sectors (by NAICS code)
- % change helps visualize whether changes in production are accompanied by changes in waste

