

# **TRI Factsheets**

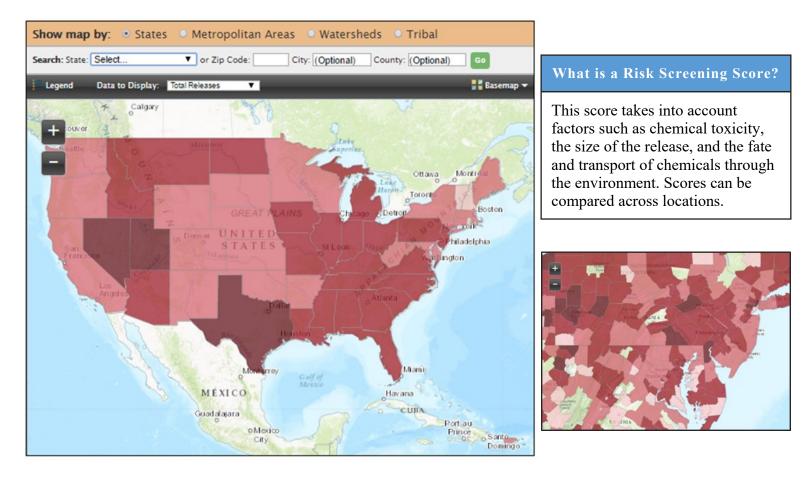
**Using the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI)** 

# WHAT ARE TRI FACTSHEETS?

TRI Factsheets provide information on chemical releases for a specific, user selected, geographic area. The factsheets utilize data from the annual National Analysis conducted by the EPA. By July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, certain facilities must submit reports detailing their TRI chemical releases for the previous year. Once the EPA interprets and analyzes the facility data on toxic releases, the TRI National Analysis is published. Factsheets generate succinct summaries of the area's data.

## **CREATING TRI FACTSHEETS**

One way to create a TRI Factsheet is to navigate to the TRI Program homepage and scroll down to "Find TRI Facts for Your Community". You'll see the map shown below on the webpage. From here, you can select the geographic area you're interested in. Searches can be made by State, Zip Code, City, County, Metropolitan Area, Watershed, or Tribal land. Depending on what data you're looking for, you can select Total Releases, a release to a specific medium (air, water, or land), Population, or Risk Screening Score. When you're ready, click "Go" to start the search.





# **TRI Factsheets**

## **Using the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI)**

Quick Facts for 2015

### **UNDERSTANDING TRI FACTSHEETS**

A number of data results are included on the factsheet. First is a map showing the locations of TRI facilities in the area, along with regional facts and national comparisons. For the example below, in the most recent reporting year, 484 TRI facilities in Houston, Texas reported their releases to the EPA and all together they released over 17 million pounds of TRI chemicals. As a whole, Texas ranks 22<sup>nd</sup> out of the 56 US states and territories for total releases per square mile (with number 1 having the highest releases).

Map of TRI Facilities in Houston, TX



#### Highlands Total Productio

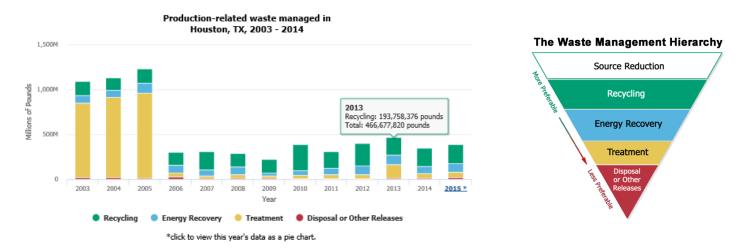
Number of TRI Facilities:	484	21,849
Total Production- Related Waste Managed:	390.9 million lbs	27.2 billion lbs
Total On-site and Off-site Disposal or Other Releases:	17.9 million lbs	3.3 billion lbs
Total On-site:	7.6 million lbs	2.8 billion lbs
• Air:	3.6 million lbs	689.6 million lbs
Water:	746.3 thousand lbs	191.1 million lbs
Water:     Land:	746.3 thousand lbs 3.2 million lbs	191.1 million lbs 2.0 billion lbs

Houston, TX

United States

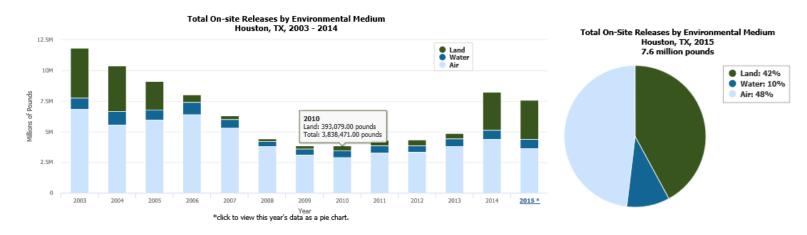
Texas ranks 22 out of 56 states/territories nationwide based on total releases per square mile (Rank 1 = highest releases)

Next displayed is how the area manages its waste. Per the EPA's Waste Management Hierarchy, most encouraged is source reduction, followed by recycling, energy recovery, treatment, and finally disposal. The graph shows the total pounds of waste managed broken down by method. When you hover over each section, you are able to see exactly how much waste was managed in that manner for that year. You also have the option of clicking on the most recent reporting year to view a pie chart of the releases. In the example, we can see in 2013 Houston recycled about 193.76 million out of the total 466.68 million pounds of waste.

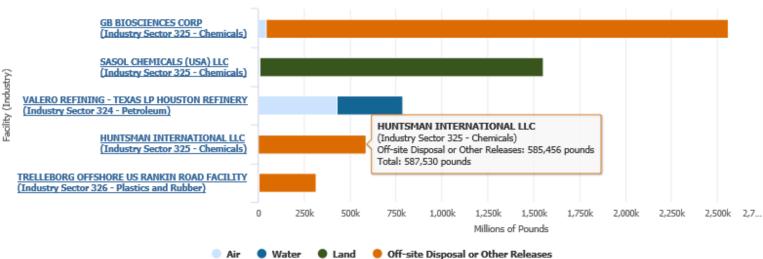


# Second Parameters TRI Factsheets Using the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI)

Next is a graph showing the area's on-site releases of TRI chemicals. A "release" is when a chemical is emitted to the air, water, or disposed onto land. Transfers off-site for disposal are also considered chemical releases, but are not shown in this graphic. The total number of pounds released is the height of the bar broken down by air, land, and water releases. You can click on the most recent year to display a pie chart detailing the release data. In the example below, a significant portion of Houston's TRI chemical releases are to the air and land. Looking at the 2015 pie chart, specifically 48% of Houston's on-site releases of TRI chemicals were to the air and 42% to land.



The following graph identifies the facilities in the area with the highest releases. Similar to other sections in the factsheet, the total pounds of TRI chemicals released is shown by the length of the bar, which is divided up according to release type (air, water, land, and offsite disposal). When a section is hovered over, the amount released to that medium is shown in comparison to the facility's total TRI releases. You can click on the name of the facility to access more facility information. In the example below, in 2015, Huntsman International, LLC released a total of about 587.5 thousand pounds of TRI chemicals and of that about 585.5 thousand pounds was disposed of off-site.



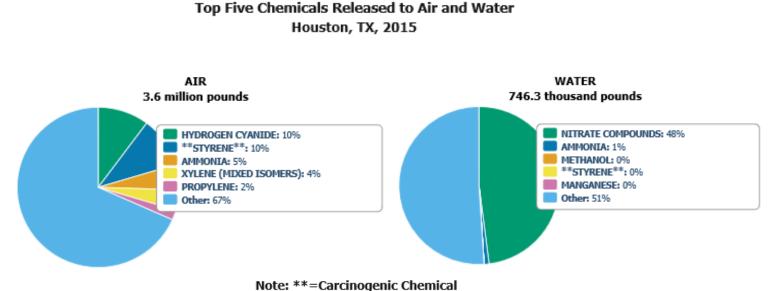
#### Top Five Facilities by Total Disposal or Other Releases Houston, TX, 2015



# **TRI Factsheets**

## **Using the Toxic Release Inventory (TRI)**

The final section of the TRI Factsheet shows pie charts showing what chemicals were released into the air and water in the latest reporting year. You can click on the chemical name to learn more about the health effects associated with that chemical. For the example below, out of the 3.6 million pounds of TRI chemicals released into the air in 2015, 10% was hydrogen cyanide.



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

**Note:** It's important to take note of the data source listed at the top of the factsheet. Discrepancies between factsheets may occur depending on how and when each factsheet is created.

# **Other TRI Tools**

- myRTK find summary-level facility information including chemical releases and compliance history
- Pollution Prevention (P2) compare facility and parent company management practices for toxic chemical waste
- TRI Explorer access commonly requested TRI information such as facility releases and waste transfers
- Envirofacts explore all publicly available TRI data through a variety of search options
- <u>RSEI (Risk-Screening Environmental Indicators model)</u> access data on facility releases analyzed with factors such as the chemical's toxicity and potential human exposure