

EPA Superfund Program and the RCRA Corrective Action Program Site Information

(Used for Indicators E10 and E11)

Brief description of the data set	<p>A list of all Superfund sites and RCRA Corrective Action sites that may not have all human health protective measures in place. The list includes the site name, state in which the site is located, whether the site is a federal facility, latitude, longitude, and the acreage.</p> <p>Site boundary information is also used for some Superfund sites. This data was compiled and released as a national file of Superfund Geospatial Boundaries in 2014 as part of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request.</p>
Who provides the data set?	<p>The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Land and Emergency Management, Superfund Program and the RCRA Corrective Action Program provide data from two independent databases.</p> <p>Superfund site information is reported in the Superfund Enterprise Management System (SEMS), formerly the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS), Database. SEMS includes lists of involved parties and site status measures (e.g., Human Exposure Under Control, Ground Water Migration Under Control, and Site Wide Ready for Anticipated Use), Construction Completion, etc.) among other types of data. Information on RCRA Corrective Action sites is maintained in the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act Information (RCRAInfo) Database. RCRAInfo includes site status (e.g., Human Exposure Under Control) among other types of data. For both programs, status designation of Human Exposure Under Control was used as the milestone to determine that a site has all human health protective measures in place.</p>

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How are the data gathered?	<p>Acreage and latitude/longitude information in RCRAInfo is collected from a variety of sources, such as RCRA permit applications, owners or operators, or public documents. Acreage and latitude/longitude information in SEMS is obtained from Preliminary Assessment reports, Site Inspection reports, Records of Decision, Five Year Reviews, or other official site documents.</p> <p>Acreage in RCRAInfo refers to the entire site. In SEMS, there are a number of types of acreage data. The SEMS field labeled “property boundary acreage” was used for calculation of Indicators E10 and E11. Although not meant to serve as estimates of the contaminated acres for Superfund sites, this information is similar to the acreage in RCRAInfo for Corrective Action facilities.</p> <p>For Corrective Action facilities, updates and progress are recorded by Regional or authorized State program staff as milestones are achieved. As Superfund site information changes, the SEMS database is updated by EPA regional offices.</p> <p>EPA undertook a one-time effort to collect site acreage starting in 2007. These data are updated whenever more accurate information is obtained.</p> <p>The Superfund boundary data used for some sites were compiled and released as a national file of Superfund Geospatial Boundaries in 2014 as part of a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request. Files from each region containing geospatial layers were combined and loaded to a national schema. The process of creating this dataset did not include QA/QC of regional data or standardization for inconsistencies. There has also been no official project to update it with boundaries for sites added to the National Priorities List (NPL) or to update boundaries which were already identified. The Agency provides this geospatial information as a public service and does not vouch for the accuracy, completeness or currency of data. Data provided by external parties is not independently verified by EPA. These data are made available to the public strictly for informational purposes. Data do not represent EPA 's official position, viewpoint or opinion, express or implied. This information is not intended for use in establishing liability or calculating Cost Recovery Statutes of Limitations and cannot be relied upon to create any rights, substantive or procedural, enforceable by any party in litigation with the United States or third parties. EPA reserves the right to change these data at any time without public notice.</p>
What documentation is available describing data collection procedures?	Not applicable.
What types of data relevant for children’s environmental health indicators are available from this database?	Relevant data include latitude, longitude, and estimated acres for contaminated sites as well as boundary information for some sites.
What is the spatial representation of the database (national or other)?	National; each relevant site in the United States is individually identified.

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Are raw data (individual measurements or survey responses) available?	Latitude/longitude and acreage are available for each site.
How are database files obtained?	<p>RCRAInfo data files are available on EPA’s website at: https://rcrapublic.epa.gov/rcra-public-export/?outputType=Fixed</p> <p>Detailed information on individual RCRA CA sites can be found at: https://www3.epa.gov/enviro/facts/rcrainfo/search.html</p> <p>SEMS data files and reports are available on EPA’s website at: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-data-and-reports</p> <p>Detailed information on individual Superfund sites can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/search-superfund-sites-where-you-live</p> <p>Information on Superfund and RCRA CA sites is also available on EPA’s <i>Cleanups in My Community</i> webpage: https://www.epa.gov/cleanups/cleanups-my-community/. For each site, <i>Cleanups in My Community</i> provides a link to a <i>Census 1-Mile Radius Profile Report</i> that contains information on the population living near to an individual site.</p>
Are there any known data quality or data analysis concerns?	<p>The site latitude and longitude specify a point at the site, which could represent the location of the site entry point or of some other area within the site.</p> <p>Actual geographic boundaries of each site (or contaminated areas on each site) are only available for some Superfund sites in digital form. In absence of geographic boundaries, SEMS boundary acres and RCRAInfo site acreage were used to estimate entire site area, fenceline to fenceline. No effort was made to approximate site shape. It is not specified if all site acres are areas of suspected contamination or areas of known contamination. Thus, the area used to represent each site is larger than the area of actual, known contamination.</p> <p>The “all human health protective measures in place” designation indicates that there is no complete pathway for human exposures to unacceptable levels of contamination, based on current site conditions. Sites lacking this designation are of three types: sites where a possible exposure route has been identified, sites that have not been fully assessed, or sites that have not been reviewed for the designation. Thus, sites that may not have all human health protective measures in place include both sites where there is a possible route of human exposure and sites where there may be no existing exposure routes.</p> <p>Current information on the status of EPA’s site-wide Human Exposure environmental indicator for each Superfund National Priorities List and Superfund Alternative Approach site can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-human-exposure-dashboard.</p>
What documentation is available describing quality assurance procedures?	Not applicable.

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For what years are data available?	Data represent site status, including designation of all human health protective measures in place, as of October 2018. Designations are not available for earlier years.
What is the frequency of data collection?	Data collection frequency varies. Information is updated as site information changes.
What is the frequency of data release?	Data are released on a yearly basis.
Are the data comparable across time and space?	Acres used to describe site area are collected differently for sites in each program (see above). Procedures applied within each program will be consistent over time. Contamination level and exposure potential will vary across sites.
Can the data be stratified by race/ethnicity, income, and location (region, state, county or other geographic unit)?	This site list does not contain information on race/ethnicity or income. The latitude and longitude are provided for each site, which allows for more exact location stratifications and for linkage to Census data on local population demographics.