



# Toxics Release Inventory Update California Mexico Border Reporting Years 2004 – 2006

**U.S. EPA Region 9**  
Arizona, California,  
Hawaii, Nevada, the  
Pacific Islands, and  
Tribal Nations

-- March 2008

On February 21, 2008 the EPA made public the 2006 data on the toxic chemicals that were released to the air, water, and land of California's Border region.\* This report provides data from the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) for the facilities in California that are located within 100 kilometers (using 126 zip code areas) of the U.S./Mexico Border.

## What is a release?

A TRI "release" is defined as the amount of a toxic chemical released on-site (to air, water, underground injection, landfills, and other land disposal), and the amount transferred off-site for disposal.

## Releases and health effects

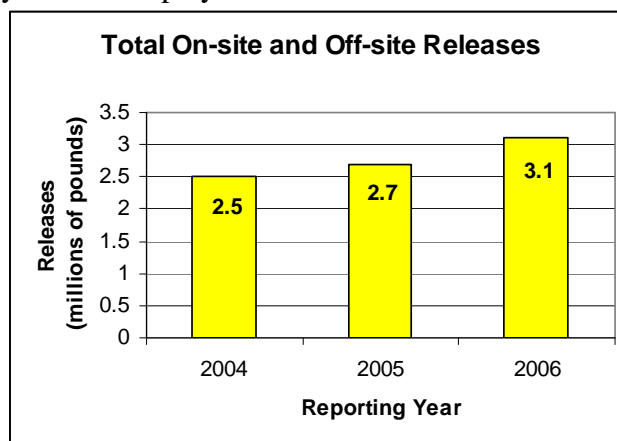
It is important to note that releases should not be directly equated with risk. To evaluate risk, release data must be combined with information about chemical toxicity, site-specific conditions, and exposure. In addition, this data does not indicate whether a facility is violating environmental laws. Many of the substances reported through this program are subject to state and federal regulations designed to protect human health and the environment.

## Who is reporting?

A facility is subject to TRI reporting requirements if it has 10 or more full-time employee equivalents (20,000 work hours per year); is classified under a reportable North American Industrial Classification Code (NAICS); and manufactures, processes, or otherwise uses any of the listed toxic chemicals in amounts greater than the threshold quantities. For most chemicals the thresholds are 25,000 pounds for manufactured or processed, and 10,000 pounds for otherwise used.

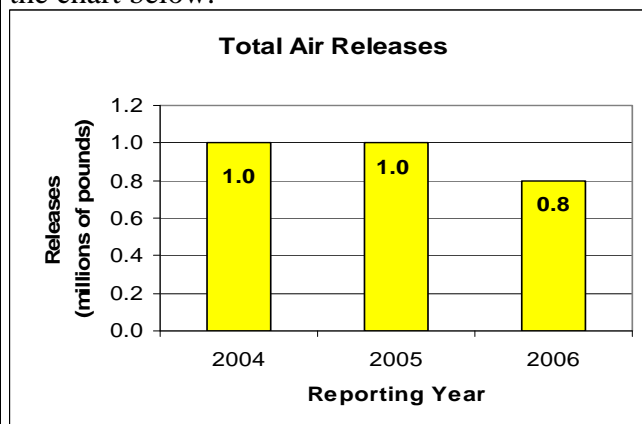
## TRI Chemical Releases

Total total on-site and off-site releases reported in the California Mexico Border Region during the past three years are displayed in the chart below:\*\*



In 2006, reported releases in the Border area of California (3.1 million pounds) accounted for about 7% of the State's 45.2 million pounds of reported releases.

Total reported air releases in the Border area of California during the past three years are displayed in the chart below:



\* No adjustments were made to account for double counting that could occur as a result of off-site transfers of some TRI facilities also being reported as on-site releases at permitted hazardous waste landfills and other TRI facilities that receive the on-site transfers.

\*\* Year to year data comparisons do not reflect changes in reporting requirements.

### Trends in Releases

In 2006, 81 facilities in the Border area of California reported releases of approximately 3.1 million pounds of toxic chemical to the TRI Program. The following chart tracks releases to the environment for reporting years 2004 through 2006.

#### **Total Releases for Reporting Years 2004 - 2006**

Year	Air	Water	On-Site Land	Under-ground Injection	Off-Site
<b>2004</b>	1,037,392	309,586	204,646	0	902,190
<b>2005</b>	1,046,424	330,660	409,655	0	955,060
<b>2006</b>	766,902	301,628	852,459	34,877	1,190,641

### Largest Releases by Industry Type

During 2006, five industries account for 94% of the total 3.1 million pounds of reported releases in the Border area of California. They are as follows:

Industry	Percentage of Total Releases
National Security/Federal Facilities	39%
Misc. Manufacturing	35%
Ship Building & Repair	10%
Beet Sugar Manufacturing	6%
Electricity Generation	2%

### Largest Releases by Chemical Type

The top five chemicals released in the California Border area in 2006, ranked by total on-site and off-site releases, are as follows:

Chemical	Release (pounds)	Percentage of Total Releases
N,N Dimethylformamide	1,067,332	34%
Copper	547,485	17%
Nitrate Compounds	422,501	13%
Ammonia	306,628	10%
Lead Compounds	214,135	7%

### Facilities Releasing Largest Quantities of Chemicals

Ten facilities, listed in descending order, released the largest total on-site and off-site releases in the Border area of California:

1. GE Osmonics (Vista, San Diego County) with 1.1 million pounds (98% n,n-dimethylformamide releases).
2. U.S. Marine Corps MCB Camp Pendleton (Camp Pendleton, San Diego County) with 673 thousand pounds (63% nitrate compound releases).
3. U.S. Marine Corps Chocolate Mountain Aerial Gunnery Range (Niland, Imperial County) with 503 thousand pounds (82% copper releases).
4. General Dynamics NASSCO (San Diego, San Diego County) with 306 thousand pounds (50% n-butyl alcohol releases)
5. Spreckles Sugar Co. Inc. (Brawley, Imperial County) with 182 thousand pounds (nearly 100% ammonia releases).
6. Cabrillo Power LLC Encina Power Plant (Carlsbad, San Diego County) with 75 thousand pounds (nearly 100% ammonia releases).
7. Sony Electronics Inc. San Diego (San Diego, San Diego County) with 43 thousand pounds (55% ammonia releases).
8. U.S. Navy Naval Air Station North Island (San Diego, San Diego County) with 32 thousand pounds (52% dichloromethane releases).
9. Sumitomo Electric Interconnect Products Inc. (San Marcos, San Diego County) with 27 thousand pounds (100% ethylene glycol releases).
10. K-Tube Corp. (Poway, San Diego County) with 27 thousand pounds (98% trichloroethylene releases).

### On-line Access

For national information on data releases, see:

<http://www.epa.gov/tri>

The TRI data is available through Envirofacts Warehouse, EPA's internet site for distributing environmental information at:

<http://www.epa.gov/enviro>

or the TRI Explorer tool:

<http://www.epa.gov/triexplorer>

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