The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) is a database containing detailed information on nearly 650 chemicals and chemical categories that were 2,900 and other facilities through disposed or other releases, recycling, or energy recovery, or treatment (see Figure 1). The data are collected from industries including manufacturing, mining, and small community facilities, as well as national, state, and local government facilities, and other industrial sectors.

Toxics Release Inventory Data Used?

Most disposal or other release practices are subject to a variety of regulatory requirements designed to limit the potential for human exposure to the contents of the landfill. For example:

- Disposal to landfills that are designed with liners, covers, leachate collection systems, and groundwater monitoring systems also limit the potential for human exposure to the contents of the landfill.

Most disposal or other release practices are subject to a variety of regulatory requirements designed to limit the potential for human exposure. Phases I and II of the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) and Future (TRI and Future Care) When Using TRI Data (see Figure 1). For more information on the differences of these data elements, visit the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program Text at www.epa.gov/tri/.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) maintains this information in a national database called the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), which is available to the public via the Internet (www.epa.gov/tri).

The TRI Program collects data on a number of different types of disposal or other releases, as well as on certain waste management and recycling practices. Disposal or other release of toxic chemicals into the environment occurs through a range of practices that may ultimately affect the potential for human exposure to the toxic chemicals. Facility releases may include discharges to air, water, and land. Facilities limit contamination and occur through a range of practices that may ultimately affect the potential for human exposure to the toxic chemicals.

Factors to Consider When Using TRI Data

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What are the limitations of the TRI data?

Uses of TRI data should be aware that TRI data reflect disposal or other releases and other waste management activities for chemicals, and that the EPA has not determined chemicals and processes that could meaningfully be taken into account when using the data.

- TRI chemicals vary widely in toxicity, as well as their potential to produce toxic effects. Some high-volume releases of toxic chemicals may appear to be more serious than lower-volume releases of highly toxic chemicals, when the opposite may be true.
- The potential for exposure may vary: the longer the chemical remains in the environment, the longer it is exposed to the chemical. Slow-release substances may not be immediately apparent as more serious problems than larger releases of chemicals that are quickly converted to less toxic forms.
- Releases of highly toxic chemicals, when just the opposite may be true. 

Factors to Consider When Using TRI Data

What should I know about the different types of disposal or other releases?

The TRI Program collects data on a number of different types of disposal or other releases, as well as certain waste-management and recycling practices. Disposal or other releases of chemicals into the environment occur through a range of practices that may ultimately affect the potential for human exposure to toxic chemicals. Facilities may include discharge to air, water, or land. Federal toxic contamination and human exposure by disposing of otherwise releasing wastes in certain types. For example:

- Disposal of hazardous materials to Class I Underground Injection Wells located in isolated formations and facilities manage through disposal or other releases and potential risks associated with them; and
- Disposal to landfills that are designed with liners, covers, leak-detection systems, and groundwater monitoring systems also limit the potential for human exposure to the contents of the landfill. Most disposal or other release practices are subject to a variety of regulatory requirements designed to limit potential human exposure. Please refer to the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) and Fact Sheets on Using TRI Data (www.epa.gov/tri/tools/tri-data) for more information on the differences of these data elements.

What should I know about persistent bioaccumulative toxic (PBT) chemicals?

Starting in 2000, EPA established more stringent reporting thresholds for persistent bioaccumulative toxic (PBT) chemicals (see Figure 1). Toxics Release Inventory, which is available to the public via the Internet (www.epa.gov/tri).

- PBT chemicals include the 15 chemicals with the highest toxicity (the so-called ‘high-priority’ PBT chemicals) and the 30 chemicals with the highest potential for bioaccumulation. The TRI PBT chemicals include dioxin and dioxin-like compounds (PBB), polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), and certain pesticides, among other chemicals.
- PBT chemicals are of particular concern not only because they are toxic but also because they remain in the environment for long periods of time, are not readily destroyed, and build up or accumulate in body tissue. The TRI PBT chemicals include dioxin and dioxin-like compounds, lead and lead compounds, mercury and mercury compounds, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), and certain persistent organic pollutants.
- For more detailed information about the Agency’s multimedia strategy for priority PBT chemicals, visit EPA’s Office of Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances Web site at www.epa.gov/opptpt/ptf/index.htm.
The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) is a database containing detailed information on nearly 650 chemical and chemical categories that were 2,300 industrial and other facilities in the United States that dispose of or otherwise release chemicals, which include manufacturing, metal and other metal products, food products, industrial sectors. It is used to facilitate emergency planning, to provide the public with information on releases of toxic chemicals in their communities, and to identify potential concerns and gain a better understanding of potential risks associated with TRI chemicals.

TRI data are widely used across EPA programs. For example, the National Partnership for Environmental Priority, an element of the Resource Conservation Challenge (RCC), uses TRI data to identify facilities that may present pollution prevention opportunities. EPA also uses TRI data to identify hot spots of high-industrial activity (HII) sites, which are areas with high levels of TRI activity. These sites are then prioritized for further investigation and potential cleanup.

TRI data help the public, government officials and industry:
- Identify potential concerns and gain a better understanding of potential risks associated with TRI chemicals.
- Identify facilities that may present pollution prevention opportunities.
- Identify hot spots of high-industrial activity sites for further investigation and potential cleanup.

TRI data are available online at EPA's TRI-NET site, which provides users with access to TRI data on a local, state, regional, and national level. The TRI-NET site contains information on TRI chemicals, facilities, and releases.

What are the benefits of TRI data?

TRI data provide the public with unprecedented access to information about toxic chemicals and other waste management activities on a local, state, regional, and national scale. This information can be used to identify pollution prevention opportunities, to identify facilities that may present pollution prevention opportunities, to identify hot spots of high-industrial activity sites for further investigation and potential cleanup, and to identify potential concerns and gain a better understanding of potential risks associated with TRI chemicals.

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TRI data are available online at EPA’s TRI-NET site, which provides users with access to TRI data on a local, state, regional, and national level. The TRI-NET site contains information on TRI chemicals, facilities, and releases.
What did TRI data show for reporting year (RY) 2003?

For RY 2003, 23,811 facilities, including federal facilities, reported to EPA's TRI Program. In reporting year 2003, federal facilities reported 3,154 tons of on-site disposal or off-site disposal of PCBs, a decrease of 4%. Disposal or other releases of PCBs by 129,433 grams from 2002 to 2003. Excluding one facility that reported by 41% (13% after accounting for a facility data error) from 2002 to 2003, other releases for lead and lead compounds increased 7% from 2002 to 2003. Without disposal or other releases and total production-related waste managed decreased by less per facility.

How did the TRI data change over time?

Since 1987, Manufacturing facilities have been required to report to EPA's TRI Program. They reported 4.44 billion pounds of total on-site and off-site disposal or other releases from all facilities that reported the amounts as on-site disposal or other releases. The total number of facilities reporting decreased by 42% from 1998-2003. While the total number of facilities reporting decreased by 42% from 1998-2003, there was also a 3% decrease in the average quantity disposed of or otherwise released on- and off-site per facility.

Disposal or other releases of Dioxin-like compounds decreased by 4%. Disposal or other releases of PCB chemicals increased by 11% in 2003. Disposal or other releases and total production-related waste managed decreased by less than 1%.

What do TRI data show over a longer period of time?

How did the TRI data change over time?

From RY 1988 to RY 2003, the total number of facilities reporting decreased by 59%, as shown in Figure 4. Manufacturing facilities have been required to report to EPA's TRI Program. They reported 4.44 billion pounds of total on-site and off-site disposal or other releases from all facilities that reported the amounts as on-site disposal or other releases. The total number of facilities reporting decreased by 42% from 1998-2003. While the total number of facilities reporting decreased by 42% from 1998-2003, there was also a 3% decrease in the average quantity disposed of or otherwise released on- and off-site per facility.

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Toxics Release Inventory, 2003

What do TRI data show for reporting year (RY) 2003?

For RY 2003, 23,811 facilities, including Federal facilities, reported to EPA's TRI Program, reported 4.4 billion pounds of on-site and off-site disposal or other releases of 647 TRI chemicals to the environment, as shown in Table 1. Of the total, a little over 2.0 billion pounds of the total disposed of or otherwise released went to off-site disposal or other releases, 1.3 billion pounds went to on-site disposal or other releases, and 1.1 billion pounds were reported as being managed elsewhere. The on- and off-site disposal or other releases decreased by 5.5 million pounds or 3%.

How did the TRI data change over time?

The TRI data show a longer period of time?

Comparing data from RY 2003 with RY 2002, on-site disposal or other releases decreased by 42% from 2002 to 2003. Off-site disposal or other releases decreased by 59%, as shown in Figure 4. From 1998 to 2003, all TRI facilities, including those from the sectors added in RY 2003, reported 23,811 facilities reported to EPA's TRI Program. They reported 4.44 billion pounds of on- and off-site disposal or other releases.

Toxics Release Inventory, 2003

TOTAL ON-SITE AND OFF-SITE DISPOSAL OR OTHER RELEASES       4,438,719,817

ON-SITE DISPOSAL OR OTHER RELEASES 4,243,719,817

OFF-SITE DISPOSAL OR OTHER RELEASES 186,622,431

Note: The 2003 Public Data Release (PDR) uses the primary SIC code reported by the facility for all analysis purposes for all reporting years. As a result, previous years' analyses may differ slightly from the 2003 PDR.

TABLE 1. TRl ON-SITE AND OFF-SITE DISPOSAL OR OTHER RELEASES, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metals and Metal Compounds Only</td>
<td>2,327,609,107</td>
<td>Other Metals and Metal Compounds</td>
<td>3,201,622,270</td>
<td>Other Non-Metal Compounds</td>
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Source: EPA's TRI Program. Data shown is as reported to EPA's TRI Program. They reported 4.44 billion pounds of on- and off-site disposal or other releases.

Where can I find contact information?

There are three other options for finding more detailed information:

1. Visit this site: www.epa.gov/triexplorer

2. Call the TRI Program at by contacting the toll-free Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA) Call Center at 1-800-424-9346, or

3. Visit the EPCRA reporting site for your area, which can be identified by contacting the Service Center for your area.

What other information is available on the Public Data Release?

EPA has also developed an electronic report (eReport) for the 2003 Public Data Release. This report offers detailed information on the 2003 TRI Public Data Release and is available on the TRI Web site. The eReport includes:

• a summary of key findings which provides a detailed look at the 2003 data;

• an interactive tabular database that presents tabular and additional online data to view and interpret;

• an interactive map that allows users to view, query and map TRI data; and

• additional tables and charts which provide a look at the key chemicals, industries, and facilities for 2003.

To view this report and other information on the TRI Program, please visit our Web site at: www.epa.gov/triexplorer
Toxics Release Inventory, 2003

23,811 TRI facilities reported 4.4 billion pounds of on- and off-site disposal or other releases for RY 2003.

Table 1: TRI on- and Off-Site disposal or Other Releases, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Waste Category</th>
<th>Total (Million Pounds)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metals and Metal compounds</td>
<td>1,039,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dioxin and Dioxin-like Compounds (D &amp; DLC)</td>
<td>62,716</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PCBs</td>
<td>10,120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other PBT compounds</td>
<td>22,581</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pesticides</td>
<td>3,497</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemicals listed in a TRI Public Data Release only</td>
<td>79,770</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,656,743</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Toxics Release Inventory, 2003

23,811 TRI facilities reported 4.4 billion pounds of on- and off-site disposal or other releases for RY 2003.

Table 3: TOXIC CHEMICALS IN WASTE BY WASTE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY, 2003

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Total ( Thousands Pounds )</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RCRA Subtitle C Surface Impoundments</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCRA Subtitle C Landfills</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Underground Injection Wells</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Land Disposal</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Treatment</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RCRA Subtitle C Landfills and Other Land Disposal</td>
<td>2,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Off-Site Management</td>
<td>2,100</td>
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Toxics Release Inventory, 2003

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Figure 3: Total On- and Off-site Disposal or other releases for RY 2003

Toxics Release Inventory, 2003

23,811 TRI facilities reported 4.4 billion pounds of on- and off-site disposal or other releases for RY 2003.

Table 2: Quantities of TRI Chemicals in Waste by Waste Management Activity, 2003

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Figure 2: Total On- and Off-site Disposal or other releases for RY 2003

How to access TRI data?

TRI Explorer is its on-line! It's easy! It's Your Right to Know!

TRI Explorer provides fast and easy access to the TRI database and can answer your questions about a chemical, chemical manufacturing site, or industry sector. To get a snapshot of TRI chemical releases and on-site and off-site disposal or other releases for a facility, or an analysis for a sector in RY 2003, what facilities reported in your ZIP code, or what program has been used to reduce TRI chemicals since 1990, TRI Explorer provides customized reports on these and many other topics.

To use the TRI data, you need to know the TRI chemical name or a 5-digit SIC code. Each report can start with quick facts and end with total disposal or other releases, fugitive air emissions, and surface water discharges for disposal to RCRA Subtitle C Landfills. Electronic fact sheets with 2003 data are also available for each state. Visit the TRI Explorer home page to begin creating your own report on TRI data at www.epa.gov/triexplorer.

What information is available on the Public Data Release?

EPA has developed an electronic report (download) for the 2003 Public Data Release. This report offers detailed information on the 2003 Public Data Release and is available on the TRI Web site. The report includes:

• Summary of key findings which provides a detailed look at the 2003 data.
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• To access this report and other information on the TRI Program, please visit our Web site at: www.epa.gov/tri.

Where can I find contact information?

There are three options for finding more detailed information:

1. Your state or regional TRI coordinator may be able to help you interpret the TRI programs by contacting the toll-free Information and Planning Community Helpdesk (IPLC) Call Center at 1-800-424-9346 (or 202-566-0250) or vOICe 908-220-5300, or e-mailing your questions to tri@epa.gov.
2. You can find state or federal TRI coordinators by visiting EPA’s TRI Web site at www.epa.gov/tri.
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What other information is available on the Public Data Release?

EPA has developed an electronic report (download) for the 2003 Public Data Release. This report offers detailed information on the 2003 Public Data Release and is available on the TRI Web site. The report includes:

• Summary of key findings which provides a detailed look at the 2003 data.
• TRI Program data in context as well as additional data to state and interpret TRI data.
• Additional tables and charts which provide a look at the key chemicals, industries, and facilities for 2003.
• To access this report and other information on the TRI Program, please visit our Web site at: www.epa.gov/tri.

Where can I find contact information?

There are three options for finding more detailed information:

1. Your state or regional TRI coordinator may be able to help you interpret the TRI programs by contacting the toll-free Information and Planning Community Helpdesk (IPLC) Call Center at 1-800-424-9346 (or 202-566-0250) or vOICe 908-220-5300, or e-mailing your questions to tri@epa.gov.
2. You can find state or federal TRI coordinators by visiting EPA’s TRI Web site at www.epa.gov/tri.
3. You can find other information on the Public Data Release at www.epa.gov/tri.

TRI data can be customized using TRI Explorer. To learn more about how to use TRI Explorer, visit the TRI Web site at www.epa.gov/triexplorer.
Toxics Release Inventory, 2003

The TRI program provides information on the toxic chemicals that are released or otherwise disposed of by manufacturing, mining, and other facilities. The data are compiled and analyzed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and are made available to the public through the TRI Report, a comprehensive database of toxic chemical releases.

**What do TRI data show for reporting year (RY) 2003?**

- **2003 TRI facilities** reported 4.4 billion pounds of on- and off-site disposal or other releases.
- **Overall, total** on-site and off-site disposal or other releases increased by 5.5% from RY 2002 to RY 2003.
- **On-site disposal or other releases** increased by 305.9 million pounds or 6%.
- **Off-site disposal or other releases** decreased by 7%.
- **Total disposal or other releases** of dioxin and dioxin-like compounds increased by 129,433 grams from 2002 to 2003.
- **Excluding one facility, the almost 650 toxic chemicals, as shown in Table 1.**

**Figure 3: Total On- and Off-site Disposal or Other Releases for RY 2003**

### Summary of Key Findings

- **Persistant bioaccumulative toxic (PBT) chemicals** accounted for 464.8 million pounds of on-site and off-site disposal or other releases of PBT chemicals in 2003.
- **Almost 12 percent** was sent off-site for disposal or other releases, as shown in Figure 3.
- **The TRI program** provides fast and easy access to the TRI data and can answer your questions about toxic chemicals.
- **Each report** can be quickly and easily sorted by total disposal or other releases, or fugitive air emissions.
- **EPA has also developed an electronic report (eReport) for the 2003 Public Data Release.**

### What other information is available on the Public Data Release?

- **Summary of key findings** which provides a detailed look at the 2003 data.
- **The TRI program** provides information on the toxic chemicals that are released or otherwise disposed of by manufacturing, mining, and other facilities.
- **Additional tables and charts** which provide a look at the toxics chemicals, and facilities for 2003.
- **Toxic chemicals** and other information on the TRI Program, please visit our Web site at www.epa.gov/tri.

### How can I access TRI data?

**TRI Explorer**: Is it's free! It's easy! It's Your Right to Know!

TRI Explorer provides fast and easy access to the TRI data and can answer your questions about toxic chemicals. You can search on industries, toxic chemicals, or school districts, and understand the data. TRI Explorer is a tool that is used to identify trends and evaluate progress.

**Toxic Release Explorer (TERX)**: A user-friendly tool for accessing the TRI data. TERX provides the ability to search for facilities by company name, state, ZIP code, or TRI ID.

**www.epa.gov/triexplorer**

### Where can I find contact information?

There are three other options for finding more detailed information:

- **You can call the TRI program by contacting the toll-free Defense Planning and Community Right-to-Know (EPCRA) Call Center at 1-800-424-9346, or:**
- **You can find TRI data or reports by visiting TRICat at www.epa.gov/triexplorer, or:**
- **You can visit the TRI program’s home page to begin creating your own report at www.epa.gov/triexplorer.**