

Toxics Release Inventory Update Arizona Mexico Border Reporting Years 2005-2007



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

The EPA made public the 2007 data on toxic chemicals that were released to the air, water, and land of Arizona's Border Region.* This report provides data from the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) for the facilities in Arizona that are located within 100 kilometers (using 70 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

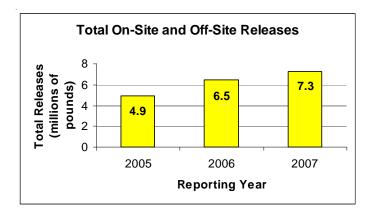
It is important to note that releases should not be directly equated with risk. To evaluate risk, release data must be combined with information about chemical toxicity, site-specific conditions, and exposure. In addition, this data does not indicate whether or not a facility is violating environmental 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 System (NAICS) Code; and manufactures, processes, or otherwise uses any of the TRI chemicals in amounts above established threshold amounts. For most chemicals the thresholds are 25,000 pounds for "manufactured" or "processed", and 10,000 pounds for "otherwise used."

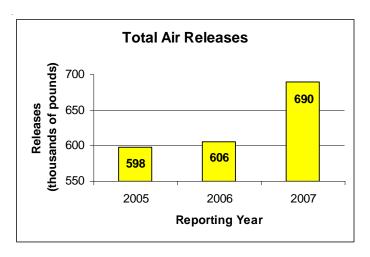
Chemical Releases

Total (on-site and off-site) TRI chemical releases reported in the Arizona Mexico Border Region during the past three years are as displayed in the chart below:**



In 2007, reported releases in the Border area of Arizona (7.3 million pounds) accounted for about 8% of the State's 88 million pounds of releases.

Total reported air releases in Border area of Arizona during the past three years are as follows:



^{*}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 2007, 73 facilities in the Border area of Arizona reported releases of approximately 7.3 million pounds of toxic chemicals to the TRI Program. The following chart tracks releases to the environment for reporting years 2005 through 2007.

Total Releases for Reporting Years 2005 - 2007							
Year	Air	Water	On-Site Land	Underground Injection	Off-Site		
2005	598,262	11	4,056,036	0	221,149		
2006	606,017	507	5,740,209	0	200,255		
2007	690,290	2,884	6,452,979	0	117,908		

Largest Releases by Industry Type

In 2007, two industries — Copper Mining and Fossil Fuel Electricity Generation — account for 95% of the total 7.3 million pounds of reported releases in the Border area of Arizona.

Industry	Total Release (pounds)	Percentage of Total Releases	
Copper and Nickel Mining	6,077,531	84%	
Fossil Fuel and Electric Power Generation	823,172	11%	

Largest Releases by Chemical Type

The top five chemicals released in the Border area of Arizona in 2007, ranked by total on-site and off-site releases, are as follows:

Chemical Name	Total Release (pounds)	Percentage of Total Releases
LEAD & LEAD COMPOUNDS	4,600,031	63%
CHROMIUM COMPOUNDS	406,776	6%
MANGANESE	358,488	5%
BARIUM COMPOUNDS	336,715	5%
NITRATE COMPOUNDS	291,736	4%

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 Arizona:

	Facility Name	City Name	Total Releases (pounds)
1	ASARCO LLC Mission Complex	Sahuarita	4,040,432 <i>(84% lead compounds releases)</i>
2	Freeport-Mcmoran Sierrita Inc	Green Valley	2,029,531 (<i>59% lead</i> compounds releases)
3	Arizona Electric Power Cooperative Inc	Cochise	628,005 <i>(54% barium compounds releases)</i>
4	Irvington Generating Station	Tucson	195,167 <i>(56% barium</i> <i>releases)</i>
5	Apache Nitrogen Products Inc	Benson	91,690 <i>(65% nitrate compounds releases)</i>
6	Arizona Environmental Container Corp	Eloy	59,427 (100% styrene releases)
7	Learjet Inc	Tucson	45,069 <i>(50% ethylbenzene & 50% naphthalene releases)</i>
8	Hart & Cooley Inc	Tucson	29,880 <i>(100% certain glycol</i> ether releases)
9	Hexcel Corp	Casa Grande	24,500 <i>(50% n-methyl-2-</i> pyrrolidone releases)
10	Inter-Fab Inc	Tucson	19,080 <i>(100% styrene</i> <i>releases)</i>

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

U.S. EPA Region 9 TRI Program Mariela Lopez (415) 972-3771