

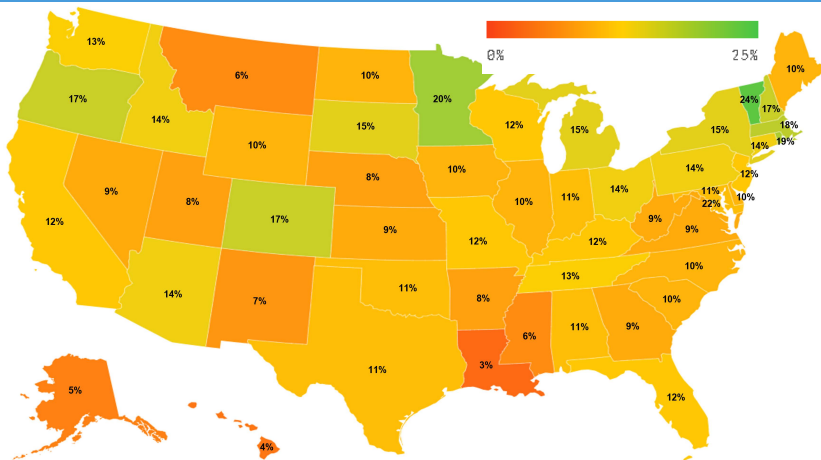


# TRI as a Pollution Prevention (P2) Resource. It's More Than Just Releases!



The Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Program collects information on industry progress in implementing source reduction activities, reducing chemical wastes generated, and moving towards preferred waste management methods. With tens of thousands of comments (optional narrative descriptions) submitted on reporting forms over the years, **the TRI has grown into a robust resource for helping companies, government agencies, and others to evaluate and improve environmental performance.**

**Percent of Forms with P2 Comments by State, 2011-2020**

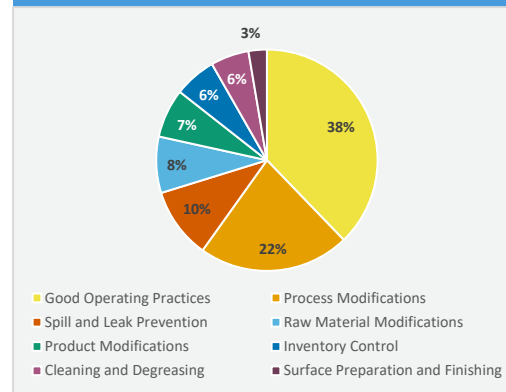


These comments provide details that may assist others in identifying opportunities to eliminate or reduce chemical waste generation. Facilities in every state have reported P2-related comments. On the map, states with the most are shaded in green.

## Source Reduction Activities (Form R, Section 8.10)

- Source reduction means eliminating or reducing the creation of chemical waste.
- Facilities are required to report their newly implemented source reduction activities each year by selecting codes on the TRI Form R.
  - The 49 TRI source reduction codes fall into 8 source reduction categories, as shown in the pie chart.
  - Each year, 'good operating practices' and 'process modifications' are the most-reported source reduction categories.

**Newly Implemented Source Reduction Activities, 2011-2020**

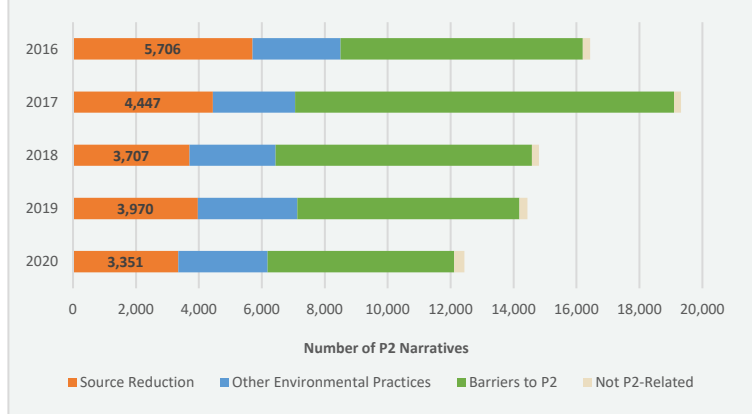


## Optional P2 Narratives (Form R, Section 8.11)

Facilities reporting to TRI may also submit optional narrative text to describe their P2-related activities, including source reduction activities, other waste management practices, and barriers to implementing P2.

From 2016 to 2020, facilities submitted 77,000 P2-related comments. **About 21,000 of those relate to source reduction**, 14,000 to other environmental practices, and 41,000 to P2 barriers.

**P2 Comments by Category**



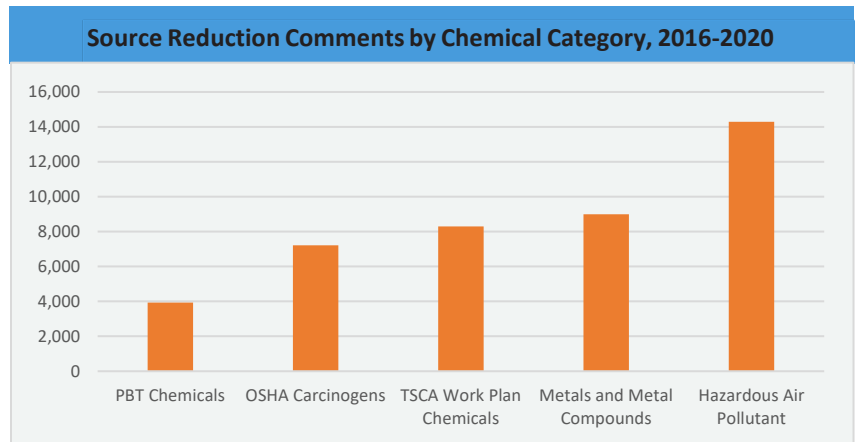
By providing access to the P2-related comments submitted to TRI, EPA encourages facilities to share details of P2 best practices so others can replicate these approaches and, similarly, describe obstacles to implementing P2 to help EPA identify technical assistance opportunities. To illustrate the availability of this information, the graphics below show the distribution of comments by chemical categories and industry sectors.

## Source Reduction by Chemical

Source reduction comments are available for 46% of the 570 chemicals reported to TRI from 2016 to 2020. Although the number of chemicals in each of the categories shown in this graph varies, each category has many available comments. For example, there are about 7,000 source reduction comments for the OSHA carcinogens.

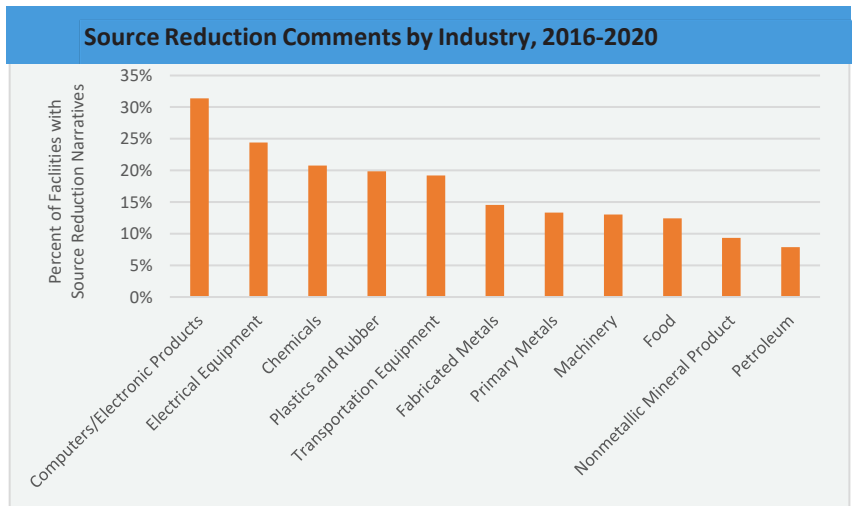
**P2 Comments Quick Facts, 2016-2020**

- TRI facilities reported **21,000 source reduction comments**.
- Facilities submitted another **55,000 comments on preferred waste management methods or barriers to implementing P2**.



## Source Reduction by Industry

11 of the 29 TRI-covered industry sectors have at least 500 source reduction comments for 2016 to 2020, and all sectors except apparel and coal mining have some source reduction information. In general, source reduction comments reporting is higher among facilities in manufacturing sectors, which tend to have greater opportunities for source reduction. The figure to the right shows the rate of source reduction comments reporting for sectors with a rate greater than five percent of facilities.



## Accessing TRI's P2 Data

The [TRI P2 Search Tool](#) is the most effective way to access the P2 data reported to TRI. By searching for a particular geographic area, industry, chemical, or year, the tool can be used to learn about the P2 practices associated with a facility and any optional comments submitted. You may also use the tool to compare waste management methods at the facility and company level. For visualizations and more interactive data analysis, explore the TRI P2 data using the [TRI Toxics Tracker](#).