

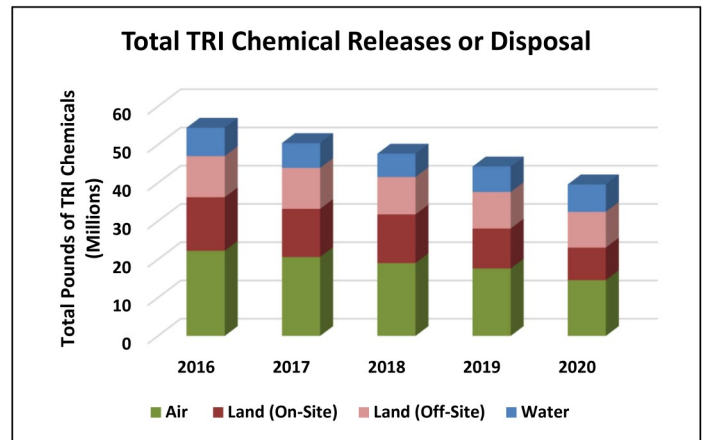
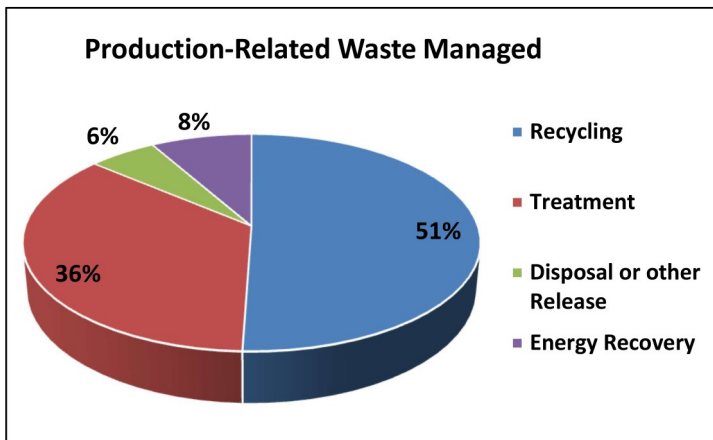
EPA TOXIC RELEASE INVENTORY (TRI)

Kentucky At-A-Glance—2020 Reporting Year

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) releases its annual [Toxic Release Inventory](#) analysis to help citizens stay informed of pollutants that may impact their communities and land, air and water resources. TRI includes data from over 20,000 facilities across the country and covers over 700 chemicals. TRI tracks information about on-site releases, transfers of chemical waste, chemical recycling, waste treatment, energy recovery and pollution prevention. This fact sheet provides highlights from Kentucky facilities. You can find more information about TRI, specific facilities and other reports at the [EPA TRI website](#).

How many total pounds of TRI-tracked chemicals were managed in 2020?

In 2020, onsite releases, onsite disposal, and offsite disposal reported for facilities in Kentucky continued to decrease. Total releases and disposal were lower when compared to the 2019 reporting year. The 413 TRI facilities managed 712.3 million pounds of production-related waste. Of that, 21,753,239 pounds were released to air or water under existing environmental permits issued to protect human health and the environment and 12,379,141 pounds were placed in on-site or off-site in managed land disposal units.

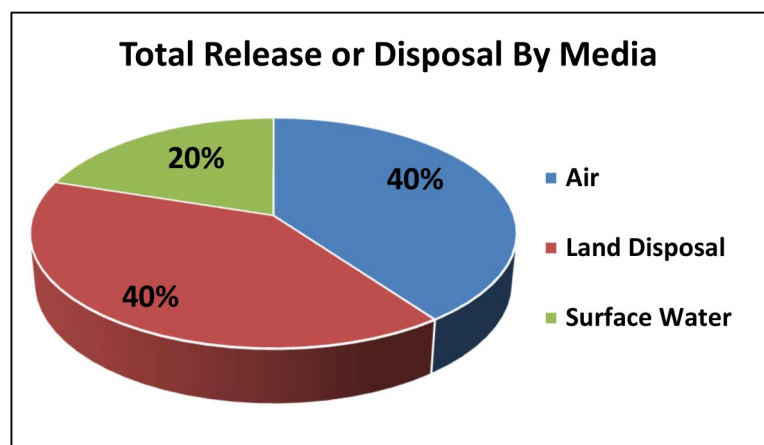


94% of the total chemicals managed by TRI facilities in 2020 ended up being recycled, treated or recovered for energy rather than being released to air, bodies of water or disposed on land.

The on-site designation means the chemical was treated, reused, disposed or released on the premises of the facility. Off-site means the chemical was treated, reused, disposed, or released outside of the facility.

What chemicals are most commonly released or disposed in Kentucky and where do they go?

Top 10 Chemicals Released	
Chemical	Pounds
NITRATE COMPOUNDS	7,544,171
SULFURIC ACID	4,144,186
BARIUM COMPOUNDS	2,416,320
METHANOL	2,383,618
ZINC COMPOUNDS	1,996,733
CHROMIUM COMPOUNDS	1,921,992
SELENIUM	1,884,295
MANGANESE COMPOUNDS	1,607,243
COPPER COMPOUNDS	1,306,408
HYDROCHLORIC ACID	1,201,961



TRI chemicals can be released or managed on- or off-site of the facility. They can go to landfills, wastewater treatment facilities or be released into the air. This chart depicts the media where on- and off-site chemicals are released or disposed.

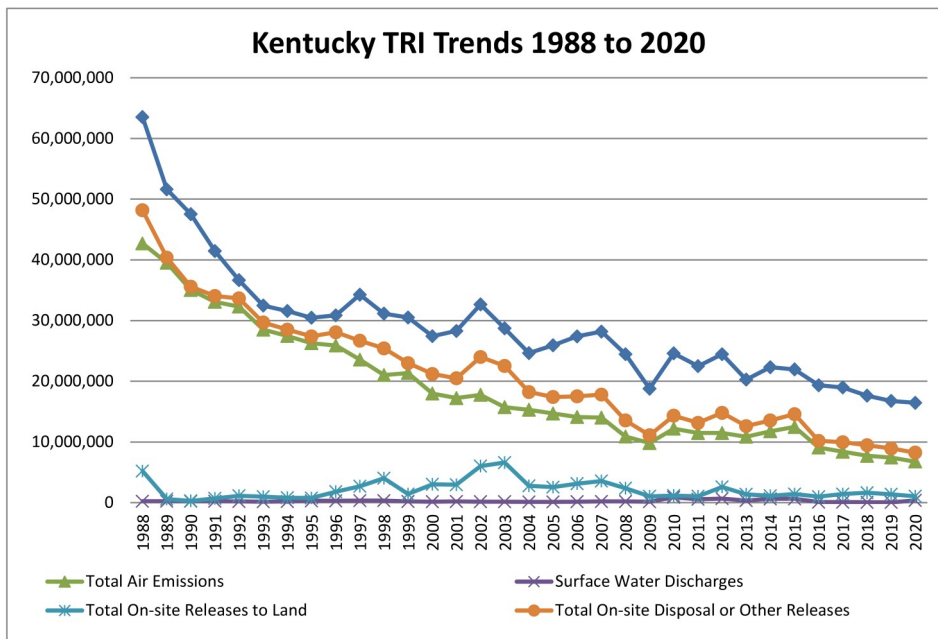
Which facilities released the most TRI chemicals in 2020?

Facility	Total Releases in Pounds
NORTH AMERICAN STAINLESS	6,258,039
KENTUCKY UTILITIES CO GHENT STATION	2,597,597
AGC FLAT GLASS N AMERICA INC	2,002,734
PERDUE CROMWELL PROCESSING PLANT	1,906,217
SPURLOCK POWER STATION	1,886,771
BIG RIVERS ELECTRIC CORP	1,781,905
U.S. TVA SHAWNEE FOSSIL PLANT	1,632,044
LOUISVILLE GAS & ELECTRIC CO - TRIMBLE COUNTY STATION	1,187,723
LOUISVILLE GAS & ELECTRIC CO - MILL CREEK STATION	1,013,318
PHOENIX PAPER WICKLIFFE LLC	937,290

What counties release the most TRI-tracked chemicals?

County	Releases in Pounds
Carroll	9,571,880
Jefferson	3,847,926
Ohio	3,701,644
Madison	2,436,728
Marshall	1,940,587
Mason	1,891,268
Hancock	1,732,802
McCracken	1,702,174
Trimble	1,187,723
Henderson	1,065,239

What is the trend for TRI chemicals in Kentucky?



Through production efficiencies, regulatory changes and pollution prevention activities, the amount of toxic chemicals produced in Kentucky has continued on a downward trend. The above chart is an index of chemicals that have been tracked since the beginning to EPA's Toxic Release Inventory in 1988. While more chemicals and facility sectors have been added to the tracking list, the pattern is indicative of the efforts of facilities and regulators to protect the environment.

Counties that are home to electrical utilities tend to have had higher levels of TRI chemicals present within their borders because of the nature of their processes. Despite being substantial TRI contributors, total air emissions from power plants have decreased since 2012. This is due to a combination of changes in business practices and improvements in pollution control measures.

Air Emissions– Electrical Utilities	
Year	Total Emissions (Pounds)
2016	9,416,210
2017	8,294,422
2018	7,603,274
2019	6,594,128
2020	4,931,156