

Toxic Release Inventory

Since 1990 the Environmental Protection Agency has required all manufacturers to report toxic releases. By July 1 each year, facilities must report their estimated amounts of releases and other waste management of toxic chemicals for the preceding calendar year. Beginning in 1998 seven nonmanufacturing industries were added. Only two, electric utilities that combust coal and/or oil and chemical wholesalers, relate to New Hampshire. These additions, however, effectively increased the New Hampshire release by a factor of nearly two and a half.

Three electric facilities, Merrimack Station in Bow, Schiller Station in Portsmouth, and Newington Station combined for nearly all the releases. The number one toxin emitted by these facilities was hydrochloric acid — 3,072,000 pounds — bringing the total of that substance reported to the EPA from New Hampshire facilities to 3,335,600. Sulfuric acid was second with 740,000 pounds added to 125,611 reported by manufacturers.

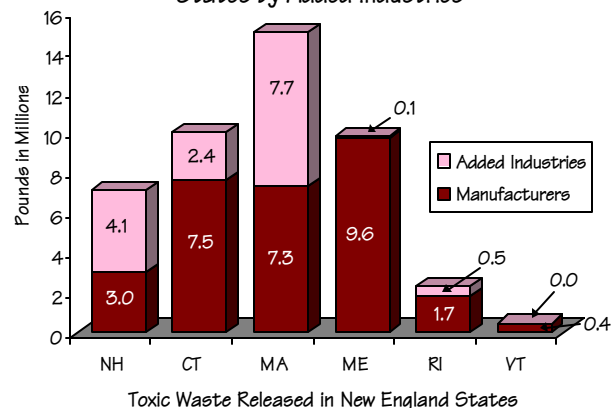
The added reporting industries did not affect any other New England state to a similar degree. Massachusetts' was closest with their reported release nearly doubling. Vermont did not report any releases from the added industries.

Despite the jump in total reported toxic releases in New Hampshire, only three states – Hawaii, Rhode Island, and Vermont – had lower amounts. The six New England states were among the eight lowest releasing states. Delaware was sidled between Massachusetts and Connecticut.

Nevada and Arizona had the largest releases – 1.27 billion pounds and 1.07 billion pounds, respectively. In both cases over a billion pounds were added with the inclusion of the new industries, specifically mining. Nearly all these releases were on-site land releases. Conversely, nearly all the New Hampshire releases were on-site air emissions.

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New Hampshire Most Affected of New England States by Added Industries



Top 10 Toxic Chemicals Released in New Hampshire

Chemical	Manufacturing Pounds	Electric Utilities Pounds	Total Pounds Released
Hydrochloric Acid	263,600	3,072,000	3,335,600
Sulfuric Acid	125,611	740,000	865,611
Methanol	581,499	504	582,003
Xylene (mixed isomers)	305,109	0	305,109
Ammonia	209,388	4,400	213,788
Hydrogen Flouride	0	206,600	206,600
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	196,677	0	196,677
Toluene	178,372	0	178,372
Ethylbenzene	109,732	0	109,732
Manganese Compounds	102,407	4,764	107,171