Tracking and Reducing Chemicals in Toronto

7th Annual ChemTRAC Report

May 2018

Table of Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

Chapter 1: Improving Health By Reducing Chemicals In Our Environment

In an urban environment like Toronto, the public's health may be affected by a number of environmental factors, including chemicals that pollute the air, water and land. Exposure to these chemicals can occur in our homes, workplaces and outside.

Smog-forming pollutants and other chemical substances come from different sources. Some come from sources outside the city, others from inside the city itself. Production of electricity, heating of buildings, transportation and commercial and industrial facilities are all important contributors to pollution. Overall, air quality mostly depends on what sources exist in different neighbourhoods and how weather patterns carry pollutants in the air.

We come in contact with these chemicals outdoors and indoors, in homes and workplaces. Prolonged exposure to toxic substances, and in some cases even at low levels, may cause:

- Heart and lung damage
- Cancer
- Birth defects
- Reproductive problems
- Chronic diseases

The ChemTRAC program was developed to help better understand where 25 priority chemicals come from and to encourage pollution prevention to protect health. ChemTRAC collects information from businesses and institutions in Toronto. The information is collected through Toronto's Environmental Reporting and Disclosure Bylaw (Municipal Code Chapter 423). Similar programs in Canada and other countries have been found to lead to reductions in chemicals used and released from facilities.

The program can be divided into three main areas:

- The Environmental Reporting and Disclosure Bylaw, which requires businesses to track and report their manufacturing, use and release of priority chemicals.
- The analysis and release of chemical data; and
- The greening of businesses through pollution prevention and innovation.

ChemTRAC is a release inventory, a database of air pollution sources and their releases within our local airshed. Data collected in release inventories can be used to better understand contaminant trends over time, highlight key sources and support pollutant modelling studies.

This report contains information on facility operations during the 2016 calendar year. The data was reported to the City of Toronto in 2017.

Chapter 2: ChemTRAC 2016 Data Highlights

Facility Representation by Sector

The Environmental Reporting and Disclosure Bylaw requires facilities in Toronto to report their use and release of the 25 priority chemicals annually, if they meet reporting requirements. In total, more than 700 facilities reported on their 2016 operations. Table 1 shows the number of facilities within each industrial sector that reported information on their manufacture, use and release of these chemicals.

Table 1: Number of facilities that reported data on priority substances for 2016 operations

Sector	Number of facilities that reported 2016
Automotive repair and maintenance	79
Chemical wholesale	3
Computer and electronic product manufacturing	17
Dry cleaning and laundry services	77
Electrical equipment, appliance and component manufacturing	19
Fabricated metal product manufacturing	74
Food, beverage and tobacco products manufacturing	65
Funeral services	7
Manufacturing	111
Medical and diagnostic laboratories	4
Non-metallic mineral product manufacturing	20
Paper product manufacturing	9
Power generation	2
Primary metal manufacturing	17
Printing and publishing	60
Waste management and remediation services	9
Water and wastewater treatment	9
Wood products manufacturing	43
All others	86
Total	**711**

Priority Substances Manufactured, Processed or Used

Table 2 shows the total amounts reported as manufactured, processed or otherwise used for each priority substance in 2016. Approximately 80,000 tonnes of priority substances were reported in total. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), particulate matter <2.5 um ($PM_{2.5}$), manganese, nitrogen oxides (NO_x) and tetrachloroethylene were the priority substances with the largest reported amounts.

Table 2: Total amounts of priority substances manufactured, processed, or otherwise used in 2016.

Priority Substance	Manufactured (kg)	Processed (kg)	Otherwise Used (kg)
Acetaldehyde	1,140	-	1
Acrolein	-	-	-
Benzene	-	-	187
1,3-Butadiene	-	-	-
Cadmium	0	4,948	13
Carbon Tetrachloride	-	-	-
Chloroform	135	-	6,019
Chromium, Hexavalent	-	96,799	14,800
Chromium, Non-Hexavalent	1	1,262,250	0
1,2-Dibromoethane	-	-	7,020
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	-	-	-
1,2-Dichloroethane	-	-	1
Dichloromethane	448	168,311	74,813
Formaldehyde	5,962	45,677	29,442
Lead	0	368,657	12,253
Manganese	**-**	**2,452,134**	**109**
Mercury	2	120	382
Nickel	-	1,412,892	68,335
NO_x	**1,471,257**	**57**	**145**
PAHs	63	8,152	-
$PM_{2.5}$	**890,309**	**2,538,212**	**0**
Tetrachloroethylene	**-**	**913,256**	**23,270**
Trichloroethylene	1	27,203	2,344
Vinyl Chloride	1	370,505	-
VOCs	**569,287**	**52,268,190**	**4,481,117**
Total	**2,930,628**	**61,945,317**	**4,720,251**

(-) represents a null value.

Priority Substances Released to the Environment

Similar to data from 2015 and 2016 operations, the total releases of priority substances represent a small proportion (about 10 per cent overall) of the total amount reported as manufactured, processed or used by facilities. This proportion varies for each pollutant. Table 3 shows the total amounts released to air, water and land for each substance in 2016. Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and $PM_{2.5}$ were the priority substances with the largest reported amounts.

Table 3: Total amounts of priority substances released to air in 2016

Priority Substance	Released to Air (kg)
VOCs	**5,350,152**
NO_x	**1,420,992**
$PM_{2.5}$	**277,534**
Trichloroethylene	25,860
Dichloromethane	15,726
Formaldehyde	15,037
Tetrachloroethylene	10,241
Acetaldehyde	1,140
Chloroform	1,021
Chromium, Non-hexavalent	792
PAHs	674
Manganese	515
Nickel	496
Lead	332
Benzene	109
Vinyl chloride	101
1,2-Dibromoethane	70
Chromium, Hexavalent	27
Mercury	17
Cadmium	6
Total	**7,120,842**

Health Ranking of Substances

The 25 priority substances vary in their toxicity. Some substances, such as PAHs and cadmium, could pose a risk even when released in small amounts. Other substances, for example volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x), have a low toxicity but the overall health risk may be high when they are released in large quantities. One way of taking this different toxicity into account is to rank them by their toxic equivalency potentials (TEPs). Toxic equivalency potential provides a value based on the amount released and the toxicity of a substance. The substances can then be compared with each other to give a better indication of the relative health risk. A high TEP value represents a higher potential to cause harm. The TEP scoring system ranks substances that cause cancer (carcinogens) and substances with other health impacts (non-carcinogens) separately. Some of the 25 priority substances have both cancer and non-cancer effects and are assigned a TEP score for each category. Table 4 shows the reported releases to air ranked by the cancer TEP, and Table 5 ranks the releases by non-cancer TEP. The cancer ranking indicates that although substances like PAHs, cadmium and hexavalent chromium were reported in small amounts, the overall potential for adverse health impact of these releases is estimated to be much higher than for other substances. For non-cancer rankings, lead, mercury and cadmium are likely to be of highest health concern.

Table 4: Reported quantities of priority substances released to air in 2016 ranked by Cancer toxic equivalent potential (TEP) score

Priority Substance	Released to Air (kg)	Cancer TEP value	Cancer TEP Score
PAHs	**674**	**6,300**	**4,246,200**
Cadmium	**6**	**26,000**	**156,000**
Tetrachloroethylene	**10,241**	**0.96**	**9,831**
Lead	332	28	9,296
Chromium, Hexavalent	27	130	3,510
Dichloromethane	15,726	0.2	3,145
Chloroform	1,021	1.6	1,634
Nickel	426	2.8	1,389
Trichloroethylene	25,860	0.05	1,293
1,2-Dibromoethane	70	6	434
Formaldehyde	15,037	0.02	301
Vinyl chloride	101	1.9	192
Benzene	109	1	109
Acetaldehyde	1,140	0.01	11

Table 5: Reported quantities of priority substances released to air in 2016 ranked by Non-Cancer toxic equivalent potential (TEP) score

Priority Substance	Released to Air (kg)	Non-Cancer TEP value	Non-Cancer TEP Score
Lead	**332**	**580,000**	**192,560,000**
Mercury	**17**	**5,000,000**	**85,000,000**
Cadmium	**6**	**1,900,000**	**11,400,000**
VOCs	5,350,152	1.0	5,350,152
PM2.5	277,534	17	4,718,078
NOx	1,420,992	2.2	3,126,182
Chromium (total)*	819	3,100	2,538,900
Nickel	496	3,200	1,587,200
Tetrachloroethylene	10,241	65	665,665
Manganese	515	780	401,700
Formaldehyde	15,037	16	240,592
Dichloromethane	15,726	7.0	110,082
1,2-Dibromoethane	70	1,500	105,000
Trichloroethylene	25,860	0.63	16,292
Chloroform	1,021	14	14,294
Acetaldehyde	1,140	9.3	10,602
Vinyl chloride	101	69	6,969
Benzene	109	8.1	883

** Includes both hexavalent and non-hexavalent chromium*

Industry Contribution to Total Release

The information reported by businesses on operations that took place in 2016 can be summarized by industry. Table 6 shows the percentage contribution by industry sectors to 1) total release by mass, 2) Cancer TEP, and 3) Non-Cancer TEP.

Table 6: Sector contribution to Total Release (by mass), Cancer TEP and Non-Cancer TEP in 2016

Sector[a]	Percent Contribution to Total Release (by mass)[b]	Percent Contribution to Cancer TEP [b]	Percent Contribution to Non-Cancer TEP [b]
Automotive	<1	<1	<1
Chemical Wholesale	4	<1	<1
Computer & Elect. Prod. Mfg	<1	<1	2
Dry Cleaning	<1	1	<1
Electrical Equip, Appl/Comp Mfg	<1	28	<1
Fab Metal Prod Mfg	5	<1	<1
Food & Beverage	10	<1	<1
Funeral Services	<1	<1	19
Manufacturing	37	1	27
Medical	<1	<1	<1
Non Metallic Mineral Prod Mfg	3	<1	6
Paper Prod Mfg	3	<1	<1
Power Generation	4	<1	<1
Primary Metal Mfg	<1	<1	20
Printing	13	<1	<1
Waste Management	<1	46	<1
Wastewater Treatment	6	9	18
Wood Industries	2	0	<1
All other	8	14	6

[a] *Sectors are defined based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)*
[b] *<1 indicates a value less than one*

Chapter 3: Distribution of Facilities in Toronto

The majority of facilities reporting information on their operations to ChemTRAC were found in non-residential areas.

Figure 1: Distribution of facilities within residential and non-residential areas that provided information on the manufacture, use or release of priority substances in 2016

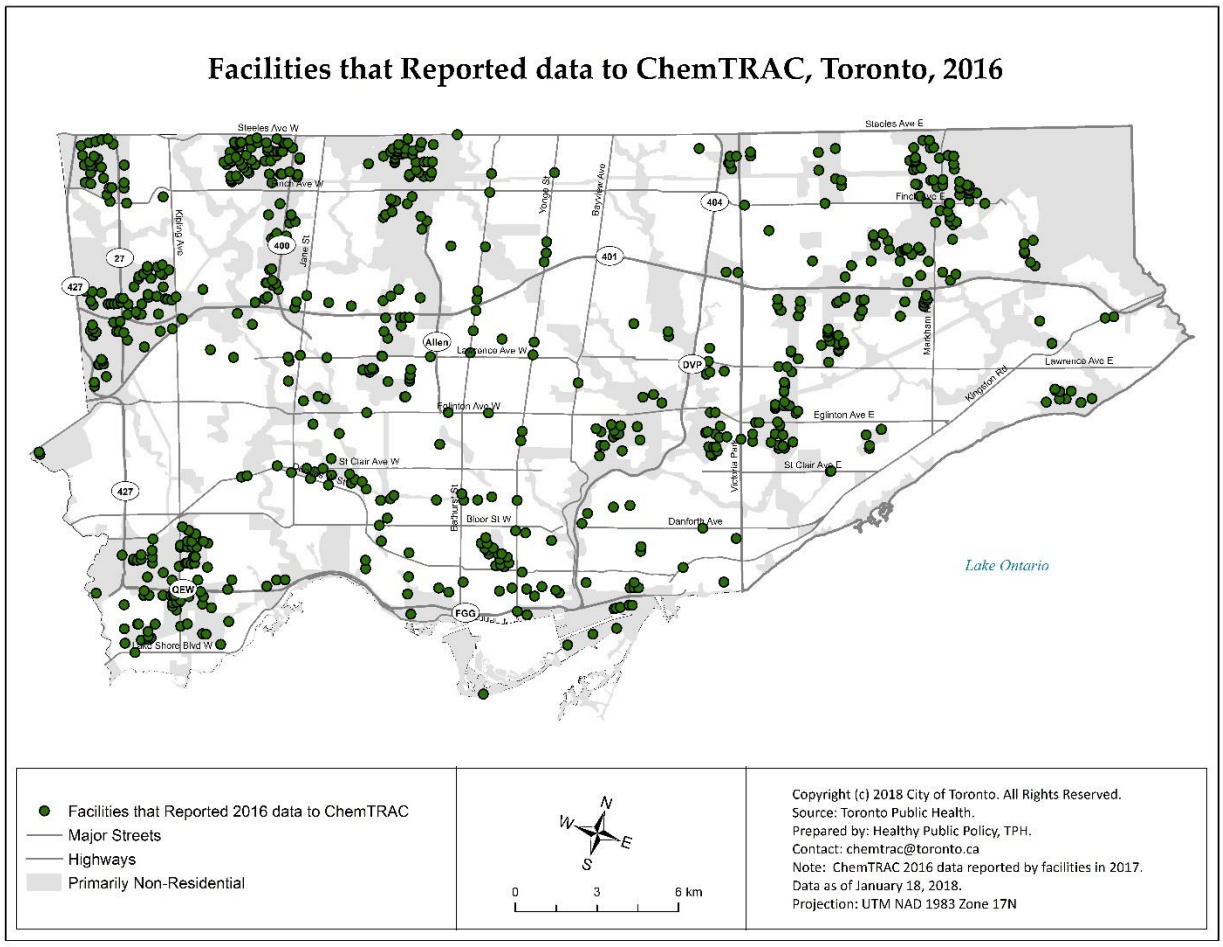


Figure 2: Distribution of facilities that provided information on the manufacture, use or release of priority substances in 2016 and socioeconomic status as represented by proportion of residents living at or below the 2013 Low Income Measure

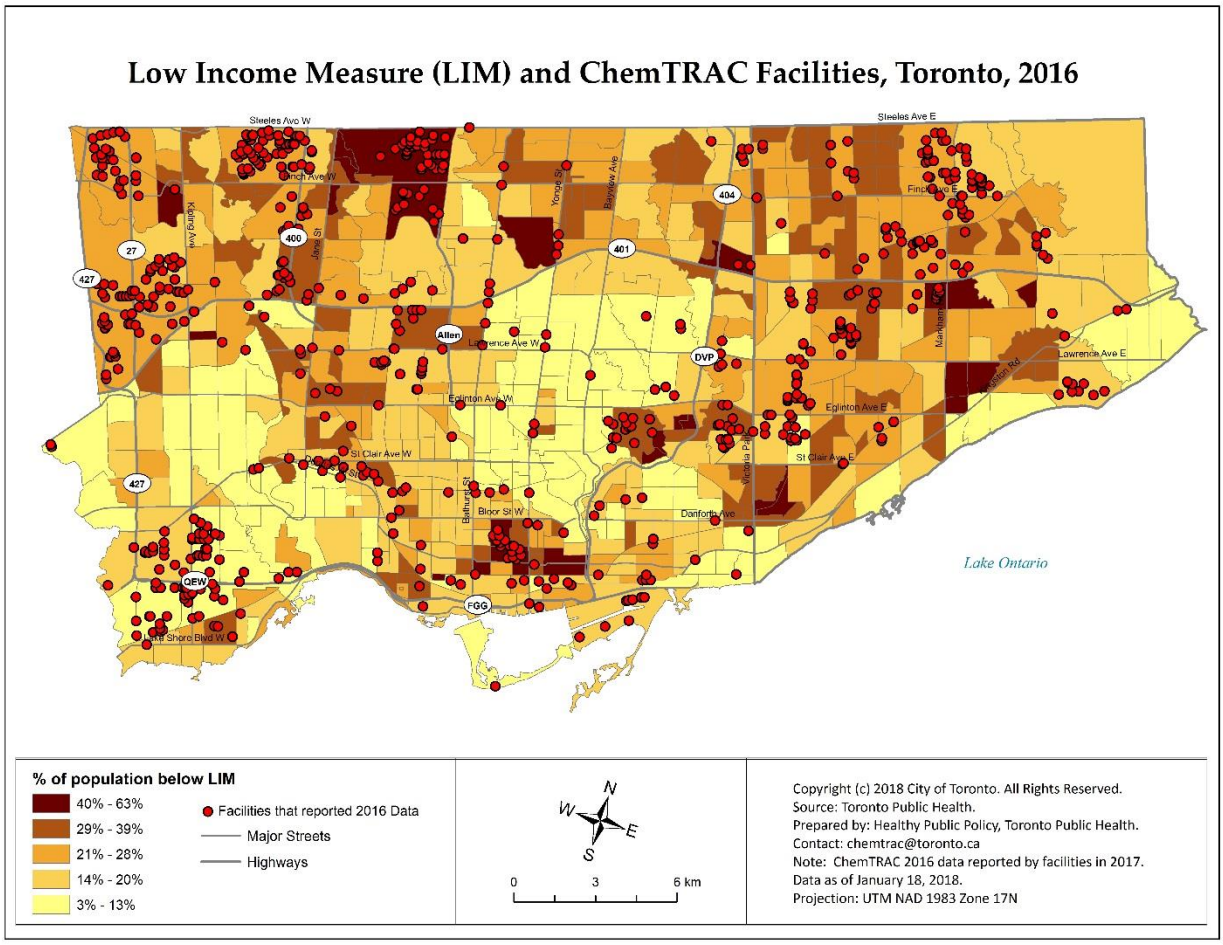


Figure 3: Location of air releases by Cancer TEP in 2016

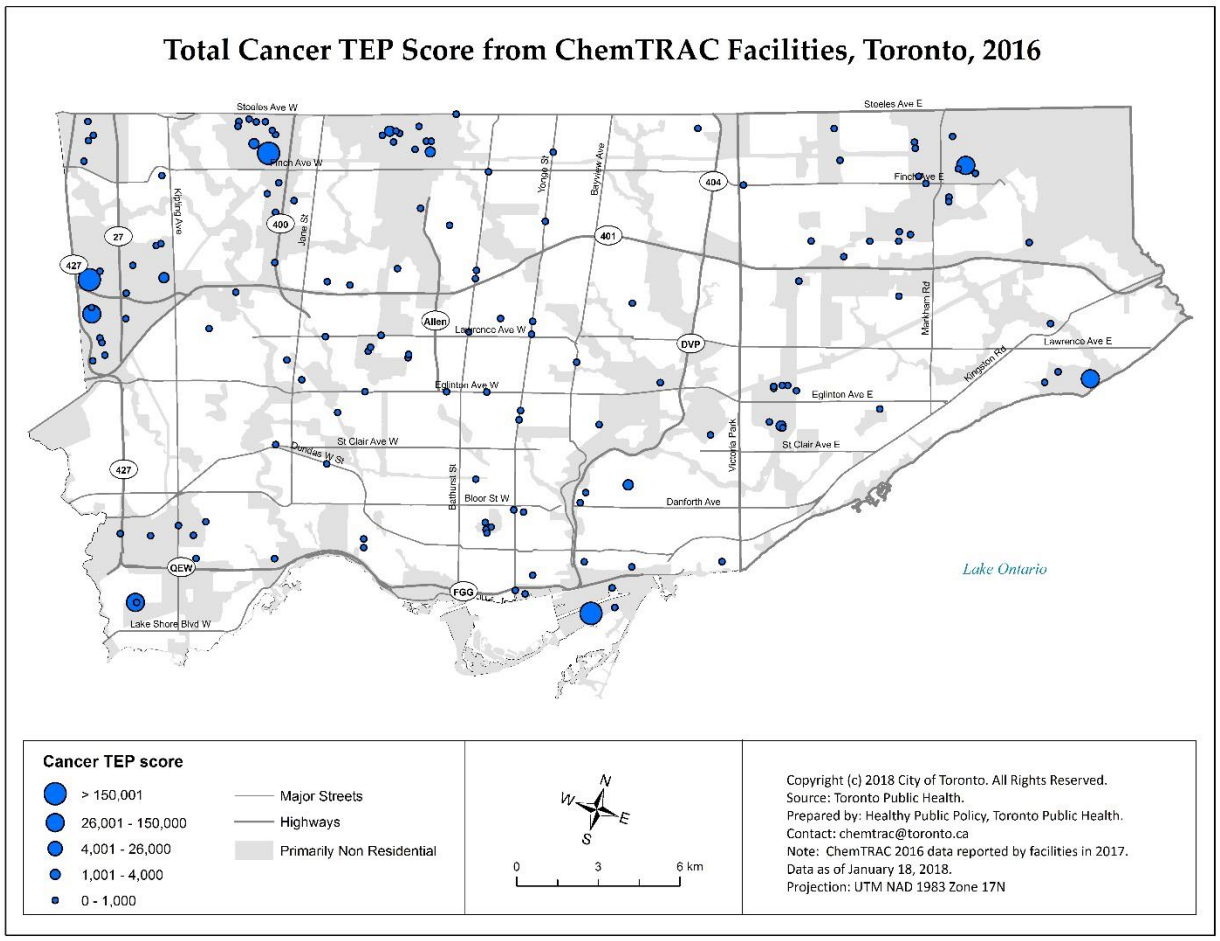
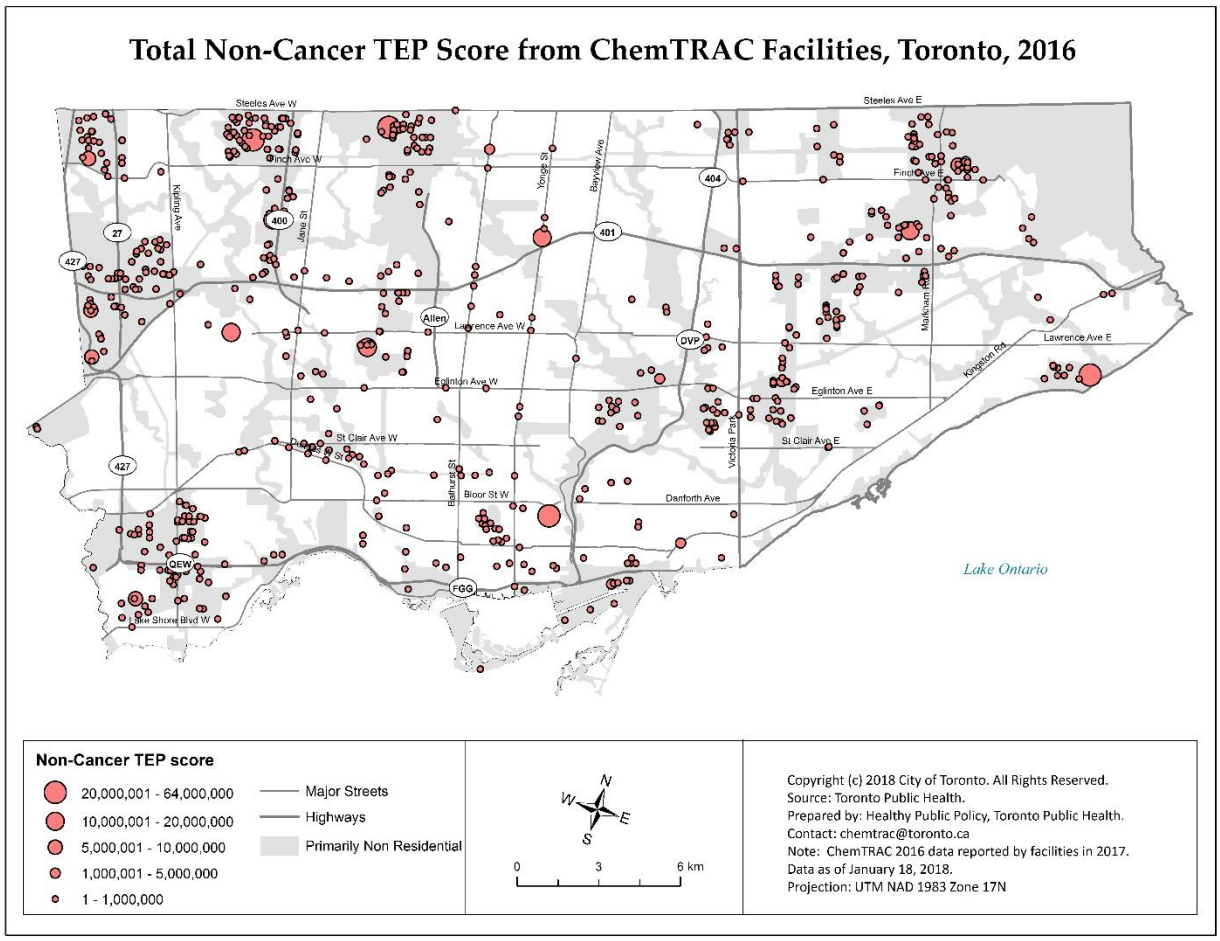


Figure 4: Location of air releases by Non-Cancer TEP in 2016



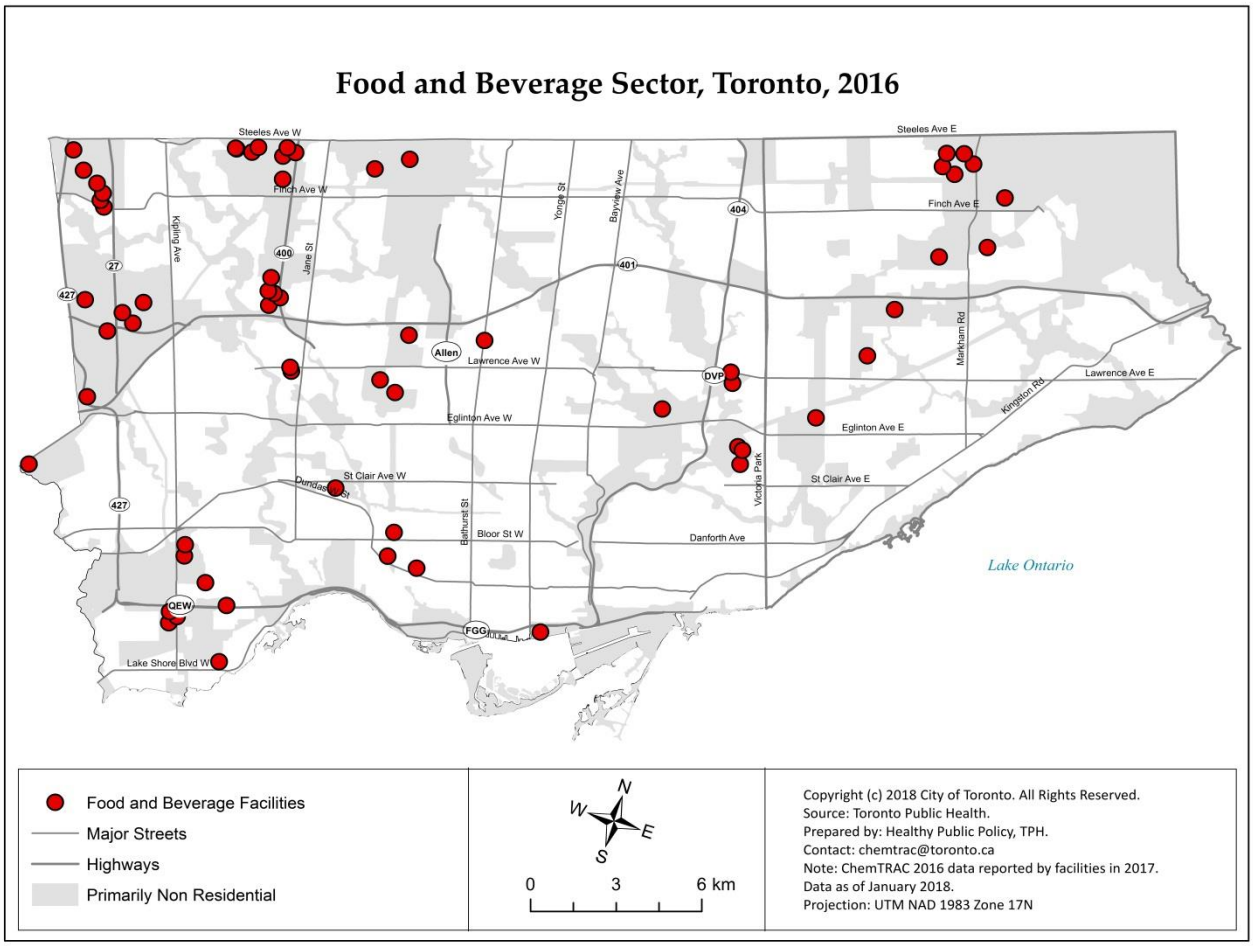
Chapter 4: Sector Quick Facts

The information reported by businesses in 2016 (about operations that took place in 2016) is summarized by industry type below.

Food and Beverage Manufacturing

Types of activities: meat processing, baking, fruit and vegetable canning, frozen food manufacturing and dairy product manufacturing, beverage manufacturing - soft drink, ice, and bottled water manufacturing, beer brewers and wine distillers, and tobacco manufacturing.

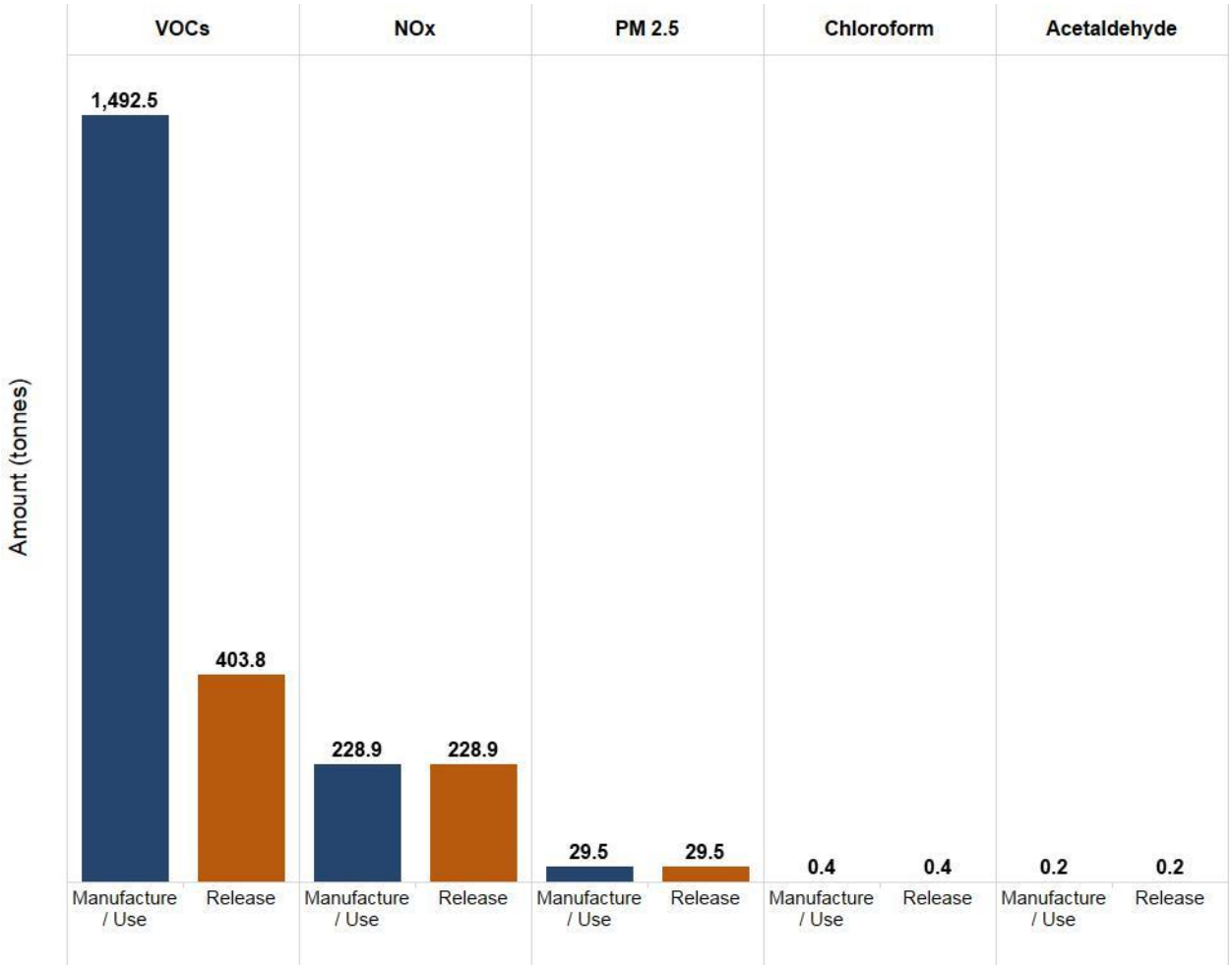
- Number of facilities that met the threshold: 65
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 741
- Total amount released: 662 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 1,751 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 5



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Chloroform
- Acetaldehyde

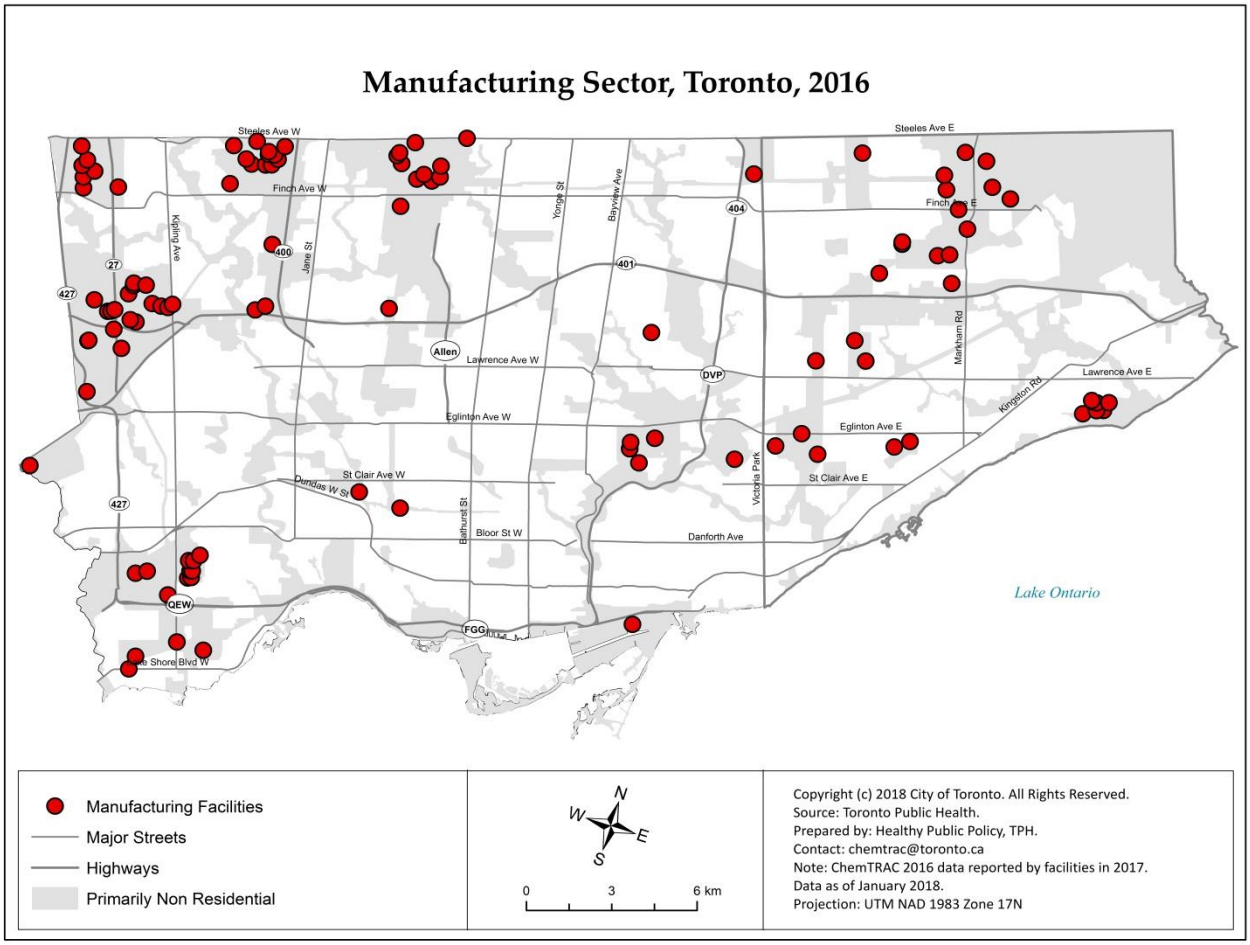
Figure 5: Amount of substances reported by Food and Beverage facilities for 2016



Manufacturing (including chemical and petroleum products)

Types of activities: Manufacturing of basic chemicals, synthetic fibers, plastics, pigments, paints, fertilizers, drugs, cosmetics and soaps.

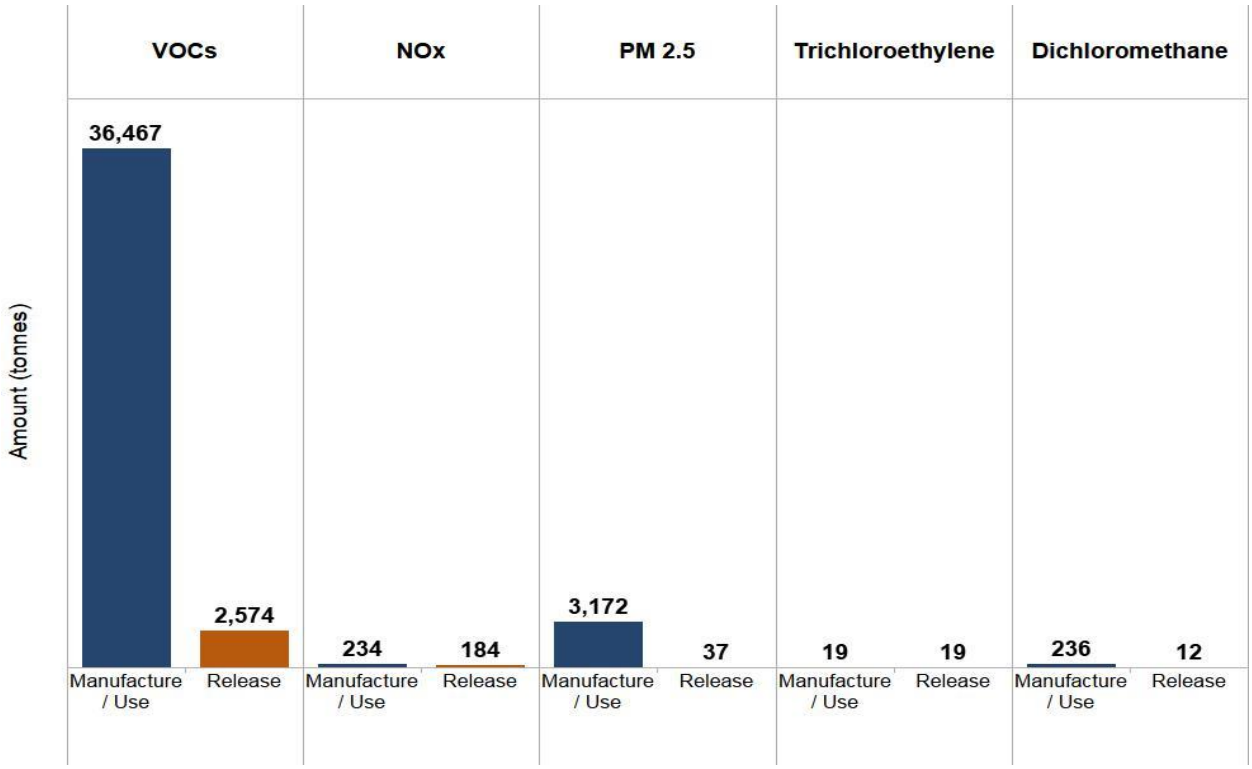
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 111
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 1,456
- Total amount released: 2,829 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 40,797 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 17



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Trichloroethylene
- Dichloromethane

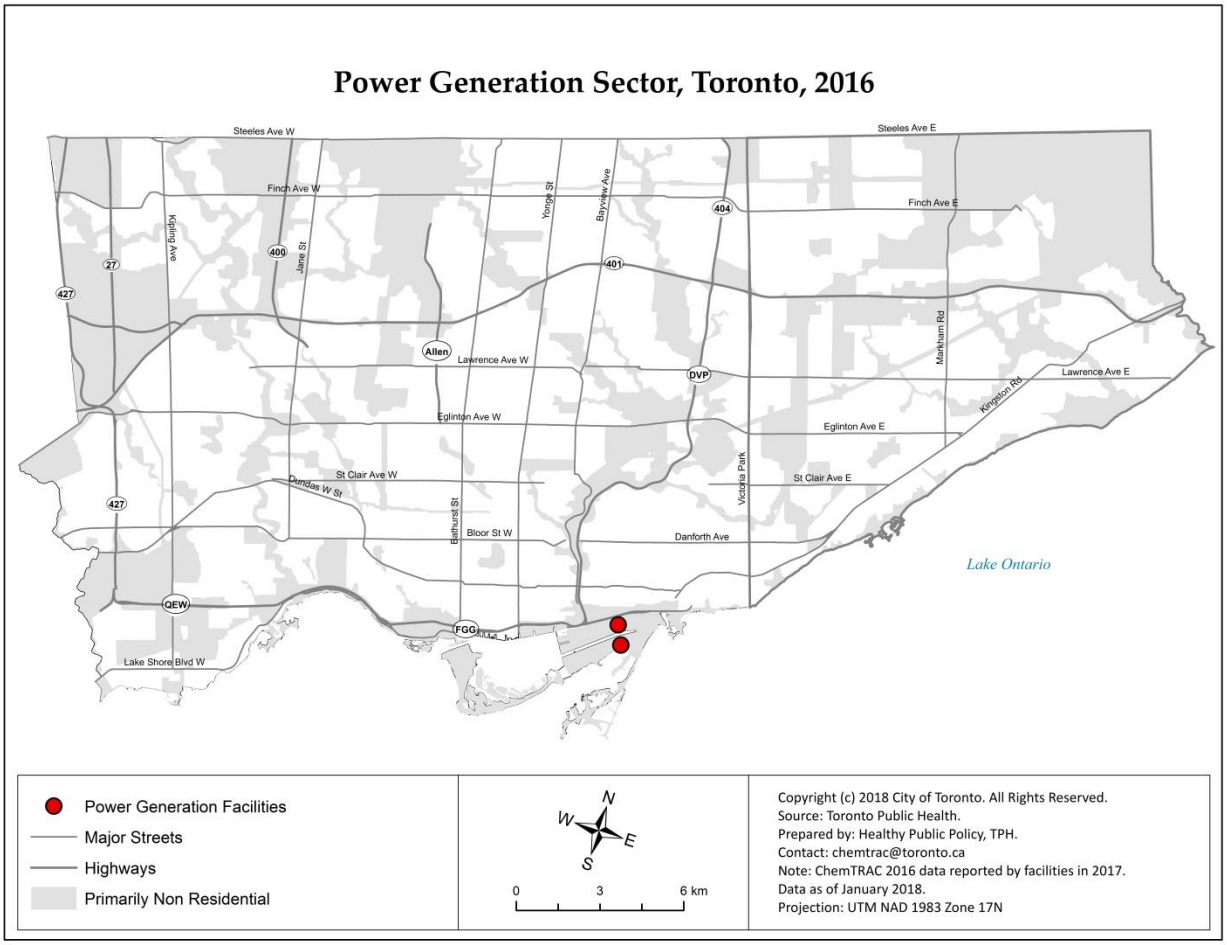
Figure 6: Amount of substances reported by manufacturing facilities for 2016



Power Generation

Types of activities: Generation of bulk electric power.

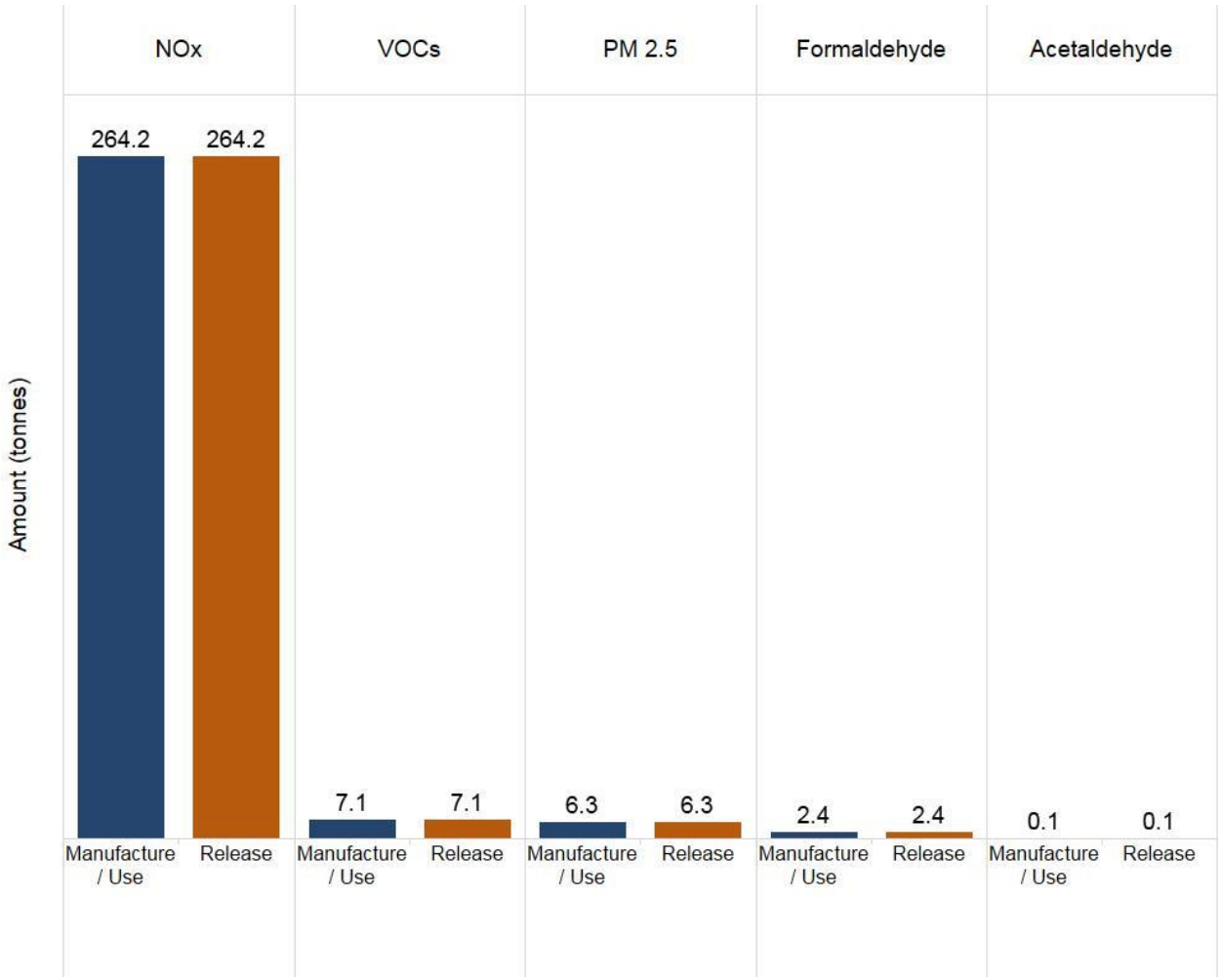
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 2
- Range in number of employees per facility: 30 to 850
- Total amount released: 280 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 289 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 6



Top substances reported are:

- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Formaldehyde
- Acetaldehyde

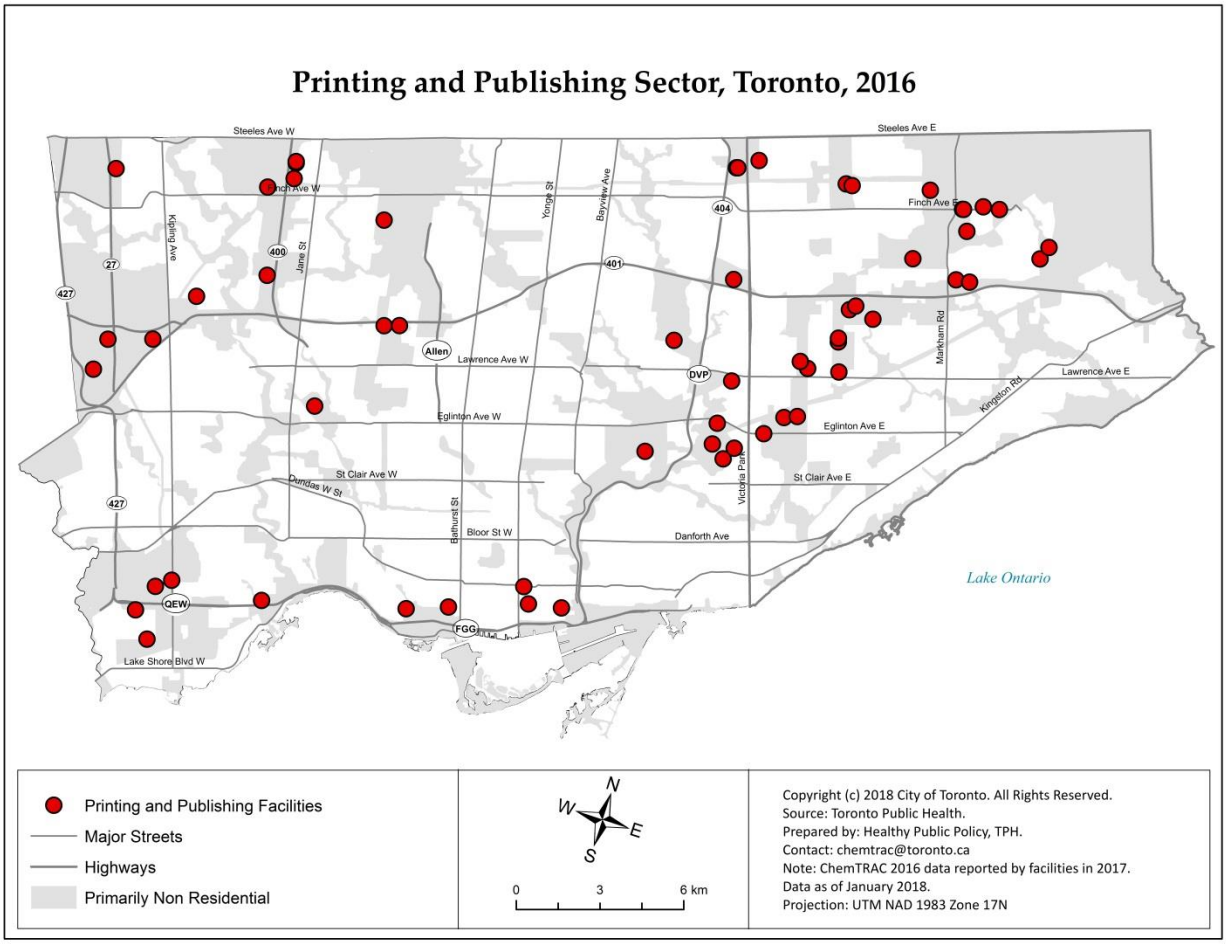
Figure 7: Amount of substances reported by Power Generation facilities for 2016



Printing and Publishing

Types of activities: Printing newspapers, books, labels, business cards, food wrappers, etc.

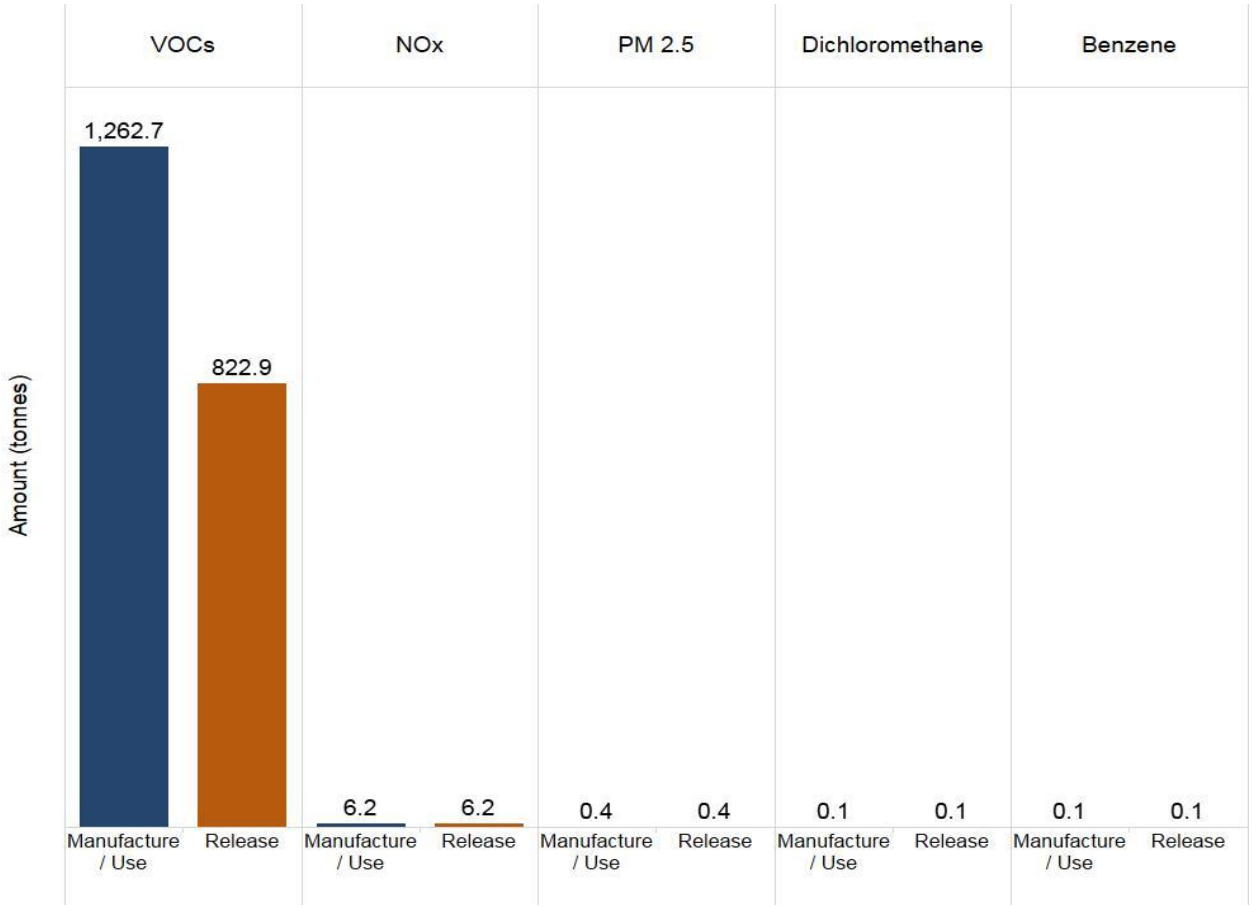
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 60
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 250
- Total amount released: 830 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 1,270 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 8



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Dichloromethane
- Benzene

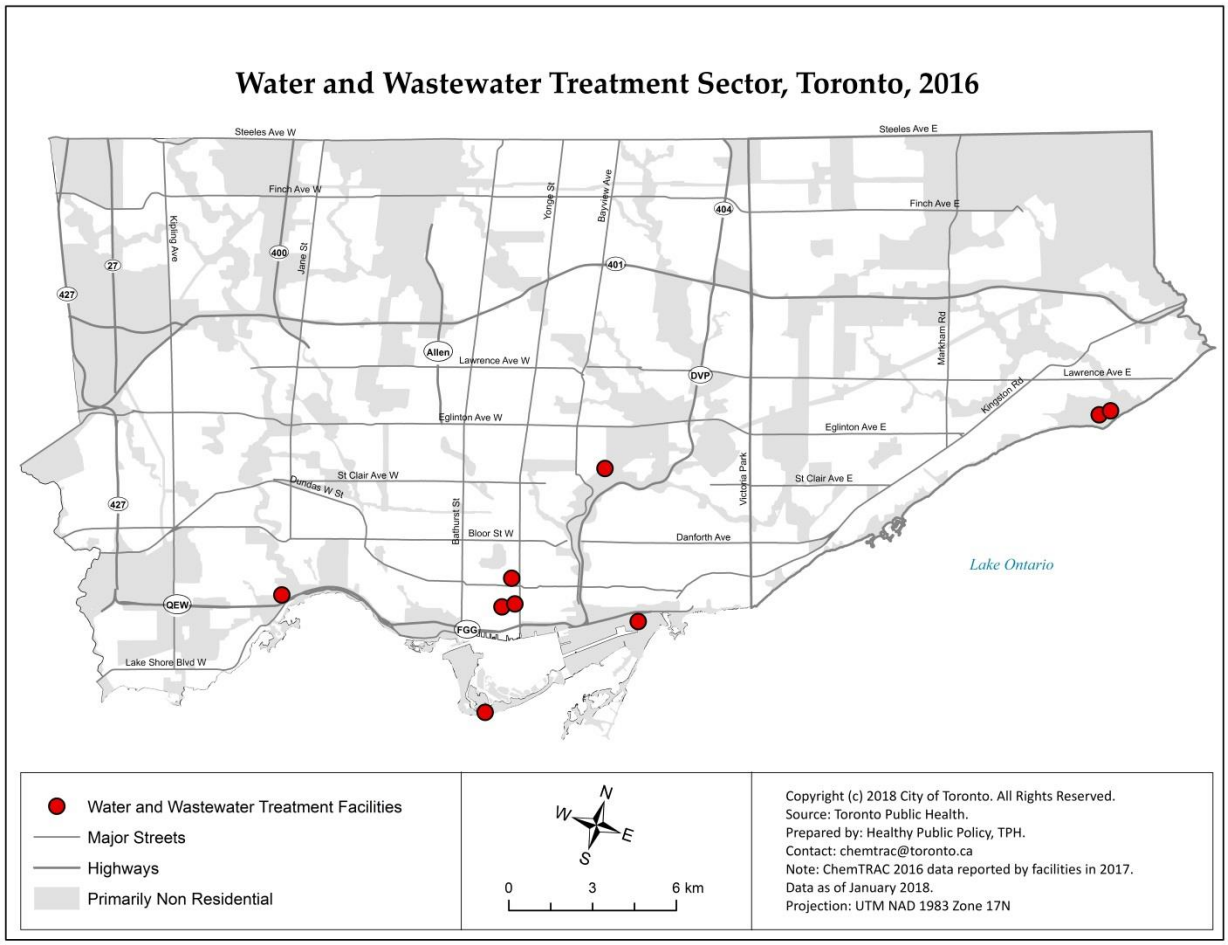
Figure 8: Amounts of substances reported by Printing and Publishing facilities for 2016



Water and Wastewater

Types of activities: Water, wastewater and sewage treatment plants.

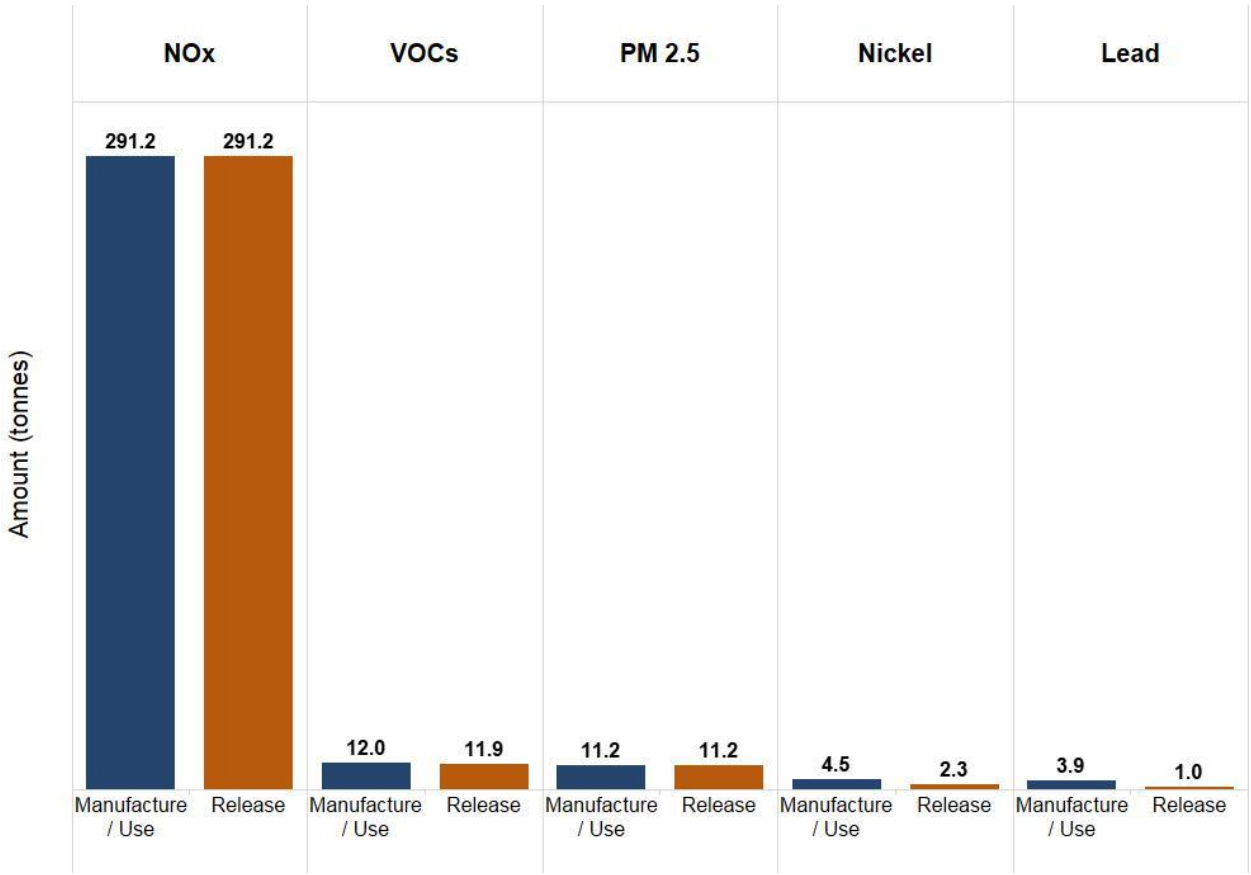
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 9
- Range in number of employees per facility: 5 to 174
- Total amount released: 318 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 324 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 8



Top substances reported are:

- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Particulate matter 2.5 (PM2.5)
- Nickel
- Lead

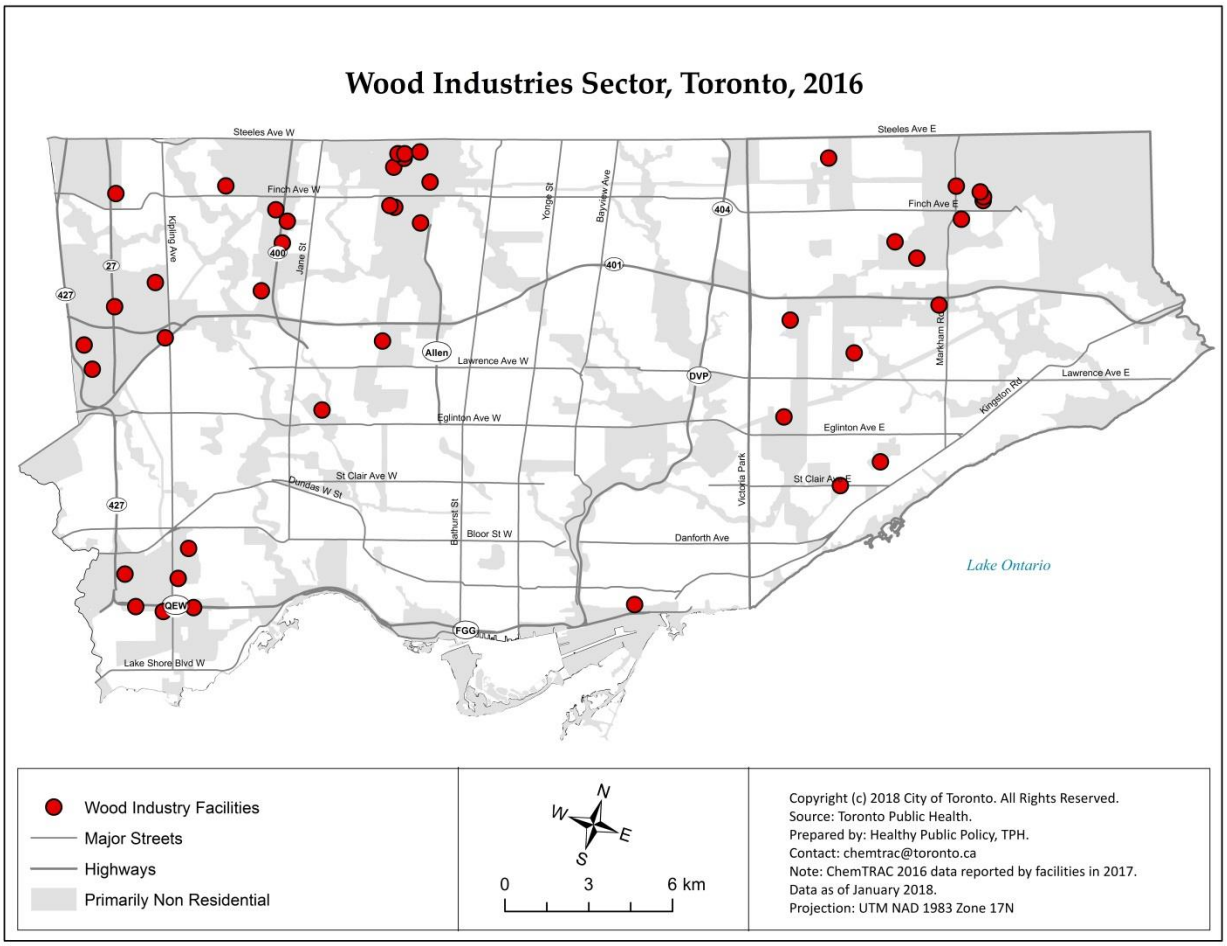
Figure 9: Amounts of substances reported by Water and Wastewater Treatment facilities for 2016



Wood Industries

Types of activities: Creation of wood-based products including paper, cardboard, pallets, furniture and cabinetry.

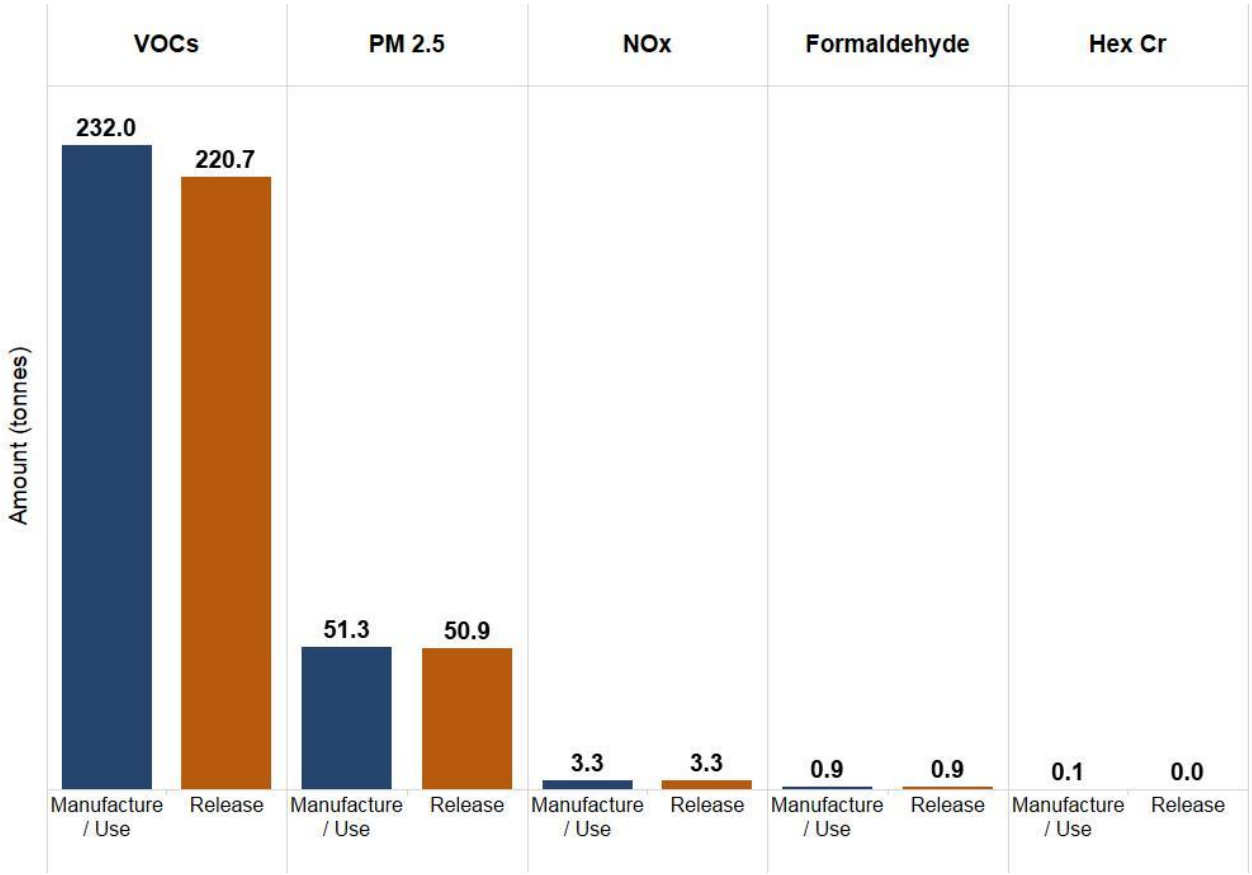
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 43
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 681
- Total amount released: 276 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 288 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 6



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Formaldehyde
- Chromium Hexavalent

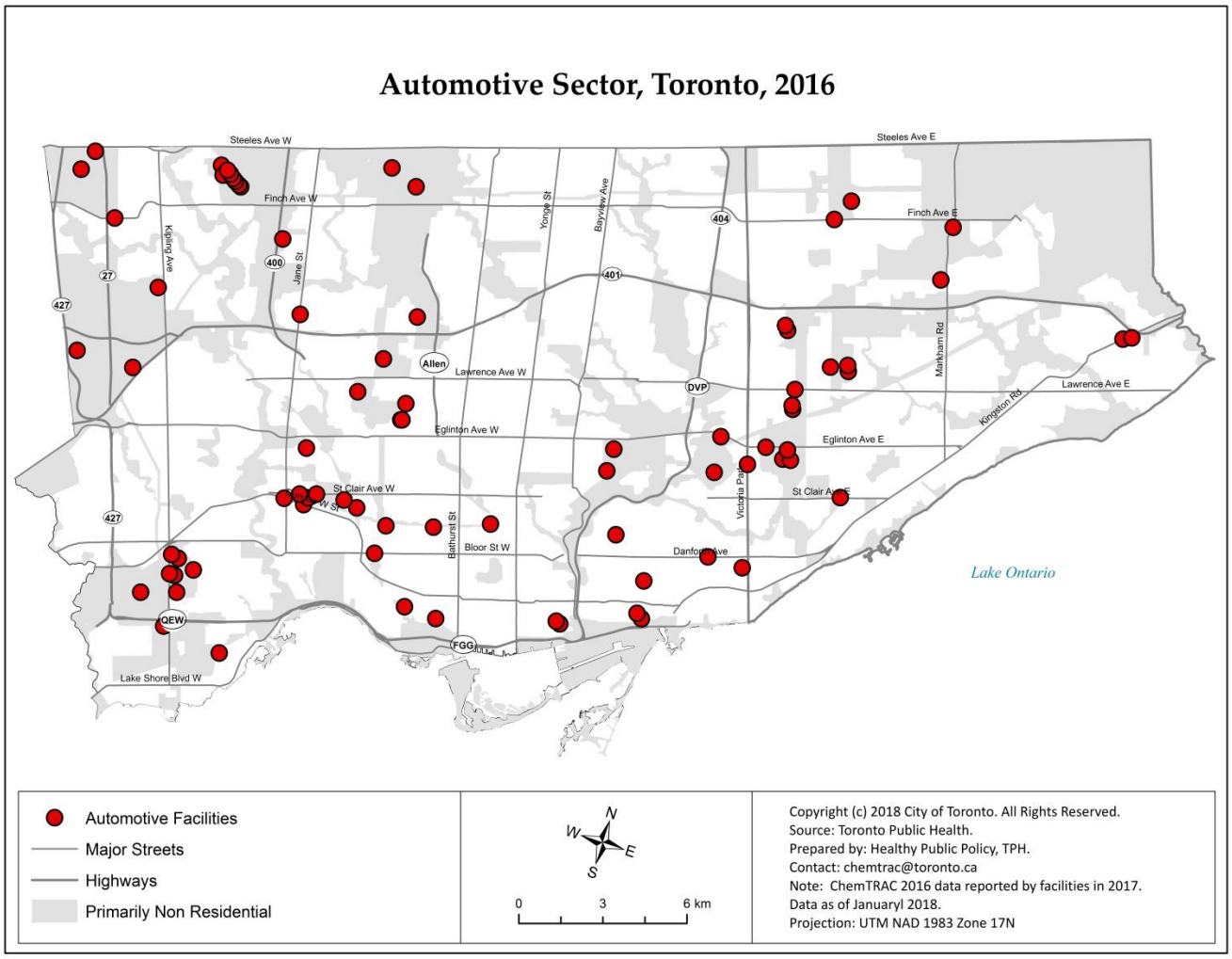
Figure 10: Amounts of substances reported by Wood Industries for 2016



Auto Body, Collision Repair and Auto Refinishing Sector

Types of activities: Painting, repairing and customizing cars, trucks, vans and commercial trailers.

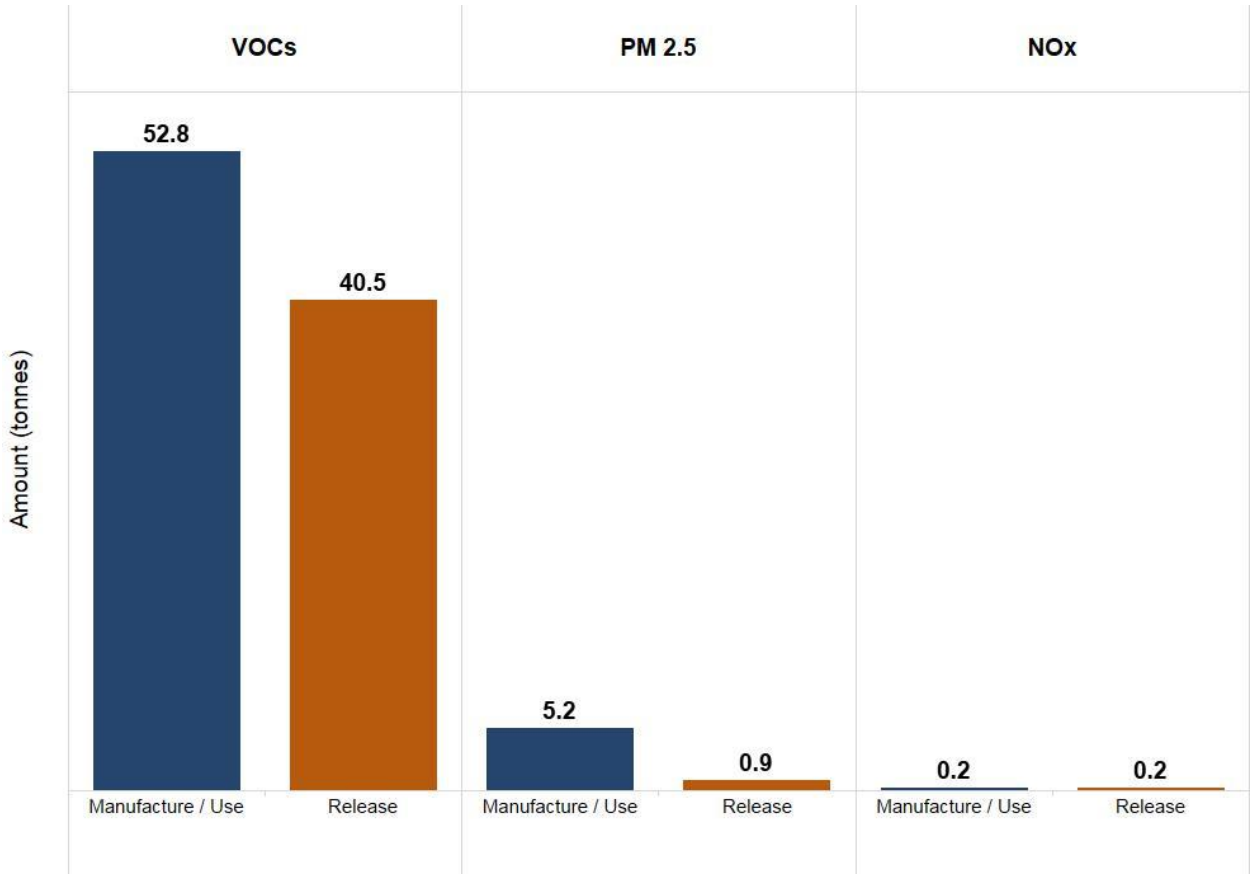
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 79
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 65
- Total amount released: 41 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 58 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 3



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)

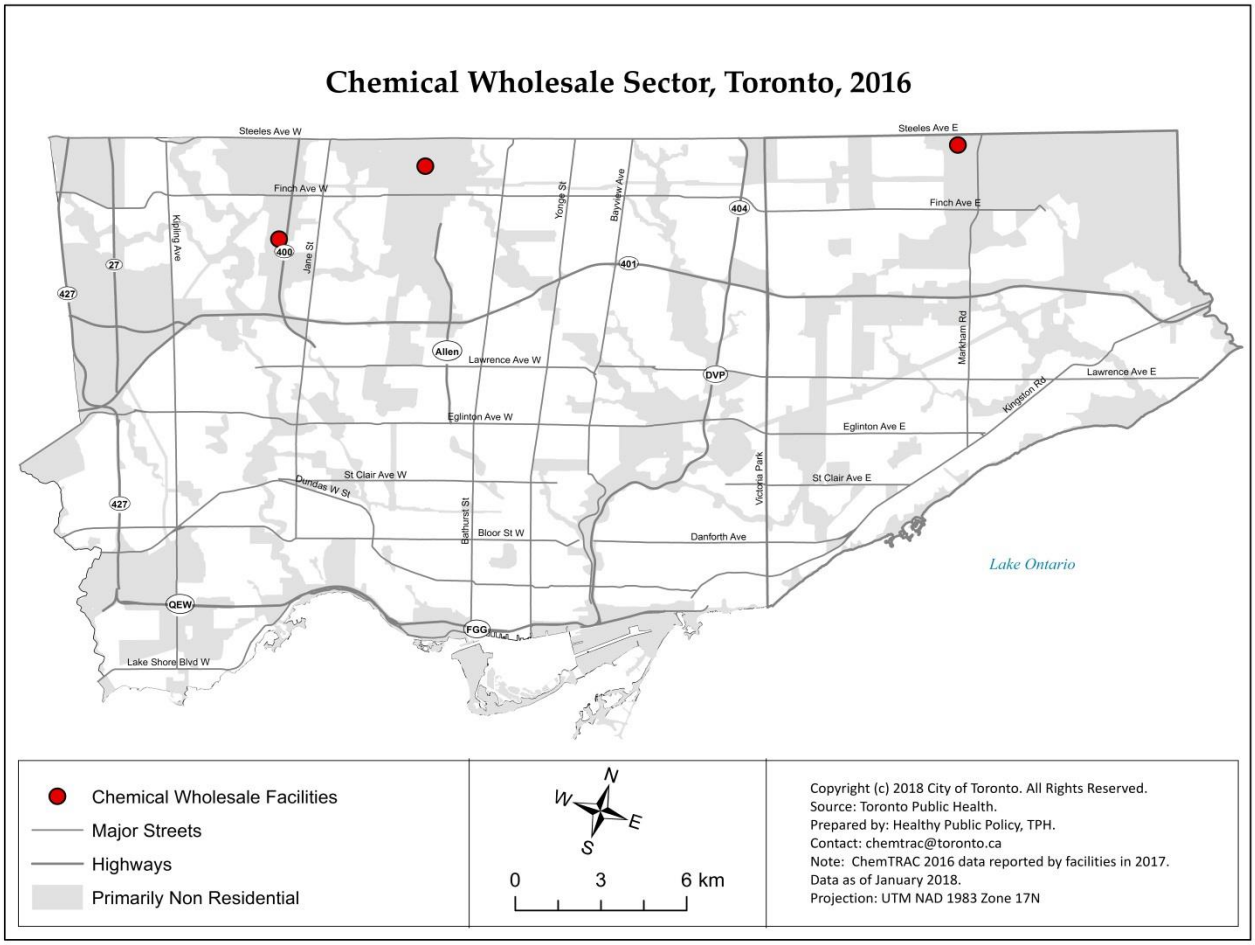
Figure 11: Amounts of substances reported by Autobody Refinishing facilities for 2016



Chemical Wholesale

Types of activities: Wholesale of industrial and household chemicals, cleaning compounds and preparations, plastics resins, plastic basic forms and shapes, and industrial gases.

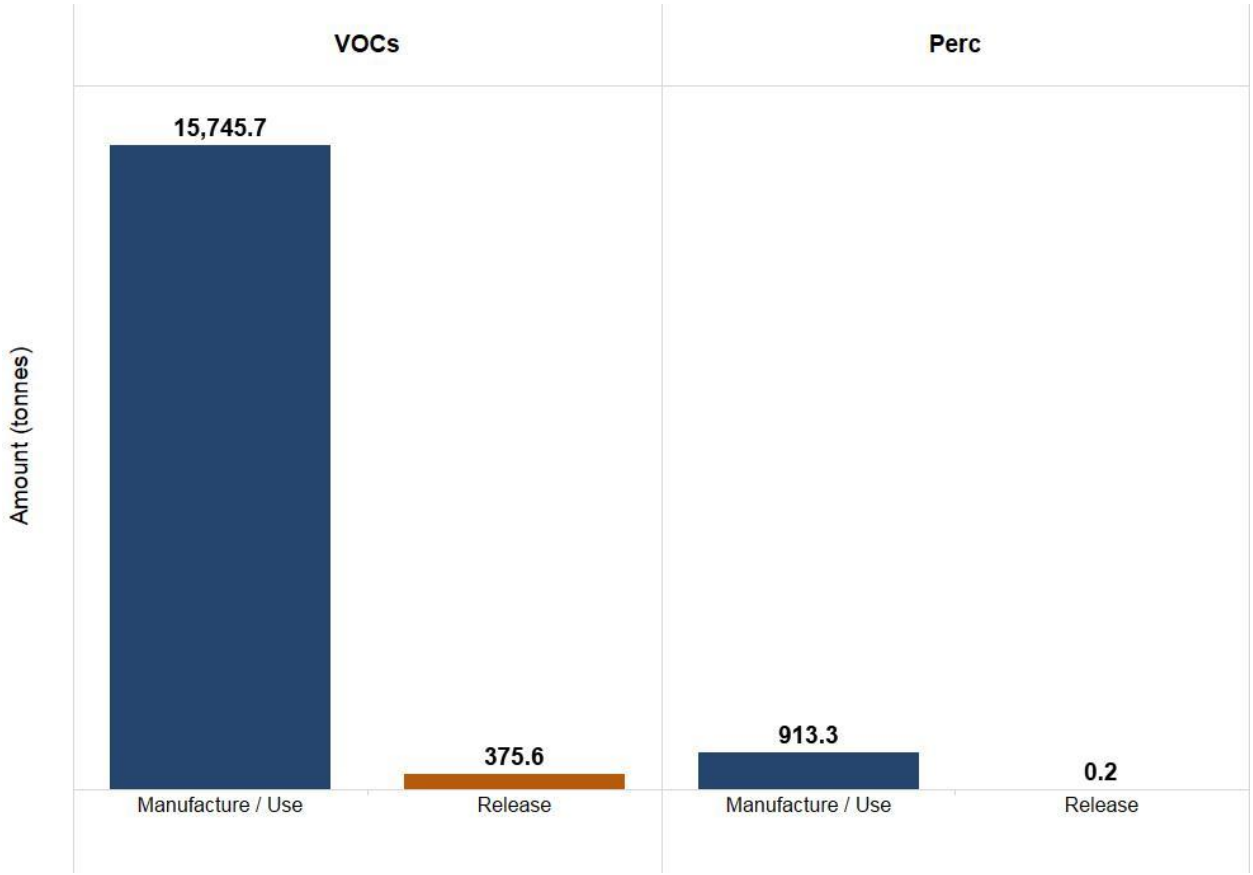
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 3
- Range in number of employees per facility: 14 to 125
- Total amount released: 376 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 16,659 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 2



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Tetrachloroethylene (Perchloroethylene)

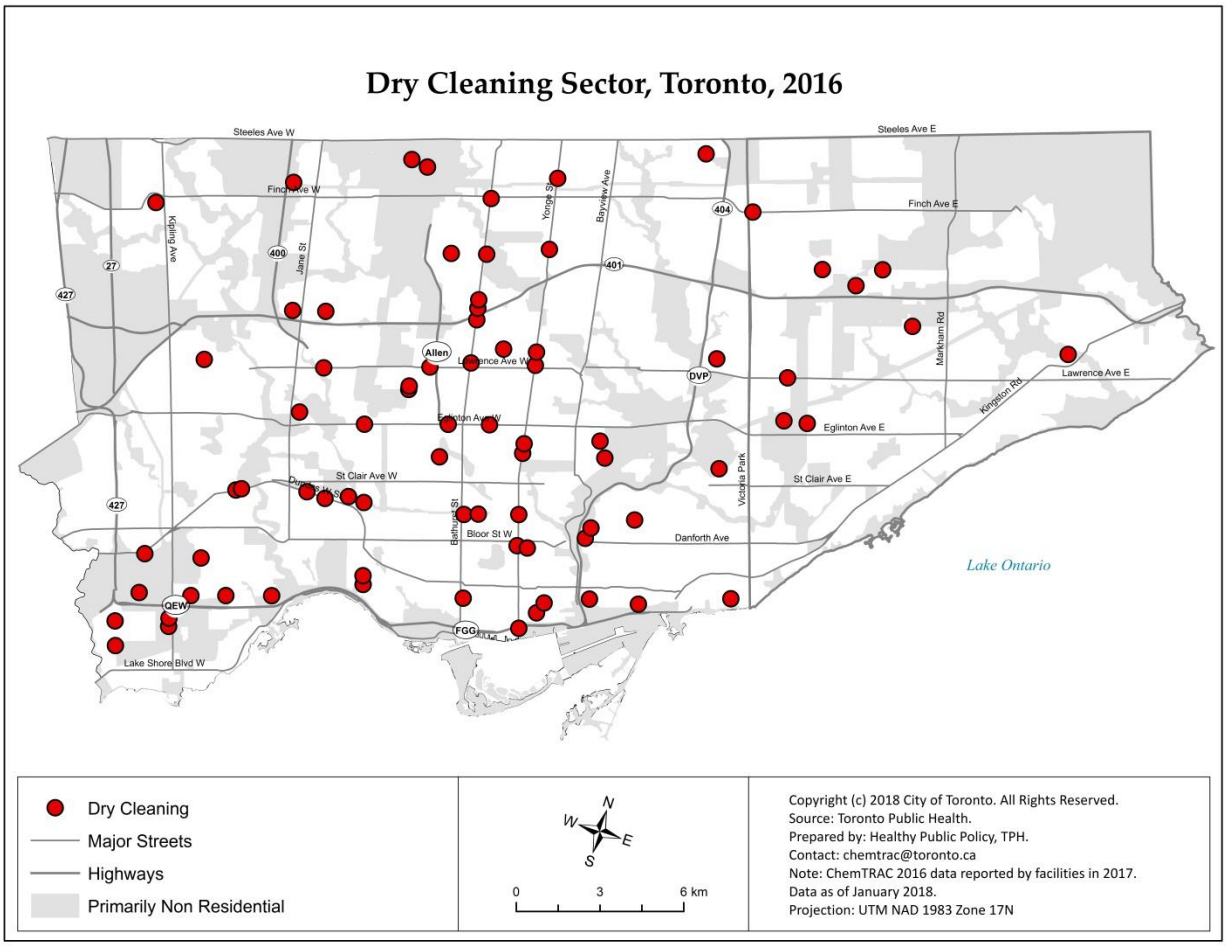
Figure 12: Amount of substances reported for Chemical Wholesale in 2016



Dry Cleaning and Industrial Laundry

Types of activities: Self-service laundry, laundering services, laundering and supplying laundered uniforms, linens and other fabric items and dry cleaning.

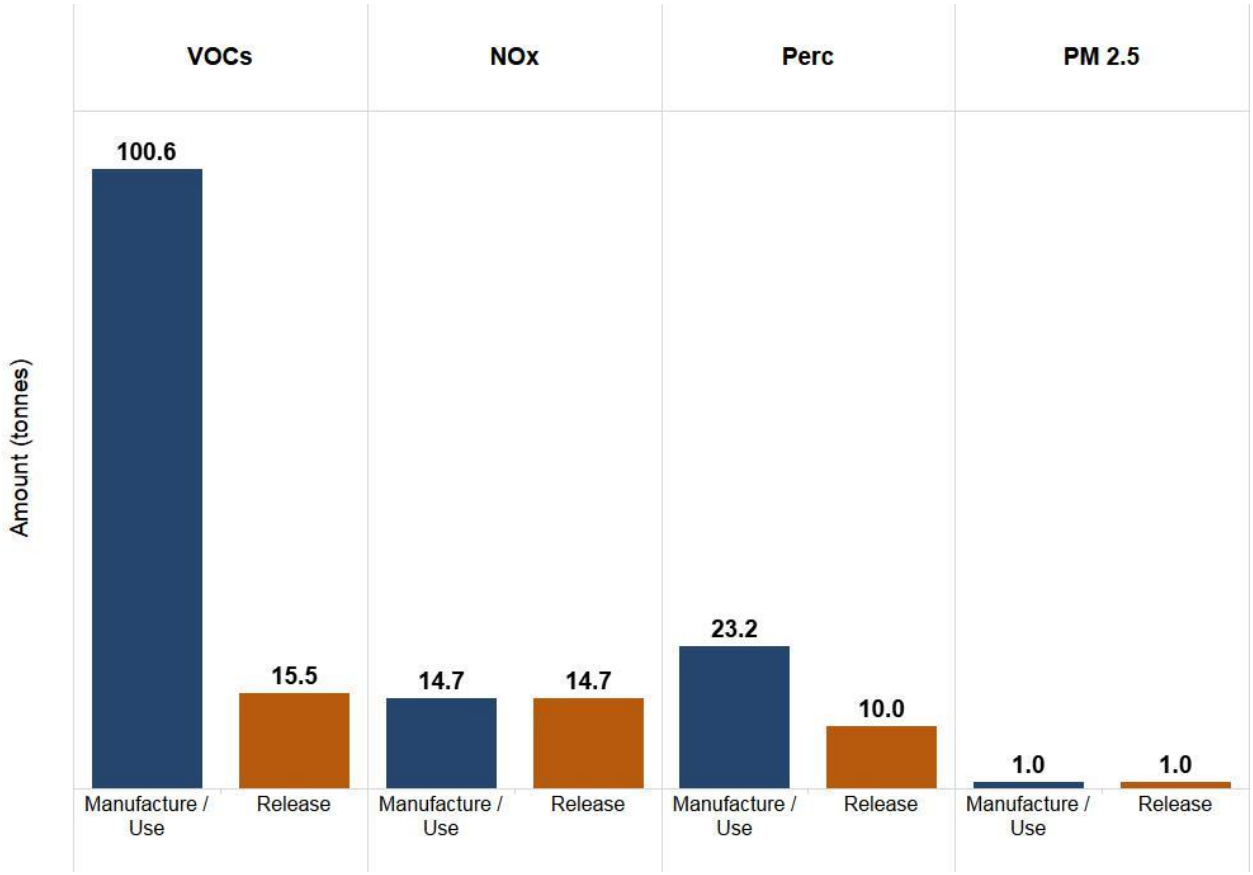
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 77
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 300
- Total amount released: 41 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 139 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 4



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Tetrachloroethylene (Perchloroethylene)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)

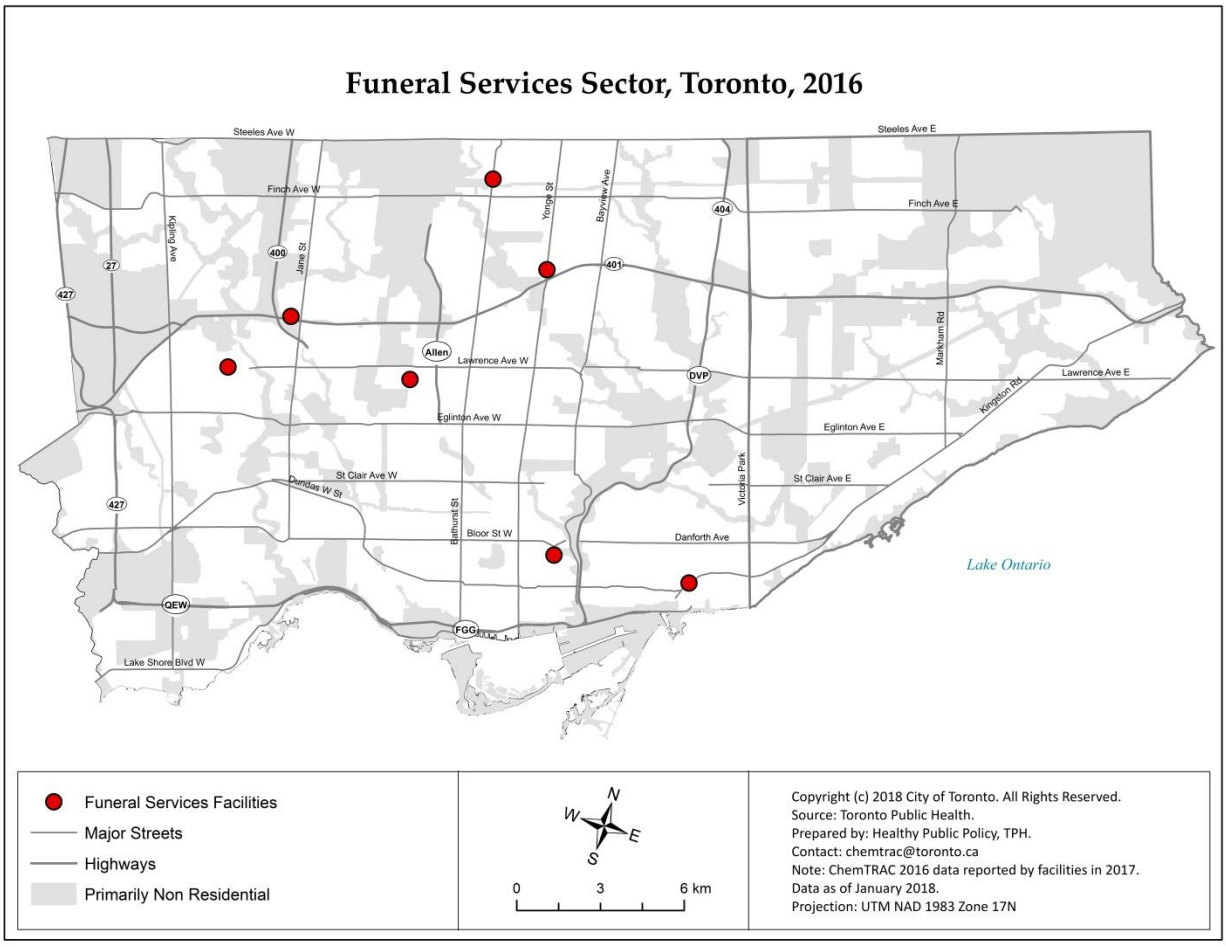
Figure 13: Amounts of substances reported by Dry Cleaning and Industrial Laundry facilities for 2016



Funeral Services

Types of activities: Funeral homes, cemeteries and crematoria

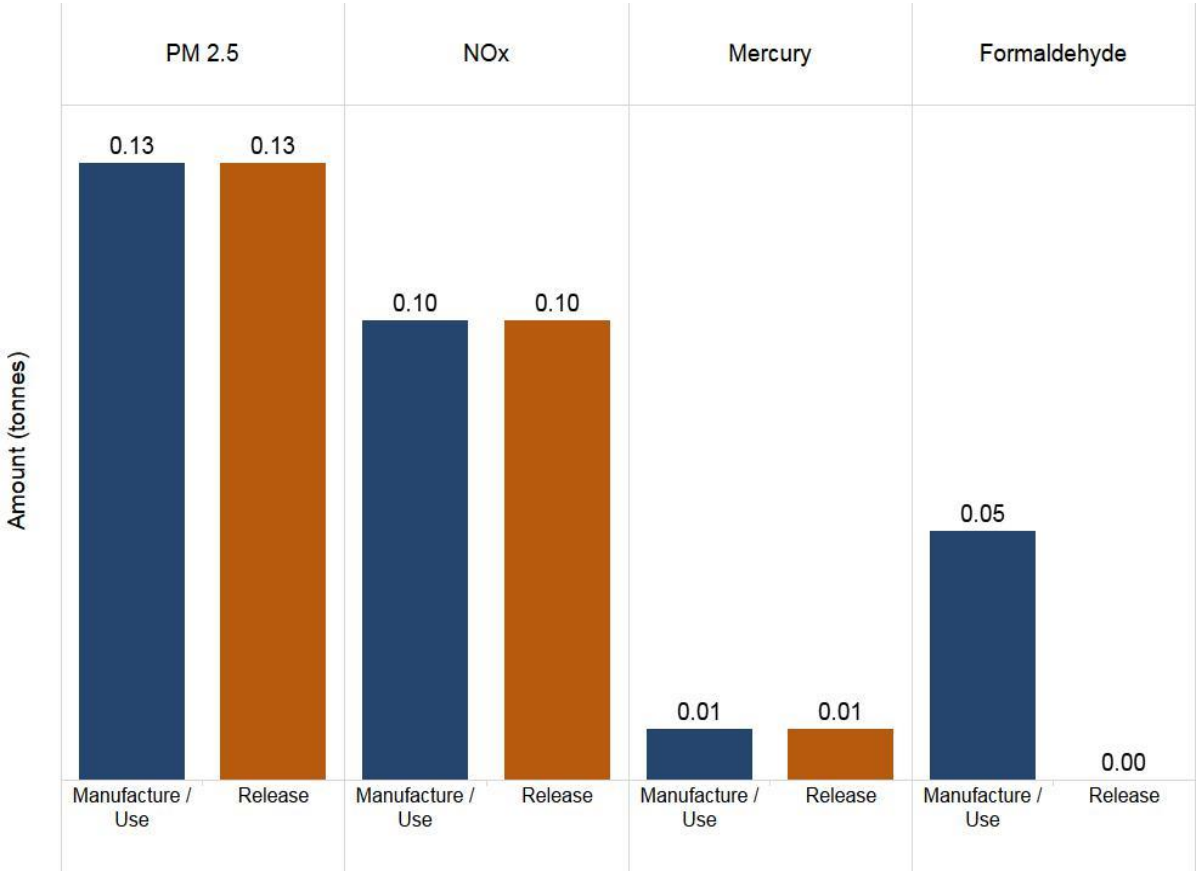
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 7
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 25
- Total amount released: 0.2 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 0.3 tonne
- Number of priority substances reported: 4



Top substances reported are:

- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Mercury and its compounds
- Formaldehyde

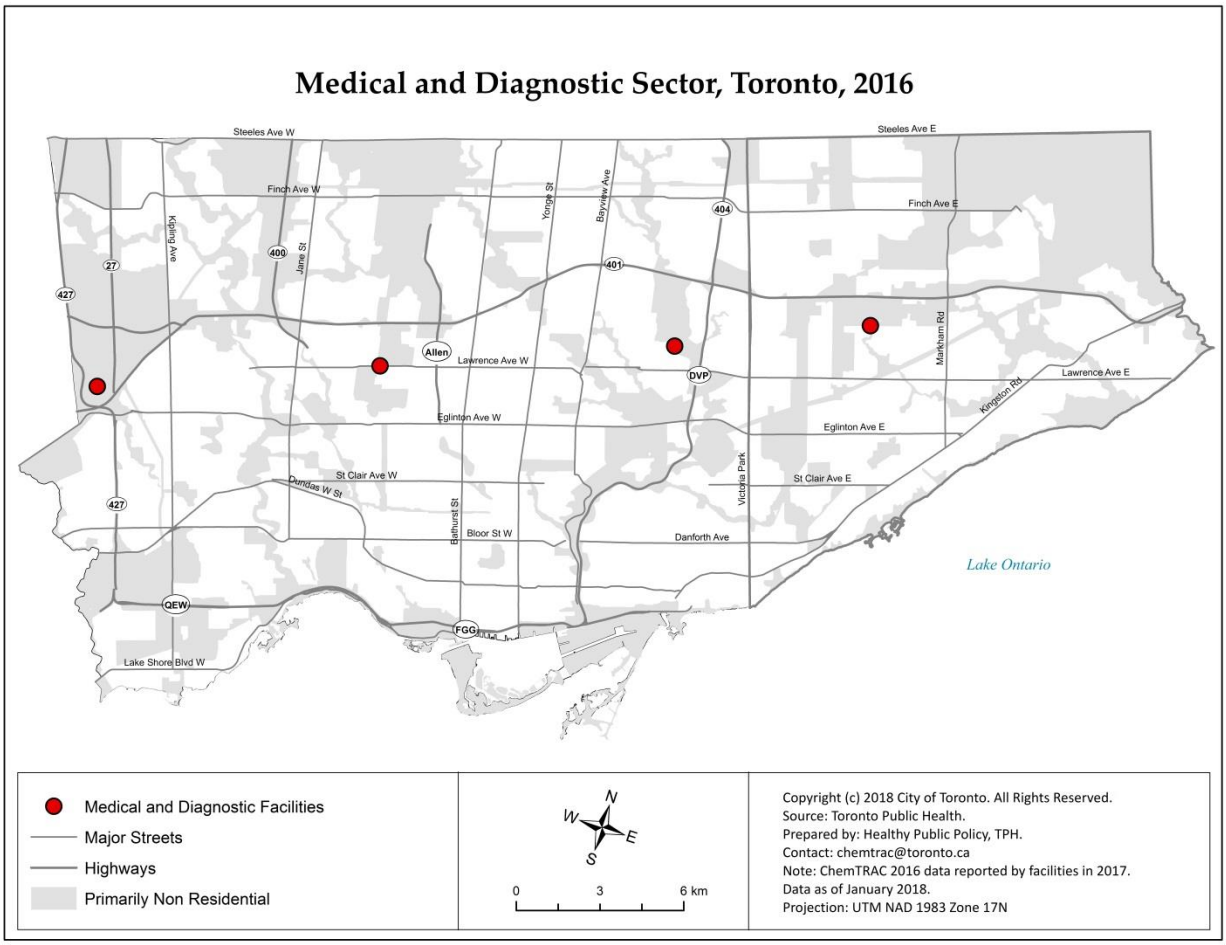
Figure 14: Amount of substances reported for Funeral Services for 2016



Medical and Diagnostic

Types of activities: Analytic or diagnostic services to the medical profession or patient on referral from a health practitioner.

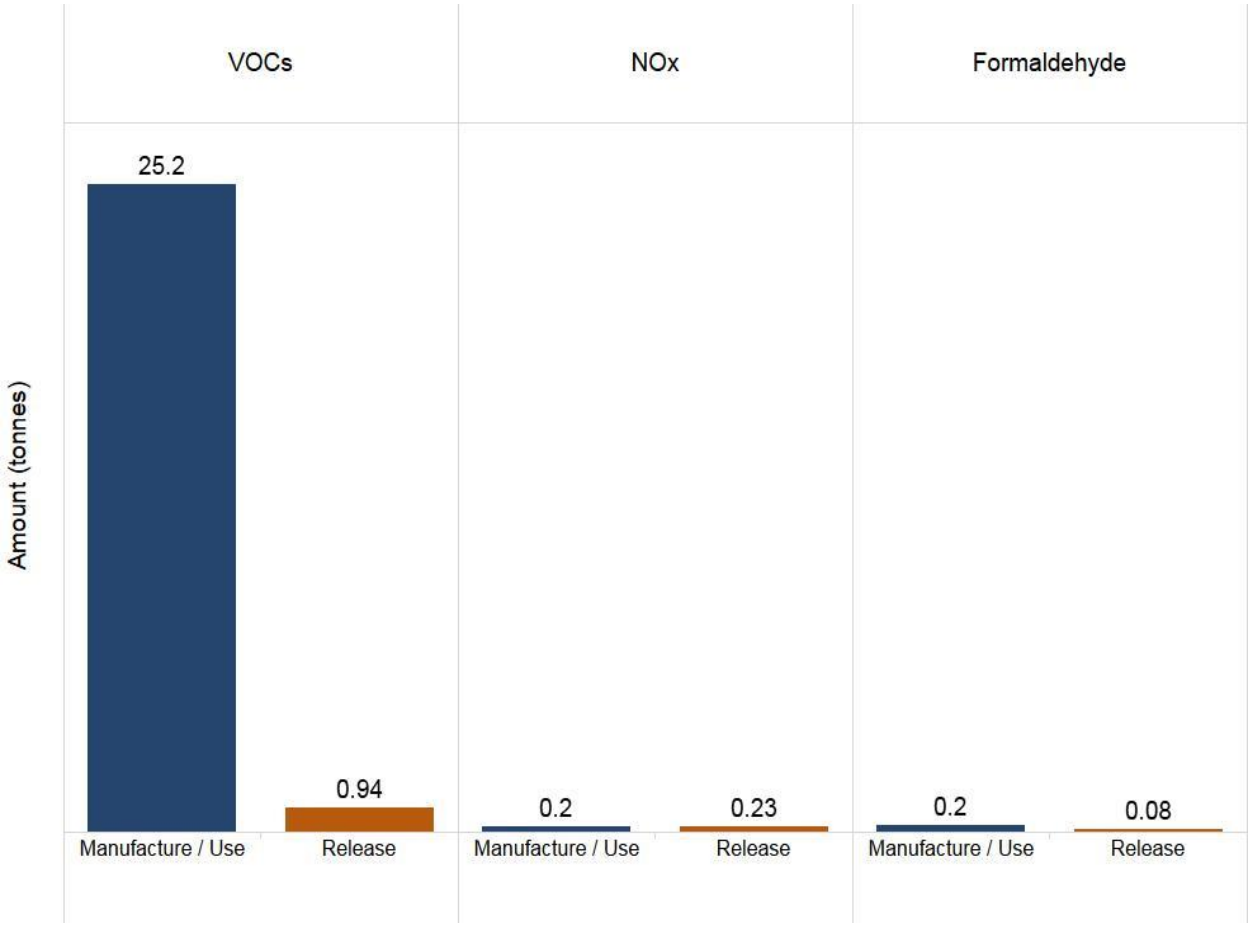
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 4
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 885
- Total amount released: 1 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 26 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 4



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Formaldehyde

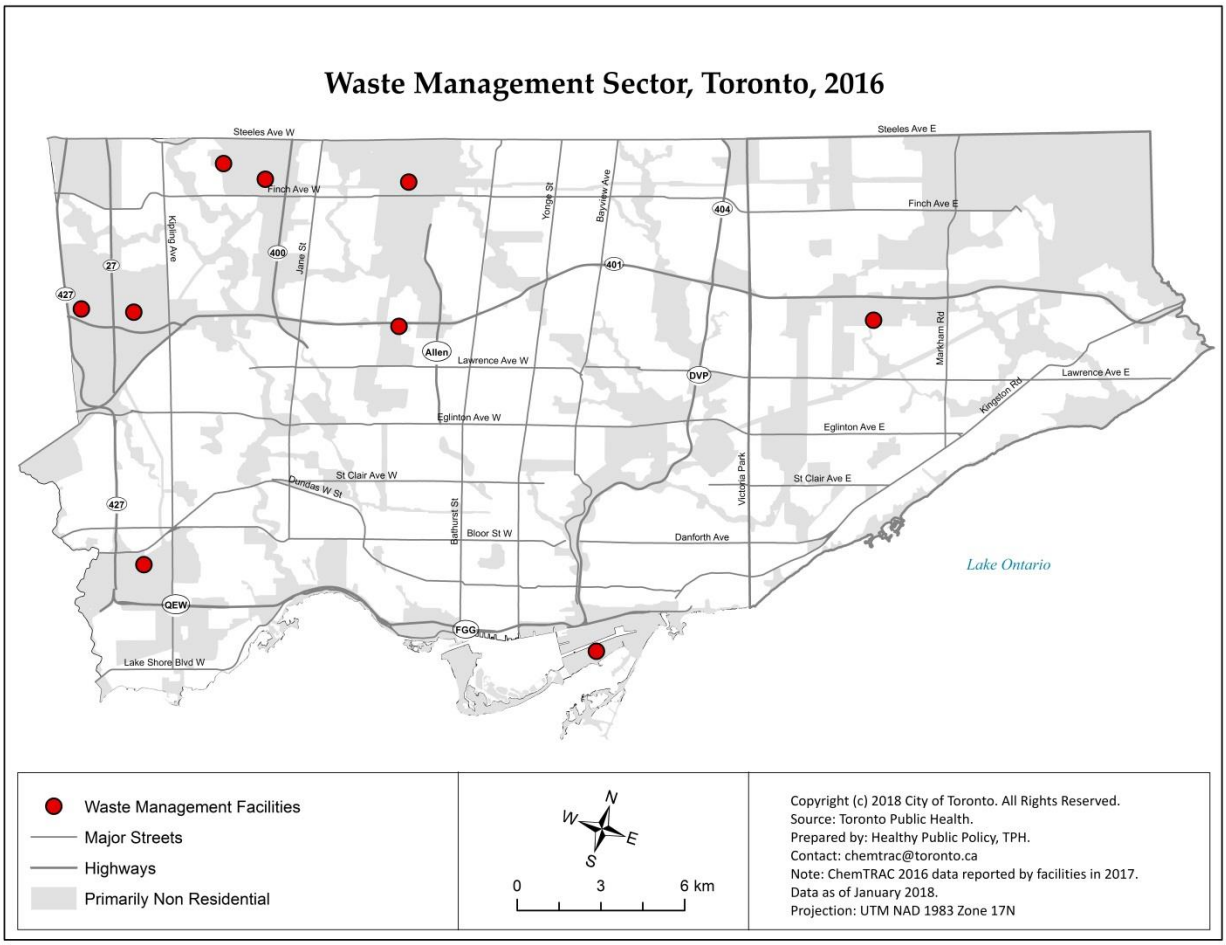
Figure 15: Amounts of substances reported by Medical and Diagnostic facilities for 2016



Waste Management and Remediation

Types of activities: Waste collection, treatment and disposal services, environmental remediation services, septic tank pumping services and recovery facilities.

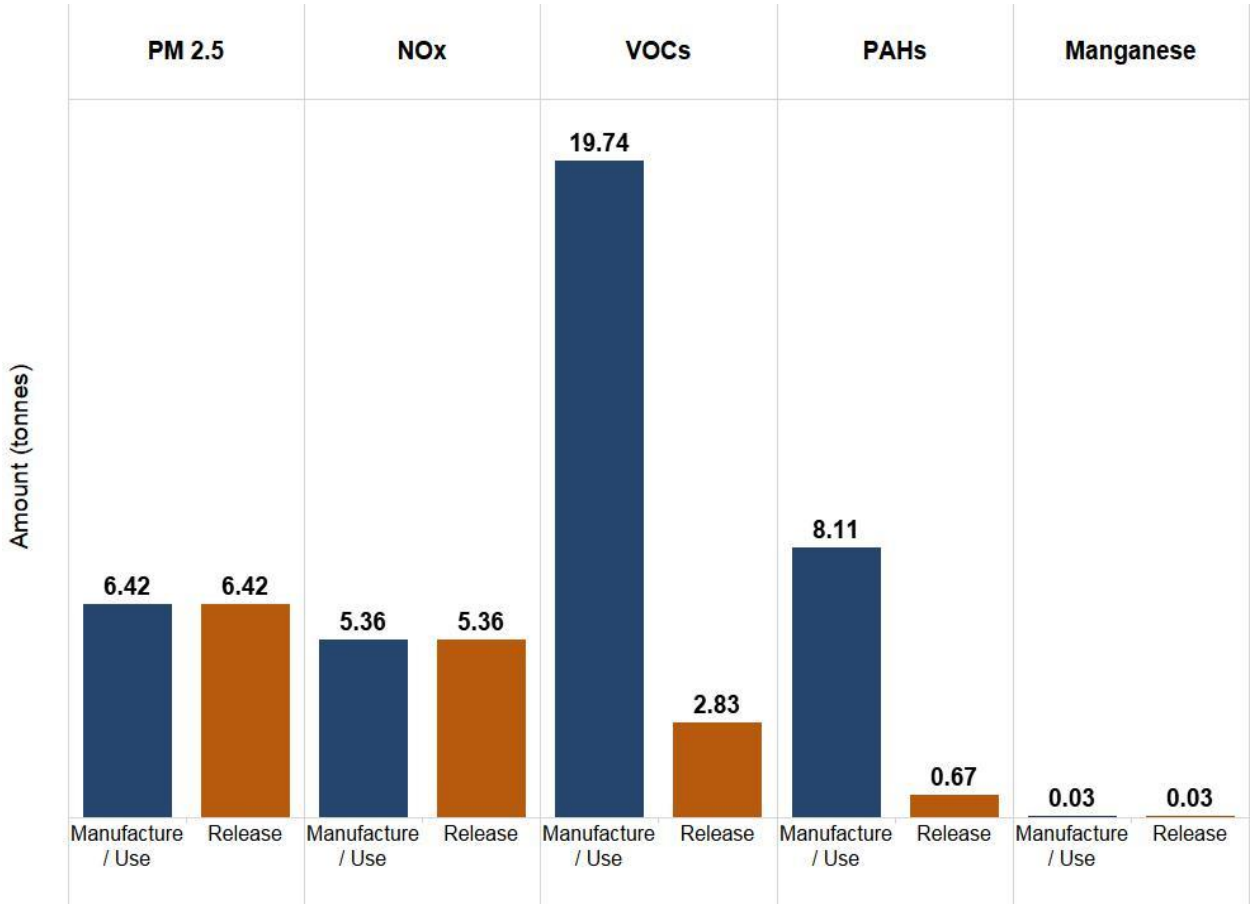
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 9
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 191
- Total amount released: 24 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 151 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 11



Top substances reported are:

- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs)
- Manganese

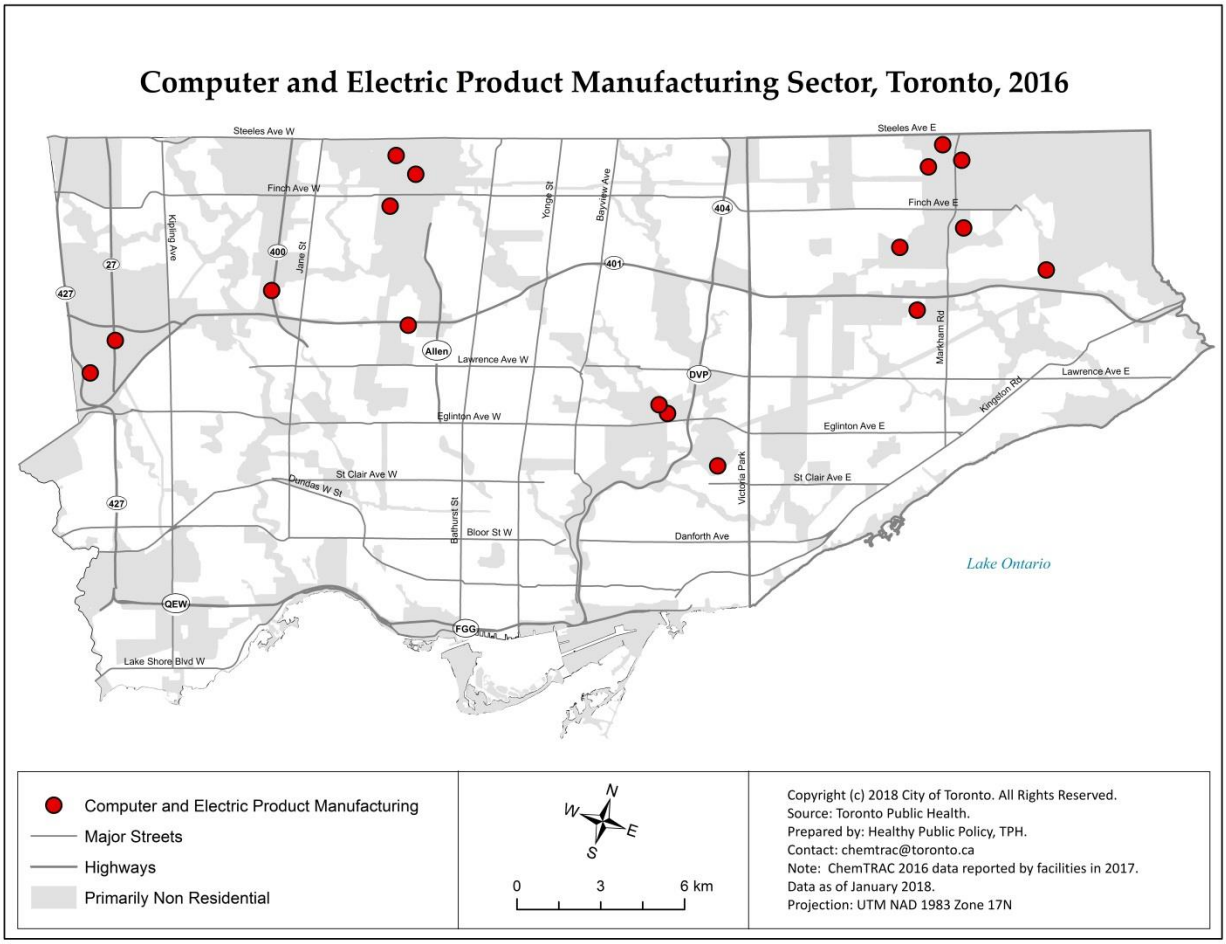
Figure 16: Amounts of substances reported by Waste Management facilities for 2016



Computer and Electric Product Manufacturing

Types of activities: Manufacture of computers, computer peripherals, and communications equipment.

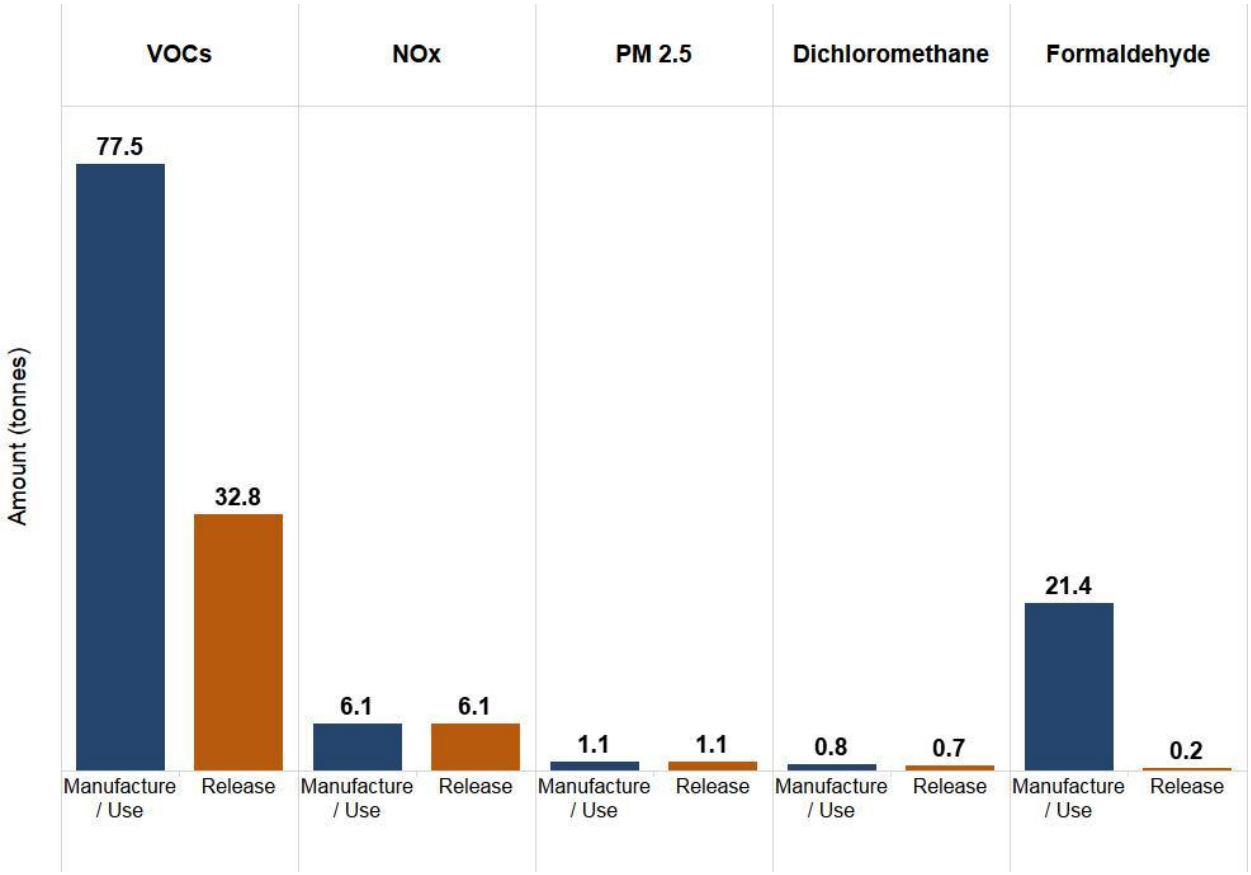
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 17
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 740
- Total amount released: 41 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 116 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 9



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Formaldehyde
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Dichloromethane

Figure 17: Amounts of substances reported by Computer and Electric Product Manufacturing facilities for 2016

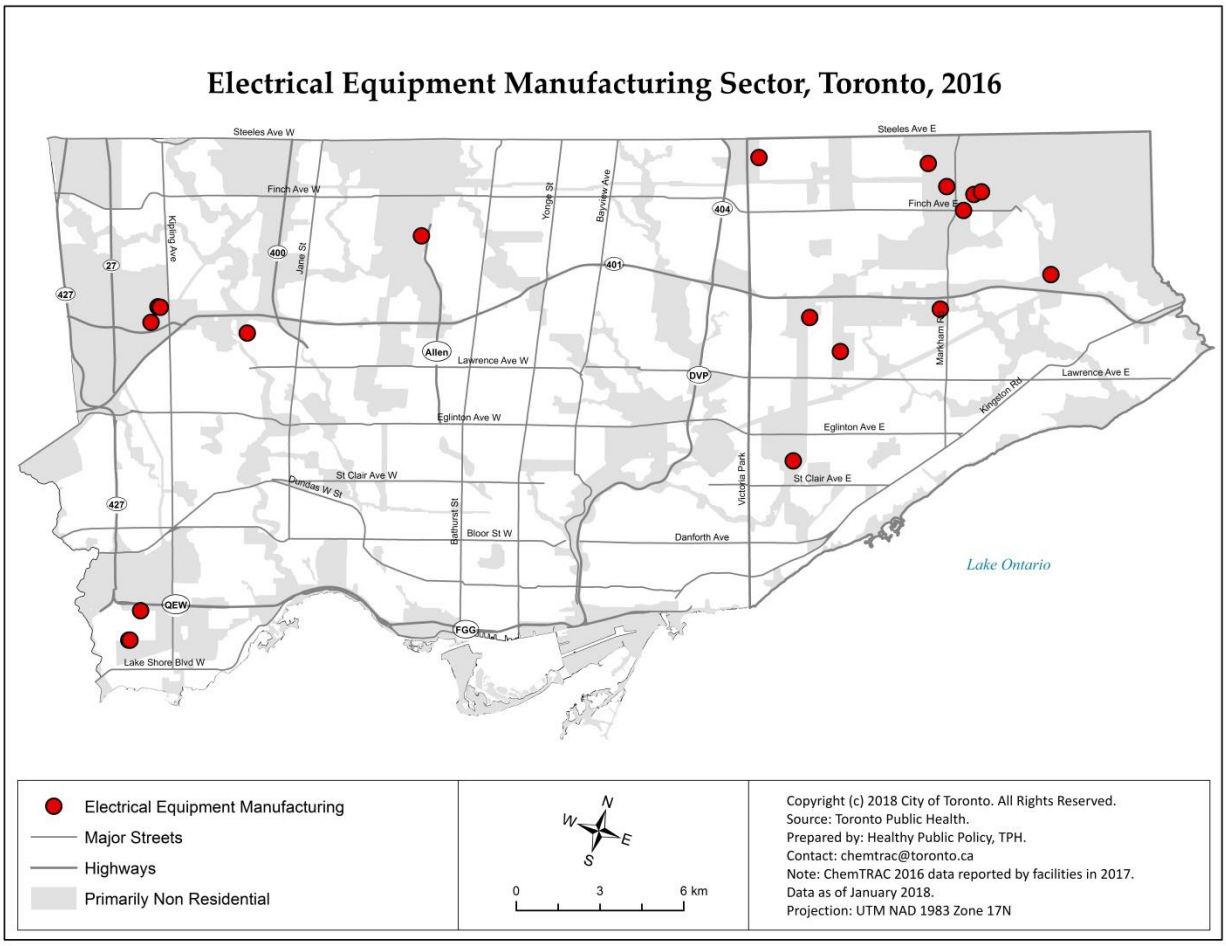


Electrical Equipment, Appliance and Component Manufacturing

Types of activities: Manufacture of product that generate, use and distribute electrical power. Common activities include Metal cutting, metal processing, painting and welding.

- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 19
- Range in number of employees per facility: 4 to 337
- Total amount released: 29 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 126 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 10

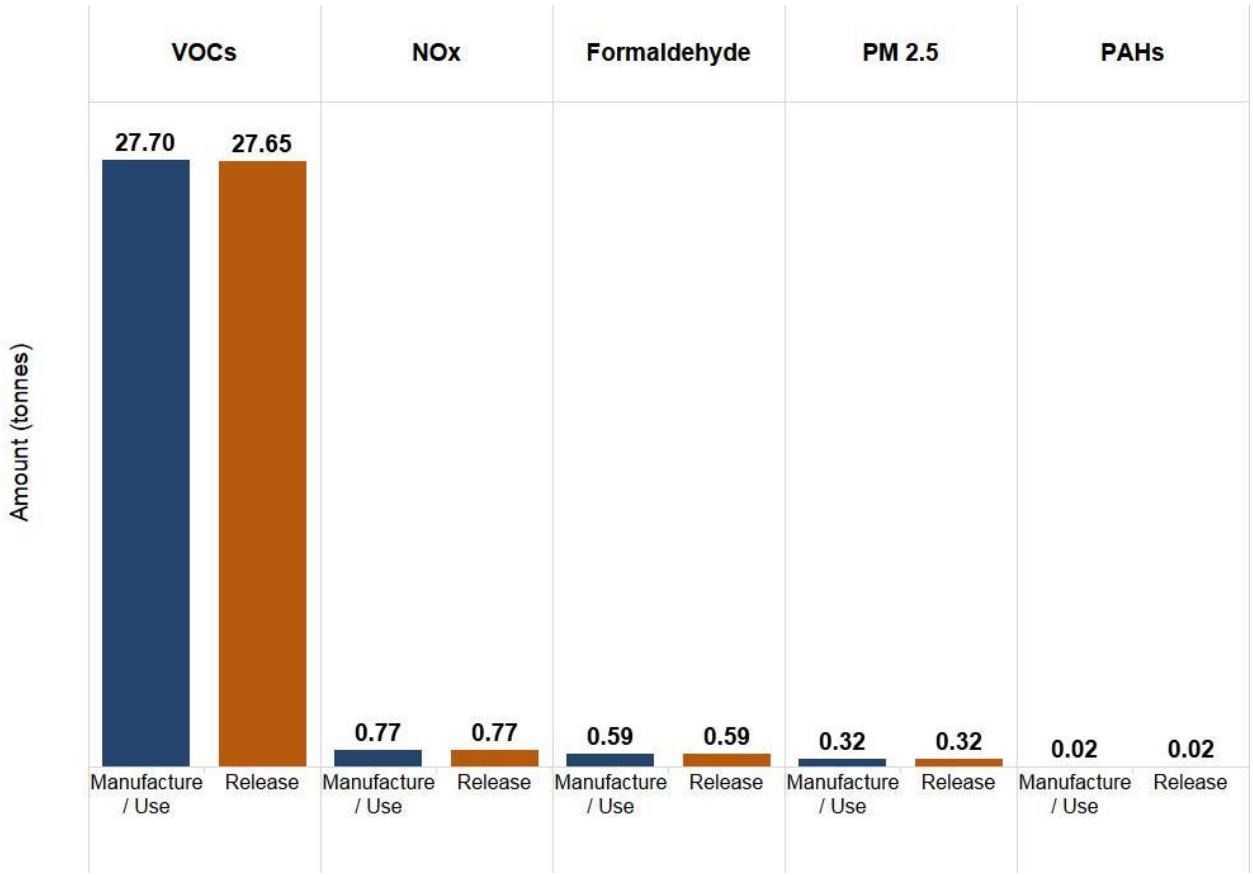
`



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Formaldehyde
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAH_s)

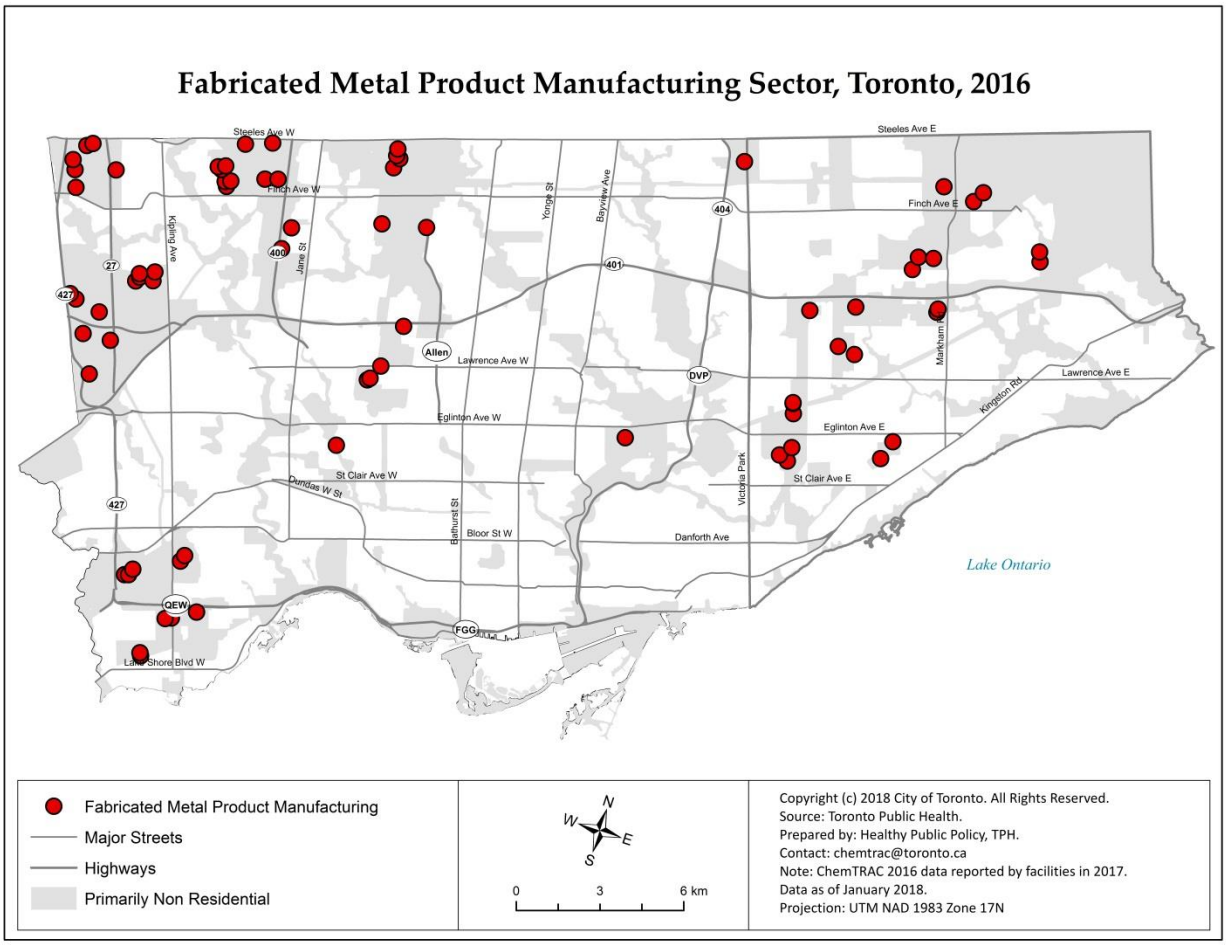
Figure 18: Amounts of substances reported by Electrical Equipment, Appliance and Component Manufacturing facilities for 2016



Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing

Types of activities: Transformation of metal to end-use products by forging, stamping, bending, forming, machining, welding and assembling.

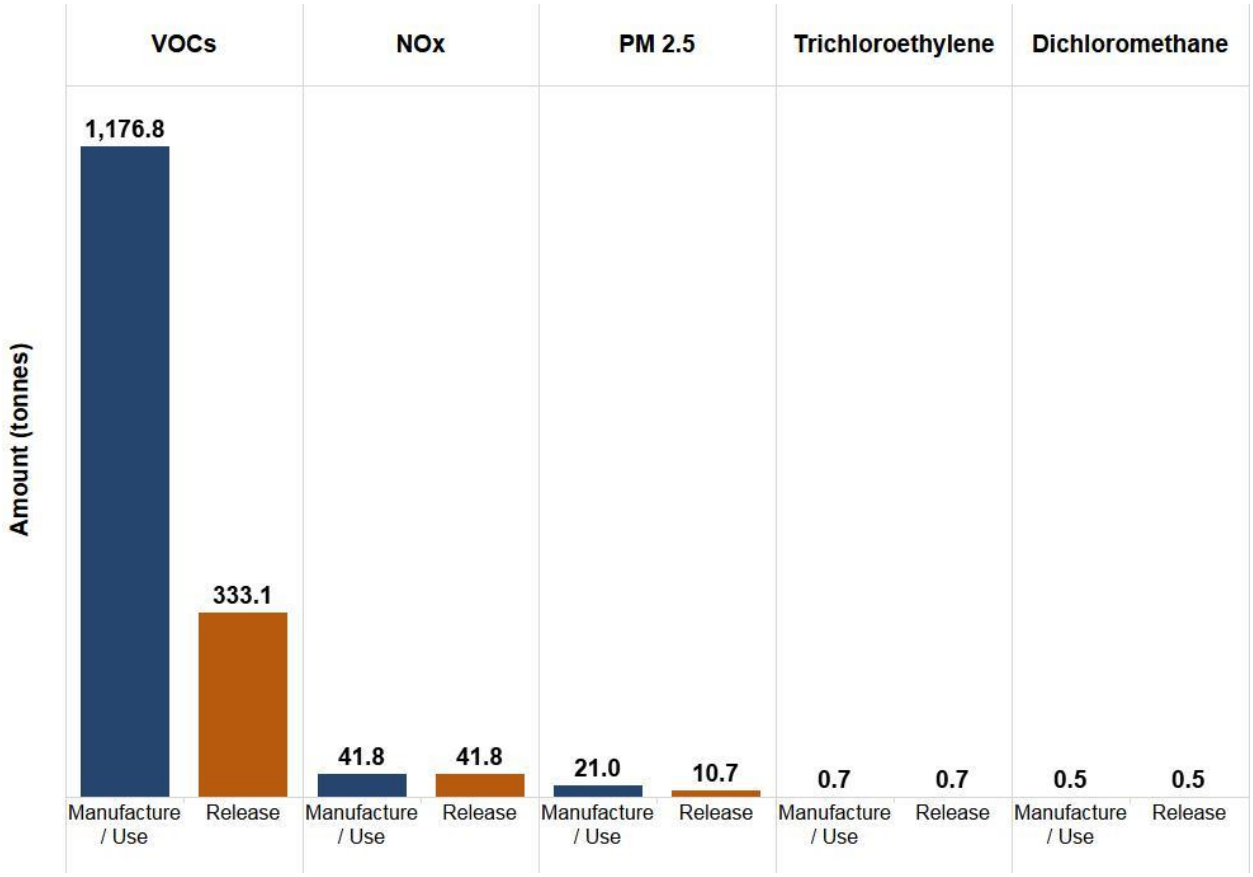
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 74
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 566
- Total amount released: 388 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 4,857 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 12



Top substances reported are:

- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Trichloroethylene
- Dichloromethane

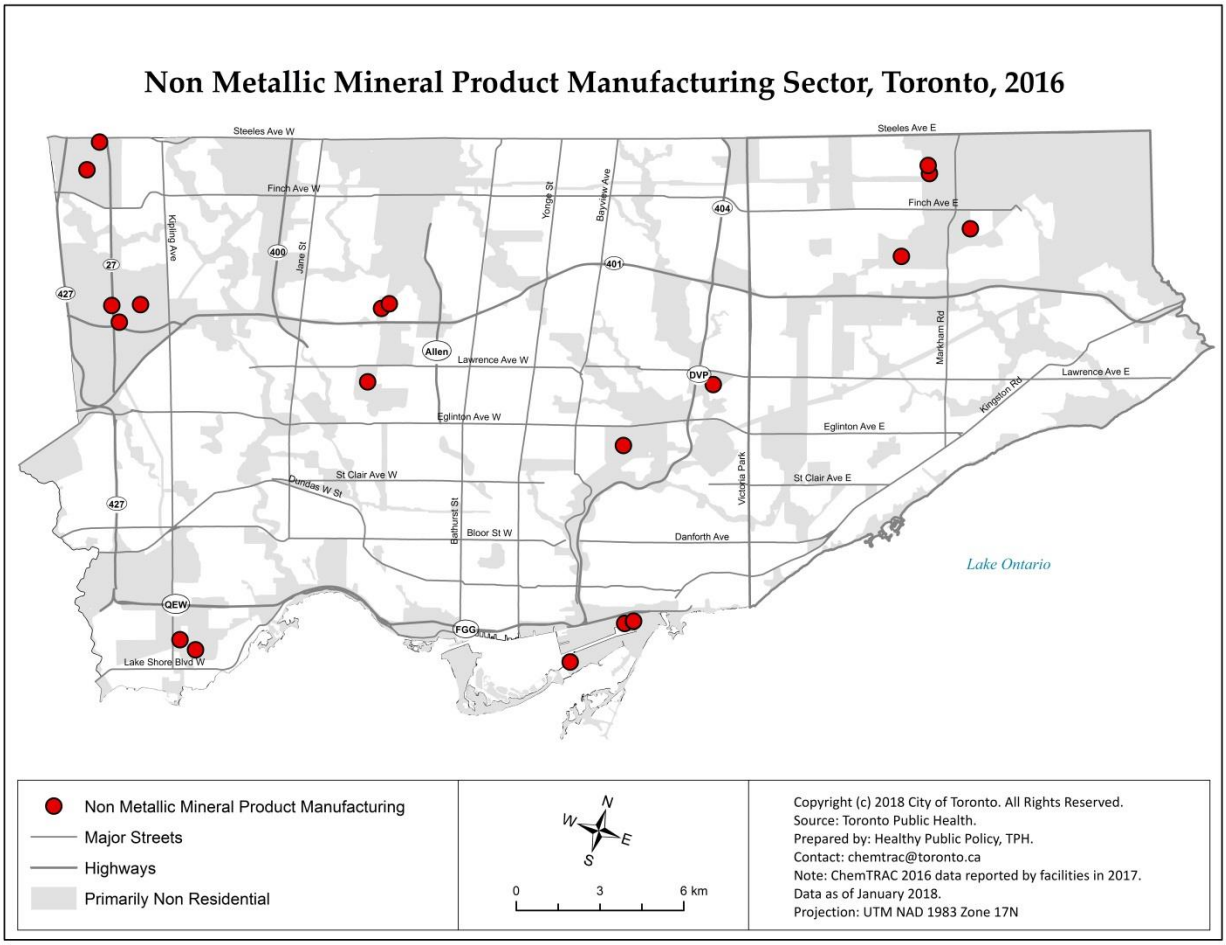
Figure 19: Amounts of substances reported by Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing facilities for 2016



Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing

Types of activities: Transformers of mined or quarried non-metallic minerals, such as sand, gravel, stone, clay, and refractory materials into products for intermediate or final consumption. Processes used include grinding, mixing, cutting, shaping, and honing.

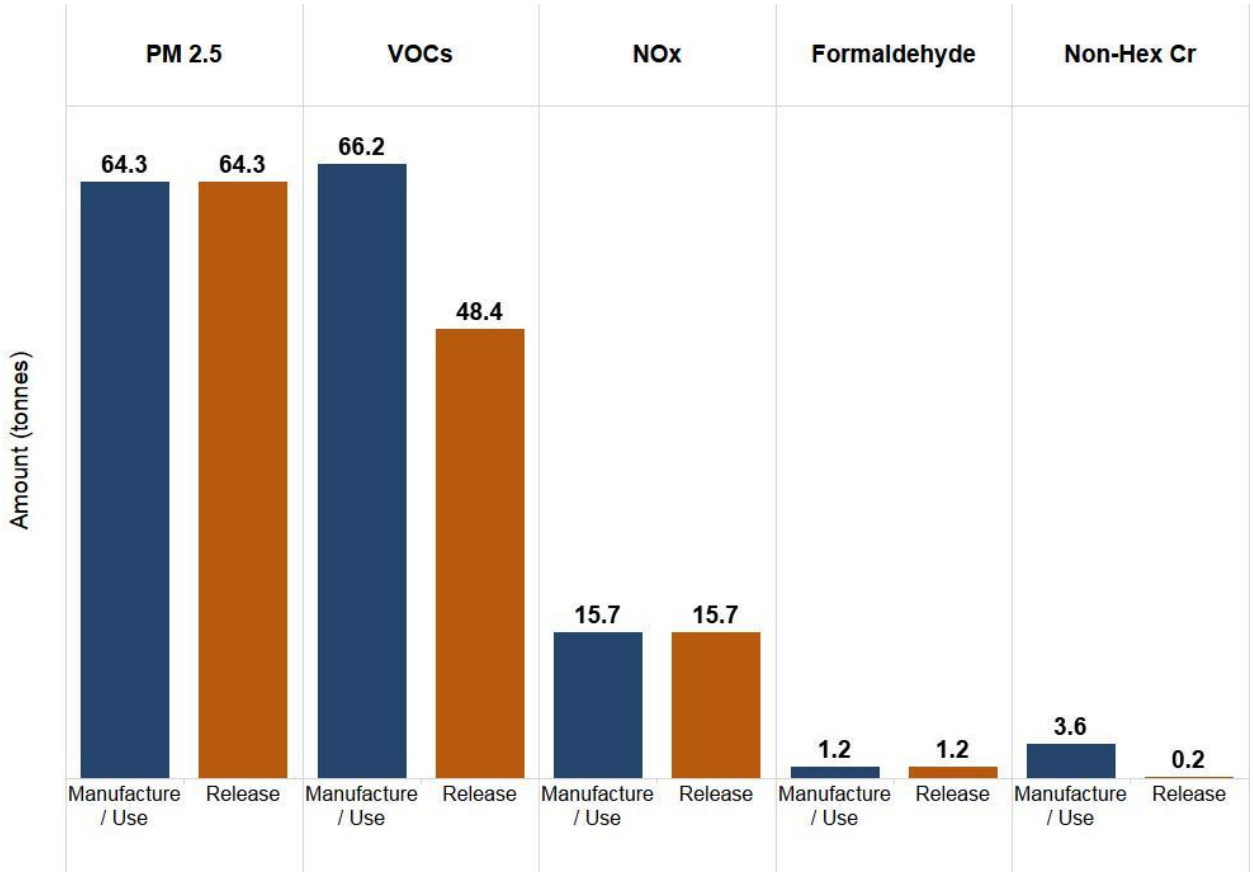
- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 20
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 200
- Total amount released: 130 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 565 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 8



Top substances reported are:

- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Formaldehyde
- Chromium Non-Hexavalent

Figure 20: Amounts of substances reported by Non-Metallic Mineral Product Manufacturing facilities for 2016



Paper Product Manufacturing

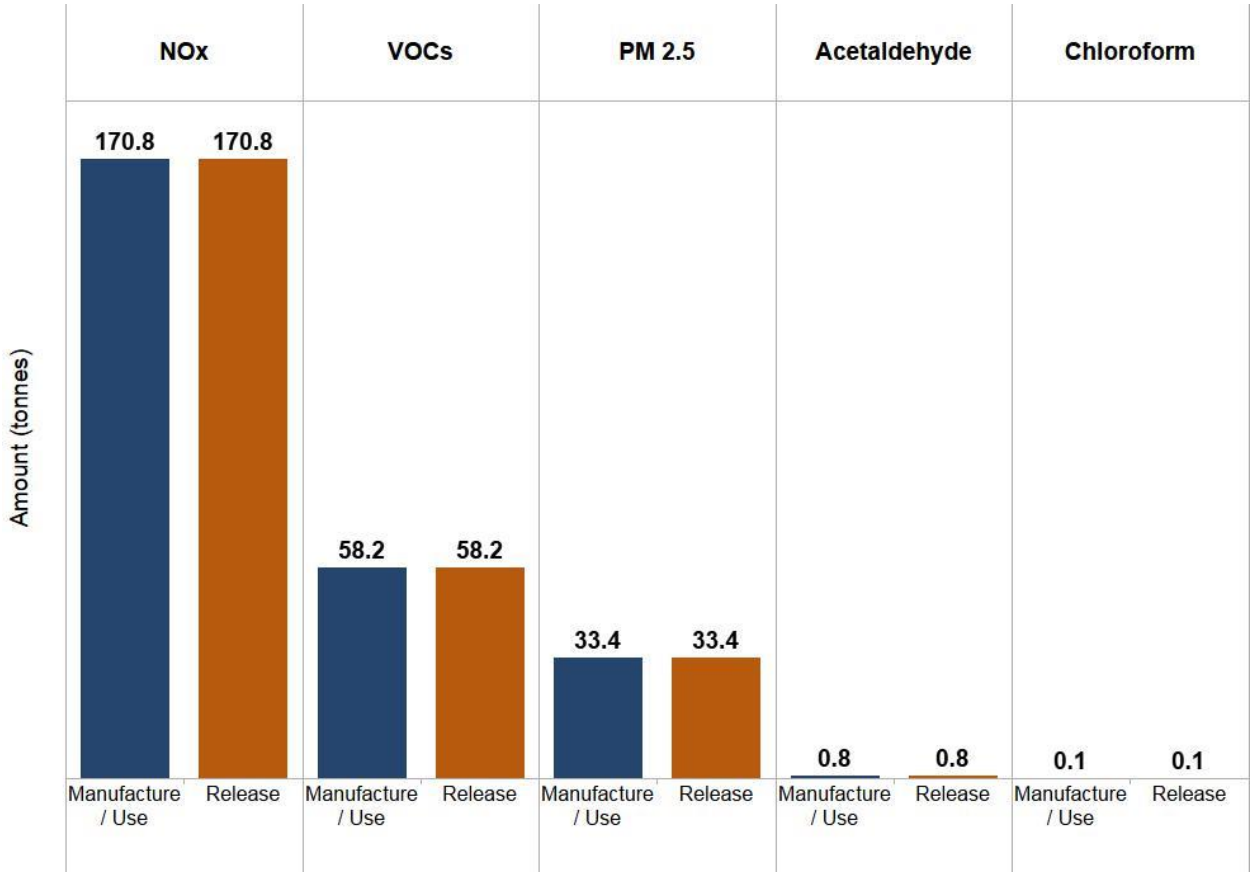
Types of activities: Manufacturer pulp, paper and paper products. The manufacture of pulp involves separating the cellulose fibres from other impurities in wood, used paper or other fibre sources. The manufacture of paper involves matting these fibres into a sheet. Converted paper products are produced from paper and other materials by various cutting and shaping techniques.

- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 9
- Range in number of employees per facility: 5 to 457
- Total amount released: 263 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 263 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 6

Top substances reported are:

- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Acetaldehyde
- Chloroform

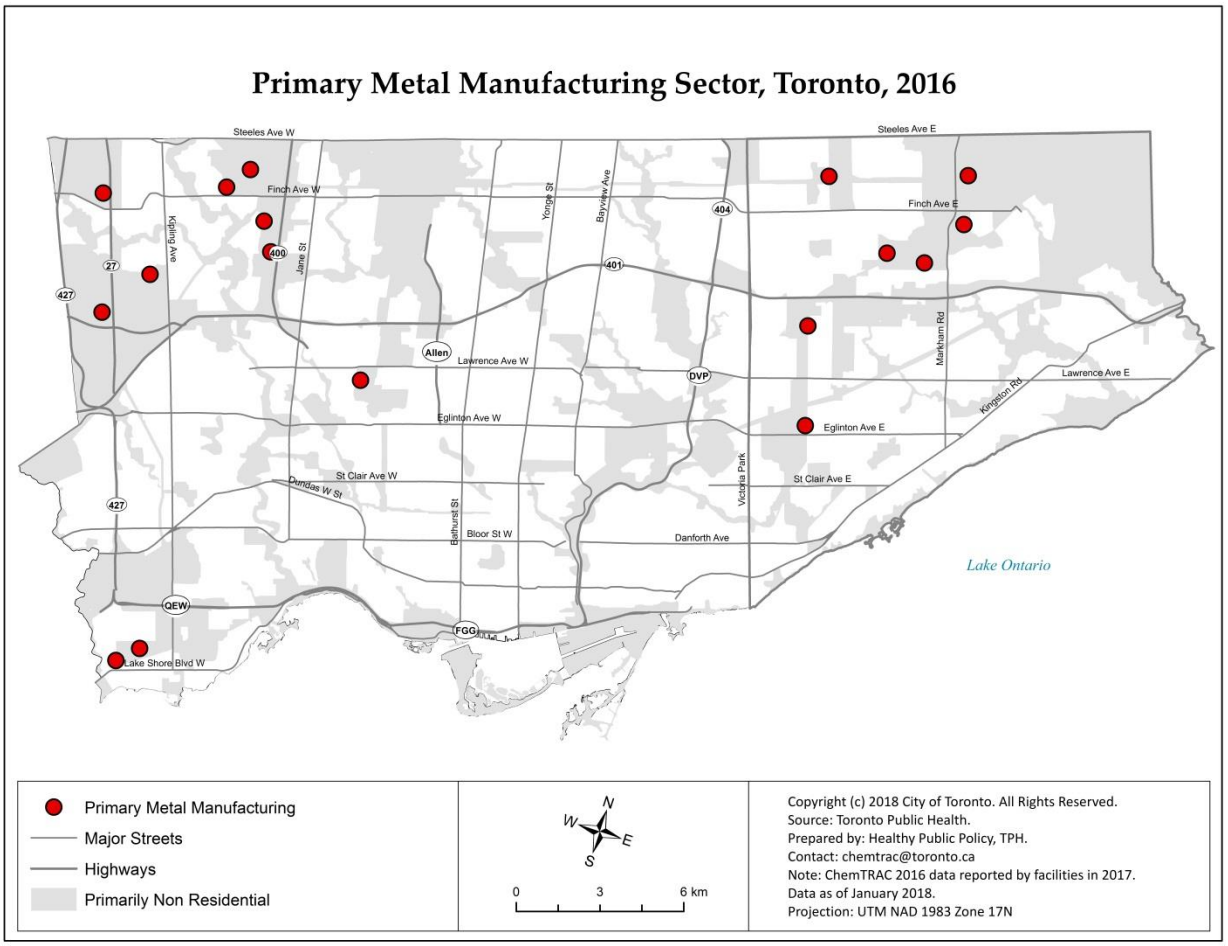
Figure 21: Amounts of substances reported by Paper Product Manufacturing facilities for 2016



Primary Metal Manufacturing

Types of activities: Primarily engaged in smelting and refining ferrous and non-ferrous metals from ore, pig or scrap in blast or electric furnaces. The output of smelting and refining is used in rolling and drawing operations to produce sheet, strip, bars, rods and wire, and in molten form to produce castings and other basic metal products.

- Number of facilities that met the thresholds: 17
- Range in number of employees per facility: 1 to 350
- Total amount released: 50 tonnes
- Total amount manufactured, processed or used: 551 tonnes
- Number of priority substances reported: 10



Top substances reported are:

- Nitrogen oxides (NOx)
- Particulate matter 2.5 ($PM_{2.5}$)
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Nickel
- Lead

Figure 22: Amounts of substances reported by Primary Metal Manufacturing facilities for 2016