



Factsheet

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The Swiss Pollutant Release and Transfer Register (SwissPRTR)

The SwissPRTR is Switzerland's publicly accessible Pollutant Release and Transfer Register. It provides information on releases of specific pollutants to air, water or land, on transfers of waste, and on transfers of pollutants in waste water. The SwissPRTR thus contributes to the information available to the general public on the environment and to the reduction of environmental pollution in Switzerland.

This fact sheet explains the potential applications and the benefits of the SwissPRTR for the authorities.

Benefits of the SwissPRTR for authorities

The SwissPRTR **creates transparency** and permits the **identification of national, regional and local correlations**.

The SwissPRTR is the basis for devising **long-term strategies and instruments for the control** of releases of pollutants to air, water or land as well as transfers of waste and transfers of pollutants in waste water.

The SwissPRTR **links** Switzerland to an international **network**.

The SwissPRTR is a future-oriented management instrument that contributes to the sustainable management of pollutant releases, transfers of waste and transfers of pollutants in waste water.

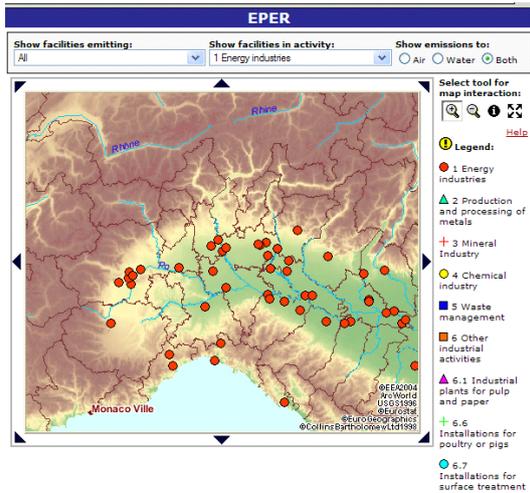


Figure 1: Example: European Pollutant Emission Register (EPER), map-based data (www.eper.cec.eu.int)

The SwissPRTR creates **transparency** and permits the identification of **national, regional and local correlations** with regard to

- the significance of pollutant releases to air, water or land as well as the transfer of waste and transfers of pollutants in waste water,
- geographic locations of facilities that release pollutants. (cf. Figure 1),
- the importance of individual industries, both with regard to the total volume of releases and the individual substances or the environmental media (cf. Figure 2),
- the detection of medium and long-term trends.

The SwissPRTR is a basis for devising efficient **strategies to control** pollutant-releases and creates **certainty** by means of **long-term planning horizons**.

- The availability of reliable data on releases of pollutants permits the industries concerned to cooperate with the authorities in planning long-term measures.

- Through the planning of measures, the priorities for the reduction of pollutant releases can be identified.
- The regional and local overview of pollutant releases allows the cantonal authorities to devise measures in line with aspects such as regionality, the situation in the industry and the reduction costs.
- The implementation of measures may also be achieved through voluntary target agreements between industry and the authorities.
- The regular recording of data permits the efficient supervision and control of measures.

SwissPRTR **links** Switzerland to the international **network**.

- The SwissPRTR is based on the UNECE PRTR Protocol and is therefore internationally compatible.
- The data recorded is internationally comparable, and measures can be harmonised at an international level.
- The SwissPRTR enables Switzerland to comply with its international obligations and agreements.

Activity	To air (kg/year)	Direct to water (kg/year)	Indirect to water (kg/year)
Mineral oil and gas refineries	-	59.00	1,310.00
Coke ovens	-	55.40	35,600.00
Metal industry and metal ore roasting or sintering installations; Installations for the production of ferrous and non-ferrous metals	-	2,295.00	8,553.60
Basic organic chemicals	-	2,531.00	182.00
Basic inorganic chemicals or fertilisers	-	12,532.00	-
Total	-	17,472.40	45,645.60

Figure 2: Example: EPER activity-based data