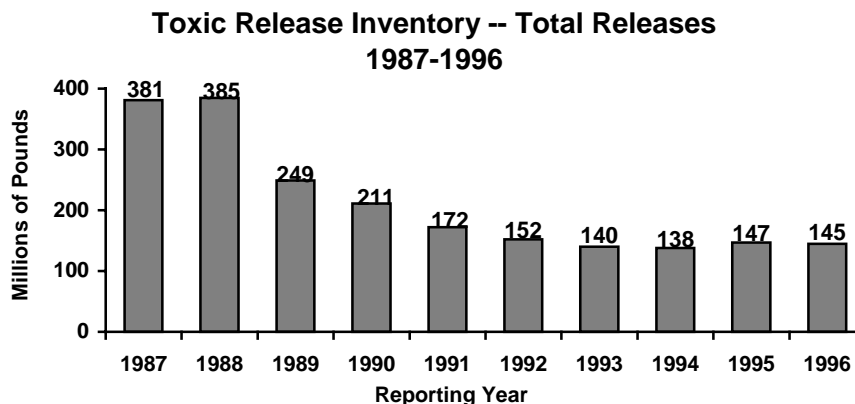


## Ohio's Toxic Release Report Card Improving but Remaining Among the Nation's Top 5 Polluters



TOP FIVE STATES 1996 TOTAL RELEASES		
State	Total Release (in pounds)	National Rank
Texas	267,440,786	1
Louisiana	184,537,787	2
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>145,139,835</b>	<b>3</b>
Pennsylvania	122,423,185	4
Indiana	108,988,034	5

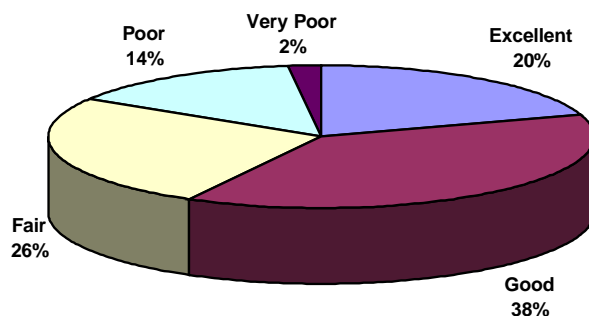
MIDWEST STATES 1996 TOTAL RELEASES		
State	Total Release (in pounds)	National Rank
<b>Ohio</b>	<b>145,139,835</b>	<b>3</b>
Indiana	108,988,034	5
Illinois	107,663,656	6
Michigan	90,158,602	9
Kentucky	47,366,863	21

\* Total Release shown in the tables are on-site releases only, while the graph includes all releases and transfers for treatment and disposal.

- Toxic Release Inventory (TRI) is a database that contains specific toxic chemical releases (to air, water, deepwell injection and land), transfers off-site for disposal and treatment, waste management and pollution prevention activities in each state of the U.S.
- Section 313 of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act requires the collection and public release of an annual TRI report.
- The top ten chemicals reported in Ohio include manganese compounds, zinc compounds, ammonia, acetonitrile, xylene (mixed isomers), methanol, certain glycol ethers, carbonyl sulfide, nitrate compounds, and toluene.

## Ohio's Ability to Sustain Aquatic Life

Water Quality Distribution



- Ohio is a water-rich state, with more than 25,000 miles of designated streams and rivers.
- The suitability of these waters to support human uses (swimming, fishing, recreation and drinking water uses) and to maintain healthy ecological conditions or “biological integrity” is critical to the sustainable future of Ohio’s economy and standard of living.
- Ohio EPA assesses the quality of Ohio’s waters by examining a combination of ecological (biological), chemical, physical, and toxicological data.
- Ohio pioneered the process of using the fish and invertebrate communities that inhabit streams (ecological data) to assess the health and well-being of Ohio’s flowing waters. Aquatic animals are generally the most sensitive indicators of pollution because they inhabit the water all of the time and because of the direct contact of their gills with the water.
- One important conclusion based on the results of the 1998 Ohio Water Resource Inventory, 305b Report, is the very small proportion of streams categorized as poor or very poor (16 percent combined).
- 58 percent of the waters are at least in good condition, and of these 20 percent are in excellent condition.